

The Gordon Setter Association Championship Show 1

12th April 2025

Judge: Mrs S Mitchell

Firstly I would like to say thankyou to all the members who voted me in to judge at the 2025 Gordon Setter Association Championship Show. My thanks also go to a very welcoming atmosphere on the day and to my stewards who kept the ring running smoothly throughout the day. The atmosphere was lovely with lineups gaining applause from spectators around the ring.

I found that there was diversity within the breed starting with heads. Quite a few has long narrow forefaces with not the required stop as stated in the breed standard. Others were strong in back skull allowing for plenty of brain room but not balanced to the foreface. The heads on our Gordons is just so breed specific and a good head takes your breath away so please breeders must make sure we do not loose it going into the future. The standard also requires the body should be of moderate length. Many exhibits were long in ribbing or in loin which gave a long extended side gait but incorrect footfall. There was also a lack of muscle tone on first and second thigh. Although penciling is allowed on the feet, black in the tan is also creeping in on the front legs again. Gordon breed standard states a rich red chestnut tan which is glorious and sets us apart from other black and tan breeds. Please also remember an extended side gait with impulsion from the rear and correct footfall and a coal black coat is a joy to behold particularly on a sunny day but do remember Gordons have to move away and come towards you in the ring showing correct tracking and several were very close between the hocks.

I found some difficult decisions had to be made as no Gordon is perfect. If other attributes outweighed faults my decisions were based on "the dog on the day ". The day was lovely and sunny for exhibiting outside but this did effect some exhibits in their classes as the day progressed.

Having said all that I was pleased with my winners who displayed what I was looking for however decisions on another day could easily change.

Special Vintage Dog (2)

1) Yennadon Reiss SGWC

This distinguished boy at just over 11 years of age was as sound as a pound and super fit. Greying as one would expect on a Gordon of this age. Balanced head, dark eye enhanced his expression. Strong neck and level topline and correctly set on tail. Smooth flowing movement using his strong rear end to advantage.

2) Rhum Night Legend ShCM VW

This dog was similar in age to 1 and overall in a bigger mould. Slightly longer on foreface than 1. Lovely neck and excellent sternum and depth. In super coat and well presented. Ground covering movement. Well muscled.

Veteran Dog (6)

1) Paradise Final Legacy at Ettrick

BV

Beautifully balanced boy of 9 years of age. A true weight carrying hunter. Soft gentle expression enhanced by his dark eyes. Excellent bone and colour. Super forechest and depth of brisket and ribbing. This Gordon flowed from his neck to his tail which was carried correctly. His balance allowed him to extend forward with plenty of drive from his hocks. Delighted to award him Best Veteran in Show

2) Benbuie Thornbird of Finnsfolk

Slightly smaller than one and stronger in head. Correctly shaped eye and low set on ears. Strong neck and correct lay of shoulders and depth to body giving plenty of heart room. Good width to stifle and super muscle tone. Correct footfall on side gait and moved with purpose.

3) Hernwood Boston High Flyer

4) Locksheath Beach Comber

5) Longrow Bohemian Rhapsody at Robvale

Minor Puppy Dog (3)

1) Casino Black Lofty at Glenmaurangi (Imp Pol)

A well school 9 month old puppy showing confidence. At this stage of development he has a lovely head, neck and forechest. Stood on strong bone and tight feet. Slightly longer in loin than I was looking for but felt he was at the right stage of development at this point in time and his movement was very true coming towards me and going away. Moved with extension and drive. Best Puppy in Show

2) Amscot Angel On Fire

Typical nearly 9 month old youngster. Slightly longer in foreface than 1 which I am sure change as he matures. Kindly expression, good shoulders. Plenty of bone and depth all through. Happy disposition and handled with care. Moved out freely.

3) Amscot Angels And Demons

Puppy Dog (8)

1) Amscot Angels And Demons

Well schooled and sympathetically handled. At 9 months of age he showed balance throughout. Gently sloping shoulders and sternum well forward. Elbows tucked in and strength over loin and upright hocks. Used his tail whilst moving and extended both front and rear. Moved with purpose and drive for a puppy

2) Kewstoke Ocean Commander at Glendudmoor

Preferred the head on this puppy. Plenty of substance and lovely clear rich tan. Well laid back shoulders and super shiny coat. Decent width to his stifles and short hocks which he used efficiently. Once settled he covered the ground with ease

3) Kewstoke Mr Sandman

4) Kewstoke Sea Biscuit

5) Caradilis Fiach Dubh

Junior Dog (8)

1) Lannireach Star Gazer

Stood out in this class for breed standard. A quality boy with correct balanced head with a lovely expression. Soft dark brown eyes with no heaviness over the brows giving a soft kindly expression. and required stop. Symmetrical in body. Strong neck leading to good length of shoulders and upper arm allowing for a free and easy extension whilst on the move. Strength in rear assembly. Complimentary rear angulation allowed for very true movement in one so young.

