

The Maltese National Canine Federation
2022 Annual Championship Dog Show
Saturday & Sunday 5th & 6th November 2022

My grateful thanks to the Maltese National Canine Federation for the great honour they gave me by inviting me to judge at their prestigious November championship dog show.

Frank Borg and his team must be congratulated on this well organised, well-run show; their hospitality and friendship were much appreciated. There was an exciting atmosphere throughout the show and the sportsmanship and support amongst all the exhibitors was an example to us all and is what dog shows should be all about.

On Saturday I judged the Terrier and Working breeds. My principal winners were:

Terrier Group 1 was Sammut & Formosa's upstanding Bull Terrier **Samforyosa Reload N' Gold** he has an impressive breed typical head and alert expression. Good width across the chest and firm substance of body. He moved with a true enough action.

Terrier Group 2 Scicluna's smart West Highland White Terrier **Ch Rain Harbour Ruffo** who has a very attractive head and expression. Plenty enough width across the chest. Compact body and stable moderate hindquarters. Moved with enthusiasm.

Working Group 1 was Caruana's impressive landseer Newfoundland **Himera Cora L'iriope Narkissol** a well-balanced 14-month-old bitch who has strength and is soundly made all through. Lovely head, she has a noble, imposing powerful but obviously feminine appearance. She has impressive free, sound movement. Also went on to reserve best in show; I understand this was her first show since arriving from Italy; what a show future this outstanding Newfoundland has! Res BIS & Best Junior In Show.

Working Group 2 Manicaro's workmanlike Border Collie **Sh Ch Manicaro Macey** a 19 month old bitch who has a very breed typical appearance. Attractive head having an intelligent, alert expression. She is well made from front to rear with impressive coat and condition. Moved with a true breed typical lively action.

Working Junior Group: Newfoundland **Himera Cora L'iriope Narkissol**

Reserve Working Junior: Ellul's Boxer **Lanfrese Tangelo** Typical head of decent balance with well-developed muzzle. Pretty well made through the shoulder and with decent hindquarters. Moved accurately. Good bone and feet.

Working Puppy Group: was R.Galea's very smart Boxer **Brynhafod Sweet Pea** an 8-month-old bitch puppy who has excellent bone and body. Pleasing head and expression, strong neck, true front, sturdy body and strong moderately angled hindquarters. Moved with purpose and true action when settled. Res. BPIS.

Working Puppy Group 2 was Borg's **Caramia Von Der Eulenkluft**, an 8-month-old Dobermann bitch who has pleasing bone and body development. She presents a very well balanced and proportioned outline. Clean well-defined outline all through. Lovely head true front and firm body with strong looking nicely

On Sunday it was the turn of Gundogs, Toys, Hounds and Utility breeds.

Gundog Group 1 was Baldacchino Caruana's very smart Cocker Spaniel **Haradwater Girl On Fire** a 12-month-old young bitch who is impressive in head, neck and overall body construction. She is well made, true in front and good width nicely angulated hindquarters and having parallel hocks. She moved with a sound true action in front and drive behind.

Gundog Group 2 was Spiteri's well-presented Golden Retriever **Golden Aurora Star Of Destiny** an 21-month-old well-constructed bitch. Pleasing in head and expression. True well-made front. Good length, firm body and well-made hindquarters. Stood and moved well.

Gundog Junior Group: Cocker Spaniel **Haradwater Girl On Fire**

Gundog Junior group 2 was Shoemake's **Santy Discovery Dark Milo**, a very well-made Labrador retriever male. He has excellent bone and has substance of body. Pleasing head and eyes, sturdy in neck and overall body. He has a well-boned true front and stable moderately angled hindquarters. Free moving but needing to settle in action.

Gundog Puppy Group 1 was Cross' Cocker Spaniel **Crosstree Ruby**, lovely black bitch with a lovely head and pleasing expression, excellent neck and shoulders, plenty of chest, lovely feet and well boned legs, well ribbed and good topline. Well angulated hindquarters with good width, confident, sound movement. Presented in good coat condition.

Gundog Puppy Group 2 was Attard's Golden Retriever **Goldendorado Melody J** an 11-month-old very promising bitch who has all the basics to develop into a quality adult. very attractive head set on a strong neck and well-developed sturdy body. stands on well boned legs and correct feet. pleasing temperament; moving confidently, free and true.

Toy Group 1 was Bonett's quality Pomeranian **Ch Ta Bonett Pom Potte** a 20-month-old male presented in excellent coat and condition. Super overall appearance and having the best of heads and expression. True front, pleasing body and good width hindquarters. Move with great purpose and confidence.

Toy Group 2 was Manicaro's very attractive Cavalier King Charles Spaniel **Ch Dj Cookie Maradeco King** a 2½ year old male who was in good coat and well presented. Handsome head and intelligent expression. Well-made in front, body and hindquarters. He was alert and responsive; stood and moved well.

Toy Junior Group 1: was Berezyuk's eye-catching Bichon Frise **Alma Tranquilla** a 17-month-old bitch who was presented in commendable fashion. Very attractive head with a very smart, attentive expression. Striking in overall make and shape. Pleasing dark eyes and pigmentation. Impressive in look both standing and free moving around the ring.

