

Judges Report -Southern Region Show 18.02.2018

Judges - Stephen Helmore

Once again, we were fortunate with the weather and I had a straight forward journey to Chieveley. I was pleasantly surprised with the entry of 40 standards and 40 mutations to judge.

After colour phasing the standard chins we started with a class of 3 medium dark young standard females. 1st ribbon went to Andrew Lee's good chin with a strong silky upright fur and good colour. She progressed to become our Best Young female and Reserve Best Young Standard. 3rd ribbon went to Dave Green's very large 5 month old chin that was down in colour with a courser fur type.

1st and 2nd ribbons were awarded to Carly and Craig Donkersley in the medium class of 9. Both born on the 13.08.17 were very similar and not much to choose between them, the 1st had better size and conformation and in the better condition although 2nd had slightly bluer colour, both having a soft fur type. The 3rd from Andrew had a stronger fur type but was down in colour to the top 2.

After selection of Andrew's Best young female we moved onto a class of 4 medium young males. A 2nd ribbon award to Heather Boncey's chin. Similar in type to the young medium females he wasn't as bright and out of condition. We then had 2 medium darks and 2 Darks. A 2nd for Andrew's medium dark which was clear but not bright in colour and his conformation was let down by being a little narrow across the shoulders. A very nice young dark chin from Carly and Craig was bright with a good plushy fur type and good veiling was the stand out youngster not only becoming Best young male but also Best young Standard.

A class of 8 medium dark adult standard females had full set of 1st 2nd 3rd and 2 HC's. 1st and 3rd to Heather with 2 good bright coloured chins but with open and less dense fur than that of Andrew's 2nd which had a very good strong dense plushy fur that was a grade down on the colour of Heather's 2. A 1st for Heather's medium with good bright colour and a silky but open fur type that was slightly on the small side. In contrast to Carly and Craig's large and weighty chin with reasonably plushy fur but down in colour to the 1st. Heather also had a 1st ribbon winner in the dark class which was the best of the group, a really strong silky stand up fur, slightly open but good colour and very good blocky conformation she not only became our best adult female but reserve best standard and our reserve show champion.

Only 5 adult males. 2 medium darks didn't receive awards, the 2 darks had a 1st and 2nd with 1st going to Carly and Craig for a really dense, plushy furred chin, excellent veiling coming right down over the sides with good conformation and reasonable colour. 2nd from Andrew had brighter colour and a silky fur type but his conformation let him down with narrow shoulders and a poor neck. I had a Novice entry from Eliza Snaden also a dark standard which was a really good chin with good size and conformation, plushy strong fur type, colour was just down to the main show 2. Carly and Craig's male became Best adult male but also went on to be Best Adult Standard and ultimately Show Champion with Eliza's male being the reserve adult male.

After a filling lunch prepared by Leo who 'manned' the kitchen throughout the day, we moved onto the mutation colours.

Firstly, a PM class of 2 non owner bred chins both brought by Eliza. An Angorra self-black that was a robust looking chin with good size and conformation. It had a good appearance with longer even length fur that was quite soft in strength. The self black colour didn't demonstrate a wrap around colour and I awarded it a 3rd ribbon. The second chin that had a 2nd ribbon was a pink white that had a reasonably strong fur type with good size and conformation, the pink white colour was acceptable but just a bit too creamy.

The class of 3 young Wilson whites had a 1st and 2nd for Heather. Both very large chins for 5 1/2 months with loads of good length fur that was neither exceptionally silky or dense but still looked very nice. The 1st was the clearer coloured of the 2. We also had a Novice white from Collette Harris that received a 3rd ribbon, a reasonable chin, colour a bit creamy with fur that was weaker and open. A chin that needs to be bred to a good standard rather than other colours.

A class of 5 Sullivan violets were disappointing being small and lacking conformation. Best award a 3rd going to Carly & Craig's chin that had a reasonably strong fur and clear colour. The AOC class had 2 Black velvets with 1st to Andrew's 5mth that had reasonably good veiling coverage with strong silky fur having the edge over Lorraine Prince's 4 1/2mth chin that had brighter colour but not the coverage of the 1st. Andrew had a 3rd for a Beige that was down in colour and quite weak fur down the flanks. We had a Homo Brown velvet that was very large and clear colour with a courser fur type and uneven length that had a 3rd ribbon. 2 Brown velvets had a 1st to Heather with a very attractive 4 1/2mth that was blocky really dense strong fur and very good coverage it became our Best Young mutation and Best Mutation. Dave Green's chin got a 3rd that was reasonable but not in contention with the 1st. Dave also had a 3rd for a Sapphire that at only 4mths was small but Ok with clear but not bright colour and a shorter fur length. One further Novice entry, a Pink White from Collette, I liked a lot with excellent conformation, good fur strength and very well groomed, slightly creamy but a very good chin that received reserve young mutation ribbon and my Judges Choice for Best Novice entry.

The adult mutations started with a class of 3 Wilson Whites that were all good size and conformation Andrew had 2nd with the clearest colour but the weakest fur and an HC that had tight plushy fur but a really creamy colour split by 3rd for Carly and Craig that had reasonable colour and fur strength. Beige class of 4 was headed by a 1st for Dave with a very nice Beige, clear in colour, very good size and conformation with a nice plushy fur type that was slightly open in the neck and uneven down the sides that was Best adult mutation and reserve Best mutation. 2nd to Andrew and 3rd to Georgie with chins of a similar type both with good conformation and plushy fur types with 3rd not quite so dense and more open. Andrew's chin became our reserve adult mutation. A large class of 7 Black velvets was headed by Andrew with 1st and 3rd. 1st had good size and conformation and had all the basic qualities but not as bright or coverage to make it exceptional. Lorraine's 2nd was brighter but didn't have the coverage of the 1st with similar silky fur types. The AOC class had some generous 1st awards. Andrew had a very nice Pink white. Almond colour, good size and conformation and a plushy fur type that was slightly open in the middle of the back. A homo beige that had the same birth date as the Pink white that Andrew told me after were siblings also had a 1st that was very nice chin with good clear colour. Dave had a 2nd with his very large Homo beige with loads of plushy fur that colour had gone over and oxidised. We also had a 1st for a very nice Tan from Lorraine with

good strong fur and wrap around colour that was a bit small. Andrew also had a 1st with a Brown Velvet, good size and conformation, with strong fur and reasonable colour but lacked coverage down the sides. A Sullivan Violet from Andrew received a 3rd small and narrow with a strong short fur and a nice clear colour was only 7mths and 1day which took it just past being a youngster. The class finished with a 1st for Georgie with her Black white cross with good size and conformation, reasonable fur type that was slightly open that had a grey appearance rather than white.

Carly and Craig's dark standard male and Heather's Dark standard female still trumped the mutations to become our Show and Reserve Show champions. Congratulations to both. Andrew was show registrar and asked me to give thanks to Hannah for being his phone a friend and online support during the day. My thanks to all who came making another enjoyable day.

Stephen Helmore