

Critique: Western Australian Golden Retriever Club

September 16th 2017

Judge Kirsten Price Goldsmith NZ

Thank you so much for the invitation to judge your show. I was so well looked after by the hardworking and efficient committee and was very grateful to have been shown around beautiful Perth.

May I commend exhibitors on their presentation and handling which I found to be of a universally high standard however can I make one comment whilst I admire the fitness of many of the handlers it is not a race and a number of dogs were moved at a very fast pace which obscured otherwise good movement. Dogs can move with animation without moving very fast. Heads and toplines were a strengths I found very few dogs with poor heads and most had dark eyes and kindly expressions. Fronts were variable however I saw some excellent ones. Breeding in well laid back shoulders and the correct length and angle of upper arm is one of the challenges of producing quality dogs. I would however like to see shorter well let down hocks on a number of dogs as they were very close when moving away and were not able to drive well from behind. Thank you all for the sporting manner with which you accepted my decisions and your hospitality it was second to none.

Dogs

Baby Puppy Dog - 1 entry

1st

1. Fantango Can't Buy Me Love - P Middleton and J Salvestrin

Good sized mature cream boy almost 6 months of age. Masculine head with a pleasant kindly expression nice dark eye and good pigment. A strong front with a correct lay of shoulder and angle and length of upper arm. Sound well angulated rear with positive movement coming and going. Presented and handled well and showed himself to advantage I will watch his progress with interest.

Minor Puppy Dog - 1 entry

1st

2. Goldbrior Son of the Sky - H Brighton and L Olsen

A solid cream boy with a pleasing head and expression nice dark eye and pigment. He is well angulated in front and this is balanced by a sound well angulated rear. He has a good spring of rib for one so young and strong short couplings which contribute to a strong level topline. He was in good coat and well handled and presented however not as sure of himself as I would like and a little loose in movement due to his age. This will improve with maturity.

Junior dog- 5 entries

1st

6. Ralun Nu Look - R M Pierce

Good sized cream dog with a well angulated front that balanced with an equally well angulated rear. Pleasant head with dark eye and a kindly expression good length of neck which flowed into well laid shoulders and a strong topline. Nice tight cat feet, good bone and with a correct double coat. Very well presented and handled. I would like to see him again when he is fully mature.

2nd

3. Conarhu Meant to be Bwana - F Herrmann

Well up to size gold dog with a very pleasant head and a kindly expression. A straight strong front and adequate lay of shoulder as well as length and angle of upper arm. A strong and level topline, moderate turn of stifle however I would prefer a shorter length of hock. He was an active and powerful level mover with a long and free stride. Presented and handled very well.

3rd

5. Clairedoree Rio Olympia - A. Kumar

Medium sized, short coupled dog with a pleasant head and the required kindly expression. Well balanced with good fore and hind angulation. Level topline and in good correct coat however would prefer stronger bone.

Intermediate Dog - 4 entries

This class all had balanced and well chiselled heads with the required kindly expression however some had fronts that were narrower than the ideal and many lacked the strength in hock to move powerfully with good drive.

1st

11. Waterly Standing Ovation - V. Browne

Cream dog with a pleasant head and kindly expression. He was slightly narrower than ideal in the front however had a good lay of shoulder balanced with the correct length and angle of upper arm. Short coupled with good spring of rib and strong straight topline. Hindquarters well angulated with a strong hock.

2nd

9. Clairedoree Great Scott - A Kumar

Medium sized lighter boned dog. Not as strong and masculine in head as 1st place but still had correct kindly expression. Good level topline and well angulated hindquarters. Out of coat today

3rd

8. Piarki Rocher - E. Hodgson

Very nice head and kindly expression slightly narrow in front and not as well angulated front and rear as 1st and 2nd place. In good coat

State Bred Dog - 2 entries - 1 absent

1st

12. Ch Ralun Extrodinaire - R M Pierce

A quality dog with a well balanced and chiselled head, powerful muzzle and kindly expression. Well angulated front and rear with strong bone and a strong level topline that flowed from neck to tail. Sound coming and going, presented and handled well in good condition and adequate coat.

Australian Bred - 3 entries

1st

35. Ch Fantango Westside Story - J Crawford

Well up to size, strong, deep gold dog who showed lots of animation. A strong but balanced and well chiselled head with a broad powerful muzzle and the required kindly expression. Adequate angles front and rear with strong short couplings, well ribbed up with a deep body and strong level topline. Presented and handled well in excellent coat and condition. In contention for Reserve Dog.

2nd

14. Ch Piarki Cleaver CCD RN - E R Hodgson

A smaller compact deep gold dog with a pleasant kindly expression. Not as well angulated front and rear as 1st place however sound when coming and going. Level topline with short couplings and good spring of rib. Well coated and presented.

3rd

16. Ch Aneiraby Aurora Australis (AI) - C O'Donnell

Smaller mid gold dog who was short coupled and balanced with adequate angulation front and rear. Short hocks which provided strong drive when moving. Not as good coat as 1st and 2nd. Well presented and handled.

Open Dog - 3 entries

A quality class of dogs

1st

19. Sup Ch Chaleur Hilfiger - R Thompson

A well built and beautifully balanced cream dog who is quality from nose to tail. He has a balanced chiselled head with a beautiful soft, kindly expression and a broad skull with a deep and powerful muzzle. Short coupled and well ribbed up with a topline that flows from neck to tail he moves effortlessly with reach and drive. Presented in beautiful condition and showing with animation and enthusiasm. I have seen this dog before and he impressed me then and now that he is at the peak of maturity I couldn't go past him. I was delighted to award him **Best Dog and Best in Show**.

