TURRIFF DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION OPEN SHOW 4TH AUG 2024

My grateful thanks go to the society for firstly their very kind invitation to judge at Turriff Agricultural Show this year, and secondly for the outstanding hospitality shown to me on the day. It was an absolute pleasure to visit for the first time this beautiful part of my homeland that I left over 40 years ago.

I enjoyed my day immensely, enriched by judging many very fit dogs presented in pristine condition. There were some very closely contested classes where some thought-provoking decisions had to be made resulting in some dogs being placed down the line or unfortunately going unplaced.

BIS

Philips' Saluki Luachmhar Jamilah Sh Cex. She has a very feminine head and expression just right for her breed. A very balanced outline and stands on correctly boned legs with the best of feet. It was her beautiful light, effortless and precise movement that caught my eye and I had no hesitation in awarding her BIS

RBIS

Macpherson's FCR Rachanmill Columbo. I liked him in the breed and group. He put in a sterling performance in the BIS line up and was unlucky to meet the lovely Saluki on the day. I could find nothing else to lower his colours for RBIS.

SPECIAL BEST MINOR PUPPY IN SHOW

Hunter and Allen's Akita Whitewreath Cashmere Casakura. I found him to be all dog without a hint of being coarse. He is very advanced for his tender age of just 6 months. Presented in super coat and condition. Moved like a seasoned campaigner. His handler told me later that today was his first show. What a way to start on what I hope will be a successful career. Liked him immensely and will follow his career with interest.

RESERVE BEST SPECIAL MINOR PUPPY IN SHOW

Scott-May's Samoyed Croftdouglas Dileas Anam. A very pretty and eye-catching bitch. Presented in immaculate coat and pristine condition. Typical head and expression for her breed. Moved with style and confidence.

SPECIAL BEST PUPPY IN SHOW

Hunter and Allen's Akita Whitewreath Cashmere Casakura.

RESERVE SPECIAL BEST PUPPY IN SHOW

Cuthill's Beagle Divinebrae Sweetheart. What an apt name for this delightful young bitch, she is both divine and a sweetheart. Glorious head and expression absolutely bang on for her breed. Well bodied for her age. Lovely legs and feet. Moved with style and confidence.

BEST SPECIAL VETERAN IN SHOW

Clubb, Mason and Finlay's Hungarian Vizsla Sh Ch Oroshaza Chukar VW. A great example of his breed. See AV Gundog Veteran.

RESERVE BEST SPECIAL VETERAN IN SHOW

Black and Black's Pomeranian Zaandam Russian Apprentice. A compact and confident bitch who oozed breed type. Head and foxy expression absolutely correct for her breed. Small erect ears well placed. I found her to be a lot of dog in a very small space. Moved as one with her clever handler.

GUNDOGS

My grateful thanks to all the gundog exhibitors for their entries and in trusting me as a non-specialist to judge their dogs. If I may make one general comment. I was disappointed with the number of high tail carriages across some of the breeds. Some exhibits looked the part when standing until they moved and stuck their tails in the

air, totally spoiling the outline of otherwise quality dogs and bitches. I found all males to be entire but sadly found one incorrect mouth on a bitch that when first viewed looked of exceptional quality.

