FINNISH LAPPHUND CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW 31 MAY, 2024

I would like to thank the Finnish Lapphund Club of Great Britain for the kind invitation to judge the Club Championship Show. My original invitation was for 2021, but then pandemic played havoc so the final outcome was that I would judge the 2024 Club Championship Show. I last judged the breed at Crufts in 2016, so eight years had passed from my previous judging appointment and hence most dogs were new to me. It was lovely to meet some of my top winners from Crufts, now veterans and special vintage, but still keeping the Finnish Lapphund flag flying.

I would like to thank the Club for a most beautiful engraved salver, which I will treasure. I would also like to thank Dorothy and Patrick White for being my excellent hosts and Patrick for his great chauffeuring.

Thank you also for the lovely entry, which gave me a very good idea of the current status of the breed in the UK. In my Crufts report in 2016 I wrote about variation in type. This still applies and perhaps even more so than eight years ago. I saw a number of rather square dogs which is not correct for this breed. Size too varied a great deal and my main concern were some rather small bitches. Finnish Lapphund has many important breed specific details such as his unique head, eye and expression, his weather resistant coat and his conformation – slightly out of square with balanced, but not exaggerated angulation. I found a lot of soft coats which would be useless in their original habitat. We do not use scissors on this breed either! I just hope this breed will not turn into a generic Spitz, which it most certainly is not.

Having had my ramble, I was very pleased with my main winners. The young and delightful Elbereth Unisieppari was my star of the day and I wish her luck for the future, My Reserve Best in Show is also a high quality female, CH. Limishka Kareitar JW. The handsome male, CH. Arianrhod Black Sun Aeon at Muzoku had to bow down to the two ladies on this occasion.

Thank you all for an interesting day and good luck in promoting the Finnish Lapphund in the UK.

VETERAN DOG (4)

1. Samuel's Oberitz Upponalle, nine year old masculine, very pleasing veteran male shown in excellent condition. His outline and proportions are very typical. Quality head with excellent expression. Good bone and sound quarters. Moved very well. Pleased to award him a well deserved res.CC and Best Veteran. Surprised that a dog of his calibre has not been made up. 2. Short's CH. Glenchess Gregory, one I have judged before. Eight year old veteran male of pleasing breed type, who could have a touch more leg. Masculine, good head with nice eye, Could have used his ears to better advantage. Nice body. Tail a little short. In slightly soft condition and would prefer better movement. 3. Cooper & Critchlow's CH. Pavoskas Aly Arttu JW ShCM ShCEx VW

SPECIAL VINTAGE DOG (No entries)

MINOR PUPPY DOG (3)

1. Whyman & Murray's Lappviken Keltainen of Manu, eight month old upto-size masculine puppy of good type. Head developing well, needs darker eye. Front needs time. Good bone and well bodied for age. Good hindquarters and rear movement. Front movement needs to improve. Best Puppy. 2. Allison's Lahetyaby Joulukoriste by Oberitz, seven month old masculine puppy with good bone. Reasonable skull, but too pointed in muzzle and needs more padding on the muzzle. Excellent dark eye and lovely expression. Well set ears. Good body for age, but needs to improve in rear and in rear movement, which is too short stepping at the moment. 3. Sisley-Smith's Lappviken Topaasi of Manu, brother to the class winner.

PUPPY DOG (2)

 Whyman & Murray's Lappviken Keltainen of Manu, winner of Minor Puppy Dog, please see notes above.
 Allison's Laheteaby Joulukoriste by Oberitz, second in Minor Puppy Dog, please see notes above

JUNIOR DOG (3)

1. Meikle & Henderson's Elbereth Etiainen at Lintukoto, 12 month old black/cream masculine junior male of nice size and pleasing breed type. Quality head with lovely dark eye and excellent expression. Muzzle just a touch short. Front needs more time. Very nice neck. Well bodied for age. Balanced quarters. Needs to firm up in front movement. 2. Brache's Elbereth Oreokeksi at Lappiness, litter brother to 1st. and much to like about him too. Just shown a tad plump on the day. Head promises well. Good bone. Would like him with a little more length of leg. Very good rear. A little less weight would improve his movement. 3. W/H

YEARLING DOG (2)

1. Meikle & Henderson's Elbereth Etiainen at Lintukoto, 1st. in Junior Dog, please see notes above 2. Brache's Elbereth Oreokeksi at Lappiness, 2nd. in Junior Dog, please see notes above.

NOVICE DOG (2-1 abs.)

