

Canadian National 2014 Critiques

Judge: Jack Kilgour - Intersex

Acknowledgements

Thank you to the members of the GSDC of Canada for the honor of judging our National Specialty show; it was a dream come true! Admittedly it was a LONG year leading up to the show, but well worth the wait and anticipation.

My heartfelt "thanks" goes out to Janet Loeb, our Chief Ring Steward for this event. Janet, you made the difficult job of managing a busy ready ring look seamless. I also appreciate your affable nature and great listening skills.

General Observations

I was most impressed by the increase in quality of the males. I believe we've become accustomed to the bitches being "better," but I dare say the dogs have closed the gap considerably (if not entirely).

Dentition was good. I only saw too level bites, 2 animals with 2 missing premolars and 3 or 4 with 1 missing premolar.

Exhibitors, clean your dog's teeth! There were several with a lot of tartar build up and that can become a health issue for your animals.

During Intersex judging, I excused two males, and one of them was for aggressive behavior! In class dogs there were 3 I didn't consider because their reactions were not typical of our breed. All dogs that placed or that were awarded "Select" were within the range of acceptable German Shepherd Dog temperament....confident and approachable.

It is worth mentioning, however, some that placed were better in character than others who placed and this factored into my final order of animals. One Select male, for example was back a few more placements than I wanted because he appeared disinterested and somewhat "removed" at times. He did not react badly...he simply didn't react typically of our breed. On the bitch side, I moved one up several placements because she excelled in confidence, nobility and overall mental soundness. She was ultimately the Select 2 bitch and she captivated me!!

A few exhibitors wondered why I so often asked the handler to let the dogs stand on their own, without touching them. I was definitely paying attention to their structure as they stood on their own, but I was more interested in evaluating their minds – observing their reactions to their surroundings. Were they comfortable in their skin? Reacting poorly to sounds? Did they appear "common" or sluggish in character? The look in their eyes tells us what we need to know.

Most exhibitors had their dogs in the condition to win - awesome! There were a few disappointments for me. Our breed is athletic and requires strong muscles and ligaments; they are a working dog!

A few common faults, especially in the classes, were straight shoulder blades, short and/or straight upper arms and croups either too short or steep! Hindquarters were more angulated than forequarters in some dogs, and so we saw them compensating by wearing down (pounding) in front. This was more noticeable as the dogs continued to work.

The quality has definitely improved as compared to the past few years...our noble German Shepherd Dog is looking good!

Grand Victor and Best of Opposite Sex

Ch. Woodside's Megabucks

"A Dog of Great Strength, Confidence and Nobility"

This large, black and red dog owned the ring from the beginning of the class until the end. He is NOBLE.... not just because of the excellent structure of his head, but also because of his impeccable character and captivating expression. His eyes emit confidence, intelligence and a vigor for life. He is masculine in appearance and deportment. He has a beautiful long neck, a nice shoulder assembly, great bone and excellent feet. His rear angulation matches his front. Everything about him is STRONG. He is perfectly clean coming and going, and takes a very nice stride from the side, especially given his moderate angles. He has a beautiful period of suspension! Ideally, I would prefer a dog more moderate in size and one just a little curvier/angulated. Ultimately, he shut the door on the high quality competition because of his magnificent type, function and character! *Strength.*

Canadian National 2014 Critiques

Judge: Jack Kilgour - Intersex continued....

