I thank the members of the Ibizen Hound Club of the United States for the honor of judging your National Specialty. I also thank the Kachina Kennel Club Show Committee for their invaluable help.

I was able to concentrate on judging due to the professional manner that my Steward, Arthur Sorkin performed – he is outstanding. Eric Liebes did a good job on the day as both Show Chair and Judges Education.

I have been associated with the Ibizen Hound before they were recognized in the Miscellaneous Class in July 1968 by the American Kennel Club. They were granted full recognition in January 1979. I co-authored an article on Ibizen Hound Type with Kathleen O'Brien and Susan Stafford that was widely used in promoting the breed. The article was first published in Kennel Review in June 1982. It became a part of the first judge’s education material on the breed.

My individual critique was given in the ring to each dog that was placed. The overall quality of the entry was good to excellent. Over the years the Wires have improved to where they now provide strong competition to the Smooths. This is a credit to the breeders of the Wires. Several dogs would have placed higher, but they did not want to be touched. I was able to go over them but they did not have the even tempered temperament that is characteristic of the breed.

When the Standard was changed in 1989 in regard to ears, I had argued that you would lose a distinctive type characteristic in regard to the Ibizen Hound ear. The present words are: “The ears are large, pointed, and natural. On alert the ear should never droop, bend, or crease. Highly mobile, the ear can point forward, sideways, or be folded backward, according to mood. On alert, the lowest point of the base is at level of the eye. On frontal examination, the height of the ear is approximately 2½ times that of the widest point of the base.” These words permit a Pharaoh Hound ear; they do not define breed type. In my entry there were entirely too many Pharaoh Hound ears, they lack breed type. A Standard should define breed type. The parent club logo illustrates the proper ear. The Canadian Kennel Club Standard retains the original words which came from the Spanish Standard. The original wording, 1978 to 1990, was great: “Prominent prick ears, always rigid; erect on alert, but highly mobile and at times pointed forward, sideways, or backward, according to mood. The center of the base is at the level of the eyes, and in the form of an enlarged rhomboid truncated at a third of its longer diagonal, Thin, with texture of fine leather, no hair in interior.” This statement screams breed type.

Nan Little wrote a judges education handout titled “Finer Points: What’s a Rhomboid.” Nan summed up her excellent article with: “To lose these attributes of the Ibizen’s ears would mean the loss of a defining aspect of the Ibizen hound type. If these elusive features are lost it may be impossible to restore them.” Unfortunately these features are being lost!

The second type characteristic feature that was lacking in some of the entry was proper gait. Only an Ibizen moves with that characteristic “efficient, light, and graceful single tracking movement. A suspended trot with joint flexion when viewed from the side.” My BOB, BOW, BOS and the two AOM had this type characteristic movement.

My BOB, Ch. Harehill’s Love on the Run (Bitch), epitomized the Standard and even has the proper Ibizen Hound ear as defined in the old Standard. On the day she was and is perfection.

My BOS, Alik’s Classic Martini Rn (Coursing Dog – Wire), was pushing the BOB for the breed win. He is so proper. Both BOB and BOS possessed excellent elegance combined with the power of a hunter. They are both strong, with proper musculature and were hounds of moderation.

I thank the exhibitors for their great sportsmanship and also for allowing me the privilege to judge your exhibits.

(Editor’s Note: For Mr. Gilbert’s placements please refer to marked catalogue that follows)
I want to thank the Ibizan Hound Club of the U.S. (IHCUS) for the privilege of judging Junior Showmanship at your National this April, 2009 in Phoenix, AZ.

The Ibizan Hound is an unusual and difficult breed to handle. There are so many aspects that must be kept in mind when presenting them in the show ring.

I handled several excellent ones in my past career as a professional handler with a strong specialty in Sighthounds. I learned their breed specific presentation. I learned what nuances to enhance and which ones to downplay. Movement is one of the key features of the Ibizan Hound. It must be light, graceful and ground skimming with great joint flexion. If the Ibizan Hound is moved too fast the unique beauty of its movement is destroyed and becomes generic.

This also is not a breed for show-boating. They really resent being fussed with too much and are easily distracted by their surroundings. They are after all a hunting Sighthound.

I am very strongly in favor of showing the dog and not yourself. I also look for breed specific presentation when I judge Junior Showmanship. There can never be anything generic about an Ibizan Hound!

While my entry was not large I was gratified to see both Open Seniors knew their breed inside and out for presentation. They were both so good I had to tell them it was a sudden death competition. The first one to make a mistake was placed second that day.

