RR Club of Qld

Specialty Show 08/06/2024

Critiques

Summary

First of all I'd like to say a huge 'Thank you' to the Committee of the RR Club of Qld for the privilege of judging your 2024 Specialty Show, exactly 11 years after my first Specialty appointment for this very Club! You really turned on the weather so that your lovely red dogs shone in the sunshine , the show was well organised and I thoroughly enjoyed my day!

I'd like to especially thank Kerrie Lambley who looked after me and took some fab photos in the ring for me. Also my very efficient steward Margaret deserves a medal for keeping me (and the exhibitors) organised .

Of course, the stars of the day were the Rhodesian Ridgebacks - the temperament was absolutely rock solid across the board, and nearly all dogs were presented in tip top condition, a credit to their human slaves! (one or two may be indulging in too much coffee and cake – the dogs, not the owners!)

As a judge, my mantra is 'type, balance, soundness.....with a dash of forgiveness' – there is no perfect dog! Overall the quality of dogs was mixed with some lovely breed type in evidence, but I would watch for dogs lacking both front and rear angulation, which I saw in a few, also very steep croups accompanied by poor toplines. I think we all know that our biggest issue, and one that's very difficult to fix as there aren't a huge number of dogs/bitches with this attribute, is a lack of visible forechest, reducing heart and lung capacity and affecting front movement.

On the day I was spoilt for choice, but my Best In Show went to Ch Marmatia Zimba Sonata (AI), owned by Leslie Fejer while Runner Up Best In Show was awarded to Sup Ch Chilolo CHN Cool Joe Cool owned by Rosemary Green. My winning bitch was the very feminine Ch Shakuru Sultry Siren of Marandela owned by Karen Spark.

Congratulations to all the winners!

Baby Puppy Dog (1 entry)

1st – 1. Ballahond Loru Blueseas (Miss S Bell) (Baby Puppy in Show)

Almost 15 weeks old, this youngster is such a happy chappy! Well-boned, balanced in outline with moderate angulation front and rear. Well balanced head, would prefer eyes a little bit rounder, correct high set ears and good depth of muzzle. Chest to elbow with visible forechest and good fill in front, a little bit high in the bum at this stage of development and difficult to see movement as he's a typical lively puppy but moved true in front, although a little close in behind, correct ridge. Promising puppy.

Puppy Dog (2 entries)

1st – 3. Rokanziridge Tsavo Lionhunter (AI) (Mrs C Patterson)

11 mth old, red wheaten dog of good bone and level topline, but I'd prefer more angulation front and rear, chest to elbow and well-ribbed back. Well balanced head with correct high ear-set and

lovely dark eye, could be a little cleaner in the neck. He's a little rounded in croup, resulting in a low tail set but moved reasonably well on the side, holding his topline. Correct ridge of good length.

2nd – 2. Valeighunter Harp of Aladfar (Denise Mitchell)

12 mth old, rich red wheaten boy, nice and shiny and shown in great condition, although finer boned than my first place. I'd like a little more length on him through longer ribbing to balance his outline, as he's a bit square at present, although chest is to elbow. Well-balanced head with correct ear-set, and a lovely dark eye. He's short in upper arm, but angulation is matched in the well-muscled hindquarter, and I'd prefer more width and fill in front. Not moving as well as the first one, pacing and running up in rear, a bit misbehaved today - needs a bit more practise.

Junior Dog (2 entries)

1st – 5. Riginal Hurricane (M Goulding/D Blinco) (Junior in Show) (Best Gaited Dog)

14 mths well-conditioned, moderately angulated, lean dog, good height to length ratio, with a strong level topline, held on the move, chest not quite to elbow, but well ribbed back, stands true in front but I'd like a fraction more fill. Strong head perhaps a bit broad, lovely dark round eyes, with good depth of muzzle and well set ears. Correct ridge. Covered the ground with power showing reach and drive and using his moderate angulation to good effect.

