

**“GO FOR GOLD 2022”**

**BREED CLASSES - CRITIQUES**

**JUDGE:**

Mrs F Clarkson (Scotland) *DRUMKILTY* - Dogs & Bitches, General Specials

**Go For Gold 2022 – 11th Golden Retriever National**

I would like to thank the committee for allowing me the privilege of judging this very special show, the first National after a three year gap due to Covid19. It was meticulously planned, everything was just perfect from the venue to the fantastic prizes and the wonderful stewards. The atmosphere was buzzing as old friends and new came together and celebrated our lovely breed. And I cannot adequately express how impressed I was with the quality of the entry, it was nothing short of amazing. It was interesting so see how each kennel has its own stamp on type, with several of them looking as though they had a mould back at their homes! The standard of handling was also fantastic, and the dogs’ movement was just breathtaking to behold as each class ran into the ring.

**Baby Puppy Dog – 6 entries**

1. Stubbings’ Bluebreeze Bitcoin Millionaire. Gorgeous cream 4m dog who entered the ring like a pro and showed like a veteran. So very together for age, super overall construction with everything I would wish for at this age, good bone and substance, excellent dark pigment, my notes say “movement amazing”. Very unlucky to meet the baby puppy b. who stole my heart in the challenge.

2. Schwebel’s Phileni Maximus Prime. Slightly younger mid-gold with sweetest of heads. Happy, sound mover who at present loses his topline slightly on the move but it is dead level when stood. Again, possesses all the essential elements, with good bone standing on neat feet.

3. Goldshyne Kennels’ Goldshyne Hello Handsome. Slightly longer cast and scopier cream boy, I liked this puppy’s head and dark pigment, still to drop into stifles, another whose movement for age impressed

4. Ritter’s Goldivine Supa Sonic. This puppy has a bigger frame to fill and at present stands narrower than those in front of him, with longer rear pasterns, but he still shows plenty of promise and has time on his side.

5. Stubbings’ Bluebreeze Mozart in Vienna. Darker gold with super angulation fore and aft, lovely head with the kindest of eyes, deep, mature body for age. Unfortunately, he was not for co-operating with his handler so leaning back on his pasterns making them look weak and roaching his back. I think once he gets his act together, he will present a different picture.

**Baby Puppy Bitch – 19 entries (3 absent)**

1. O’Sheehy’s Phileni Delta Dawn. What a little sweetheart! She completely ticked ALL of my boxes, loved everything about her. Only 3.5 months, she was presented to perfection and showed herself beautifully both standing with a topline like a board and moving freely and accurately around the very large ring. I hope she continues to develop in this way, she is stunning. **Best Baby Puppy in Show**

2. Stubbings’ Bluebreeze Pocket Change. Beautifully made cream, sister to baby dog winner and possessing all the same attributes, lovely angulation but nothing overdone, balanced and moved soundly but with not quite her littermate’s drive just yet.

3. Schack’s Dalsgold Deluge. Lovely coat on this light gold p who shows a lot of promise, found nothing to dislike, just needs a bit more time to drop into stifles. Very balanced for age.

4. Connell’s Eurogold La Vie Est Belle. Sweetest of heads on this darker baby with kind eye and dark pigment, correctly made and balanced for age, just needs to tighten up, I will be interested to see how she develops.

5. Goldshyne Kennels’ Goldshyne Hidden Gem. Very appealing shape on this cream p., I see she is litter sister to 3rd in Baby dog and like him, she is just at the age where she needs to drop into her stifles. Her pigment isn’t quite as good as his, nevertheless her conformation is good and again she moved really well.

**Minor Puppy Dog – 7 entries**

1. Ryan and Naudebaum’s Happybear Finishing Touch. Very impressive mid-gold dog with super construction throughout, plenty of forechest but not too much so, ample bone, masculine but not cloddy, liked him very much.

