Golden Retriever Club of New South Wales. Saturday 8th September 2012

Judge: Jo Naylor (Frankby)

Firstly, I would like to thank the committee for inviting me to judge this prestigious show, and the exhibitors for allowing me the privilege of judging some beautiful dogs. I found, amongst my principle winners exactly what I was looking for: a balanced dog, with the correct degree of angulation and free flowing movement. In some cases, heads were not my personal ideal and some of the bitches, I felt, could have been more feminine, but I consider this to be a subjective preference and I did not allow it to affect my placing an otherwise outstanding animal, unless it compromised breed type. In some of the larger classes, excellent, quality dogs went cardless and some decisions were really splitting hairs. I have been impressed by, and admired, the level of professionalism shown by exhibitors. I had an absolutely brilliant time, thank you to all who made it an unforgettable experience.

Class 1 – Baby Puppy Dog 1st: P Middleton & J Salverstrin - Fantango Playing the Game. Lovely baby, well off for bone and substance, very sweet, gentle expression. Well angulated upper arm, slightly down on pasterns at this moment, but this is transient. Excels in level top line and well angulated quarters. Moved out extremely well for his age.

2nd: P.Middleton & J Salverstrin - Fantango Playing for Keeps. Similar remarks apply, slightly less substance and slightly longer in second thigh, but excellent top line and tail set, really super baby.

3rd: K Handle - Giltedge Repeat Offender. Another lovely baby with good reach of neck and good balance, slightly less positive in top line at the moment. Difficult to assess bite today. Three puppies with a bright future.

Class 2 – Minor Puppy Dog 1st: K Jones - Jonesh Chai Latte Nicely put together young boy, with excellent reach of neck into well laid shoulders and good angulation of upper arm. Short coupled, with the levelest of toplines, good tail set and strong well angulated quarters. Very nice puppy.

2nd: Parkridge – Goldstreem Majik Happens Well balanced boy, with very pretty cream coat, slightly overstretched which spoilt the overall look, but very nicely proportioned, with balanced angulation. Slightly domed in skull for my personal taste.

3rd: JW & DL Wadsley – Tweedwater Royal Fusilier Good sized boy, shown in lovely mid-gold coat. Slightly longer on the leg with level top line and plenty of substance. Again, head not my personal taste, but another super young dog.

Class 3 – Puppy Dog 1st: Beaucroft Kennels – Giltedge Class Act Really nice mid-gold dog. Nicely balanced, with well set on neck with good head carriage. Plenty of bone and substance and the neatest of feet. Good top line with strong, well proportioned and angulated quarters. Moved out really well, very free flowing with good extension.

2nd: H Morrison – Kaparla Formular One Loved this super young dog, very impressive, loved his balanced outline, very close decision between these two, due to slight 'puppy roll' he lost his top line on the move.

3rd: S Stevens – Fetchnpoint You Play You Pay Really nice puppy with very pretty, contrasting mid gold coat. Not quite the reach of neck of 1st and 2nd, but good upper arm angulation, good depth of chest, level top line. Well off for bone with neat feet.

Class 4 Junior Dog 1st: P Middleton/ J Salvestrin – Heatwave Spirit of Northern Light (Imp Swe) Beautiful dog, shown in super condition with very attractive pale gold coat. Very balanced angulation, not overdone in any way. Excellent top line and tail set. Straight and true fore and aft, with good feet. Would actually prefer more profiling in skull. This dog is fabulous on the move, very stylish, with active, powerful, free flowing movement.

2nd: D Stubbings – Bluebreeze The Flying Scotsman Another lovely boy, shown in lovely condition, with most glamorous mid-gold coat. Pleasing, balanced head with kind expression. All the body properties I am looking for, Good length of neck, well angulated forequarter assembly with corresponding strong hindquarters. Very close decision between these two; I am sure they will change places many times.

3rd: WA & KDL Vowell – Inniscroft Pinkerly Adagio for Alubyc (Imp NZ) Very attractive cream dog with balanced angulation. Preferred the head qualities of 1 and 2 and not so positive in tail set, but very nice young dog.

