

Border Collie Club of GB Open Show 24th October 2021

Thank you to the committee for inviting me to judge this immaculately organised show, and for the welcoming hospitality. Also, thank you to all exhibitors for giving me an entry and for the pleasure and privilege of allowing me to judge your dogs. I had a thoroughly enjoyable day.

Overall I was extremely pleased with the quality of dogs entered under me, there were several that I could happily have awarded top honours to. Without exception all dogs were well presented and well handled. Coat quality was correct and not overly profuse as in previous years, also the tendency for overly heavy bone was not apparent today. There are several points that I'd like to mention here. Firstly I found several exhibits with level bites and a fair few more that bordered on being level, certainly not the complete scissor bite that the standard calls for, this needs to be watched. Round eyes are still too common a fault and make for a more chocolate box expression instead of the required mild, keen, alert and intelligent expression that is quintessential to this working breed. Lastly feet, feet should be oval not round.

MPD 1/0. Taylor's Darian End Game. Good type and at 7 months he's still very much a baby. Pleasing head for a youngster with dark, correctly shaped eye and keen alert expression. Good angulation fore and aft, correct coat starting to come through although just at that stage where it refuses to lay flat. Stands a bit bum high at the moment. Good free, easy action on the move with the required reach and drive. He needs to mature on now, but shows lots of potential.

Puppy Dog 1/0. Fawcett's Laceway Dont Stop Me Now. Very flashy young male, stood four square showing his socks off here today, his handler really knows how to get the best from him. Handsome masculine head with dark eye and correctly placed mobile ears. Adequate reach of neck onto firm, level topline and nicely rounded croup. Balanced angulation front and rear. Beautifully presented as is usual from this kennel, I thought standing he looked a picture. At 9 months he was absolutely full of himself on the move, but when he did settle to the job in hand he showed good reach and drive, and was sound as a pound coming and going. Pleased to award him BPD.

JD 4/1. Smith & Green Arrodare Wont Back Down. Really good, moderate, typey youngster. Masculine head that still needs to develop, brown eye of correct shape, together with well set, mobile ears give this boy the required intelligent expression I was looking for. Correct front angulation with good length of upper arm, firm, level topline onto nicely rounded croup. Balanced rear angulation, short strong hocks and correct feet. Moved soundly in all directions with reach, drive and purpose. Must surely have a bright future ahead of him. 2. Barratt's Pendleway Time Lord. Larger and slightly longer dog than my winner. Handsome head and expression, well off for coat and bone, very good front angulation and rear to match. Really covered the ground on the move. Preferred the more compact shape of my winner. 3. Domotori's Lucky For You Wesley.

YD 2/0. 1 Woodrow's Arrodare In The Zone. Loved the outline and over all balance of this black and white boy, moderate without exaggeration is what I have in my notes. Good male head with mild expression good length of upper arm but would prefer slightly more layback of shoulder. Strong topline and good depth of chest. Uses himself well going around, holding his shape. Sound going away but needs to tighten up coming back. Beautifully presented and sympathetically handled. 2. Griffiths Kinaway Ready Aim Fire. Loved the head proportions on this dog, dark eye and extremely alert expression. He is well put together and I would love to have seen him move out properly, but sadly today he was extremely unsettled and wouldn't cooperate with his handler.

GD 4/1. 1. Arrodare In The Zone. 2. Coles Janbell Love In The Dark. Handsome dog with exceptionally nice head, strong bone a very masculine dog. Adequate upper arm but shoulder lay

back could be better. Firm, level topline, deep chest with lots of heart room, rounded croup and long tail. Sound coming and going, but would have liked more forward extension. Turned out in tip top condition.

PGD 2/0. 1. Janbell Love In The Dark. 2. Lampier's Pencoppen Good Timin'. Good head with deep stop and dark eye. Lovely outline, good bone and a correct coat. I would prefer better front angulation. Solid topline and well muscled throughout.

LD 4/1. 1. Johnson's Tidespring Storm Breaker. This 3 year old male pushed really hard for top honours today. Love the over all size and shape of this dog, he reminds me a lot of the type being shown some 20 years ago. Moderate all through and without exaggeration, masculine head with keen, intelligent expression ... he looks ready to go to work, and more importantly he looks as though he could work all day. Well muscled, good angulation front and rear, although for perfection I would like a shade better shoulder lay back. This dog really knows how to use himself on the move, powering around the ring with typical border collie movement that is both ground covering and effortless. Correct head position and strong topline, he held his shape at all times on the move. He was a pleasure to watch and I was thrilled to award him 1st place in his class and subsequently RBD. 2. Oliver's Tambuzi Stryka Blow JW. Another really good quality dog with lots to like. Moderate all round with nothing over done, this dog has lovely balanced angulation fore and aft. Masculine head, good reach of neck onto a solid topline and correct croup. Lovely correct feet. Very sound in all directions on the move, but lacked the drive of 1. 3. Lee & Ratcliffe Arroddare True Legend.