2. Middleton and Salvestrin’s Fantango One Vision, elegant cream boy with a super classic outline, neat feet and blackest of pigment, lovely bend of stifle, level topline, his bite is just acceptable at present, and I really hope it stays that way as he is stunning in every other aspect.

3. Kelton’s Goldshyne The Antz Pantz. Really liked this light gold with a gorgeous head, set on a good length of neck, with good angulation fore and aft, straight limbs when viewed from any angle, kinetically balanced and sound. Handler has a tendency to overstretch at times.

4. Simmons’ Gofetch –Gold-N-Rush (Imp NZ). Good overall construction, not quite as straight as others when viewed from front but by no means poor. Moved out well.

5. Rennie’s Winterlea I am Groot. This gold boy came into his own and looked best when on the move, but I would prefer more layback of shoulder (which may still come if it was there when younger). He stands balanced and foursquare with a level topline.

**Puppy Dog – 11 entries**

1. Parkridge Kennels’ Fernfall Mr Bojangles. Fabulous conformation on this cream boy who has everything I look for – clean, elegant outline but still with substance and masculinity. Loveliest of heads, super angles, liked him very much. **Best Puppy**

2. Thompson’s Chaleur Earth Wind and Fire (AI) Shares many of my winner’s attributes, but with a scopier frame to fill. I would like to see a little more thinning done on his neck but that’s just my preference – perhaps it’s a UK thing! I’m sure he has a very bright future ahead and I will watch with interest from afar.

3. Shield, Landy, Shield, Vowell and Lowe’s Alubyc Madagascar at Ayaimah (AI)Really liked this boy stacked, and thought at first, he might be my winner. Loved his head and his dead level topline. Movement going away was a little erratic.

4. Landy, Shield and Vowell’s Alubyc If Not Me Who With Alubyc. Balanced cream boy not in the best of coats but very pleasing construction. Head a little overdone for my taste. Good bend of stifle, well up on pasterns, tending to crouch a little when stacked.

5. Handley and Anderson’s Giltedge Austin Powers. Mid gold dog of lovely type with lots to like, well made all through, just slightly stuffy in neck at this stage of his development.

**Junior Dog -16 entries**

1. Stephens and Platt’s Fetchnpoint Roll Up Your Sleeve (AI) My notes say Wow! This dog’s outline just jumped out at me, and I was relieved to find on going over him that he is as good as he looked, and his movement didn’t disappoint either. A clear and obvious winner loved everything about him. **Best Junior**

2. Landy and Shield’s Askaval Ethos de Alubyc (AI)My notes say a very well made cream dog, standing foursquare and balanced with nothing to dislike. Unlucky to meet my winner.

3. Thompson’s Chaleur Eagle Has Landed (AI) Very glamorous cream dog with a lovely shape, just a little immature and needing time to fill out his frame and develop his head.

4. Middleton and Salvestrin’s Fantango Star Gazer. Very nicely made lad with correct balance and angulation, just had a tendency to crouch at time and spoil his topline which actually looked super level when he was moving.

5. Kurtz’ Paterbetgold N Moothi Estate. This darker gold boy was different from my other placings in this class, but I just really liked his correct construction without any exaggeration, and sound movement.

**Intermediate Dog – 16 entries**

1. Lowe’s Wembury When The Saints (AI) Realised why I was drawn to this lovely cream wavy-coated dog when I saw his breeding afterwards. Utterly balanced with good reach of neck, super angulation fore and aft, deep well-sprung rib cage, and most level of toplines. To cap it off he moved accurately with good reach and drive to take this super class.

2. Ritter’s Ch Kaparla Keep Your Hands Off. Darker boy whose construction really appealed. Lovely reach of neck set on good forehand construction, straight, sound limbs, moved out well, liked him very much.

3. Landy and Shield’s Askaval Anarchy with Alubyc. Squarer boy whose construction is very pleasing, unfortunately he had a mild cold tail which slightly spoilt the moving picture, but his balanced and correct conformation could not be denied.

