

_ It was a pleasure to judge this very good-sized entry of high quality Staffords today.

General observations and critique:

Strengths – In general, I found good strength in head quality, though ear shape and carriage varied considerably -in heads, I also found strong cheeks and jaws - in mouths, I saw no real problems. No issues that I detected in pigment and only a few with nares that were perhaps a little narrow... The standard mentions nose color and does not address the importance of the nares, but well opened nares are an issue all breeders need to understand and breed for

Areas for breeder attention: toplines- this is an issue that is not new to the breed and in many cases needs some improvement

Eyes were very interesting. They varied from showing friendly, warm expression, rounded shape eyes to obliquely placed almond shapes that gave an oriental look. Now, this exotic eye is not unattractive, but not consistent with the standard. One otherwise very nice dog had overall quality conformation, but the eyes gave an intense, mean look that is also not consistent with what we would like to see in Staffords.

The Stafford should also be agile and yet well-muscled, showing parallel movement and strong, rather powerful drive in the rear in the rear. I checked musculature front and especially rear on all the Staffies I examined. And found most to be in reasonably fit condition. Still, a number of dogs exhibited poor rear movement. Many displayed a sort of “rocky tock” bouncing in the rear that made their toplines look worse and was jaunty, but inefficient and inappropriate for the breed.

Tails- the standard calls for tails to be carried rather low. However, many were carried somewhat elevated / high, and some tended to curl over slightly towards the back. In most cases, I judged tails and tail sets as the dogs were stacked to give the dogs the benefit of the doubt that the high carriage was due to the excitement. For the most part, tails were well set and flowed off the back, following the topline, but many were carried on the high side.

One very well-made dog was simply too big for me. The standard calls for 14 to 16” and this dog while nicely-proportioned, was otherwise over size. Staffies are great for being dynamos... a lot of power in a compact package. When they start to be too large, they lose some of their innate breed type and the long-term worry is that (as in a number of breeds with no dq for size) they will become bigger and bigger, until the essential character and nature of the Stafford is lost. Judges tend to notice and often reward bigger dogs. Many breeds over the years have suffered from the tendency for their breed to enlarge and then be less manageable and less of the desirable size and weight that have made and still make them wonderful family dogs, even in small homes.

After judging and making final placements, I learned that one of the young bitches in the final placements lineup in the ring was in flaming season and as careful as her exhibitor tried to be... probably every male dog in a half mile radius knew a pretty gal was just waiting for him.....With my initial organization of the ring, I had the bitch specials in one shady corner and the males on an opposite shady side, this was probably easier on the males. Of course, the males knew she was there, but were well behaved. A couple perhaps didn't show as well as they might have otherwise, but by then I had completed my exams and made my decisions.

STAFFORDSHIRE BULL TERRIERS Best-of-Breed/Variety

41 BOB GCH CH ADORABULL HAMMERHEAD ENTERS THE WATER , RN33862301 7/25/2019. Breeder: Lorene Wilson. By GCH Tartans Eddie Van Halen By Dinostaff -- Courtesy Title Morgana. Lorene Wilson. This balanced dog was carried to BOB by his body quality, head proportions, overall great strength of head (strong cheeks and underjaw), neck and strong, capable movement. Alert, projecting Staffy type, he carries himself with power and agility. He also carries his tail correctly. Saying that, in the final winners' go-round, he totally lost the good topline and smooth strong movement as a young bitch in full ready season was now way too close and tantalizing for him. Masculine head and body, typy, powerful moving.

WD BEST OF WINNERS

19 CRUDHA REITIN AISTEACH TKN , RN34546801 9/26/2019. Breeder: Agneta Wihlborg. By Crudha Nordic Attitude -- Rioghail Jumping Jelly Bean. Dayna S Lemke . Dog. From the open class, a youthful, black brindle male-who is well constructed with good bone and feet. A little soft in pastern, but he moved well, particularly in the rear with good direct, purposeful drive. Clean body and head lines. Head and jaw strength a bit more pronounced than in RWD. The neck is a little reachy, but strong. Correct head proportions

BEST OF OPPOSITE

48 FOUNTAINHEED'S RHEA OF THE COOS , RN34450601 10/7/2019. Breeder: owner. By Bultery Rollen Thunder -- GCH Fountainheed's Electric Body. Rossi LaVonda . Bitch. A young, typy bitch. I kept going back to look at her and recheck my preference for her, as I would stand back and review my choices. From a distance, she affects the eye as being small, but in fact, she has a good feminine build and all the details that the standard calls for and is very, very attractive. She has the square boxy front and strong shoulders with overall strong front quarters. Front and rear angulation are balanced. She has a lovely feminine head with good strength in jaws and underjaw. Dark, sweet, intelligent forward-facing eyes. Solid topline. Well-muscled and fit.