2) Hernwood Rocket Man

A nice example of the breed and very well presented. Slightly longer in foreface for me but still has breed quality. Another one with sternum well forward and spot on shoulders and depth in body. Lovely coat and condition. Well ribbed up and strength in rear assembly. Short straight tail carried at the correct level. Super rich tan and free flowing stylish movement

3) Hero Majestic Manon Lescaut Yennadon (Imp CZE)

4) Hernwood Bleu Spirit To Rackens

5) Cafotaliena Heart Of A Hero

Yearling Dog (5)

1) Lannireach Star Gazer

2) Hero Majestic Manon Lescaut Yennadon (Imp CZE)

Smart young dog with breed standard head displaying an intelligent expression and well set on ears head held high supported by a muscular lean neck leading to correctly placed shoulders. Excellent bone and nice tight feet. Strong upright hocks used to advantage. Rich chestnut tan and coal black coat. Would prefer him slightly shorter coupled over loin. Positive mover.

3) Hernwood Bleu Spirit To Rackens

4) Cafotaliena Heart Of A Hero

5) Roydack Black Knight at Tymora

Maiden Dog (1)

1) Amscot Angels and Demons

Novice Dog (2)

1) Amscot Angels And Demons

2) Caradilis Carog Dubh

Classic Gordon head with kindly expression and dark eye. Short in back and correct length in loin. Unfortunately move close behind and carried his tail higher than desired on this occasion.

Undergraduate Dog (4)

1) Lannireach Star Gazer

2) Cafotaliena Heart Of A Hero

Smart looking youngster with a clean rich chestnut tan. For me I would prefer more work in the head which may change as he matures. Soft gentle expression and correct dentition. Long lean neck leading to correct shoulder placement. Level topline and good tail runoff. Good extension front and rear whilst moving. Would prefer slightly less length in ribbing and slightly longer in leg length. Very unfortunate to come up against no 1 today. In super condition

3) Burroughs of Corby Loch

4) Lignum Caribou

Graduate Dog (2)

1) Roydack Black Knight At Tymora

This young upstanding male has great bone and rich chestnut tan. I found him to be at the right stage of development for his age. Required width and layback of shoulder and superb forechest and depth of brisket. Short coupled with strength over loin leading to a slight slope on croup and correct tail set that he used whilst on the move. In excellent coat condition.

2) Glenmaurangi Apollo at Glenkinchie

Preferred the head on this boy. Expressive dark eyes with a mischievous expression. Low set ears and strong neck. Not the forechest and shoulders of 1. Short coupled. Well bent stifles and width to upper thigh. When stacked he unfortunately lost out on his croup and tail set.

Post Graduate Dog (8)

1) Colourbox Wild Wild West with Rackens

This Gordon dog stood over the ground displaying a symmetrical shape. Keen soft expression and depth to flew with rounded back skull showing brain room. Straight front, tight feet and elbows neatly under his body. Spring of rib was evident and strong loin and desired croup. Lashing tail completed the picture whilst moving around the ring. Super muscle tone

2) Hernwood Wizard Of Oz JW

This boy's head is stronger than 1 with good stop and lean cheeks. Deep in flew and domed back skull. Ears low set to the head. Long lean neck leading to good shoulder placement. Well sprung ribs and plenty of heart room. Firm topline leading to slightly arched loin. Coal black coat and fabulous rich chestnut tan

3) Beechlake Somersetter

4) Longrow Jean Genie

5) Beechlake The Storyteller of Finnsfolk

Mid Limit Dog (7)

Three very nice dogs headed this class and unlucky to meet each other on the day.

1) Forester's Northern Light Of Darkmoor at Muckhart JW (Imp DEU) RCC

This boy has a well proportioned masculine head and intelligent expression and is maturing into a lovely Gordon at 3 years of age. Great forehand angulation with length in upper arm. Straight front, tight oval feet and strength in pasterns. Well sprung ribs and strength in rear assembly. In lovely condition with coal black shiny coat and deep rich tan. Head held high with ground covering stride with strength and power completed the picture. Will watch him with interest as he matures on. Reserve Dog CC

2) Caradilis Sky Rocket JW

This male was exhibited in great condition. Different in outlook to 1 being slightly longer in body and shorter on the leg which when stacked on the final lineup affected his topline today. For me this boy was stronger in head than 1 with well defined stop and heavier in back skull but with lovely dark eyes. Good layback of shoulder and return of upper arm. Pronounced sternum and well sprung ribs. His muscle tone was evident. Came alive on the move showing good forward and rear extension. Very unlucky to meet no 1 today

