

GCCFI SPECIAL SHOW

SUNDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 2024

REPORT OF ED. MERCHANT

Thank you to Carmel, Colm and the committee for inviting me to judge at your show. You and your team did a great job and there was a high standard of cat entered. You provided excellent hospitality and a tasty and abundant lunch. In all, you did an excellent job. We were made very comfortable and welcome. I enjoyed my short stay in Thurles, as did my dependable steward Francis to whom I am grateful for his assistance.

SECTION ONE

It was disappointing to find only one entry present for this section, but the one there was a very pretty little kitten.

AOC Self Colourpoint Persian Kitten

1st BOB Miss L M Garcia's SYLVABOW FIREBIRD ANASTASIA Dob 24.06.23 (PER d 33) This was a pretty red point colourpoint girl. She was well grown for her age, with a good round head, full cheeks and nicely placed ears giving a good wide top of head. There was a bump on her forehead which I hope will smooth out as she matures. She had a good bite and a firm chin.

Her eyes were large and round with good blue colour still developing. Her short nose had a good break and a well-formed nose leather with wide open nostrils. Her well-prepared coat was long and flowing and beautifully soft in texture. Her body coat was a clear Ivory white with good matching points to her ears, mask, feet, and tail. She was a cobby little girl, with short well-boned legs, good muscle tone and a short full tail.

SECTION TWO

Maine Coon Brown/Blue Tabby/Tabby and White Adult Male

1st CC Mr C J S Shackelton's ISHCUS NIGEL Dob 10.08.22 (MCO n 22) This was an impressive lad with strong boning and good muscle tone. He had a large head with good wide cheeks. His eyes were large and round in a slightly oblique setting. He had a shallow dip in his profile and a perfect bite. His large ears were well tufted and positioned towards the side of his head giving at least an ears width between. He had a strong chin giving a good square finish to his square muzzle. His coat had been well prepared and a strong weather protective coat was present over his back. His tail was long and well furnished and would reach back to his shoulders. He was an impressive young chap.

BOB Dr M S B Steiner-Browne's CH FRIENDLYGHOSTS BIG BEAR (MCO n 22) DOB 19.05.22 This brown tabby lad was just a little older than his competitor, and his extra couple of months paid off. He had the edge with a little more maturity. I would have preferred his eyes to be a little larger, but he had a massive head with a strong square muzzle. His ears were large and well positioned with a wide space between. His bite was perfect, and he had a firm chin. The correct slight dip in his profile was present and he had a good medium length nose. His body was massive with good muscle and strong boning. His well-furnished long tail, would reach back to his Shoulders at least.

Maine Coon Silver Tabby Series Adult Male

BOB Dr CM Wagner's CH ISHCUS QUIET ASSASSIN (MCO ns 03 22) Dob 18.06.19. On a positive note, this was a strong mature lad with a full well-prepared coat and strong boning and muscle tone. Sadly, I thought his nose was too short, giving him a flatter face look. He had a good top of head with

ears placed well part and his eyes were large and round with the correct oblique setting. He had a fully furnished long tail that would reach back to his shoulders.

Maine Coon Silver Tabby Series Female

1^{cc} Miss K S Swiacka's BLACK JAGUA HOPE (MCO g 22) Dob 01.05.23

This must have been her first experience in an adult class, and her nervousness was evident. This made her rather difficult to handle, but she was not aggressive. She had a good bite and a firm chin and the correct slight dip in profile. His head was wide with full cheeks and a good square muzzle. Her large ears were well tufted and well positioned to give width between. She had large round eyes in the correct oblique setting. There were lovely shades of red, black and white in her coat which had been well prepared. Her tail was long enough to reach back to her shoulders.