Select #2

Ch. Zytut's Crossing Rivers

"The Last Dog Gaiting"

This medium-large, black and tan dog kept getting better and better the more he moved. Athletic, well-muscled and with the necessary length of leg to gait efficiently. He has a long, arched neck, a good shoulder layback with a nice length of upper arm. High-withered, with an ideal length of ribbing. Excellent Topline and underline. He is well-angulated in the hindquarter. He began the class gaiting a little too hard and watching him on a tight lead isn't entirely pleasing. As soon as he settled into a loose-lead gait it became abundantly clear he is very balanced and correct!! He is outreaching at both ends and he keeps his feet perfectly low to the ground. His side-gait is suspended. One could put a tea cup on his back while he moves and it wouldn't spill a drop! Masculine in appearance, although I'd prefer him to have a shade more depth in underjaw and a broader skull. When you consider his correct structure and his excellent character/work ethic you have an animal that is able to gait all day!! While many of the selects started to tire a bit in motion, this dog quite simply got better. *Unforgettable.*

Select #3

Ch. Welove DuChain's Captain America

"A Dog of Superb Character and Physical Strength"

This richly-pigmented, large black and tan dog comes into the ring and does it all on his own, always looking his best on a loose lead. He has the strength of character our breed needs. He communicates a not-so-subtle aura of arrogance and confidence, almost as if he is telling us he has this job mastered. He is unmistakably masculine in appearance and conduct. I love his length of neck, high wither, hard topline and perfect underline. His length of leg is ideal, his ribbing is perfect, and that loin is short and broad. This is one very powerful dog!! He is curvy in the rear and in motion he comes under himself well and follows through fully with that hock...rear function 100%. He has a shade more in rear than in front (a little straight in the shoulder blade) and he started to come down on that front a tad as the class progressed. I also consider him a bit too large. He is a magnificent sight to behold. *Power.*

Select #4

Ch. Shebland's Grayson Camereigh

"The Dog of Structural Superiority"

This ideally-sized, black and tan male is a standout! When I close my eyes and envision "that ideal German Shepherd Dog," he comes very close to that image. He was calm and approachable in his temperament exam. His secondary sex characteristics are strong. His neck is long and strong, and it leads into a shoulder blade that is perfectly set. His upper arm angle and length is ideal. I love his oval bone, straight long bones and textbook prosternum. The ribbing is long, the loin short and his topline and underline can be read about it our standard. He has a well-angulated hindquarter to match his awesome front and his hock is short! He is a smidge short in croup. He had the best period of suspension in the class - with an outreaching and EFFORTLESS gait. Occasionally, he cheats the follow-through just a smidge. I prefer a head with a little less stop and a longer muzzle. My issue with this dog was his attitude/performance. On this day, at times, he appeared disinterested in the goings on in the ring. While others in this Select group came to perform, he seemed to be checking his watch to see if it might be time to leave. This is an amazing animal of the highest quality! *Structure.*

Canadian National 2014 Critiques

Judge: Jack Kilgour - Intersex continued....

Select #5

Ch. Woodside's High Voltage

"The Dog Perfectly Different from the Pack"

This masculine, large black and tan dog leaves me breathless when he moves - a sight to behold every single lap around the ring! He is confident. Very well angulated at both ends and so the result is an animal that is all about generous, smooth curves. He has a stunning length of neck, an extremely well laid back shoulder blade and he had the longest upper arm in the house! He has ample "running gear" with a good topline and an ideal underline. The excellent angulation in the rear matches the front end. He's slightly long through the loin but I can't imagine his chassis being any shorter....he needs that little extra length in the mid-piece to smoothly facilitate those long, ground-eating strides. Occasionally, when going (pulling) too hard, he gives a smidge in the middle, but as soon as he settles into his natural, easy gait the topline is strong! I prefer a dog with a little deeper underjaw and with a broader skull. Poetry in motion, this spectacular creature is a gift to our breed's future. *Effortless.*

Select #6

Ch. Harmonia's Intense Desire

"The Athletic Dog, Dry and Hard"

