

CHESAPEAKE BAY RETRIEVER CLUB OPEN SHOW

Sunday 29 March 2026

It was an absolute pleasure and a real honour to judge the Chesapeake Open Show. My sincere thanks to the committee for inviting me, and to my excellent stewards for their help and support throughout the day. There was lots of quality throughout the classes, making the decisions very enjoyable, and I am grateful to all the exhibitors for accepting my decisions so graciously. Thank you all for making it such a memorable day — the Chesapeake really is a wonderful breed to be around.

1. Puppy Dog Entries: 2 Absentees: 1

1ST Glaneils Enjoy The Silence (Mr D N Rigby)

Happy, confident youngster at the correct stage of development. Strongly boned for age and presented in good condition. Head of good size with clean lips. Well-laid shoulders, with a rib cage showing good depth and spring. Well-turned stifles. Once settled, he moved well, covering the ground with ease. Look forward to following him.

2. Junior Dog Entries: 1 Absentees: 1

3. Yearling Dog Entries: 2 Absentees: 1

1ST Battsrock Smoke On The Water (Mrs D & Mr T Herring)

A very promising young dog whom I really like. Lovely head, with good strength and excellent expression. Well balanced overall and moves very well around the ring, with good reach and drive. Still needs a little more time to develop and mature, but he has plenty to like. I will be very interested to see him again in the future — time will complete the picture.

4. Post Graduate Dog Entries: 1 Absentees: 0

1ST Petros (Imp Ltu) (Mr V R Acheson)

Good overall type, possessing a broad skull, would prefer slightly more length to muzzle, balanced outline throughout. Well off for bone. Strong, muscular neck flowing into well-placed shoulders. Straight front legs and a deep chest with well-sprung ribs. Short, square loin and moderately angulated hindquarters. Moved soundly enough around the ring but would prefer a little more enthusiasm.

5. Limit Dog Entries: 1 Absentees: 0

1ST Gingerfox Curlew at Muireatai (Miss L Murray)

Strong, masculine head with good expression. Good front construction, a pleasing topline and plenty of bone. Moves reasonably well, although I would prefer a little more width through the rear. Coat would benefit from greater density and an oilier texture. A dog with plenty to like.

6. Open Dog Entries: 4 Absentees: 1

1ST Sh Ch/nld Ch Pixiesrock Mr Tumnus by Bleyos JW (Mr G & Mrs T Boyles)

Outstanding masculine dog that presents a balanced and powerful outline, with a strong, well-proportioned head, Strong neck of moderate length flowing smoothly into well-laid shoulders and a firm, level topline. Deep chest with well-sprung ribs carried well back, Straight front supported by strong bone Well-muscled hindquarters with good turn of stifle and strong hocks, enabling him to move with purpose and efficiency. Shown in excellent coat, correct in texture and possessing all the characteristics needed. On the move he was sound and true, covering the ground with ease, displaying good reach in front and strong drive from behind. A quality Chesapeake who impressed throughout the day and was a strong contender for Best in Show.

2ND Riptide Gentlemens Relish (Mr R & Mrs S Playle & Thomas)

Presenting a good outline on the stack with a well-developed head. Good neck into shoulder with decent layback, though not quite the forehand angulation of the winner. Ribs are well sprung. Quarters are correctly made with a moderate bend of stifle, but would prefer a touch more strength behind. Coat of correct texture, Moved okay.

3RD Glaneils Count On Me (Mr S A & Mrs C L Broomfield)

7. Veteran Dog Entries: 2 Absentees: 1

1ST Sh Ch Chesepi Waco (Mr D N Rigby)

RBD. Quality veteran who excels for age. Pleasing head and expression. Well-constructed in front with good length of upper arm, a virtue not always seen in some of the younger exhibits today. Good bone and rib, giving the substance required. Coat in good order for age. Moved soundly with a free, open side gait, covering the ground with ease. A worthy Reserve Best Dog in any company.

8. Good Citizen Dog Scheme Dog Entries: 1 Absentees: 1

9. Special Beginners Dog Entries: 1 Absentees: 1

10. Puppy Bitch Entries: 1 Absentees: 0

1ST Glaneils Echo Beach (Mr S A & Mrs C L Broomfield)

My Best Puppy in Show and a youngster I absolutely loved. She made me smile the moment she entered the ring. Everything is exactly where it should be, presenting a balanced and harmonious outline. She has a gorgeous head with the correct expression and is so well constructed throughout, with excellent proportions and breed type. On the move she is effortless, covering the ground with ease whilst maintaining her shape and topline. A quality puppy with a very bright future ahead of her. She was seriously considered for higher honours today.

