

I believe we all deserve T shirts that say "I survived the 2019 Potomac Valley SHOW"! The weather tried to blow us all down the field, created the strangest noises in the strapping of the tents and evidently, the flu virus was in force. I can honestly say that I felt my very best while I had the pleasure of going over your hounds. Endorphins are a wonderful thing! Thanks to the club for helping us with every detail. Ce Hoffman and Lisa McKinney were ever present making sure we were on track and doing well.

Critiques are a curious thing..... some that you read don't seem to say anything while others seem to be hypercritical. Going for the Goldilocks middle here, so that you might understand why, on that day, I chose to put the dogs in that order.

6-9 males

1. #7 Lovely outline, smooth flow of neck into shoulder, best topline in group, and nice amount of bone. Nice expression, good feet.
2. #5 Tall and lanky, this was a hard choice between 1 and 2. He has a bit flatter topline, nice expression, good muscling and feet. His front fill was a bit less than #1
3. #9 The naughtiest of the three, this puppy did not use himself as well in movement. His topline tends to be flat and he did not drive as much from behind.

9-12 males

1. #15 A smaller dog with moderate angulation. Has a more upright shoulder, but uses himself well in movement.
2. #13 Big boned with a nice neck set. Having problems with his rear today. Movement took him to 2nd place.

12-15 males

1. # 21 Tall and rangy, this hound was well muscled and used his rear on side gait. His up and back is still a bit erratic, but improved as he settled.
2. #17 Proportions are balanced. Steeper in croup that results in less drive behind. Nice coat, adequate fill in chest and good condition.

15-18 males

1. #37. Nice scope to this hound's proportions, condition feels very good, coat a bit long. Used himself well in side gait and maintained shape. Elbow hygroma did not interfere with movement. Stacks himself a bit high in the rear, has a nice head with a well rosed ear.
2. #27 Tall and rangy with good length to neck. Good smooth flow into shoulder. Good depth and nice feet. Drops a bit in topline and does not quite show the side gait of the winner.
3. #29 Best coat which is hard and dense. Nice sized dog that was clean but a trifle narrow on up and back. Lots of excellent details including expression and feet. Topline drops off a bit early and that shape held during movement.
4. #25 Least mature of the group, this dog is more moderate in angulation, but very balanced. Great head and expression. His neck flows smoothly into shoulder. Very good condition and coat. More narrow than those in front of him.

Novice males

1. #43. Happiest dog yet! Strong neck , moderate angulation behind, good amount of bone. Has a straighter shoulder than I prefer.
2. #45 Tall, good amount of bone, moderate angulation behind. Rather sloppy in up and back. Did not drive as well in side gait.
3. #39 Moderate angulation and a lighter eye. Has a tendency to hold his topline stiffly during the move. Rise in topline starts a bit early.

Bred By Males

1. #49 Very rangy and raw. Has a greyhound outline with a fairly smooth neck into topline. Upper arm is a bit upright. He has a bit more rear at this stage than front, but uses himself well on the move.
2. #55 Nice scope and proportion. Good shoulder. The rise in the topline comes a bit too early. Not as powerful in side gait. One lower canine within the bite line.

American Bred Males

1. #61 Has a bit more square proportion and is out of coat right now. Strong neck with great muscling. This was a tough choice, but he moved more smoothly and maintained a nice shape in his movement.
2. #63 Good bone and substance, nice male head, good feet and coat. Just not using himself on the go as well.
3. #59 Another dog with good bone and substance. His upper arm and shoulder are too upright for me. Moderate angulation behind and lovely ears. Front feet are too flat and will splay.
4. #65 A smaller dog with a nice shape, medium bone and a good coat. His front and rear angulation are not well matched

Open Males

1. #71 A moderate dog with nice substance and bone. Lovely head and expression, he uses himself very well in movement. He is a bit lacking in tuck up.
2. #67 A nice wheaten with good proportions. He has a bit more backskull and a longer ear. Rear is not as strong, did not drive as well in movement.
3. #73 Not as mature as the other two. Shows promise with good balance. A bit erratic in movement. WIND distorted the rest of comments here.

Winners Dog is # 37 from the 15-18 month class. He kept improving as he moved with an open elastic gait and holding his pleasing shape.

Reserve Winners Dog is # 27 from the 15-18 month class. This dog is a bit extreme, but has all the elements to utilize. He did well on his last go around carrying his large frame with good control and movement.

6-9 month Females

1. #14 a strong group of puppies, this girl showed me the best front. She has a lovely head with a strong upper thigh. She has a slight roll in topline in her movement, but still showed good drive.
2. #10 beautiful head and expression. A pleasing front and good bone.
3. #3 This bitch is a different look mainly because she has a deep dense coat that she is hanging onto. She has good muscle and substance. She was less comfortable at first starting out in a pace. She corrected this on her own and showed a good gait in the end.
4. #8 this littermate to #1 and #2 is the most seductive. Stunning head and ears. I found her front to be set on too far forward which affected her neck set.

9-12 females

1. #30 Red brindle puppy with just enough angulation. Lovely head with small ears, a strong mover, well ribbed back. Good muscling, bone and substance.
2. #34 A dry coated puppy with more moderate angulation, but still exuding strength. Nice muscle and condition. Used herself well on the move, good layback. Would love to see a bit more upper arm.
3. #36. The WIND distorted this recording. Lovely head, neck could be a touch longer. Side gait not quite as smooth as #1 and #2, Good thigh.
4. #32 Another dry coated bitch puppy with not as much curve standing. She is a bit straighter in front but uses herself well beyond her structure.

