

Joint Labrador Retriever Clubs' Show Hosted by Northumberland and Durham Labrador Retriever Club Friday 16th June 2023

What a great honour to be judging the dogs at this show held as part of the N&D Centenary Weekend in the unique venue at the Ford Castle Walled Garden. Thank you to the hard-working committee and all the exhibitors who entered and the sporting way they accepted my placings. There were some very nice dogs entered but too often movement let them down. Some of it being the owners for whom a straight line away from the judge seems an impossibility. On other occasions, I think the heat and or general fitness let dogs down. I did my best to ensure I went over dogs in the shade and did not leave exhibits standing in the sun too long. Most dogs had a decent length of leg whilst still maintaining a good depth of chest and most were not over weight although a few lacked muscle tone. Considering the very hot weather there were not too many dogs badly out of coat.

MPD 5 (5)

1. **Metcalfe's Rumhill Bertie Wooster By Baileydale** 6mo Chocolate headed a very nice class. Well balanced outline with good angles front and rear, creating a good neck and topline. Kind expression and kind eyes which darken with age in this colour. Well boned with compact feet and well arched toes which helped him win this class. Moved OK for age.
2. **Woodley's Tricolour De L'Etang Blancrret Avec Alkemhurst (IMP FRA) NAF** Well constructed 9mo yellow with good top line and tail set. Good coat, head still to fully mature but with pleasing dark pigment and nice expression. Good coat and tail correctly set on. **RBDP**
3. **Harvey Major's Just the Joker in Linjor.**

PD 2 (2)

1. **Metcalfe's Baileydale Paint it Black** 7mo who was in 5th place in the previous strong class but who is actually a very nice puppy although he still has some maturing to do, just requires time and I am sure he will end up very nice indeed. Very well put together with a kind head and expression. Very good coat and tail which is a good shape and well set on. Good bone and neat strong feet. He moved the best in this class and I preferred his front angulation on the day.
2. **Edward's Kimberjack Prince Paddington** Very pale yellow. Lovely head and expression. Good level top line. Good coat and tail. Well sprung ribs. Good bone with neat but quite small feet. Moved a little close behind today but should improve with maturity.

JD 5 (4)

1. **Simpson's Strathlana Black Jasper.** 14mo Black. Once settled he stood and showed well. Good neckline flowing into good topline. Kind head and good eye colour and shape. Bite tight but right. Good spring of rib. Good bone, strong quarters with compact strong feet and moved quite well.
2. **Percival's Wynfaul Reprint.** Short coupled black with good length of neck and strong topline. Head still needs to mature but it has all the right essentials and a kind expression with good eye shape. Deep through the chest, well boned but perhaps would like feet a little stronger. Can carry his tail higher on the move but within the breed standard.
3. **Davey's Southridge Romeo**

YD 5 (3)

1. **Simpson's Strathlana Black Jasper**

2. **Litherland's Oakhouse Orlover** Not as settled today as his owner would have liked which affected his movement as it did many on what was a very hot day. Not in his best jacket. Lovely head and expression. Good depth of chest and spring of rib. Good bone and feet. Good quarters.

3. **Mallin,s Wynfaul Special Edition**

MD 5 (3)

1. **Metcalfe's Rumhill Bertie Wooster By Baileydale**
2. **Cook's Exelby one Night Stand** 6mo yellow baby who stood reserve in a good minor puppy class. Kind head and expression, nicely put together with good angulation front and rear. Topline and tail set need to strengthen. Good bone and feet. Moves a little close behind at the moment. Hopefully everything will mature and sort itself out.
3. **Edward's Kimberjack Prince Paddington.**

ND 6 (5)

1. **Metcalfe's Rumhill Bertie Wooster By Baileydale**
2. **Harvey Major's Just the Joker in Linjor** 9mo mature yellow Kind head and expression, Good coat and excellent otter tail. Level topline with good strong quarters, Good bone and feet.
3. **Metcalfe's Baileydale Paint it Black**

UGD 1 (0)

GD 3 (3)

1. **Woodley's Alhamhurst Prime Shot** Very smart black dog. All Labrador, in fit hard condition who moved very well from strong quarters. Lovely head and expression. Well balanced with lovely reach of neck. Good bone and neat strong feet. Good top coat and undercoat with well set on otter tail. A dog with substance without being overdone in anyway. Pushed hard for higher honours.
2. **Tait's Loughbrae Showtime at Kiltedshark** A well put together yellow with good front and hind angulation. He has a kind head and eye with good eye colour. Excellent coat and tail, good bone and feet. He made life difficult for his owner sometimes standing but mostly when on the move which did not help his movement.
3. **Litherlands' Oakhouse Oot My Way**

PGD 5 (4)

1. **Crellin's Aalincarrey Lets Sing.** Very well put together pale yellow with correct angulation front and rear. Lovely head and expression with correct set on of ears. Good coat and otter tail. Good depth of chest and spring of rib. Well boned with good feet.
2. **Powell's Seatallan Chilli** What a pity this lovely black was just so out of coat on the day. However, thank you to his owner for bringing him anyway as he is a pleasure to go over in spite of this and maybe one can appreciate his great construction all the more. Lovely kind head and expression. Correct angulation front and rear, strong level topline presenting a well-balanced picture moving well on good bone and feet with well sprung ribs and in good hard condition. Not overdone in anyway and all the attributes of an excellent male Labrador even when far from being in his best coat.
3. **Wilkinson's Antonine Abercrombie**

MLD 4 (4)

