



2017 Ibizan Hound Club of the United States Critique by Valerie Hamilton

Judging the 2017 Ibizan Hound Club of the United States show was an honor and a complete pleasure. I thank the membership for my nomination and selection, and the Ibizan Hound community as a whole for supporting this show with a wonderful, quality entry. I thoroughly enjoyed the day as well as the evening dinner and auction – the Ibizan Hound fancy knows how to have fun!

When judging the Ibizan Hounds, I was looking for dogs that were true athletes - a hunting dog that possessed “deerlike elegance combined with the power of a hunter”. I was assessing breed type and the quality of each dog looking at conformation, balance, and condition.

Overall, the quality was exceptional with multiple worthy contenders in each of the classes. I found the areas of strength to be exquisite outlines – so many had lovely breed type with smooth and balanced clean lines, and wonderful large ears. I also noted the physical condition of the entries to be outstanding with beautiful muscle tone. Although I did not penalize lack of show ring experience, I did see a number of entries that were hesitant and not confident with being in the ring; making it more difficult to assess them.

Classes:

Puppy, 4 to 6 Months, Bitches

1 – Spring Willow Elan Guardian of the Mtn @ Jacerodd

What a promising young puppy! She has a lovely topline, is balanced front and rear, has a beautiful expression, and a wonderful, happy attitude. Additionally, she is very light and graceful on the move.

Puppy, 9 to 12 Months, Dogs

A very promising group of young males.

1 – Veloz Beyond Expectations

This male has a lovely, very smooth outline – a pretty picture on the stack. He needed to collect himself a bit when starting to move which is typical of this age. Loved his expression and large, mobile ears.

2 – Veloz Better Fate Than Wisdom

This male is very balanced, moderate and smooth on the outline. Again, lovely on the stack. He is very similar to the first male and I see now that I have access to the catalog that they are littermates.

3 – Veloz Boundless Adventure

Another lovely male; however, this male seems to be less mature than his littermates in this class. He tended to move a bit high in the rear but it may simply be where he is at his stage of maturity.

12 to 18, Dogs

1 – Redfaire’s So Scandalfish

A young male with lovely breed type. Very balanced and moderate. Light and graceful on the move.

2 – Dragorra’s The Goblin King JC

Another lovely male. I preferred the overall balance on the first male but loved the strength and athleticism of this male.

3 – Redfaire’s Call Me Fishmael At Blue Note

A beautiful young male but was a bit nervous in the ring and due to this, he tended to roach his topline a bit. Once he gains more confidence that may not be present.

Amateur Owner Handler, Dogs

1 – Dragorra’s You Remind Me of the Babe

A very nice male – smooth on the move, appearing to be a powerful and agile dog. Loved his good, strong feet. Would prefer just a bit higher ear set but overall a very nice dog.

Bred-by Exhibitor, Dogs

1 – Abbaio Wild Juice Chase

A lovely male with beautiful breed type. He is graceful and light on the move. Very balanced in every way with a lovely expression. This male went on to be awarded RWD.

2 – Redfaire’s First Avenger SC

Another handsome male with very light and graceful movement. Balanced and attractive on the stack. At times, he would stand a bit sloping on the croup but this may have been due to still gaining show experience. A very handsome and promising male.

3 – Gdab You’ve Got Everything Now

A lovely and very sound male. Nice on the move. He was lacking a bit in confidence which I am sure will come over time. Another promising male.

4 – FC Icyold Thirdmate SC

A male that was a bit larger than the other males in this class but was presented in beautiful condition. He is a strong and powerful male appearing to be very capable and athletic.

American Bred, Dogs

1 – Gdab Everything Zen

A lovely, balanced, and masculine male with a smooth outline. He is very powerful and graceful on the move – he never put a foot wrong. He has a lovely expression with beautiful large ears, and good strong hare feet. This male went on to be awarded WD.

2 – Veloz Be My Wish

This very nice young male lacked the maturity of the other male in this class. He appeared young and at times would roach his topline a bit due to his age but with maturity that is likely to improve.

Open Smooth Coat, Dogs

1 – Elan Halcyon Make Mine a Double

A handsome male; moderate and balanced. Tended to move a bit loose in the front coming toward me but overall nice breed type and quality.

Open Wire Coat, Dogs

1 – T'Marras Blood Sweat N Tears

A strong and masculine male with graceful side movement. He has a lovely expression with large ears.

2 – Alfheim's No Quarter Given

A handsome male with lovely breed type. He tended to move a bit loose in the front coming towards me and I preferred the expression and larger ear of the first dog but loved the breed type of this handsome male.

3 – L-Wynd's Wicked Djinn

A nice male that seemed less mature than the other two males in this class. I would prefer a bit more strength in his rear which was notable on the move.

Winners Dog and Reserve Winners Dog

WD: Gdab Everything Zen

RWD: Abbaio Wild Juice Chase

Puppy, 9 to 12 Months, Bitches

1 – Heron And Hound Notanuff To Hell'N Back At Nahala

A lovely young female with a great attitude and presence. A pleasing outline, and light and graceful on the move. Very sound in every way. A very promising young bitch.

12 to 18, Bitches

1 – Abbaio The Crumpet of The Swan

A lovely bitch with beautiful breed type. She is graceful on the move and so balanced in every way. She has a lovely expression and large ears. She caught my eye right away – truly a stand out. She went on to be awarded WB.

