

Chesapeake Bay Retriever Club Championship Show

31 March 2024
Judge Michael Blay

What a privilege and an absolute pleasure to be asked to judge the club championship show in a breed I've followed and been involved with for forty years. I must congratulate the committee for the smooth running of the show, and the exhibitors for trusting me to assess their dogs and accept my decisions with good grace. On the whole I think the breed is on an upward curve from the last time I judged them. The males have more consistency than before. I also found the coats better than last time (not so much of a variance) and generally all of correct texture and mostly with good undercoats.

PUPPY DOG (3 entries, 0 absent)

1. Mahon-Hunns, Middleton & Haskin - **Susquidilla Bergelle Big Apple** (Imp USA). Lovely start to my day, liked the balance to this young boy, best of heads, broad across the skull with medium stop and good proportions to muzzle, strong neck and good front assembly with good amount of forechest, deep well sprung rib and short muscled loin, correct topline and liked his angles behind, enough muscle for age, found him with super length to coat, a slight wave to it and correct undercoat, straight and true on the move, both coming and going, and also in his side gait, considered him in final line up for RCC, but just needs time to mature up, pleased to give him BP
2. Playle & Thomas – **Riptide Gentlemens Relish**. Good shape on the stack when settled, clean head of good proportion, liked his size for age and when stood slightly more rise over loin than 1 (not incorrect) strong behind and found in good coat, moved ok for his age just preferred the maturity of 1 in the class today.

JUNIOR DOG (2,0)

1. Earle – **Penrose Tay**. Strong headed dog, clean strong neck, straight front legs, but found him slightly upright in shoulder today, good amount of rib, well sprung and deep to elbow, short coupled and good topline with very slight rise from behind his wither to his muscled rear quarters, good undercoat, but today felt he was just lacking topcoat on his sides, moved well and beat 2 on his maturity.
2. Hewitson, Smith & Kroon – **Melseed Monty Harlow**. Third in puppy, sweet headed, good body shape when he settles, shows promise, but lacks the maturity and training at the moment to challenge, found him in good coat.

POST GRADUATE DOG (4,1)

1. Camoccio & Easton – **Chesepi XamazaTowmy**. Heavier set dog than 2, liked his head shape and proportion, good strength to neck, well laid shoulders and good forechest, plenty of heart room in his deep, well sprung ribs, short coupled and good topline, found him in good coat, liked his angles behind, showing more drive than 2 on the move, straight lines on the away and back.
2. Poulton – **Passione Knightpool**. Smaller dog than 1, good overall balance when stood, found him in correct coat, muscled behind, but would like a bit more power to him on the move.

LIMIT DOG (6,0)

1. Broomfield – **Glaneils Count on Me**. Liked this male as he entered the ring, balanced and without any exaggeration, good head shape, clean neck and correct well laid shoulders, good front and plenty of rib, good topline and found him in good coat

today, muscled behind and moved well, effortless with good drive, another who was in consideration in final challenge.

2. Hayes – **Tideflight Floki**. Heavier in head than 1. Liked his overall shape and size, correct coat and strong behind, not as together on the move as 1, but showed enough about him to warrant his 2.

OPEN DOG (3,0)

1. Mahon–Hunns & Newton – **Sh Ch Arnac Bay Huron at Bergelle JW**. All Chessie, super male of correct size and shape, liked his head shape and proportion, broad across skull and with correct muzzle to skull ratio, no coarseness to him, medium length neck, well muscled and leading to well laid shoulders and good front assembly, straight front legs and good feet, good rib and short strong loin, good coat of correct length and texture with correct undercoat, correct topline with slight rise coming from behind the wither to just over the loin, well muscled behind and good turn of stifle, liked his movement and in final challenge had enough about him to take RCC.
2. Murray – **Takota Nathan**. Good head shape to him, found him a little stuffy in neck, good front and correct through rib and loin, good topline, would like a tad more angulation behind, moved well, but just tended to flag his tail.

VETERAN DOG (4,1)

1. Barker – **Sh Ch Next Generations Chesepi Range Rider (Imp USA)**. Lovely shape and size to this brown dog, good head shape, clean strong neck set on well laid shoulders, good amount of forechest and well sprung rib, strong through loin, good topline and well muscle thigh and good angulation and well turned stifle, moved with good amount of drive, found him with correct coat with good undercoat.
2. Camoccio & Easton – **Melseed Benbow Baggins**. Sedge coloured dog whom I liked, but just needed to be handled better to bring out the best of him, good head and strong in neck, correct through shoulder and good shape to body, good angles behind and still well muscled for age, moved well but just preferred drive of 1.

SPECIAL WORKING DOG (2,0)

1. Murch & Mayhew – **Sh Ch Next Generations Arnac Arctic Storm (Imp USA)**. Loved this dog the moment he entered the ring. Super shape to him when relaxed, good head proportions no coarseness about him, strong neck and best of front assemblies, straight front legs and set on good feet, well sprung in rib and good topline with no exaggerations, short strong loin, in best of coats, strong muscled rear quarters with good angulation, powered around the ring and showing good straight lines both going away and coming towards, couldn't deny him the DCC.
2. Bament – **Pixiesrock Maestro Cadenza**. 3rd in a strong limit class. Clean shape and good size to him, good coat but would like a bit more drive to him on the move.