One had slightly better leash work. I really don’t like to see hanging leads at any time. She was very polished in her presentation and made it difficult for a quick decision.

The other stacked her hound better and did not rely on bait to help it stand over its front. She also used the whole ring. I did not even see her on the move. She was that smooth and in sync with her Ibizan Hound. She was my winner that day.

I congratulate those dedicated parents and guardians who help to train these Juniors with Ibizan Hounds. Thank you so much.

Patricia (Pat) H. Gilbert

Junior Showmanship – Novice
Senior Class - Nicole Berry
Junior Showmanship - Open Senior Class - Alex Davison
Best Junior Handler – Nicole Berry
Sweepstakes Judge’s Critique
Ibizan Hound Club of the United States
National Show, April 3, 2009
Judge – Sheila Hoffman

It was truly an honor to be asked to judge the IHCUS National Specialty sweepstakes this year in Glendale, AZ. The huge indoor facility offered great lighting and large rings enabling the hounds plenty of space to move. I was thrilled to have a good sized entry in puppy and veteran sweeps classes. It was nice to see several beautiful veterans and quality upcoming youngsters.

The puppy dogs were a nice representation of young males. The 6-9 month puppy dog had a nice head and neck but still needs more maturity. I would enjoy seeing him again has he matures.

The rest of the puppy dog entry was in the 9-12 month class. The class winner who was ultimately my Best in Puppy Sweeps selection was a very well built young dog with lots of potential. He has nice shoulders, good balance of front to rear angulation, correct front movement while maintaining soundness coming and going. His showmanship was also quite polished, especially for his age.

The second place dog in this class was a smooth with lovely head, ears and expression. He also exhibited a correct front and topline. He, along with the others exhibited in the 9-12 month class, seemed to be slower maturing and not quite as together on this day as the dog that placed first and eventually Best in Sweeps.

The puppy bitches in the 6-9 and 9-12 month classes both displayed pleasant expressions. Their toplines still need to strengthen and movement needs to continue to develop into a smooth flowing action.

The 12-18 month bitch class was a pleasant class to have the opportunity to judge. The winner of the class topped the others with her lovely reach (with proper lift) and drive and with smooth transition from her long well-arched neck to a proper topline. She had a pretty and proper head-piece accented with correct ear set and shape. This bitch was Best of Opposite Sex in Sweeps only edged out by the fact that she was not showing herself to her best on the day.

The second place bitch also had a very nice head and was quite sound but needed to relax on the move. The bitch placing third has good rear angle but did not have the overall balance at this stage as the two placing ahead of her. The other bitch in the class will benefit from more muscling and substance obtained with maturity.

It was a pleasure to watch the veterans as each entered the ring. It is always nice to see that the dogs hold up well over time. You could tell that most of the dogs were happy to be in ring showing their stuff again. All veterans are winners and it was nice to see the support at ringside for them. Best Veteran in Sweeps was the oldest male of the entry and has held up beautifully. His head, neck and expression were notable but it was his balance and smooth movement with the proper amount of lift that caught my eye the most. Best of Opposite Veteran was a lovely sound moving bitch with nice depth and a pleasant outline.

Overall, it was wonderful see that the upcoming youngsters will be well qualified to carry on breed type and quality. Most of the entry had correct fronts for the breed although some could stand to be tighter on the move. Heads and necks were quite pleasing. Many ear sets and shape were correct but be careful to not lose your nice broad ears. It was good not to see too many over-angulated rears which are unfortunately being rewarded too often in the group rings today. Always remember to strive to achieve your breed standard for excellence and avoid producing just what is winning at the time.

Thank you, again, Sheila Hoffman

Placed First
Owner, Gayle Sutton

Placed Second
Owner, Gayle Sutton & Rose Bednarski
Ibizan Hound Club of the U.S.  
Marked Catalog

