

GSDCA 33rd NATIONAL

June 17/18/19 2005 - Durack, Queensland

What is it that they say about Queensland's weather? "Beautiful one day, perfect the next." This year, the farmers would have added 'heaven - sent' because it poured rain on the Sunday. The CCCQ Grounds at Durack would have to be the best dog venue in Australia. It has everything - beautifully prepared well-drained rings, plenty of parking adjacent to the rings, all facilities close to the rings, plenty of shade, umbrellas and concreted Assembly areas for each ring; in a word - everything a dog show needs and in particular the GSDCA National.

The 2005 GSDCA National was a tribute to the hard work of Lyn McIntosh, the GSDCQ National Coordinator, and her hardworking Committee; two years of hard slog fund raising, planning and numerous meetings paid off. It was one of the best Nationals ever hosted by a GSDCA Affiliate. An opinion voiced by many, not just proud Queenslanders! One small detail but one that was greatly appreciated was the easy to read result sheets - there was even a bench to sit on while you copied the results into your catalogue. The unique touches to the small details at this National raised the bar for future Nationals to emulate. Annie Tamblin, GSDCQ Vice President, used her PR Marketing skills to ensure that this National was given maximum media coverage and The Courier Mail, Channel 9 and Totally Wild were all there.

The unofficial show training on the Wednesday night (organised by Ros Masterman, hosted by the Logan Dog Obedience Club - who also provided canteen facilities, and conducted by Rod Vernon) set the National in motion. A number of visitors took advantage of this opportunity to give their dogs a decent workout in readiness for the ring. On the Friday night the Logan Club President, Laurie Knauth, offered an Obedience run-through for those who would be trialling on the Saturday, giving the dogs and their handlers a chance to fine-tune.

The traditional meet and greet took place at Durack on the Thursday after the breed survey, at which only two dogs were presented, so the social celebrations got off to a much earlier start than anticipated. In whatever space was left around the rings after the 30 corporate tents had been set up, others set to and erected their tents. One of the topics of conversation was WHO would be the Gold Medal winners. Almost 100% agreed that Unox Aducht had his name on the Gold but there were several contenders for the Bitch medal, depending on which State you came from. What would be the extent of the influence of the imports over the Australian-bred sires at this year's National? Was last year's National the last one where a homebred dog would be the Gold Medal winner? Could Leishjaclyn Zpartacus make it two in a row? It was a case of wait and see.

On Friday morning, competitors and their dogs started arriving after 7am for Vest Collection. It was a bit nippy but the sun was out. Nancy Hardie, the Show Secretary, had her team of volunteers on the ready handing out vests and catalogues so that the Assembly could get under way at 8.15 am. Peter Edwards was the MC. The Baby Puppy bitches lined up and strutted their stuff before an admiring gallery of onlookers and proud owners. Herr Albrecht Woerner was introduced and 28 Baby girls commenced their Individuals, which were really only an out and back and down to the first marker. It was good to see that the babies were not being given a full workout in the big ring. In the dog ring, 18 Baby dogs went through the same procedure before Herr Hans Jurgen Begier. The smaller kennels began to make their impact and in particular the Southern Highlands of NSW. Cassie Booth's Khanique Magical Miss, an Aimsway Abacus daughter, won the Baby Bitch Class and Mrs M Moore's Dellahund High N Mighty, an Uras Trafalga son, was the Baby Dog winner. The luck of the Irish certainly came Jo and Mike Edwards' way, with their Rhosyn baby girl making it into second place. It was good to see some of the newer breeders making their mark on this National, in particular Debbie and Barry O'Keefe (Debban Kennels) with their Fanto Team Fiemerick babies Debban - BPD2 and Gemma BPD4. The Minor Classes were given a good work out and some just into the class were finding it a tad heavy. However, no one left the ring feeling that their dog slipped under the judges' eyes, as both judges took their time and looked at every dog in their ring. Two Queenslanders in the Minor Bitch ring got onto the pegs and the Western Australian Lashadas U Doll came in at 3rd place.



Gold Medal Dog - Unox Aducht

Jan Quinn and Michael McGahan's Rupos' girl Stunadel Zinnia, handled by Lyn McIntosh, was the eventual winner over Rockhampton Liz Kruger's Jezlahn Llani, a Ravdansen's Orvar daughter - another small breeder making her mark on this National. There were only 12 Minor Dogs; the winner was from Victoria, Charlie and Fran Azzopardi's Unox boy, Maltaknights Master Unox. In 2nd place was a favourite of mine, Kantenna Cilantro, Ravdansen's Orvar son, and once again Lashadas Kennels from WA with Utopian Dream were 3rd - their U litter was just into the class by less than a week.

In the lunch break Syd Lewis, the Obedience Coordinator and his Agility team put on a display with their dogs using crowd pleaser, the Ring of Fire. The dogs flew through it without a second's hesitation.

