

2017 GLIWA Fun Match

Judge's Critique

By: Dr. Judi Roller

It was a privilege and honor to judge GLIWA's 2017 Fun Match; and it really was fun, filled with typey, quality hounds of generally excellent temperament . Only a very few were uncomfortable, clearly a result of lack of experience. The hounds' outstanding dispositions were matched only by those of their owners, who demonstrated exceptional sportsmanship.

The hounds' shoulders were well-angulated and well tied-in. Most entries were of good size and substance, reflecting both power and swiftness.

Overall, side gaits were a pleasure to watch, with easy and active reach and drive. Down and backs were more problematic and ran the gamut, including crabbing, toeing out, paddling, weaving, and too close behind. There were some broad backskulls on otherwise correct and typey heads. There were quite a few very happy tails.

In some instances, the degree of whatever fault was apparent was significant enough that I did not feel I could reward an entry's very real virtues with a placement as high as I would have liked, given the quality of the competition.

I want to thank all the people who did me the honor of letting me go over their lovely hounds and who put in all the work and effort and time to organize an extraordinarily congenial event. I'm already looking forward to attending the next one.

Veteran Dogs (2)

The movement of both veterans was somewhat hampered by age.

1. Wyeth Meddler--Best Veteran-lovely head, good ear set, good chest. Somewhat sloping topline.
2. Prairie Creek Carrickfergus Orion--Lovely temperament. Lacking in condition due to age.

6-9 month Puppy Dogs (4, 1 absent)

1. Howlin's Hi-Ho Lounge on St. Claude--also Best Puppy--Excellent substance, beautiful head, balanced angulation, very curvy, ears a little flat, tail high

2. Howlin's Kermit's Treme Speakeasy--Gave first puppy a run for his money, nice head, didn't move quite as well today as number one, not quite as much rear angulation.

3. Zajacz's Sweet Baby Jameson McMeara--Lovely temperament, good side gait, head two-angled but otherwise nice, lacking in substance.

9-12 Month Puppy Dogs (2)

Both puppies had good substance and good ears. Both somewhat broad in backskull

1. Barrington's Lamarck of the Hills--Reserve Best Puppy--Excellent angulation and topline
2. Barrington von Humboldt of the Hills--Similar good qualities as one. Gay tail

12-15 Month Yearling Dog (2)

Both puppies had many outstanding virtues.

1. Shellane Bacchus--Lovely angulation, great size, excellent side gait, good topline and chest, great coat, somewhat broad in backskull
2. Shellane Dionysus--Good angulation, good body, nice coat, ears somewhat large and flat, not moving as well as #1 puppy.

Novice Dog (2)

1. Cugein Baron of Cheniff--Many virtues; good topline; good substance; lovely, long legs, good angulation, somewhat broad in backskull
2. Cugein Livin' Like a Renegade--good qualities; problem with return on down and back (couldn't decipher my comments on recorder--mention of "front" and "feet" but couldn't pick up detail), somewhat broad in backskull, high tail, otherwise very nice

American Bred Dog (2)

1. Rohan Castlerigg CGC--Excellent coat, good angulation, good head, good ears, would like to see more substance and more length of body, very high tail.
2. Shellane Casey of Mayo--Good outline/body/shape, nice ears, good topline. Very uncomfortable and didn't show well, rear movement problematic, broad backskull.

Open Dog (4)

1. Shellane Pavarotti Sings for Slaine--also Best Adult, BIM--Beautiful stallion of a dog, great topline, great composure and presence, excellent coat, lovely angulation, good movement side and coming and going, lovely expression.
2. Cnoccarne Lia Fail Ininagh--Nice head, good backskull, very nice movement, would prefer more substance.
3. Beannaithe Buille Mise Pog--Good topline, good substance, good ears, broad backskull, high tail, could use more stripping of coat.
4. Kalkinny Legend of Starkeeper--Nice coat, excellent composure, nice angulation, rear problematic going away and also somewhat on return.