2 – Dragorra's Love Between The Stars

Another lovely bitch with good breed type. On the move, she tended to be a bit high in rear but that is typical of this age and maturity. A quality bitch.

Amateur Owner Handler, Bitches

1 – Veloz Atilt On Insolent Waters T'Marras

A very nice wire haired bitch with good breed type, overall balance and soundness. On the move she tended to move a little high in the rear but overall a good solid bitch.

2 – Icycold 3rd Red Dawn At Henmar

A beautiful bitch with lovely breed type. A bit more extreme in the head; would prefer a bit more cone shape to her head but still overall a pleasing expression.

3 – Harehill's Mimosa

A pretty bitch with nice movement and a lovely head with large ears. Would prefer a bit more hare-shape (length) to her feet.

Bred-by Exhibitor, Bitches

1 – Veloz Stars Walk Backward

A quality bitch with lovely breed type. Very nice on the move. A love head piece with beautiful expression and large ears.

American Bred, Bitches

1 – Daval-Wynd Gum In My Hair

A lovely bitch with beautiful breed type. She was graceful on the move but did tend to toe-in slightly in the front. She could use a bit more confidence. A lovely, quality bitch.

2 – FC Elan Halcyon Compelling Dreams Will Double SC

A pretty bitch but on this day was moving a bit loose in the front and standing a bit steeper in the croup; this may be due to lack of ring experience.

Open Smooth Coat, Bitches

1 – Elan Halcyon Piece of My Heart

A lovely bitch. Striking and pretty on the stand. Light and graceful on the move. I would prefer a bit less forefront of chest but overall a lovely bitch.

2 – Kamars Flying Arrow SC CA

A nice bitch of good breed type. She has a lovely expression and head, and moved soundly. I would prefer more length of toe.

Open Wire Coat, Bitches

1 – Veloz Live Deliberately

A lovely bitch - she has beautiful breed type. She is very sound and graceful on the move but lacking a bit in confidence so she was not showing to her full potential. She was awarded RWB.

Winners Bitch and Reserve Winners Bitch

WB: Abbaio The Crumpet of the Swan

RWB: Veloz Live Deliberately

Veteran Dogs (9+ years)

Two grand males, both of beautiful breed type. I preferred the long hare-feet of the first male but both males had wonderful details, and were in great condition. It was delightful to see them both in the ring.

1 – GCH DC Gryphons Mr. Tambourine Man MC LCX

2 – DC Icycold Firstmate SC

Veteran Bitches (7 to 9 years)

The quality in this class was very deep. All 3 bitches had beautiful breed type and were lovely on the move. I selected the first bitch as the winner as her movement was impeccable. Again, this was a tough and very competitive class, I was honored to have such lovely lineup.

1 - GCH DC Davinci's Primera Nina SC

2 – GCH DC Davinci's White Witch at Heron and Hound SC LCX

3 – GCH DC Orion-Ahram California Dreaming SC

Veteran Bitches (9+ years)

Another class with nice, consistent overall quality, and lovely breed type. I selected the first bitch as she truly asked for the win with wonderful enthusiasm and agility on the move.

1 – DC Davinci-Nahala CA' Chaos A' Davallia SC

2 – GCH CH L-Wynd's Mother of Rivers SC

3 – DC Harehill's Stacked Deck at Highland SC

Lure Coursing Dog

Two very handsome males with both being in impeccable condition and of good breed type. I selected the first dog as he was such a powerful mover; showing that he could in fact hunt over quarry for long spans of time.

1 – GCH DC Dragorra's Do It for the Thrill SC

2 – CH L-Wynd's Talent Compels a Soul SC CA

Lure Coursing Bitch

A lovely bitch with good breed type; she was in beautiful condition with a many quality attributes including a good strong topline and overall balance.

1 – CH Kamars First Rule of Flying SC CA

Best of Breed Competition:

The quality of the specials was very deep - there were multiple shining stars in this class deserving of being awarded Best of Breed on this day. In particular the top placed bitches (BOB, Select and AOMs) were absolutely stunning. All had lovely breed type with smooth lines, lovely expressions and graceful movement. In the end, my BOB winner was selected due to her powerful and efficient yet graceful movement – she appeared so athletic, racy and alert.

The top placed dogs (BOS, Select and AOM) were also extremely strong. BOS was awarded to a handsome young male who did not put a foot out of place and literally floated around the ring. Select dog caught my eye immediately as he is so smooth and flowing in outline and AOM was handsome from every angle.

Best of Breed: GCH CH Abbaio Dream With Your Eyes Open

Best of Winners: Abbaio The Crumpet of the Swan

Best of Opposite Sex: CH Heron And Hound Notanuff HellsBells N Dam'ation

Select Dog: GCH CH Sunrumba's Lovestruck by Life

Select Bitch: GCH CH Harehill's Say No More

AOMs

GCH DC Nahala's Signed Sealed Delivered SC CA

CH Harehill's Mint Julep

GCH CH Harehill's Tom Collins

Again, thank you to the club and the Ibizan Hound community for the honor of being selected to judge your show. It truly was an honor and memorable day.

Valerie Hamilton