After lunch the Junior Classes were judged. 24 Junior bitches entered the ring. Troy Noriswand and his son Astasia Heico dominated the pegs in this ring, filling 6/10 placings. Seigen Cherry Pie (Troy N) from WA was first with another WA in 2nd place, Bruvic Indian Summer (Troy N) and the Heico daughter Albata Nikki (NQ) third. With just 10 Junior dogs in the ring, all were guaranteed a place on the pegs. The small number of males entered and actually shown in the younger classes compared with the bitch classes was disappointing. This is a trend that we do not seem able to reverse. A South Australian bred dog Leppsdorf Thera took the JD honours. Yvonne Coopers' Abacus boy Vonstein Gunna Do It was second and another WA dog Friedental Leias Kwosh from Quosh Drei Birkenzwinger was third. Quosh, SchH3, was a dog that drew many favourable comments from all who saw him moving around Durack with his owner Eric Herson. Many were lamenting the fact that he was resident of Perth, otherwise they would be putting him over their bitches to get strength of bone, substance and excellent pigment and colour as well as superb temperament. Another import that lapped up all the attention was Stephen Sammut's Gagarin Bad Boll, Max; another SchH3 dog with a lovely character, who thrived on the fuss and many pats bestowed on him. Gagarin reminded many of Jasso Roten Matter in type.

By the end of the day, with consistent judging and critiquing in both rings, everyone was aware of what the judges were honing in on - correct size according to the Standard, cow hocks, long hocks, loose hocks and elbows, long toes, short steep upper arms, restricted reach and drive, short croups, short underchest, narrow fronts. Insufficient pigment was another fault that was noted and penalised. The SV Judges' Meeting held at Viernheim (Gmy) was having its effect on our National.

Friday ended with the President's Dinner, held at the Calamvale Hotel, and from all accounts and photos it was quite a memorable night.

Saturday morning's temperature really took a dive (3°C) as the sires and their progeny assembled for the parade for the critiquing and commentary by Vince Tantaró and Joylene Neddermeyer - the first event in a tightly packed day. This year the German judges, although present, were not prominent at the Sires Progeny Parade, which was a positive as far as many exhibitors were concerned because the National is a Championship Show and not a breed show. It is the most prestigious show on the GSD Calendar and showcases the best GSDs in the country. There were 17 sires' progeny groups in the parade. It was a pity that several of the local sires were not present to lead in their progeny groups because it makes it harder to see if the progeny are sire typical. The breeders groups - Andacht and Fremont Kennels (NSW), Denargun Kennels (Vic) and Kantenna and Boldstep Kennels (Qld) - followed on from the Progeny Parade.

The Obedience rings maintained its very good entry with only a couple of absentees. "Inspector Rex" sponsored this year's National Obedience Trial. UD was judged by Val Bonney



Gold Medal Bitch - Bhuachaille Jazz Leader

and the dogs fared better than the bitches on the day, with Jane Wilmot and OC Iniff Excalibur winning the UD ring with a score 191 just ahead of Debbie Hart and OC Elcantara Sir Simba 189. In Warren Doyle's Open ring, it was the reverse: the bitches came out on top. The winner of the Open ring were Sally Sandal (NQ) with Shay Saar Let's Go Girl 196, Del Francis and Ch Astasia Demi CDX 194, Yvonne Cocks and Leberhine Jutz CDX AD JD 191, Kenny Hills and Kayrossi Azziem CDX 190; the Open dogs-Debbie Hart and Sir Simba scored 191, Ros Masterman and Murphy OC Ch Astasia Enco BH, UD ET 188. The winner of Tabitha Young's Novice Ring was the WA Import Quosh Drei Birkenzwinger with 188 and the winning Novice bitch was Jo Morgan's young Assistance Dog Ovahima Boahinmaa 186. The Winner of Winners run-off on Sunday would see Jane Wilmot, Debbie Hart, Sally Sandal, Eric Herson and Jo Morgan compete for the Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals. At the conclusion of the Trial, a meeting, chaired by Dawn Howard the GSDCA Obedience Chairperson, was held. It was a very productive meeting and hopefully the issues discussed and suggestions made will be acted on by the GSDCA Executive - one of which was that there is at least two Obedience Trials held at future Nationals. The expense issue did not wash with the Obedience Competitors.

The Puppy Classes commenced at the conclusion of the Sires Progeny and Breeders Groups. The Puppy Bitch winner was another triumph for a small breeder with the occasional litter; Outenhof Lyka Vada, bred by Robyn Outen-Scott (Q), took first place on the podium and was critiqued as being of a quality far above the rest in her Class. Another Queensland, Masterton Olivia Karamia, was next and the Abacus daughter Aimsway Santa Cola (NSW) was third. The NQ contingent from Mackay shared Stephanie Allen's delight when her home bred Calvin daughter Delkahna Chillii Pepper was given 11th place. The Puppy Dog Class was very small, 9 shown. The winner was Aimsway Stone Cold, then the Mischalands Calvin son Dellaress Deliverance and the Abacus son Denargun Jabiru third. Aimsway Abacus was certainly placing his stamp as a top producer on this National.

As soon as the Puppy Classes were finished, the Veterans Parade took place. Normally this is one of the most moving events at a National but this year it got lost somehow in all that was going on. Maybe this was due to the fact that only the top end of the dog ring got to see some of the dogs, namely OC Ch Karraine Red Alert UD ET ADM JDX TD, Tazza, proudly handled by Tad Jaworski, (Mackay NQ) and Jo Morgan in her motorized wheelchair with the legendary Vanda who amongst all her many achievements saved Jo's life several years ago.

(For rest of article see actual magazine)

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