Golden Retrievers Junior. (2) 1st Beck, Beck and Reid's Seancaer Chasing the Sun. Smart young dog of just 12 months. Masculine head and expression. Correct reach of neck in to well laid shoulders. He stands on well boned legs and correct feet. Presented in lovely coat and condition. Moved well demonstrating reach and drive. 2nd Davidson's Bluebraes Skelpit. A balanced 15-Month-old bitch presented in good coat and condition. Feminine head and expression right for her breed. Not the neck and shoulders of 1st. Moved well. Post Grad (4, 1 Abs) 1st Warden's Holinbrae Zoom Time at Glentochty. A very smart of dog of 21 months. Just what I was looking for in a Golden Retriever. Liked his balance of length of leg to depth of body. Correct reach of neck into lovely lay of shoulder and length of upper arm. Big ribbed, short coupled body. Well-developed quarters enabling him to move with reach and drive. Very well presented in excellent coat and condition. BOB. 2nd Gray's Knockothie in a Tizzy. A bitch in good coat and condition. Stands on well boned legs, but for me she could have tighter feet. Moved well with reach and drive but inclined to fly her tail. 3rd Finnie's Thistleyhill Elderflower. Limit. (5, 3 Abs) 1st Warden's Holinbrae Zoom Time at Glentochty. 2nd Beck's Simon Bassett de Ria Vela for Beinangus JW (Imp Esp) Masculine head and expression. Correct reach of neck in to well laid shoulders. Big ribbed, deep body. He stands on well bone legs with correct feet. Moved well with reach and drive but like many today was inclined to fly his tail. Open (6, 2 Abs) 1st Beck's Happier de Ria Vela at Beinangus (Imp Esp) Fully mature dog of 6 years. He has a most masculine head and expression without a hint of being coarse. Lovely legs and feet. Presented in pristine coat and condition. Liked his balanced outline. Would have preferred a better tail carriage. 2nd Warden's Noblemoon Tak the High Road to Glentochty. Close up to 1. Just preferred the more compact outline. For me he could be more masculine in head and expression. Moved well with reach and drive.

Flat Coated Retrievers Post Grad (3,1 Abs) These two exhibits gave me a great deal of food for thought being diametrically opposed on the age scale 1st Wessels' Swallowsflight Hat Trick. 3-year-old Liver dog with a masculine head and expression typical of his breed.. Stands on good legs and feet. Moved well but could have been more enthusiastic. Coat not at its best in the sunshine at this time of year. 2nd Mackessack- Leitch's Caci's The Jewel of June at Inchstellie (Imp Swe) 12-Month-old bitch giving a lot away in age and maturity. She has a most feminine head and expression absolutely spot on for her breed. Lovely legs and correct feet. Moved well if a little too quickly for me. I have no doubt she has great potential; she just needs to mature and develop. Open. (4, 1 Abs) 1st Macpherson's Rachanmill Columbo. An absolutely super example of his breed from his masculine head and expression, though his well-developed body to his ever-wagging tail. He stands on the best of well boned legs and correct feet. His coat and condition were exceptional. He moves in the style required of his breed. BOB, Gundog Group 1 and RBIS. I loved him and will follow his future career with great interest. 2nd Mackessack-Leitch's Finhampride Kia at Inchstellie. 3-year-old bitch who was very unlucky to come up against 1st. Feminine head and expression. Big ribbed, short coupled deep body. Moved soundly. For me this handler may consider moving her bitches just a bit slower. 3rd Wessels' Swallowsflight Hat Trick

Well presented in good coat and condition. 3rd Gray and Gray's Knockothie Fairway.

Gordon Setters Open. (1) 1st Munro's Panthera Bad Medicine Dulmaur. 4-year-old bitch with a most feminine head and expression just right for her breed. Correct reach of neck in to the best of shoulders. Stands on correctly well boned legs and good feet. Presented in sparkling coat and condition. Moved in the manner required of her breed. BOB and Gundog Group 4.

Hungarian Vizslas Grad (4,2 Abs) 1st Mason and Clubb's Oroshaza Bumble Bee JW. A gloriously headed 2-year-old bitch oozing in breed type and quality. Balanced throughout. Deep well ribbed short coupled body. She stands on the best of legs and feet. Moved extremely soundly with reach and drive Presented in excellent coat and hard condition. BOB and Gundog Group 3. 2nd Stalker's Kinharrachies Bed of Roses. 12-Month-old bitch who stands on good legs and feet. Moved well with reach and drive. Could not match the 1st for head and expression. Post Grad (4, 3Abs) 1st Clubb's Betekints Kende with Oroshaza (Imp Hun). 2-year-old dog in fit and hard condition. Typical head and expression for his breed. He stands on well boned legs and correct feet. Moved soundly in front, tended to move wide behind restricting drive. Open (6, 3 Abs) 1st McDonald's Donuries Russian Roulette (Al) A bitch with a feminine head and expression correct for her breed. Good reach of neck in to well laid shoulders.