3) Burroughs of Loch Leven at Glenarden

4) Marlbeck Maldini

5) Gailiech Ngalyod

Limit Dog (5)

1) Gailiech Barmstonson

Traditional type of Gordon with plenty of substance all through. Nothing overdone on this lad. Beautiful head and correct dentition. Strong front and elbows close to the body. Spring of rib was evident on putting my hands on him. Short loin with strength leading to super tail set and tail that never stopped whilst on the move. Correct footfall and true coming and going away.

2) Colquhally Major Tom

One I have done well for before. A lovely boy who was unlucky to come up against no 1 today. His skull was slightly rounded with well defined stop. Lovely forehand with shoulders being long and sloping well back and moderate in body shape. Deep in back ribs and great width to stifle. Short hocks which he used to advantage on the move. Unfortunately he just lacked the finish and sparkle of 1

3) Fieldberry Secret Weapon at Rufusmoor JW

4) Liric Just The Ticket

5) Ronaldsbill Trail Blazer at Bridgemere

Open Dog (6)

1) Sh Ch Red Admiral by Rubymoon JW

CC, RBIS & BOS

This boy appealed to me in overall balance, substance and breed type. Not a big boy but has all the essentials in the right place. Appealing head with brain room, defined stop and depth to flews. Large black nose with open nostrils. Arched neck leading into long sloping

shoulders and return of upper arm with ribs well sprung leading to wide loin. Hind legs broad and muscular. His short hocks enabled him to propel forward showing ground covering gait .In full coat and lashing tail completed the picture. Dog CC and Reserve Best In Show

2) Paradise Picking Parsley at Bridgemere

This Gordon male has a Lovely head and expression .Long lean neck leading to correct shoulder placement. Excellent sternum and depth of body properties. Lovely spring of rib and strength over loin. Rich chestnut tan and free uninhibited movement

3) Locksheath Black Ice

4) Roydack Peakyl Blinder

5) Yennadon Calvay JW ShCEx OSW

Field Trial Dog (2)

1) Yennadon Reiss SGWC

2) Ch Yennadon Barra JW SGWC

Field Trial Dog (2)

1) Yennadon Reiss SGWC

2) Ch Yennadon Barra

Very fit male in excellent condition. Typical head of balanced proportions. Gentle expression and soft dark brown eyes. Superb flat bone, excellent forehand and depth and spring of rib giving plenty of heart room. Correct length in loin and strength in rear assembly. Flat bone and tight feet with plenty of padding. Unlucky to meet his kennel mate in such good form who just appealed to me on the day.

Dog CC: Sh Ch Red Admiral by Rubymoon JW

Reserve Dog CC: Forester's Northern Light Of Darkmoor at Muckhart JW (Imp DEU)

Best Puppy Dog: Casino Black Lofty at Glenmaurangi (Imp Pol) (Best Puppy)

Special Vintage Bitch (2)

1) Chartan Treacle Tart JW

At nearly 11 years this pretty bitch with greying around her muzzle which I would expect at this time of her life. She represented a typical Gordon not over done in any way and just so sound. Correct depth of flew to length of muzzle. Dark eye and not too heavy in brow gave her a soft feminine expression. Super muscle throughout and short strong hocks.

2) Birniehill High Flyer

My notes say very feminine in head and lovely length of neck. At nearly 12 years of age this bitch was a credit to her owner. Showing very little greying around the muzzle and in lovely condition. Well placed shoulders and strong in topline and width to her rearend. Moved out positively and soundly.

Veteran Bitch (9)

1) Sh Ch Cairacailie Night Of Love with Ordett JW

This 8 1/2 year old typical Gordon Setter bitch has a lovely feminine head, eye and general expression. Soft dark brown eyes. Desired length of muzzle and stop and back skull showing plenty of brain room. Long ear feathering laying close to her head. Great layback of shoulder and rib cage which is carried well back and super width of stifle. Long from hip to hock. Short strong hocks allowed her to drive forward using her tail correctly. Moved very happily for her runner. A little less weight would be beneficial

2) Sh Ch Flaxheath Top Model at Glenmaurangi

A very stylish 9 1/2 bitch is beautifully presented in a gleaming coat and has a "look at me" attitude. Not the same type of head as one but never the less very appealing. Lovely low set on ears. Head proportions are correct that lead to a long strong neck. Lovely shoulders and depth throughout. Excellent muscle tone was evident on putting my hands on her. Would prefer less tan on legs but her other attributes outweighed this one thing. She was definitely at one with her handler and moved out very freely

