

Midland Afghan Hound Club Open Show. Dogs. 19th of September 2010

Good to see so many lovely hounds here today, thank you for your entries. I noticed we have lots of great prominent pin bones, long necks, wonderful elegant yet masculine heads, ring tails and good movement. On the downside, some poor rear movement, one dog with knots underneath him and quite a lot of very long loins with slack toplines. Overall I had a lovely entry and was very honoured to judge them.

Veteran (3/3abs) Absent

Minor Puppy Dog (1/0abs) Mackenzies Eilthir Doctor No: Black and brindle baby who already has a long lean head and good length of foreface. Good length of neck into correct front angulation, level topline and good fallaway with ring tail to finish. Free and easy mover in profile and although a little loose coming and going, he will tighten up in this. Enjoyed his day and a very worthy 1st place.

Puppy Dog (13/2abs) Amazing class with some quality puppies going cardless. 1st Colletts Khamis Jamiroquai: Outstanding black of such quality that just flowed under my hands. Lovely head with lean skull, long neck into excellent shoulders. Level topline, correct croup and low set on of his ringed tail. His balanced angulation front and rear was used fully on the move, and his control of himself and his effortless, light springy movement won him this very tough class. Best Puppy Dog and, on the referees decision, Best Puppy In Show. 2nd Shaw & Holmes Valkor Cut To The Chase: Loved this boy for his springy driving movement which took him to 2nd spot in a very strong class. Lovely masculine head, long neck, excellent angulation front and rear, needs to drop into his rear and just wasn't as collected as 1 on the move today, but a bright future is ahead of this young man I am sure. 3rd Bastows Karandkikar Moon Dancer: Black and tan built in very elegant lines. Masculine yet elegant head set on long neck flowing into well laid shoulders. Balanced angulation front and rear, moved with drive and style, not the energy of 1 & 2 today.

Junior Dog (4/2abs) 1st Morris & Meakes Andizhan Balzac of Cadmore: Very striking back masked cream boy, elegant head, long neck. Excellent return of upper arm and lovely big feet. Level topline leading to correct fallaway. Moved well with head and tail up, driving from the rear. 2nd James Shimalma Mercurial Magic. Lovely classical red dog with black mask. Elegant head and correct eye, long neck and well laid shoulder leading to level topline. Well angulated both front and rear which he used well on the move. Unfortunately he led his young handler a bit of a dance.

Yearling Dog (2/1abs) 1st Morris & Meakes Andizhan Balzac of Cadmore. 2nd ABS.

Maiden Dog (7/1abs) 1st Shaw & Holmes Valkor Cut To The Chase. 2nd Edwards Valkor The Truth Be Told who was 4th in the strong puppy class. Dark red brindle with black mask, built on elegant lines he has an excellent lean head with lovely length of foreface and a eye small dark eye, long neck into well laid shoulders. Held topline on the move and carried his head and tail well as he strode out, driving from his low set hocks. Just piped by his brother who had a slight edge on the move, and covered a touch more ground. 3rd Liveseys Valkor Make My Day. Another from this quality litter, he placed 5th in puppy. Shares so many of his brothers qualities, from his refined yet masculine head to his correct angulation front and rear, just a shade longer than I prefer, but held his topline as he strode around the ring.

Novice Dog (6/0abs) 1st Edwards Valkor The Truth Be Told. 2nd Liveseys Valkor Make My Day. 3rd Shimalma Mercurial Magic.

Undergraduate Dog (5/1abs) 1st Kirks Istani Major Tom: Black and tan boy with masculine head and powerful underjaw. Long strong neck well set on. Level topline leading to correct fallaway and low set ringed tail. Presented a classical outline, right down to his bare pasterns. Moved extremely well with drive, demonstrating what his long springy pasterns and driving hocks are designed for, carrying his head and tail proudly. 2nd Morris & Meakes Andizhan Balzac of Cadmore. 3rd Parker & Hitches Zendushkas Glenmorangie. Liked this black and brindle boy, elegant yet masculine head, long neck well set on to his nicely laid shoulders. Level topline. Uses his angles well on the move, however have seen him show better than today and sadly he had to pay the price.

Graduate Dog (3/0abs) 1st Smiths Ashahni Aniq at Julam. Elegant black and tan, built on elegant lines. Good head and eye, long neck. Has correct return of upper arm, good spring of rib and good sweep from hip to hock. Moved well with head and tail carried correctly. 2nd Matthews Gezencol Rene at Shurma: Upstanding gold with black mask. Masculine head, lovely mandarins not seen often these days. Good angulation front and rear which he used well on the move, demonstrating stylish movement. Was dropping his topline a little today. 3rd Rowells Aramaic Play To Win: Highly marked black and cream. Built on finer lines all through he presented a pleasing outline. Nice head and eye, level topline and good pin bones. Used his angulation on the move but lacked the spring and reach of 1 & 2 here today.

Post Graduate (0/0abs) Absent

Limit (5/2abs) 1st Hughes Gezencol Enrique: Houndy black masked gold boy I have done well for as a youngster. Has grown into a stunning hound with a classic masculine head, long and lean, correct eye. Long, strong neck leading into well laid shoulders. Level topline, prominent pin bones and correct fallaway with low set ring tail. Very well angulated front and rear and in total balance, which allows him to come alive on the move. His effortless movement is a joy to watch, covering so much ground with so little effort as an Afghan should, I think he could hunt all day. Loved him and he took Best Dog over a favourite of mine due to his easy, free flowing movement also BIS on referees decision. 2nd Vowles Azmari Black Diamond. Black and tan of classic lines. Liked his head and powerful neck, level topline and length from hip to hock. Moved well. 3rd Moores Cloudside Match Black: Looked at this lad and just thought 'wow'. His head, outline and everything about him screamed type and quality, but he sadly just wouldn't move as his confirmation promised, seemingly unhappy with the floor. Such a disappointment for me.

Open (5/1abs) Tough decision between 3 top quality dogs of differing types in this class. 1st Edwards Fr. Ch. Agha Djaris World Is Not Enough JW (imp): Brindle who shouts 'arrogance' and 'exotic' as you look at him, and just you cant help but look at him! He presents such a stunning outline from his strong yet elegant head, small dark eye, long neck flowing into well laid shoulders and rock hard topline. Would prefer a slightly better croup and tail set, but there is little else I would change. Moved with verve and style, striding out and using every inch of his angulation to take Reserve Best Dog. 2nd Meaks & Morris Andizhan Arael at Cadmore: Upstanding gold grizzle who I have often admired from the ringside and did not disappoint when I got my hands on him. Exquisite head, long neck and lovely layback of shoulder. Level topline and good fallaway to ringed tail. He is well angulated and moved well. Just preferred winners energy on the move today. 3rd O'Donnells Javidan

Dirty Little Secret: Another top quality hound. Black boy with lovely head. Liked him for his return of upper arm and excellent rear angulation. Moved well, striding out and with great style, but was occasionally dropping his topline which cost him today.

Judge: Nikki Roebuck (Jahera)