

ATIBOX 2007 - SERBIA

It was with great pleasure and honour that I accepted the invitation of the ATIBOX to judge brindle bitches at Novi Sad, Serbia.

The importance given to Boxers in this show was surprising.

Boxer is a breed that deserve all the care and attention from all people involved as they are in fact the most difficult to breed regarding their ancestry and dimension.

The sympathy and hospitality of the organisation was at the same level as the importance of this event with a very special reference to my friend Milos Lucic and all his team. I mostly appreciated the wonderful place and the gastronomic tour giving me the chance of seeing a little of the Serbian culture.

No doubt it was a show organised with remarkable know-how and technology.

The ring had excellent dimensions. The classes I judged were: Saturday - Junior (9/12 months), Junior (12/18 months); Sunday – Open, Working and Champion and Best Bitch of the Show.

The number of entries was big but I had the time to judge in a more detailed manner as required for breed specials. The overall quality of Boxers was above average and the number of 'Excellents' was much bigger than usual.

This show made me restart to believe that Boxers are in very good hands. I had to come this far to see the best individuals I have ever judged. The winners were coming from all over Europe and Russia.

I would like to point out some of the winner females:

My winner in Junior (9/12) was the beautiful SIKILI MAGA from Italy. Excellent size, very nice proportions and body, strong enough, feminine type, narrow skull, and good movement for her age. She is in a bad age and I think that next year she will win a lot in shows. Her faults were justify by her age.

In Juniors (12 to 18months) the winner and also Atibox'2007 J Winner was the remarkable quality bitch IRA DE JOANXICHCAN, from Spain. Medium sized bitch, very powerful, full of substance and sound movement, narrow skull, beautiful expression and eyes, long and typical neck, correct front and front angulations, short in loins, compact, strong forequarters. She was almost technical perfect.

On Sunday I started by the Champion Class bitches and my winner was ATENA DELL COLLE DELL INFINITO, from Italy, outstanding head type in all standard aspects, medium sized bitch with correct angulations, a bit lack in muscles and the movement should be more powerful.

In Working class the winner and also ATIBOX'2007 Winner was OLIVIA VON BISPUS, from Portugal, medium sized bitch, very powerful in top conditions and soundness, with very correct head, narrow skull, correct expression and full filled muzzle, correct angulations and top line. She was in wonderful shape. Only those who will have a chance to admire the mechanical motion of the hindquarters of this bitch will understand what I mean.

I was very happy to arrive to the end and see my open bitch becoming Best in Show, ERIKA DE COVALANA, from Spain. Beautiful bitch in outstanding conditions, nobility and correct in all standard aspects, very strong body, correct angulations, top line and soundness, in shape, The head was beautiful, the eyes were black and typical head expression, I would like a little bit more filled under the eyes. One of the best bitches I have ever judged in my life. The handling done by her owner was superb and full of glamour enhancing even more the performance of such noble animal. Even tired her movement at the end was still fresh and sound and my college, Iwona pick her to the highest trophy, the Best of Breed.

In this show I had the chance to judge the best Boxers in Europe, at the moment. No doubt it is very exciting for any judge to have the chance of appreciating dogs of this level. In any case, all the classes were full of magnificent individuals.

My brindle bitches were undoubtedly the superstars of this Atibox Show, as they collected for the breed the Junior Best Female, and the absolute Best In Show.

The last but not the least, I want to congratulate the new Atibox Committee, Dr. Milos Lucic, Torsten Lemmer, Ginette Hufshmid, Bernard Kafka, Bozhidar Velikov, Iwona, Andreja Cukink that was elected on Friday before. I wish all of you lots of courage and enthusiasm in the destiny of our noble breed.

I would like to thank all the exhibitors, breeders and breed fans for your trust that honoured me so much, hoping that my work has contributed to make you even more strong and optimist.

JOÃO VASCO POÇAS