4. Connell’s Eurogold Polar Express Glamorous dog in profuse coat, very much my type of head, straight and sound in limb and looked lovely on the move, just fractionally long in loin compared to first three.

5. Thompson’s Ch Chaleur Barrister. Larger-framed dog who was a pleasure to go over and is very eye-catching on the move, another who needs a bit more time to fill his frame and reach his full potential, I liked him a lot.

**Australian Bred – 15 entries (4 absent)**

1. Thompson’s Ch Chaleur U Had Me at Hello (AI) And he did, just as his name suggests. Super quality dog who greatly appealed, excellent construction throughout with no exaggerations, just loved everything about him and later he pulled out all the stops to win **Challenge Dog and RUBIS**.

2. Fall’s Ch Fernfall Street Talk. Another I could have happily taken home, gorgeous head, utter balance, just outstanding whatever way I looked at him.

3. Larsen’s Dobro Imperial Trek to Larsgold. Very eye catching mid-gold in super wavy coat, tons of substance, balanced and well angulated, moved with drive, completed a trio of really top-drawer dogs.

4. O’Sheehy’s Ch Shtar Seal of Approval. Rich golden boy who looked really good when stacked on the day and was beautifully presented, however something was just not quite right on the move – not overtly lame, perhaps best described as stiff.

5. Ryan’s Sup Ch Happybear A New Beginning (AI) I really liked this rich gold dog on the move, he is well made and has substance and power without coarseness, however when stacked he looked unbalanced as he was over-stretched and sloping away towards his tail. I would love to see him handled differently.

**Bred By Exhibitor – 8 entries, 1 absent**

1.Mitchell’s Kiriel Highland Laddie. Super dark gold boy with lovely construction, a pleasure to go over and moved accurately with reach and drive. A quality dog free from exaggeration

2. Cameron’s Beaudore Shake Ur Groove Thing. Cream dog whose balance, construction and finish I loved, beaten only by my winner’s more catlike feet. I especially liked his head and gentle expression.

3. Stubbings’ Sup Ch Bluebreeze Hero of Neverland. Smaller gold boy not in the best of coats today, I liked his honest, sound construction and he moved well.

4. Ryan’s Ch Serasigold Kissed by Yasi. Cream dog in lovely condition, neat feet and good bone, lovely angulation when standing right, just a tad longer in body for length of leg, which cost him a higher placing.

5. Jestrimski’s Ch Ivylock Ready Teddy Go. Mid-gold dog with adequate forehand, moderate in stifle but moved well.

**Open Dog – 13 entries, 2 absent**

1. Hodges and Salvestrin’s Ch Fantango Here Comes The Sun (AI) Absolutely gorgeous cream who has everything I look for, masculine yet elegant, lovely head and expression, well off for bone, reachy neck, super forehand complimented by equal bend of stifle, well sprung ribs, elbows tight to chest, short-coupled and balanced, he also looked a picture on the move. Pleased to award him **Reserve Challenge Dog and Best Open** in very strong competition

2. Thompson’s Sup Ch Chaleur Say I Will (AI) Loved this boy who shared many of my winner’s attributes, such a shame he was unsettled by the sudden loud thunderstorm during this class, causing him to crouch and his topline to fall away. Presented in beautiful coat and condition, forelegs well under his deep, mature body, another fabulous dog.

3. Clark’s Ch Hun Jr Ch Bonnett Bride Merchant Traveller (Imp Hun) Loved this dog ‘s type, well-presented in two-tone coat, super angulation both ends and the straightest of forelegs, just a whisper longer in loin than 1 and 2 but a super example of the breed.

4. Simmons’ Ch Thorlcan Turning Tides. Nothing flashy or overdone on this soundly made and balanced darker dog. His correct construction was especially evident on the move. Liked him a lot.

