

Basset Griffon Vendéen (Grand)

20 / 7 / 2018

LAST WEEKEND SAW THE HOUNDSHOW on its earlier date in July. Prior to the show they had put a notice out to state that all judging was to take place indoors due to the excessive heat that was forecast. We were based in the Prestwood centre and, whilst the ring was large and there were spacious grooming areas, the hall was stifling hot with no air whilst judging took place. At one point I even went outside to cool down!

Alan Mease started promptly at 9am0 with the GBGVs. He had an entry of 24 with 4 absent on the day. Dog CC and Best of Breed was a first after a number of reserves for Danielle Machent and Barbara Milton's Tioga Lautrec With Grandoreille, reserve to him was his father, Ch Debucher Matisse owned by Vivien Phillips and Claire Cooper. Bitch CC was Fiona Buchanan and Michael MacLaren's Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Florentine with the reserve going to Barbara's Wilmit Independence Day. Best Puppy was Yvonne Moul's Zamdilsa Trick or Treat (Ivy) Best Veteran Danielle's Wilmit Eclipse and Best Special Beginner went to Hilary Knowles' Anya Hindmarch Avec Braillement.

Group judging was called for at 2.30pm and yet at 6pm we were still going. However this did not matter to Yvonne as Ivy went all the way to BPIS under Marie Bryce-Smith. Many congratulations to Yvonne as Ivy is her first homebred Grand.

In the stakes classes Indi was 2nd in the Junior Stakes under Graham Hill and Colin and Ann Makey's Gairside Good Lord JW ShCM won the Bred by Exhibitor Open Stakes under Nick Bryce-Smith. Many congratulations to everyone.

On Sunday I got up early to attend the Breed Education Coordinator (BEC) information day. From the 183 breeds approximately 150 BECs attended the day. Although it was hard going with a lot of information packed in, I found it incredibly useful. I now think I fully understand the new judging process and am confident that I can undertake the role successfully, however it will need an awful lot of assistance and support from you guys as GBGV owners, breeders and judges. What was also useful is the KC provided us with an article around the BEC and the new system which can now be seen on the club website at bgvclub.co.uk/judges-competency-framework.

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