Big ribbed deep body. Presented in good coat and hard condition. 2nd Mason and Clubb's Oroshaza Lucy Locket. A bitch built on similar lines to 1st, just a bit darker in coat. She stands on correctly boned legs for her breed and good feet.. Moved soundly demonstrating good reach and drive.

Pointers

Open (3, 2 Abs) 1st Grant's Stockfell Star Struck. Black and White dog of 4 years. Masculine head and expression without being coarse. Correct reach of neck into well placed shoulders. Big ribbed, deep short coupled body. Presented in excellent coat and hard condition. BOB 2nd Fraser's Droveborough Follow Me at Frenetbull. Black and White dog built on a larger frame that 1st. He stands on well boned legs and feet. Preferred the head and expression of 1st. Moved exuberantly giving his handler a tough time.

GWP Open (1) 1st Chrystie's Bareve Best Done Now. 4year old dog built on a substantial frame. He stands on correct legs and feet for his breed. Big ribbed, deep body. Presented in hard condition and correct coat texture. BOB.

GSP Open (2) 1st Symmers' Kinlochmor Rowanberry. Solid liver bitch with a head and expression correct for her sex and breed. Lovely reach of neck in to well laid shoulders. She stands on well boned legs with good feet. Presented in excellent coat and rock-hard condition. BOB. 2nd Lindridge's Amidala Dancing Queen. Liver and White ticked bitch built on bigger lines than 1st. Big ribbed, deep short coupled body. Moved well enough, just lacked a bit of confidence.

Weimaraners Post Grad (2) 1st MacLaine's Greyspirit Mystique JW. 3-year-old bitch with a feminine head and expression correct for her breed. Big ribbed, deep body. Good legs and feet. Well-developed quarters enabling her to move with exceptional drive, coupled with sound front movement 2nd Jamieson's Greyspirit Kept Me Waiting. 3-year-old dog built on a substantial frame. Masculine but certainly not a coarse head and expression. Big ribbed deep, short coupled body. He stands on well boned legs and good feet. Well-developed quarters enabling him to move with drive. Tended to pin in front and as such could not match the accurate front movement of 1. Open (8, 2 Abs) 1st Charlish's Sh Ch Gunalt The Hangover. 18-Month-old dog of exceptional quality. Masculine head and expression spot on for his breed. Big ribbed, deep, short coupled body. Well boned legs and correct feet. Presented in excellent coat and hard condition. Well-developed quarters enabling him to move with accurate and effortless reach and drive. BOB and Gundog Group 2. 2nd Maclaine and Dickson's Greyspirit Rock Star from Hantzburg JW. Upstanding dog built on a larger frame that 1. Good legs and feet. Correct reach of neck into well laid shoulders. Well-developed quarters. Moved with reach and drive. Well presented in good coat and hard condition. 3rd Maclaine and Dickson's Greyspirit Hopes N Dreams JW Shcex OSW. Completed a trio of excellent examples of their breed, who I'm sure change places on a regular basis.

Irish Setters Open (2) 1st Charlish's Quensha People Keep talking of Harelferg. 2 years old dog in immaculate coat and condition. Liked his head and expression typical of his breed. Lovely legs and feet. Moved well with reach and drive holding a hard topline. BOB 2nd Tillett's Finniche Love is on the Line. 5-year-old bitch with a head and expression absolutely correct for her breed. Correct reach of neck into her shoulders. She stands on well boned legs and feet. Presented in pristine coat and condition. Just tended to lose her topline on the move.

