

Golden Retriever Club of New South Wales Championship Show, 2nd May 2010

Critique by *Margaret Bourn*

Thank you for the opportunity to judge so many lovely Goldens. It was a pleasure to have to sort through such depth of quality - the top placings were often only a bee's whisker apart.

General observations. Given the warm weather it was pleasing to see the dogs coping well with my demands for them to move quite a bit. A well-constructed Golden should move correctly: thus movement provided the point of difference between seemingly well-conformed exhibits on the 'stack'.

Of particular note were consistently good fronts with straight, well-boned legs, albeit some on the short side. Most shoulders were well-laid back and rear angles were good, but a number of upper arms were not as well angled.

Although there was a wide variety of heads - from balanced and beautiful to quite plain - good pigment and dark eyes were consistent throughout and apart from the odd exception all had correct bites and full dentition.

The full colour range of coats was represented, but a number were too silky (too much conditioner?) and lacking under-coat.

BABY PUPPY

1. **Willowlawn Cool Yule (Imp UK).** This young man shows promise for a career of being number one more often. Nice size for age, with a good frame to grow on. All parts balanced. Level topline, which he held on the move, to a good tailset. Good boning. Lovely dark eye and pigment.
2. **Giltedge Band of Brothers.** Cut a very good outline and nicely angled fore and aft. Strong hindquarters. Good head with expressive dark eye.
3. **Goldebrior Perfect to Keep.** Compact with balanced angles. Good boning and feet. Short hocks. Dark expressive eyes giving an appealing expression.

MINOR PUPPY

1. **Aneirby Sirius Charm.** Good size with good boning and substance. Level topline flowing smoothly to good tailset and good depth of chest. Well-coated. Moved with drive.
2. **Burragundy Dusty Rover.** Taller than 1 and 3, showing lots of promise for future development. Flows nicely from neck to shoulder along level topline to good tailset. A most expressive head.
3. **Fetchpoint Whatz In It for Me.** Compact, short coupled with good boning. Good reach of neck. Strong hindquarters well let down at the hock. Kindly, gentle expression.

PUPPY DOG

1. **Athalon Magic of Digby.** Correct body proportions with balanced angles fore and aft. Good depth of chest and sound hindquarters. Balanced head with good length and breadth of muzzle. Correct coat. Ground-covering gait.
2. **Athalon Addicted to Sin.** Compact and a little heavier set than 1. Nicely angled fore and aft. Good reach of neck and depth of chest. Good length of muzzle, great pigment and dark eye. Correct coat.
3. **Alnclair Micky Flynn.** Good size with balanced angles and well-proportioned body. Good reach of neck flowing into level topline. Strong hindquarters. Standing four-square at a natural stance. Masculine head with kindly expression.

JUNIOR DOG

1. **Fantango Wild Oats.** Correct proportions with good leg length, well turned stifle and strong second thigh. Straight front. Masculine head with balanced length and breadth of muzzle and chiselling under the eye. Nice double coat. Smooth effortless mover.
2. **Ch Dykinta Jazz Legend.** Well-proportioned, short-coupled with balanced angles fore and aft. Good spring of rib and strong hindquarters. Masculine head with lovely dark eye but a little short in muzzle.
3. **Dykinta Windsong.** Smooth flow of neck to well laid shoulder along level topline. Well angled fore and aft, strong hindquarters with short hocks. Lovely head and expression with dark pigment and beautiful dark eye. Seemed a little unhappy.

INTERMEDIATE DOG

1. **Larbellah Team Leader.** Impressive outline both on the stack and when moving. Upstanding and substantially built, with good spring of rib, level top-line to strong hindquarters giving a correct body shape. Balanced and well-angled fore and aft. Straightlegs in front and well let down at the hock-joint. Covered ground with powerful reach and drive. CHALLENGE DOG and RUNNER-UP BEST OF BREED
2. **Ch Burragundy Brace Yourself.** Good reach of neck and deep through the heart. Standing well under himself revealing a well-angle and strong front with straight, well-boned legs. Strong in the hindquarters with well-turned stifle and well-developed 2nd thigh. Expressive head with good length and breadth of muzzle. RESERVE CHALLENGE DOG
3. **Trigolden Dream Chaser.** Lighter framed than 1 and 2 with lovely flow of neck to well-laid shoulder. Balanced angles fore and aft, straight in front. Balanced head with really dark eye and very good pigment. Effortless, ground-covering on the move.