2nd – 4. Ch Cedarrose Stand and Deliver (Mrs Denise Sutcliffe)

15 mths well-balanced, well-boned red wheaten dog with good angulation and strong, well-muscled hindquarter. Chest to elbow and well ribbed back but topline a little high in the rear with a rounded croup. Stands a little east west but correct well-arched feet. Good length to head with lovely dark eye and correct ear set, but planes not quite parallel and I'd prefer a cleaner neck with more stop. I couldn't assess his movement, as he was pacing and his handler tried to correct him without success. Shown in excellent condition.

Intermediate Dog (2 entries)

1st – 6. Ch Chilolo BM Gold On The Moon (AI) (R Green) (Intermediate in Show)

3 yr old, moderately boned, well proportioned dog with excellent level topline, strong neck flowing smoothly into well-laid shoulder, moderate angulation fore and aft with strong second thigh, chest to elbow and well ribbed back with good fill and width in front. Masculine head with lovely round eye and expression, perhaps could be a tad darker, good depth of muzzle, but would prefer a fraction more length, correct high ear-set. Well arched feet, moved very true with effortless reach and drive and held topline on the move, correct ridge.

2nd – 7. Lovatpride Don't Stop Me Now (AI) (Mr & Mrs McKindley & Ms & Ms Burns-Hutchison) (Best Headed Dog)

20 mth old red wheaten dog, shown in great condition, slightly high in the rear with sloping croup resulting in low tail set, elegant length of neck, chest not quite to elbow but good width in front, short upper arm and I'd like to see more angulation and stronger quarters. Attractive masculine head, well balanced with good stop, lovely dark eye and expression, correct earset, strong muzzle of good length and depth. Toeing in and very close behind on the move. Ridge slightly offset.

Australian Bred Dog (2 entries)

1st – 8. Dual Ch (LC) Chilolo CHN Cool Sascha ET. LCX (Mrs R Smith).

6.5yr well-boned red wheaten dog, elegant in outline, although would like to see a tad more length to perfect his proportions, moderately angulated, strong level topline, good width in front with visible prosternum, chest to elbow but would like to see longer ribbing, strong loin and croup a little steep, masculine balanced head with well set ears and dark eye, would like a bit more depth of muzzle and little throaty but lovely length of neck flowing smoothly into well laid shoulder. Flowed around the ring with good reach and drive, moving true in front and maintaining topline but a little wide behind, being a bit naughty today. Correct ridge.

2nd – 9. Ch Adbesare Reflections Of Duke (AI) (K Carlin & S Wheatley)

3.5yr well balanced dog, well proportioned with a strong level topline, moderate angulation front and rear with well let down hocks and correct tailset. He has an attractive, balanced masculine head with parallel head planes, eyes harmonising with his coat, correct ear-set and good depth of muzzle. Elegant neck of good length, lovely deep chest although a little wide in front and well ribbed back into muscular loin. Well arched feet. Moved with reach and drive in profile holding his topline, but a little wide in the rear. Correct ridge.

Open Dog (6 entries)

1st – 12. Ch Marmatia Zimba Sonata (AI) (Mrs L J Fejer) (Best in Show, Challenge Dog, Open In Show – did not compete in Property classes)

4yrs old elegant, eye-catching, handsome dog, agile and well boned with a clean outline, perhaps a tiny bit long, strong elegant neck flowing smoothly into excellent level topline, moderate angulation front and rear with correct croup and tailset, well muscled quarters with good second thigh. Chest to elbow, good width in front but I'd like to see a little more fill, lovely long ribbing into strong loin. Good feet. He has a balanced, appealing head with correct earset and good depth of muzzle, Ridge could be a little longer. He moved true coming and going, covered the ground a free and active gait and kept his topline. A well-deserved winner of his Best in Show award.

2nd – 10. Sup Ch Chilolo Cool Joe Cool (Rosemary Green) (Runner Up in Show, Reserve Dog)

6.5yrs old well-boned moderate dog, could perhaps do with a little bit more length (in ribbing) but, strong muscular neck flowing into good lay of shoulder and excellent level topline, with correct croup and tailset, good angulation fore and aft. Chest to elbow and good width in front. Well arched feet. He has a strong masculine head with correct earset, strong muzzle that would improve with a little more length, lovely dark eye and expression, I'd prefer a cleaner neck. Ridge could be a bit longer. He covered the ground easily with good reach and drive. Pleased to award him Runner Up in Show.

