

RRCV 30th Championship Show Critiques – 19 March 2016

Judge: Sue Cameron-Codognotto (Ozrhode)

Thank you all for the honour of adjudicating over your lovely ridgebacks, and for taking my decisions on the day in such a sporting manner. Bearing in mind, the rain that came down heavily at times, I was so grateful for the show being held indoors, but sympathetic to those dogs who struggled with the slippery hazardous surface and as such was conscious that many were not as confident and comfortable as they would have been moving on grass. I would also like to this opportunity to thank Arthur Wilson whose professional and efficient manner ensured the ring ran smoothly and in a timely fashion.

Baby Puppy Dog

1. *Usakose Halo of Horns (AI)*

5 month old wheaten puppy of good breed type. He has a lovely typical head, with a gorgeous dark round eye. Good balance, excellent strength of bone, good depth of chest and well ribbed back, with a lovely temperament. He is a little high in withers but has a lovely ridge. For his age he moved well around the ring loving his time out there, but has a tendency to carry his tail a little high, hopefully this is simply age related exuberance and will improve with maturity.

Best Baby Puppy in Show

Puppy Dog

2. *Shakuru Beat it*

10 month old moderate red wheaten male of lovely breed type. Good balance fore and after and well boned with excellent feet. Good depth of chest and a pleasing typical head. He exhibits good reach and drive on the move but is a little close behind. Good ridge.

Junior Dog

1st 3. *Etosha Uatu of the Asgard*

Excellent breed type on this impressive red wheaten 15 month old boy, who is well up on size. Glorious outline that epitomizes the breed to me. Pleasing typical head, well balanced fore and after, good fill and depth of chest, good bone, feet and topline. Effortless on the move with good reach and drive, just not as clean out and back as I prefer. The future bodes very well for this young boy.

2nd 4. *Kushika Playing the Point*

Lovely breed type on this moderate red wheaten boy. Good height to length ratio, with a pleasing head. Not as beautifully balanced in outline as the dog placed before him. He has good fill and depth of chest. Super ridge. Moved well.

3rd 5. *Veldthund Sagutu Maximus*

This dark red wheaten boy is a lovely moderate size, with good height to length

ratios. He exhibits good breed type but is not as efficient and effortless moving as those before him.

Intermediate dog

1st: 9 Huntingridge all Over the world (AI)

This boy is a lovely wheaten male of good breed type, and size, exhibiting a beautiful outline on the stack. He is well balanced fore and after, with good depth of chest, well ribbed back, good bone that flows into good feet. On the move he displays good reach and drive whilst holding his topline well but is quite wide moving behind.

2nd 6. Isilwane Hunwick Hallam

An elegant moderate brown nose male of good breed type and size. He has a pleasing head with good pigment, and a lovely ridge. He is not as well balanced as the male placed before him. Pleasing fluid ground covering side gait, showing good reach and drive, but is a little narrow behind.

3rd 10. Ujamaa Fabrizio Ferri (AI)

This boy is a little heavier in style than I prefer but has some lovely breed attributes. Good balance fore and after, good depth of chest and well ribbed back. Excellent ridge. This boy has a lovely effortless and clean gait.

Australian Bred Dog

1st 13. Gr Ch. Kimbisha Making Magic ET

A well presented moderate male of excellent breed type and size. He exhibits a lovely balance of strength and elegance that our breed demands. Lovely balance fore and after, good bone, feet, fill, depth, and well ribbed backed. Pleasing head with a lovely eye that could do with a little more length of muzzle, but where this exhibits grabs your attention and keeps it, is in his super movement. Perfect reach and drive this boy is effortless, efficient, and clean, and could function all day. I was pleased to award this boy Best Gaited dog as well.

Best Australian Bred in Show

2nd 12. Ch. Skiska Keeper of Time

Red wheaten male of good size. Strong head that could benefit from more length of muzzle, lovely dark eyes but carries his ears a little high. Good fore-chest, fill and depth but would be aided by a little more length in body. A little more front angulation would balance off nicely against his good rear angulation.

Open Dog

1st 16. Ch. Macumazahn Playdit to the Beat

Handsome and upstanding! This young impressive dog oozes quality and class and stole my attention from the moment he moved into the ring. He exudes excellent breed type and exemplifies that essential balanced combination of elegance and strength mandatory for our breed. Glorious outline that is well

balanced fore and after, he has good bone, and feet. Beautifully constructed throughout, his overall quality is aided by a very typical, handsome head, which has lovely expression, and a good eye. On the move, he was clean, effortless and covered the ground so well whilst holding his topline correctly.