AUSTRALIAN BRED DOG

1. **Gr Ch Fetchnpoint Knee Jerker.** Good size, standing well under himself creating a correct outline. Good reach of neck into well-laid shoulder. Straight in front, good boning and catlike feet. Balanced head with good length and breadth of muzzle and kindly expression. Covered ground well on the move. Sound and in hard condition.
2. **Ch Perrecca Xcuse Xcuses.** No need to make excuses for this boy. Correct compact shape, with good length and strength in neck, correctly balanced angles. Short-coupled. Stands four-square naturally. Masculine head with a really kindly expression.
3. **Euraidd Sugar Daddy CD.** On the stack cut the classic picture with correct body proportions. Particularly good front and forechest. Lovely soft expressive head. Sound mover. Carried tail a little gaily.

OPEN DOG

1. **Ch Fantango First Knight.** Upstanding and good-size with balanced angles, deep in chest. Strong in hindquarters with good turn of stifle and strong 2nd thigh. Lovely head with the chiselling under the eyes creating a gentlemanly and kindly expression.
2. **Ch Giltedge Blackwatch.** Handsome, substantial though moderate in size, with very good angles and straight front. Strong neck flowing to well-laid shoulders with strong hindquarters. Good boning and feet. Classic, masculine, balanced head with good length and depth of muzzle and lovely soft expression with dark eye and great pigment.
3. **Ch Perrecca Zig Zag.** Of smaller stature than 1 and 2. Correct body proportions, short-coupled with level top-line and good tail-set. Standing four-square naturally revealing his soundness, as did his level, effortless movement. Lovely chiselled head giving a kindly expression.

VETERAN

1. **Gr Ch Justa Boy Scout.** Good-size with good leg length. Upstanding, masculine with straight front. Well-angled in forequarters with deep chest and good boning. Balanced, pleasing head. Sound and strong looking. Covered ground well.
2. **A/NZ Ch Montego Pendragon's Quest (Imp NZ).** Lovely expressive head on reachy neck, flowing to level topline. Presented a very good profile. Happy, ground-covering gait, with reach and drive.
3. **Ch Alnclair Ricky's Revenge.** Sound, substantial with good boning. Very good angles fore and aft with good turn of stifle and short in hock giving strong hindquarters. Pleasing, masculine head.

BITCHES

BABY PUPPY BITCH

All three performed well for their age, holding their level toplines firmly on the move.

1. **Dreamwood Sheena.** Well constructed, with a very good frame to grow on to. Straight in front. Very good angles fore and aft with well-turned stifle.
2. **Giltedge Sister Act.** More compact and short-coupled than 1 and 3 with good boning. Straight in front. Good turn of stifle and well let down in the hock joint.
3. **Goldkey Place Your Bets.** Elegant and feminine, but with good boning and well-formed body. Lovely head.

MINOR PUPPY BITCH

1. **Fetchpoint Whatz Another One.** Well proportioned, balanced body with straight front and good feet. Neck flows into well-laid shoulder to strong hindquarters. Sweet, expressive head. Smooth. Level mover.
2. **Fantango Just One Look (AI).** Elegant, stylish with good angles fore and aft, albeit a little over-angulated in the rear. Straight in front with good boning for size. Very sweet balanced head. Moves out well and covers ground.
3. **Goldtreve Ruby Rose.** Smaller than 1 and 2, but nicely proportioned. Short coupled with straight front and good boning. Feminine, balanced head with good breadth of skull framed by well-placed ears giving a lovely expression. Correct coat. In all, a pretty picture.