1. Meikle & Henderson's Elbereth Etiainen at Lintukoto, first again also in Novice Dog!

GRADUATE DOG (1)

1. Daly's Tabanyaruu Borealis Boo, 22 month old strong masculine male. His type and proportions are excellent. Correct head shape, but expression marred by very light eye. Could use his ears to better advantage. Very nice bone and well bodies. Moderate rear angulation. Needs to improve in rear movement. Correct coat texture.

POST GRADUATE DOG (4-1 abs.)

I am afraid that the three males shown in this class had such faults that my only option was to withhold all three places.

LIMIT DOG (5)

1. Lee's Kaijartuu Ihmissusi JW, five year old masculine, up-to-size male of excellent breed type. Excels in head, correct eye and pleasing expression. Ears a little large. Very nice bone. Good neck and body. Balanced angulation fore and aft. Sound, typical mover. Correct coat texture. 2. Allison's Oberitz Kaamoksen Ruhtinas JW, three year old very typical and pleasing male with super temperament. Quality, typical head with excellent dark eye colour. Eyes are a little small. So well bodied and has correct rear. Tail a tad short. He excels in movement, which was a joy to watch. 3. Aristides-Pickard's Sambreeze Mikki Bear Cub.

OPEN DOG (5-1 abs.)

1. Forsey's CH. Arianrhod Black Sun Aeon at Muzoku, masculine, up-to-size male who has an excellent head, very good eye and expression as well as well set ears. Good bone. Well bodied. A little more angulation fore and aft would give him the extra bit of length he needs. Moves very well, but handler tends to move him too fast. Needs harsher coat texture. CC & Best Opposite Sex in Show 2 Fedelli's Power Logan du Domaine d'Arinella Bianca, three year old male of excellent breed type, but shown in rather sparse coat on the day. Very good proportions. Quality head with typical eye and expression. Good bone. Good body. Soundly made and a very good mover once settled. 3. Thomas' CH. Elbereth Tuulenpoika

GOOD CITIZEN DOG SCHEME DOG (3 – 1 abs.)

1. Cooper & Critchlow's CH. Pavoskas Aly Arttu JW ShCM ShCEX VW, 3rd. in Veteran Dog. Nine year old vocal male! Masculine dog of very good type. Has a very nice head. Well bodied and soundly made. Would like better movement. 2. Aristides-Pickard's Sambreeze Mikki Bear Cub, 3rd. in Limit Dog. Typical male with nice head, but ears rather large. Needs a better front and his front movement is very high stepping. Good body and rear.

VETERAN BITCH (3)

Jackson's CH. Tilkkuturkin Hallantuoma to Elbereth JW ShCM (Imp Fin), now nine years old. How time flies – she was my res.CC winner at Crufts in 2016. Lovely quality veteran shown in excellent condition. Correct in type and proportions. Lovely feminine head. Well set ears. Soundly made and an excellent mover for her age. Correct tail. Not in full coat, but has definite quality.Best Opposite Sex Veteran in Show
 Beaumont & Mowatt's Tabanyaruu Pilvi Tildakoi, eight year old feminine veteran shown in light coat condition. Nice type and good condition. Very nice feminine head, eye colour in accordance with coat colour (brown). She is well put together. Age shows up in movement. 3. Lee's CH. Kaijartuu Hopea Noita JW

SPECIAL VINTAGE BITCH (5 – 1 abs.)

1. Thomas' CH. Elbereth Pelinainen JW, 10,5 year old veteran female. Excellent type, shown in an abundant coat due to sterilization. Her head is feminine and correct in detail, excellent eye and expression as well as well set ears. Correct amount of bone. Excellent body and quarters. I last met her at Crufts in 2016 when she was my CC winner and BOB. Such a pleasure to meet both Hallantuoma and Pelinainen again in their more mature years! 2. Lock's CH. Bridus Pikkumimmi JW VW, 11 year old veteran female of very nice type. Pretty feminine head, medium brown eye. Correct amount of bone. She is soundly made and has good quarters. Went well for her age. 3. Stanley's Glenchess Nulikka at Ansalforse

MINOR PUPPY BITCH (4 – 1abs.)

1. Gowthorpe's Lahetyaby Joulukeiju, seven month old feminine, pretty puppy bitch. Very nice type and correct proportions. Good skull, but needs a little more padding on muzzle. Super dark eye. Excellent mover for her tender age. Best Opposite Sex Puppy in Show 2. Moore's Samerajerna's Zaluda of Morval (Imp Swe), also seven months and very much a puppy! Pretty head, acceptable ears. Nice bone. Good body for age. Would like a stronger rear. 3. Lock's Muzoku Black Opium

PUPPY BITCH (1)

1. Moore's Samerajerna's Zaluda of Morval (Imp SWE), 2nd. in Minor Puppy Bitch, please see notes above.

JUNIOR BITCH (3 - 1 abs.)