3rd – 15. Sup Ch Jelany Red Nikaya For Chilolo (Imp RUS) (Rosemary Green) (Best Sire & Progeny)

An older (8yrs) rich red wheaten, well-balanced dog shown in great condition, plenty of bone and substance, exhibiting the desired breed type despite his size, smooth transition from neck into well laid shoulder, strong level topline and correct tailset. Good return of upper arm balanced by his well-muscled quarters with lovely deep chest and well ribbed back, Good feet. He has a strong balanced head, perhaps a bit more width than I'd like, but good depth of muzzle and a dark eye. moved well around the ring on profile, holding his topline. Correct ridge.

Veteran Dog (1 entry)

1st – 16. Gr Ch Ballahond Oceans Bilu ET (Miss S Bell) (Veteran in Show, Best Ridge)

At 9.5 yrs old, what great shape he's in! This is a well-balanced, sound dog of good bone with correct height to length ratio, strong level topline (still!) correct croup and tailset. He's well angulated both fore and aft, has a lovely clean neck flowing smoothly into a well-laid shoulder, chest to elbow, well ribbed back and with well arched feet. His head is well balanced with correct earset, good depth to muzzle and a lovely dark eye. An excellent ridge which won him the Best Ridge award. He maintained his topline on the move and was true coming and going - a handsome veteran overall.

Minor Puppy Bitch (1 entry)

1st – 17. Rockridges Gold From Chilolo (Mrs J Russell) (Minor Puppy in Show)

7mth old well-balanced, feminine bitch with good height to length ratio, level topline, correct croup and tailset and moderate angulation front and rear. Good bone and chest to elbow with lovely long ribbing, although I'd like to see a little more width in front. She has a pretty, well-balanced head with correct high set ears but I would prefer a bit more underjaw. Good feet, excellent ridge, kept her topline on the move, a promising youngster.

Puppy Bitch (1 entry)

1st – 18. Valeighunter Harp of Sheliak (Denise Mitchell) (Puppy in Show)

Almost 12 mths old, this red wheaten bitch of moderate bone is shown in tip-top condition, topline rising at the rear into a steep croup and low tail set. Chest is to elbow, well ribbed back, but short in upper arm and needing more angulation in rear. Well-balanced head with a lovely dark eye and correct earset, but I'd like to see more underjaw. She moved reasonably true out and back but rises in the rear and softens topline. Correct well arched feet.

Intermediate Bitch (8 entries)

1st – 25. Riginal Free My Soul (AI) (Stephen Hughes & Shayne Foster)

Almost 2 yrs old, very pretty well-balanced bitch, well boned with correct height to length ratio, elegant arched neck flowing smoothly into good lay of shoulder and strong level topline. Beautiful balanced head with lovely dark eye and gentle expression, correct earset. Chest to elbow, good return of upper arm, matched by rear angulation, well arched feet, standing slightly east west but I forgave that for her overall type, excellent topline held on the move, correct ridge.

2nd – 19. Ch Cedarrose Vegas Showgirl (Ms V Page & D Sutcliffe)

2.5yrs old moderate well boned bitch, good height to length ratio, elegant clean outline, not as tall as the first one, standing slightly up in the rear with a low tailset, chest to elbow, would prefer a bit more fill in front, excellent long ribbing and well-muscled quarters with correct well-arched feet. Pretty, balanced head with correct earset, eyes harmonising with the coat and soft expression, good depth of muzzle, she moved true coming and going, correct ridge.

