

Yorkshire Shetland sheepdog club championship show 26 August 2021

Dogs:

Thanks to all that entered both shows and stayed until the end of judging. The bitter wind became stronger as the day went on but luckily kept the rain away. Thanks to my stewards who kept things running despite everything flying off the table many times!

Where are all the puppies? It does not bode well for the future with the empty classes throughout 2021 - perhaps 2022 will produce more hopefuls if COVID allows! I found the dogs hard to assess due to the extreme wind and cold with ears, coats and tails flying everywhere making a lot of the dogs unsettled and erratic on the move - it was more like November!

There were a few I shall watch with interest that didn't win top honours on the day but should do well later on.

My notes are limited as my hands were so cold I can only read small amounts of my own writing therefore some of this is from memory.

Minor puppy dog 1 (0)

1. Sutherland's Shelcrest Winter Solstice 8 mths s/w raw baby showing promise. Good head, eye and ears but not much coat as yet showing a nice shapely neck and topline. Needs to keep his tail down on the move as this makes his movement erratic and hard to assess.

Puppy dog 2 (0)

1. McDonald's Fearnach Blue Moon 9 mths super coloured merle boy excelling in head and expression. Very good neck and top line with well carried tail when moving to perfection around the ring. Although a shade reticent to show off his many virtues couldn't be denied Best Puppy Dog and BPIS. Heard he is on his way to New Zealand - what a shame!
2. Dimmock's Shougies Secret Agent of Fernhill 10 mths glamorous tri with white facial blaze giving almost a comical expression. Good overall shape and coat is well groomed showing the tan against the dark black. Moved well with his handler and showed off his virtues- hope he does not grow on too much.

Junior dog 5 (0)

1. Pearson's Edglonian Golden Graham super young s/w who stood out in this class and one who didn't seem bothered by the wind. Textbook head, eye and alert ears, nice arched neck with level topline and good length well carried tail. Moved with ease around the ring and showed to perfection he looked really well groomed and schooled earning the CC today and RBIS.
2. Hateley's Mohnesee Mr Bobby Black. Jet black tri with little glamour and unlucky to meet the winner. Pleasing head and eye and well used ears giving desired expression. Longer in body than winner and quite mature for his age his lovely black coat was groomed to perfection and he obviously enjoys the showring. Shade erratic on the move as were many of the dogs today.
3. Barraclough's Shadowess Lockdown Hero

Yearling dog 1 (0)

1. Aaron's Shelridge Sirius s/w teenager with good head properties and sweet expression. Good neck and topline and nice balance exactly right for his age. Moved well coming and in profile but a shade close behind. When in full coat and a shade more mature should do well. Alone in this class but deserved his first place - a nice youngster in the making.

Maiden dog 2 (0)

1. Sorockyj's Padawan Mandalorian g/s/w teenager whose expression is lovely and super ear carriage. Good neck and topline with nice tail carriage on the move. This boy was well handled and made the most of but he appears a bit leggy at the moment. Would like to see him in a year or two when he has matured and grown a new coat.
2. Sutherland's Shougies Starmaker tri with nice dark tan markings. Head and expression OK but shade strong in skull. Nice size and balance of body with lovely bone and in good hard body condition. Presented well and another one that moved well in the windy conditions.

Novice dog 3 (0)

1. Miles' Milesend Kingfisher Year old merle of well broken coat colour with plenty of glamour. Head is well balanced and carried on a good neck with level topline with nicely boned legs and well padded feet. Not a born showman but in the end showed and moved well enough to win the class.
2. Sorockyj's Padawan Mandalorian
3. Afterglow Beaudacious

Graduate dog 7 (2)

1. Wither's and Thornley's Felthorn Cover Story Very nice 2 year old tri of quality. Good head pattern and excellent expression. Well balanced all through, presented in good hard condition also well groomed and schooled he was one of the best movers of the day. Will watch his future with interest and he was not ignored in the challenge.
2. Winfield's Adventurine Bohemia Classic Joins Oakcroft (IMP CZE) golden sable boy in a huge coat with lovely head and expression. Level top line and correct tail carriage well balanced all through. Moved and showed to advantage and was unlucky to meet the winner.
3. Botham's Balidorn Charmer

Post Graduate Dog 7 (1)

1. Aaron's Shelridge Toastmaster nicely coloured Merle with white face and full colour. Another one from this kennel with a nicely balanced head and sweet expression. Good front and neck and makes the most of himself in stance. Moved well and steady in the wind to take this class.
2. Botham's Balidorn Black Spice tri with good tan and really black well groomed coat. Lovely expression from good head qualities, good deep chest for his size and well balanced body enabling him to move with drive. Wish there was a shade more of him although he is still definitely male!
3. Varnom's Milesend Blue Jeans

Limit Dog 16 (3)

1. Hull's Mohnesee Dream Date of Lizmark JW Very typy 3 year old s/w improving all the time. Head and expression are so appealing and he uses his ears well. Nice body proportions and the best of feet and legs enabling him to move well even against the gusts of wind. Liked him very much and would like to see him in full coat. Close up for top honours.
2. Keeling's Kishdigra The High King IRJRCH another very typy 3 year old s/w with a beautiful head and expression. Very shapely which was obvious as he lacked coat and bloom on the day. Moved well with ease and made the most of himself but another that I would like to see in bloom when fully mature.
3. Fisher's Shellamoyed Gold Fever

Open dog 9 (0)

Super class of very typy dogs

1. Winfield's Ch Oakcroft Star Force JW Top quality s/w almost 7 years old and looking very youthful. Excels in head and expression and has a very masculine outlook without any sign of coarseness. Knows how to show himself to the crowd and the best mover in the class. Not quite in full bloom today which was the deciding factor for the CC but I couldn't give this superb specimen of our breed less than the RCC.
2. French's Ch Lindfern Light Sabre JW Very glamorous s/w boy and he knows it. Good head and expression he never stops looking at his owner both standing and moving. Another very typy boy who is good in profile an always groomed to perfection. Moved OK but his curly tail carriage detracts a shade from the overall picture.
3. 3. Goodwin's Highbrook Hobnob JW

Veteran dog 2(0)

1. Malone's Carmeva Caymen SHCM SHCEX 8 1/2 years young dark shaded sable of good shape and type. Lovely head and expression with eyes that almost talk to you. He has with age become an almost visual tricolour and very appealing too. In good condition and groomed so well he looked a picture standing but when moving kept dropping his head down low and lifting his tail really high and this was why he lost out for best veteran to the lovely bitch whose movement he couldn't match.
2. Clublely's Mossvale Frosty Moon 9 year old merle who has a lovely coloured very thick coat which almost hides his neck and body shape. Very sweet head and expression with facial white blaze and lovely neat well used ears. Good neck and topline and the neatest of legs and feet plus a tail that almost touches the ground. Did not like the wind and I think this affected his movement slightly also was not happy at the side of the ring but still a very nice dog who doesn't look a veteran and I hope he will have better days.

Ann Stafford

Judge