Thank you to the committee of the Afghan Hound Association for inviting me to judge their Special Award Classes. I had a most enjoyable time, thank you for your most generous hospitality and to Jeff who stewarded for me.

SPECIAL AWARD JUNIOR DOG OR BITCH 2

1st **Rhodes** Mrs S M **Alaqadar Ariodante of Shadowfax (Imp)** 6-month-old black and brindle bitch, with ample bone and substance. Beautiful feminine head of good proportions, darkest of eyes with typical expression and cheeky monkey whiskers. Lengthy neck leading into correct front assembly with good width and depth of chest. Level top line with short loin and good fallaway. Good bend of stifle and strong parallel hocks. Low set ringed tail, carried correctly. Moved well for such a young girl, full of promise.

2nd Kirk & Williams, Mr A & Mrs E **Istani Davidoff the Game** Strong, rangy 7-month-old black and tan dog. Long, balanced masculine head with correct dentition and strength to under jaw, and those lovely monkey whiskers. Balanced angulation both fore and aft, with enough depth of chest for age. Super bone with forelegs straight, bare pasterns and large well-padded feet. Level back well-ribbed, with curvy underline. Covered the ground with long easy strides with his ringed tail raised in action. Promising youngster.

SPECIAL AWARD POST GRADUATE DOG OR BITCH 1

1st Parker, Miss C M **Saxonmill Majic Moment at Khatira** 2 ½ years old Black and Tan dog. Striking young hound presenting a lovely balanced outline. Masculine head that is beautifully chiselled. Dark, triangular eye and an attractive mandarin beard. Strong neck of good length that flows into well placed shoulders with correct return of upper arm. Well off for bone with large, well-padded feet. Good width to front and ample depth of chest, nicely ribbed back and strong, broad muscular loin. Natural saddle with level back, holding his top line on the move. Great sweep from hip to hock. Nicely handled, a free and easy mover showing good reach and drive.

SPECIAL AWARD OPEN DOG OR BITCH 5 (3)

1st James, Mrs E & Miss I **Ch Syrdarya Darjeeling Chai of Simkhan** Upstanding and dignified 3-year-old self-masked red. So much to like about this male. Quality head that is beautifully balanced through skull and fore face, dark expressive eyes with good pigmentation, lovely veining and an attractive mandarin beard. Strong, muscular neck flows beautifully into a well-made front, good width and depth to brisket, ribs well sprung and a short, broad muscular loin. Sweeping, well-muscled hindquarters without exaggeration, with width to 2nd thigh and short parallel hocks. Natural saddle and prominent pin bones, with a ringed tail carried correctly completes the picture. Powered around the ring in a style of high order, covering the ground effortlessly. Beautifully presented in excellent silky coat and condition.

2nd Parsons, Mr R & Mrs J **Joneca Fire Cracker by Shukriya JW** 5 years old black masked gold aristocratic male with an eastern expression. Long skull with length and strength to jaw and correct dentition, low set ears covered with a silky fringe. Strong, muscular neck with head held proudly, decent front assembly with balanced angulation front and rear. Level back with a natural saddle and

prominent pin bones. Well muscled angulated rear quarters, with low set hocks. Ringed tail carried correctly on the move, lovely free and easy mover. Shown in super coat, nicely handled.

ELAINE BOGART (Incitatus)