**Southern Afghan Club**

**Open Show Sunday 2nd July 2023**

It was a huge honour to be asked to judge the Southern Afghan Club breed show in the lovely setting of Windsor Home Park. I had a fabulous day and would like to thank the officers, committee, exhibitors, and stewards for making it even more special at this well organised and run show. Thank you for such a lovely entry of beautiful hounds which made some of the placings very close.

I thought fair few tails were not as good as they used to be in the breed and a couple of exhibits would benefit from some dental care. I had a lot of youngsters that I really liked that were up against older exhibits and the coming together of muscle, bone and maturity took the edge, but I think these younger ones have a good career ahead of them. Lovely to see so many wonderful beards.

Congratulations to all my placings, especially my main winners who did not disappoint on the day.

**Dogs**

**VD: 1** **(0 absent)**

**Latimer, Ch Jeremiah De Koulangar At Zahrook JW (IMP France)**

8-year-old that stood alone but certainly did not disappoint. Masculine head, good ear set with beautiful long ears and a lovely long traditional beard. Long neck onto well laid shoulders. Deep chest, well sprung ribs. Well coupled with a solid core that led into a good slope away and tail set, Sweeping, well-muscled stifles and huge dinner plate feet. Holds his topline to complete a well-balanced mature boy. A happy boy that moved effortlessly and with grace, a lovely gait that swallowed up the ground, lovely tail carriage with a nice ring. Well-handled and presented with his fabulous coat. A pleasure to give him **Best Veteran and Reserve Best dog.**

**MP: No Entries**

**PD: 4 (0 absent)**

1. **Lees- Altside Michah Hot Prophet.** Self-masked cream with a lovely head, good eye and dark pigment. A well-balanced boy with very good angles, beautiful long strong neck, Good return of upper arm, plenty of spring of rib and nice sloping fall away with a nicely set tail. Moved steady and covered the ground with ease. Very well handled, they made a good team in this class. One to watch in the future. Well-deserved **Best Puppy dog and Reserve Best Puppy in Show**.
2. **Heritage-** **Jazzmeenah Rohan Blaze**. Gold boy, who took my eye when he entered the ring. Nice head with a lovely expression and deep dark eyes. Long neck into a good shoulder and front assembly. Level top line. Good bend of stifle. Stood solid on his feet. Lovely presentation, he was just not so happy to be here today which showed on the move and gave 1 the edge.
3. **Harwood**- **Altside Too Hot to Handle**.

**JD:3 (1 absent)**

1. **Gunn – Katanga’s God Of Thunder.** Black and cream boy with a strong head and a silky topknot, long neck, a good chest and lovely big feet. Level topline and nice rear quarters. Moved soundly. Lovely silky coat, well groomed and handler gave lots of encouragement**.**
2. **Gunns- Katana’s God of Mischief.** Black and cream litter brother to 1 and they certainly are two peas in a pod. This boy was equally as nice in all the same attributes, I just preferred the movement of 1 on the day but again very well presented with what looks like a demanding coat and sympathetically handled.

**YD: No Entries**

**ND: 1 (0 absent)**

**Holder – Zendushkas Rolling Stone At Farakushk.** Gold youngsterfrom my puppy class that has a nice head with a good eye, long neck, and level topline and ring tail. Nice outline when settled on the stack. He was not too happy on the move today, but I believe that maturity will bring him along nicely. Very well handled. I think they will make a good team in time.

**GD: 1 (0 absent)**

1. **Peek-Matar – Yansukhims Sherbert Fizz.** A Blue/ Black with a strong masculine head, good eye and a lovely beard. Long. Strong neck, well laid shoulder and deep chest. Slightly longer coupling into a gentle fall away, nice bend of stifle and he moved nice and steady for me today.

**PGD: 2 (2 absent)**

**LD:7 (3 absent)**

1. **Mclay- Cloudside Sunking.** Shaded masked gold in beautiful coat and condition. Lovely classic head with a true arrogant expression. Another hound with a lovely long beard completing the eastern expression. Long neck onto good lay of shoulder. Level topline, correct bend of stifle. Strong on the hock and nice big feet. Great tail which was held nicely on the move. Covered the ground elegantly and with ease in his class. I really like this boy and considered him highly for top honours.
2. **Reed – Clouside Sunstrike**. A Brindle brother to 1 and pushed hard for the top spot. His head is slighter stronger than his brother and still carrying that lovely beard. Long neck, well placed shoulders. Good spring of rib and angles. Lovely tail and moved with purpose and ease. Well presented and handled.
3. **Parsons- Joneca Fire Cracker By Shukriya JW.**

**OD:3 (1 absent)**

1. **Gardner- Ch Drishaun Said Tiger To Lily.** A stunning brindle that commanded the ring as soon as he walked in. Lovely head with a nice dark eye of correct shape, good amount of stop, lovely chiselling, powerful jaw finished with a beautiful beard. Long silky top knot over a great ear set with lovely long feathering. his Long neck descends into well laid shoulders, lovely depth of chest, Good return of upper arm down into well laid pasterns and big feet. Level topline onto a flowing fall away with a lovely tail set leading to a ring. Wonderful spring of rib. Great hind quarters. Well-muscled, balanced and in first class condition throughout. Moved with power, drive and ease. Covered the ground with correct gait coupled with pleasing head and tail carriage. Immaculately presented and very well handled. A pleasure to go over this boy and he certainly did not disappoint. I had great pleasure in awarding him **Best Dog and Best in show.**
2. **Gosling- CH Ayoubkhan Silk Road JW.** Self-masked cream of just 2 years old that I have wanted to see since his debut, and I am so pleased to have finally had that pleasure. His presence was larger than life as soon as he walked in. Another very well-balanced boy who is related to my winner. Lovely, refined head with dark pigment and pleasing chiselling. Long neck, Good shoulders and return of upper arm, deep chest and well sprung rib. Level toppline onto a nice croup and beautiful ring tail. Correct bend of stifle and four big solid feet that stood strong on the ground. Moved with a commanding stride and ease. A very difficult decision but today the maturity of 1 won me over but this guy has long career in front of him.