PUPPY BITCH

1. **Dream Max Luna (Imp Swd).** Moderate sized, well proportioned with good reach of neck flowing to well-laid shoulder. Strong hindquarters and short in hock. Straight in front. Balanced head with chiselling under eyes giving a very sweet expression.
2. **Kaparla in the Winners Circle.** Bigger bitch, well boned, with well-laid shoulder and very good angles. Strong hindquarters. Well proportioned body with correct shape. Balanced head with correct expression.
3. **Jukeran Dare to Tango.** Smaller but sound and neatly put together. Straight in front and short coupled with strong hindquarters. One of the most beautiful and balanced heads of the day. Moved with reach and drive, then stood naturally four-square.

JUNIOR BITCH

1. **Buffalo Stenbury's Idol (AI).** Won the class on her movement. Lovely to see her smooth, effortless gait. Good flow of neck to well-laid shoulder with level topline and well-turned stifles. Lovely head with sweet, soft expression. Looked fit.
2. **Fantango Playing the Field.** Well proportioned and soundly put together. Very good front and depth of chest. Strong topline with balanced angles. Lovely head with soft dark eye. Good coat.
3. **Dykinta Arietta.** Well constructed. Stands well under herself revealing a well laid shoulder, good prosternum and depth of chest. Short coupled. Good boning and pasterns.

INTERMEDIATE BITCH – three lovely heads.

1. **Phileni Phantasy.** Correct proportions with overall balance. Neck flows nicely to shoulder, good spring of rib and strong hindquarters giving correct body shape. Straight front, good boning and feet. Very sweet head balanced with good muzzle.
2. **Goldbrior Hot Mocha Chino.** Presented a lovely profile of head and body with very good front angles and forechest. Just a little long cast. Lovely head and expression and exhibiting a friendly, happy demeanour.
3. **Jukeran RiseNShine.** Bigger boned, strong looking with great body proportions and strong hindquarters giving a true, straight rear action on the move. Straight in front. Gorgeous head with a sweet and kindly expression.

AUSTRALIAN BRED BITCH

1. **Ch Bozgold Waltzing Matilda.** *This girl just about has it all! Symmetrical and balanced in all proportions. Well constructed and sound. Strongly built fore and aft, good spring of rib, balanced angles, straight in front with good feet. Holds her level topline on the move, with very correct foot placement. Strong in head, but still feminine with a lustrous dark eye, giving a kindly expression. Displayed a friendly and confident demeanour. Would like to have seen a tidier coat.*
CHALLENGE BITCH AND BIS.
2. **Gr Ch Yellowfetch Whatzit to U.** Classy with a lovely outline. Neck flows smoothly to well-laid shoulder along level topline with good angles fore and aft. Good boning. Lovely head with dark eye and pigment giving a kindly expression framed by correct ear placement .
3. **Ch Yellowfetch Whatever (AI).** Slightly longer cast of medium size. Stands well under herself giving a good prosternum and depth of chest. Straight in front. Sweet head and expression.

OPEN BITCH

1. **Gr Ch Dykinta Take A Chance.** A quality exhibit, pretty as a picture. Of a lighter frame build, but correct in proportions, creating a balanced profile. Good reach of neck to a level topline, which she held on the move. Lovely head and expression framed by good ear-set. Beautiful two-tone coloured coat. **RESERVE CHALLENGE BITCH.**
2. **Ch Yellowfetch Shinin Light.** Stylish, eye-catching and elegant, yet strong with good boning. Good reach of neck flowing to well-laid shoulder along firm topline to good tail-set. Good body shape and coat.
3. **Giltedge Showgirl.** More substantial, strong yet feminine. Good leg length and body proportions. Good length and strength in neck flowing to well-laid shoulder along strong back and short coupling to good tail-set. Nicely short-coupled.

VETERAN BITCH

1. **Ch Alnclair Ann Ticipation.** Substantial and sound. Moved well and stood foursquare naturally. Nicely angled fore and aft. Straight in front with good boning. Lovely dark eye and pigment giving a sweet expression.
2. **Ch Goldtreve Wild Chilipepa.** Elegant and well proportioned. Lovely straight front with good body shape. Pleasing head and expression. Moved well - her fitness belies her age.

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