Class 5 Intermediate Dog 1st: C Cooke & K Handley – Goldew Southern Son (Best Dog/Runner up BIS) An absolute cracker! Gorgeous boy, shown in shining, golden coat with plenty of contrasting feathering, in super condition. Dark eye, with keen expression, and super pigment. Good reach of neck into well-laid shoulders and excellent upper arm angulation. Well off for bone with lovely, wellknuckled, neat feet. Firm top line and tail set, held nicely on the move. Strong, well proportioned quarters enabled positive, driving, accurate movement with good extension.

2nd: J M Bliss – Ocean View Happy days Another really nice male, not such super pigment, but pleasing head. Well off for bone with good strong pasterns. Excellent layback of shoulder with corresponding upper arm angulation. Well balanced rear angulation, enabled accurate movement.

3rd: R Brown – CH Willowlawn Cool Yule (Imp UK) Really nice pale gold boy with balanced angulation. Well-proportioned head, with kind eye and expression. Short coupled, good fore chest, super level top line and tail set. On occasion, not so positive in front pasterns.

Class 10 Australian Bred Dog 1st: P Middleton & J Salvestrin – GR CH Fantango Wild Oats Loved everything about this dog – really impressive mid-gold male, outstanding, clean outline, well off for bone and substance. Pleasing head with gentle expression and dark eye. Very balanced conformation, excellent neck flowing into well-laid shoulders, good breadth of fore chest, deep through the heart. Neat well-padded feet. Moved out extremely well, with style and panache in the class, but not so positively in challenge.

2nd: Beaucroft Kennels – CH Larbellah Take The Lead Very nice mid-gold dog, again, very good on the move with forward driving, accurate movement. Good reach of neck, well-laid shoulder and good angulation of upper-arm. Well off for bone, good strong pasterns with neat feet. Good hindquarter assembly, very nicely balanced all through.

3rd: S Stevens – CH Burragundy Brace Yourslf ET Very nice strongly-made dog, short coupled, slightly shorter on the leg, but with balanced angulation. Lovely reach of neck into well-laid shoulders, good forechest. Well off for bone and substance. Good, driving movement from strong, well angulated quarters.

Class 11 Open Dog 1st: K Handley & D Petterwood – CH Larbellah Team Leader Stunning dark gold boy, rather strong in head for my personal taste, but balanced proportions with super pigment. Beautifully balanced outline. Excellent forequarter assembly, strong level top line held on the move. Powerful, well angulated hindquarters. Beautiful, flowing, accurate movement, really owns the ring.

2nd: P Middleton & J Salvestrin — CH Fantango Backstage Pass Very nice mid-gold dog, more compact than winner and slightly longer in second thigh. Good length of neck in to well-laid shoulders. Super upper arm angulation, good forechest. Good bone, neat feet. Strongly made dog, with powerful level movement.

3rd: M J & P A O'Sheehy – CH Aneiraby Sirius Charm Another very nice male shown in very pretty gold coat with contrasting feathering. Slightly longer cast that 2, but very nice, balanced angulation. Moved accurately with style.

Class 12 Veteran Dog 1st: S Jewell – GR CH Shogold Marathon Affair Dark gold boy, shown in super condition. Balanced angulation fore and aft, moved out accurately, well handled and presented.

2nd: G & K McNee – GR CH Lionsfield Water Ladd CCD ET Another sweet oldie, shown in lovely dark coat, nicely balanced head with kind expression. Balanced angulation and good top line.

3rd: W J & S McGrath – CH Alnclair Gilly's Hero Very nice cream boy with good angles and plenty of substance, just losing his top line now.

Class 1a Baby Puppy Bitch 1st: P Middleton & J Salvestrin - Fantango Truly Madly Deeply This class gave me a real headache! It was really difficult to separate the winners, all of whom were real heartbreakers. Gorgeous cream baby, absolutely super. Adorable, feminine head. Lovely bone. Well laid shoulders with excellent angulation of upper arm. Super, level top line, well angulated quarters. Moved out really well for her age, very promising baby.