3) Diersett Irridium JW

4) Melview Phoenix

5) Tsrhnova Tarkheena JW

Minor Puppy Bitch (0)

Puppy Bitch (8)

1) Kilnrae Back To The Future

At just short of her 1st birthday this pretty bitch with super head proportions. Kindly dark eye. Loved her head shape with depth to muzzle, lean cheeks and good width to back skull showing just the right amount of brain room for a youngster. Ears low set to her head with plenty of featherings. Already has depth all through with spring of rib developing along the right lines. Tight slightly arched feet and strength in pasterns. Correct tail set from width in rear end. Lovely colour. Moved out confidently. Best Puppy Bitch.

2) Kewstoke Making Waves

At one month younger than 1 this delightful puppy bitch was well bodied up and has plenty of feathering for one so young. A gentle headpiece and length in leathers and feathering. Flowed from her head to her tail. Clean neck into good layback of shoulder and length to upper arm. Already deep in brisket and moderate length to back. Extended front and rear when moving. Would prefer less tan on forechest which may seem less when the black feathering grows through.

3) Laurelhach Lotus with Muckypups

4) Kewstoke Sea Queen Zena

5) Laurelhach Mercedes at Blairbelles

Junior Bitch (6)

1) Kilnrae Back To The Future

2) Langstrumpf Pollyanna (AI)

This young lady had correct head proportions but was slightly longer in body than one and displayed a glorious rich tan. Stood on sturdy bone and had good width to rear end. Strong muscular legs and very sound moving around the ring. Another one who was unlucky to meet one on this occasion.

3) Benbuie Shoshone at Malocomi

4) Chartan Little Black Dress

5) Benbuie Chinook at Helian

Yearling Bitch (5)

1) Balnakeil Creag Rainich JW

I have watched this girl ringside since she was a puppy and I was not disappointed when I went over her. Everything in the right place at this stage of development. Nothing flashy about her. Head of good proportions with melting soft dark brown eyes. I liked her balanced angulation both front and rear. Moderate length to her back with strength over loin. This girl has lovely free and easy forward extension coupled with strength in the rear enabled her to move to cover the ground with ease. I will continue to watch her development with interest

2) Flaxheath Cover Girl at Glenmaurangi JW

My notes say splitting hairs between 1 and 2. Well presented young lady in tip top condition and gleaming coat of correct texture. Elbows tucked well under the body and straight front. Sternum well forward and depth to brisket. Well arched toes and deep in back rib but longer in ribbing than 1. Strength in her rear assembly and short strong hocks used efficiently and economically when on the move

3) Langstrumpf Pollyanna (AI)

4) Benbuie Chinook at Helian

5) Gailiech Beverleydottir

Maiden Bitch (1)

1) Laurelhach Lotus with Muckypups

Third in puppy. and unfortunately stood alone in this class Very pretty youngster with charming head and expression and developing along the right lines. Slightly bum high at present which made her stifles appear slightly straight. I am sure this will change as she matures. Super colour on her head, legs and vent. Free happy mover

Novice Bitch (2)

1) Laurelhach Lotus with Muckypups

2) Samsett First Edition

A more mature bitch with super bone and neat feet with plenty of padding between toes. Good coat and colour. Slightly lighter in eye. Sympathetically handled moved out confidently but a little close behind when moving.

Undergraduate Bitch (5)

1) Flaxheath Centrefold

This young bitch deserved to win this class for her overall balance and breed standard requirements. Very pretty head and eye. Strength in her neck leading to correct angulation front and rear. Strong in topline and good width in rear assembly for a bitch. Moved confidently around the ring but needs to move a little faster to get the best from her.

2) Kilnrae Black Sapphire

This well boned Gordon has excellent balanced angulation and straight front and super bone standing on well arched and tight feet. Her rear is strong and broad. Short hocks enabled her to drive forward using her stifles and well muscled first and second thigh muscles

3) Dwensantinis Dora Of Artiyo

4) Hernwood Will Love You

5) Sooty Ringlet

Graduate Bitch (8)

1) Hernwood Will Love You

My notes say "totally feminine bitch" with lean cheeks and lovely long low set on ears. Lovely placement of shoulders and clean over the shoulders. Depth of brisket was evident when putting my hands on her and well sprung ribs. Level topline and good width to loin. Drove around the ring with ease and at one with her handler

2) Glenmaurangi Aurora of Lochdora

Stylish girl of good proportions. Pleasing head with sufficient depth to jaw and correct tan markings. Strong neck that flowed to strong topline and croup. Scimitar shaped tail that she used on the move. Once settled she moved with correct footfall