OD 6/2. 1. Smith & Ratcliffe. Arroddare Sex On Fire. Here is one of those dogs that walks into a show ring and looks as though he owns it. A dark, strikingly handsome, all male, all border collie, and a very worthy winner here today. Strong, masculine head without a trace of coarseness, beautiful expressive eye, and well set mobile ears. Excellent reach of neck, correct front assembly, firm topline, really good depth of chest, correct croup, down to well muscled rear angulation with neat, strong hocks and good feet. Going over this dog I really appreciated his overall balance. Moves soundly in all directions. 2. Fawcett's Laceway Ready To Rumble. Another beautifully presented dog from this kennel and handled to perfection. Lovely male head that I feel still has some maturing to do yet, none the less it's a head with lovely proportions, a defined stop, dark eyes with an intelligent expression, correct ears. Standing 4 square, this dog has correct height to length ratio which makes for a beautiful outline. Adequate angulation front and rear and he moves well in all directions. 3. Garland's Tonkory Royale ShCM.

Sp.OD 5/1. Portman's SH.CH. Caleykiz Smoke On The Water. Blue dog with such a super male head, broad top skull, neat well set ears and eyes that give him just the most wonderful expression. Good reach of neck, text book shoulders and rear angulation to match. Every part of this worthy Show Champion is in complete balance and harmony. Sound coming and going, and with a side gait that covers the ground with ease. A real pleasure to judge this dog. 2. Domotori's Lucky For You Wesley. A red and white dog of different type to my winner, smaller, more compact and giving a lot away on maturity here today. Quite a well developed head for a youngster with eye colour that complimented his well fitted jacket. Correct front angulation, his rear needs to muscle up and develop yet. Movement was ok, but he needs to settle and learn to use himself which I'm sure he will with maturity. 3. Mockford's Quories Sweep From Snowmere (ISDS) RL6.

SP.WD 2/0. 1. Verplancke Taranza Imagination ShCM. Black and white male of very nice type with beautiful head and super outline. Good angulation fore and aft, correct amount of bone and well balanced throughout. A good typey dog that sadly let himself down with his movement. 2. Mockford's Quories Sweep From Snowmere (ISDS) RL6. A completely different type to 1, at 11 years

old this dog showed no sign of his senior years in either looks or movement. A masculine head with eye colour that complimented his tricolour coat, he has a keen, alert expression. Enough bone to balance his lighter body shape. Good upper arm and well laid shoulders, shorter coupled, firm topline and a deep chest. On the move he could have given many of the youngsters a run for their money, moving out with reach, drive and boundless enthusiasm.

VD 10/1. Wiltshire's SH.CH. I'm A Fire Starter. Nulli Secundus, the Latin for second to none which is what this fabulous dog was today, beating all that came before him. Totally sound coming and going and a side gait that is nothing short of mesmerising, I could have watched him gait round the ring all day. His movement is fluid, effortless and ground covering without any sign of bounce, or unnecessary wasted motion, and it was the same everytime he was asked to move, absolutely outstanding. Such correct movement can only come from correct conformation, and hands on this dog didn't disappoint. Not only does he have correct forehand angulation, but he also has good length of upper arm which allows him such tremendous reach. This, coupled with his powerful rear action is what propels him forward with such ease. At 9 years old he still out moved the competition here today. He won his class with ease, and I was thrilled to award him BD, BVD and later with complete agreement from my co judge a well deserved BIS & BVIS. 2. Richard's SH.CH. Chastanse Sweet William. Another nice quality, typey dog and unlucky to meet 1 here today. Handsome male head with broad top skull, correctly shaped eye with mild, attentive expression. Balanced angulation front and rear. Moved soundly out and back, but lacked the reach of 1.

GCD 5/1. 1. Taranza Imagination ShCM. 2. Garland's Tonkory Doyle JW. ShCM. VW. A veteran now, who still happily shows himself off in the ring. Of good type, with attractive male head, beautiful eye and expression and neat well placed ears. Good over all balance with enough bone. Sound coming and going, he uses himself to advantage on the move. 3. Quories Sweep From Snowmere (ISDS) RL6.

Linda Jenkins (Bruxly)