Runners Up Best in Show/Best Open in Show

2nd 14. Ch Ingwe Mountain High (AI)

9 year old red wheaten male of excellent breed type and in fantastic condition defying his age. He is a credit to his owner and breeder. Lovely length to height ratio, well balanced fore and after, with good pro-sternum, fill, depth of chest and well ribbed back. He is a powerful clean mover. There is so much to like about this veteran boy!

3rd 15. Dual Ch. (T) Kushika Hole in One TSDX

This boy is a tall, very elegant red wheaten male of lovely breed type. He possesses a beautiful, handsome typical head with a beautiful eye and excellent head planes. Good balance fore and after, balanced bone, lovely length and crest of neck. His topline could be a little stronger, but he is effortless on the move with good ground covering reach and drive.

Open Neuter Dog

19. Ch Kapama Run Zamba Run

This dog has a lovely masculine head and expression but would prefer a darker eye. This boy is squarer in style than most and could benefit from a little more length of body. Good depth of chest, bone, and feet. He covered the ground well and was very clean moving out and back.

Challenge Dog:

I was spoilt for choice between my Open, Australian Bred, and Junior dogs. However, there was no denying my Open dog and his super breed type, conformation, and soundness that fuses beautifully with his excellent movement.

Reserve Dog:

Again, another very worthy winner also exhibiting wonderful breed attributes and outstanding movement.

Baby Puppy Bitch

20. Kysaridge Gold Amirah

Lovely breed type on this 3 month old bitch, who had her first venture into the show ring today. She has a lovely feminine head with a good dark eye, balanced angulation fore and after, with good boning. She shows much promise and her future bodes well, she just needs time to settle and some training.

Minor Puppy Bitch

1st 24a Jarracada Olivia

A young feminine wheaten bitch of lovely breed type, she possesses a very typical head that highlights the desirable balance between strength and femininity with a lovely dark eye. Beautiful front assembly and she out moved the others in her class to earn this placing.

2nd 22. Kipsigis Kulula

Lovely breed type exhibited on this balanced girl. She covered the ground well.

3rd 24. Otesha Ashanti

Lovely breed typical head with a good dark eye and expression. Good bone and depth of chest. She moved reasonably well around the ring.

Puppy Bitch

1st 29 Shakuru Here I go Again

This bitch embodies all that I seek in a Ridgeback bitch -- she simply oozed breed type, class, and quality! Gorgeous 10 month old bitch of excellent breed type, she was both elegant, and feminine but exhibited the necessary strength our breed dictates. Well balanced fore and after, balanced boned with good feet, lovely crest and length of neck leading into a good shoulders and topline, good depth of chest and well ribbed back. Beautiful breed typical head with a lovely round dark eye and good ridge. Superior mover, with effortless reach and drive whilst holding her topline, and the more I asked of her, the more she gave me, using the show ring to her full advantage. I simply loved her and this is one exhibit I would eagerly take home, if only I could!

Best Exhibit in Show / Best Puppy in Show

2nd 28. Isilwane The Mindy Project

Another lovely feminine, elegant bitch who exhibits good breed type. She is not as well balanced as the bitch placed before her. Lovely head with good expression, this girl covered the ground very well displaying fluid and efficient reach and drive and clearly could do what she was bred to do.

3rd 27. Kushika Snowball Effect

Lovely breed type on this balanced bitch. I find her head a little heavy for me at this age but nonetheless it is balanced with her body and she has lovely expression and a good eye. She is a little high in rear but this should improve as she matures.

Junior Bitch

1st 32. Shakuru Under the Willow

Very similar to the Puppy bitch winner, this girl exhibits excellent breed type and oozes quality. 10 months old, this girl creates a beautiful picture standing with good strength accompanied by the necessary elegance, well balanced fore and

after, with good bone, feet, and topline. She has a beautiful headpiece with a good dark eye and good strength without losing any femininity. Good depth of chest and well ribbed back, on the move she was effortless with good reach and drive whilst holding her topline, she was just not as clean out and back as I would like. **Best Junior in Show**

2nd 33. Otesha Thandi

This red wheaten bitch exhibits lovely breed type. She is elegant and feminine with a typical head that could benefit from a little more strength of under jaw. She has a lovely length of neck and good fore-chest. She moved with good reach and drive and was sound coming and going.

