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CRUFTS 2012 IRISH SETTER BITCHES

I would like to thank all the exhibitors for my beautiful and quality entry of bitches and my two hardworking stewards for keeping me going all day.

I loved my final line up and would have been proud to have owned any one of these lovely girls.

VETERAN BITCH (13, 5 abs)

1. Barker Bell's BALINTYNE HOMEWARD BOUND. Grand old lady. Beautiful head, lovely soft expression. Elegant but with great substance. Terrific ribs and quarters. In full feather. Covered the ground with her head held high and tail lashing.

2. Pollard's GRAYRIGGE MAEVE JW. So typy and balanced, Classic in head. Beautiful neck and shoulders, lovely forehand and sweeping topline. Another very good mover.

3. Waterton's LYNWOOD STRANDS OF SILK AT SANDSTREAM. Completed a great trio of super bitches. Pretty and graceful bitch. Loved her length. Moved with verve on a good stride.

SPECIAL PUPPY BITCH (13, 3 abs)

Mixed bag of babies in all stages of development.

1. Naylor and Morrison's ANLORY LIVING WATER. Not a big one but balanced, everything in proportion and lovely to go over. Built on clean lines. Pretty head and expression. Long neck set into well laid shoulders with a good upper arm. Took a bit of time to settle but moved very well once she did and performed beautifully against the handsome puppy dog to get BPIB. Looking forward to seeing her develop further.

2. Frampton's STRATHMEAD PENNY WHISTLE. Bigger girl all over. Pretty head with good finish to her foreface. Strong and well made with good neck and shoulders. Very good topline and super ribs into firm loin. Wide over the upper thigh. Neat mover. In good coat and condition. Liked her for her shape and substance.

3. Evan's NEATHAMILL NERISSA. Loved this bitch and thought long and hard about making her my winner but she needs to drop into her quarters, which should come with maturity. Beautiful head, soulful eyes. Long ears. Elegant with very good forehand. Excellent depth and length to her ribs. Carried herself well round the ring. Loved her style.

SPECIAL JUNIOR BITCH (19, 1 abs)

1. Heron's CASKEYS DELPHINE. This youngster has the most gorgeous head and expression, just melts you looking at her. Ultra feminine. Beautiful neck and the best and

cleanest of forehands. Though I prefer my bitches longer she is perfectly in proportion. In good hard condition and lovely coat. Moved very well.

2. Danks-Kemish ALOFRAN COPACABANA. Again not a big girl. Very pretty head and oh so cute.. Loved her shape. Racy with a super topline and very good finish to her croup. In beautiful dark coat. Moved well. One to watch for me.

3. Drinkwater's BRABROOK SHE'S ALL STYLE. Of different type to the two above and lighter in coat but a very good youngster. Well made with grand substance. Her movement did it for me. Eyecatching and sound. She carried herself so well.

YEARLING BITCH (27, 1abs)

1. Herons's CASKEYS DELPHINE

2. Kolbach's COPPER'S WINE AND ROSES. Striking bitch. Loved her length and shape. Very good topline and finish to her croup. Super ribs and quarters. Well coated and in hard condition. Great stride around the ring and sound fore and aft. Difficult decision between the two but Delphine's more beautiful head and cleaner shoulder was the deciding factor.

3. Pollard's GRAYRIGGE BEATRICE JW. Unlucky to come up against the first two bitches but another beautiful girl. This breeder has such a lovely rugged type of bitch. Very pretty and feminine lady with a gorgeous head. Good substance and lovely length. Beautiful quality and depth of coat. Movement was good and positive.

UNDERGRADUATE BITCH (16, 0 abs)

1. Mutch's ASTLEYVIEW SUMMER FOX. Reserve in the strong Yearling class. Compact and well balanced bitch built on clean lines. Pretty head and expression with good finish to her foreface. Long neck set smoothly into her shoulders. Strong topline. Well ribbed with good forehead. Moved steadily. Her elegance and substance won her this class.