Labradors Junior (7, 1 Abs) A good class of most promising youngsters. 1st Gunn's Exelby Elizabeth. A yellow bitch who has an eye-catching profile being beautifully balanced. Most feminine head and expression. Good reach of neck into her shoulders and length of upper arm. Presented in super coat and condition. Moved well in a style typical of her breed. Liked her a lot and will follow her career with interest. 2nd Bickorstaffe's Exelby Grouse. 11-Month-old yellow dog with a masculine head and expression typical of his breed. Presented in lovely coat and condition. He stands on well boned legs and super feet. Big ribbed, deep body. Moved well with confidence for his age. One of many on the day who liked to stick their tail in the air. 3rd Thomson's Strathhunker Zephyr. Post Grad (5) 1st Gunn's Exelby Elizabeth 2nd Thomson's Strathhunker Fire Gem. 2-year-old Yellow bitch presented in splendid coat and condition. Feminine head and expression just right for her breed. Stands on good legs and feet. Moved well once she settled to her job. 3rd. Bickorstaffe's Exelby Grouse. Limit (4, 1 Abs) 1st Thomson's

Strathhhunker Gabrielle JW. Yellow bitch presented in pristine coat and hard condition. Most feminine head and expression bang on for her breed. Big ribbed, deep, short coupled body. Moved freely with reach and drive. BOB. 2nd Stronach's Ranger. Black dog with a typical masculine head and expression for his breed. Presented in good coat and condition. Stands on well boned legs and good feet. Moved well once he settled to the job. 3rd Hardy's Gighty Burn Echo. Open. (4) 1st Thomson's Strathhunker Mad Ass Marnie. 5-Year-old Yellow bitch with a most appealing head and expression. She catches the eye with her balanced profile. Stands on good legs and feet. Well-developed quarters enabling her to move in the style required of her breed. 2nd Bickorstaffe's Exelby Grouse 3rd Stronach's Ranger

Any Variety Gundog NSC Junior (1) Post Grad (7 – 5 Abs) 1st Garden's Leiborschy Theano. 2-year-old HWHV bitch presented in excellent coat and condition for her breed. Feminine head and expression. Well boned legs and good feet. Moved with reach and drive. Best NSC 2nd Toynton's Taramount Dazzle Caramel. 2-year-old American Cocker Spaniel bitch. Most feminine head and expression typical of her breed. Good legs and feet. Looked to be between coats. Moved with the reach and drive holding a hard topline required of her breed. Open (4) (All absent) Any Variety Gundog Import Register Open. No Entries.

GUNDOG GROUP

I enjoyed judging this group where I had to make some tough decisions on firstly a short list then my final placings. I can understand the disappointment of the owner of the Cocker Spaniel who's bitch I have admired and placed highly when judging my own breed. Regrettably she completely lost her topline and like many others on the day stuck her tail in the air. I could only judge her on the day and today was unfortunately not her day. 1st FCR; 2nd Weimaraner; 3rd Hungarian Vizsla; 4th Gordon Setter

Any Variety Gundog Minor Puppy (1) 1st Symmers Kinlochmhor Scree. 7-Month-old GSP bitch with a typical feminine head and expression. Good legs and feet. Moved well and with an air of confidence for one so young. Any Variety Gundog Puppy (7 – 3 Abs) 1st Bickorstaffe's Exelby Grouse. Labrador Retriever 2nd McGregor's Dunherl Penelope Pitstop. Blue Roan Cocker Spaniel bitch . Head and expression feminine and typical of her breed. Well boned legs. Feet need to tighten. Could carry more weight to her advantage. Her movement was more precise than her brother who stood 3rd. Better trimming and overall presentation would enhance her chances as she progresses in her career. 3rd Duncan and Pope's Dunherl Mountain Ash. Any Variety Gundog Junior (8 – 3 Abs) 1st Bickorstaffe's Exelby Grouse. Labrador Retriever 2nd Davidson's Bluebraes Skelpit. Golden Retriever 3rd Lawrie's Totenkopf Dancing on the Ceiling. Cocker Spaniel. Any Variety Gundog Veteran (14 – 3 Abs) 1st Mason, Clubb and Finlay's Sh Ch Oroshaza Chukar VW. Hungarian Vizsla dog of the highest quality. Masculine head and expression, bang on for his breed. Excellent reach of neck in to the best of well laid shoulders. Big ribbed, deep body. Best of well boned legs and good feet. Moves effortlessly with super reach and drive. Expertly presented in sparkling coat and condition. Could not get past him for Best Special Veteran in Show. 2nd Maclaine and Dickson's Greyspirit Purdue JW. ShCM. Sh CEX. VW. Weimaraner bitch with a typical head and expression. Correct reach of neck in to well laid shoulders. Big ribbed, short coupled body. Well boned legs with good feet. Unlucky to meet the Vizsla on the day 3rd Gray and Gray's Knockothie Fairway. Golden Retriever. Any Variety Gundog Open Dog. 1st Warden's Noblemoon Tak the High Road to Glentochty. Golden Retriever 2nd Beck's Simon Bassett de Ria Vela for Beinangus JW (Imp Esp) 3rd Chrystie's Bareve Best Done Now. GWP Any Variety Gundog Open Bitch 1st Munro's Panthera Bad Medicine Dulmaur. Gordon Setter 2nd Thomson's Strathhhunker Gabrielle JW. Labrador Retriever 3rd Bannerman's Selhendo Special Edition. Weimaraner