3rd 34. Usakose Eyez of Envy

This wheaten girl is tall and elegant with a lovely typical head with good expression. Not as balanced as those placed before her, I would prefer a little more fill in front and I find her croup a little too steep for me. She was not as effortless and efficient moving as those ahead of her in the ribbons in this class.

Intermediate Bitch

1st 36. Ch. Camelot's The Beat Goes on at Isilwane (Imp. USA)

This wheaten ~3 year old bitch is of excellent breed type demonstrating a lovely balance of strength and elegance. Very sound construction and I adored her on the move, so effortless with good reach and drive and very clean out and back. Pleasing feminine head, good ridge and bone, but would have preferred tighter feet. She could also benefit from better coat condition.

Best Intermediate in Show

2nd 38. Ujamaa Pussy Galore

Lovely breed type, this bitch is feminine with a pleasing headpiece and lovely expression. She covered the ground very well in an efficient and effortless manner but was not as clean out and back as the bitch placed ahead of her.

3rd 38A. Jarracada Marissa

A feminine elegant wheaten bitch with some lovely breed attributes. She has a pleasing head, although head planes could be improved. Lovely length of neck, she is reasonably balanced front and rear but is a little steep in croup. Good ridge.

Australian Bred Bitch

1st 43. Dual Ch (T) Kushika Sno Way to Behave

I still adore this bitch! She oozes excellent breed type, and is quality with a capital Q. She exhibits strength and elegance, has a beautiful typical head with excellent expression and eye. Glorious outline that is beautifully balanced fore and after, I noted that this girl has matured since I last judged her and has filled out. Well constructed throughout this bitch moves accordingly with an effortless ground covering gait.

2nd 45. *Ch Otesha Almasi*

This girl is of excellent breed type and a lovely moderate size. Pleasing feminine head with a lovely eye and expression but could benefit from a little more strength to her muzzle. Well balanced fore and after with balanced bone and good feet. She covered the ground in an effortless and efficient manner whilst holding her topline well.

3rd 42. *Ch. Ingwe Final Countdown*

A lovely wheaten girl of good breed type. She has a pleasing feminine head with good expression and a dark eye. She is well balanced with an excellent depth of chest, well ribbed back, good bone and feet. She moved well covering the ground well in an effortless manner whilst holding her topline.

Open Bitch**1st 54 *Ch. Otesha Savanna ET***

This bitch displays excellent breed type. She has a very typical pleasing head with a lovely dark eye, wonderful expression that could be improved with a little more strength to her muzzle.

2nd 55. *Ch. Shakuru Hurt So Good*

Lovely bitch of excellent breed type and size. Good balance fore and after and well constructed body. She has a pleasing typical head. She has tremendous reach in front and covers the ground very well.

3rd 50. *Ch. Kushika Tenyere Tempest*

Another bitch displaying lovely breed type. Lovely typical head with good expression. She is moderate, well balanced although I would ideally like a little more angulation front and rear. She moves with good ground covering reach and drive.

Neuter Bitch**1st 56. *Ch Neut Ch Ujamaa Beez Neez (AI)***

This bitch is of excellent breed type. Feminine yet strong, lovely head and expression with a dark round eye. Beautifully constructed she moves accordingly with effortless and efficient reach and drive.

Best Neuter in Show**2nd 58. *Ch. Macumazahn Hellava Ride (AI)***

Lovely bitch of good breed type, a little heavier than I prefer. Well constructed with good balance fore and after and she covered the ground very well.

3rd 57. *Ch. (T) Kipsigis T K Okoka RN*

An elegant tall girl with a pleasing headpiece. She is a little steep in croup and could benefit from more length of body and a better front assembly.

Challenge Bitch

Such a tough decision with so many deserving girls and sadly only one award. My puppy, Junior, Australian Bred, and Open class winning bitches all ticked every breed check box for me. However, the more I ran these girls the easier my decision became. Not only did my puppy bitch winner ooze breed type, class, and quality, the more I moved her the better she performed. She could move all day if only her handler could too – a true endurance athlete.

Reserve Challenge

Another deserving girl who really pushed the younger girl for this win with her wonderful construction. She also exemplifies that desirable breed type, quality, and functionality as breeders we all strive for.

Best in Show

Both dogs were well presented by their handlers, exemplary in terms of breed type, outline, construction, and movement and never put a foot wrong in the ring. However, the more I asked of them on the move, the more the bitch gave me and really reinforced the phrase “form follows function” for me.

Runners Up Best in Show

It was such a close decision for Best in Show and there really was not much in it, that I could not deny my outstanding male the Runners up Best in Show award.