

The Kennel Club of Jersey

Open Show 23rd November 2024

Thank you to Sophia Maloret for being an excellent steward, as a junior you can learn so much by working with a judge.

The entries were low but of good quality and it is fantastic to see some keen new junior handlers. A couple of themes, keep your patterns neat and precise, if necessary use an object to move to to get the lines and make the most of the ring to your advantage.

Junior Handling 6 – 11 years

Both handlers set their dogs up and were a little close to the fence which made shadowing harder than it needed to be, use the ring to help yourselves. That said two lovely handlers who listened to what I asked, their dogs did not make their jobs easy, they shouldn't as animals are unpredictable, but both handlers were patient and sympathetic in the way they handled.

1st Everlynn Stewart-Smith

This young handler makes a picture with her dog, a real partnership. As a handler she does not overshadow her dog and today her patterns were neater and her shadowing was unassuming but spot on. Having watched her I can see the improvements that she is making and her pride in showing her dog is obvious. Her Papillon does not make it easy for her but I love the way she takes it in her stride. Moved at correct paced and was on point when moving with the other dog, she is judge aware but subtle- my kind of handler, although she could have a little more "look at me", this confidence will come. Congratulations- overall best junior handler, very well deserved!

2nd Annie Brookes

This handler shows great promise, handling someone else's dog is not easy and the dog was definitely not a robot but quiet perseverance paid off, a lovely patient handler. She showed the right speed of movement but just watch you get three sides to the triangle and not a curve. For me a couple of things, move round your dog when shadowing not over and your hand should be invisible to the judge, Cocker Spaniels have a great groove for fingers, this is just practice and what I loved is that she listened to everything I said. Don't give up, your day will come!

Junior Handling 12 – 16 years

1st Nora Brookes

Another promising handler showing someone else's dog, she is obviously keen and when she challenged for best junior handler she was already better having listened to what I said in this class. She stacked the dog well, just take care to look at feet

placement on the table. Her triangle was good, just keep the dog between you and the judge on the circle, again this is just practice and she realised it too late. She moved the dog at the right speed and as a handler was unobtrusive, lovely sympathetic handling. I hope this young handler perseveres as she most definitely has potential to be a really good handler- well done!

Adult Handling 17 – 24 years

1st Yakira Michel

A handler who knows her stuff and how to execute it seamlessly. I like the picture she makes handling, setting the dog up well and showing the judge the right outline, she is very dog aware with this exhibit. Neat patterns and exactly the right pace of movement. Hard as a judge to “trick” this handler in to making a mistake as she is aware of what the judge is doing at all times. Very well handled, she stood alone but had there been another competitor they would have to have gone some to beat her. Well done!

Fiona Whitehead