5. Robinson’s Ch Mon Moriani Galileo (Imp Nld) Beautifully made cream dog just coming into full coat, he has a beautiful head, super angulation fore and aft, catlike feet and sound, straight limbs when viewed from any angle

**Veteran 7+ Dog – 9 entries, 1 absent**

1. Middleton and Salvestrin’s Sup Ch Fantango Playing The Game (AI) What a stunning dog, very much has the stamp of this kennel with his fabulous outline. I especially loved his head, his front and his super topline, and he pressed hard in the challenge. I was pleased to award him **Best Veteran** against his lovely kennelmate who pushed hard the following day.

2. Kent’s Sup Ch Ikentrieve La Vida Loca (AI) This mid-gold is beautifully balanced, with a super topline and lots to like, he is fractionally more moderate in forehand angulation than my winner but has a lovely length of neck, and he moved beautifully.

3. Morrison’s Sup Ch Kaparla Game Plan. Quality gold boy well made and balanced, handled and presented to advantage, and looked especially good in profile movement.

4. Harrowfield’s Sup Ch Adoringgold Eye of the Storm (AI) Lovely boy standing foursquare with a gently wagging tail and level topline, he has ample bone and neat catlike feet, and he moved accurately.

5. Johnson’s Grand Ch Bicklewood Goodwill Hunting This dog came into his own on the move. Despite appearing to lack forechest and upperarm, he moved out with plenty of reach and drove well from behind, powering around the ring like a youngster.

**Minor Puppy Bitch – 16 entries, 1 abs**

1. Handley’s Giltedge Million Dollar Baby. Gorgeous mid-gold bitch with super balance and proportions for age, deal level topline, good bone and feet, yet very feminine. Lovely happy puppy who was a pleasure to get hands on, nothing overdone, and nothing to jar the eye. **Best Minor**

2. Middleton and Salvestrin’s Fantango Killer Queen. Glamorous cream puppy with a super front, excellent balance, straightest of fronts and perfect catlike feet. Sweet head, good pigment, just not quite as together on the move as yet.

3. Stephens and Platt’s Fetchnpoint I Spy W My Lil Eye. Not as mature as some in this class but has lots of promise. Super front, level topline, short coupled, good reach of neck, neat feet and straight front, lovely puppy.

4. Parkridge Kennels’ Parkridge Go Rikki. Cream pup who looked better moving than stacked. Super forehand assembly, great pigment, pasterns not as good as 1-3.

5. Morrison’s Kaparla Move Outta My Way. Attractive cream puppy who took my eye when stacked but has yet to develop in forechest. Level topline, lengthy neck, well bent stifles. Feminine but not weedy. Again, needs to tighten in pasterns.

**Puppy Bitch – 19 entries, 6 absent**

1. Hodges’ Camuka Highland Charlotta. Loved this puppy’s conformation from her super forehand placing legs well under body, to her balance, short couplings, level topline and stylish movement. Slightly unsure of herself but can forgive at this age when everything else is so pleasing.

2. Vowell, Landy and Shield’s Askaval Someone Like You with Alubyc. Short-coupled girl well presented and made, not quite the elegance of 1 but nevertheless a super promising puppy.

3. Handley and Anderson’s Giltedge Look at Ava. Loved this puppy for type and overall construction, she was really lacking confidence so paid the price unfortunately. I hope she will overcome this as she matures because she is just beautiful.

4. Bristow’s Emperosgold Tarraleah. Very clean outline on this scopey gold puppy with a super level topline. Looking a little less mature and longer than those placed in front of her and standing a little ten to two at present but I loved her profile appearance.

5. Thompson’s Chaleur Everlasting. Cream puppy with a great front, handled to advantage. Lots to like about her but a little long in loin and would prefer better feet.

**Junior Bitch – 20 entries, 4 absent**

1. Ryan, Stephens and Platt’s Ch Fetchnpoint Shake Rattle Roll at Happybear (AI). Took my eye straight away when she entered the ring. This young bitch has it all, she epitomises symmetry and balance, I loved her head and she moved beautifully to top it off.

