Championship Show Critiques 2017

**Sunday 22nd October 2017**

**DOGS**

It is always an honour to judge at a Breed Club Championship Show and I am grateful to the South Western Rottweiler Association for inviting me to judge the males at its show this year. I would also like to thank the exhibitors for entering their dogs and giving me the opportunity to assess them. I know that exhibitors will not always leave the show with the results that they had hoped for but I appreciate the sportsmanship that was shown by all concerned. The venue was ideal and it was a pleasure to have a ring of good size to assess the movement of the exhibits. There is no better sight than a Rottweiler with the correct powerful, ground covering movement and firm topline in full flow.

I am pleased to say that temperaments were generally very good, a couple of dogs were slightly wary of my presence but there were no major issues. Something that did take me by surprise was the number of exhibits with level or partially level bites. Some of these were in the younger dogs with heads still to develop fully and a few dogs had very small incisors that I can best describe as ‘stumps’. Not only should we expect to see complete dentition and a scissor bite but it is important that the teeth are strong too.

Minor Puppy Dog (6, 1a)

1st Hucker’s BEVANRAY SPIKE - 6 months old so still very much a baby. Correct compact body with a very good topline, good front angulation with correct pasterns & adequate feet. Very dry strong head, forehead quite steep with a very pronounced stop, broad short muzzle, dark eyes that are slightly round, dark mouth pigment, ears of medium size carried off the cheek at the tips. Very good rear angulation, coat of correct length, clearly defined markings, efficient mover for his age holding a firm topline and good tail carriage.

2nd Watson’s MEGALMAR LIVIN IN A BUBBLE - 8 months old, large with adequate bone for size. Straight back of good length, slightly steep croup and very good underline. Moderate front angulation with correct pasterns and compact feet. A dry balanced head, excellent ear carriage, dark brown eyes that are slightly round, excellent expression and dark mouth pigment. Good length of neck & free from throatiness. Good bend of stifle and strong hocks. Excellent coat of correct length and texture with clear markings. Moved very soundly holding a firm topline.

3rd Allen’s TK’S TIME BANDIT

Puppy Dog (4, 0a)

1st Mahon’s ABACAB’S LORD LAFEU - 9 months old, medium size, compact with good bone. Overall very balanced in profile with a good top and under lines, well sprung ribs, strong loin and correct croup. Very good angulation on the forequarters with correct forechest for age, good pasterns and tight feet. Correctly angulated hindquarters with well developed upper & lower thighs. Very good head proportions but stop should be more defined, medium brown eyes, small to medium ears that are set and carried well, flat coat of medium length with rich clearly defined markings. Strong movement that stood out in this class covering the ground well while holding a good shape and firm topline. **BPIS.**

2nd Shaves’ KYLAMIE MALONE ESTALEA- 11 months old, large male of good type with excellent bone and substance. Very good angulation on both forequarters and hindquarters, well developed body with straight topline and very good underline, pasterns could be stronger and tight feet. Good width of skull with small high set ears, medium brown eyes of good shape, medium stop, correct length of muzzle, and dark mouth pigment. Very good coat of correct length with clear mahogany markings. Movement was ok but carries a tight tail.

3rd AUBERON TOM FAGGUS

Junior Dog (3, 1a)

1st Courtney-Baughan’s WHISPERDOWN’S TANGO - 13 months old, large compact male with good bone and substance. Straight back with slightly sloping croup, very good underline, short strong loins. His angulation is moderate on both his hind & rear quarters but it is all in balance, correct pasterns and compact feet. Good width of skull, some wrinkle on forehead and cheeks, dark almond shape eyes, dark mouth pigment with some mottling, excellent flat coarse coat, moved soundly & efficiently with a very tight topline and good tail carriage.

2nd Smart’s BERGMANN SMART ALLIANCE WITH HALVMART - 13 months old, medium to large compact dog with good bone and substance. Level topline with croup dropping off and good underline. Correct front angulation with good forechest, very good rear angulation, correct pasterns and tight feet. Balanced head with good depth of muzzle, dark brown eyes, lower eyelids should be tighter and some loose skin on the cheeks, dark mouth pigment, some throatiness on neck. Correct coat with mahogany markings, very good ground covering movement holding a firm topline.

Yearling Dog (9, 2a)

1st Abell’s BEVANRAY REGGIE - 18 months old, large male with correct bone and substance. Very good topline with correct croup, good underline, slightly long in body, moderately angulated forequarters, pasterns could be stronger, correct tight feet . Excellent head with correct slope of forehead, well defined stop, deep muzzle in proportion with back skull, dark brown almond shaped eyes, medium size correctly placed ears, dark mouth pigment, clean neck. Coat of medium length with good texture and deep mahogany markings that could be more clearly defined on muzzle. Moved soundly and efficiently while holding a firm topline.

2nd James, Thompson & Purchase’s BAMABEL GINO - 18 months old, compact male of medium size, very alert & attentive. Very good topline when standing, well angulated forequarters with good forechest, correct spring of rib and depth of brisket, short loins. Slightly down on his pasterns with very good compact feet. Well balanced and dry head with high set ears of medium size & carried well, medium to dark brown eyes of correct shape, pink mouth pigment. Very good coat with well defined rich tan markings, strong ground covering movement with a strong topline but tail is carried very tightly which just spoils the overall picture.

