

Champ 09 Critique

I should like first thank the GB club for inviting me to judge their show and also my excellent stewards who kept the day running smoothly. Thanks also go to all the people who entered their lovely dogs and who accepted my placing sportingly. I would like to make some comments on the way the breed is going. I personally think size needs to be watched, the standard for a male dog as I'm sure you all know is dogs 25" – 27" and a lot of dogs are well on the top size and along with height is coming bulk, which does not fit in with a dog who is suppose to be a hound capable of endurance and agility, sadly a lot of all rounders when judging seem to pass the medium sized dogs by for a more impressive dog size wise, with bitches being a 1" smaller I found some bitches well on the top size. I also found quite a few dogs whose feet left much to be desired.

Temperament was excellent as were most ridges, I found one dog with a level bite, a trait not to be encouraged otherwise all bites were excellent. I was also surprised at how often I had to use hand wipes and a lot of dog's coats where, to be blunt dirty.

What was I looking for, a medium sized dog with a classic ridgeback head that fits the standard, good conformation and free easy movement, within the colour range that, I personally see as wheaten, mahogany not being one of them. I felt all my main winners ticked all the boxes.

Minor Puppy Dog (4,0)

1st Piehl's Kiromol Kubwa Mno 7 mth old light wheaten puppy of lovely type and construction, pleasing head & expression with nice length of neck, for his age he was extremely well balanced with good feet and tail set, I just hope he doesn't grow too big, moved out with a lovely long stride. One I will watch with interest. Best Puppy in show.

2nd Mills' Priorpark Jabulisa By Nzuri 8mth old wheaten well up on size for his age, nice head & expression, lovely dark eyes, good front and nice turn of stifle, looked the part standing but lost out on movement on the day to 1st

3rd Selby's Eilack Chato

Puppy Dog (0,0)

Junior Dog (9,1)

1st Cyprien & Williams' Jocebec Jelani Elite 14mth old mid Wheaten pleasing head and expression but I would personally have preferred a darker eye, good ear set, nice balanced front and rear with good feet and tail set, moved extremely well.

2nd Bates' Burncote Bushman just slightly younger at 13mths another well balanced dog with a lovely dark eye, good front, topline and turn of stifle, another which excelled on movement.

3rd Oakes' Mufambidzani Rising Sun

Yearling Dog (6,0)

1st Maddox's Tambyssa's Zephyr 21mths old light wheaten, with a lovely head and expression, pleasing length of neck set on a good layback of shoulders, excellent front, topline and turn of stifle, correct depth of brisket, moved out with a lovely free stride, a pleasure to watch. Dog C.C and RBIS

2nd Carlton's Umhlandla Bukekayo medium sized livernosed boy with a nice front and good feet, good topline but not quite the length of ribbing of the winner. I would have preferred a more refined head. Moved well.

3rd Austin & Houghton's Kiromol Kaylo Presents Donasie

Grad Dog (6,3)

1st Carlton's Umhlandla Bukekayo

2nd Haddon's Mwenga's Special Brew medium sized dog wheaten dog with

good depth of muzzle & pleasing expression, moderate layback of shoulder, good topline and turn of stifle, took some time to settle on the move so did not do himself justice in this department.

3rd Bristow's Tambyssa's Tempest

Post Graduate Dog (6,2)

1st Gibbins & Orton's Veldtkammer Rhode Runner Dark red moderately sized dog with nice head and expression, good topline, balanced front and rear, moved well.

2nd Canon Wickstead's Abayomi As Sure As The Sun 19mth old wheaten dog not as mature as first, nice head and expression, good length of neck, good topline, I would have preferred a bit more length as although balanced front and rear, on the day he stood rather square, feet could have been tighter, moved well.

3rd Bristow's Tambyssa's Tempest

Minor Limit Dog (5,2)

1. Cunningham's Walamadengie Monte Carlo dark red moderately sized dog, nicely balanced head with good depth of muzzle and length of neck, good front, topline and turn of stifle, shown in hard condition.

2. Dickinson's Jesamunda Jakuru light wheaten boy with lovely head and expression nice dark eyes, good depth of muzzle, good topline, balanced front and rear. I would have preferred a tighter foot and on the day his movement was rather erratic.

3. Davis & Robinson's Imola Imac

Limit Dog (12,2)

1st Storey's Kaisaala Odysseus By Kiromol wheaten well balanced boy of medium size with pleasing head and expression, good depth of muzzle and length of neck, well laid back shoulders with good topline and turn of stifle, excellent feet and moved with drive and purpose.

