

Norwegian Elkhound Club of Great Britain

49th Championship Show

17/4/2022

It was an honour to judge the club show, I hope everyone else enjoyed their day as much as I did. Thank you to all who brought their lovely companions under me, temperaments were excellent and the dogs were a joy to go over.

Class 1 Minor Puppy Dog (3)

1st - 38 Simms' Aftonlee Aros - 8 mths puppy has made his height, lovely square profile, level toplining, excellent head shape, good bone, dark eye, clean colour, darkest mask and ears moved very well and won this class today on maturity and movement BP

2nd - 21 Launder & Preston's Cealdstan After Eight - 9 mths but with his growing to do, not a criticism in a slow maturing breed, four square outline, good toplining darker coat than which I liked very much, excellent head shape, dark ears, ears and mask, not as positive on the move front should improve as he matures.

3rd 45 Wilson's Norvin Vorm at Suchow - 7 mths very much baby puppy slightly longer in loin than 2 but square in profile, good angulation front and rear his topline will strengthen with maturity, preferred his front movement and underline to 2 plenty of scope to grow on. I expect these boys to change places many times as they mature.

Class 2 Puppy Dog (3)

1st 45 Wilson's Norvin Vorm at Suchow - stepped up a gear in this class, as his movement settled preferred his make and shape and dark eye.

2nd 3 Bailey's Laakso Gaute - 11 mth puppy excellent colour dark points on mask, deeper stop than winner which coupled with a lighter in eye made for a less typical expression than winner, longer in loin but with excellent colour and markings and good feet.

3rd 31 McMahon's Seasara High Flyer - 11 mth puppy level toplining good dark points like 2 prefer longer muzzle, high set tail level top and underline, just not performing as well as 2 today.

Class 3 Yearling Dog (2, 1 abs)

1st 10 Clark's Graythor Cosmopolitan - 17 months exceptional colour and coat texture good bone front and rear angulation, topline and spring of ribs, single curl on well set tail, moved well, I was looking for better leg length for higher honours

Class 4 Yearling Dog no entries

Class 5 Novice Dog (1)

1st 41 Stone's Laakso Eike - square young dog just beaten in challenge, square dog, good coat texture and colour high set tightly curled tail good angulation front and rear neat feet I would prefer a better length of muzzle and less deep stop.

Class 6 Post Graduate Dog (3)

1st 41 Stone's Laakso's Eike I was splitting hairs between these two litter brothers winner just had a stronger front.

2nd 18 Jepson's Laakso Esko - many of same comments apply as to litter brother and although he had a more pleasing head and expression, he was not as strong in front as his brother.

3rd 22 Lawrence & Owen-Laurence's Laakso Falle - this boy made me work, a change of handler improved matters, a lot to like about him but he was playing up for his handler and refused to let me go over him, consistent ring training will improve his chances.

Class 7 Limit Dog (3, 1 abs 1 w/d)

1st 8 Benner's Graythor Loves the Luxor litter brother to Yearling dog, lighter in colour but excellent coat quality tightly curled tail could be higher set excellent front angulation presenting with a level toppling good spring of ribs as with litter mate not to length of leg to make a square profile.

Class 8 Open Dog (3)

1st 39 Simms' Ch Seasara Earl Grey - square dog, level toppling good spring of ribs correct size masculine head and expression dark points excellent rear angulation, moved well with purpose today no hesitation in giving him DCC, BIS

2nd Mortimer's Ch Laakso Cannute - both bigger and longer than winner, presenting as square but longer in loin good front and rear angulation level topline high set tail, moved well, masculine head and expression RDCC

3rd Maun's Ch Bowerhinton Bassiano - striking dog, not as positive on move and lacked masculinity of winners in head and expression.

Class 9 Michelle Lucas Special Beginners Dog

1st 18 Laakso Esko

2nd 21 Cealdstan After Eight

3rd 45 Norvin Vorma at Suchow

4th 10 Graythor Cosmopolitan

Class 10. Special Newcomers

Class 11 Special Veteran Dog 7-10 years

Class 12 Special Veteran Dog 10 years

Class 13 Minor Puppy Bitch (2, 1 Abs)

1st. 37 Saint's Ravenheim's Tor Vildenvaer BPB - 7 mth old puppy, excellent make and shape, level topline, good spring of ribs, good angulation front and rear and lovely movement, good coat texture, clean colour, feminine pretty head, dark eye close run for best puppy looking forward to watching her grown in confidence.

