

Labrador Retriever Club of Ontario
Judge's Critique
August 11, 2013

I would like to thank the Labrador Retriever Club of Ontario for inviting me to judge their Specialty, for the lovely butterfly wind chimes and their hospitality. A special thank you to my ring steward Val Walters for keeping things running smoothly. We were fortunate that there was no rain but it was very hot with little shade for the dogs in the ring. I did my best to keep the dogs cool after their initial go around by having them come into the ring one by one and then back out into the shade.

The overall quality of the dogs was very good. When I stepped into the Specials ring I was extremely impressed. I made the largest cut I have ever made at any Specialty I have judged in the last 20 years. I felt that although I didn't have ribbons for all these dogs they were worthy of honorable mention and on another day could be in the winners circle.

I believe that our breed has improved immensely since we started breeding 40 years ago. Fronts are sounder and length of leg which for a time was too short seems to be returning to correct proportion. Overall coats were not at their best I believe the time of year had a great bearing on this. Weight is coming down which I believe is imperative for the function and well being of the breed. Tail set and carriage have improved as well. I am pleased to say that I didn't have one dog who didn't greet me with a wagging tail and the occasional kiss.

Congratulations to all the breeders who are working so hard to keep our breed true to the standard!

Senior Puppy Male

1- 661 - East Hill Last Call – Chocolate male, pleasing head with proper proportions, good bone, nice tight feet, correct tail set and carriage , not in the best coat today.

12 – 18 Male

1 – 345 - Marsh Ridge Tracker at East Hill - Yellow male, pleasing outline, good fore chest, adequate bone, dark almond eye, good pigment, moved well, proper otter tail well carried, a little throaty for me at this time. My reserve Winners Dog

2 – 126 – Uplands Moonlight Shot – Black male, well balanced, pleasing head with proper shaped eye, good feet, tail carriage higher than I like, not in his best coat today.

Bred by Exhibitor Dog

1 – 333- Casbar Dancin' In The Dark – Yellow male, very animated with a pleasing head, good length of neck flowing into well laid back shoulders with a level top line and good spring of rib, sound mover, not in his best coat today.

Open Black Dog

1 – 344 - Northwoods Heartbreaker of Banner – Black male, nicely balanced, compact with correct angles, good bone and substance, tight feet, moved well coming and going, in good coat with proper otter tail and carriage, my Winners Dog.

2 – 049 - Chinar's Zyr – Compact black male, pleasing expression, good spring of ribs, a bit short in neck, didn't move or carry his tail as well as the winner.

Winners Dog – 344

Reserve Winners Dog – 345

Veteran Dog

1 – 096 – Ch. Tabatha's Renegade CGC TDI, pleasing old black gentleman, in good nick for his age and enjoying his time in the limelight...Woof!! Woof!! Proper head proportions, good length of neck, tight feet, balanced front and rear with correct tail set and carriage.

Junior Puppy Bitch

1 – 104 – Skazka Wintberry Holly – Black female with a pleasing head, dark eye, tight feet, in good coat, good rear angulation with lovely bend of stifle, would have preferred a little more length of leg.

Senior Puppy Bitch

1-046 – Van Dalens Disco Biscuit – Yellow female, well proportioned head with excellent pigment, pleasing eye shape and color, good length of neck, level top line, good bone, tight feet, sound mover. My Reserve Winners Bitch

2- 660 – East Hill Fetch Me My Wine – Black female, a bit finer cast than I would like, pleasing dark eye, nice tight feet, level top line, not in her best coat today.

12- 18 Month Bitch

1 – 659 – Highcaliber Labradale Marynn, Yellow female, with dark eye, good head proportions, lovely fore chest with good shoulder lay back , a bit longer cast, good bone, tail set and carriage, was feeling the heat when she moved.

2 – 654 – Samphire Knight Light , Black female, well balanced with a pleasing head, dark almond eye, good bone, proper turn of stifle, tight feet, not in her best coat today .

Bred By Exhibitor Bitch

1- 127 – Calsam’s Flying Solo at Casbar – Black female, good outline with level top line, good fore chest, balanced rear with correct bend of stifle, correct head but would have preferred a more almond eye, sound mover.

2 - 376 – Mooselake In Motion – Black female, very pleasing outline, would have preferred a little more of her, soft expression with correct dark almond eye, good tail set, moved well, not in her best coat today,

Open Yellow Bitch

1- 725 - Danbrooke Victorian Chantilly – Well balanced yellow female, in good weight and coat, adequate bone, pleasing head with proper proportions, dark almond eye, good shoulder lay back and spring of ribs, tight feet, correct tail set and carriage, nice bend of stifle, moved well coming and going. My Winners Bitch and Best of Winners.

2- 666 – Castlegar Nyroca Le Fromage - Yellow female with pleasing head, with proper proportions and lovely dark pigment, good fore chest, a bit longer cast than the winner, wonderful otter tail, would have preferred a bit less weight on her.

Winners Bitch – 725

Reserve Winners Bitch – 46

Veteran Bitch – 18 – Ch. Mooselake’s Avalon, CDX, CGN, RE, WC, Yellow bitch, in excellent condition for her age. Her head was so soft and appealing with dark almond eyes and proper planes, in good coat, level top line, good tail set and carriage, lots of reach and drive she covered the ring effortlessly. Not just a pretty face judging by the number of working titles after her name. My Best Veteran

Best of Breed – 652 – Ch. Snowden Hill’s As Time Goes By, mature well balanced yellow male, in good coat with proper undercoat, dark almond eye,

correct head proportions, clean shoulders with good layback, good spring of ribs, level top line, good tail set and carriage, sound coming and going.

Best of Opposite Sex – 74 – Ch. Maktawae My Kinda Party, Chocolate female, well balanced, pleasing head with soft expression, good fore chest, level top line, good bend of stifle, adequate coat for time of year, sound coming and going.

Best of Winners - 725

Select Dog – 47 – Ch. Casbar's A Hart Act To Follow, black male, lovely type with a strong profile, stands four square, good head with correct proportions, would like a little darker eye, proper shoulder lay back, tight feet, level top line, good tail set and carriage, effortless reach and drive.

Select Bitch – 662 – Ch. East Hill Little Miss Marker - Black bitch, balanced, pleasing head, dark almond eye, level top line, adequate bone, correct tail set, moved well, not in her best jacket today.

Award of Merit – 732 – Shadowglen Game Point, Black male, lovely type, proper head proportions, would like a larger eye, good shoulder lay back flowing into a level top line, good spring of ribs, good tail set and carriage , one of the best moving dogs in the ring.

Best Veteran – 18

Best Puppy - 46

Thanks for the honour of judging these lovely dogs. I thoroughly enjoyed my day.

Pat Lanctot