

# Report On The Red Setter

(Editor's Note: The following article by William C. Thompson, author of "The Irish Setter In Word and Picture," appeared in the July issue of "Western Irish Setter News." It is reprinted here as a summary for reference, and up-dated to include the last half of 1960.

By W. C. THOMPSON  
(Author of The Irish Setter In Word and Picture)

Periodically it is good to look at the record of the Irish Setter in bench, field and obedience competition. This provides a means of comparing our favorite breed with others, it shows what progress has been made and it answers inquiries concerning the top-ranking dogs.

In this article no attempt is made to discuss in detail the history of the Irish Setter in field trials; but only the highlights will be pointed out. 1216 Setters have placed in 945 field trials since 1870. They have placed in 67 trials during 1959.

The first field trial in this country was a match race in 1870 at Marin County, California in which there were four starters. An Irish Setter named Queen, owned by Charles Kaeding, won first place. The next trial on record was that of the Tennessee State Sportsmen's Association, Memphis, Tennessee, on October 8, 1874, containing a Free For All Stake with 2 Pointers, 2 English Setters, 4 Irish Setters, 1 Native and 1 Dropper. An Irish Setter called Mack won fourth place.

The history of the Red Setter in the field has had its ups and downs, but the progress in the last few years has been very favorable. Certain strains which carry that "urge to hunt" and great "intensity on point" are prominent. They trace back to such dogs as Joffre Rookwood, Morty Oge's King, Sulhamstead Trace D'Or, Pat Law, Tipperary Eamon, Emada Byrd, McKerry, Rusty's Jinx and others. A list of the 18 field champions follows:

- Askew's Carolina Lady (b) 423725 FDSB, S-744906 AKC
- Clodagh McTybe of the Cloisters (b) 264137, A-58519
- Elcova McTybe (d) 236836, 861800
- Fyn (d) 548054, S-864998
- Ike Jack Kendrick (d) 469340, S-790833
- Jackson Brook Angler's Rusty (d) 501054
- Mahogany Friction II (d) 568864, S-791628
- Oxton's Shosaph (d) 475802, S-230817
- Pride of Millis (b) 501394, Pride of Erin IV S-511832
- Red-Arrow Show Girl (b) S-595678
- Sharon IV (b) 501977, S-320518
- Shaun McTybe of the Cloisters (d) 259920, A-58520
- Sulhamstead Norse D'Or (d) 560605
- Tipperary McKerry (d) 199477, 828668
- Tyrone's Mahogany Mike (d) 530007, S-452547
- Uncle Ned R (d) 274076, A-216064
- Valli Hi Lacey (b) 551851
- Van's Cindy (b) 528761

In reviewing the pedigrees of these dogs there seems to be no long-established line breeding of field bloodlines; but perhaps by continued careful mating and selection, superior field characteristics can be fixed. Since many of the field champions have some bench champions in their pedigrees, it is not beyond the realm of possibility that the two interests could approach each other. It is toward this end that several Specialty Clubs have been cooperating.

Dual Ch. Tyrone's Mahogany Mike (CDX) is an obedience trial winner, a field champion and a bench champion. Dual Ch. Red-Arrow Show Girl (UD) wears the triple crown of field, obedience and bench. She also has won a Mexican CD title and two certificates toward a bench championship in that country.

Some dogs of the Irish breed have done well in national competition. Rufus McTybe O'Cloisters was runner-up in the National Amateur Championship in 1950. Sulhamstead Norse D'Or was runner-up in the Middle Atlantic States Regional Shooting Dog Classic in October 1959.

First place winners in the National Red Setter Shooting Dog Stakes were as follows:

- 4-13-52 ..... Cedar Bluff Paddy (b) 423883
- 10-19-52 ..... High Point Captain McKerry (d) 398716
- 4-11-53 ..... Tippy Tipperary McKerry (b) 512273
- 10-17-53 ..... Askew's Carolina Lady (b) 432725
- 4-3-54 ..... Sharon IV (b) 501977
- 10-20-54 ..... Willow Winds Duke (d) 518356
- 4-2-55 ..... Windyhill Clanderick Mick (d) 495391
- 10-30-55 ..... Double Jay (d) 514167
- 4-14-56 ..... Double Jay (d) 514167
- 11-17-56 ..... Willow Winds Hobo (d) 516558
- 4-13-57 ..... Double Jay (d) 514167
- 11-8-57 ..... Van's Cindy (b) 528761
- 4-12-58 ..... Cooper's Gay Lady (b) 536918
- 11-7-58 ..... Lady's Queen (b) 558165
- 4-12-59 ..... Cooper's Tennessee Riley (d) 552405
- 4-22-60 ..... Fyn (d) 548054

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Double Jay, Willow Winds Hobo and Lady's Queen have won Championship Stakes at the above trials.

Other setters that have done considerable winning at trials include: Duke IX, Hard Tack, Ike Jack Kendrick, Mahogany Friction II, Mr. O'Leary, Pride of Millis, Red Velvet's Duke, Sally of Kildare, Sulhamstead Norse D'Or, Tyrone's Mahogany Mike, Valli Hi Lacey, Valli Jay Hi, Willow Winds Cathy and Windyridge Tammy.