SPECIAL BEGINNERS DOG (2,0)

1. Camoccio & Easton – **Chesepi Xamazatowmy**. 1st in Post Grad
2. Camoccio & Easton – **Melseed Benbow Baggins**. 2nd in Vet

PUPPY BITCH (4,0)

1. Mayhew & Middleton – **Arnac Bay Jellicoe**. Lovely shape to this young bitch once she settled, feminine head of good shape and size, good neck and set on good shoulders, good front and well off for rib for her age, correct length to body and good top line, found her in good coat, moved well showing good drive.

2. Hewitson - **Melseed Don't Stop Believing**. Another good looking girl who will improve with maturity, clean head of good shape and size, strong neck and well placed shoulders, correct front assembly. Enough rib for age and good coat, correct topline and pleasing angles behind, just not the maturity of 1 on the move.

JUNIOR BITCH (3,0)

1. Mayhew & Middleton - **Arnac Bay Jellicoe**. 1st puppy bitch
2. Hewitson - **Melseed Don't Stop Believing**. 2nd puppy bitch

YEARLING BITCH (1,0)

1. Amaira – **Riverrun Gwen** (IKC). Nice head and expression on this bitch, good neck and good through front and rib, correct topline, but on the day thought she was showing too much tuck up in loin, well muscled behind, but on the move she held her head to the floor scenting all the way round, showed enough about her to warrant the class.

POST GRADUATE BITCH (7,1)

1. Broomfield, Broomfield, Mahon-Hunns & Newton – **Glaneils Don't Worry be Happy**. Lovely class, liked this bitch as she entered the ring and didn't disappoint when I got my hands on her, broad head with medium stop and correct proportions, strong in neck and good front, well sprung rib and good brisket, good shape when stood with strong loin and correct level topline, well muscled rear quarters and good turn of stifle, preferred her coat over 2, moved with good drive and in consideration in final challenge.
2. Mayhew & Worrall – **Arnac Bay Inca**. Another of good type, good head and correct front assembly, good amount of rib and topline with a slight rise over her loin (also correct). Preferred coat of 1 today, strong behind and another showing good drive on the move.

LIMIT BITCH (7, 5)

1. Murch – **Pixiesrock Green Kirkle**. Liked the overall shape and substance of this bitch, good head shape without coarseness, strong neck and well laid shoulder, enough forechest and good, well sprung ribs, correct topline and short strong loin, good angles behind and well turned stifle, found her in good coat, moved well with lovely straight lines to and fro.
2. Broomfield, Broomfield, Mahon-Hunns & Newton – **Glaneils Daydream Believer**. Pleasing shape to this bitch, with no exaggerations, good head shape and clean neck, well sprung deep chest and good body shape, liked her rear quarters and found her in good coat, just preferred movement of 1 today.

OPEN BITCH (1,0)

1. Thompson - **Arnac Bay Harvest**. Stood alone in her class, but doesn't detract from her qualities. Nice shape and size when stood, lovely feminine head of good shape and not showing any coarseness to her, strong neck set on well placed shoulders, good front with ample forechest and good deep ribs, correct topline with a rear quarters being slightly higher than her withers, good muscling and enough turn of stifle, found her with good coat, both in length and texture. Sound on the move, strong and straight and true, pleased to award her the RCC.

VETERAN BITCH (8,2)

1. Mayhew - **Sh Ch Arnac Bay Flax**. A hotly contested class, this 11 yr old is just starting to show her age, loved her head and feminine expression, good neck and shoulders, well sprung through rib, good topline which she still holds on the move, well angled behind and in good coat, best mover in the class showing good drive behind.
2. Thompson - **Arnac Bay Gamble**. Another who I like the shape and size of, clean head, good shoulders and correct front, well off for rib and good topline to her, good shape behind moved well just preferred the drive of 1 today.

SPECIAL WORKING BITCH (3,0)

1. Mayhew & Middleton - **Sh Ch/NL/Int Ch Arnac Bay Hebe WGC ShCEx EW22**. Screams Chessie as she walks into the ring, correct shape and size and plenty of substance without being doggy, lovely head, strong neck of good length leading to well placed shoulders and super front assembly, correct through rib and super topline, short strong loin and well muscled rear, loved her angles behind, super coat to her, came alive on the move, full of drive in profile and straight lines both to and fro, couldn't deny her the BCC and to top it off BIS
2. Mayhew - **Arnac Bay Flax**. 1st Vet

SPECIAL BEGINNERS BITCH (2,0)

1. Corcoran & Jones – **Oakmarsh Kingsley Adsila**. 3rd pup/junior, pleasing shape to her, but still a very raw puppy, feminine head although sporting a scar on her ear, enough rib for her age, good topline and coat coming along nicely, liked her movement once she settled down.
2. Amaira – **Riverrun Gwen** (IKC) 1st yearling