SELECT

SEL 27 OH GCH DYNASTAFFS GET READY CAUSE HERE I COME , RN33997302 7/20/2019. Breeder: Alexa Keetch. By GCH Samross American Dream DCAT -- GCHS Dnvastaffs Don't Leave Home Without It. Susan Best-Olds and Nancy Best-Olds . Dog. Very good skull proportion. Correct length of muzzle. Piercing dark eyes, well set ears, blocky muzzle, good width and depth to skull. Carried his topline smoothly and level on the move. Good reach, strong drive, nicely conditioned.

44 SEL CH WILLABY'S SOUTHERN CROSS , RN34093201 10/16/2019. Breeder: Jodie West & Dion Berry. By GCHB Pinnacle's You Can't Take Command CGC -- GCHG Ciera HomeBrewed Born Free CGCA RATN. Jodie West & Dion Berry . Bitch. Black bitch with a small amount of white on her chest. Very good strength and quality in head. Body is overall well proportioned. A little soft in topline and has a bit more tuck up than I would prefer. Won this placement in large part on her beautiful head quality and general soundness.

AOM

23 AOM & Best Veteran GCHB QUINLENT AWAKE MY SOUL , RN23524001 8/2/2011. Breeder: M De Kruyk. By Blazinstaff Blazin Justice -- Quinlent Four Roses. Teri Keetch and Janice Snyder. Dog. Both veterans were beautiful, healthy and happy. It was a delight to see lovely, lively well-cared-for staffies oldsters in the ring.

31 AOM CH JUGGERNAUT'S SIR LANCELOT THE BRAVE , RN33566101 5/27/2019. Breeder: Ray Lebedeff & Larry Pettersen. By GCH FountainHeed's Lord Pretty Flacko -. GCH Juggernaut's charmercelticwarrioprincess. Ray Lebedeff and Larry Petersen and Jaren & Jon Hopkins. Dog. A black brindle with some white on the chest. Balanced, strong. A bit more rounding to the croup than desired, but overall, is well made

35 AOM CH MACHUSI WANTED ON VOYAGE, RN30584401 2/4/2016. Breeder: Fay Dawkins. By Roughnecks Crusader For Inshaig -- Machusi Undeniably Etta. Michael Jones. Dog. Mature red male with a small amt of red on neck & chest. Strong head quality. Overall, well made, shapely, Strong front quarters.

WINNERS BITCH

1/W 26 JONESTOWNS LIKE NO TOMORROW, RN33671405 6/28/2019. Breeder: Michael Jones. By GCHS Machusi Wanted On Voyage -- CH Ryhasureds Dorxplorer Judael CGC. Michael Jones. Bitch. From the Bred by Exhibitor class, a mature red bitch with a bit of white. She is of reasonably good type and very sound construction. She stands four square showing a resolute, determined persona. She is well made and reflects that in moving very well and in her solid topline and tail carriage. Good strength in head. Intelligent eyes. Well-set ears. Good strength in both her boxy front and strong rear quarters. In the show dog world, she perhaps seems to be a bit of a plain jane and perhaps that is apt. She has important qualities (lovely ears, eyes, make and shape, attitude, etc.), She is very sound, but the package lacks flash. She possesses breed type, but without any extreme. She may seem a bit dull, but she is correct. I tend to value sound bitches especially and kept seeing in her, a sweet Staffy with all the right things in the right places.

RESERVE WINNERS BITCH

22 ADORABULL MAHOGANY MINXX , RN35300601 8/1/2020. Breeder: Lorene Wilson. By GCH AdoraBull Wrath of Samson -- CH Lackyle Realta Lonrach. Lorene Wilson. Bitch. Also from the Bred By Exhibitor class, this young bitch has good strength in quarters. Thick, strong, low set tail. Beautiful head.

RESERVE WINNERS DOG

1/RW 9 DNS ONE FOR THE MONEY , RN35345701 7/23/2019. Breeder: Teri Keetch & Janice Snyder & Starlee Rownd By Bellarouge Adonis At Ferglestaffs -- CH Devils And Fairies Shade Of Scarlet. Janice Snyder & Teri Keetch & Starlee Rownd . Dog.

From the Open class. Well-made young red & white male who generally moved well and shows good youthful type. A bit tall in proportion. Nice tight feet. Moved well, showing a a slightly rounded topline on the move. Attractive, Rather sweet, charming, friendly expression, Tidy , shapely ears. Reasonable jaw and cheek musculature.