

## Critique – Silken Windhound National Specialty

Sunday Aug 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Codrington, Ont

Judge Mrs. Tina Gibson

It was a pleasure to judge this Silken Windhound National Show in Codrington. I want to thank Michelle Fink for inviting me to judge these wonderful dogs. I would also like to thank the breeders and exhibitors for bringing me your wonderful dogs to be evaluated by me.

In judging it is important to look for correct temperament, breed type, structure and movement. To examine for correct head, ears, teeth, coat, and body proportions. During the movement during the down and back (going and coming) that I checked to see if feet traveled close to the ground and converged toward a centerline as indicated in the Breed Standard. I also looked for dogs that moved smoothly, were balanced and showed good reach and drive.

In summary, the breed is in good shape but an area that could use some attention is teeth. So many young dogs had a lot of tart build up and taking care of these will help. You don't want to see teeth missing or getting infected and a dog getting sick from a tooth infection. Overall, the down and back revealed that some had correct shoulders with good lay- in and lay-back but also had short upper arms which affected their reach and movement. The overall quality of the entry was good and demonstrates that the breed is improving. There were many deserving dogs.



**Best of Breed #26 Moonbeam** – this bitch was an exceptional – medium in size with good proportions, moderate coat. Her ears are small and folded, shoulders well laid back with excellent reach and drive. Side gait she floated around the ring.



**Best of Opposite Sex & Best Stud Dog #19 Davey** - A medium size animal with good proportions, eyes that are large, dark, almond-shaped with ears that are small and folded, head chiseled, nose dark, correct feet and jaws that are strong, shoulders well laid back, good reach and drive. Lovely temperament. Also Stud Dog and the temperament and wonderful side gait is very clear in his kids.



**Best of Winners & Best Canadian Bred & Winner Bitch #10 Trixie** - This was another standout. A medium size body, good proportions, moderate coat, eyes that are large, dark and almond shaped. Ears are small and folded, head chiseled, nose dark, with correct feet and jaws that are strong, shoulders well laid back, good reach, smooth motion and good drive from rear. Wonderful temperament and floated around the ring.



**Award of Merit & Best Veteran #24** – a good healthy girl with wonderful temperament and still very good reach and drive for her age. She kept up with the group very effortlessly.



**Best Puppy #5 – Munca** – a promising young dog, with good proportions, moderate coat, and very loving eyes.



**Winners Dog & Best American Bred #11 Shane** – a dog with good proportions, lovely coat & good shoulders and loads of side gait.



**Best Bred by Exhibitor #20 Halo** - another stands out bitch that is medium in size with good body proportions, chiseled head, eyes that are large, dark and almond-shaped. Her ears small and folded, nose that was dark, good pigment, correct feet, jaws were strong, shoulders well laid back, good drive from rear and wonderful side gait.

**Best Brace #20 Halo & #10 Trixie** - A well matched, well-moving team with good proportions, proper eyes, ears, heads and coats, good front angles and drive from rear. Best of Winners #10 Trixie