3) Kattandale Blac Hawke's Bay at Birniehill (AI)

4) Cottonstones River Sprite

5) Samsett First Edition

Post Graduate Bitch (7)

1) Beechlake The Poet In My Heart

RCC

Compact bitch who really appealed to me for breed type. The most feminine of heads and dark expressive eyes. Correct length in muzzle to length from stop to occiput. Her flews were in balance to her other head proportions. Low set on ears and strong neck. Super front and deep all through. Strong rearend with width to upper thigh. Moved out true on side gait and tracked cleanly. Res CC

2) Kintalis Winter Jasmine

This smart bitch was longer in body proportions and had less work in her head but she won this place on her superb movement. Strong front assembly and well placed shoulders which allowed for excellent front extension. Equally her rear assembly had strength which powered her around the ring at the correct speed.

3) Myreside Niamh with Clacorick SGWC

4) Tsrhnova Tante Lille

5) Gailiech Iris Goddess

Mid Limit Bitch (6)

1) Chartan Maple Mayhem

Not a large bitch but everything in the right place and balanced throughout. Gentle over the brows giving a soft expression. Kind expressive eyes and ears set close to the head with silky feathering. Sternum well forward and straight front. Strong pasterns .Deep all through with good muscle tone and width in rear assembly. Super colour and tidy ground covering gait coming and going way.

2) Caradilis Sparks Will Fly JW

This bitch was unlucky to meet one today. A weight carrying hunter in body and substance. Lovely head with work in it and charming expression. Long lean neck flowing to sloping shoulders with correct return of upper arm. Plenty of heart room and depth to ribs. Firm muscled rear end on both first and second thigh allowed her to flow around the ring covering the ground with style.

3) Locksheath Fallen Acorn

4) Longrow Love Of My Life (AI)

5) Eusanit Marcella

Limit Bitch (3)

In this class I was splitting hairs in my decision. Both bitches were of equal quality but yet quite different to each other.

1) Moonglade Lily Mae Magic

This girl appealed to me for her overall shape. Her head is just so pretty with such a feminine expression. Depth to her flew, stop and balanced back skull gave her the edge on no 2. Another Gordon that flowed from the top of her head to the end of her tail. A level topline was held on the move. Strong in hind quarters. Excellent bone and colour completed the picture.

2) Amscot Air Born Via Kewstoke

A larger bitch overall but lots to like. Upstanding and stood over the ground when stacked. In lovely body condition and gleaming coat this bitch had lovely shoulders that sloped well back. Deep in brisket and back ribbing. Nice bend to stifles and silky featherings.

3) Benbuie True Colours at Malocomi

Open Bitch (6)

1) Beechlake Hey Jude

CC & BOB

Just what I had been looking for today. This bitch epitomises the breed standard as she is not over done in construction or coat. She has the most beautiful head, so pretty with the correct head planes, stop and soft bright eyes. Strong neck to forty five degree angle of her shoulders. Super straight topline held standing and on the move. Her backend

complemented her forehand angulation so therefore allowed for extension and drive in her movement. Put down in tiptop condition and not an ounce over weight she was at one with her handler and excelled on the move Today was her day so I was delighted to award her the Bitch CC and Best In Show.

2) Lannireach Angels Share

This girl was just so unfortunate to come up against no 1 in such good form on this occasion. Medium build girl with good headpiece. Lovely dark eyes, lean cheeks and work in her head. Strong neck and flowing lines to her well set on tail. On the move she kept her head up with level muzzle and her topline firm, driving from her short strong hocks and tracking very true coming towards me and going away with correct foot fall on side gait. Beautifully presented

3) Roydack Portrait Of A Lady

4) Ordet Love Me Do at Keaswood JW

5) DT CH Locksheath Princess Tiana JW

Field Trial Bitch (3)

1) Chartan Maple Mayhem

2) Chartan Little Black Dress

3) Chartan Treacle Tart

Bitch CC: Beechlake Hey Jude (Best of Breed)

Reserve Bitch CC: Beechlake The Poet In My Heart

Best Puppy Bitch: Kilnrae Back To The Future

Brace

1) Cuthbertsons

Very well matched pair of Gordons of similar type. Both had balanced conformation, strong bone and moved in unison around the ring.

Progeny

1) Amscot Air Born via Kewstoke

A really nice Bitch with six of her progeny. All were of same type and just so similar in outlook. Similar body shapes in all her puppies and even dispositions

Team

1) Millars

team of three boys ranging from 11 years to 18mths old. All a credit to their owners. In lovely condition and were synchronized on the move.