

Judges Report – Northern Region Show, Birdwell 20/10/2019

Judge – Stephen Helmore, JUI Hannah Mitchell

The show got on the way fairly promptly, with myself and Hannah colour phasing 9 young standards and 7 adult standard chins.

The young standard females had a class of 5 medium darks. Paul Spooner had the 1st ribbon for best all round chin with good veiling, strong fur, reasonable bright colour, size and conformation. Sandy King's 2nd also had a strong silky fur with a big priming line running across her back in front of the hips and reasonable colour and size. These 2 became best and reserve best young standards. Sandy also took 3rd ribbon with the brightest coloured chin in the class but at 4mths 3 weeks still showed a weaker baby fur. Hopefully a stronger fur will come and in my opinion had the best potential of the 3. The 2 HC's from Sandy and Denise Oaten both reasonable chins but had a weaker fur open in the back that lacked density.

A single Dark chin from Sian Allcoat had a 3rd ribbon a bit narrow in the neck and reasonable fur strength with clear but not bright colour which lacked veiling coverage down the sides. Much out of condition, with a salt and pepper appearance.

A single medium chin from Sandy had a 2nd ribbon. A good blocky chin with good size for 6 mths, good bright colour but a much coarser and softer fur type with the tips turning.

The 2 young standard males with the Medium coloured chin from Sandy with a 2nd ribbon was very similar to the young female in its qualities. Denise had a 2nd ribbon for her Dark male which was verging on Extra dark. He had a reasonably clear colour with strong but not dense fur. Conformation was slightly narrow in the shoulders but at nearly 7 months his size let him down.

Only 2 Adult standard females. Denise had a 1st ribbon for an Extra Dark chin with fine silky fur, good colour with good veiling coverage down the sides. Conformation was slightly narrow across the shoulder and neck with weaker breaking fur. A medium Dark female from Sian had a 2nd She was very much out of condition. Reasonable colour and good size but could have been fuller in the neck. A plushy but coarser fur type that was salt and pepper in appearance.

A class of 3 Extra Dark Adult males was headed by a very nice chin from Denise. Very well presented he had a very fine dense silky fur with good colour, veiling, size and conformation. This chin went on to become our Best adult Standard and Best standard and ultimately our Grand Show Champion. Sian's 2nd ribbon winner had a coarser type of fur he was a larger chin that could have been blockier across the shoulders. Denise also had the 3rd place but he was only just over 7 months and didn't have the size or veiling coverage to challenge the other 2 but will hopefully develop into a really good chin.

Paul had a 1st for his Dark male that was on the 'cusp' of Extra Dark. A very large chin with good veiling coverage and blocky conformation. His colour was bright and clear with the fur type being plushy rather than fine and silky but very dense. He followed Denise's male all the way up to Reserve Grand Show Champion. Sian had a 3rd with a medium Dark with good clear and bright colour and reasonable size but was way out of condition with weak and breaking fur.

The young mutations started with a class of Black Velvets. Sandy took 1st and 2nd with 2 good chins. 1st was really blocky with fine silky fur, an intense black that was reasonably clear in colour with good veiling coverage. 2nd had the clearer colour but the veiling coverage didn't extend down the sides or flanks as much. 1st went on to become our Best Young mutation and Reserve

Best Mutation. 3rd and HC ribbons went to Sian. Neither as bright as the top 2. 3rd was an 'ok chin' with reasonably good fur type and coverage. HC was similar with not quite as much coverage.

Andy Marshall had a 1st with his Novice entry Black Velvet at 5 mths a bit on the small side with good clear colour and a fine fur type with a strong guard hair, veiling coverage down the sides not quite as far down as I would like but had the makings of a very good chin.

2 nice Wilson Whites. 1st from Paul, good clear colour with good size and conformation for 5mths with an open and coarse fur type. Sandy's 2nd had a finer fur type but was much smaller. In reverse Sandy's 1st for a Black White cross at 4mths 1week was really well grown with good conformation. A striking appearance with Black velvet head and back with a blaze of white across rump and hips. This was our Reserve Young Mutation. Paul had an HC for his very much smaller chin that was steely grey in colour with weak fur.

2 reasonable young Beiges. 1st to Sandy's chin with good size and conformation that had a big priming line over the hips. A plushy fur type with reasonably bright colour. Denise's chin was clearer in colour but much paler than 1st the fur was coarser and open and smaller.

Sandy also had a 'generous' 1st for her Sullivan Violet. At 4mths 1 week was reasonably well grown with good clear colour and veiling but the fur was very soft down the sides.

The Adult Mutations started with 4 Wilson Whites. Sian's 1st was the Best all round chin of the class, that was reasonably large and blocky for just over 7mths, reasonably clear colour and plushy fur. Denise's 2nd had a much denser plushy fur but quite 'creamy'. Denise also had 3rd with similar size and shape to 2nd with clearer colour but fur was more open and coarser. Sian's HC was the largest and blockiest with loads of plushy fur but very creamy. Put to a good blue standard as a good chin.

Next up a class of 3 Self Black Ebonies. All 3 from Denise. 1st was a very nice chin with good size and conformation with a good all round intense black coverage and silky fur type. This chin was our Best Adult Mutation and Best Mutation. The 2nd had a sheen with a shorter fur length but still with an intense black wrap around colour, that lacked size and conformation. 3rd was a better size but was a Dark Ebony so paling down the sides and belly but colour was still clear.

We then moved into the AOC class. Denise had a 1st for a Homo beige. Good size and conformation with reasonably clear colour with coarser open fur type. Denise also had 1st and 2nd ribbons with her 2 beiges. 1st had a plushy dense fur type slightly oxidised in colour and a bit narrow across the shoulders. 2nd was clearer in colour with good blocky conformation but the coarser, open and tipping fur type let it down.

2 Black Velvets from Sian also had 1st and 2nd. Top chin was good all round with reasonably strong fur and an intense black in the back, veiling coverage could have come down sides further but qualities good enough to make him our Reserve Adult Mutation. 2nd was slightly clearer but just over 7mths much smaller.

Andrew also had a 2nd for his Novice Black Velvet that was slightly down on colour to the 2 main show chins with a reasonable intense black and size.

Heather Arnstein had a 1st for her Novice Sullivan Violet. A bit on the small side but a good clear bright colour with a reasonably strong fur type.

Maybe a small show but the quality of the chins was good. Congratulations to Denise with her Show Champion Standard and Paul for bringing the Reserve. Again, to Denise for her Best Mutation Ebony and to Sandy for Reserve with her young Black Velvet.

Many thanks to the Hospitality of the North Region and to Hannah for ably assisting.

Stephen Helmore