Class 14 Puppy Bitch (5, 2 abs)

1st 37 Saint's Ravenheim's Tor Vildenvaer grew in confidence as day progressed, best mover in class

2nd 15 Hardy-Wallace's Brumous Lyrical Eclipse pretty puppy, slower maturing and longer in loin than 1, lovely typical head dark points and dark eye giving expression typical of breed, neat ears good reach of neck, held her tail with more confidence than winner

3rd 40 Southall's Seasara Hermione half sister to class winner and not quite the length of leg, good clean coat colour and excellent tail set, level topline and feminine head also needs time to mature

Class 15 Junior Bitch (3, 1 abs)

1st 44 Tress's Treshka Tanqueray good leg length short coupled with level topline, and good spring of ribs high set tail, good dark points on feminine head.

2nd 15 Hardy-Wallace's Brumous Lyrical Eclipse as above, preferred the shorter coupling of winner in this class

Class 16 Yearling Bitch (2)

1st 28 Bowerhinton Bright Lady excellent bone, good rear angulation, level topline, good spring of ribs short coupled good colour, central tail well set good movement, balanced bitch.

Class 17 Novice Bitch (2)

1st 36 Saint's Barbelka Call me Cryptic compact bitch, good size, level topline which she kept on the move good rear angulation, prefer stronger front assembly coat markings could be clearer

Class 18 Post Graduate Bitch (2)

1st 17 Jepson's Bowerhinton Bombette RCC compact mature bitch of correct size, level topline which she kept on the move, good bone, in full coat, double curl in centrally carried tail, pretty feminine correct wedge head with good length of muzzle and skull proportions correct for the breed.

2nd 1 Alchin's Barbelka Betty Boop of Carolon - feminine bitch carrying too much weight, it affected her movement and stance and gave impression that she was stuffy in neck, correct wedge head pretty facial markings.

Class 19 Limit Bitch (7)

1st 29 Mchugh's Laakso Dina of Conrick - balanced bitch on the larger side good wedge head neat ears giving feminine expression, level topline, good spring of ribs central tail well set good angulation front and rear preferred substance over 2nd

2nd 13 Gray's Grasilva Treble's Going correct size feminine head good colour and spring of rib, central high set tail, not as short in loin or feminine as class winners whose rear angulation I also preferred.

3rd Maun's Bowerhinton Bee Portia bigger than 1 & 2 feminine head good bone, preferred front assembly of 2.

Class 20 Open Bitch (7, 1 abs)

1st 35 Mortimer's Laakso Dana compact feminine bitch of correct size, good coat feminine head good angulation front and rear a balanced bitch who moved well BCC BOS

2nd Brown's Laakso Cara another lovely balanced bitch with excellent movement, again splitting hairs and she stood second as I preferred the spring of ribs and coat colour of the class winner.

3rd Tress's Treska Just the one - taller than 2nd good length of leg, good coat colour, good spring of ribs and high set tail ears a little wider set than class winners.

Class 21 Michelle Lucas Special Beginners Bitch (1)

1st 17 Jepson's Bowerhinton Bombette as above much to admire about this attractive bitch

Class 22 Special Newcomers bitch

Class 23 Special Veteran Bitch 7-10

1st 12 Gilbert's Rothernberg Nanya for Balsemasi - bitch of correct size, dark high set ears, eye and mask giving typical feminine expression, square profile, good bone level topline moved with purpose.

2nd 14 McHugh Simmonds & Mott's Am CH Kamgaard Kiamesha - compact bitch of lovely type good bone in full coat and not showing as enthusiastically in the heat, preferred head make and shape of class winner

3rd 32 Middleton's Ch Graythor Norwegian Lights ShCM compact bitch of correct size not as short in loin as winners and out of coat but showed well for her handler.

Class 24 Special Veteran Bitch 10 (0)

Class 25 Brace - truly my favourite class, each handler presented an evenly matched pair who moved well together around the ring, what was remarkable was the variation of type between the three braces. This was echoed throughout the other classes. Clearly breeders are producing consistency of type within their own kennels, but sadly demonstrating a lack of homogeneity in the breed as a whole in the UK, this is a feature absent in other countries and is something we should guard against.

1st Mortimer's

2nd Tress's

3rd Maun's

Class 26 Stud Dog

42 Grasilva little Rock Avec Gilkaro JW - stamped his mark on his progeny in all three generations.