Basset Fauve De Bretagne Club Open Show – 26 March 2022

Special Awards Classes – Judge: Pauline Tabron (Eldonmere)

Many thanks to the Club for offering me this opportunity to judge at the 2022 Open Show for the Special Awards Classes. These classes are invaluable to aspirant judges and I am grateful to all who entered under me and were able to be present on the day.

Thank you to my two efficient Stewards, Matthew Gregg and Sarah Stephenson for their assistance on the day.

Special Award Junior - (3,2abs)

1st – Mackay's Shiroblam Blue Ballerina – Seven months old Bitch, who stood alone. Very well presented with correct textured coat, sensitively handled. Good to see such dark pigment on the nose, along with dark eye and pleat to the ears with a kind expression. A slight rise in topline when stacked on the table but this levelled out on the move. She is well boned and with moderate stifle but with overall balance. A very happy youngster with spirited movement and worthy of a mention is the tail carriage; good to see a flicking tail. I will watch her development with interest.

Special Award Open – (10, 6 abs)

A varied class where placings could change quite easily on a different day. All exhibits were well presented, temperaments were good.

1st – Jones's Laserna Fleur De Lys – Two years old, Bitch. A beautiful feminine head displaying excellent black nose pigment, kind expression and well pleated leathers set on level with the eyes. I liked her overall balance and well-muscled hindquarters. On the move, she held a level topline, her forelegs are straight and movement going away was parallel. Another very happy Fauve on the move. Well-presented and handled.

2nd – Dunn's Shiroblam Foxy Dude at Khananga – Ten years old, Male. A sturdy workman-like hound. A very typical Fauve head, black pigmented elusive Roman nose, well defined occiput and good pleat to the ears set on level with the eyes. A rich red correctly textured coat. I was happy to see his prominent sternum; something that appears to be lacking generally in the breed these days. Wellmuscled hindquarters although he was moving a little close behind today.

Special Award – Champion (2, 1 abs)

1st – Ellrich's – CH/INT/MULTI CH Blevwil Enchantress Over Malrich JW.EUW16 WCW17 EU – Eight years old, Bitch. A very happy Fauve both on the table and on the move – her tail never stops wagging! She is compact in body but has straight forelegs and hard muscled and well angulated hindquarters. My notes say that her front movement was almost a daisy cutting action today. However, her rear movement compensated and was full of reach and drive. She most certainly enjoyed her day out.