1. Jackson's Elbereth Unisieppari, only one year old, but just lovely and excels in breed type. Correct proportions. She has a feminine, lovely head with excellent dark eye. Very good bone. Well bodied for age. Really good mover for her age. I was very taken to find a Finnish Lapphund of her calibre at this show, I will watch her career with interest. So pleased to award her the CC and Best in Show. 2. Greenland's Skimarque Luminen Metsä from Rajarani, 13 month old small bitch. Needs better bone. Head at the moment is rather narrow and needs to develop more. Very nice dark eye. Good body. Needs more training on the move.

YEARLING BITCH (5-2 abs.)

1. Jackson's Elbereth Unisieppari, 1st. in Junior Bitch, please see notes above. 2. Stanley's Ansalforse Wivi JW, 19 month old small bitch who is an excellent mover. Feminine, pleasing head. Good bone and nice body. Soundly made and really came to her own on the move. 3. Birk's Pavoskas Galena

NOVICE BITCH (2)

1. MacVicar Collingwood's Elbereth Yksi ja Ainoa (AI), two year old smaller bitch shown in newly bathed coat. Very feminine overall. Very good head shape, but would like darker eye. Reasonable bone. Good body. Can move, but needs more training on the move. 2. Gowthorpe's Rycamrhia Bellissa, six year old cream/beige heavy bitch. Coat texture too soft. Good skull, but too long in muzzle. Needs better ears. Good bone. Heavy on the move.

GRADUATE BITCH (5 -1 abs.)

1. Jackson's Elbereth Unisieppari, please see notes above 2. Ellis & Crosby's Tabanyaruu Borealis Bliz, two year old bitch shown in newly bathed coat which is soft in texture. Nicely made and carries herself to advantage. Correct proportions. Nice head, but a little light in eye. Good bone and nice body. Moves well. 3. MacVicar Collingwood's Elbereth Yksi ja Ainoa (AI)

POST GRADUATE BITCH (8 – 2 abs.)

1. Jackson's Elbereth Unisieppari, please see notes above. 2. Beaumont & Mowatt's Tabanyaruu Unelma Hannele, five year old typical feminine bitch. Correct proportions. Beautiful feminine head with excellent dark eye. Could have slightly better stop. She is very well made. She needs more training to show off her movement. 3. Stanley's Ansalforse Wivi JW

LIMIT BITCH (5) This class was a little disappointing in quality

1. Allison's Oberitz Tumma Ruhtinatar, three and a half year old pretty bitch. Just a little square in outline. Not in her best jacket on the day. She is very feminine from top to toe. Super head with excellent dark eye, well set and carried ears. Very good bone. She is well put together and a capable mover. Just needs better proportions. Although not in full coat, has the ideal coat texture lacking in so many on the day.
2. Sisley-Smith's Tabanyaruu Wihta Kuu Lapsi, four year old cream/beige feminine bitch. Very good head, eye enough dark. Correct ears. Nice body. Her rather strong rear angulation throws her out of balance. 3. Lock's Pikkuihme Tahtipoly

OPEN BITCH (6)

1. Anderson & Nardone's CH. Limishka Kareitar JW, three year old quality bitch with plenty to like about her. I see her sire won the Veteran Class & res. CC on the day and they are similar in many ways. Excellent breed type and proportions. Feminine, pleasing head, muzzle could have a little more padding. Very good bone. Nice neck, topline and body. Carries herself to advantage and is a very good mover. Res.CC

and Reserve Best in Show. 2. Critchlow's CH. Pavoskas Ceili JW, six year old bitch of very lovely type. Excellent feminine head, medium brown eye. Correct amount of bone, Well bodied and has balanced angulation. Excellent sound mover. Coat a little soft. 3. Moore's CH. Morval Salainen Haave JW

GOOD CITIZEN DOG SCHEME BITCH (7 – 1w/d due to a biting incident outside the ring)

1. Ellis & Crosby's Tabanyaruu Borealis Bliz, 2nd. in Graduate Bitch, please see notes above. **2.** Macvicar Collingwood's CH. Elbereth Lumenlumo JW, si year old pale cream bitch. A little small. Pretty head with medium brown eye. Good bone. Nice body. Reasonable mover. Rather soft coat texture. 3. Thomas' Elbereth Suvituuli JW

Elina Haapaniemi Judge