2. Dyer’s Gunnaryn Beautiful Dreamer. Close up to 1, I really liked this girl. Again, she has a beautiful head with dark pigment, set on good neck and shoulders, her elbows are close to her chest, a pleasure to go over, just not quite as together as my winner yet.

3. Stephens’ Fetchnpoint Cat and The Fiddle. Darker bitch with a lovely clean outline, lengthy neck, good spring of rib, well-boned straight limbs, good layback of shoulder, adequate forechest, great bend of stifle and super topline.

4. Yoshino’s Japorik Forbidden Love. Not as mature and developed as others but a lovely, elegant outline, balanced and well-angulated. Slightly erratic on the move.

5. Krischer’s Goldivine Windsong. Similar shape to 4, super front angulation but slightly weedy in bone, pasterns and feet could be stronger. Loved her head and expression, moved well.

**Intermediate Bitch – 29 entries, 7 absent**

1. Molnar’s Dobro Spanish Moon (AI) What a stunning bitch, great outline with the best of fronts, level topline, good turn of stifle, very attractive head, catlike feet, so much to love about her. **Best Intermediate**

2. Vowell’s Wembury Tequila Mockingbird at Alubyc (AI). Another really lovely bitch, so well made and a lovely mover, fractionally wider in front and heavier boned than winner, but one I would be happy to own.

3. Thompson Ch Chaleur Zilver Lining. Beautiful, elegant bitch with a lovely outline, long neck, level topline, just needs a little time to mature and fill that frame.

4. Middleton and Salvestrin’s Fantango With A Twist (AI) Another quality bitch with great conformation throughout, presented in good coat and condition, neatest of feet, tendency to slope at times but when stood correctly has a level topline.

5. Stephens Fetchnpoint Whats New Pussycat. Balanced bitch with a lovely outline, slightly finer in bone than winners, and feet could be better nevertheless top quality.

**Australian Bred Bitch – 22 entries, 4 absent**

1. Middleton and Salvestrin’s Fantango Sunny Side Up (AI) Very nicely made bitch with a classic head, nothing overdone, nothing to dislike apart from a tendency to sometimes lose her stifle and therefore her topline on the stack. However, I saw enough to award her this super class.

2. Thompson’s Ch Chaleur U Are The One (AI). A flashier bitch who I liked a lot, has all the breed standard requires, beautifully balanced and angulated, just tended to lean back on her pasterns which swung it for my winner,

3. Stubbings’ Ch Bluebreeze Barefoot Princess . Loved this little bitch, both standing and, on the move, very much the shape I look for, would have preferred more depth of muzzle and a darker eye.

4. Handley’s Ch Giltedge Catch My Act. Mature bitch, beautifully made, well off for bone and substance, neat feet, well ribbed up and has a level topline

5. Schwebel’s Phileni Allo Allo Allie. Scopier bitch, not in full coat but nothing to hide in her lovely outline, not quite the reach in front of those placed in front of her but still loads to commend her.

**Bred By Exhibitor Bitch – 12 entries, 3 absent**

1. Handley’s Giltedge Catching At Dobro. What can I say about this outstanding bitch! All I have written is “the standard in the flesh”. She has symmetry, she has balance, she has just the right amount of angulation, she has plenty of substance yet retains essential femininity, there really isn’t one thing I would change about her, and I am sure she is destined for great things. No hesitation in awarding her **Challenge Bitch and Best in Show** – congratulations to her owner and breeder.

2. Clark’s Ch Naragold Athena. Super quality bitch with everything the standard requires, another who filled my eye completely. Nothing overdone but ticked absolutely all my boxes. **Reserve Challenge Bitch.**

3. Middleton and Salvestrin’s Ch Fantango Poker Face. Another gorgeous bitch from this kennel. Best of fronts, balanced and mature, unlucky to meet 1 and 2 on top form.

4. Fall’s Ch Fernfall Fly Me To The Moon. Glamorous blonde bombshell with a lovely outline, moved accurately with both reach and drive, just stands a little closer in front than the higher placed bitches.