This medium-large, black and tan dog was shown to me in absolute prime condition....athletic, well-muscled and ready to win! He is unmistakably confident, noble and aloof - correct German Shepherd Dog temperament. Everything about him in motion speaks of strength. He is masculine with an attractive head. He has a good length of neck, high at the withers and he has ample, oval-shaped bone. His back is rock hard! His coupling is excellent and his underline is ideal. He is remarkably clean coming and going. This dog transmits so much power from his hindquarter and his perfect topline does the work to transmit that power to the forequarters. He is slightly steep in croup but that did not appear to hurt his function. His forequarter is laid on a bit too far forward and he is a slightly steep in the shoulder blade. He compensates well, and he still covers a lot of ground with great power. While some dogs tired, this dog came on stronger in the second half of his performance. *Force.*

Select #7

Ch. Wolf-Creek's Galaxy of Merivern

"The Intelligent, Noble One with Beautiful Type"

This correctly-sized, black and tan male has MAGNIFICENT German Shepherd Dog character. His eyes tell the story! Approachable, calm, and confident with a gaze/aura that is difficult to define but unmistakable when in his presence! I remember looking at his eyes as I approached him for the stacked-examination and feeling a sense of awe...intelligent eyes communicating a readiness and willingness to do any job requiring his mind's input. This dog has good secondary sex characteristics. His head is attractive, he has a beautiful prosternum, oval bone and strong feet. He is only moderately angled in the forequarter and hindquarter....perfectly balanced. His down and back gaiting is textbook - to the standard! He is a bit low-stationed for my liking - I prefer a little more running gear. I was slightly disappointed in this dog's overall physical condition. I would take this one home in a heartbeat....because he is so beautiful in type, but mostly because I would TRUST him to always act in a manner becoming of our breed. *Nobility.*

Canadian National 2014 Critiques

Judge: Jack Kilgour - Intersex continued....

Select #8

Ch. Suboja's and Tophat's Gentleman's Quarterly

"A Stunning Dog Poised for Greatness"

This medium-sized, richly pigmented black and tan dog absolutely captivated (demanded) my attention - there is nothing common about this German Shepherd Dog! He is confident, poised, alert and full of life. He is masculine with a magnificent head...noble without compromise. His neck is long and well arched and that leads into an ideally set forequarter. His withers are high, his forelegs are straight, and his prosternum is well-developed. He is deep-bodied, has a good length of leg with an ideal topline and underline. His well-angulated hindquarter is accentuated by his lovely croup. He is just a smidge long through the loin but his strong back allows for maximum transmission. He appeared out of coat. This is a young dog (under 2 years of age) and was a little inconsistent in his performance. When he takes a good lap it's a great one. He moves with suspension, without effort, and he covers a lot of ground. Time is on this dog's side...when he matures he will undoubtedly be a force with which to reckon. *Magnificence.*

Select #9

Ch. Karizma's Morocco Kaleef Von Loar

"A Strong Dog with Fire in His Eyes"

This correctly-sized, black and red dog is born to work - take one look at his eyes and you will know he is mentally capable of great things. Confident and alpha, he also emits a joy for life. He is masculine in appearance and deportment, and his head is attractive. This dog is all smooth curves, with every part beautifully fitting the next. He has a nice prosternum, straight forelegs, a nice angle of shoulder blade and upper arm, although I'd like to tug that forequarter back just a smidge. He is high withered, strong in back, excellent in underline and his coupling is perfect! His croup is just a tad steep. He is very well-angulated in the hindquarter. He has a bit more rear than front and there's a little extra motion in that hindquarter.....especially when gaiting (pulling) so hard. When this dog does settle into an easy, loose-lead gait he is much more efficient. He has most everything I look for in a German Shepherd Dog, especially that willingness to please (work). *Energy.*

Select #10

Ch. Signature's Harry Nile V Kridler

"A Dog of Remarkable Breed Type"

This medium-sized, black and red-ish tan male immediately caught my eye! He was confident, approachable and aloof when I evaluated him. His secondary sex characteristics are strong and his head is very appealing. His entire outline is smooth curves, well-developed, mature and strong. He has a grand prosternum, beautiful oval bone, and his forequarter is nicely structured. He is deep-bodied with a perfect underline. His hindquarter is curvy and his hock is short. He is broad through his short loin and his back is good. I find him a bit short and steep in croup. The first half of his performance was better than the second, and at times he tended to kick up a bit in the rear and lose a little topline. This male is an excellent ambassador for our breed because of his strength of character and general appearance. *Type.*

Canadian National 2014 Critiques

Judge: Jack Kilgour - Intersex continued....