6-9 Month Puppy Bitch (2, 1 absent)

1. Howlin's MB Tipitina Rose--Very nice outline, good coat, showing well, excellent temperament, slightly low ears, good expression, good angulation, high tail.

12-15 Month Yearling Bitch (3)

#1 and #2 so similar in quality that I made the final placement based on great size.

1. Shellane's Best Costume for the Day at Penumbra--Very nice hound, good substance, good angulation, good side gait, toeing out in front on return, high tail

2. Shellane's Clandestine Verdigris of Callaid--Gave #1 a run for her money. Very nice hound, good substance, good angulation, good side gait, problem with front on return, high tail.

3. Shellane Nora Of Mayo--Very nice hound but untrained and wouldn't show.

15-18 Month Yearling Bitch (2)

1. Keva Aibhlinn--Lovely expression, very confident and poised, shows well, good angulation, rise ahead of loin, soft coat

2. Teagan Aednat--Side gait a little better than #1. Down and back also good. Not comfortable and not showing as well as #1. Soft coat.

Novice Bitch (2)

Both nice bitches

1. Cugein Caoimhe of Cheniff--Nice head, good substance, great coat, moved really well.

2. Shellane's Nell at Glenmoriston--Nice bitch but not showing well and nervous. Rear on going away a problem but might have just been a result of nervousness.

American Bred Bitch (3)

1. Prairie Creek's Libeled Lady of Penumbra--Great type, very nice head, excellent movement both side and down and back, a little straight in rear.

2. Riversong Reagan--Very nice head, good type though not quite up to #1, great reach and drive, a little straight in rear, gay tail.

3. Riversong's Peaceful World--Nice bitch but overweight enough that it made it difficult to assess her quality fully.

Open Bitch (4)

1. Cheltiagh Mercy Otis Warren of Callaid--Very nice head, lovely expression, good movement, good structure, possibly somewhat short upper arm
2. MacCaura Riversong Fenna--also Best Gait--Gave #1 a run for her money with her great movement, somewhat straight in front, would prefer more substance.
3. Erinmore Errigal of Knockacheo--Good type, good coat, good side gait, good temperament, problematic going away and returning on down and back.
4. Erinmore Tuathla of Knockahceo--Good type, good coat, good side gait, good temperament, problematic both going away and returning on down and back.
5. Torian's Forever More--Good coat, some movement issues, too refined for my taste and needs more substance.

Best Puppy

All three puppies were very nice. Best Puppy had great angulation, lovely head, great movement for his age when he would do it. RBP also very nice, rear angulation not quite as good as Best Puppy, and slightly short upper arm. Third puppy very nice but not showing quite as well as the other two.

Best Adult

Had it all. Tons of type.

Reserve Best Adult

This class was extremely difficult because of excellent quality. I started trying to make a cut but just stopped because I wasn't getting anywhere. I finally made the decision on movement on the last go-around when the eventual Reserve went into some kind of levitation and glided around the ring in the definition of easy and active movement. She is a little straight in rear, but she moves like a dream and has a very pretty face.

Best in Match

The Open Dog is a stunner and very hard for a puppy to beat.

Best Type

Ch Torian's Hit the Mark--Very typey, good mover, good head, good ears, very nice substance, strong arch of neck, nice substance and width over hips, good angulation, good topline, curvy--good representative IW Champion. Mature

Shellane's Best Costume for the Day at Penumbra--Much younger, toeing out a little and a little straight in topline--just needs to fill out.

Best Gait

This was the other very difficult class besides Reserve Best Adult. A couple of entries were not as great on the down and back as the others, but all were competitive. I finally went with MacCaura Riversong Fenna who was impeccable on the down and back with a lovely side gait as well and she never let down, gaiting like a dream.

Altered Dog

Inishkeen's Bannen--Very nice type, good angulation, very nice side gait, a little broad in backskull, slightly gay tail, down and back a little off. But altogether nice enough that I asked the owner why they neutered him.