1. **Bell's Westerulston John** Well constructed yellow with good angulation all round. One of the best upper arm length and angulation of the day. Kind head and expression good neck line flowing into level topline and good tail set. Good spring of rib and depth of chest. Good bone and feet. Not overdone in anyway and moved soundly.
2. **McCrorry's & Lawrence's Claychalk Costa Mark at Dunabbey**. Very nice type of Chocolate Kind head and expression. Good topline and tail set. Good depth of chest and spring of rib. Strong quarters. Excellent coat and tail,
3. **Smith's Flyenpyg Porky Pig JW OSW**

LD 5 (4)

1. **Harvey Major's Floki The Jester in Linjor** Very well put together yellow. I remember he was a very mature youngster but now he is just right and not overdone in anyway although he was not quite in his best jacket today. Kind head and expression. Good spring of rib, depth of chest but with good leg length and level topline. Well boned and was the best mover in the class. His feet are well arched but to be picky I would prefer slightly tighter feet but to be fair it was very hot and those sweat glands in his pads must have been working overtime.
2. **Becker's Trewinnard the Tailor** Lovely head and expression. Well constructed with good angulation. Good spring of rib and depth of chest without being overdone. Level top line. Well muscled up and in good coat but I think the heat did not help with his hind movement on the day although it was still better than others in the class.
3. **Mallin's Elisabetta Red Teddy**

OD 4 (3)

1. **Hodges's Sh Ch/Ir Sh Ch Naiken Elite Envoy (A1) JW IR Jun Ch** This Chocolate dog is the full business because not only is he an excellent example of the breed he is very well presented and very well trained for the show ring. If he puts one front foot out of place his handler says "step back" and the dog puts its foot back on the correct spot. He moves around the ring without tugging on the lead and therefore his handler can present his movement at its best without the judge having to dodge about trying to look at it which sadly is too often the case. He moves correctly and with drive behind and soundly in front and effortlessly in profile holding a level firm topline showing off his clean strong neckline. He is in fit muscular condition which all helps to ensure he moves to maximum advantage and has a decent length of leg helping him to cover the ring easily and with agility. He has a masculine but clean head and with a soft willing expression and good hazel eye colour. Correct angulation all round with a particularly good upper arm and strength through the body and rear. He has a good double coat and otter tail, good bone and compact feet with well arched toes. You are hard pressed to think of any more attributes he needs even though he is top end on size for me. In the challenge I was very pleased with my line up and although I tried to find something to beat him. On this day it was not to be. His owners are lucky to have him and he was a well -deserved **Dog CC** and with the agreement of my co-judge **BIS**.
2. **Dawson's Beskerby Pageant Unlucky** to meet the first placed as really there is nothing not to like about this lovely yellow dog. Kind head and expression, correct ear set and eye colour. Good coat and otter tail. Well balanced and with good angulation all round. Good bone and feet a good solid example of the breed. All Labrador and moved soundly but not quite the drive of 1.
3. **Becker's Slo Ch Tuure of Finnwoods JGD Ch Alpen Sieger 21**

Champion 2 (2)

1. **Dodd's Sh Ch Carriegame Moonshine** A really typical example of a quality black Labrador. Kind expressive head and eye with a soft expression. Excellent double coat and good otter tail. Level top line which he keeps on the move. Good depth of chest and barrel ribs, good length of leg well boned on neat compact feet. Excellent construction with very good length and angulation of upper arm. Strong well angulated quarters. Not overdone in anyway. Moves soundly and true. Very pleased to give him the **RCC**.
2. **Hodges's Sh Ch Naiken East Meets West AI JW** Black with kind head and eye. Excellent coat and otter tail. Good topline and tail set. Good depth of chest and spring of rib with good length of leg and well boned. Moved very well and in good hard condition. Deservedly a champion. Just preferred the exceptionally good front of 1.

Special Working 2 (2)

1. **Perceval's Ch Wynfaul the Wizzard** Black dog. An excellent ambassador for the breed and in excellent condition for his age. Masculine but kind head and expression. Good depth of chest and spring of rib. Excellent coat and tail. Good bone and feet. Moved really well especially in profile where he keeps a good level strong topline. Although the two dogs in this class were from different sides of the breed, they both shared some typical characteristics of the breed with neither being over exaggerated one way or the other. That is positive for the breed. The fact that there were not more of them shown in this class or the field trial class was a disappointment.
2. **O'Briens Shork's Prediction WGC** A very nice yellow. Lovely kind head and expression. Ears set on well. Well balanced body with good spring of rib and depth of chest. Well boned with good feet and generally good angulation. He has a good double coat and quite good tail shape although it needed a trim up as it has a slight curl and this makes for some under feather. He was shown with this sorted out at the second show of the centenary and looked much better for it. Overall, a proper Labrador.

FT 0 (0)

Veteran 3 (3)

1. **Parker's Sh Ch Poniel Reason to Believe at Bruadarach Sh CM ShCEx VW** Very well put together black and at nearly 10 years old he is a credit to his owners as he was in good hard muscular condition and moved one of the best movers of the day. Very good topline and tail set. Good coat and tail. Good bone and feet. Pleasing head although to be picky I would prefer a touch more length of muzzle but all in all, a very good example of the breed.
2. **Mc Crory's Sh Ch Millrosegle Make my Day with Meadovillabs** 9 years old yellow and another in good fit hard condition and who moved really well. He had a nice head and expression although again I would prefer more length of muzzle. Good bone and feet. Short coupled and good through chest and spring of rib. Very good coat and otter tail.
3. **Parr's Stoneavon Willie the Weeper**

Joy Venturi Rose Judge

