

Saturday June 9 Rhodesian Ridgeback Club of Queensland Specialty Show

It was indeed an honour and privilege to judge your Specialty Show. Over all I found the dogs to be of exceptional quality with excellent breed type and soundness. I was extremely pleased with my winners from all classes. It was easy to imagine many of them on the hunt processing the stamina and endurance for a long trailing and tracking of its game over a varied rough and hostile terrain and eventually keeping it at bay or treeing it till the hunter arrived. Barnes and Van Rooyen would have been proud of the specimens I judged today.

Following are some observations of the individual winners. Please remember that they are the humble opinion of one person based on the limited observations in a dog show ring where each dog must be assessed against its competition and how it may have appeared to perform on that day. As I worked on the critiques it became painfully apparent that all the winners could have the same critique which is a positive statement that the winning dogs I judged were very consistent in type, movement and quality. In retrospect I am glad I did not have to comment on the dogs that did not place as the trend would be more to the negative. Many of the dogs who did not place were quality dogs that faced some fierce competition. Some unfortunately did lack correct breed type and soundness. A general comment would be some were too muscular and coarse. Many were out of balance with poor fronts and stronger rears and did not have the effortless movement required and appeared choppy. For the most part the temperaments were excellent on all the dogs.... dignified, confident with correct amount of reserve. All dogs had more than adequate ridges and few dentition problems. All dogs were in excellent athletic condition.

I especially enjoyed judging the property classes, Best Headed dog and bitch, Best Gaited dog and bitch, Best Ridge, Best Footed and Best Brace.

A comment on the sportsmanship of the exhibitors is appropriate. Everyone accepted their wins and losses with grace and humility. It was pleasing to hear genuine congratulations being expressed amongst the exhibitors.

Congratulations to the committee for a well organized event and the awesome hospitality extended to Wendy and I. Thank you also to my steward and writer. Very efficient and professional.

I look forward to my next opportunity to judge in Queensland and visit your beautiful country and people.

Sincerely,

Richard Paquette

Baby Dog

- 1st Very promising typey dog of with glossy coat of rich colour.... good balance and proportion....extremely pleasing expression with beautiful head and very intelligent look. Very well balanced and good moving.
- 2nd A larger type dog who will hopefully mature to not be too coarse. Otherwise a promising dog of good breed type and good muscular appearance....good movement. Excellent temperament.
- 3rd On the day another promising puppy.... a little bit unsure of himself not quite ready for the big ring but very good breed type and movement.

Minor Puppy Dog

- 1st Another promising dog.....exceptional head very good expression proper planes ...good proportions of the head to bodywell proportioned well balancedgood moving dog.
- 2nd Another very promising dogvery rich colour and moving well...good proportion, good balance of bone and substance.

Puppy Dog

- 1st A nice youngster with good breed type. Head could be more in balance with body. Front was not in balance with a stronger rear and movement appeared choppy.

Junior Dog

- 1st Excellent dog...exceptional breed typegood balance and proportion very nice head and expression, sparkling and intelligent. Good moving, strong, athletic and powerful, a bit too heads up at times....just the right balance of muscle and elegance for a young dog.... very handsome dog.
- 2nd Another promising dog....youngster appears a little racy today otherwise has a nice head and expression ...good outline and proportion and movement.
- 3rd Another youngster today appears for his age possibly a little too muscular well boned ...head strong head but could have a slightly more wedge shaped muzzle coming into his skull otherwise handsome dogstrong dog well boned good moving.

Intermediate Dog

- 1st Nice balance of proportion good bone and substance the right amount of muscular and elegancenice head, good planes correct strong slightly wedged muzzle good expression...good moving.
- 2nd A little heavier dog...more bone and substance could possibly be a little less muscular looking otherwise handsome hound very powerful look....a nice head....good moving.

3rd Nice head and expression good balance and proportion could use a stronger front assembly otherwise a nice hound

Aust Bred Dog

1st Good bone and substance good balance and proportion strong head could be a little less strong in the muzzle more wedge shaped otherwise pleasing expression....good moving strong and agile.

2nd Nice breed type.....Good bone and substancegood balance and proportionnice head and expressioncould have a stronger front assembly not in balance with rear.

3rd Handsome dark red hound nice head except bit of a high ear setgood bone and substancenot a substantial dog but a nice balanced dog...very good moving.

Open Dog

1st Very handsome dog, excellent breed type...muscular but elegant....good proportion.... good bone and substance.... very pleasing head and expression... excellent intelligent look....good moving powerful drive....front could be slightly stronger and more in balance to rear. Awesome hound.

2nd Again excellent balance and proportion good bone and substance could have slightly better spring of rib, otherwise an excellent hound good head and expression, good moving.