IBIZAN HOUNDS  
Judge: Mr. Edward M. Gilbert

IBIZAN HOUNDS Puppy 6 months and under 9 months Dogs.  
1. 7 BRAMBLEWOOD'S TOP HAT & TAILS, HP32271603 9/6/06. Breeder: Judy Parker. By CH Bramblewood's The Bachelor — CH Melgart's Talamera.  
Christy Moore . Dog.  
IBIZAN HOUNDS Puppy 9 months and under 12 months Dogs.  
1/1R 15 MALACHITE'S AGATHOS DALMON ZULTANIT, HP30504405 6/18/08. Breeder: L. Campbell, S. Short, and L. Puskas By CH Bramblewood's Norwester At BoDean' — CH Special Acres' of Malachite JC CD.  
2. 17 MALACHITE'S CARNELIAN CHALCEDONY CO, HP30504401 6/18/08. Breeder: Lynn Campbell, Sue Short, and Lisa Puskas By CH Bramblewood's Norwester At BoDean' — CH Special Acres' Of Malachite JC CD.  
Robin Castillo . Dog.  
IBIZAN HOUNDS American Breed Dogs.  
Pamela Mutcher & Scott Reding . Dog.  
Alison Henson and Bonnie Fleming . Dog.  
IBIZAN HOUNDS Open Wirehaired Dogs.  
Emily Reding &Alice Mirestes & Brittany Reding . Dog.  
IBIZAN HOUNDS Puppy 6 months and under 9 months Bitches.  
1. 6 BRAMBLEWOOD'S OLD SCHOOL DIVA OF O, HP32271604 9/6/08. Breeder: Judy Parker. By CH Bramblewood's The Bachelor — CH Melgart's Talamera.  
Pat O'neil . Bitch.  
IBIZAN HOUNDS 12 Months and under 18 Months Bitches.  
2. 10 ALIKI'S BY ANY OTHER NAME ERISED, HP28935204 3/4/08. Breeder: Alice Mirestes. & Patrick & Heidi Caddell By CH Aliki's Shaken Not Stirred — CH Gryphon Stellar Emenrice SC.  
Emily Reding &Alice Mirestes & Brittany Reding . Bitch.  
1. 16 SPECIAL ACRES' IMAGE OF WHITE TARA, HP30120604 3/29/08. Breeder: Suan Short, Barbara Cope, and William R. L. Smith By CH paradise-Abram Lose Yrself In Me — CH Special Acres' Image of Kisses JC.  
Jeff Larimore . Bitch.  
IBIZAN HOUNDS Bred by Exhibitor Bitches.  
IBIZAN HOUNDS Open Smooth Bitches.  
3. 30 L'WYNS MOMMA'S KONA COASTAL GIRL, HP25575606 5/13/07. Breeder: Lindsay Thorne & Mari Anne. Phillips By CH Gryphons Red Knight —  
CH Unigus She's Like The Wind, SC.  
Debra Ferrara & Nicole Berry & Lindsay Thorne . Bitch.  
Rosemary & Ron Young & Roberta Hozempra . Bitch.  
2. 42 DEJNA VUE'S THE JOURNEY'S END, HP04751802 5/20/03. Breeder: Rose Mary Bednarski. By CH Homer De Can Pocaruba — CH Bramblewood De Ja Vue Forthcoming.  
IBIZAN HOUNDS Open Wirehaired Bitches.  
Audrey Rajec and Judy Parker . Bitch.  
2. 34 DISTINATION'S ROSE ARE RED, HP21385203 5/20/06. Breeder: John O'Malley. By Melgart's Baal — CH Bramblewood's Mimmie MiMiosa.  
Robin Castillo and John O'Malley and Jessica Stover . Bitch.  
IBIZAN HOUNDS Non-Reg Eligible BOB/BOV Coursing Dogs.  
Christy Shaw and Erica Shaw . Dog.  
IBIZAN HOUNDS Non-Reg Eligible BOB/BOV Veteran Dogs.  
Michelle Paulin-Brown . Dog.  
IBIZAN HOUNDS Non-Reg Eligible BOB/BOV Veteran 6 years and under 10 Bitches.  
1. 18 DAVINCI ALIKI KISS MY ICE, HM95490301 4/21/01. Breeder: Alice Mirestes and Kimberly Hinto, and Julia R Morris By Gryphons Star Dragon Dancer — Strangedays Ruffienne.  
Christy Shaw and Erica Shaw . Bitch.  
IBIZAN HOUNDS Non-Reg Eligible BOB/BOV 9 years and older Bitches.  
Georgiana Guthrie and Helen M Haas . Dog.  
Michelle Paulin-Brown, Agent.  
33 CH BRAMBLEWOOD'S ROUND OF APPAWS, HP13765403 11/14/04. Breeder: Judy Parker. By Melgart's Baal — Bramblewood Creme Caramel.  
Robin Castillo . Dog.  
Alice Mirestes . Dog.  
40 CH DISTINATION'S WIND FEATHERS, HP21358202 5/20/06. Breeder: John O'Malley. By Melgart's Baal — CH