

## **Zpráva od rozhodkyně P.J.Brown**

### **Judge's Report on Klub Tibetskej Dogy Show 02.10.2011**

I was very honoured to be invited to judge your club show. I would like to thank the officers and committee of the club for their kindness in inviting me to participate in such a pleasant and well-run show. My thanks also to my efficient and long-suffering secretary Linda and to the people who coped so well with handing out awards and trophies. My especial thanks must go to my guide Alena Vrbovska and her husband who helped to make the rest of my visit to Slovakia as memorable as the show itself.

I would like to share with you some of my thoughts. First I would like to congratulate you on the quality of the Tibetan Mastiffs which came into the ring. On the whole, conformation was excellent and I was delighted to see so much bone, something which is lacking in a lot of the British Tibetan Mastiffs. Shoulder placements were generally very good and top lines were level and retained on the move. Most hind quarters were strong enough and angulation was moderate. In profile movement was pleasing but rear movement was not wonderful in many exhibits with hocks being far too close to give any real power. There were exceptions to this however and the winning dogs moved with more drive and purpose.

What did concern me was the amazing variety in type, especially in the bitches. My final line up in Open Bitch provided examples of four totally different types, all excellent in their own way, but it would have been difficult to explain to an interested novice observer just what a Tibetan Mastiff should look like! Having said that, I felt that the general quality of the bitches was good and this is where the future of any breed lies, in its bitches.

I had one or two worries. Although temperament on the whole was excellent, there were a couple of youngsters who could not cope with the whole show experience and I certainly did not want to cause them any more stress by insisting on attempting to judge them. They were nice dogs so perhaps some more socialising work might benefit them. I was concerned about one or two males with very heavy skulls. Too much skin on the head gives a Shar-pei / ChowChow look which should be avoided at all costs, not merely because it does not fit the standard but also because it can lead to eye problems which cause suffering to the dog and which can be hereditary. Careful breeding should ameliorate the problem.

My final concern was coats. The breed standard used to be held by the British Kennel Club but it was handed over to the FCI at the moment when some other colours and coat types were appearing in the breed. My own preference, as I expect you noticed, is for clear coat colours, in other words the classical traditional colours. With the influence of China increasing, I am worried about what lies in store for this breed of ours in years to come. I wonder if we shall recognise a Tibetan Mastiff in twenty years? With some breeders producing dilute coat colours because the puppies sell for more money if they are unusual, we may have to fight very hard to preserve this wonderful breed as we know it today.

I would like to conclude by thanking all the exhibitors for the sportsman-like way in which they accepted my decisions and for bringing me such charming Tibetan Mastiffs to judge. I thoroughly enjoyed my day with you and I wish you every success with your dogs both in and out of the show ring.

**Pamela Jeans-Brown**