



IRISH BOXER DOG CLUB OPEN SHOW

Saturday 18th April 2015

Thoroughly enjoyed my day judging at this friendly well-run show. Although the entry was numerically small (particularly in males), there were some quality dogs and very sporting exhibitors and the sun shone – what more could a judge ask for?

Minor Puppy Dog (2 entries, 1 absentee)

1st – Groves & Hare's Moydrum El Conquistador at Jimbren. Well grown red/white male of 8 months. Crested neck into defined withers, and a balanced outline, although would be further enhanced with slightly heavier bone. Clean head of correct proportions, gorgeous dark eyes with evident chin and teeth of a good size. Best Puppy In Show.

Puppy Dog (no entries)

Junior Dog (no entries)

Maiden Dog (no entries)

Novice Dog (1 entry, absent)

Graduate Dog (2 entries)

1st – Martin's Ballygunnmore Hazel Prince of Carrue. Handsome dark brindle/white. Compact, with square outline and correct turn of stifle. Well balanced head, being clean in skull with good rise, well set ears and a beautiful eye and expression. Well presented.

2nd Dyer's Incognito Menulio Gatve Jun Ch. Masculine red/white with good topline and tailset, but not the hindquarters of the winner. Rather strong in head, but with a well padded muzzle, dark nose with large nostrils and a good mouth.

Limit Dog (2 entries, 1 absentee)

1st – Payne's Willow Frankie Magic Sparkle CJW14 Jun Ch – Alone but deserved his placing. Smart brindle/white boy of correct size with good round bone and substance. Clean crested neck, with a square, balanced outline, short in loin, with excellent layback of shoulder, and well-muscled rear quarters to match. Clean balanced head, devoid of excess wrinkle with well padded muzzle. Reserve best male.

Open Dog (6 entries, 2 absentees)

1st – Carr's Bessbox Top Gun at Boxcatow Jun Ch – Impressive red/white male in excellent hard condition. Medium sized and masculine, but with that discernible quality that comes of harnessing the desired balance of substance to elegance. Flows in outline with a super neck and forehand, strong topline and well angulated hindquarters with the required tuck-up, so important in a boxer silhouette. Typical head with correct muzzle to skull ratios and a good wide mouth. Moved well. Best male and I was interested to learn later that he shares the same sire as the reserve best male – both have a similar stamp.

2nd – Groves and Hare's Jimbren Star Addition – Another quality male, brindle/white, and all boxer. Standing foresquare, on good bone with tight feet. Compact and square in outline, with correct front, depth of brisket to elbow, and well muscled rear quarters with evident second thigh. Lovely balanced head of correct proportions, being clean with good rise and an appealing boxery expression from dark well-shaped eyes. Just preferred the topline on winner.

3rd – Keenan & Griffin's Bessbox Euro Star

Special Open Dog/Bitch (no entries)

Veteran Dog/Bitch (2 entries)

1st – Payne's Ir Ch. My Diamond at Home with Willow – Brindle/white bitch of 8 years in super condition, having retained her lovely shape. In good order throughout, with elegant neck, correct layback of shoulder with evident forechest, good spring of rib and super tight feet. On her toes and giving her all to her handler, thoroughly enjoying her day out.

2nd – Thornton's Duxsara Mini Adventure – Brindle/white male 8 yrs, who is square and balanced, but obviously enjoys his dinners and therefore could not quite match the winners sharp profile. Clean head with good width and depth of muzzle, and typical expression from dark eyes.

Minor Puppy Bitch (1 entry)

1st Magill's Kilmacud Brown Sugar – 7 month old red/white baby. Balanced outline with good topline and tailset and neat tuck-up into well-angulated rear. Pretty head which is still developing and is at a level consistent with her age, with obviously some way to go as yet, but has the most beautiful dark eyes which look at you just right, as only a boxer can. Having initially been very excitable in this class, she settled down and got it together at the end to take best puppy bitch.

Puppy Bitch (1 entry)

1st – Dyer's Zensin Ayami Moon - 9 month old brindle/white bitch. Elegant in profile with super length of neck which she used to good advantage. Happy temperament. Well angulated rear quarters. Topline not as positive as the minor puppy winner and a little light in muzzle.

Junior Bitch (2 entries)

1st – Stewart's Stepvix Eye Candy. Feminine brindle/white bitch, with good neck, topline and quarters, but would benefit from having slightly more bone. Once settled, she moved well on a loose lead. Head still to break as yet, but is clean and just needs time.

2nd – Keenan & Griffin's Bessbox Easy Pickings. Neat, smart and stylish dark brindle/white of lovely make and shape. Square balanced outline with good depth of brisket, correct topline and well angulated quarters. Gave her handler a hard time as she was not a happy girl today. Such a shame.

Maiden Bitch (no entries)

Novice Bitch (1 entry)

1st – Keenan and Griffin's Bessbox Magic Star – Very well put together red/white, who made an immediate impression with her absolutely square outline set off by a super neck. Excellent layback of shoulder on this bitch, with visible forechest, short firm back and well angulated rear with correct turn of stifle and well let down hocks. As her conformation suggested, she moved very well both out and back and in profile. Attractive head which is both balanced and clean with a typical boxery expression. Reserve best bitch.

Graduate Bitch (2 entries)

1st – Payne's Willow Taylor Made Jun Ch – Smart dark brindle/white and another good boxer from this consistent kennel. Good front, being well off for bone with a good topline and tailset. Correctly proportioned head with good balance of muzzle to skull, correct stop and attractive expression. Showed well.

2nd – Groves & Hare's Jimbren Mystery Whisper – 2 yr old brindle/white, soundly constructed, with an elegant neck, good layback of shoulder, straight front and tight feet. Pretty head with evident chin, but just preferred the expression of the winner.

Limit Bitch (4 entries, 2 absentees)

1st – Payne's Willow Stars In Her Eyes Jun Ch. – I found myself completely bowled over by this ultra smart classy brindle/white. Pleasing in so many respects, I found myself smiling as I watched her from across the ring. Beautifully balanced throughout and totally feminine, yet has the required bone and substance I like to see. Super neck flowing into evident withers, with a firm strong topline that she retains on the move. Sweeping tuck up and correct angulations front and rear with well let down hocks. Beautiful head with desired muzzle to skull ratios, wide underjaw with evident chin and good lip placement, complemented by gorgeous dark eyes, all combining to give her the most bewitching of expressions. I just loved her and it was my complete pleasure to award her Best Bitch and Best in Show.

2nd - Caffrey & Smith's Bixmark Who's Ur Paddy JD Jun Ch. Brindle/white with good overall construction, and well angulated rear quarters, which she used to good effect when moving. Feminine head of correct proportions, with visible chin and pleasing expression.

Open Bitch (7 entries, 3 absentees)

1st – Keenan and Griffin's Bessbox Bang Tidy, and

2nd – Carr's Ir Ch. Moydrum Head Of The Class

This was a good class and gave me my biggest headache of the day, with two quality bitches who excelled in different areas, and I found myself having to split hairs and compromise. The winner Bang Tidy presents a balanced outline, with good angulations fore and aft, is well off for bone, with good depth of brisket and feet, but I would prefer her with less length of muzzle, and more tilt to her nose. The second placed bitch Head Of The Class is again short, smart and well constructed, but has a beautiful head and expression, further enhanced by a visible chin and correct lip placement, and although I favoured her more typical head over the winner, I preferred the forechest on Bang Tidy, which just edged it in the end.

3rd – Payne's Willow Wishy Washy

Sarah PORTLOCK - Judge