VARIETIES

AV Junior 1st Franchi's Saniaquinto That's Amore. Welsh Corgi (Pembroke) Typical head and expression for her breed. Well bodied but not over so. Well presented and moved in the style of her breed. 2nd Savage and McLean's Strufingill Penny Benjamin at Canaich. Bearded Collie. A very promising youngster with all the essentials to mature into a good example of her breed. Very well presented in excellent coat and condition 3rd Ritchie's Araki The Devils Candy. Tibetan Terrier. AV Post Graduate. 1st Warden's Holinbrae Zoom Time at Glentochty. Golden Retriever 2nd Nicol's Wangdak Farah. Tibetan Mastiff. Head and expression just right for her breed. Well presented and handled. 3rd Wood' Cotherstone Ayers Rock. Whippet AV Limit 1st Warden's Holinbrae Zoom Time at Glentochty. Golden Retriever 2nd Cruikshank's Wychway Crown Ghillie Gins Island at Culsalmond (Imp

USA) Bloodhound. Impressive example of her breed. Typical head and expression. Big ribbed, deep body. Stands on well boned legs. Moved well at the end of a long day. 3rd Wilson's Pink Saphire Princess Baalzstarz. SBT AV Open Dog 1st Warden's Noblemoon Tak the High Road to Glentochty. Golden Retriever 2nd Wilson's Baalzstarz Zibal. SBT. Almost 18-month-old dog presented in gleaming coat and hard condition. Moved in the style required of his breed. 3rd Nicol's Method Man. Tibetan Mastiff AV Open Bitch 1st Cruikshank's Ch Badina Diana at Culsalmond. Bloodhound. An impressive example of her breed. Typical head and expression. Big ribbed deep body. She stands on powerful legs and good feet. Presented in excellent hard muscular condition Moved in the unhurried style of her breed. Liked her immensely and will follow her career with interest, 2nd Bannerman's Selhendo Special Edition. Weimaraner 3rd Higgins' Allachoy Isle of Neave. Bearded Collie. AV Scottish Native Breeds Open. A lovely class to judge. 1st Warden's Noblemoon Tak the High Road to Glentochty. Golden Retriever. 2nd Shorten's Glencorrie Stella Bark at Bracoisla. Smooth Collie. A young sable bitch with a head and expression just right for her breed. Moved as one with her clever handler. One for the future I would imagine. 3rd Higgins' Innkalies Miss Marple at Allachoy. Bearded Collie. AV Brace 1st Hardie's Italian Greyhounds. A wellmatched pair of typical examples of their breed. Moved in harmony with each other to top this unique class 2nd Cruikshank's Bloodhounds. Close up to the Italian Greyhounds. Another well matched pair of hounds who despite being totally at the other end of the size scale put in a good performance. 3rd Beck's Golden Retrievers.

Les Forfar (Judge)