

## **Norwegian Elkhounds Oct 13<sup>th</sup> 2024**

Well, who could have predicted such a weekend but before I get on to that, let's have the regular news first.

As most will realise from their back pedigrees, it's been very common in Norway to register Elkhounds by just their pet names and NKK number for many years, particularly among the hunters. It's only in the last 20 years or so that some kennel names have been used. From the pedigrees of our first Elkhounds which were descended from the early imports I clearly remember Fix, Finn, Deisi, Anker and Babs. I wonder just how many Finns and Babs have been registered only identifiable by their numbers. A statement by the NKK this week will change all that.

"From the NKK newsletter translated:

### **Mandatory Kennel name from the third litter of puppies**

Are you planning a litter of puppies but don't have a kennel name? If you've had two previous litters, it's now mandatory to register and use a kennel name.

A kennel name is a "trade mark" that becomes part of the puppy's registered name, and will make it easy to see who is the dog's breeder.

At the Council meeting in November 2023, it was decided that breeders who have more than 2 litters must have a kennel name."

Perhaps it's time our KC did the same. Even in our breed we still see dogs registered with random names and to be controversial, they could perhaps even consider a two tier system for Pedigree dogs and "mutts, doodles or cross breeds". It would certainly make it much easier to know who had bred what rather than leaving kennel assessments to be done by local councils. If they kept it cheap enough even the puppy farms couldn't object. It could almost take the place of the old dog licence.

A Christmas Walk has been arranged near Gravesend in Kent by Mel Hennessey. It will take place on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> Dec at 10.30 at Shorne Woods Country Park. She says, Come and join us for our annual Elkhound Christmas Walk and pub lunch! (Humans and dogs welcome!).

The Hound Show has announced "a much planned 2025 spectacular double header event. The Houndshow Weekend will have its prestigious Championship

show on Saturday followed by our Open Show on Sunday. We have numerous breed club shows already partnered with us over both days and want to make the Hound Weekend as enjoyable both socially and educationally for all hound enthusiasts all over the world. Some breeds will have the potential to win 3 CCs in one weekend at one fantastic venue.”

Now to this weekend and SWKA. A very worried Linda Middleton emailed me on Friday morning that she had had to withdraw from judging SWKA as Brian had been rushed into hospital with sepsis in his knee and was having surgery on Saturday. I put a brief message with her sincere apologies on Facebook. Brian has had further surgery today but Linda is too upset to speak to anyone. I'm certain she will keep us updated and we all wish Brian a swift and full recovery. We are all worried about you Brian.

At around 6pm that same evening I answered a frantic phone call from Bridget Croucher, the SWKA secretary asking whether Peter could get down there to judge as she'd tried all the all-rounder judges booked for the show and no one was available plus all but one of the exhibitors who had entered, none of whom were able to do it. I suggested two people she had missed but neither were able as they had appointments coming up and others on the judges list who were qualified, simply lived too far away. I checked our list of judges again and rang her back to suggest Stuart Byrne and thankfully, after a second phone call, he agreed. Show secretaries are so often forgotten for the huge amount of work they have to do and hers didn't even stop when it came to the Hound Group. Ken Sinclair was supposed to judge but apparently got to the show and somewhere along the line passed out, hit the floor and was carried off by the ambulance. Mike Gadsby had to step in. That lady really deserves a medal for keeping her cool and sorting it all out. She really wanted to find a breed specialist to stand in for Linda. When I checked the show's main page they'd had to sort out 17 changes of judge since April when the schedule first came out.

Maggie Mot had a chat to her at the show and said “she asked me to please relay to the Elkhound fraternity her thanks for helping her find a solution to the problem. She said everyone was so concerned, kind and helpful -- I think she was amazed by the cooperation. “

So huge thanks to Stuart for stepping in and driving up at the last minute. He's told me just how much he enjoyed judging and how impressed he was by his winners.

The results were:

BCC and BOB Simmonds and Mott's Ch/Am Ch Kamgaard Klementina (Imp Usa)

DCC and Best Veteran, Tress's Ch Grasilva Little Rock avec Gilkaro JW.

Res DCC Maun's Ch Bowerhinton Bassanio

Res BCC and Best Puppy, Barganska's Barbelka Dauntless Spirit .

I think Barbara's puppy made the cut in the Puppy Group but I'm not certain.

Get well soon Brian.

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