

National Show Judges Report

20th March 2016

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The National Show is the final and most prestigious show of the season and I consider it a great honour to be asked to judge.

All the top breeders prepare their animals with the National Show in mind, to be at their best for this occasion. Without exception the best animals in the UK are exhibited at the National Show and I wasn't disappointed, 170 plus animals, breeders from large to small, made for a great show.

We split the Standard animals into their correct colour phases, medium, medium dark, dark and extra dark and started as usual with the Young Standard Females. The Medium Dark Class comprised four animals but just one stood out, a 1st ribbon from Kerry Bradburn having good size, conformation and clarity in good show condition, with strong fur and even veiling and going on to take Best Young Standard Female, Best Young Standard, Best Standard and eventually Grand Show Champion. Quite a surprise that the first award winner of the day should turn out to be Grand Show Champion!

The Medium Young Females could only produce a 3rd ribbon, the Darks were better with another 1st for Kerry with an animal of good size and conformation, tight (dense) fur but slightly down in clarity and condition but good enough to go on to take Reserve Best Young Standard Female, Reserve Best Young Standard, Reserve Best Standard and Reserve Grand Show Champion. 2nd to this also good size and conformation but again slightly down in clarity.

Just one animal in the Extra Dark Class achieving another 1st for Kerry having good size, conformation and clarity, in good show condition and with fine silky fur.

Onto the Young Standard Males. The Medium dark Class produced another 1st for Kerry having good size and conformation, very slightly down in clarity, tight fur in reasonable show condition. 2nd to this was from Andrew Lee four and a half months old, a bit narrow in the neck and a strong open fur.

Four Dark Young Standard Males produced another 1st for Kerry with good size, conformation and clarity, long fur but slightly out of condition, but going on to take Reserve Best Young Standard Male and the 2nd to this had good size, conformation and clarity and shorter but denser fur. The Extra Dark class produced another 1st for Kerry with good size, conformation and clarity, long silky fur, lots of eye appeal and going on to take Best Young Male.

Onto the Adult Standard Females, a disappointing class of eleven Medium Darks could only produce a 2nd ribbon and the Mediums were similar producing just a 2nd for Jean Beardshaw, a bit small and narrow in the neck. The Darks were better producing another 1st for Kerry having good size, conformation and clarity, strong stand up fur in good show condition taking also Best Adult Standard Female and Best Adult Standard, 2nd to this suffered a drop in clarity, but good size and conformation with strong fur.

Onto the Adult Standard Males, four Medium Darks produced a 1st for Jean Beardshaw having good size, conformation and clarity but open fur, 2nd to this from Kerry having good size and conformation,

open fur with a slight drop in clarity. The Extra Darks produced a 1st for James Buchan a bit small but good conformation, good clarity and nice silky fur, taking also Best Adult Standard Male. 2nd to this from Kerry had good size and conformation, tight fur but a slight drop in clarity, taking also Reserve Best Adult Standard Male. Two Darks produced a 1st for Kerry with good size and conformation, clarity ok, tight fur and good show condition.

Onto the Young Mutations. Five Wilson Whites produced a 1st for Kerry with good size, conformation and clarity and strong fur. A 2nd for Jean Beardshaw had good size and conformation, silky fur with good clarity.

A class of nine young Beiges produced a 1st for Kerry having good size, conformation and clarity with strong dense fur and a 2nd for Sandy King having good size, conformation and an open silky fur. Three Violets produced a 1st for Barber/Pearson, 4 month old, good size and conformation but slightly down in clarity. 2nd to this from Andrew Lee had good size, conformation and clarity but out of condition.

Six Black Velvets produced a 1st for Kerry with good size conformation and clarity, excellent coverage, tummy a little grey but going on to take Best Young Mutation and Best Mutation. 2nd to this and a drop in quality from Lorraine Prince, good size but a little narrow in the neck and not as good veiling coverage as the 1st ribbon.

Three Ebonies produced a 1st for Lorraine Prince with good size and conformation, ok clarity with strong fur.

The AOC class (Any other colour) produced a 1st Pink White for Kerry with good size, conformation and density, going on to take Reserve Best Young Mutation.

Onto the Adult Mutations. Seven Wilson Whites produced a 1st for Kerry with good size, conformation and clarity but open fur. Five Pink Whites produced a 1st for Teresa Moir with good size, conformation and clarity and lots of strong, dense fur, going on to take Best Adult Mutation, 2nd to this from Kerry had good size, conformation and clarity, taking Reserve Best Adult mutation. The Adult Beiges produced a 2nd for Sandy King. Ten Violets produced a 1st for Sandy King having good size and conformation, good clarity and strong fur, Sandy also taking 2nd in this class.

Six Black Velvets produced a 1st for Kelly Buchan with good size, conformation and clarity, strong fur with good coverage, 2nd to this from Kerry with good size, conformation and clarity and strong fur.

Well done and good work to all the award winners. Thanks to all exhibitors for making this a great show and of course thanks to all the workers without whom the show would not have been possible!