

## **Ontario Branch Specialty 2023**

### **Judge comments and critics**

**Lynn Simon, Minnesota, USA.**

#### **Judge comments**

Thank you for inviting me for the honor of judging your hounds. I wish to thank my steward, Ken Clark, who kept me on the straight and narrow I also wish to thank all of the official committee members and all who helped organize these two shows. I know as a showchair it is a lot of hours of work. I enjoy judging and my first was in England in 1989. I don't know if most of you know, but I had to take a long drive to make it to the show as I lost my password and could not board the plane, I thank the weather gods for a lovely day.

Like mini shows, now the numbers are diminishing as the old breeders are bringing fewer dogs or go out of breeding all together. We left good young breeders, coming in at the same rate, as we are losing our older knowledgeable breeders.

The front of improved, head and necks are lovely, coats were on even throughout the entry. Tails were down for the most part. I had more dogs be difficult to examine, which surprised me. Mouths were good except for three dogs in the show. Top lines on the hole were also exceptional. Dark eyes were not the exception.

What surprised me was the number of good fronts, but then associated with narrowing this in the rear end so many. Mrs. Nagel wants told me she "picked toads." meaning that the rears are broader than the fronts, which is what I am assessing when I look at your dog from the rear. We need to get a broader engine ladies and gentlemen otherwise in a few years, we will have more deer hound look in this breed than Wolfhound.

In the end, I picked my winners for their breath, strength, soundness, outline, fronts, and desire. Those who sustained reach and drive throughout the competition were rewarded. Thank you again for inviting me.

#### **Judge Critics**

##### **4 to 6 month dog class**

###### **1. Dreamacres Redemption**

This is a red brindle puppy with a lovely outline. Ears are well rosed with a beautiful head and expression. His front is better than the puppy placed second. However, I would like more breadth with

the pelvis and hind quarters. He could also use more bone, but they are still young and this may come. Gaïting he was sound down and back with a flowing shape on his side gate. **Best baby puppy in breed**

## **2. Kalkinny Music of the Night by Shrek**

this youngster had a nice outline and more substance down the first place. His ears, however, spoiled his appearance. He had a good upper arm in Forgeus, but his scapula was not his fortune. He had good strength in his loin and breadth . Good ribbing. His movement was hockey at this time and he did not keep his shape on the side gate.

## **Sexually altered male**

### **1. Baileysong Black Granite**

This is a dark brindle male with a lovely head, ears, and good bite. His neck laid onto his shoulder, exceptionally well. However, I would like more thickness of the neck and arch. He could use more for chest as well. He's a very solid dog, however I would like more second thigh. He had good bone. He was sound coming and going, but could use more reach and drive. **Best of Breed altered**

## **Senior puppy dog**

### **1. Taliesin's Beul-Aithris of Sceolan**

This is a red brindle male with powerful neck, which is well arched. He has somewhat of a plain head with ears, not as roses as I'd like. His top line was correct, except on the move when his tail creeps up. I would like more bone in his hocks. He sound coming and going, but loses his shape on the move.

## **12-15 month dog**

### **1. Castlekeeps a Study in Scarlett**

This is a lovely shapely gray brindle standing well-balanced .Lovely head and ears were well Rose. He had a correct top line and lovely feet. His front was correct however at times his pasterns could look straight. I also would like maybe slightly more forechest, but he is young. His rear was not narrow, but it wasn't as broad as I'd like at this time but he is still quite young and is extremely hard muscled. He has good bone and well ribbed back.

He has good second thighs as well. He was sound and kept his shape on the move. Though he was young, he won winners dog based on his length of leg, keeping his shape on the move, and being so balanced as compared to the reserve winners dog. He had lovely side gait ! **Winners dog**

## Canadian bred dog

### 1. Castlekeeps Mr. Marvelous at Wolfhaven

A dark, brindle, mature male, who appeared unbalanced in outline with more in the front, then in the rear. Had exceptionally handsome head strong arch neck, but it could be longer. He's very strong and well muscled hind quarters. He has a good tail and top line with good bone. Coming and going he twist his right rear, but on the sidegate, he kept his shape well deserved, **Reserve winners, dog**

### 2. Lonnkyle Pacific Yeti

This is a dark brindle with a lovely shape. Had a very handsome head and his top line was correct. His front showed a good forechest and length of upper arm but his scapulas were upright and not laid on properly. He had a nice low hocks and his tail was correct. He was a balanced dog, sound, but does not keep his shape on the move as well as number one. He could also use more bone .

### 3. Sir Rupert Lil Lord of Wolfholm

This is an immature wheaten whose top line shows his arch over his loin too far forward, spoiling his top line. He has perfect ears and lovely expression, but he's eyes are a bit light for me! He had good pasterns an adequate bone. I would like a longer neck, however. He did not hold his shape on the sidegait.

