

Northumberland and Durham Labrador Retriever Club Open Show 13th February 2016

Firstly, I would like to thank the Northumberland and Durham Labrador Retriever club for the honour to be asked to judge the show. It was a privilege to be able to go over a quality entry. The Labrador is very serious hobby for my wife and I so when you are asked to judge you must judge with certain things in mind number one temperament. So get them out there when they are babies and do your home work. It is so disappointing when as a judge you have a lovely looking dog or bitch that you can't go over. Also try and show them in right weight - good exercise will help with this. A fit dog with good construction will move well. Having said that, I was very pleased with all my winners and many thanks to you everyone for your entry

Veteran Dog (2 0) 1st McDonald's Linnburnhead Reed Warbler Good specimen this, well made through out with just the right length of leg. Well constructed with good bone but unfortunately out of coat

2nd Brabban's Sh Ch Cambremer Craftsman another good veteran in better coat than one, pleasant head and expression, but in heaver condition so lost out to one on movement

Minor Puppy Dog (4 2) 1st Crellin's Mattand Buckles Chocolate pleased to say of good temperament easy to go over coming together nicely with good bone well sprung ribs correct coat good feet short through the coupling. Top line not the best at this moment but should come in time. Movement sound on this tricky surface. BPD & RBPIS 2nd Easton's Heaton Parker Opal Rainbow Good temperament again, a most important issue with the Labrador. This puppy passed with flying colours and was nicely constructed with good double coat. Just needs to beef up a bit a little light in bone at the moment.

Puppy Dog (2 0) 1st Crellin's Mattand Buckles 2nd Shelton's Shork's Moors Yellow with kind head and expression, good bone correct double coat, good top line just a little long in coupling not so good on the move.

Junior Dog (5 3) 1st MacClean's Afinmore Azufral Chocolate. This one ticked all the right boxes for me lovely head and expression good length muzzle with good stop and kind eye with good colour. Lovely clean neck set into well placed shoulders, well constructed front with good bone, good depth of chest but not too deep, nice spring of rib, strong top line ending with a good tail set. Hind quarters well developed. Over all a delight to go over with lovely clean lines and in fit condition an active type of dog and very fit for purpose. He deserved top honours on the day Best in show. 2nd Crellin's Aalincarrey Summer Majic Yellow of sound construction but unfortunately carrying to much weight it is important to get weight of dogs right otherwise the movement suffers especially on the artificial surface.

Yearling Dog (4 2) 1st Lennox and Morgan's Wilenmory Side Swipe Black with a well proportion head with good length muzzle, kind eye and expression soundly constructed with good spring of rib, double coat, moved well. 2nd Crellin's Aalincarrey Summer Majic Beginners Dog (3 3)

Novice Dog (3 2) 1. Harman's Trewinnard Celebration at Kareldis Sstanding alone a little bit judge shy but this can be overcome with a little bit of work. Head just right

for his age, strong with good neck and shoulders, good construction although slightly longer cast. Good length of leg and very sound on the move.

Graduate Dog (3 2) 1st Williams's Millerdan Hunky Dory JW 1 Yellow good size dog with good length of leg good looking head with good length muscle clean neck and shoulders well proportioned body, level top line but did not always stand quite four square making him appear slightly over angulated but he had very sound movement.

Post Graduate Dog (4 2) 1st Powell's Seatallan Xerula Strong black dog this, very well put together a real man's dog. Handsome head, powerful neck and shoulders, solid front with good depth of chest. well covered hind quarters, good second thigh, correct double coat and moved well on this surface. Res BD 2nd Wilkinson's Foxrush Roger I felt a bit sorry for this Labrador and handler. The dog was a lovely specimen but rather let down by his handler. Well constructed, good bone and coat looked like the class winner until asked to move.

Limit Dog (3 0) 1. Crepin's Hold The Dream Off Newfoundland Coast Black another very good black, well chiselled head with kind eye and expression. Clean neck and shoulders, excellent front, good length upper arm plenty of depth to chest but not over done and with good spring of ribs. Good double coat, strong top line and good on the move 2nd Wilkinson's Foxrush Roger 3rd Cook's Exelby Rennie Mackintosh

Open Dog (5 0) 1st Powell's Seatallan Walnut Top quality black dog. Good looking lad with strong clean muzzle, good stop, kind eye, correct ear set, powerful neck set into well placed shoulders, very well constructed. Good front angulation. True, correct double coat, firm top line, good turn of stifle and moved well. 2nd Cook's Exelby Rennie Mackintosh Similar type to one kind head and expression good bone good conformation not quite the top line of one. 3rd Lennox & Morgan's Wilenmory Side Swipe

Special Open Working Dog 1st Mc Clean's Afinmore Alain JW Managed to see off some very strong opposition in this class but deservedly so. Lovely head of equal proportions, excellent clean neck and shoulders, well boned with well constructed front, just the right length of leg, neat feet, level top line, well proportioned hind quarters, in firm condition and moved well. 2nd Crepin's Hold The Dream Off Newfoundland Coast 3rd Williams's Wylanbriar As Time Goes By at Millerdan

Veteran Bitch (3 0) 1st McDonald's Lindall Rock Chick at Marronoir classic yellow very sound construction, clean neck and shoulders, correct angles producing a good front, good depth of chest, excellent double coat, level top line, strong through coupling Hind quarters strong with a good second thigh and sound on the move. Best Veteran 2nd Williams's Lembas Name Of The Game at Millerdan ShCM well deserved second, good type with feminine head and well constructed body giving a picture of balance, moved well. 3rd Powell's Seatallan Teasel

Minor Puppy Bitch (3 1) 1st Rochford's Shork's Kentmere Pike well balanced puppy showing a lot of promise for the future. Clean cut feminine head with kind eye, sound temperament which is so important. Good length neck set in well placed

shoulders ,well constructed front, good depth to chest, good spring of rib good hind angulations, with well let down hocks. In summing up a well balanced specimen. Pleased to award her BP I learnt afterwards that this was the first show for both dog and handler/owner. 2nd Sadler's Beautiful Ella Firestorm yellow puppy that gave one a good run for its money but just lost out on top line also a little bit longer on leg, not quite as well balanced at the moment.