**Bitches**

**VB:4 (0 absent)**

1. **Gunn & Cannon- Int/Lux Ch Amal Salang Hey I’m The Star At Zushkhan (imp).** This was a lovely class, and this black girl stole the show for me. Lovely feminine yet powerful head. Long neck into well laid shoulders, great return of upper arm and deep chest. Level top line with nice tail set and beautiful sweeping rear angles. Moved with spring, drive and purpose. A well-balanced girl with an eye-catching outline, beautifully presented and handled. Was very happy to give her **Reserve best bitch** today**.**
2. **Link- Ch/Ir/Ned/Int Ch Popovs Bora Bora At Orashan JW ( Imp NLD)** I have had the pleasure of awarding top places to this lovely girl in her younger days and so pleased to see she still has all her wonderful attributes. Lovely feminine head. Long neck. Level top line. Deep chest and good return of upper arm. Lovely bend of stifle. Beautiful on the stack just did not move as well as 1 today. Lovely big coat which was well presented.
3. **Peek-Matar- Sleepy Hollow At Yansukhim (Imp) JW ShCM.**

**MPB: 1 (0 absent)**

1. **Rhodes- Alaqadar Ariodante Of Shadowfax (Imp) NAF TAF.** Black and silver girl just 7 months old. A very promising young girl that came over as being very together for such a young age. Lovely head full of monkey whiskers. Long neck. Good shoulders and depth of chest. Well balanced, level top line. Nicely angulated rear end and a lovely ring tail correctly set. She stood firm and proud. Moved with good drive and covered the ground soundly. She took the day in her stride and was well handled and lovely presentation. **Best puppy bitch** and took **Best puppy in show** as I just preferred her tail.

**PB:2 (1 absent)**

1. **Rhodes- Alaqadar Ariodante Of Shadowfax (Imp) NAF TAF.**

**JB:2 (0 absent)**

1. **Lawson-Ball – Sitana Mystique At Zarcar.** Shaded masked gold with a lovely head and eye. Long neck, well laid shoulders and good upper arm. Deep chest and in good body. A balanced girl with a level topline with a well-set ring tail and good bend of stifle. She stood firm and moved really well with a lovely springy gait.
2. **Latimer, Latimer, Gorman & Gorman - Sitana Moon Star At Zharook.** Another lovely gold girl that is litter sister to 1. Classic looking girl with a lovely head and pleasing expression. Again, a very balanced girl with well laid shoulders. Level top line, good bend of stifle and a well-set ringed tail. She just did not want to move for me today which was a shame but no doubt both girls will go far.

**YB:2 (0 absent) Same as Junior Bitch.**

**NB:0**

**GB:2 (0 absent)**

1. **Allan- Ayoubkhan Magnolia At Kabella.** A striking self-masked cream with wonderful dark pigmentation. Nice balanced head with good stop. Long neck, good shoulders and return of upper arm. Level topline and good bend of stifle. In good coat with a lovely saddle. Lovely movement once settled and with a little maturity I think she will come into her own. I really liked this girl.
2. **Hirst- Ayoubkhan Snow Cloud.** Self-masked cream litter sister to 1 and again there was a lot to like about this girl. She has a very classic look and coat pattern and carried all the attributes of her sister and again once settled into the move she covered the ground well. I just preferred the pigment of 1 today.

**PGB:7 (2 absent)**

1. **Fisher- Shimalma Campari Goes To Ifmaraf.** Classic shaded masked cream. Beautiful feminine head and eastern expression. long neck. Nice deep chest, good shoulders, level topline and a good tail set, nicely proportioned front and aft angles. Moved steady and with grace whilst covering the ground. She carries a beautiful well-maintained coat.
2. **Kirk-** **Geordele Time To Shine At Istani JW.** Black & Tan with a lovely outline. Long neck onto good shoulders and return of upper arm. Well bodied with a nice tail set and carriage. Moved well and covered the ground with ease. Well groomed and handled. I just preferred the head on my 1st placing today.
3. **Turner, Boydell & Hutton- Nightwind Youre My Kind Of Crazy.**

**LB:0**

**OB:2 (0 absent)**

1. **O’Donnell- Ch Drishaun Faith Is Like A Lily For Javidan.** Brindle bitch and another stunner from this litter. I loved everything about her as I did her litter brother. Beautiful feminine head with great eye shape. Punishing jaw with yet another beautiful beard. Long neck. Well laid shoulders, great return of upper arm. Deep chest, excellent spring of rib. Nicely coupled and very well-muscled. Lovely smooth fall away and tail correctly set. Well laid pasterns and moved with great style and grace. Holds her outline perfectly on the stack. She is also in tip top condition displaying a lovely coat that is maintained to the highest order and handled in a perfect partnership. I was super honoured to be able to give her **Best Bitch** and **Reserve Best in Show**. She pushed her brother hard and could have easily swapped places.
2. **Turner, Boydell & Hutton- Nightwind Youre My Kind Of Crazy.** A very nice black girl that was in the previous class. Lovely outline and a well-balanced girl that moves really well. Long neck, good deep chest and lovely spring of rib. Nice for and aft angles. She is in lovely coat and was very well handled.

**Judge: Liz Williams**