## Open dog

### 1. Hops-N-Hounds Oliver N Company

A lovely gray brindle with a balanced outline. His ears are not rosed perfectly, but adequately. His front shows good forechest and upper arm length but he could use a better laid on scapula. He has strong and powerful, hind quarters with good bone throughout. On sidegait he kept his shape , but was non-convergent in the front and close behind

## Senior puppy bitch

### 1. Hops-N-Hounds the Timeless Child Kerry

This is a pale gray brindle very substantial with a lovely outline. She has a lovely head but her ears are not her fortune. She has a very strong neck that's adequate in length. She has a good upper arm and her scapula is well laid on. Her hind quarters are strong, well muscled, and has good breadth. She was a little close behind going away, and I would've liked a little more drive and reach on her side gait!

She has everything and I hope that she grows up and fulfills her potential. She won this class and best puppy on the basis of her quality. **Best puppy**

## **2. Hops-N-Hounds Rune Singer Althea**

This is a dirt brindle girl with a lovely outline. She had a beautiful head and lovely, rosed ears. Her front had proper forechest, good pasterns, and her scapula was laid on well. However, she could use a longer upper arm, but I am being picky. She had a good top line and under line. She's a good sound mover. She lost to the first puppy, due to lack of substance compared to the first puppy. For me, I would like more substance in her, but she was a very lovely puppy. She pressed number one for first in this class and best puppy

## **3.Hops-N-Hounds Aoife of the Forbidden Forest**

Another puppy, with a lovely outline and pleasing head. However, she was difficult to assess. She had the hardest muscling in the class with good bone and ribbing . However, I could not assess her movement properly or she might have gone much higher in this class.

## **4. Kaldaun's Rhiannon**

This is a tall, rangy, red brindle with good top line and underline. She had a pleasing head and ears. She did not have the sweep of stifle, nor the second thighs of the dogs ahead of her. She had strong muscling in the upper thigh and a very long tail. She had adequate bone and muscling except for her second thighs. Side gate she kept her shape but the down and back was not able to assess at this time.

## **12-15 month bitch**

### **1. Castlekeeps Scarlett Letter**

This is a dark brindle bitch oozing quality. she initially was difficult to assess but because of the quality I couldn't not evaluate her. After several times, we gained her confidence and just in time! She had a beautiful outline, and she remained in my eye, the remainder of the competition, as a means to measure the dogs that I was further assessing!

Her head, and expression was gorgeous and she had lovely, rosed ears. She had a good harsh coat. Her front was the best on the day for forechest, upper arm, and scapula lay back. She had perfect pasterns! Top line and under line was correct. She was balanced,young, but mature looking . Her hind quarters were exactly what I was looking for being broad, strong and correct. She had great bone and well ribbed back. She was true coming and going . Her sidegait was the best of the competition all day. She won winners bitch and best of winners.

She got stronger and stronger and showed that she wanted it.

For me she just flowed together and fulfilled my initial evaluation and went on to best in show.

**Winners bitch, Best of winners,Best Canadian, Best of Breed**

## **2. Draconecrome Agatha**

This is a gray brindle with lovely expression, and well rosed ears. I might add she was very well handled. She could use a longer neck. I would like more forechest and upper arm length. She was flat on her top line. She had good muzzling in her upper thighs and second thighs. She had good pasterns. She could use more bone particularly her hocks. She was very sound and had a lovely sidegait.

## **3. Sassway Chili Pepper at Hops-N-Hounds**

This is a Red brindle who is very leggy. Her top line has exaggerated rise over her loin, tilting her pelvis, giving an unbalanced appearance. She has a good head expression, but flat ears. She has nice low hocks. She has good bone and substance. She did not have the sidegait of the first two.

### **Canadian bred bitch**

#### **1. Baileysong Black Onyx**

This is a dark black bitch with a lovely shape standing. She has dark pigment and lovely head and ears. she had good upper arm length and scapular placement. She had a correct wide pelvis and was strong. Although I felt she could use more second thigh. She had good bone and ribbing. She had a good side gate and held her shape. On the down and back she was crabbing and moved slightly wide in front not converging.

### **Open bitch**

#### **1. Glenmadda Valencia is the New Black**

This is a strong gray brindle with lovely outline, and well balanced. She has a strong neck with adequate length. She has a strong, perfect top line with lovely ears and expression. She had a good scapula lay back and upper arm length. She had strong and well muscled hind quarters with a lovely sweep. She kept the shape on the move. She had good bone and well ribbed back. This is a very quality bitch, and was close to winning this show. She lost to the eventual winners bitch and best of breed as she lacked the reach and drive of the eventual winner. She didn't show me that she wanted it. **Reserve winners bitch**

#### **2. Femke's Footsteps Lady Starlight**

This is a black with correct top line and long neck. Beautiful expression but she could use a better ear. She needs another inch of leg to be better balanced. Her front had correct fore chest, and length

of upper arm. She had good width of upper thigh, but could use more second thigh. She has low hocks, but is somewhat narrow in the loin. She moved wide in front and close behind, but she had a lovely sidegait!