2nd Lynn's Tsjakka Just Joey another medium sized wheaten dog with a nice head and expression, good layback of shoulder, with good depth of brisket, balanced front and rear, with lovely feet, moved well.

3rd Reid & Meikle's Rejan Top Gun

Open Dog (17,1)

1st Ratcliff's CH Flametrees Kyper of Godolphin, one I have liked from a distance who didn't disappoint, for me he has a typical ridgeback head with a lovely

expression, pleasing length of neck with good front and nice layback of shoulder, a nicely balanced dog with a good topline & excellent feet who moved well.

2nd Carlton's CH Umhlandla Luwamba JW another with for me the classical ridgeback head with lovely dark eyes and expression, nice length of neck, balanced angulation front and rear with a good topline and excellent feet, moved well.

3rd Hewson & Worthy's Ir CH ReKaylahn Phoenix

Veteran Dog (4,0)

1st Bowlus' CH Sofala Jefferson another one I have always liked who did not disappoint, light wheaten boy with a lovely head and expression, good length of neck with good layback of shoulder and turn of stifle, nice tight feet and good topline. Moved well and a credit to his owner. Best Veteran and RCC

2nd Burgess' Lukulu Umnqobi at Msulwa At just over 9 yrs of age this boy was a credit to his owner and certainly did not look his age. Wheaten boy with pleasing expression good depth of muzzle, nicely defined stop with good ear set, balanced front and rear, with good feet, moved well.

3rd Waller's CH IR CH Zejak Zuri Miko

Special Veteran Dog (2,1)

1st Maidment's CH Mirengo's Mojomo of Osebeni for 10½ although standing alone in this class he certainly deserved his 1st place, and I'm sure he enjoyed his trip out. Although looking a little more portly than last time I judged him he still carries himself well. Lovely head and expression with good depth of muzzle, still retaining a nice level topline, and good front and rear angulation.

Minor Puppy Bitch (5,0)

This was a lovely class of puppies and I'm sure they will often change places but for me my 1st placing stole the day.

1st Storey's Kiromol Tallulah Belle 7mth old wheaten puppy with so much to like about her. Such a feminine head with a lovely expression, nice length of neck with good layback of shoulder and nice turn of stifle, good topline and feet, for her age such a balanced puppy who moved extremely well, Best puppy bitch, lost out on best puppy to her litter brother and she decided at the end of the day it was play time. Another I will watch with interest.

2nd Parsons' Priorpark Yakini 8½ mth old puppy light wheaten, balanced head with gentle expression good length of neck, good front with nice layback of shoulder, good depth of brisket for her age, not quite the turn of stifle of first, but moved well.

3rd Williams' Priorpark Kainda

Puppy Bitch (2,0)

1st Ward's Dansedufeu's Deep Secret 10mth old mid wheaten puppy with feminine head and expression well defined stop lovely dark eyes and good earset. Nice length of neck with good layback of shoulders, standing at the moment slightly straight in stifle, good feet, moved well.

2. McCarthy Booth & McCarthy's Jarhiba Ikshula red wheaten bitch, just under 1 yr old and one that will take more time to mature than 1st, , nice dark eye and kind expression, good length of neck, nice angulation front and rear, on the day not as balanced in outline as 1st moved nicely.

Junior Bitch (10,1)

1st Rossiter & Pratt's Sonstraal She's A Devil Woman just out of puppy at a year old, light wheaten bitch with so much to like about her, lovely head and expression, pleasing length of neck; nice layback of shoulders, good topline and turn of stifle, good feet, lovely deep chest for one so young, looked the picture standing and did not disappoint on the move. One I would have liked to take home. A well deserved R.C.C.

2nd Campbell's Nyassa Everlasting Love red wheaten bitch, another who has just

moved out of puppy, good depth of muzzle and nicely defined stop with lovely dark eyes, pleasing length of neck, nice layback of shoulders good topline and tail set, with good turn of stifle, moved well.

3rd Farleigh's Kinabula Akua Bahatie

Yearling Bitch (12,3)

1st Rossiter & Pratt's Sonstraal She's A Devil Woman see junior bitch

2nd. Wigglesworth's Nomuula Namaqua at Ranginui mid wheaten bitch with nice head and expression, good ear set and depth of muzzle moderate length of neck, good topline and excellent feet, balanced front and rear moved well.

3rd Campbell's Nyassa Everlasting Love

Graduate Bitch (11,3)

1. Rossiter & Pratt's Sonstraal She's A Devil Woman see junior bitch

2. Webster's Janak Jazmin mid wheaten bitch with good depth of muzzle, well defined stop and lovely dark eyes and gentle expression, nice length of neck, excellent topline, balanced front and rear, standing on good feet, moved extremely well.