Toy Junior Group 2: Meli's **Eli Imperial Star Dynamite** a 17-month-old Pomeranian male who has a smart look. Well-presented and well-made all through. Pleasing head and having very likeable expression. Moved with an active purposeful action.

Toy Puppy Group: was Sciberras' Cavalier King Charles Spaniel **Rocky Ze Stcreho Dvoro** an 8-month-old male, breed typical and attractive in appearance. Very pleasing head, eyes and expression. Satisfying in bone and body development. Sound enough in front, body and rear. An active confident mover.

Toy Puppy Group 2: Ackermanns' well-presented Yorkshire Terrier **Camparis Noa Noa**, a 7-month-old young bitch who possesses notable breed characteristics and is of pleasing conformation. Lovely head and expression, very smart in appearance and presents a very attractive breed typical picture. Moved well with an active confident air.

Hound Group 1 and Best In Show was Manicaro's super Basenji **Ch Manicaro Aaron** a compact, firm bodied 6-year-old male who oozes quality both in breed characteristics and conformation. Handsome head, strong nicely shaped neck, sound, true front, mature well-made body and stable, strong, moderately angled hindquarters. Very satisfying in profile both standing and moving. Especially impressive in side gait. A real thoroughbred!

Hound Group 2 was Galea's elegant Saluki **Ch Gabra Ck Alexander Helios** a 3 year old elegant male who has a graceful outline. He has an attractive refined head set on a strong good length neck. Satisfying constructed in front and forequarters with a firm body which is all in proportion and balance. Firm and correct in top line. He moved with a true action with pleasing extension and drive behind. An athletic running hound.

Hound Junior Group 1: Chetcuti's Beagle **Northridge Nascé Una Stella** a 14-month-old bitch who is pleasing in outline and overall proportions and balance in angulations front to rear. Attractive head both in shape and expression. True front, firm body cover and spring, ribbed well back. Firm topline. Moved well and free.

Hound Junior Group 2: was Sammut's Basset Hound **Vezeviii Yaroslava** a 15-month-old substantial houndy, bitch. She is well enough made in front, good length sturdy body and well angled hindquarters. She has a pleasing head and eyes. Free moving and action, especially in side gait

Hound Puppy Group 1: Chetcuti's Whippet **Fronrunner's The Look** a well grown 5-month-old shapely brindle young bitch who was a sound, confident mover. Pleasing head both in balance and expression. True nicely boned front of proportional width. Graceful in topline, satisfying body proportions and balance. I was impressed with her movement for one so young. – Best Puppy In Show.

Hound Puppy Group 2: was Hili's Basset Hound **Gavin G Dos Sete Moinhos** a well-boned and well-bodied 6-month-old bitch. She has very satisfying development for her age and is impressive in appearance having excellent bone and body. Lovely head, pleasing front and forequarters, sturdy good length body and nicely let down hindquarters, parallel hocks. Moved out in a purposeful workmanlike fashion.

Utility Group 1 was Ebejer's powerful Akita **Doctor Love Centurian Gladiator** a 16-month-old well-boned and sturdy bodied male who is so well made and has impressive stature. He has a handsome head, strong and sound in every department. Moved steadily with confident ease when settled. (Reserve Best Junior In Show).

Utility Group 2 Aquilina's elegant Miniature Poodle **Ch Love Me Do-N Della Baia Blue** a 22-month-old well balanced bitch who has a pleasing head which is long and fine and not too broad giving a lovely expression. She is true in front, firm in body with good spring and depth. Good angulation behind with well let down hocks. Sound and free on the move. Notable presentation.

Utility Junior Group 1: Akita **Doctor Love Centurian Gladiator**

Utility Junior Group 2: Spiteri's **Rimmel Of My Sweet Moments** a 17-month-old bitch French Bulldog who has a pleasing head all in proportion to the rest of her. Pleasing width across the chest, sturdy body. Stable in stance with stable hindquarters. Free active movement.

Utility Puppy Group 1: Aquilina's apricot Miniature Poodle **Nurmah Baila Morena** a very promising 8-month-old bitch who has all the essentials to grow on to a quality adult. Supe head and expression. Well-made in front, body and hindquarters. A very purposeful and active precise mover.

Utility Puppy Group 2: Camilleri's **SSSR Only The Lonely** a sturdy 10-month-old French Bulldog male who has an endearing expression. Solid and sturdy in appearance. Well-boned and bodied with nothing in exaggeration. Free and easy movement.

Best Veteran In Show was Galea's Saluki **Ch Pedrogarcia Del Borghino** a very smart rising 9-year-old male who is in commendable condition. He has a strong but elegant appearance. Handsome head set well onto a good length neck. True in front, firm bodied especially over his loin with a gentle slope to low set tail. Moved well especially in side gait.

Best In Show - Basenji **Ch Manicaro Aaron**.

Reserve Best In Show - Newfoundland **Himera Cora L' Iriope Narkissol**.

Best Puppy In Show Whippet **Frontrunner's The Look**.

Reserve Best Puppy In Show - Boxer **Brynhafod Sweet Pea**.

Best Junior In Show – Newfoundland **Himera Cora L' Iriope Narkissol**.

Reserve Best Junior In Show – Akita **Doctor Love Centurian Gladiator**.

Graham Hill

Judge.