3rd – 24. Ch Adbesare Defying Gravity (AI) (Ms S Hodges)

Another moderate red wheaten bitch, 2yrs old, well-proportioned with elegant neck flowing smoothly into level topline and moderate front angulation matched in the rear, but slightly sloping

croup. Chest to elbow, good width in front and well ribbed back into strong loin, good feet. I would prefer a little more length of head, but well set ears, very animated expression in correct round eyes, little bit throaty but overall well put together, topline slightly high in the rear on the move, correct ridge.

Australian Bred Bitch (8 entries)

1st – 31. Ch Marmatia Nyx Sonata (AI) (Mrs L J Fejer) (Reserve Bitch, Australian Bred in Show)

Well balanced red wheaten bitch, almost 4yrs old, well up on size but elegant and feminine with good bone, good length of neck flows smoothly into well-laid shoulder and her strong level topline, moderate angulation matched fore and aft, correct croup and tailset. Chest to elbow and lovely long ribbing, good width in front but I'd like a little more fill, good feet. Beautiful feminine head with good length, although I'd prefer the stop a bit more defined, well set ears, eyes harmonise with coat, moved with purpose and reach and drive, correct ridge. Pleased to award her Reserve Bitch.

2nd – 33. Ch Chilolo BM Gold Moon Rising (AI) (R Green/E Marshall)

3 yr old balanced bitch, little stronger than the first, would like a fraction more length to her, good length of neck flows smoothly into well laid shoulder and level topline with slightly sloping croup, good return of upper arm matched by moderate rear angulation, good feet. Chest to elbow and well ribbed back, good width in front with good fill. Feminine balanced head with lovely eye and expression, well set ears and good underjaw. She moved effortlessly around the ring displaying good reach and drive. Correct ridge.

3rd – 27. Gr Ch Ballahond Sager Lakes ET (Miss S Bell)

Medium wheaten well boned bitch, almost 6 yrs old, very clean elegant outline, good height to length ratio, elegant length of neck flows smoothly into well laid shoulder and level topline, slightly steeper in croup than the others and I'd prefer a little more angulation but she used it well, would like a bit longer upper arm, good width in front with sufficient fill, well ribbed back, good feet. Very feminine well balanced head, lovely dark eye and correct ear-set, flowed round the ring covering the ground, correct ridge.

Open Bitch (7 entries)

1st – 41. Ch Shakuru Sultry Siren of Marandela (K Spark) (Challenge Bitch, Opposite Open in Show, Best Headed Bitch, Best Gaited Bitch)

4yrs old, mid-wheaten bitch with lovely clean lines, she caught my eye with her excellent breed type, typical height to length ratio and strong level topline, chest down to elbow and beautifully ribbed back with a good strong loin, moderate angulation front and rear with good second thigh, good width and fill in front, slightly down on one foot in front but forgave that on her beautiful type. Very feminine, balanced head with well set ears and lovely dark round eye, adding to her whole expression. She moved around the ring fluidly like she could do it all day and was true coming and going. Correct ridge. Loved this quality bitch and delighted to award her Challenge Bitch, Best Headed and Best Gaited Bitch.

2nd – 35. Ch Ballahond Tura Sunlock (AI) (Miss S Bell)

3.5yr old liver bitch, well balanced, topline not as strong as the first, good return of upper arm matched by rear angulation, neck into shoulder nice and clean, good fill in front with visible prosternum, well ribbed back with a strong loin, good feet. Feminine, balanced head but wouldn't show

me her ears, round eye harmonising with coat, excellent pigment. Ridge could be a little longer. She moved out well, covered the ground with ease.

3rd – 36. Ch Cedarrose Mweya Weshato Nyota (Mrs D Sutcliffe)

2.5 yr old taller bitch shown in great condition, feminine and well-proportioned although I'd prefer a fraction more angulation front and rear. Neck flows into shoulder smoothly, chest to elbow and lovely length of ribbing with good strong loin and good bone. Well balanced head with good depth of muzzle, correct earset, good dark eye with very alert expression. Good feet, ridge could be a tad longer, doesn't hold her topline quite as well as the others on the move, otherwise moved true, overall a moderate bitch just lacking angulation.