### **3. Hippley's Unforgettable at Hops-N-Hounds**

This is a tall rangy bitch, but has more in the front than she has in the rear, giving an unbalanced appearance on the outline.

She has a pleasing head, but her ears are big and flat. Standing she appears lightly running uphill and I'd like more width through her loin and pelvis. She has a great coat and good layback of her scapula! On gaiting her rear was not her fortune and she lacked reach and drive on side gait hence her placement!

## **Veteran bitches**

### **1. Bribiba's Bumblebee**

A lovely, dark brindle with beautiful head and ears. Lovely, strong neck and top line. She lacks for chest, but her scapular lay back is great. She likes in the inch in the leg and needs more muscle in and bone. Stunning side gait but non-converging in her front gait. **Best Veteran**

### **2. GCH Bailey's Cocoa Liquor**

A lovely light gray brindle still holding a lovely outline. Lovely expression, and perfect rosed ears. With her front she had more for chest than one but her scapula was not as good as the Laon of number one. She had a stronger neck than number one and had hindquarters. It was strong with good with throughout. I would've liked a little more second thigh. Good bone in substance. She lost to one due to no reach and drive on side gait !

Also, she was not clean, coming and going probably because of her age. She must've been a beauty younger.

## **WINNERS**

**Best of Breed, also Winners bitch, Best of winners, Best Canadian,**

### **Castlekeeps Scarlett Letter**

This is a dark brindle bitch oozing quality. she initially was difficult to assess but because of the quality I couldn't not evaluate her. After several times, we gained her confidence and just in time!

She had a beautiful outline, and she remained in my eye, the remainder of the competition, as a means to measure the dogs that I was further assessing!

Her head, and expression was gorgeous and she had lovely, rosed ears. She had a good harsh coat. Her front was the best on the day for forechest, upper arm, and scapula lay back. She had perfect pasterns! Top line and under line was correct. She was balanced, young, but mature looking . Her hind quarters

were exactly what I was looking for being broad, strong and correct. She had great bone and well ribbed back. She was true coming and going. Her side gait was the best of the competition all day. She won winners bitch and best of winners.

She got stronger and stronger and showed that she wanted it.

For me she just flowed together and fulfilled my initial evaluation and went on to best in show.

### **Best opposite Sex**

#### **CH Castlekeep's Prodigious**

This is a tall Reggie, gray brindle male with a lovely outline. He has a kind expression and well roses ears! A strong neck and arch. He has a lovely front with plenty of lay back, forechest, and length of upper arm. He could use more arch over his loin to improve his top line. he has great substance and bone. He is sound and has a lovely side gate. He lost his the winner due to his top line, appeared flat on the move, and he did not have the reach and drive of the winner at the end on the side gait. However, he was given strong consideration.

### **Best Puppy**

#### **Hops-N-Hounds the Timeless Child Kerry**

This is a pale gray brindle very substantial with a lovely outline. She has a lovely head but her ears are not her fortune. She has a very strong neck that's adequate in length. She has a good upper arm and her scapula is well laid on. Her hind quarters are strong, well muscled, and has good breadth.

She was a little close behind going away, and I would've liked a little more drive and reach on her side gait!

She has everything and I hope that she grows up and fulfills her potential. She won this class and best puppy on the basis of her quality.

### **Select Dog**

#### **GCH Kaldaun's Samhain of Glenmadda**

He had a lovely outline was an excellent had an expression. Tremendously strong throughout. He was wonderfully gated both down and back and on the side but after his first time around, he seems to fade compared to the eventual best of opposite sex.

My criticism of him would be that he needs an inch longer leg. I don't know why dogs appear so beautiful the first time around and then when they're asked to continue or to re-gait around, it's like he did not give me the "look at me I am the winner. "

## **Select Bitch and Best bred by Exhibitors**

### **Ch Castlekeeps Prudence**

A lovely gray brindle bitch with gorgeous outline, head, an expression and strongly built front. She had powerful hindquarters good with and breadth. She had a lovely cop line and under line with good bone and muscling!

She was very sound. Her side gait was not the reach and drive of the winner but she still kept her shape magnificently!

## **Award of Merit**

### **GCH Castlekeeps Promice at Dreamacres**

A lovely gray brindle who is very well balanced. She has a lovely top line and has legs. She has well rosed ear. Her scapular could be laid on better. But she has adequate upper arm and forechest.

She has very powerful hind quarters with good breadth and strong second thighs. She has good bone she's very sound she got her award of merit at the end on her lovely side gait!

## **Best Veteran**

### **Bribiba's Bumblebee**

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