Grand Victrix and Best of Breed

Ch. Windfall's Who Says V Chablis

"The One Beyond my Highest of Expectations"

This medium-sized, richly pigmented black and tan bitch is strong, curvaceous, and balanced in every way. She is confident, alert and her reaction to the temperament test was typical of our breed. Her head is NOBLE, with almond-shaped eyes, gorgeous ears and a skull and muzzle of excellent proportions. Her underjaw is deep. The noblest of her features is that unmistakable look (gaze) in her eyes that speaks of intelligence, quality and superiority. Her neck is long and well-arched and leads down to a perfectly placed and structured forequarter... the blade and upper arm of good lengths with ideal angulation. She has an outstanding prosternum. She is substantial without even a hint of coarseness – her forelegs are straight, the bone oval, perfect pasterns and well-conformed feet. This is an animal with IDEAL German Shepherd Dog proportions....her topline is firm, her underline gradually sloping and her loin is short, firm and broad when viewed from above. This bitch is all about SMOOTH CURVES. She is well angulated in the hindquarter with a beautiful croup. Her hock is short and strong. Symmetry standing – absolute complete function in motion!! This bitch takes a long, effortless stride – completely opened at each end. Her feet stay close to the ground and she achieves perfect, total suspension when in full flight. Her performance was flawless and she left me breathless. *Untouchable.*

Select #2

Ch. Lockenhaus' Rumor Has It V Kenlyn

"A Confident, Captivating Bitch of Outstanding Type"

This perfectly-sized, well-proportioned black and fire-red bitch gave a performance of great worth. I ended up working her more than any other (as she gaited her way on up the line). I became captivated by the sheer STRENGTH of both her body and her character. The more she gaited – the better and better she looked. Her head is feminine and her expression one of intelligence/nobility. Her skull, muzzle and underjaw are all very structurally correct. This bitch wants to work! Although slightly out of coat, her body is well-developed, muscled and mature for her young age. Her forelegs are straight, she has beautiful feet and every time she put a foot down it was ideally placed. She is what the standard calls for in size and she has ideal running gear to do her job! Compact with an excellent topline and a lovely underline, her ribs are well-sprung and the loin is short. She comes under herself well and drives off with incredible strength.....that hock opens fully without any lock or kick up. Perfect transmission through her firm, short back, this bitch takes a good stride in front and keeps them close to the ground! I would prefer if her forequarter was set back ever so slightly and I'd appreciate a better angle to that upper arm. She is what we need in our breed – physical strength, beautiful type, and a willingness to work all day! *Strength.*

Select #3

Ch. Clementine of Oh-My

"The Effortless, Long-Striding Bitch"

This medium-large, black and tan bitch is elegant, curvy and when she moves we see our breed cover a maximum amount of ground with a minimum amount of steps – she's built to cover ground. She quietly, confidently stood her ground on the temperament test.....ideal. Her head is lovely, with perfect plains, a nice underjaw and well-developed skull. Her neck is long, well-arched and that meets a superb, well laid back shoulder. The upper arm is long and a perfectly angled. Her prosternum is pronounced. She has good bone and pasterns, excellent ribbing and solid topline. I love this bitch's curvy rear – in complete balance with her abundant angulation in front. The croup is long and nicely angled. I prefer a little less length through the loin. She needs to be cleaner going away, perhaps better conditioning might have helped. In motion she keeps her feet low to the

Canadian National 2014 Critiques

Judge: Jack Kilgour - Intersex continued....

ground while she effortlessly gaits with suspension! A contender right until the end – this bitch is undeniably a great one. *Breathtaking.*

Select #4

2014 Maturity Victrix and Best in Maturity

Ch. Kennelwood's Morning Jewel

"A Bitch With Legs, That Knows How to Use Them!"

