

The Dobermann Club (UK) Diamond Jubilee Championship Show



On Saturday 24 May 2008 The Dobermann Club in England held their Diamond Jubilee Show with an entry of 182 Dogs. I was fortunate enough to judge bitches (110 entries), my co judge doing dogs was Englishman Richard Thorpe, a Specialist judge being in the breed since 1981. The show was held at the Dobe Club grounds at Digswell. These are an absolute credit to the few who have worked so hard to get this venue looking spectacular even with the heartbreak of the club rooms burning down a few years back. New club rooms have been built and with the huge marquee that covered both judging rings and smaller marquees that protect the exhibitors and spectators from the elements, incidentally it was a lovely sunny day so it was great to have shade from the sun. This venue is world class and I would like to congratulate the chairman of the club Derek King and the members of the committee for having the foresight to purchase the land and building a clubhouse on which to hold their shows. It is such a lovely locale. The Dobermann Club of England is the only Breed Club to have achieved this and now rents these facilities to other breed clubs for their shows. The Club looked after me very well for which they have my sincere thanks.

I can only tell you about the Dobe bitches and I was surprised at what excellent quality I found in my winners. The two classes that stood out were the Open Bitch and Junior Bitch classes, this is where my Bitch CC and Reserve CC winners came from. The bitch I considered the best there was, Vanhallen Black Velvet with Darkiss JW owned and handled by Dawn Banton who gained her 3rd CC that day to give her, her English Championship. Dawn and Kevin Hoyle co owner of 'Angel' told me that the show had been a lucky one for her in the past with Angel winning in 2006 Best



Vanhallen Black Velvet with Darkiss JW

Puppy Bitch under breed Specialist Ken Hood (UK), in 2007 Reserve CC and now in 2008 Best in Show. Dawn is a novice handler with her first show dog and won despite her handling as the bitch is such good breed type with very good movement. My Reserve Challenge was Lynfryds Raspberry Beret a young brown/tan who again was excellent quality. She is owner breeder handled out of a Lynfryds sire and dam. In fact the sire of this bitch, Ch Lynfryds Valentino JW, sired other class winners and place getters.

When both dogs and bitches were finished being judged Richard Thorpe and myself went over each others' winners and collaborated on finding a BIS winner, we agreed in the end to disagree so a referee was brought in to examine both dogs and find a winner. This referee was Breed Specialist Colin McLeod, he chose the bitch for Best in Show making both myself and her owners very happy. Opposite Sex in Show went to the black/tan male Sibovelds Sauron at Rocksands JW ShCM owned by Thornes who also gained his third CC to give him his English Championship. RDCC was CC Supeta's Ozzy Osbourne (Bennett & Smith)

Best Puppy in Show went to the black/tan male Zeloviak Incantation with Sherrebenca, Opp Sex puppy was bitch Bosskat Ieesha (Rowley), and Best Veteran Ir Ch Amazon Love Potion at Arbrodin (Andre) aged 10.5 years

Overall I found my winners were well angled dogs, smooth through the withers and topline who moved with good reach in front and extension behind. I wondered whether I would find a Dobe to really impress me as I thought the English dogs were so different to ours in Australia but have realised that good dogs are good no matter where they live in the world. I am honoured to have judged at this show and had my hands on such lovely dogs.

LYNNE HARWOOD Cabochon Dobermanns

Bitch CC & Reserve



BCC, Vanhallen Black Velvet with Darkiss JW & RBCC Lynfryds Raspberry Beret

Bloodhound Club of Germany 30th Anniversary Championship Show

It was my pleasure to judge the Thirtieth Anniversary Ch Show of the Bloodhound Club of Germany, held at a leafy equestrian centre in Schöningen near Hanover on a lovely sunny day.

At the helm was chairman Siegfried Peter, well known Basset Hound breeder (Le Piqueur kennel) and brother of Christa Heinecke whose Vom Zweiflinger Born Bloodhounds were established more than 30 years ago when Siegfried bought Abingerwood Brunhilde from Mr and Mrs Piper as a wedding gift for Christa.

There were 30 hounds entered with just one absentee. The OB class was a sight to behold when 14 hounds filed in for consideration and it was hardly surprising that BIS emerged from this super class, the liver/tan Trailfinder Happy Livy, owned by Nicky Loots of Holland and bred in the UK by Mr and Mrs Powell (Ch Trailfinder Fortitude ex Trailfinder Dream Come True). I was particularly taken with her solemn expression, lovely body shape and lithe, athletic, elastic movement. I understand from her owner that this two-year-old had previously won a speciality in Denmark.

BD was Petra Draheim's black/tan Gondolier Akribeia, bred in Poland by Bugoslawa Patrzykont (Nineveh's Phoebus ex Millenium Mila Nova), a handsome hound with a super outline and characteristic powerful, elastic movement. I understand he has five CCs (three are needed for a German title) but he must wait until he has won one more of these beyond a 12-month period.



Reserves were both red - in males, Rache Lincoln Watson (Talesins Richmond ex Cilgwri Lady Fleur) and in bitches, Eluminure Truff Mèdièrale (Talesins Nashville ex Ecus des Abbez Zibeline). As with the BD and BB, both these hounds excelled in movement, where many of the other exhibits were not so strong.

As is usual, the club held a kind of 'mini houndshow' in conjunction with this event. Basenjis and Beagles have always been scheduled here - Basset Hounds used to compete also but these have now been replaced by Ridgebacks. The other BOB winners were: Basenji, Ch Kokojambo's Dogo Dharuba; Beagle, Venice vom Backrumer Tal (from the scent tracking class); and Ridgeback, Ch Bakari Bomani of Kimberley's Diamonds. I was asked to select BIS and chose the lovely Bloodhound bitch.

In the evening there was a very pleasant dinner held in a tavern where many of the Bloodhounds and a few Basenjis lounged around (all beautifully socialised and without a cross word) while their masters ate. A super ending to a very enjoyable day spent among enthusiastic owners and their lovely dogs.

Glen Dymock, UK