2. Danks- Kemish's ALOFRAN COPACABANA.

3. Leach's IRISHPEARL OF THE TRAVLIN STAR. Beautiful head on this bitch, reminiscent of her sire. Elegant in make and shape with lovely reach. Not the body development of the two above her at present but beautifully balanced. Rugged coat of good texture. Look forward to seeing her in a year or two when she matures.

GRADUATE BITCH (15, 5 abs)

Quality class.

1. Muir's ROMARNE SAVANNAH JW. Exciting, personality, quality young lady, catches your eye and holds it. Quizzical and soft in expression but with a naughty glint in her eye.....oh so Irish. Very well made. Loved her head, finish to her muzzle and earset. Arched behind the neck and clean over the shoulder. Great bone, she stood on lovely feet. Super in topline with good finish to her quarters. Well ribbed back and in hard condition. Coat of good quality and colour and ample feathering. To top it all she moved soundly with great

freedom and style. Irrisistable she reminds me of dark chocolate.and so much more to come. My RCC on the day..

2. Sturrock's FORFARIAN CAUGHT YOU LOOKING JW. Have long admired this bitch and was so pleased to have her here today. Not as feminine in head as the first but such a lovely girl. Clean and elegant but with substance. Super topline and tailset. Strong, wide quarters which she used to cover the ground so well. Great deportment and very eye catching on the move.

3. Pollard's GRAYRIGGE ROSALIND JW. Completed a lovely trio of young bitches who should all have a great future. Beautiful head with such a gentle expression. Good forehead. Great substance. Strong topline and quarters. In super coat of very good depth and texture. Another with a great stride. Yummy.

POSTGRADUATE BITCH (21, 7 abs)

The classes just kept getting better and many very good bitches went cardless here.

1. Elkins' AVACET SNOWBIRD. Bigger bitch than I would normally go for but on top form today. Such substance and reach, standing over plenty of ground. Beautiful head with an endearing expression. Well laid in shoulder with a long shoulder blade and very good upper arm. Great depth and length to her ribs. Wide thigh and strong hocks. In lovely coat and condition. Grand mover.

2. Weller's SUTERESETT WISPA AT JULDEANE JW. Lovely bitch of different type. Smaller and more compact but the substance and proportion was all there. Dark coated and clean in make and shape. Oh so pretty with good balance and finish to her foreface. Flowed over the neck and shoulder. Wide over the thigh. Sound mover carried herself very well.

3. King's KIRKAVAGH EBADIYLA JW. Well made, unexaggerated and honest bitch with good balance and substance. Lovely topline from her strong neck to her very good croup and tailset catches your eye. In super coat and condition and beautifully presented, as always from this exhibitor. Moved well on a good stride.

MID LIMIT BITCH (14, 4 abs)

1. Lohkamp-Sommer's COPPER'S BUBBLE OF JOY. Slashing, racy bitch in beautiful condition. So pretty in her expression. She just flowed to her good croup and tailset. Strong quarters and defined hocks. Good ribs. Liked her length and balance. Great wealth texture and richness of coat. Carried herself so well and stormed round the ring on a long stride.

2. Waterton's LYNWOOD KISSED BY AN ANGEL AT SANDSTREAM JW SHCM. Very pretty and feminine bitch of similar length and lovely type. Another one with a good croup and wide quarters. Well ribbed and strong in loin. In lovely coat and condition. Good mover covered the ground well.

3. Van Der Valk's RISE AND SHINE OF THE RED EMPIRE. Different type of bitch and more compact. Not quite as feminine as the two above but a good head and expression. Extremely well made with a very good forehead. Everything fits together and

flows so well on this bitch. Great quarters which she used extremely well. In excellent coat and hard condition.

LIMIT BITCH (16, 5 abs)

1. Ostman's COPPER'S UNDER MY UMBRELLA. This was my heartache of the day. I adore this bitch but she was not handled by her owner and her handler made no attempt to present her as she should have been presented in this strong competition. Racy and oh so typy with the most delicious head. Elegant but with substance. Stands over plenty of ground and sits so well on her neat little hocks. Lovely topline croup and quarters. She moved soundly with her head high and her tail lashing. Coat of good depth and quality cried out for a brush through it.