5. Connell’s Eurogold Me Before You. Mature, well ribbed-up, short-coupled bitch with a good bend of stifle, lots to like but front feet not her fortune, would prefer darker eye and neater ears.

**Open Bitch – 18 entries, 2 absent**

1. Handley’s Giltedge You Watching Me. Another outstanding bitch from this kennel with many of the same attributes, cut from the same cloth. Couldn’t fault her really apart from being a bit of a fidget!

2. Thompson’s Sup Ch Chaleur Say My Name (AI) Impressive cream bitch, standing on best of feet, she has straight, strong limbs, super construction, nothing overdone, moved beautifully, just changing her jacket.

3. Middleton and Salvestrin’s Ch Fantango Do You Wanna Dance. Lovely, elegant bitch with super angles and balance, straight front, neat feet, sweet head with lovely pigment, moved stylishly if a tad close behind.

4. Lowe’s Wembury Reason To Believe. Really like this bitch’s construction, mature, deep body, well sprung ribs, lovely angulation and a level topline. Slight cosmetic colouring fault on face but deserved her place.

5. Robinson’s Amilone Stone The Crows (Imp Nld). Loved this bitch’s outline, she also has the best of heads and was dripping in coat, she moved stylishly and accurately but gave her handler a hard time fidgeting on the stack and placing her forelegs too close just when it mattered.

**Veteran 7+ Bitch – 7 entries**

1. Middleton and Salvestrin’s Gr Ch Fantango Stack The Deck. This super bitch, according to my notes, moved like a train and her handler struggled to keep up! She is beautifully made, standing balanced and foursquare on the neatest of feet, just the right amount of angulation. She has a sweet head with great pigment, a lovely reach of neck set on well laid back shoulders, a level topline and all topped off with an ever-wagging tail. She was a serious contender in the bitch challenge and was so unlucky to meet her kennelmate in the veteran challenge.

2. Handley’s Giltedge Catch Your Breath. Close decision between these next two but this one had the slightly better forechest. Dead level topline, balanced all through, a quality exhibit.

3. Stubbings’ Grand Ch Bluebreeze Cover Girl. Loved this sweet bitch who moved so nicely and steadily with accurate footfall. Gorgeous head and expression, she did not look her age.

4. Murphy’s Ch Majik Queen Of Jazz. Won this place with her elegant outline and super forehand, she was slightly stiff on the move. Feet and pasterns could be better.

5. Wallis’ Ch Calendula The Cleaning Lady. Loveliest eye and expression on this sweet girl, she looked her best when moving, when stacked I would have liked to see more angulation but she is balanced so it didn’t affect her movement.

**Neuter Dog – 1entry**

1. Webster’s Neut Ch Dual Ch (Ro) Ch Jukeran Dares Cool Dude CCD CDX. Dark boy in great condition for his age, kindly head and expression, adequate forehand, presented a balanced outline with a level topline.

**Neuter Bitch – 12 entries**

1. Stephens, Handley and Platt’s Ch Giltedge Roll Out The Red Carpet (AI) CCD RN ET. Gorgeous bitch who could hold her own in any class. Beautifully made and balanced all through, possessing all the essentials, liked her very much. **Best Neuter**

2. Kent’s Ikentrieve El Amor Sophia (AI). Different type to winner, but also very well made. Compact cream with a lovely head, super angulation, short-coupled and nothing to excess. Lovely girl.

3. Ritter’s Neut Ch Ch Kaparla Committed No Crime (AI)Rangier dark bitch with a pleasing outline, well-angulated fore and aft, level topline and moved well.

4. Wolverson’s Neut Ch Ch Aubairn in Rapsches. A balanced bitch with more moderate angles but level topline, in good condition, straight limbs and neat feet, moved ok.

5. Easton’s Montego Truly Yours (AI) This bitch’s bite has gone, as has her coat, but I loved her overall shape and suspect she would have looked lovely in her prime. Good forechest and angulation, neat feet.

Fiona Clarkson (Drumkilty)