

SWEEPSTAKES

from the judge's point of view

BY LISA PRUKA

It was a great honor to judge sweepstakes at the 2010 National Specialty. This was my third sweepstakes assignment and by far the largest entry. It was fabulous to see so many dogs exhibited. Rather than comment on any particular dogs, other than my Best in Sweeps and Best of Opposite Sex, I am going to make some overall observations.

The entry was fairly consistent. Overall I think that Border Collies have achieved a "look" and regardless of breeding, most fit this look. The dogs all looked great and for the most part were very well behaved. However, a few comments about handling – most people moved their dogs too fast, especially when doing the down and back. This combined with them being in various stages of development and often times over exuberant puppies led to a lot of sidwinding. Sometimes this was corrected when the dog went around, sometimes not. It was often difficult to determine if the movement faults were because of structural faults in the dog or because they were being moved too fast.

I was pretty happy with the condition of most of the dogs but there were more than a handful that were overweight. I only saw one bad bite, but there were several that were bordering on level rather than scissors.

The dog that I awarded Best in Puppy Sweeps was a standout in almost every regard. He was balanced and proportioned, and he had beautiful, effortless movement. He was a stunning blue merle with lovely angles and a nice expression. He had moderate bone and a nice shoulder layback. There were dogs with prettier heads, he had a little too much stop, but overall it was a very pretty

package. His movement put him over the top, however, as he moved with minimal effort around the ring.

Best of Opposite was a more difficult choice as there were two bitches that were quite lovely. My winner was a dark blue bitch who had a pretty, feminine look to her. She was also very balanced with clean movement, with moderate bone and a very pleasing outline. She beat out the cute little blue merle bitch because she was better proportioned and had a nice amount of bone for her size. Her angles were not quite as nice as the male's and this showed in her movement which, while clean and easy, was not as effortless as his.

In the veteran sweeps classes, it was great to see so many older dogs in such great shape. Both winners clearly enjoyed showing and definitely did not look or act their ages. They had clean, effortless movement and given the chance could probably have moved circles around many of the younger dogs! The dog had slightly better angles, but the bitch gave him a run for his money...she moved like a dream.

The working dog sweeps classes were quite small, which is a shame really because it is a chance to recognize our dogs that do what the Border Collie is bred to do. Both of my winners were tricolors who certainly looked like they could work all day. Both seemed comfortable in the breed ring despite the fact that they'd probably rather be out herding sheep!

I really enjoyed judging all of the dogs, and I want to thank all of the handlers for showing them to me. I was pleased to see such a large entry and happy that the various colors were well represented. 🐾



National Specialty 2010

puppy

SWEEPSTAKES

Judge: Lisa Pruka

Best in Puppy Sweepstakes

LOOKOUT SOMETHING'S BREWING WITH REDWOOD

Breeders: Noel D Siel, Scott Fuller and Hunter D Kephart

By CH Agape Rhythm 'N Blues OA OAJ NF - CH Castlewalk Sheena

Owners: SCOTT FULLER AND NOEL SIEH



Best of Opposite Sex to Best in Puppy Sweepstakes

RISING STAR'S DANCIN' IN THE MOONLIGHT

Breeders: Jessica Scavetta and

Lisa Schneider

By CH Jule Too's Legacy Your the Tops HXAs

HIBs - CH Rising Star's Charmed One

Owner: JESSICA SCAVETTA

CLASS RESULTS

6 Months and Under 9 Months, Dogs (8)

- 1 BAYSHORE'S HOT CHOCOLATE AT AVATAR
- 2 SPORTING FIELD'S JUST BY CHANCE
- 3 NORTH WIND'S WHEN YOU BELIEVE
- 4 HILLTOP'S BREAKING DAWN

9 Months and Under 12 Months, Dogs (11)

- 1 AVATAR'S RAM TOUGH OF BAYSHORE
- 2 AVATAR'S ZOOM-ZOOM OF BAYSHORE
- 3 BRITTEMAR'S FINNEGAN BEGIN AGAIN
- 4 HOT SHOT GOLDEN TRADEMARK



12 Months and Under 15 Months, Dogs (2)

- 1 SEABREEZE RIDE OF A LIFETIME
- 2 HOLLOWSHOT FOGGY DEW



15 Months and Under 18 Months (13)

- 1 LOOKOUT SOMETHING'S BREWING WITH REDWOOD
- 2 BORDERPATROL'S OUTBACK ZAK
- 3 ARIEL LINWALD TADC
- 4 CH LACEY CASHIEL EWE GREEN EYED MONSTER EWE



6 Months and Under 9 Months, Bitches (10)

- 1 HARBORMIST SOARING LIKE A HOT SHOT
- 2 SOLARAS-CALLISTA'S SHINING COMPANION
- 3 SPORTING FIELD'S LUCKY PENNY
- 4 BAYSHORE'S CADBURY BUNNY AT AVATAR



9 Months and Under 12 Months, Bitches (15)

- 1 RISING STAR'S DANCIN' IN THE MOONLIGHT
- 2 FALLON CALIENTE'S HOT LITTLE NUMBER
- 3 BAYSHORE LOVE POTION AT AVATAR
- 4 HOT SHOT MAGIC TRICK



12 Months and Under 15 Months, Bitches (6)

- 1 CALLISTA SUMMER NIGHT'S COMPANION
- 2 WAGONS HO TIMELESS MOMENT
- 3 PREMIERE ZEE'S THE ONE
- 4 LITTLE SURE SHOT ANNIE



15 Months and Under 18 Months, Bitches (7)

- 1 WHITE WAGON MAID TO ORDER
- 2 SPORTINGFIELD'S RAMPAGE
- 3 BORDER CITY USA OF SONG YANG
- 4 BORDERPATROL SUMMER SERENADE



All photos on this page