Southern Bernese Mountain Dog Club

1/10/17

A pleasure to judge this show, a lovely breed with a great bunch of sporting exhibitors made for a memorable occasion. Thanks to the committee for the invitation and my hard-working steward, Mick Brind, for keeping the ring ticking along nicely.

A pleasing entry for numbers and overall quality and I found enough here that fitted the standard well and had the required substance, strength and bone to do a good days' work. Eye shape and colour was generally good giving a soft expression, so important to the Bernese. Mouths were good, just a couple suspect but nothing disastrous. Conformation was generally good throughout the entry as was movement but out and back not always as true as profile. Tail sets need watching as some were a bit too high. Most had functional coats with correct silky texture. All had the breed typical markings. Almost without exception, temperaments and presentation was excellent.

I was really pleased with my winners. Thanks for the entry and the opportunity to judge some lovely dogs.

PD (2) 1st Gopal's Collansues Special Brew. Well grown, tall pup of 11 months. Pleasing head and strength of muzzle. Correct eye and strong, scissor bite. Well made all through. Now needs to mature fully and drop into his frame. Moved well enough but tended to pace at times, handler will need to watch this so it doesn't become a habit. Happy temperament and enjoying his day. BPD.

2nd Austen's Halesbern The Warriors. Another promising pup who, at first glance, thought would be my winner but he wasn't happy today and needs to relax and gain a bit more confidence. Balanced head and overall outline. Good bone and tight feet. Moved ok, just needs to tighten out and back.

JD (6) 1st King & Green's Joseph Vom Durrbachler Wald At Arvella. Medium sized young dog that won here on his sound breed type, correct head shape and excellent movement. Really used the ring to best advantage driving well off the soundest of hocks. Just starting to blow his coat but what he has was of good colour, texture and presentation.

2nd Connelly's Shirdees Top Gun. Another sound, free mover. Slightly smaller than 1, but equally good for type and conformation. Lovely head and expression, well bodied and good bone. Tail set a fraction high. Easy, free mover.

3rd Shaw's Glanzberg Moonlight Magic.

SYD (3) 1st J V Durrbachler Wald At A.

2nd S Top gun.

3rd G Moonlight M.

ND (1) 1st Shaw's Glanzberg Massif. This lovely big boy appealed for his good size, substance and excellent bone. Strong head and muzzle. Muscular neck, deep chest and good enough angles front and rear. Impressive side gait but can settle a bit out and back. Thick coat with clear, defined markings.

PGD (2) 1st Page's Halesbern Eye Candy. Well balanced dog. Lovely head piece, strong, flat skull and well filled muzzle. Medium neck, ok for chest, firm topline, well ribbed and short muscular loins. Good angulation, correctly set and carried tail and an excellent mover from side gait. Good coat, texture and density. Well presented.

2nd Austen's Collansues Excaliber. 4 year old mature, masculine dog. Strong head but a bit too deep in stop. Large nose. Good overall conformation with strong bone and firm body. Moved out very well. Good coat and presentation.

LD (2) 1st Rothery's Glamrock Graffiti Artist. Super boy of excellent breed type. Totally masculine but not coarse in anyway. Strong, balanced head, dark, expressive eye. Well set ears. Good length of neck, deep chest, well angled front, strong bone. Excellent outline, holding his topline at all times. Strong rear and firm hocks. Sound mover from all directions. Excellent coat. RBD.

2nd Vaychkus & Vaickus' Flintas Kalnu Suo At Bernaroso. Close-up here. Another well- balanced dog. Impressive in outline. Excellent depth and maturity all through. Strong bone and stands on tight feet. Just preferred the strength of head of 1. Excellent mover showing correct reach and drive. Excellent coat and correct, well defined markings.

OD (4) 1st Bird & Bridges' Kernow Something. Really looked the part today. Not the biggest of dogs but so strong and masculine with plenty of substance and bone. Excellent head, strong flat skull, well filled muzzle and correct stop. Good ear set . Could have a bit more reach of neck but this doesn't detract from his well made front. Firm topline, excellent ribbing and strong loin. Good bend of stifle and well muscled. One of the best movers of the day, particularly from side gait, covering the ground with ease and freedom. Handled and presented to bring out his best. BD.

2nd Rumble's Bernfold Donner By Glenbrienz. Slightly larger overall and of excellent make and shape. Lovely head and typical expression. Good to go over on the stack and excellent balance all through. Moved very well from all directions. Good coat, beautifully presented.

3rd Goodyear's Harvestbank Fernando.

VD (2) 1st Turner's Ch. Tangyachates Beachcomber. Standing alone today but a worthy winner and an excellent Champion. Great size, substance and depth all through. Super head, muscular neck, balanced angles front and back. Excellent mover. Just a bit long in back and consequently losing his topline at times. In lovely coat and condition and carrying his 9 years well.

PB (3) 1st Stannard's Kohbern Ballanntynes Bett. 11 months old and the most mature of the 3 pups here. Well grown with good bone and well bodied for her age. Feminine head and expression. Medium neck. Nicely angled. Moved well once settled, now needs to firm-up coming and going. Good coat and lovely temperament. BPB & BPIS.