Veteran Males

1. #81 A big dog who covers a lot of ground, he possesses good muscling and a good shape. He dropped a tiny bit in his topline in movement.
2. #93 Moved easily with freedom of gait. Not quite the scope and shape of the #1 dog.
3. #91 A bit older dog with good shape and size, but not moving as well behind today.
4. #79 Has more moderate size and substance, but used himself well in movement.

Veteran Females

1. #146 Another big shapely hound with good proportions. She uses herself really well. Her jaw is a bit narrow.
2. #166 This red brindle girl was more moderate in size and angulation with a super tight coat. She demonstrated true strength in her rear which showed in a very nice side gait.
3. #150 A bit thick thru the middle, this girl felt really good with nice muscling, but had a harder time in movement.

12-15 month females

1. #48 This youngster has a nice shape with a lot of substance. Though immature, she possesses good muscling. Really nice front with a strong neck. Nice feet and used herself well in movement.
2. #44 Very nice front with a good tie in at neck. Not quite the strength of #1. Good proportions and held her shape in movement.
3. #46 Had less leg and scope of the #2 girl and was a bit flat in topline while moving.

4. #40. Lovely head and a good smooth tie in from neck to topline. She is a bit unbalanced at this moment with more angulation behind. Her topline rises a bit early and that altered her shape on the move.

15-18 month females

1. #62 This exhibit had the best balance in the class with good substance, very good proportions. Used herself well on the move.
2. #66 Good shape and proportion. She did not demonstrate the elasticity of movement that I had hoped for.
3. #68 A more moderate workmanlike dog with good substance. This girl struggled with my approach at first, but settled rather quickly. She had a better layback to shoulder than upper arm and comes at you a touch wide in front.
4. #58 Some of the notes were lost to wind noise here. This exhibit was less mature and a bit less substance to those placed in front of her. She uses herself well in movement and has all the basics.

Novice Females

1. #78 Well balanced moderate bitch with a nice smooth tie in from neck to shoulder. Her croup is a bit steeper than I prefer, but she held a beautiful shape in movement.
2. #74 Good proportions and bone and a strong neck. This girl has a straighter upper arm than #1 and is a bit high in the rear when standing. Her movement was not as smooth as the #1 dog.
3. #76 Lighter build than #2 with less strength in the neck and forequarters. She was a bit erratic in movement, but could have been due to attitude?
4. #70 This was the most mature dog in the class with a nice upper thigh. However, the topline was a bit too arched and she carried it stiffly in movement.

Bred by Females

1. #82 This girl has a lovely shape with clean movement on the up and back and a good side gait. To be critical, she is a tad narrow. She was leaning up against her handler at times, but settled down as she went round.
2. #96 Very strong with nice muscling thru the neck. Good shape. She flips her pasterns a bit on the go round and doesn't have the clean movement of #1.
3. #88 More moderate in size, this girl was clean coming and going. She has a nice shape, but did not drive as well as I expected.
4. #94 Another shapely hound, this girl was more narrow throughout and did not possess the substance of those placed ahead of her.

American Bred Females

1. #112 Nice proportions and balance. I would like a bit more angulation and length to upper arm. She has good muscling and a good tie in from neck to topline. Her movement took her to first place.
2. #106 This lovely bitch feels wonderful. She would benefit from a bit of judicious grooming. Her movement was not quite as smooth as the #1.

3. #102 Strong, a bit more moderate. This girl was a strong mover, but had a squarer proportion than I prefer.
4. #114 This girl is similar in type to #1. Nice shape and proportions. She was very uncomfortable in movement and not tracking as well today.

Open Females

1. #128 A nice front with balance throughout. Cleanest mover and uses herself well. Ears a bit large for her head.
2. #120 Wheaten girl with good size and proportion. A lighter eye. Movement was clean with good drive.
3. #124 Shape and proportions are very good. Did not demonstrate as much drive in movement.
4. #126 This girl has a nice topline and outline, but is a bit narrow and flat sided. Her rear is not as well muscled and she was not showing good drive in movement today.

Winner's Bitch # 82 This girl really settled down and showed herself off in the Winner's class. Excellent balance, held her shape on the move.

Reserve Winner's Bitch #62 I was impressed with her proportions, strength and good layback. Nice expression.

Best Of Breed #97

Tremendous bone while still giving that impression of a giant greyhound. He has matured since I last saw him, but he maintains this great ease in movement. Circumference of hocks is exceptional. And he walks into the ring with "Commanding Appearance".

Best of Opposite Sex #156 Well balanced with good proportions. She has a lovely strong neck with proper tie-in to shoulder. Strong hocks with good drive and a nice topline held in movement.

Best of Winners # 82 Similar in type to the BOS, this girl really held her shape on the final go around.

Select Dog #101 A more moderate dog, he still demonstrates STRENGTH. I would prefer a bit better angulation in front, but he outmoved his structure.

Select Bitch #160 Substantial girl with excellent muscling and strength of neck. Moves out well. This girl could benefit from a bit of grooming to show off her outline and beauty.

Award of Merit - #81

Award of Merit #146

It was a delight to reward these two veteran siblings who showed quality in movement and excellent shape. They both still have EASY and ACTIVE movement.

Best Puppy # 30 This puppy seemed to be at the perfect stage. Moving easily, felt wonderful under my hands with all the details I love.

Best Bred By Exhibitor #82

Best Veteran #81 I was surprised to see that boy just slightly outstride his sister in the final go round.

Stud dog. #99 This male definitely stamped himself onto these progeny which had strong similarities.

Brood Bitch #164 A single entry, but you could definitely see her influence on head, expression and overall outline in her progeny.

Brace #126/67 Both entries were well matched in this class, but this duo had a few moments of synchronicity on the go round that garnered their win.