Veteran Bitch (2 entries)

1st – 42. Ch Taiping Hot Hot Hot (Wendy Lam) (OPPOSITE VETERAN IN SHOW)

7.5yr old strong bitch still in great shape, well balanced with good topline and strong loin, good angulation, elegant length of neck flowing into well laid shoulder, maybe a little short in upper arm, good rear angulation and well-boned. Chest to elbow, good width and sufficient fill in front, good feet but standing a little east west. Balanced head with strong muzzle, correct earset and lovely dark eye. Correct ridge with good length, moved cleanly with good reach and drive.

2nd – 43. Gr Ch Almazart Captive Fyre (M Goulding / D Blinco)

9.5yrs bitch in excellent shape, slightly steeper in croup than the first, not as well conditioned, good return of upper arm, matched by moderate rear angulation, good topline held on the move, visible prosternum and good width in front, correct feet, head type very feminine and well balanced, with correct earset, good depth of muzzle and lovely dark eye. Moved fluidly like a youngster, fabulous for her age. Correct ridge.

Neuter Dog (3 entries)

1st – 44. Koruridge The Way of Water (Imp NZ) (Stephen Hughes, Shayne Foster & Dale Blinco) (Neuter in Show, Neut Challenge Dog)

14 mths old red wheaten dog, well balanced with good height to length ratio, good length of neck flowing into well laid shoulder and level topline, little bit short in upper arm, moderate angulation front and rear, good second thigh, good feet. Masculine head, little bit strong in stop, good earset, dark eye. Covered the ground well, true coming and going, ridge could be a little longer.

2nd – 46. Marmatia Aussie Kalu (AI) JC (Mrs T & Mr M Larsen) (Neut Reserve Challenge Dog)

2.5yr old dog, leaner in style and more refined than the first one, little bit long which affects his topline just a little, but shown in excellent condition, I'd prefer more angulation both front and rear, chest to elbow, good width in front, well ribbed back, good feet. Good length of head with dark eye and correct ear-set, very animated expression, a bit unruly on the move, ridge could be a tad longer.

3rd – 45. Ch Neut Ch Starridge Nulli Secondus (AI) (Mr L Hunt & Ms L Besnard)

Heavier style dog, almost 8yrs old, with strong bone, good angulation fore and aft, smooth neck into shoulder, but topline not as strong as I'd like, chest to elbow with good width in front and well ribbed back, feet a little soft. Head stronger than I'd like and would prefer a cleaner neck, but wellset ears and lovely dark eye and expression, didn't move well on the day, correct ridge.

Neuter Bitch (4 entries)

1st – 47. Gr Ch Neut Ch Cedarrose Promises of Injabulo AI ET JC (Mrs D Sutcliffe) (Runner Up Neuter in Show, Neut Challenge Bitch)

8yr old feminine bitch still in excellent condition, not standing at her best but level topline on the move, correct tailset, good second thigh, chest to elbow, little bit short in upper arm, elegant neck, good feet. Pretty, balanced head, very feminine with lovely dark eye and wellset ears, little bit out in elbow but true on the move, correct ridge could be a little longer.

2nd – 50. Marmatia GS Hurricane Diva (AI) (Ricki Smith) (Neut Reserve Challenge Bitch)

Also a feminine bitch, 6.5yrs old, well-boned but elegant, good height to length ratio, a little bit upright in shoulder, but strong second thigh, chest to elbow with good width in front, well ribbed back, good feet. Well balanced head, correct high set ears, lovely round dark eye, good depth of muzzle. Correct ridge, could be a tad longer.

3rd – 48. Gr Ch Neut Ch Adbesare Cocos Curtain Call (AI) (Miss Sarah Wheatley)

Almost 10 yrs old, and a little heavier than 1st and 2nd, different style, level topline held in the move and elegant length of neck with well laid shoulder and good angulation fore and aft. Chest to elbow, well ribbed back, standing slightly east west and feet not quite as strong as the first 2. Balanced head, lovely dark eye, slightly roman nose, but good length of muzzle, would like a more feminine head, ridge could be a little bit longer and not starting behind the shoulders.