2nd Hellingsworth's Alisnobern Anna At Carabaz.

3rd Allison's Alisnobern Elsa. Very similar litter sisters. Both have good conformation and of good type. Pleasing heads and learning the job well. Will change places many times in the future. Anna marginally better in front than Elsa at present.

JB (8) 1st Miles' Jaybiem My My. Just loved this young bitch. Still to mature fully but great type. Excellent head, correct balance and good strength but not compromising her femininity. Scissor bite. Good reach of neck, well laid shoulder and upper arm. Firm topline and sound quarters. Moved with reach and drive and carried herself well. Thick, well prepared coat and correct markings.

2nd Bird & Head's Cullumbern Roman Toga With Millermead. Another excellent bitch with equal potential with so much to like. Loved her outline. Totally feminine but with plenty of substance. Good balanced of head and body proportions. Good conformation which was reflected in her easy, true movement. Close-up.

3rd Harris' Meadowpark Dancin' On My Own.

SYB (3) 1st Flanagan's Collansues Something Rosie. Daughter of my BD today and shares many of his attributes, particularly her excellent sound, easy stride from side gait. Taller and rangier in type, pleasing head and expression. Good eye and bite. Well made all through. Tail could be carried lower but enjoying her day.

2nd Johnson's Esslinbern Dacapo In A Dream. Medium sized bitch. Pleasing overall. Liked her head and feminine outlook. Carrying a bit too much weight. Good bone and compact feet. Correct tail set. Moved ok.

NB (3) 1st Flanagan's Collansues Secret Wispa. Liked the type, size and balance of this bitch. Lovely head proportions with medium stop, dark eye and correct bite. Chest still to developing fully. Well laid shoulder. Holds her topline ok, correct spring of rib and well- muscled rear. Excellent coat. Moved soundly in all directions. Responded well to her handler who got the best from her.

2nd Randall's Prentalu Belassia. Big, strong bitch. Pleasing head, good reach of neck. Generally good to go over on the stack but a bit too long in body. Can strengthen in topline. Easy mover.

3rd E Dacapo In A D.

GB (3) 1st J My My My

2nd Flanagan's Collansues Bridge Of Dreams. Another typical bitch from this kennel. So much to like. Super feminine head and lovely dark, expressive eye. Good overall conformation. Bit stuffy in neck. Deep chest. Strong bone, tight feet but needs to firm-up in pastern. Moved well enough, just needs to tighten a touch going away.

3rd Mutter's Barinkar Everlasting Love.

PG (3) 1st Flanagan's Collansues Sugar N Spice. Super bitch from any angle. Loved her breed type and so well handed. Shapely, feminine head, correct eye shape and colour and strong bite. Excellent reach of neck, good shoulder and length and lay of upperarm. Correct spring of rib.Good body and

muscle tone. Sound quarters. Moved with reach and drive. Excellent presentation and handling. Looked good in the class and went up a gear in the challenge to take RBB.

2nd Page's Halesbern Star In The Skye. Another good bitch of equal merit and so pleasing all through. Good size, substance and overall conformation. Moved soundly from all directions. Tail carriage set ok but carried a bit high. Happy showgirl.

3rd Allison's Alisnobern Rainbow Diamond.

LB (8) Interesting class to judge. 1st Vaychkus & Vaickus' Blue Aira Bernenskie Ranczo. Ultra-feminine but with enough substance and bone. Delightful head and expression, well set ears. Medium neck, good shoulder but a bit short in upperarm. Holds her outline both on the stack and moving, which she did with ease and freedom. Good coat, soft and silky texture. Excellent markings and well handled.

2nd Bird's Kernow Let It Be At Cullmbern. Different for type than1, but no less correct. Similar in size and outlook. Good conformation, bone and standing on compact feet. Excellent coat. Sound mover, just needs to tighten in front. Well handled and presented.

3rd Flanagan's Collansues Heart Of Gold.

OB (7) 1st Miles' Save Dallas Kiss For Jaybiem. Loved this bitch and my star of the day! Mature in body, lovely size and substance but not lacking or overdone in any aspect. Beautiful balanced head, strong muzzle and excellent conformation. Strong bone and deep chest. Excellent tail set and carriage. Moved soundly out and back and from side gait. The more she moved the better she got. In lovely coat with correct clear markings, density and texture. A real showgirl. Pleased to award her BB & BIS. Congratulations!

2nd Goodyear's Harvestbank Field Of Gold. Slightly larger, longer bitch than 1, so not quite the balance of outline. Super head piece, excellent conformation and an easy, free mover. Good coat. Handler got the best from her.

3rd Allison's Tickbern Quick Step For Alisnobern.

VB (3) Lovely class to judge with 1st Tom's Emberfay Moonglow. BVIS. . Three super veteran bitches. All looked good on the stack and had all the breed requirements. All had lovely heads and were in good coat and credit to their owners for keeping them in such good form. Movement was the deciding factor on the day.

2nd Stannard's Bernbienaime Bright Gem At Kohbern.

3rd Rothery's Glamrock Future Legend.

Brace (1) 1st Miles' Well matched pair. Mother and daughter and so similar. Moved in unison and made a winning combination.

Darren Clarke (Judge)