2nd

17. Ch Kavandale Twist n Turn - R M Pierce

Another quality dog who was unlucky to meet 1st place today. A mid sized gold dog who is beautifully balanced with excellent angulation front and rear. Not as compactly built as 1st and giving away some years of maturity but so well put together with a lovely flowing topline. I preferred the strength of head of 1st place and would prefer a softer rounder eye on this dog however on maturity I think he will be very hard to beat. Well presented and beautifully handled. I was pleased to award him **Reserve Dog**.

3rd

18. Ch Dewmist Highway of Hope (imp Sweden) - R Thompson

A quality mid sized cream dog with a well balanced head and expression. Would prefer a slightly stronger muzzle to create a more masculine head. He is balanced fore and aft with a strong topline and adequate angulation. Presented and handled very well he was in excellent coat and condition.

Veteran Dog - 1 entry

1st

20. Ch Hartogold Supernova - J Crawford

Well up to size deep gold dog with a strong masculine head and a soft kindly expression. Strong bone with a deep body, a good spring of rib and short couplings I would however prefer a more level topline with a straighter croup and tailset. He has adequate front angulation and good hind angulation although I would prefer slightly shorter hocks. Beautifully presented and handled and in very good coat and condition.

Bitches

Baby Puppy Bitch - 1 entry

1st

21. Montego Europa at Clairedoree - A Kumar

A pale cream bitch of good size for her age. A pleasant head and expression which will change over the next few months. She is well angulated and short coupled and is true coming and

going although showing the looseness common at this age. Good coat although this is in the process of changing

Junior Bitch - 3 entries

1st

22. Chaleur Say My Name - R Thompson

A feminine, elegant, pale cream quality bitch who is so balanced and beautifully put together with a soft and kindly expression and well balanced head. She has an exceptional front balanced with a correct moderately angled rear. She moves effortlessly with reach and drive covering the ground. She is still young and yet to fully mature however everything is in the right place and I expect her to go from strength to strength. I was delighted to award her **Best Bitch and Reserve in Show**

2nd

24. Shtar Where Bluebirds Fly - H Keeling

An attractive feminine well balanced bitch with pleasing head and expression. Well angulated front and hindquarter which provides drive on the move. Lighter in bone and not in as good a coat as 1st place. Well handled and presented.

3rd

23. Conarhu African Princess

A feminine bitch with a pleasant head and expression. She has a well angulated front but I would prefer more angulation behind to balance her and provide more drive on the move and a more level topline. She was unlucky to be out of coat today and lacked the maturity of 1st and 2nd place

Intermediate Bitch - 2 entries

1st

25. Ralun Made in Gold (AI) - R M Pierce and E Griffiths

A quality bitch with a pleasant head and soft, kindly expression. She is well balanced with good angles in the front and the rear. She has plenty of bone with a strong level top line. In lovely condition, well muscled but a little out of coat today.

2nd

26. Ch Aneiraby it's Electrifying (AI) - C O'Donnell

A well balanced chiselled but still feminine head with a pleasing dark eye that creates a soft kindly expression. Adequate front angles would prefer a greater length of upper arm and shorter hocks to provide more extension on the move.

State Bred Bitch - 5 entries - 1 absent

1st

28. Clairedoree Rio Carnivale

A mature bitch with a pleasant, pretty, feminine, balanced head with a soft and kindly expression. A straight front with well balanced angles in the front and the rear and short coupled with a level topline.

2nd

30. Ch Ralun Just About Me (AI) - R M Pierce

A quality bitch and an animated show girl with good front and hind angles and a strong level top line. I would prefer a stronger head with a more powerful but feminine muzzle. A little lacking in coat today and I feel yet to fully mature.

3rd

31. Ch Aneiraby Diamantina Starr - C O'Donnell

A mature bitch who is in good condition and is sound for her age. She has a feminine head with soft expression and good dark eye. Adequate angles in her front but I would prefer shorter better let down hocks in the rear. Well handled and presented.

Australian Bred Bitch - 3 entries- 2 absent

1st

34. Ch Parkridge It's All About Me - D Turner

A quality bitch with bone and substance. Showed with animation and enthusiasm. Pleasing well balanced and chiselled head with soft and kindly expression. Well angulated and balanced between front and rear. Good spring of rib and strong short couplings. A level topline with a slight drop in croup. In excellent coat and condition and well presented and handled. I liked this bitch very much and she pushed hard for top honours. I was very pleased to award her **Reserve Bitch** and to discover that she was the daughter of the Best in Show winner.

Open Bitch - 3 entries -1 absent

1st

35. Ch Ralun Diamonds R Forever - R M Pierce

Another quality bitch with a well angulated front and matching well angulated hindquarters. She moved with fluidity although had the occasional tendency to lift her front when excited. Showing with an animation that belies her years. Very well handled and presented.

2nd

36. Ch Aneiraby Ohm Can't Resist - C. O'Donnell

An animated medium sized gold bitch who showed to advantage. A nice feminine head and with a soft kindly expression. Well angulated in front with sufficient hind angulation although I would prefer to see shorter hocks. Nice length of neck which flows into a strong level topline. Well handled and presented.

Veteran Bitch - 2 entries

1st

38. Gr Ch Dobro Diamantina - C. O'Donnell

Lovely 13 year old girl presented in great condition who showed with animation and enthusiasm. I was very impressed that she was so sound coming and going. Nice feminine head and kindly expression. Well angulated in front and adequate hind angles. Handled well.

2nd

39. Ch Montego Rambling Rose (IID) - R. Connah

Another lovely veteran girl also in great condition and coat. Good head and kindly expression well angulated in front with a strong level topline. Slightly longer in the hock I preferred the hind angulation of 1st place. Well presented.