This young, large, black and tan bitch is strong, stylish and built to move! My memory serves up a beautiful, effortless bitch that consistently got the job done by herself, on a LOOSE LEAD. Perfect presentation. She is intelligent – alert – and she is confident! Her dark, soulful eyes tell the beholder she is more than capable of any task. She carries a strong, harmonious outline of smooth curves – every part in balance with the next. Her head is strong, well-developed, and just a shade too broad through the skull. Her neck is lovely, her wither is high and she has a back of iron! She has one of the best forequarters in the ring, and ample length of leg to fully utilize that angle. She is dry – that underline is excellent – the croup is long and her rear is in harmony/balance with her front. I prefer a more moderately- sized bitch. She tends to elbow-out a little but that should tighten up as she matures. If I could tug that whole fore-assembly back a hair she would be esthetically ideal, but that placement sure doesn't affect the function...when she moves from side she is outreaching, elastic while keeping them so close to the ground! Imagine owning a bitch of this worth.....showing (winning), and when ready, expecting Grand Victors and Victrices in the next generation. If I owned her she'd "work" the big yard – so I could gaze and give thanks for everything that is good. *Harmonious.*

Select #5

Ch. Woodside's Dazzle

"A Powerful Bitch of Exquisite Type"

This mature, medium-sized black and tan bitch is an eyeful – stunning to look at, both standing and in motion. She is keen and confident and she met my approach with a joyful response. She wants to work – to please. Her head is expressive...almond-shaped eyes that emit nobility and intelligence. Her ears are long, the entire structure of her head is correct. She was shown in magnificent condition – hard, dry and well-muscled. She is high withered with a perfect topline and underline. She has perfect, oval bone, straight forelegs and beautiful feet. Her rear is well-angulated as is the croup. She is magnificent to watch in rear function – powerful! She is a little straight in shoulder and upper arm, and her forequarter is placed slightly forward. When this bitch decided to slow down she opens up well at both ends, especially in the rear. My issue with her is she goes too hard at times – not a great look for her. I might have had her up several more placements, based on her beautiful type and strength, but her "overdrive" was a gear too high for me. *Beauty.*

Select #6

Ch. Stonewall's Maja's Black Diamond

"A beautifully-Developed Bitch with Effortless Motion"

This is a medium-sized, solid black bitch in the prime of her life! Her maturity shows in many ways, including her calm, confident reaction during the temperament exam. She is sound! She gives the impression of solidity and strength combined with elegance. Her head is nice from the side. She has a long neck, excellent prosternum, good bone and straight forelegs. Her topline and underline are ideal – the ribbing well sprung and the loin is short and strong. She is well-angulated in front, only moderately so in the hindquarter. Her croup is a bit short for my liking. I'd like her to have more width through her skull and

Canadian National 2014 Critiques

Judge: Jack Kilgour - Intersex continued....

muzzle and more depth to her under jaw. In motion, when on a loose lead, she covers ground easily with a good length of stride. She kicks up just a shade in the rear. While I thought she might not make the initial cut, she kept looking good until I started looking! Thankfully I took notice – I would have been forever sorry to have missed one so worthy. *Substance.*

Select #7

Best of Winners

Winsome's Heiress V Depaul

"A Correctly-sized, Strong and Compact Bitch"

