

'MELBOURNE, YOU DID IT ... AGAIN!'

34th GSDCA National & Restricted Trial

KCC Park: 10, 11 & 12 March 2006.

The GSDCV just six months after hosting the 2005 Main Breed Exhibition put on a tremendous National - a herculean effort that speaks highly of Ian Urie and his Committee's ability not only to organise such a major event, fund raise and attract sponsors but also back-up and front up to host two highly successful major events on the GSDCA Calendar within such a short period of time. Congratulations to the GSDCV and their Volunteers! It was well-done.

KCC Park was like a carnival ground. There was so much going on and this added to the atmosphere of the National. Apart from the GSDCA National there were two other shows, the Dachshund Club and the Staffordshire Bull Terrier Club held over the weekend as well as the Victorian Herding Association Trial at the southern end of KCC Park. The GSDCV had set up a Catering, Hospitality and Corporate Precinct where it was possible to sit down for a drink, a meal and a chat and perhaps sneak a look at the TV/Videos in 'Kids Corner'. In the Corporate Marquee section the Police Dog Squad display could be found; for muscle-sore GSDs there was a Dog Masseuse; for those appreciating the finer things of life Winery Sales and Tastings plus the usual displays of Grooming Equipment and Dog gear. The Major Sponsor Royal Canin and the Obedience Trial Sponsor 'Inspector Rex' were also quite prominent.

Melbourne's fickle weather was nowhere to be seen. It turned on three days of glorious sunshine complete with high temperatures in the mid to high 30's C and a northerly blast on the Sunday when it topped 38C. The Ice Cream Man did a roaring trade as did the Canteen sales of Mineral Water, fruit salads and anything cool. For those needing their caffeine fix to soothe the frazzled nerves, the Coffee Vendor with his aromatic Lattes, Cappuccinos and wonderful Espresso, was a godsend.

This year's Judges were Hans Peter Knaul SV from Berlin [he spoke perfect English] and Erich Bosl the Breed Warden for the North Bavarian SV region. Both had judged in Australia previously; in fact it was Herr Bosl's third trip to Victoria.

Outstanding features - undoubtedly the 'ladies in pink' with their magnificent Kiwi GSDs. This year's National was almost carried off by the NZ 'ladies in pink' - the Shelleys, the Mayhews, the Saltiels, the Bradleys and the Halliwells - the Kiwis do it every year at the Spring Carnival and they very nearly did it at our National. NZCH Oakway Quiz Master and his successful progeny, the stunning Junior Bitch winner and JD2 had the Aussies drooling. Go the Sables! Tucked in amongst the Kiwi contingent there was one NZ Aussie-bred dog, Arristar Hot Shot, who came Ex 15. NZ Oakway Kennels stamped their name on this year's National with the Bronze Medal Dog, NZCH Oakway Quiz Master, the Intermediate Dog winner Oakway Ultimate Force, ID4 Reichund Meet Ya Maker, IB4 Oakway Ultra Trendy, Junior Bitch winner Oakway Yureka - an absolute stunner, JD 2 Oakway Young Blood, JB6 Reichund Orr-Some. It may have been an expensive trip across the Tasman [\$3000 per dog] but they took home the spoils.

Another outstanding moment was when Gagarin Bad Boll led out the Open Dog Class. There was stunned surprise. This young dog looked simply magnificent as he proudly led the class until half-way through the last lap when Unox Aducht handled by Mel Groth went over the top of him and became the 2006 Gold Medal winner. However, for Steve Sammut and Charlie Mifsud, the Silver Medal was an occasion to celebrate. Max in his first appearance at a National had achieved the almost impossible dream of being a Medal winner.

What were these SV Judges looking for? Correct angulations. Those GSDs with steep fronts, short upper arms, forward-placed shoulders, narrow thighs, short /long upper thighs, long second thighs found themselves off the pegs. A problem appeared in the younger classes, namely, level bite and several puppies were ungraded as a result.

On the Friday the younger classes plus the Junior Classes were judged. There were 19 BPDs: the winner, handled by Kylie Bruno was a Fedor Magistrale son, Denargun Oscar; in 2nd place was Bossface Assassin handled by Stuart Smith and the first of the Uras Trafalga progeny to appear on the pegs was Conkasha Wiked Wizard. In the BPB ring 34 little ladies strutted their stuff before Hans Peter Knaul. His BPB1 was a Nilson Wildsteiger Land daughter Schaeferhund Zilly, 2nd the WA BPB Seigen Miss Know It All and 3rd placegetter was Ros Masterman's [Old] home-bred baby Kayrossi Golden Star. The MPD had the double handlers really working. Erich Bosl's choice was the Jasso Bimsgrube son Amberg Heza Solitary Man, with the minor placings being filled by the Aimsway Abacus' Kwintsheul Ice Man and Unox Aducht's Edlenblut Alacante. It has been some year's since that famous prefix has graced the National ring. The MPB class saw 14 yrs old Kurt Morton handle his home-bred bitch out of Unhaus Storm Strike to first place and MinorIS; Ambala Caprio daughter Sunhaze Anique was second and the MPD litter mate Edlenblut Aspe was third.

After lunch the Junior Bitch call-out had people crowding the ring. 48 bitches went before the experienced eye of Hans Peter Knaul. It was not an easy task. There were some shell-shocked owners looking on as they saw their formerly IS winners near the end of the 2nd group. The obvious winner was the magnificent NZ sable Oakway Quiz Master daughter, Oakway Yureka who led the Class all the way. In his critiquing Herr Knaul mentioned the first 5 bitches were outstanding. This was one of the most difficult classes he has ever judged because the middle group were so even and displayed similar conformation faults and lack of time permitted him to do justice to the middle group. He had to be content with the line-up as he saw it, even though he worked both groups very hard. There 44VG, 3 G and one withdrawal. The next day tragedy struck the Junior Bitch class - JB4 Bronacre Roll the Dice was killed instantly in a tragic accident on the way home from the Sires Progeny Classes. Since then we have learned of the tragic death of JB 3, Futashand Fruit Tingle who died under anaesthetic at a Vet Clinic on March 27. In contrast the JD class had only 16 shown: 15 VG, 1G. The winner a Unox Aducht son handled by Jurgen Haas, Maltaknight's Master Unox repeated his 2005 National success by taking out his class. In 2nd place was Oakway Young Blood and 3rd place was taken by the 'wild child' of Masterton Kennels, the Fanto Team Fiemerick son Masterton Phar Lapp handled by Greg Green. However it was Gagarin Bad Boll's progeny that dominated the pegs in this class JD 4, 6, 8 & 9 from 4 different Dams.

On Saturday attention was divided between the 5 Breeders' Groups, Sires Progeny Parade with 21 groups parading before Joylene Neddermeyer for critical comment and the Obedience Trial with 54 dogs competing for the coveted Excellent Medallions. The Obedience Judges were UD- Honey Gross Richardson, Open -Dawn Howard and Novice- Jim Begg. The largest class was Open with an entry of 26; Novice had 23 and UD 5. The heeling was excellent. It was impossible to differentiate between Novice & UD.



Conformation Medallists
Gold (below),
Silver (below right)
and Bronze (below left)
DOGS



Gold (below)
Silver (right)
and Bronze (below right)
BITCHES



GSDCA President
Bruce Knight
opening the National