3. Williams' Janak Josie

Post Grad Bitch (7,4)

1st Dickinson's Jesamuda Soumaya lovely balanced bitch lovely head with that classical ridgeback expression, good depth of muzzle and earset, I personally would have preferred a darker eye, good length of neck, with excellent topline and tail set, balanced front and rear with nice tight feet, moved well.

2nd Lipman's Kiromol Kamili Oka mid wheaten bitch, stronger head than 1st I personally would have preferred a slightly more refined head, moderate length of neck with good layback of shoulder and nice turn of stifle, not the topline of 1st but standing on good feet and moved well.

3rd Turner's Diomondridge Zahina of Zebrariver

Minor Limit Bitch (7,4)

1st Harrower's Jimanns Jiggy Jiggy Red wheaten bitch, with lovely outline, nice head. lovely dark eyes and feminine expression, but I would personally preferred a bit more under jaw, good length of neck, excellent topline and tail set with good layback of shoulders and turn of stifle, standing on good feet, moved well.

2nd Walshe's Monduri Kasulu Kasinda light wheaten bitch slightly smaller than

1st with a lovely head and expression, moderate length of neck, not as clean as 1st, handler rather spoilt the picture by tucking spare skin under the bitch's head, nice layback of shoulder and turn of stifle, standing on nice tight feet, moved well.

3rd Henshall's Suhuba Kanzi

Limit Bitch (19,5)

This was a super class and some lovely bitches went card-less, I would have been proud to have bred any of my first three and I was splitting hairs on my placements but on the day I felt my first could not be beaten on her movement.

1st Parker's Zuri Adia to Azuli JW ShCM a very elegant red wheaten bitch with lovely clean outline, nice head and expression, good length of neck, well balanced front and rear, lovely topline and standing on good feet, moved well.

2nd Farleigh's Kinabula Kirasi Kisa JW light wheaten bitch with a lovely head and expression, good length of neck and excellent topline, lovely layback of shoulders and turn of stifle, good topline and tail set, standing on nice tight feet, although she moved out nicely on the day just did not have the drive of the first.

3rd Morris' Bruet Sing The Blues to Kasenga

Open Bitch (18,4)

Another class where some lovely bitches went cardless.

1. Nix's CH Nyassa Caluua at Kitoko This girl just filled my eye, not only did she look the picture standing but she excelled in movement and just never stopped showing on the day.

She has a lovely head with such a feminine ridgeback expression, lovely dark eyes and excellent earset, nice length of neck and good layback of shoulders with an excellent topline and tail set, good turn of stifle, a credit to her owner and breeder. I was delighted to award her C.C and BOB

2. Kirby & Mansfield's Shingwidsi Tshelana Riva Another lovely bitch, with slightly stronger head than first, set on good length of neck, with good depth of chest, nicely balanced front and rear with a good layback of shoulders and turn of stifle, good topline and tailset, standing on excellent feet, moved well.

3. Hewson's CH INT CH ReKaylahn Blaze JW ShCM

Veteran Bitch (5,1)

1. Adderley's Kylini Ijspy At 7yrs old just into veteran, shown in beautiful condition a credit to her owner. Light wheaten bitch with a lovely head and expression with a good depth of muzzle and lovely dark eyes, good length of

neck, topline and tail set, well balanced front and rear with good layback of shoulder and turn of stifle, standing on good feet, I see she is the dam of my dog C.C winner, she moved well in this class but in the challenge was not going as soundly.

2. Morris' CH Bruet Song of Kasenga One I have always liked. 8yr old red wheaten bitch, with a slightly stronger head than first, good depth of muzzle and excellent earset, nice length of neck and good layback of shoulder, balanced front and rear, standing on good feet, another shown in lovely condition for her age, on the day 1st moved with more drive.

3. Cairns' Rooniek Tintaglia

Special Veteran Bitch (3,0)

Three lovely old girls all obviously enjoying their day out with their handlers

1. Barnes' CH Diamondridge Deja Vu At 10½ yrs old this light wheaten girl carries her age well, although her muzzle is now grey she still has a lovely head and expression, nice length of neck, still keeping a lovely topline and was shown in excellent condition

2. Agnew's Janak Xamax of Mwenga JW 11yr old light wheaten girl in lovely condition, slightly more compact in type than first and carrying a little extra weight which made her look rather matronly, lovely head and expression, nice

topline, balanced front and rear, moved nicely.

3. Davis' Imola Indianapolis

Judge

Ann Gates