One look at this bitch and I am reminded strength and beauty can come in the correct size. This mature, deep-bodied black and tan bitch is mature, substantial and built to work! Her temperament is ideal – composed, confident, slightly aloof. She is Noble. Her head is strong, with correct plains and a beautiful depth to her under jaw. I'd prefer slightly less width to her skull. She has a beautiful prosternum, a long, well-sprung ribcage and a short, firm loin. Her topline and underline are excellent. She has a well-angulated hindquarter and a good croup. Nice short hock! I would like more length to her upper arm and her forequarter is a bit forward placed for my liking. She has a lovely angle to her shoulder blade. I watched her go Winners Bitch the day before and she was on fire! Unfortunately, in the breed ring her performance held her back from a higher placement. My preference is for a smidge more length of leg, but this bitch uses everything she has efficiently and with great STRENGTH. Thank you Judge Donna Conod for sending such a worthy, Winners Bitch into the Best of Breed Class. *Correct.*

Select #8

Sel Ch. Blackcrest's Phara Selighaus

"A Bitch with Effortless, Suspended Side-gait"

This medium-large, black and light tan bitch gaited in the ring and I was immediately drawn to her effortless and suspended motion. Outstanding. She is aloof, confident and definitely charged with a strong, energetic work ethic. This bitch is substantial, with a gorgeous head and lovely expression. I appreciate her abundant prosternum, excellent proportions and good bone. She has an excellent forequarter – that shoulder blade is well laid back and the upper arm is long and nicely angled. She has excellent ribbing and a good topline. She's a little long through the loin. In motion, she uses every bit of her moderately angled rear to propel her forward. Her gait is effortless, suspended and she covers a lot of ground. She kicks up ever so slightly in the rear follow through. On this day, she was one of the best examples of how our breed should move with suspension and without effort! *Suspension.*

Select #9

Ch. Sunrize Black Magic Woman

"An Elegant, Feminine Bitch in Excellent Condition"

This medium sized, solid black bitch is mature, well-conditioned, and possesses beautiful secondary sex characteristics. Feminine and easy on the eyes. She reacted with confidence during the temperament exam. Her prosternum is well-developed, the shoulder is well laid back and her upper arm is long. She has excellent bone and she is substantial. Her hindquarter matches the well-angulated front, and both the underline and topline are ideal. Her croup is a little steep. I find her a little long through the loin, and my preference is for an animal with more length of leg. She moves nicely, with an effortless, outreaching and suspended gait. *Elegance.*

Canadian National 2014 Critiques

Judge: Jack Kilgour - Intersex continued....

Select #10

Ch. Legend's Kensington

"A Strong, Athletic Bitch of Beautiful Type"

This medium-large, black and tan bitch is forever etched in my mind as a young, athletic and powerful German Shepherd Dog of beautiful type. She is confident, alert and somewhat aloof. She has a beautiful outline of smooth curves, made more obvious by her lack of coat on this day. She otherwise was in prime, hard condition! High withered with a strong back, short loin, ideal ribbing underline and lovely bone. This bitch has an excellent forequarter...that shoulder and upper arm of good length and angle, although it's ever so slightly forward placed. She is well angulated in the rear, somewhat short in croup. The conformation of her skull, muzzle and underjaw are ideal. Her ears (soft and somewhat widely set) mar the overall finished look. This athletic, high-drive bitch came to win and so she did – very memorable, and so worthy of this Select title. *Function.*

Select Bitch Note:

There was an 11th bitch in this ring who deserved a "Select" rating. Her name is Ch Schatten Survival's Bailey V Lacomtesse. What fabulous breed type! So sound in mind and body. I will forever remember her as the 2014 Bitch that should have been Select. It was heartbreaking to watch her walk out of the ring without a ribbon! I am so pleased our MEMBERS voted to eliminate the 10-dog limit on Select. This circumstance is a perfect example of why it didn't work! Thank you to her breeders/owners for such impressive sportsmanship at this disappointing time.

