

THE IRISH WOLFHOUND CLUB - LIMITED SHOW - 18 JULY 2010

Thanks to the officers and committee for their invitation to judge. I was delighted with the opportunity to go over so many Wolfhounds. A real privilege. In general I found the dogs to be of a good standard overall. I found some bad mouths, and eyes had a tendency towards lighter shades. Interestingly I have seen this trend in most of the breeds I judge! Sound movement was in the majority however there were a fair number of exhibits unsound in rear movement specifically in relation to hocks. Correct ears were in the minority. Many of the hounds could have been in harder condition. I judged to my interpretation of the standard but put soundness and the ability to be fit for purpose over some of the finer breed points when necessary. Thank you for bringing your hounds under me.

Dogs

MP (2/1) 1st Lockett's Tatterdrown Remezzo de Caversmill. Pleasing young man still needs to come together. Balanced proportions overall for age. Good head and kind expression. Moved well for age, good length of back.

P (3/1) 1st Holder & Howe's Mascotts Another Stripe. Quality youngster with balanced proportions, good angulation fore and aft, nice houndy type. Good head and clean neck. Little flat footed at present, moved ok. 2nd Flood's Baronfore Finnian. This young man looks like he is going through an upward growing stage which makes him look a little out of proportion. Should gain depth and drop into his stifle as he matures. Moved better than 1.

Junior (1) 1st Canavan's Laoiseach Cariad Ruairi. Another youngster going through the awkward stage, stretching in height but leaving him shallow and straightening in rear quarters, however very sound on the move.

Yearling (1) L C Ruairi.

Novice (3/1) 1st Evans-Jones & Halsall's Valheru Kaiokhayham. Neither of these two young dogs showed well. 1st showing more maturity and finish, however bite was suspect and moved rather unsound in rear quarters. 2nd Catlow's Laoiseach Cariad Conri. This youngster was determined not to let me into his mouth and was not easy to go over, however, he was more together on the move.

PG (4) 1st Redferns Rainster Rory BD RBIS. Well presented dog who knew his job. Excellent head set on well arched neck, high set withers, good topline and underline, well angled rear quarters with good tailset, strong front showing forechest. Covered the ground well. 2nd Bradley's Caredig Emmett at Glengail. Nice dog of good type. Good head and expression but suspect bite. Clean in neck and shoulders, good length to body and moved well. 3rd Trethowan & Morris' Braewisan Conan.

Limit (5/2) 1st Treadwell's Caredig Echo. Well made dog of good size, nice head and one of the very few with correct ear size and carriage. Good front and rear assemblies, movement free flowing. RBD 2nd Barnes' Hazianne Total Eclipse. Shapely hound with good topline and underline, well angulated rear quarters but did not move soundly in rear today. 3rd Sanders' Sanderstown Anlan.

Open (3/1) 1st Wilkinson's Hunacres Klark Gable. Houndy type with good head. Arched neck into clean shoulders, good length of back and well angled rear quarters. Would like to see more depth of rib but moved light footed and swiftly. 2nd Webb's Cleaseac Capt'n Gary Hawkins of Inkleboys. Heavier type but houndy, excellent in profile and fitting the standard well in this regard. However, mouth not good and his movement was laboured, perhaps because of the heat of the day.

Bitches

MP (4/1) 1st Court's Ravensbeeche Valeria. Nicely balanced baby. Good houndy shape, well off for bone, nicely angled quarters, moved true. 2nd Griffin's Kilrein Merci. Lighter in build to 1 but houndy, good length of body with good angulation fore and aft. Moved soundly. 3rd Evans-Jones & Halsall's Rynchanon Dance to the Music of Valheru.

P (3/1) 1st Neal's Mascotts Another Dreamer at Cahmega. Shapely young girl with beautiful head set on clean neck, good front and rear quarters, nice topline and underline and moved soundly BPIS. 2nd Holder & Howe's Mascotts Another Story. Pleasing bitch with feminine head, good ears. Little stuffy in neck and shoulders, moved soundly but roaching her topline a little.

Junior (4/1) 1st Holder & Howe's Mascotts Laoiseach Cariad Cait RBB. Shapely young bitch with beautiful head. Excellent neck and shoulders, good topline and underline, strong rear quarters, good length and width to croup, moved with power and style. 2nd Wilkinson's Cairnstorm Vermillion Via Hunacres. Nice feminine bitch with good head and ear. Needs to drop in rib but time is on her side. Moved sound. 3rd Stayte's Doolalley's Magic Lace at Carwenwy.

Yearling (5/1) 1st Braine's Hollyhenge Cresta Wave. BB BIS. This young bitch stood away and I liked her as soon as she entered the ring. Lovely sweet head and expression, well arched neck into clean well laid shoulders, beautiful curvy topline with matching underline. Powerfully built yet feminine, not the tallest but moved with ground covering reach and drive. Totally balanced both standing and on the move. 2nd Goodson's Moralach Golden Grace. Similar type but unlucky to meet with 1 today. Well constructed but flagging on the move as the day got hotter. 3rd Smith's Nlightwing Cowboy Dreams for Almateus.

Novice (4/2) 1st Springthorpe's Ballyniamh Perfect Gaze of Spinondaw. Well made bitch with good head and correct ears, curvy topline and good depth of rib, little straight in rear, moved ok. 2nd Catlow's Laoiseach Cariad Ciara. More racy than 1, feminine head set on arched neck, eyes could be darker and requires more strength to rear quarters, moved ok.

PG (8,3) 1st Goodson's Ainsea First Lady at Moralach. Mature bitch with good head and expression, plenty of substance and houndy in appearance with good front assembly, however requires more width of thigh. Moved soundly. 2nd Donaldson's Rainster Rosa. Nice balanced bitch smaller type to 1, good head with dark eye and well constructed front and rear quarters, moved well. 3rd Jones' Goldswift Enchanted Dream of Castellblyth.

Limit (8/3) 1st Donaldson's Ravensbeech Camarillo. Sound shapely bitch with good head and correct ears, well angled quarters, good topline and underline, moved with nice easy gait. 2nd Barnes' Hazianne Solar Eclipse. Nice bitch but not handling well today, well constructed quarters but pulling back causing her to appear dipping in the back. Moved well. 3rd Heather's Ravensbeech Sylla.

Open (9/5) 1st Pask's Solstrand Yelena of Baronglen. Lovely bitch of good size, excellent head with kind expression, excellent ear set and fold, well constructed quarters, beautiful houndy appearance, moved with free flowing movement, however had a tendency to knuckle over on her front pasterns when standing. 2nd Goodson's Madiamoy Baby Bollinger at Moralach. Another lovely bitch, heavier in type. Excellent head set on strong neck, well constructed quarters, good topline and underline, good depth, moved soundly. 3rd Evans' Braewisan Aibreun.

Veteran D/B (6/1) Lovely class with ages going up to ten years. All a credit to both breeders and owners. 1st Sheppard's Goldswift Snow Leopard. BV. Took this class on condition, beautiful head with sweet expression, lovely balanced proportions, well constructed quarters. She moved in the heat of the day, in defiance of her age. 2nd Holder & Howe's Nellwyns Mr Midnight. Excellent dog, very houndy in type, well constructed quarters. The heat was getting to him and he struggled on the move but this fine gentleman showed all his attributes on the stance. 3rd Sanders' Ardmacha Cormac at Sanderstown.

Tony Rainey