3rd Another dog of excellent breed type, well balanced dog with good proportion substance handsome hound.

All three dogs were very good moving, powerful and athletic.

Veteran Dog

1st Excellent type, balance and proportion....very good bone and substance right amount of elegance..... good moving.... handsome head with a nice expression

2nd An equally nice hound could be a little stronger in front assembly, not a very big dog but a handsome dog otherwise

Challenge Dog

As stated above in Junior critique...A very handsome Junior dog... excellent condition and weight..... balance and proportion... correct bone and substance... very good moving.... very exquisite head correct, planes excellent expression.... strong powerful dog even though quite a young dog.

Reserve Challenge Dog

Again very powerful strong mature dog... good balance and proportion very expressive head proper planes very good moving good reach and drive very elegant muscular hound. Very deserving.

Baby Puppy Bitch

- 1st Excellent breed type, good bone and substance....beautiful colour, head and expression.... good balance and proportion..... well moving.... very very promising young baby
- 2nd Another nice girl with good breed type, good balance and proportion.... good bone and substance....nice movement... needs a little bit of work on temperament a little bit too aloof today.

Minor Puppy Bitch

- 1st Very nice minor puppy bitch with good balance and proportion.... good bone and substance.... nice expression.... good moving very promising
- 2nd Another nice hound very pretty head and expression could have a shorter coat tends to have that puppy longish hair look otherwise a nice puppy good bone and substance, good moving.
- 3rd By far the best puppy in the class, excellent breed type.... beautiful head and expression... excellent balance and proportion... good bone and substance..... very elegant but muscular.... very pretty expression very intelligent looking but unfortunately she did not perform well today.

Puppy Bitch

- 1st Very nice breed type.....Good balance and proportiongood bone and substanceexcellent glossy coat.....beautiful head and expression good moving
- 2nd Cleangood balance and proportion.... well boned muscular.....head pleasing but could use a nicer eye, a little more round would add to the expression, good moving.
- 3rd A nice promising young doggood balance and proportion...good moving.... could have a darker eye would add to the expression and a stronger head overall.

Junior Bitch

- 1st Very nice breed type....Excellent balance and proportion bone and substance..... very elegant head and expression ...very nice eyes.....ears a little funky at times. Excellent movement.
- 2nd Very well balanced and proportionedgood bone and substance..... a well boned bitch pleasing head and expression could have a little more stop otherwise very nice hound
- 3rd Excellent balance and proportion good bone and substance could have a little more exciting head and expression but a good promising young girl.

Intermediate Bitch

- 1st Striking bitch...amazing breed type....excellent balance and proportion.....elegant, athletic, agile and muscular....beautiful head of correct planes with width and length of head and muzzle all in correct proportion....expressive intelligent expression.....muscular agile body, correct deep chest with clean movement coming and going and effortless good reach and drive on the side gait. Excellent temperament of reserved confidence. Outstanding.

2nd Another beautiful bitch with excellent breed type....excellent proportion...athletic and agile...very pleasing head and animated expression....solid muscular body of correct proportion....moved well....slightly out of balance with stronger rear than front...otherwise an excellent bitch.

3rd A quality bitch....good breed type...nice head and expression...nice balance and proportion...good moving....needs a bit more maturity....deeper chest.

Australian Bred Bitch

1st Strong muscular bitch....good breed type, pleasing head and expression....good moving. Quality bitch.

2nd Striking bitch....Typey....rich red glossy coat....good proportion....nice movement....lots of expression and attitude....head seemed refined...a bit out of balance with body...could also use a bit more stop.

3rd Another typey bitch.....nice head and expression....muscular & athletic....good proportion, bone and substance.... good moving could have a stronger front assembly.

Open Bitch

1st Yet another striking bitch...very typey....excellent proportion....good bone and substancevery powerful muscular but elegant bitch.... pleasing head and expression...quality bitch.

2nd Very elegant typey bitchexcellent balance and proportion..... beautiful head and expression.... good moving could have used herself much better today lacked confidence.

3rd Solid muscular bitch....good balance and proportion.... good bone and substance....head and expression are excellent....could use stronger front assembly.

Veteran Bitch

1st Beautiful balance and proportion excellent bone and substance very well good moving good reach and drive pretty head and expression

2nd Nice balance and proportion very good moving good bone and substance could have a stronger muzzle very nice bitch

Challenge Bitch & Best of Breed Winner

As in the Intermediate critique above.....Excellent balance and proportion ...good bone and substance very good moving powerful agile..... nice head and expression well boned carries it well. I worked the winners hard she was up to the challenge and never tired with amazing stamina. Awesome temperament.

Reserve Challenge Bitch

Good balance and proportion good bone and substance very pleasing head and expression could have a stronger front assembly otherwise an exquisite bitch