

Thank you all for the time and effort you put into this great show and inviting me to be the sweepstakes judge. I deeply appreciated the opportunity to have my hands on the puppies and veterans. It was not only great to get away from school, but to also have the chance to catch up with people I hadn't seen in a long time.

There were some interesting things in the ring, which led me to wish there had been more veterans than puppies to judge. The veterans of the Veterans Specialty didn't disappoint. Sadly, the veterans had important traits that some of the puppies exhibited will never have.

Mentorship is important in any avenue we choose to travel. Always remember however, mentors add a liberal amount of opinion. Trust but verify. The standard is your fact sheet.

Veteran Bronze, 6 years & Under 8 Years Dogs:

1: GCh. Carrickaneena Tyrconnell, CGC

BEST IN VETERAN SWEEPSAKES: He Impressed me the moment he walked into the ring. Strong undeniable presence with flowing curves and beautiful structure. This proud dog used every ounce of it on the move too.

2: Mise Eire Callan at Kenmore

A son of the class winner. It was remarkable to see a father/son in the same veteran sweeps class. A beautiful wolfhound in frame and bone, smaller in every respect than his sire but with that sound efficient movement.

3: Ch. Taliesin's Realteolai of Wideview, RN

Very sound veteran dog. Kind eye. Great jacket and a post on every corner. I found him short in loin with not enough underline effecting a true Irish Wolfhound shape.

4: Carrickaneena Inishowen

A brother to the best veteran. This dark dog was wealthy in type but his age was taking a toll on his topline and the balance of standing correctly through his rear.

Veteran Bronze, 6 years & Under 8 Years Bitch

1: Ch. Carrickaneena Greenore

Lovely type and outstanding movement. She was very serious about her job in the ring, which I enjoyed watching.

2: Calcara Damhsoir

A smaller bitch with many qualities the breed needs to desperately hang on to. Her type and beautiful shape were superb.

Veteran Gold, 9 years & Over Bitch

1: DC Carrickaneena Winds of Morning, SC

This 9.5-year-old bitch was something else! Of the highest quality type and size. She was structurally solid.

Puppy, 6-9 Months Dogs

1: Barrassy Stormborn Twister

A growing happy puppy, just as he should be. Good bone and size, but has grown into a hollow chest and sloppy front, which caused him on this day to be unsound.

Puppy, 9-12 Months Dogs

1: Carrickaneena Rooney

This boy is all wolfhound with a ten for side gait. He had a great amount of leg and bone. As a puppy of this age, he came into the ring narrow behind and not quite able to get his front under him.

12-15 Months Dogs

1: Carrickaneena Dearthair

Best of Opposite Sex to Best in Sweepstakes: Great side gate, lots of drive. Strong, sound rear. Front hasn't settled and head a tad feminine with a lighter eye. A lot of potential in this yearling dog.

2: Carrickaneena Oglivy Mochroi

Lots of leg on this boy which has taken away his shape right now. Tight in his chest and shoulders with effected his topline on this day.

Puppy, 6-9 Months Bitches

1: Olivia Newton John Roan Inish

This growing puppy had nice bone for her age but was in a lot of pieces. As I saw her on this day, she was pinched in the chest and out at the elbow. However, we've all watched wolfhound puppies make some amazing changes as they grow into adulthood.

Puppy, 9-12 Months Bitches

1: Carrickaneena Roisin of Cu Adohagain

This baby girl lacked confidence. Nice head and ears, but light eyes. The tight front assembly didn't match her correct rear assembly.

12-15 Months Bitches

1: Pocahontasgardens Renesmee

Best in Sweepstakes: Most complete package of the day in puppy sweeps. Her good front and rear balance allowed her to be the best mover of the day. I wish she had more breed character in her head and a longer upper arm.

2: Howling Hall Witness for the Prosecution

Nice sized yearling bitch, on this day a straight and narrow front which made her lose her topline on the move.

3: Temairs Illusive Traveler

This young bitch stood over a lot of ground and showed some power, despite being unsure in the ring. Under-angulated front and narrow throughout her body.

4: Carrickaneena Bronntanas

Lovely headpiece and long legs, just too moderate front and rear. I noticed in the regular classes that she settled into herself better.