Puppy Bitch (3 1) 1. Lesley's Steeleigh Double Trouble Short coupled bitch, standing four square, easy to go over which is important, some exhibitors seem to forget this. Pretty head, good length neck, well angulated front, correct double coat, nice spring of rib, level top line, good firm hind quarters. 2nd Leith Ross & Gildroy's Shork's Heather not quite so easy to go over this puppy. Overall a good make and shape, would have liked to see a little more bone but plenty of time for that to come and well worth waiting for.

Junior Bitch (9 1) 1st Gawthorpe's Rocheby Smooth Silk excellent black very impressed with this girl looking very well balanced, glamorous head with correct shape, kind eye, good neck and shoulders very good front with good upper arm, nice spring of rib, front legs straight with clean bone, finished off with lovely neat feet . Firm top line and well developed hind quarters. 2nd Lennox & Morgan's Wilenmory Collabro little unlucky to meet one today. A very nice bitch, well constructed with good bone and correct double coat just lost out on top line today. 3rd Crelin's Aalincarrey Summer Love

Yearling Bitch (8 2) 1st Lesley's Steeleigh Here At Last Rather fizzy black bitch but in really good condition, pretty head with a mischievous look, just enough neck set in well placed shoulders. Soundly constructed front ,with good depth of chest. Ggood spring of rib, very good bone. Overall, a well balanced picture and sound on the move. 2nd Crelin's Aalincarrey Summer Love Most glamorous blonde with lovely head and expression, good construction. Good coat and lovely neat feat. Just a little heavy for one so young. 3rd Timm's Lejje Peace Thyme

Beginners Bitch (5 2) 1st Threader's Gulsary Galilahi Yellow very nice shape with good construction. Correct coat, good top line, stood four square. Moved very well to take the class. 2nd Sadler's Beautiful Ella Firestorm A well deserved second for this bitch. Kind head and expression, good construction and in firm condition. Sound on the move 3rd Smith's Hannah's Honey Pie

Novice Bitch (8 2) 1st Gawthorpes's Rocheby Smooth Silk 2nd Leith Ross & Gildroy's Tintagelwinds Shork Story Not in the best of coat giving the appearance of looking a little fine in bone but well made with good conformation. Would have liked to see a little bit more weight, looked as though she had not quite recovered from shooting season but she moved well 3rd MacClean's Oakhouse Oshine Afinmore

Graduate Bitch (10 3) 1st Schopen's Barnagrow Altisidora what a delight to go over this lovely short coupled bitch standing four square with an outstanding profile my only criticism too much weight on the front end which spoils her movement. Really

lovely head, clean neck, correct angles producing a lovely front, good depth of chest, well sprung rib, good bone, firm top line, good tail set. 2nd Maclean's Afinmore Annette Serious contender for first place just preferred the look of the head and coat of one but this bitch still ticked most of the boxes with excellent conformation and in fit and firm condition. 3rd Brambles's Shaymiloney Stormin Norma JW

Post Graduate Bitch (11 5) 1st Gawthorpe's Waterbrook Pillow Talk Top class bitch this, lovely shade of yellow, gorgeous feminine head with a lovely shape eye of the correct colour. Clean neck, well placed shoulders excellent front with good length of upper arm. Good depth of chest, just the right length of leg, top line straight and true, well developed hind quarters, just right for me giving this bitch a beautiful profile RBB. 2. Schopen's Barnagrow Nuala Another good exhibit. Kind head and expression very nicely put together, good bone, good double coat not quite the clean lines of one as unfortunately carrying too much weight. 3rd McDonald's Zanys Lollipop at Marronoir

Limit Bitch (11 3) 1st Powell's Seatallan Waterlily Very strong class this with some top quality bitches. Quite a stunning black bitch with lovely clean lines, a very appealing head, good scissor bite, good length of muzzle, correct shape eye giving a lovely expression. Clean neck, set into well placed shoulders, excellent front with just the right amount of chest with good spring or rib, legs straight true finished off with lovely neat feet. Good firm top, line, excellent hind quarters giving a very pleasing picture of balance not over done in any way. RBIS and BOS. 2nd Schopen's Lejie Song of Summer A close decision. Excellent yellow which pushed one hard. Glamorous blonde, very well made with good coat and bone, sound on the move just preferred the balance and out line of the first placed. 3rd Leith Ross & Gildroy's Hop Off Newfoundland Coast into Tintagelwinds

Open Bitch (4 3) 1st Lennox & Morgan's Wilenmory Armani Diamond JW Yellow standing alone sometimes we have to step back and have a look at the breed standard. A little on the big size for me but very well constructed with a good double coat, correct front, very deep through chest, good top line and tail set. Unfortunately too much weight on the front end which did not help with the movement.

Special Open Working Bitch (8 4) 1st Hop Off Newfoundland Coast into Tintagelwinds Up against top quality, but this bitch deserved the win. Very pretty head, clean neck and shoulders, nice angles making a good front with good depth of chest. Not in the best of coat but in fit, firm condition and moved well. 2nd William's Ch. Millerdan Vision Of Love JW Very tough decision. Big yellow, beautiful head with excellent conformation front and rear but unfortunately carrying too much weight for me on the day losing out because of soft condition and movement. 3rd Ch. Afinmore Antora ShCM

Judge Chris Rose