Before you read my comments, in regards to a quality entry of puppies at this years IWANE specialty, I need to say thank you to the show committee, especially Show Chairperson Karen Eberl, Chief Ring steward Marc Campbell,and photographer Mary O' Malley. All IWANE members and exhibitors made my day a delightful experience and I am forever grateful that I had the opportunity to evaluate these up and coming IW puppies.I was totally suprised by a very thoughtful and lovely judges gift which is a portrait of our girl Cana.

Generally speaking the entire entry was strong in conformation and most importantly temperaments were solid. Not always an easy accomplishment to have both so I must commend the breeders and exhibitors for their dedication and socialization of this fine group of young hounds.

On the day the B.I.S and her OP.in sweeps could have changed places, in my humble opinion, along with a few others that were in strong consideration. Just a pleasure to have so many to choose from.

6 to 9 month junior dog

First- #5, Handsome pup in good coat, dark pigment, flowing strong neck into shoulder with good return of upper arm. Puppy moves very clean on down and back with efficient reach and drive when viewing his side movement. Solid temperament. Good bone. Prefer a better ear which detracts from his nice head and lacking rise over loin.

9 to 12 month junior dog

First- #6, Lovely crisp wheaten coat with dark rosed ears. Nicely shaped dark eyes. On the move clean coming and going although tail set is high on the day. Good breadth of chest and good bone. Prefer better bend in stifle.

12 to 15 month senior dog

First- #7 and B.OP. in sweeps, Lovely grey hound shape in harsh coat. Dark pigmentation, tight rosed ear, strong neck into shoulder, strong topline, correct rise over loin. Nice bend through stifle. Hound has efficient side gait holding his shapely curves on the move. Clean coming and going.

Second #8, Dark pigmentation, ear set and front not on par with first placed dog, nice length of leg. Today hound not using himself efficiently and carrying his tail too high.

15-to-18-month senior dog

First - #11, Good pigmentation, a little more stop than I prefer between the eyes, good harsh coat, nice sight hound shape, moves clean on down and back. Prefer less sharpness in croup and more length of upper arm.

6-to-9-month junior bitches

First- #24, Lovely type, harsh coat, beautiful old-style head, good length of muzzle with nice ear set, dark almond shaped eyes, neck into shoulder flows nicely, strong topline, good thigh and second thigh. All leading to a nicely balance hound standing and on the move.

Second- #26, Not quite as strong as first place although another lovely puppy in good coat. She has dark pigmentation, good front and a strong topline. Nice bend through stifle and moved clean up and back along with efficient side movement.

Third- #27, Another puppy in good coat, Strong topline, adequate moving although shoulder set should be more laid back.

Fourth - #25, Really struggled with this puppy finding her longer than I would like in the loin. She moves well covering ground with ease. Pretty head, dark pigment, strong thigh and second thigh.

9-to-12-month junior bitch

First - #28, Another promising puppy in harsh coat, lovely head, good ear set, dark pigment. Nice return of upper arm, smooth neck into lay back of shoulder and correct topline flowing through croup. Beautiful balanced and clean on the move. Superb old style.

Second- #29, Nice wheaten puppy in good harsh coat, good pigment, dark eye, adequate length of leg, however, not as good of return of upper arm as first place and not as strong in hindquarters.

15 to 18 senior bitches

First- #32 and B.I.S., Fabulous in type, beautiful old-style head, coarse dark coat, dark eyes, flowing neck into nice layback of shoulder, nice return of upper arm, strong topline, good thigh and second thigh, nice bend through stifle and she covers ground with ease and efficiency. Eye catcher as soon as she enters ring as were my other first place bitch puppies. They are pretty much carbon copies.

Second- #33, Another puppy in good coat, rosed ears, nice lenght of leg with well drawn up belly,strong topline. Return of upper arm not as good as first place. Moves clean and effortlessly.

Third- #34, Nice wheaton in harsh coat ,dark pigment,dark eyes and ears to set off coat in style. Strong topline.

Fourth-#30, Nice head with dark eyes and ears,harsh coat. Forward in shoulder and straigther upper arm and softer topline than those place ahead.

Congratulations IWANE members and all exhibitors

Thank You! Joe