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NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM LABRADOR RETRIEVER CLUB

Critiques for Northumberland & Durham LRC Open Show 10th February 2019

Judge:- Diana Stevens (Wylanbriar)

DOGS

Veteran Dog - 1

1st: Bratton's - Afinmore Alpine Night.

Black dog. Stood alone but worthy winner. 7 years. Strongly built through carrying no excess weight. Nice balance, good reach on the move. Lively happy boy with excellent head and kind expression. Excelled in coat and tail with a happy tail action throughout.

Minor Puppy Dog - 6

1st: Powell's - Seatallan Zingiber.

Quality class throughout. 8 Months old black. Not overdone in any way for one his age, stood squarely and showed with perfect manners. Fabulous coat covering a firm, well boned pup in great condition. Loved his unexaggerated angulation that allowed him to stride out and track up beautifully even on a difficult floor. His kind, typical expression shone for me and he was handled perfectly to bring out the best in him. BPD & BP in Show

2nd: Mallin's - Elisabetta Red Teddy

Pushed close to 1. Just a younger slightly less together youngster only just 6 months of age. Dark yellow boy in excellent condition. Strong top line for one so young, and superb coat and tail. Liked his bone, he's going to be a big lad but is maturing steadily. Particularly loved his lovely dark pigment, great eye colour, and beautifully set ears which he used to good advantage throughout. Moved well. RBPD

3rd: Mitchell's - Mikmaqlabs Kuruk

Puppy Dog - 1

1st: Hickley's - Shorks Albiorix

9 month old black. Made of structurally finer stuff than most of the dogs today, really enjoyed judging him. Lovely reach of neck into well placed shoulders. Angulation a little unbalanced but adequate spring of rib, depth of chest and very nice leg length. He has a particularly kind eye, was in good coat and I particularly liked his nice neat tight feet. Moved confidently, handled very well. Moved with drive.

Junior Dog - 2

1st: Percival's - Wynfaul the Wicked

13 month old black dog. A young dog who is not overdone at all yet is masculine with a good length of body, not too compact, and with a lovely reach of neck into well placed shoulders. Preferred the length of leg of this chap to 2 but was close. Great coat and tail, buzzed round the ring with real drive and showed calmly, sensibly and with eye catching style. RBD

2nd: Cook's - Exelby Salsola

Smart, balanced boy in body, with super matching angulation enabling him to move out around the ring, close pushing 1. He had a beautiful head with a lovely expression, and was a happy showman with obviously a great personality. Wasn't heavy but I just slightly preferred the condition of 1. I noted his great coat and tail, in full bloom and also liked his tight, well made feet.

Yearling Dog - 1

1st: Percivals - Wynfall the Wicked

Special Beginners Dog - 1

1st: Mullett's - Cuerdenlake Caragh

Stood alone, happy showman of a young black dog. Very nice length of neck and good shoulder placement. Liked his leg length very much. Very kind head and nice balance skull to muzzle length. He is a little broad in chest making his fore movement a little choppy and would like a slightly tighter top line but he moved with confidence and was shown really well.

Novice Dog - 0

Graduate Dog - 4 (2)

1st: Wynfall the Wicked

2nd: Mullett & Maclean's - Shaymiloney Schinus Afinmore

Large framed black dog who carries his size well. Great front all together in absolute balance, slightly less balanced behind. He was in really good condition, one of the best muscled of the day, and had a beautiful head with a happy, calm expression. Great coat and tail on the day too.

Post Graduate Dog - 2 (1)

1st: Maclean's - Afinmore Absolut JW

Stood alone but very worthy winner. Black dog in full bloom. A type I like very much indeed. Nothing exaggerated, a pleasing head with the kindest of expressions, great reach of neck into well placed shoulders. Compact but enough length of body to balance his good length of leg. Hard top line to great tailset. Tight feet. Drove around the ring, shown to his 'absolut' best advantage :-)

Limit Dog - 0

Open Dog - 1

1st: Maclean's - CH Afinmore Azufral

This dog commands attention. Standing alone purely gave me more time to delight in his many virtues. Finished chocolate dog who shows so naturally with his handler that it all looks effortless. Masculine without being heavy or overdone in anyway. Broad skull, dark eye and good length of muzzle. Great reach of neck into forequarters that are both muscled and balanced with rear. He is a fit dog without being lean, and he is a substantial dog without being overdone. His great coat and tail set off the complete picture as did his commanding movement around the ring. BD and BIS

Special Open Working Dog - 1

1st: Maclean's - Afinmore Alain JW ShCM

Chocolate dog of similar type to previous winner, shouting quality and fitness. He was sensible, moved very well, maybe with a fraction less reach than his kennel mate Open winner. He has a strong top line, good spring of rib and is carrying no excess weight for frame. His rear angulation is correct but might just like a little more front angulation in shoulder and upper arm. Like so many today, in great coat and tail and was always presented perfectly every time I looked at him.

Diana Stevens