

JANE HAEFNER'S JUDGING REPORT FROM, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2013

What an honor to have you vote and put your trust in my ability to judge your dogs. Thank you to the all members of the Potomac Valley Bernese Mountain Dog Club. You had a wonderful weekend of shows with a match! Your club has one of most consistent biggest entries for a regional in the county. That is because you have a well run show and all work together. Thank you to all the workers. Thank you Beki Gieseke, show chair who was very helpful. From the judge's contract to the time I left, she was on the ball, informing me of what airports I could fly into, to arrange for friends to take me to dinner Friday night. My stewards Elinor Abrell and Herb Hoffman who kept my ring running smoothly, efficiently. To Dotty who served a wonderful lunch and all the ladies who put together the reception.

Bitches had more quality than dogs, which isn't unusual. The 12-15 mo. Dog class was well balanced, beautiful type but young. My winner's dog and reserve came from the open dog class. Good reach and drive, level toplines, bone in proportion to body type. The open class had good consistent quality throughout. My winners and reserve had good reach and drive, level toplines, typey heads which you don't see often. The bitches: The 6-9 mo. bitch class had the most potential but still young. Good balance, lovely head type. The 9-12 mo. class was a little shy, could just be the age and I know you will work with them. The 12-15 mo. class also had great potential. The bred by class was different, different heads, body types which shouldn't be. My winners bitch and reserve were beautiful. Lovely head type, balanced, good reach and drive. My reserve was young but beautiful and so put together for her age. It was the maturity that was the difference between the two.

Veterans: Oh how lucky you are to have such beautiful veterans. Look at the entry, they were still balanced, moved gracefully but denoted how powerful they really were! They were all very capable of competing for breed. The AOM Dog and Select bitch were in excellent shape, moved well, and were balanced.

The specials were wonderful. Consistent in quality, nice mature heads, good type and bone. Some still are moved too fast. Remember draft dog. I will always remember Debbie Mulvey teaching new judges to compare the movement of the Thoroughbred and Clydesdale horses. Clydesdale's don't move fast but have a collected beautiful trot. Slow them down.

Bites were good; I saw very few missing teeth. We still have too many rounded eyes and lite eyes. But all in all it was a privilege to judge your dogs and I had a wonderful time. Thank you all so much.

Sincerely,

Jane Haefner