

West Midlands and Wales Region

Show Report 20/01/2019

Judge Stephen Helmore

The weather was kind to us on show day and my 3 hour journey up to Calf Heath was reasonably straight forward and uneventful.

After colour phasing the standards, we commenced the judging with a class of 4 medium dark young standard females. Heather Boncey received the only 2 awards with a 1st ribbon for a 5 1/2 month old chin with reasonably good size and conformation, good bright clear colour and a reasonably strong plushy fur type. Her 3rd ribbon chin was down on clarity to the 1st but was still ok and clear with not as tight fur and down on condition. The 2 medium chins were both reasonable but neither were bright enough or had the fur strength and narrow across the shoulders with Sian Allcoat receiving 3rd ribbon and Hannah Mitchell's chin an HC. I also had a Novice medium entry from Charlotte Compton which was better chin than the 2 main show ones with good size and body weight although with a slightly wedgy conformation. Colour was clear but not top blue that took a 2nd ribbon. Next came a class of 5 Dark chins with the top 2 taking the group awards. 1st to Denise Oaten with a very good 4-month old chin, with bright sharp colour and silky strong fur type, a very nice chin that not only was the Best Young Standard Female but reserve Best Young standard. 2nd to Heather's chin that was also good and bright but the fur strength and density left her slightly open, still a good chin that was our Reserve Best Young standard female.

The 7 young standard males split to give us a class of 4 medium darks. Andrew Lee showing the 3 ribbon winners with a 1st for a good chin that was slightly small for 6 mths that had a silky fur type and a bright clear colour. 3rd ribbon chin had a soft open fur with clear colour, whereas, the HC had a better fur type that was down on colour to the 3rd. As in the previous group, the 2 best chins were the 2 Dark and as before Denise had the 1st and Heather the 2nd. The 1st chin at 7 months was not as big as it should be, but he had clear blue colour and a very tight, dense, plushy fur type. It went on to become not only Best Young standard Male but also Best Young Standard. The 2nd from Heather at 5-mths had a brighter colour than the 1st but the fur was open and long in comparison, he became our Reserve Best Young Male. We also had a 1st from Charlotte Compton in the novice class. A dark male which at 4 1/2 mths old was not as bright as the main show 2nd, however, he still had very good colour with a good, plushy fur type. You need to watch how he grows and develops, as the conformation was quite narrow. Dave Green extra Dark got a HC for its commendable fine silky fur.

4 medium Dark Adult Standard Females gave us a 1st for Denise and a 3rd for Sian. Denise's chin was a good blocky type, that was reasonably bright and clear, with a slightly open courser type of fur. Sian's 3rd was also reasonably clear with strong fur, but having a narrow neck. Heather Arnstein's novice Medium Dark was also awarded a 3rd, it was only just over the 7 months, was narrow across the shoulders and neck, but with clear colour and a reasonably strong but slightly open fur type. The 5 dark females again had the 2 best chins in the group. With Denise getting the better of Sian's 2nd. The 1st had the silkier fur type and the clearer colour, with good size while the 2nd had better conformation and fur strength. Sian was also awarded a HC for an animal that had a good fur type, but not as bright and slightly small, it lacked conformation in the shoulders.

Only 5 adult males exhibited but they gave us four 1sts and a 3rd !!! In the Medium Darks, a 1st and 3rd ribbon for Denise, with the 1st having good size and although it was clear, it was not blue but had a strong plushy fur type. The 3rd was smaller and narrow, but with the same clear colour and plushy fur as the 1st. Sian's 1st Dark chin was a very good chin, not quite finished along the flanks but had good conformation, colour and strong fur, he became our Reserve Adult Standard Male, Reserve Adult Standard and Reserve Best Standard. We also had a Novice 1st ribbon for Elisa Snaden, who exhibited a lovely silky furred chap with clear colour, good size and finish. A good basis for breeding quality chins and he was my Judges choice for Best Novice Chin. The Extra Dark from Denise was a beautiful chin, not top blue colour but with a really strong silky fur type very good size and tip top finish on the day. He went all the way to become our Show Champion.