2nd Mr Z Povlovic's PANDORAPAWS BONNIE (MCO ns 22) Dob 22.02.22. This pretty silver tabby girl was showing a good tabby pattern over her face and body. Sadly I felt she did not conform to the standard of points. Her ears were rather close together and her cheeks lacked width weakening her muzzle. She had large round eyes that were set correctly in a slightly oblique setting. Her coat had been beautifully prepared and she had a good top weather coat present.

Main Coon Red Tabby series Adult.

There were two excellent exhibits entered for Best of Breed, and I had a difficult job deciding which one to award.

BOB Dr CM Wagner's Gr Ch & Int Ch UNICUM TESLA (MCO g 03 22) Dob 03.12.20. This female was not the most patient with us, but she had an impressive look. She had a lovely brightly coloured tortoiseshell coat and a pretty white bib. Her breeches were full and shaggy. She had everything in the right place. With a good large head, Well positioned large ears set towards the sides of her head leaving good space between. She had large round eyes in a slightly oblique setting. A good straight medium length nose that had a slight dip in profile. Here bite was perfect, and she had a strong chin. There was a definite square muzzle and she had good wide cheeks. She had a long strong body, with good boning and muscle tone, and her fully furnished tail was long enough to reach back to her shoulders.

Also considered:-

Dr C M Wagner's CH FRIENDLYGHOST CHAIYYA CHAIYYA (MCO g 22) Dob 22.05.22. This tortie tabby girl was indeed friendly and confident. She had everything that the winner had, but the deciding factor for me was that her coat colour looked much less sharp. In fact I wondered if she might be a Choc Tortie.

AOC Maine Coon Adult Male

1^{cc} Ms A Sobanska & Mr M McDonagh's CATORI ABELARD SNAZZ (MCO es) Dob 19.12.22 A lovely calm and confident cream smoke boy. He had good head shape, with large, tufted ears, well placed to leave good space between. His medium length nose was parallel and with the correct slight dip in profile. He had large round eyes, set at a slightly oblique angle. He had full cheeks and a good square muzzle, his bite was good and he had a strong chin, giving a squareness to his muzzle. His well-prepared coat had a definite weather protective layer over his back. He had a long tail that was well furnished and long enough to reach back to his shoulders.

2nd Ms A Sobanska & Mr M McDonagh's CATORI ARLEQUIN (MCO ds 02 62) Dob 19.12.22 This was a high white and red smoke lad with orange eyes. He was rather shy and a bit reluctant although not too difficult to handle. I assume he was a litter brother of SNAZZ and they shared a similar type and overall appearance. I thought the red patches in this lad's coat were a bit diffused and might have been improved with a little more preparation.

3rd Dr C M Wagner's EDGAR CAMELLOCOON (MCO ds 03 11) Dob 23.07.2022 Red shaded and white. I was not sure why this lad had such a problem with drooling, but it spoiled his appearance and left him looking quite bedraggled and a bit stained. He was in all other respects a good example of the breed.

BOB (entered for BOB only)

Miss K S Swiacka's INT CH GATTACAMOON VOLTURION (MCO ds 11) Dob 24.04.22 A red shaded (Cameo) boy. He was an excellent example of the breed. He had a good large head with good wide cheeks and a square muzzle. His large ears were well positioned with good width between. He had large round eyes set slightly obliquely. His bite was good and he had a firm chin. He was a strong well boned and well-muscled lad, with a good broad chest and a long tail that would reach back to his shoulders. He was a super friendly lad full of confidence who loved to have his ears scratched.

AOC Maine Coon Adult Female

1cc Miss K S Swiacka's BLACKJAGUAR GEISHA (MCO f) Dob 23.11.2022 A black tortie girl. She had a good well-balance head, with large well-placed ears giving good width between. Her green eyes were large and round and set at a slightly oblique angle. She had full cheeks, and a good square muzzle, with a strong chin and a perfect bite. Her well-prepared coat was full and shaggy under and on her hind quarters. She was a well grow strong girl with good boning and muscle tone. She had a good temperament and appeared to enjoy the attention she was being given.

Ed. Merchant.