2. Mugford's LYNWOOD STARTED WITH A KISS JW. Beautiful bitch presented in full coat and lovely condition. Ultra feminine with elegance and substance. Loved her length, her strong ribs and her very good tailset and quarters. Covered the ground extremely well. Will surely make up. This was not an easy decision but the exquisite head and more positive forehand of Under my Umbrella won her the class....but only just.

3. Hunter and Brown's BRAIDMOUNT MIDNIGHT LADY JW. Striking and typy, built on stronger lines. Not quite as feminine in expression as the two above but a lovely bitch. Very good bone and substance. Great forehand with a well laid shoulder and upper arm.. Firm and flowing topline. Correct tailset, well muscled quarters with defined hocks. Moved on a long stride. In beautiful lush coat and condition. Completed a trio of lovely bitches with good ones behind her.

OPEN BITCH (16, 4 abs)

1. Backman's COPPER'S MAGICAL BUBBLE. My star. Not big, not over coated, not exaggerated in any way but oh so well constructed. She oozes quality. Lovely and feminine in head with a beautiful arch to her elegant neck and the best of shoulders. Well angulated in shoulder blade and upper arm with plenty of sternum. She stands on the neatest front legs and feet. Super rib, arched loin and excellent croup. Well proportioned in her hind quarters. Loved her coat which was of good texture and quality. She moved round the ring as if she owned it with her head high, her tail lashing and in the challenge for BOB did everything that was asked of her and stepped up a gear to match the dog stride for stride. Easy to see why she was Top Irish Setter in Sweden the year before. So pleased and proud to award her the CC.

2. Hall's ShCh GLENNARA LEHANA JW SHCM. Surprised myself with this bitch and very pleased to have done so. Bigger and standing over more ground than the winner but what a lovely lady. Feminine in head and expression. Super topline and length to her croup with a good tailset. Well ribbed back and arched in loin. Wide hindquarters which she used to advantage round the ring. The whole picture finished off with a beautiful coat. Sadly was unsettled in the challenge as she was most definitely considered for the RCC.

3. Hinslea's ShCh NORTHAMBER CAUSIN A RIOT JW Another lovely bitch of different type but great length. Not as feminine in expression as the two above and lost her topline slightly in the final challenge. Elegant over the neck and shoulder. Good ribs and excellent hindquarters. Presented in super coat and condition and boy can she move! Sound as a bell

she absolutely flew round that ring on a long and measured stride. This was a good class with very good bitches behind her.

SPECIAL WORKING GUNDOG (3, 1 abs)

1. Kolbach's Int Mult iCh COPPER'S MUSIC AND PAWS. Big girl but very well made, typy, with great substance but elegant nevertheless. Pretty and well balanced head. Long neck, very good topline and tailset. Powerful, well muscled hindquarters. Another very good mover from this breeder.

2. Duhant's Bel Luxe Ch IDGIE OF MCBIRDY. Smaller and more compact bitch of different type. Smooth and dark coated. Went well.

GOOD CITIZEN DOG SCHEME (16, 6 abs)

1. Roberts' LYNWOOD THEME SONG FOR POLMENNOR. Pretty and typy lady. Elegant and racy with good substance. Clean neck and shoulder. Firm topline and good tailset.

Good mover with a nice ground covering action.

2. Williamson's CASKEYS VERMILION AT BLUESPRINGS. Honest bitch of good conformation. Very pretty head and expression. Strong, clean topline and good tailset. Presented in hard condition. Steady mover.

3. Fox' SATLAS BLEAU EYES. Was 5th in the Veteran class. pretty and substantial bitch with great ribs and quarters. Not the tailset of the two above and would have preferred more angulation in forehand. Moved ok.

Eva Ciechonska