The young Mutations started with a class of 4 Wilson Whites. 1st and 2nd to Heather and a HC to Andrew. 1st was reasonably good type "could have been whiter" but OK in all departments. 2nd was a 4-mth ball of fluff but not clear. Andrews HC had a good fur type, but was long and narrow and yellowish. The 3 Sullivan violets from Andrew had 2nd, 3rd and HC ribbons. All a bit small for 6 mths. The 2nd had the clearest colour of the 3, with a reasonable fur type although the 3rd was similar, it was slightly down in most aspects. The HC was a darker colour but lacked

conformation. The Novice Violet from Charlotte was quite a lot paler than the main show chins, which was probably a good thing; it received a 2nd ribbon and had a soft fur type which was quite open and lacked density. A large class of 7 Beiges produced the best of the Young Mutations with Denise having the 1st and 2nd placings. The 1st had a really good plushy tight fur type, with a good clear bright colour. The 2nd was huge for a youngster but the fur type and colour was not quite as good as the 1st. These 2 went on to become the Best and Reserve Best Mutations and the 1st became our Reserve Show Champion. There was a 3rd from Sandy King, it was a very pale beige with long soft fur, but a lovely clear attractive colour. Sian had the 2 HC's . 3 Brown Velvets had a 2nd for Sian's "typical of type " chin with reasonable size and good coverage of mutant fur, but the fur was quite open and lacking density. Dave's HC was nicely furred but very pale and I suspect it did not have much mutant fur. In the AOC class of 3, Andrew had 1st for a Black Velvet with good size and fur type but lacking coverage down the sides. He also had a 1st for a reasonably good all round Pink White with plushy fur but slightly creamy in colour. Dave got an HC for a small Charcoal. Heather had a 1st and 2nd for 2 self black Ebonies in the Novice class. Both showed good wrap around colour with 1st having good intense clear black colour with slightly narrow shoulders. 2nd was not as intense black but otherwise very similar.

The Adult Mutations started with a class of 4 good Sullivan Violets. Paul Spooner had 1st and 2nd with top chin having a very nice strong tight fur, good sheen and clear colour. Both had lovely white bellies with the 2nd just having a drop in density of fur. Andrew took 3rd and HC ribbons. 3rd had good strong fur in the back but was soft down the flanks with the HC being much smaller. Charlotte Compton's Novice violet was again paler than the main show chins, it was awarded a 2nd for its clear colour, with reasonable sheen and fur strength, but it could have been bigger. 3 Self blacks had a 1,2,3 for Denise with the 1st becoming our Best Adult Mutation. It was of good size, had intense black wrap around colour and good fur strength going down the sides. 2nd was similar, but this ones' fur was much softer down the sides. 3rd was not as an intense black, going to brown underneath the belly. Heather's Novice Self Black got a 3rd. It was smaller than the 3rd in the main class, but had similar attributes but better belly coverage. It just needed to be on a bigger body frame. 2 Black Velvets came to the bench, with Sandy's getting 1st and Andrew 2nd. Both could have done with better coverage down the sides, with the 1st having the better colour and tighter plushy fur, but they were very close. The novice Black Velvet got an HC for Elisa Snaden, it was small and down in colour with reasonable fur type in the middle of the back. A class of 8 AOC gave us a 1st for a Wilson White from Denise with good size, conformation and colour. It had a long fur type that was dense and tight, it went on to become our Reserve Adult Mutation. Dave brought a Pink white that had a 1st, it was good size, an almondy colour with reasonably tight dense fur. We also had a Novice Pink White from Elisa, that also got a 1st ribbon. Not as big, it still had good conformation, the colour was more creamy but OK, with a good strong fur type. Hannah had a 3rd for a Homo Beige size just Ok, reasonably clear colour but the fur was quite weak. Hannah also had a 3rd for her Beige chin, which was on the small side, with reasonably strong fur but the colour was oxidizing. Sian's HC Beige was also small, the colour was clearer but the fur was quite open. Andrew had 2 Self Brown tans both on the small side, the 3rd ribbon winner had reasonable wrap around colour with soft fur down the sides and the HC was very pale in colour. Dave had a 3rd for his Charcoal, it was still small but more acceptable, with clear colour and reasonable fur type.

Congratulations to Denise for her Show Champion Standard and Reserve Show Champion young Beige and winning the majority of the major awards.

My thanks to all who came to make another enjoyable day.

Stephen Helmore