3rd Smith’s CHEROHO JEDI

Post Graduate Dog (11, 4a)

1st Docherty, Dunhill-Hall & Davies’ FANTASA JUST FOR THE RECORD - 2.5 years old, well balanced male of medium size. Dry, broad head of correct proportions, correct moderately sloping of forehead, well defined stop, I would prefer to see slightly more fill of cheek, small to medium size ears that are well set and carried, slightly rounded dark eyes, some loss of pigment at the back of mouth, correct angulation on forequarters with adequate forechest, very good pasterns, tight feet with well arched toes. Very good height to length ratio, straight topline, short loins, correct slope of croup with good tail set and carriage. Excellent flat & coarse coat of correct length with clear rich tan markings. A very free mover with a good length of stride and holds his shape well.

2nd Lungano’s CARSAL PEPE - 3.5 years old, large male of excellent type with strong bone and substance. Dry head with very good width of skull, medium size well set ears, slightly round dark brown expressive eyes, well defined stop, strong deep muzzle and dark mouth pigment. Well laid shoulders, good forechest, correctly sloping pasterns and tight feet. He was carrying a bit too much weight with some loose skin over his shoulders, well sprung ribs, deep brisket, strong compact body and correct croup. Very good coat with rich mahogany markings which could be more clearly defined on his muzzle and chest. When settled he had very strong movement and covered the ground well but he was distracted at times by the other dogs in the class.

3rd Churchman’s AKENFIELD CRISPIN

Limit Dog (10. 3a)

1st Clapp’s ROCKSTAROTTS MINI CLUBMAN ShCM - 2 years old, medium size, compact dog of excellent type. His whole demeanour is that of a happy & energetic dog. Very well balanced head with super expression, broad dry skull, correct stop and deep muzzle, ears of small to medium size that are well set & carried, dark brown eyes of almond shape giving an excellent expression, correct dentition with dark mouth pigment. Level topline with a good croup, well sprung ribs, correct depth of brisket, short strong loins and excellent underline. Very good lay of shoulder, correct forechest, well placed elbows, slightly sloping pasterns and compact feet. Well developed thighs, correct bend of stifle and strong hocks. Excellent coat of good length with the desired harshness and correct mahogany markings. When moving his gait is strong with an excellent stride and he holds his shape very well. My main criticism would be his tail which is on the cusp and often carried too far up and over for my liking. However, his handler presents him superbly in a free standing manner on a loose lead with no adjustment of legs, no collar up behind the ears, etc. This dog has so much quality that any good handler should stand back to allow others to admire his virtues without human intervention. A well deserved first **Dog CC** in very good company.

2nd Appasamy & Smith’s ROTTPHOENIX JANOSH - 3 years old, medium to large size male with excellent bone and substance. He has the driest of heads, very broad skull with small to medium ears that are carried slightly off the cheeks at the tips. Correctly sloping forehead, very good stop, well filled cheeks and muzzle which is in balance with his back skull. Medium to dark brown eyes of correct shape, strong teeth with correct scissors bite and full dentition, mottled pink mouth pigment in parts. Strong neck with no throatiness, well angulated forequarters with excellent forechest, correct slope on pasterns, very good compact feet with well arched toes, well developed ribcage, his body is on the long side, very good rear angulation with well muscled upper and lower thighs. Excellent coat of medium length with correct texture, very clearly defined tan markings. His movement is very strong and he covers the ground with ease but his topline breaks behind the shoulders which just spoils the overall picture.

3rd Powell’s JUFFTHER A NEW HOPE FOR RIVERSROCK

Open Dog (9, 1a)

This was an excellent class and a pleasure to judge.

1st James & Thompson’s CH BAMABEL ABRAHAM JW - 3 years old, medium size, compact dog of excellent type & quality. Very dry & balanced head with ears of medium size correctly set and carried against the cheek creating an excellent outline to the head, dark brown eyes of correct almond shape, well defined stop, deep level muzzle, mouth pigment mainly dark with some pink mottling and firm flews. Clean & strong neck of good length, correctly sloping shoulders, good return of upper arm, very good forechest, strong bone, correct pasterns, compact feet. Good spring of rib and depth of brisket, short deep loins, well set and carried tail. Well angulated & muscled hindquarters with strong hocks. Very good quality of coat with some dorsal wave, clearly defined rich tan markings. Strong movement with excellent front extension, holding a firm topline and correct tail carriage. He worked hard to win this class and the **RCC**.

2nd Davison’s CH FIREMOONS AMIS A VIE JW - 5 years old, medium to large size and well balanced, another male of excellent type and quality. Very attractive dry head with a good width of skull, ears of medium size set nicely and carried close to the cheek, dark brown eyes of correct shape, good stop, excellent muzzle to back skull proportions, dark mouth pigment. Well placed shoulders and elbows, strong bone, pasterns were a bit soft, compact feet. Very good top and underlines, well developed ribcage, short loins and correct croup and well angulated hindquarters. Very good coat of medium length with correct harshness of texture with deep mahogany markings. His movement is powerful with an excellent stride but his topline was breaking slightly. He pushed the class winner all the way and on another day these two could easily change places.

3rd Tousent & Crawley’s MINAELEA TAYLORED BY CHOICE JW ShCM

Veteran Dog (1,0a)

1st – Trueman & Brownridge’s CH JEZEVE SHERBET JW ShCM - 8.5 years old, compact male of medium size and in excellent condition. He is very alert and attentive with total focus on his handler. Dry, broad skull with well set and carried ears of medium size, dark brown eyes of correct shape, would prefer a more defined stop and fill of cheek, good length and depth of muzzle and dark mouth pigment. Moderate angulation on forequarters, strong bone, very good pasterns and tight feet. He has an excellent body with well sprung ribs, short deep loins and correct slope of croup with a well set & carried tail. Hindquarters are well muscled with a moderate bend of stifle & sound hocks. Correct flat coarse coat with rich markings. Very sound and efficient in movement holding a firm topline. Well deserved **BVIS.**

**Judge: Chris Window**