

Marlborough & District Canine Society

Monday 5th May 2014

Handling classes

I would firstly like to say a huge thank you to the society for asking me to judge at this well run show! I would also like to say thank you to all of the handlers who entered under me. I was overall impressed by the quality of handlers however, when I asked to see the teeth some of the handlers forgot to show me the bite which in some cases lost them a placing.

6 - 11 years (6, 4)

This was a strong class full of good young handlers. All of the handlers have shown such potential and I will be watching them all in the future. Well done everyone!

1st Molly Cousins.

Molly was a good confident young handler who used the whole of the ring to her full advantage despite only having a small dog. Smartly dressed. She used her voice throughout the class, encouraging her dog - especially when she was having difficulties. Molly was a very engaging handler and was watching where I was at all times. Molly's table work was great - she noticed when the leg that I had moved whilst on the table. She also showed the teeth perfectly.

2nd Chloe Ward.

This young lady was smartly dressed and presented her dog beautifully. Chloe had good tight corners, lovely straight up and down but I felt she lost the class on two things: teeth work and communication/ interaction with their dog. Whilst in the ring I like to see a handler talking and interacting with their dog to help get the best out of this but sadly Chloe didn't interact very much. She showed me the bite but I was unable to see as she had her fingers in the way. I was impressed when I turned around to see Chloe grooming her dog - not many handlers do this anymore.

3rd Molly Barber.

Molly was a good confident handler who had a dog who seemed a little big for her, however Molly showed her Vizsla well and showed the teeth perfectly. Her corners were a little messy which can be improved and came inbetween myself and the dog to turn the corner on her up and down.

4th Dylan Brian.

Dylan was another very engaging and confident handler - which I love to see in the ring. This young lad caught my eye with his boxer but unfortunately kept stepping inbetween myself and the dog. He also only showed me the two sides of the mouth and not the bite, so Dylan remember the bite next time!! Dylan was presented in a smart suit and did a perfect straight line when doing his pattern work.

12 - 16 years (4, 3)

This was the toughest class of the day, which I literally had to spilt hairs for each of the placings. All 3 handlers have real talent and I thoroughly enjoyed judging this strong class. They are all handlers who I will be looking forward to hearing about their progress in the future.

1st Elise O'Connor BJH

This young handler is someone who I have watched from across the ring in the past and is truly one to watch in the future. As she entered the ring, she moved her dog out whilst watching where I was stood. Whilst presenting her dog in the class, Elise was constantly watching my positioning. Although she didn't have a 'quick' moving dog, she used the ring to her advantage. Good straight lines with good tight corners. Would have liked to see Elise interact with her dog a little more.

2nd Rebecca Blair

A smartly presented and confident handler. This handler was watching me throughout the class (especially when she stood her dog) to watch where I stood to help to enhance her being able to do a straight line as well as not coming inbetween myself and the dog. Rebecca's table work was good however she did loop her lead around her wrist today which made her 'teeth showing' a little messy. Whilst doing her pattern work Rebecca's confidence shone through as she used her voice loudly to encourage her dog to do as she wanted. Her lines were a little wobbly for her triangle but her corners were perfect and sharp.

3rd Jonathan Wells

This handler really got the best out of his dog throughout the class. He did use his voice but I would of liked to hear him use it a little more. His table work was good but would have liked to see him place the feet instead of lifting the back end. Despite the few teeth that the dog had, he showed the whole mouth ensuring that I saw it all which did impress me! Good tight corners on his triangle. Up and back could have been a little straighter. He was one of few to say 'thank you' after completing his pattern work.

17 - 30 years (6, 3)

This was a tough class to judge, however some handlers made some little mistakes such as dropping the lead, not showing the full mouth/ all the teeth or getting in the way of showing the teeth.

1st Melissa Phillips BAH

This handler caught my eye immediately as she entered the ring. Although Melissa is somewhat a 'flashy' handler, she is a sympathetic handler too which means that she does not over handle to the dog. Melissa was another happy, confident and engaging handler who also thanked me after she had completed her pattern work. Throughout the class, Melissa truly got the best out of her dog at all times. This was done by her constant interaction with her CKCS. Presented her dog beautifully both on the floor and on the table. Melissa's teeth work was the best of the day whilst ensuring that I had seen them. Perfect straight lines with good tight corners. Throughout the class and in the challenge Melissa continued to get the best out of her dog.

2nd Charlotte Rivett

This handler presented her dog well throughout the class. Charlotte used the ring to her

advantage with her quick American Cocker. Her table work was good especially when showing the teeth. Good straight lines on the moves, would have liked the corners to be slightly tighter. She was aware of my every step which ensured that she did not come inbetween myself and the dog. Would have preferred Charlotte to have held her lead in her hand rather than have it around her neck.

3rd Ruth Cole

This handler presented her dog well. Used her voice well throughout the class which helped to encourage her dog. Pleasing presentation of the dog. Ruth was another handler who was constantly watching me and noticed when I placed her Golden Retrievers foot wrong. Good tight corners on the triangle but would have liked her lines to be straighter.

31 - 50 years (2, 1)

1st Karen Plummer

This was another handler who said thank you after presenting her dog. Karen was another engaging handler which really showed in her pattern work. She presented her dog to its best throughout the class. Great table work by ensuring I had seen the whole mouth without any of her TT's beard in the way. Used the whole of the ring throughout the class. Good tight, sharp corners with good straight lines.

51+ years (9, 5)

1st Jean Collingborn

At the start of the class, Jean's young Gorden Setter just wanted to play. As the class progressed Jean was able to calm her down and really get the best out of her dog. This was another handler who engaged with her dog throughout the class. She presented her dog beautifully throughout the class and showed the teeth well. Good tight corners on the move with great straight lines. Another handler who was aware of my positioning and was able to ensure she did not come inbetween myself and the dog.

2nd Sheila Lane

Another handler who presented her dog to perfection whilst using her voice throughout the class. Table work was good, showed the teeth well. Sheila did not notice that I had moved her dogs foot on the table which affected her placing. Used the ring well. Good straight lines but would have liked tighter corners.

3rd Shelagh Crowther

A well presented handler who used the ring well. Showed her dogs teeth well but unfortunately had her fingers and the lead in the way so I was unable to see the full mouth. Good straight lines with good tight corners.

4th Mrs S J Young

Judge; Maria Clark