1st 12-18 Month Male

Winners Male

Kaleef's Quincy V Monarch

"The Young, Powerful Dog with Outstanding Motion"

This is a large, richly pigmented black and tan dog owned the ring on Friday – from his first lap until he got the nod for Winners. He is just 12 months old! He was calm, confident and somewhat aloof when I approached him....ideal. I was immediately impressed by his strong, curvy outline! He has excellent secondary sex characteristics – especially given his age! His head powerful – the muzzle a good length and the underjaw is strong. I'd prefer if he had a little less stop and was a shade flatter in skull. His neck is long and well-arched, his wither is high and his topline is excellent. His length of leg is proportionally ideal for his size and his underline is as it should be. I appreciate his length of ribcage and his nice, short loin. He has a beautiful croup. He has excellent angulation front and rear.... This dog is built to move, and he covers a lot of ground with great ease. When he tightens up his muscles and ligaments he will be even more coordinated and powerful. At times, especially in Best of Breed judging on Saturday, the "puppy" in him showed up and he was inconsistent. When he gets too excited in motion, his tail-carriage gets a bit distracting but that is only esthetics, and at least it proves he is using his rudder (tail) as he should. This is one of those dogs I will always remember – quality of this caliber just doesn't come around very often! *Commanding.*

Select Male Note:

The elusive 11th Select ribbon would belong to the powerful Winners Male. He quite simply deserved one!

Canadian National 2014 Critiques

Judge: Jack Kilgour - Intersex continued.... And Futurity Victrix

1st Open Male

Reserve Winners Male - Mirajasta's Let Er Rip

"An Athletic, Dry Dog with Excellent Motion"

This large, athletic black and tan dog came in to the Open Dog Class and demanded my attention – absolutely impossible to ignore! He was aloof and quietly confident on the temperament test.... unquestionably not interested in making my acquaintance. This is a masculine dog with an attractive head, beautiful ears – I'd like a smidge more depth in underjaw. He is missing two premolars. This dog is strong. His neck is long and powerful, his wither is high and he has a back that is perfect! This is my style of dog when considering his length of leg, depth of body, shortness of back and overall strong bone. He's a bit too large (tall) for me. His feet are good. His loin is short and powerful. He is very well angulated in the shoulder and it is well laid back! His beautiful croup and ideal hindquarter match his beautiful front. In motion, this dog excels. Excellent under-reach and follow through – a beautiful stride in front, and the motion is suspended. His feet stay low to the ground when he gaits on a loose lead. When the Class Winners came in, I was quite sure he was winning the points. However, he let down a bit as that class moved on, and the puppy came on strong. *Stride.*

Best Puppy - Caretti's Sloe Gin

"An Easy, Suspended Mover with Outstanding Type"

This medium-large, black and tan bitch came from the 9-12 Class. I was immediately impressed by her beautiful type. She has a look of nobility in her eyes – intelligent, confident, and alert. She has an exquisite head, so mature and well developed for her young age. I like her bone, feet, prosternum, and she is deep bodied. She has a nice forequarter and it is well laid back. She is well-angulated in the rear, but perhaps not quite as much as the front at this age. At times she appeared a little out of condition through the mid-piece. Her gait is easy, outreaching and she has a beautiful period of suspension. *Beauty.*

Best Baby Puppy - Schatten Sundance's California Chrome V

"The Future of Our Breed Look Very Bright"

This 5 month old puppy came in the ring and I was star-struck by his masculinity, nobility, confidence, substance, strength and overall outstanding breed type. His motion is superb - strong, outreaching and effortless. I cannot get him out of my mind....I think he cast a spell on me! He was shown to perfection by a young handler by the name of Melodie Richards (13 years old). Thank you Melodie for such a beautiful job of handing this young superstar! *Remarkable.*

Futurity Victrix

Ch. Billy-Jo's Look at Me Stonewall

"A Young, Feminine Bitch with Beautiful Breed Type"

