NORTHERN ENGLAND FLATCOATED RETRIEVER ASSOCIATION 15th BREED CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW 5th NOVEMBER 2023

It was a privilege and an honour to be asked to act as referee and judge the Brace class, Junior Handlers and Special Members Open dog or bitch Class.

It was a wonderful show – a happy and warm atmosphere prevailed the whole day.

BEST IN SHOW CHALLENGE

Anderson's Sh Ch Feldkirk Dior of Kazval – A beautiful bitch presented in fabulous condition. She presents a superb profile which typifies raciness without weediness and demonstrates power without lumber. A very well balanced bitch full of breed type. Feminine well moulded head of one piece with kind eye and expression. Excellent reach of neck into super front construction, good quality oval bone, tight feet, level topline and strong rear quarters. Her movement was so true with correct forward reach and rear driving action. I was delighted to award her BEST IN SHOW

BRACE CLASS 6 entries (3 abs)

A very good class

1st – Smitherman's brace – a beautiful pair of girls, they both had the loveliest of heads and were matching in outline and size. They had very similar attributes and moved very well as a pair.

 2^{nd} – Bowen's brace – A very well-matched pair in shape and size. Moved well as a pair although the younger dog could not resist grabbing his mother's ear on the way round the ring.

3rd – Chamber's brace – What a beautifully synchronized twosome, they moved so well together. Both lovely girls but they are very different in head, shape and size.

JUNIOR HANDLING 6-11 YEARS 3 entries (1 abs)

Clara McGeehan (age 9) Handling a young bitch of 11 months. I understand she is new to handling but wow she demonstrated a natural ability to get the best out of her dog. She was polite, friendly and did everything I asked her with confidence – moving her dog at an appropriate speed and careful to keep her dog on the mat. What impressed me most was the rapport she had with her dog – attentive and talking to her the whole time. I was delighted to award her Best overall handler.

Sam Davis (age 6) Another new handler. He demonstrated an affinity with his dog. He was polite and friendly and managed to show and move his dog well. He was so smart and really looked the part.

JUNIOR HANDLING 12-16 YEARS 1 entry

Molly Davis (age 12) A really accomplished handler. She was attentive to her dog and got the best out of her. She moved her at a good speed.

SPECIAL MEMBERS' OPEN DOG OR BITCH 5 entries (2 abs)

1st – Smitherman's Sh Ch Seaheart Cecilia JW – This girl I have often admired from the ringside. She is a beautiful bitch with the loveliest head and kind eye. On going over her she is so very soundly constructed and well balanced. She moved soundly and with good reach.

2nd – Walker & Roberts Gloi Dubh Just One Look - This dog has really started to come into his own. He presents a very typey outline. He has a well moulded male head with lovely dark eye and soft expression. He has super front angulation. He moved well and soundly.

3rd – Egginton & Davis' Pajanbeck Georgy Girl - A really lovely smaller sized bitch. She has a feminine head with lovely eye and expression. She is a shade lighter all through than 1 & 2 but still very well constructed. Moved soundly.

Judge & Referee Victoria Goldberg