

NEFRA Championship Show

3rd November 2024 Biddulph Leisure Centre

Firstly, I would just like to thank the hard-working committee for allowing me to be the referee at this lovely show, but also thank all the exhibitors whom trusted me with their lovely furry family members, especially the baby puppies. A great initiative, which was lovely to be part of. The future of the breed is certainly starting to shine through.

I would also like to thank Eddy Harrison, for donating the new Shield Trophy for best baby puppy, in memory of Peter and Sally Riches, and sponsoring the baby puppy gift bags, made by the talented Jane Hedges.

And finally, thank you to both main judges for agreeing on all of their decisions, meaning the pressure was taken off me for the final top honours.

There were no entries in the junior handling classes, so my results and critiques for the remaining classes were as follows:

Baby Puppy Dog

First- Bellamy's **Affinity Promises Kept for Woodfinch NAF**

A lovely young just over 4-month-old baby male puppy with an adorable head, and well set ears. A gentle, kind expression with a good eye in shape and colour. He already has good angulations at the front, and rear when choosing to stand properly. He has a nice strong neck flowing into well-laid shoulders. He holds his current level topline nicely on his steady piece of positive movement. A cheeky well presented young lad, who was turned out in shining condition, and improved the more he settled. A pleasure to award first and overall **Best Baby Puppy**.

Second- Harris' **Ronevorg Highland Whisper of Siancala**

A slightly older 5-month-old male puppy, who was a little steadier and more settled than the first, but although also very nice did not quite show the same qualities as the winner. He has fabulous substance and good quality bone. Eye of good colour. Good quality coat, shown off on a good level topline, which he kept on is positive piece of movement.

Baby Puppy Bitch

First- Mcquade's **Maddouse Dimonds R'forever**

Lovely well put together 5-month-old sturdy young bitch. She is already starting to show some lovely furnishings, on her well-turned-out coat. She has some good quality oval bone of strength. She has a nice head in shape and size, with good ear set. Nice dark eye. She has good front angulations, and a more than adequate rear assembly. She moved soundly around the ring, which helped her win this class. A nice promising bitch for the future.

Second- Leavy's **Wychwizard Painted Lady**

A finely built young lady with a more delicate disposition. She has a little pretty feminine head with a good neck, on a well-made structure, albeit a little longer in loin than the first. Moved steadily for one so young, and was at one with her handler

Third- Mackessack-Leitch's **Badcall Midwinter Dream at Inchstellie**

4-month-old baby girl, who has been well schooled already it seems. She stood very well on her nice feet, with adequate bone and angulations both front and aft which are not to be ignored. A good strong neck, and topline currently level when moving steadily around the ring.

Reserve- Perry & Leavy's **Wychwizard Skipper to Casanjay**

Special Members Open Stakes

First- Fox's **Ch Blacktoft Dancing The Blues SGWC**

A 5-year-old bitch of quality all round. She has a feminine head, with a sweet expression. She has a nice dark eye of correct shape. Her ears were correctly sized and set close to her head. She has a lovely level topline which she holds well on the move. She is not overly strong on bone, but should not be for a bitch. She stands nicely on good feet with her angulations being more than adequately pleasing. She was in good condition and handled well for her placing.

Second-Hewison's **Benvellyn Marakele Into Casblaidd JW**

21-month-old young pretty bitch with many pleasing features, which she shows off very well whilst standing solidly on her sound structure. She has a lovely, moulded head, and is quite together for a young bitch. She has some good feathering adding to her nice outline, and she moved steadily around the ring. A promising future could be awaiting.

Third-Peers **Tweedisle Masked Crusader**

A 4-year-old male with a nicely moulded masculine head. A good eye in shape and colour. Strong neck and level topline, only spoiled on the move by his higher than desired tail carriage. He does however have a lovely structure, with nice solid bone, good spring of rib, nice short well coupled loin, and having a lovely front assembly. Moved pretty well around the ring.

Reserve- Fox's **Satinbaze Cracksman for Blacktoft (ai) JW SGWC**

VHC- Joyce's **Stranfaer One Fell Swoop**

Brace

First- Miss **L S Jones**

A surprising debut in this class for the handler, but on this occasion you would not know. Her pairing being of very similar look and moved around the ring effortlessly without showing their handler up. They deserved this class, on a day when I made the pairings work hard for their positions. They stood well together and did not let anybody down in their performance. Pleased to award them the first place, and hope this will now open the chance for future entries in this type of class.

Second- Mrs **H L and Mr I M Buckley**

Another nice well-matched pair, who were quite evidently well related. They moved as one for most of the movement but started to part a little as we neared the end. Well handled however and stood very well. Allowing me to go over them with little fuss.

Third- Mrs **F M Welch**

A pairing of similar looks, but not wanting to take the class seriously today, with the younger of the two making the movement difficult for their handler to control. However not a pairing that should give up, and with more practice could make this class an interesting addition to their day. A fun pairing, causing a happy giggle for both handler and crowd, and bringing a smile to my face too.

Judge-Mr Dominic Salt (LEVELMOOR)