11. Junior Bitch Entries: 0 Absentees: 0

12. Yearling Bitch Entries: 2 Absentees: 1

1ST Battsrock Ashes to Ashes for Sharbae (Mrs S Baxandall)

Nice bitch of good overall type. Presents a pleasing head, although I would prefer a slightly stronger muzzle. Front construction is ok, but would benefit from a little more layback of shoulder. Well ribbed with a coat displaying the correct texture and good oily properties. Moved steadily and soundly around the ring.

13. Post Graduate Bitch Entries: 2 Absentees: 0

1ST Battsrock So Fine from Sharbae (Mrs S Baxandall)

Nice bitch with lots to like. She has a clean, feminine head and good front construction with the correct length of upper arm. Well balanced throughout, with a sound rear assembly. She uses herself well on the move, maintaining balance and purpose. Would just like to see a little more body to complete the picture.

2ND Melseed Dont Stop Believing (Mr C Hewitson)

Pleasing headed exhibit. preferred the front construction of the class winner, a little more layback of shoulder and greater length of upper arm would improve overall reach. Good topline with plenty of strength, and a coat displaying the correct breed properties. Moved soundly enough around the ring

14. Limit Bitch Entries: 2 Absentees: 1

1ST Oakmarsh Laurel JW (Mrs L & Mr L & Miss K Blaber)

Feminine head with a good eye and good strength of muzzle. Would prefer a little more layback of shoulder, although she has good length of upper arm. Moved well both ways. Good density to her coat. A pleasing bitch with many good qualities.

15. Open Bitch Entries: 2 Absentees: 0

1ST Glaneils Don't Worry Be Happy (Mrs C & Mr S & Mrs M & Mr J Broomfield & Broomfield & Mahon-Hunns & Newton)

Reserve Best Bitch. Good feminine head with correct proportions. Nice front construction with good length of shoulder and upper arm. Really nice topline, which was held very well on the move. Moved well with good balance. In the final challenge, I just preferred the coat of my overall winner, which gave her the advantage on the day. A very pleasing bitch with many good qualities.

2ND Muireatai Miracle of Dreams (Miss L Murray)

Nicely proportioned head with good breed type. Lovely coat, showing all the desired qualities. For me, she is a little short in leg, which affects the overall balance of the bitch, both standing and on the move. A pleasing bitch with many good qualities.

16. Veteran Bitch

Entries: 4 Absentees: 0

1ST 29 - Sh Ch Arnac Bay Harvest (Mr D & Mrs T Thompson)

Best in Show and, in my eyes, exactly what the breed should be. Presented in fantastic condition and giving a wonderful overall picture of breed type, balance and soundness. She has a strong yet feminine head with beautiful eyes and the correct expression. Her front construction is excellent, with a well-laid shoulder and correct upper arm, allowing for efficient reach. Good spring of rib and a firm, level topline, complemented by balanced rear construction, her coat was of correct texture, with the required oily feel and proper undercoat. On the move she was purposeful and powerful, driving from behind whilst maintaining her balance and outline. A quality Chesapeake who fully deserved her Best in Show

2ND Sh Ch Oakmarsh Dancing Diva VW (Miss C A Pont)

A very pleasing veteran bitch, with many of the same good qualities as my class winner and another fine example for her age. Good breed type, with a lovely head and expression, good bone and substance, and a pleasing overall outline. Good topline and rear construction, with a nice balance and carriage. Very well presented and clearly retaining many of the qualities expected of the breed. In the end, I just preferred the front construction of my class winner, which gave her the advantage on the day. A lovely veteran and a credit to her owner.

3RD Arnac Bay Grebe with Riptide (Mr R & Mrs S Playle & Thomas)

RES Arnac Bay Gamble (Mr D & Mrs T Thompson)

17. Good Citizen Dog Scheme Bitch Entries: 5 Absentees: 2

1ST Battsrock So Fine from Sharbae (Mrs S Baxandall)

Repeat

2ND Battsrock Sweet Child O Mine Wgc (Mrs D & Mr T Herring)

A nice bitch with a good head, pleasing expression and good overall proportions. Good breed type, would prefer a little more length of upper arm to improve the front construction and overall balance. Moved reasonably well both ways. A pleasing bitch.

3RD Oakmarsh Kingsley Adsila (Miss A & Mr S Corcoran & Jones)

18. Special Beginners Bitch Entries: 2 Absentees: 0

1ST Oakmarsh Land of Promise of Roguehart (Mrs A & Mrs N Mellersh-Tett)

A nice feminine bitch with a good head and pleasing proportions. Would prefer a little more bone, although she still has time on her side to develop and mature. Moved well both ways, with good movement and carriage. Would like to see her topline firm up with maturity. A pleasing young bitch with good breed qualities and plenty of time to develop.

19. Brace Entries: 3 Absentees: 0

1ST Arnac Bay Gamble (Mr D & Mrs T Thompson)

2ND Battsrock Ashes to Ashes for Sharbae (Mrs S Baxandall)

Jack Gilder (Mikette)