2nd: E Clarke & K Handley - Naragold Trilogy Lovely, slightly older baby, slightly longer cast. Lovely reach of neck into well-laid shoulders and upper arm. Well off for bone. Strong rear angulation. Another with a bright future.

3rd: A & J & K Upton – Jukeran Chill Factor Very nice darker puppy. Very pretty, nice head and expression, with super reach of neck into good forequarter assembly. Good top line and quarters, plenty of substance and neat feet.

Class 2a Minor Puppy Bitch 1st: A & N Kelton – Goldstreem Majik Tricks Loved this puppy. Very pretty cream bitch. Super reach of neck into well angulated shoulders and upper arm. Well off for bone, plenty of fore chest, excellent balanced hindquarters. Moved out positively and accurately.

2nd: C & L Jones – Jonesh Cinnamon Latte Gorgeous mid-gold puppy, shown in lovely profuse coat with contrasting feathering. Very pretty girl with super balance, lovely outline, straight, true front and well angulated quarters. Really splitting hairs with these three, winner just had the edge on maturity on the day.

3rd: E Molnar – Alnclair Pink Diamond at Dobro Another super baby, gone up on the leg at this stage, but most lovely, clean outline. She took my eye immediately, just losing out on maturity today. Lovely angulation fore and aft. Moved out very well. These three are sure to go to the top.

Class 3a Puppy Bitch 1st: S Stevens – Fetchnpoint You And Whose Army Very feminine bitch, beautiful reach of neck. Well laid shoulders into nicely angulated upper arm, good breadth of forechest, well-ribbed, short coupled. Lovely bend of stifle, short rear pasterns. Moved beautifully, with style.

2nd: K Handley – Giltedge Soul Sister Another beautiful pale gold bitch, very feminine, with kind dark eye and excellent pigment. Lovely reach of neck, very clean outline. Similar remarks apply and very close up to winner, just preferred the overall balance of first on the day.

3rd: L & I Olsen – Goldbrior Your So Fine Loved this bitch, super quality and femininity, would actually prefer more chiselling on head, but most lovely girl. Super, balanced angulation, shown in beautiful coat and condition. Today, not quite so positive on the move. Three lovely girls, who will, I am sure, change places many times.

Class 4a Junior Bitch 1st: P Middleton & J Salvestrin - Fantango Walkin On The Wildside Three excellent bitches headed this quality class where many good bitches were unplaced. Winner, very feminine bitch, beautiful reach of neck into well laid shoulder. Good breadth of forechest. Level top line with well set-on tail. Moved out well with plenty of drive.

2nd: E Clark - Naragold Forget Me Not Another beautiful pale gold bitch with the femininity I was looking for. Dark eye and excellent pigment. Very clean outline, with balanced angulation. Close up to winner, just preferred the substance and overall balance on the day.

3rd: R M Pierce – Ralun Diamonds Are Forever Loved this bitch, fabulous quality and stunning outline with lovely angles. Would prefer slightly more chiselling and stop, but still a lovely feminine bitch. Today, not quite as positive on the move as the first two, but lots of potential, I am sure she has a bright future.

Class 5a Intermediate Bitch 1st: R M Pierce – Ralun Classique Design Another strong class, with some hair-splitting decisions. All those shortlisted, could easily have won on another day. My winner had everything I was looking for; very elegant cream bitch in super coat and condition. Feminine head, with dark eye and pleasing expression. Excellent reach of neck, well set on, flowing into well laid shoulders with level top line. Perfectly balanced, with plenty of substance whilst retaining femininity. Moved out well, with plenty of drive from strong well angulated quarters.

2nd: R & J Upsall – Standndeliva Highland Cream Very feminine bitch in pretty mid-gold coat. Very appealing, with kind expression. Lovely clean outline with good bone and substance and neat feet. Well balanced angulation, with excellent top line and tail set. Moved accurately, handled to advantage.

