

IWANE July 2018

I want to thank IWANE members for choosing me to judge Puppy Sweepstakes at the July 2018 Specialty. As I started each class, I reminded the exhibitors to have fun with their pups. We want to build a love for the ring in these young Wolfhounds. If they leaped and spun, that was ok, I had plenty of time to let them try again.

My Best in Sweeps, from the 12 – 15 month class, was O'Lugh Blackwater Bombay. An elegant bitch who took my eye the moment she walked into the ring. Balanced from every angle, she covered the ground effortlessly. Nicely muscled, substantial without being cumbersome. Strong loin, with a correct outline. I look forward to watching her in the years ahead.

My Best Op in Sweeps was from the 6 – 9 month class. Starkeeper Abbey's Alfred gave his handler a challenging time by being a typical puppy wanting to look around and taking a few leaps. I liked the substance and strength on this puppy. Nice bone, good width of body. Too many of the pups were narrow through the pelvic area which leads to weak rears.

As is true in so many breeds, the quality seems to be in the bitches. I saw a few pups that lacked elegance and plodded when moved. Feet for the most part were good, I only saw one pup with splayed feet. Fronts are an ongoing weak area. Straight and short upper arm leads to incorrect and stilted movement. A few pups were already toeing in.

In general, most of the pups were outgoing and stable. Two were shy and one bitch was lively but I was unable to place her because of her temperament.

Thank you again for this wonderful opportunity. The embroidered bag is awesome and a nice memento of an enjoyable assignment.

Christine Danker

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