This correctly-sized, richly pigmented black and tan bitch is feminine, and has beautiful breed type. Mature looking for her age, she is also very confident and somewhat aloof – exactly the reaction we want when evaluation German Shepherd Dog temperament. Dark eyes, beautiful ears and a very appealing head. She has lovely bone, straight forelegs and nice feet. Her ribs are well developed and her loin is hard, short and broad. Her forequarter is forward placed, but her shoulder blade is nicely angled. Her upper arm is a bit short and straight. She is balanced in hindquarter, with moderate angulation. For the angulation she's been given, she takes an easy, well-coordinated stride. Fast and pulling into the lead isn't ideal for this bitch – she tends to shorten up in front. When she is given a total loose lead, we see her function beautifully – fully driving off her rear and opening up in front with only a smidge of lift. An outstanding bitch for her age. *Beauty.*

Note: About the Futurity Bitch Class

My expectations for the quality of this class were grandiose, yet as a whole I found most bitches were at a bit of an awkward stage. Ultimately, there were 2 of the 5 that I liked, and the eventual winner is definitely a rising star!

Canadian National 2014 Critiques

Judge: Donna Conod - Bitches

In my opinion we need to take due consideration to the size of dogs we are breeding and presenting. It does hamper the functionality of the breed.

I did find some problems with dentition and temperament.

It was an honour to be entrusted to judge the 2014 GSDCC National. Thank-you again.

6-9 Puppy Bitch

1st place 272 - Winsome's Remembearme-V-Signature

Feminine with good breed type. Clean on the down and back, well balanced with a superb side gait, a hard top line and proper length and slope to croup. Correct feet, lay back of shoulder and width to stifle. Sound temperament and exciting work ethic for a young bitch. Full dentition with a Promising future.

9-12 Puppy Bitch

1st place 293 - Caretti's Sloe Gin

Well balanced, clean on down and back, full dentition, hard top line, dark eye and impressive side gait. Feminine with solid temperament. Correct feet and pasterns. Lovely bitch which went on to be Best Puppy at this National.

12-18 Bitch

1st place 314 - Wolf Creek Serena V Wonderland

Balanced, clean on the down and back, easy strider, dark eye, full dentition and feminine. Correct temperament, hard top line with a good work ethic. Tight feet and good spring to pastern.

Canadian Bred Bitch

1st place 330 - Tazzman Extra Special

Correct size, dark pigment, full dentition, clean down and back, proper length and slope to croup, solid temperament and hard top line. Superb side gait with a noticeable period of suspension. Good angulation front and rear. This bitch went on to be my Reserve Winners Bitch. A young bitch with an extremely promising future.

Canadian National 2014 Critiques

Judge: Donna Conod - Bitches continued.... And Futurity / Maturity Males

Bred-by Exhibitor Bitch

1st place 350 - Tokaye's Karma Elite Design Dershimer

Correct size, clean on the down and back, dark eye, hard top line, proper length and slope to croup. Tight feet, correct slope to pastern and feminine. Full dentition and terrific attitude. Good side gait.

Open Bitch

1st place 385 - Winsome's Heiress V Depahl

This bitch, in my opinion, is as close as you can get to the Breed Standard. She was also my Winners Bitch. Correct size, balance, top line, bite, dentition, down and back and strong side gait. Phenomenal work ethic and temperament.

Futurity Dog and BIF

#13 - Harmonia's Name of The Game

Handsome, masculine dog with good bone and substance. Clean on the down and back, good bite, full dentition, solid top line, correct ear carriage and feet, proper croup and a balanced dog. Improved with each lap. Strong side gait. A promising young dog.

Maturity Dog

#32 - Billyjo's Man in Black

Stylish black dog, masculine, full dentition, dark eye, clean on the down and back with a good side gait. Tight feet with correct slope to pastern and a hard top line. Sound temperament.

Press On

Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence.

Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men and women with Talent.

Genius will not; unrewarded Genius is almost a Proverb.

Education alone will not; the world is full of educated derelicts.

Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent.

Library/Historian GSDCC Inc.