3rd: S Marmo – Kaparla Gosh I'm Posh Another top class bitch with super bone and substance, beautifully balanced feminine head. Excellent breadth of forechest, plenty of heartroom, short coupled, excellent angulation fore and aft. Very attractive bitch.

Class 10a Australian Bred Bitch 1st: R M Pierce – CH Ralun Xtravaganza Lovely, feminine cream bitch, very animated and attractive on the move. Powered round the ring with style, whilst retaining accurate movement. Very balanced with clean lines. Good reach of neck, strong top line and tail set. She may not have the upper arm angulation of some of the others (in my opinion) but she screams 'class'. A good dog is much more than the sum of its parts, and she is a very good dog. Handled to perfection.

2nd: S Stevens & K Lynch - CH Yellowfetch Shinin Light Slightly larger pale gold bitch, still retaining femininity. Very nicely made. Excellent forequarter assembly. Good, powerful quarters, moved beautifully.

3rd: J Grierson – CH Goldlake Once Upon A Time Another very pretty bitch, elegant and stylish. Very attractive two-toned coat. Good body properties and balanced angulation. All the winners in this class portrayed the feminine qualities I was looking for in a class where, for me, some bitches were rather too 'doggy'.

Class 11a Open Bitch 1st: R M Pierce – CH Ralun A Touch Of Silk – (Best Bitch – BIS) This is a fabulous bitch – for me, from her nose to the tip of her tail she is just about perfect in every detail. She oozes quality. Stunning, clean outline, everything in perfect harmony, nothing extreme or overdone. Beautifully balanced angulation, perfectly put together. Best of all, she flowed round the ring with a style and drive seldom seen in the bitch ring with beautiful extension, it was a joy to watch. I wish she was mine!

2nd: E Clark – CH Naragold Angelica Lovely darker bitch, different type, but again, nothing in extreme. Beautiful reach of neck into level top line. Good shoulders. Well off for bone and substance, shown in lovely coat and condition. Well presented and handled, moved out freely from good strong driving quarters.

3rd: A & N Kelton – CH Majik Truly Julie (Imp Fin) Very pretty cream bitch, kind eye and expression. Excels in layback of shoulder, good breadth of chest. Plenty of substance, whilst retaining femininity. Good level top line, strong, well angulated quarters. Moved out well.

Class 12a Veteran Bitch 1st S Stevens - GR CH Yellowfetch Whatzit To U ET Very nice mid-gold bitch. Plenty of substance, short coupled, well angulated fore and aft. Moved out really well, belying her age.

2nd: S Patterson – Mycav Retrieving The Gold CD Really nice bitch, very feminine, with balanced angulation, strong over the loin. Strong, short pasterns. Moved out well.

3rd: J A Hession – Goldtreve Wild Child Lighter framed bitch, with nice dark eye, would prefer a little more stop, but very pretty. Excellent reach of neck, with well laid shoulders and good upper arm angulation, balanced quarters. Moved out well.

Class 18 Neuter Dog 1st: M Webster – Neut CH Jukeran Whispering Tambo CDX Stood alone, but was not allowing that fact to spoil his moment in the spotlight! A real showman, enjoying every moment of his day. Attractive mid – gold coat that would be enhanced by a little trimming.

Class 18a Neuter Bitch 1st: M Stuckey – Goldtreve Dream Weaver Very feminine cream bitch, very nice quality. Lovely clean neck, with balanced angulation. Short coupled, deep through the chest. Moved out really well.

2nd: Easton & Prestidge - Montego Field Of Dreams CD Pretty cream bitch with super pigment. Clean neck, with good upper arm angulation. Well balanced quarters. Accurate, level mover.

3rd: R R Easton – CH Seaduel Diamonds Are Forever Very attractive bitch, compact body with plenty of heartroom. Well handled and presented. Close decision, just preferred the tail set of 2nd.