Topping the list of Irish Setter field trial winners is F. Ch. Ike Jack Kendrick who has placed at more than 55 trials, many of which included strong competition from dogs of other pointing breeds. Most of his wins were made after he was five years old and in the Shooting Dog Stakes. As a sire of field trial performers he has been most successful, for 31 of his get have placed at trials. His dam, Askew's Carolina Lady who won in more than 21 trials, produced 18 field trial winners. Rusty's Jinx sired at least eight prominent winners.

With regard to obedience trial winners, 569 Irish Setters have obtained the Companion Dog (CD) title since the start in 1936 ("American Kennel Gazette," November 1936 to February 1960 inclusive). Of these dogs, 130 acquired Companion Dog Excellent (CDX), 36 Utility Dog (UD) and 10 Utility Dog Tracker (UDT). The following dogs have won the UDT title:

- Lady Velvet of Hillcrest (b); Riley's Ramsey MacDonald (d); Rusty of Old Erin (d); Stillmeadow Maeve (b); Ch. Tyrone Farm McCorkney (d); Ch. Van Ayl Dennis Jerold (d); Verbu Norreen Oogh (b); Ch. Verbu Norna Oogh (b); Verbu Susie Oogh (b); Wandralac's Lady Geraldine (b); Red-Arrow Showgirl (b).

What is the average age at which an Irish Setter finishes? A frequency curve for 1209 Irish Setter champions (1921-1960) indicates that the average age of obtaining the title is approximately three years. As show dogs, this breed is somewhat slow to mature.

Irish Setters usually have a long life and they are "lasters." Some of them are still useful afield at nine years of age. Both F. Ch. Ike Jack Kendrick and his dam, F. Ch. Askew's Carolina Lady, were winning field trials at that age. It is not unusual for a red setter to win at bench shows over a period of seven or more years, e.g. Ch. Charles River Color Sergeant, Ch. Classic of Telcor, Ch. End O'Maine Patridge, Ch. Erin's Beau Brummell, Ch. Gaye of Sunny Acre, Ch. Higgins' Red Pat, Ch. Kleilight of Aragon, Ch. Kleilight's Red Tuxedo, Ch. Michael IV, Ch. Munn's Autumn Flash, Ch. Peter Patrick, Ch. Philacre Gentleman Jeff, Ch. Redbart Kendrick, Ch. Tyrone Farm Malone II, Ch. Wamsutta's Victor Eamon, Ch. Wharfwood's Buccaneer and others. These dogs must have possessed considerable stamina to have campaigned at dog shows most of their lives.

Not long ago, when Ch. Runwild Fiona completed her bench championship at the early age of 11 months and 20 days, the question arose as to whether she might be the youngest Irish Setter to win the title. Fiona ranked fourth in this respect as shown in the following tabulation for the period from 1921 to 1960:

	Age
Londonderry's Legion II.....	9 mo. 27 days
Shaun's Copper Duchess.....	11 mo. 1 day
Mollie of Boyne.....	11 mo. 14 days
Runwild Fiona.....	11 mo. 20 days
Carrvale's Sergeant Terrance.....	12 mo. 9 days
Kendare Stout Fellow.....	12 mo. 25 days
The Red Comet O'Shagstone.....	13 mo. 26 days

Ch. Londonderry's Legion II finished his championship in three weeks at four shows with 5, 3, 4 and 3 points successively exhibited each time in the Puppy Class. Ch. Shaun's Copper Duchess did very well, too, but she was shown in the Open Class at five West Coast shows. Probably it is more difficult to obtain championship points with a puppy now than it was in the early Twenties.

The oldest Irish Setter to finish his championship was Ch. Barney O'Flynn (11 years). Next in order was Ch. Caldene Mickey Mischief (9 years, 10 months) and Ch. Gill O'Shagstone (8 years, 11 months). Ch. End O'Maine McCabe completed his championship in five days and won 25 championship points in nine days.

During the 35 years that Best in Show and Group placings have been made at American dog shows, 118 Irish Setters have won Best in Show 334 times. Data from "The American Kennel Gazette" from 1925 to 1960 have been summarized to show the number of awards received by top-ranking setters:



Irish Setter Champion	Bis	Sporting Grp				BBB	Spec.
		1st	2nd	3rd	4th		
Higgins' Red Pat	24	43	0	0	0	74	1
Kleight of Aragon	21	55	27	10	4	103	2
Tyronne Farm Clancy	19	44	16	2	0	63	1
Erin's Beau Brummell	15	36	11	5	3	59	0
Rosecroft Premier	12	53	35	18	9	124	3
Milson O'Boy	11	46	31	14	6	103	0
Thenderin Brian Tristan	10	22	17	5	6	61	0
Dunquaire Bryson	9	34	23	12	10	96	0
Delaware Kate	8	21	0	0	0	29	1
King Size	8	19	11	6	0	38	0
Knightsroft Symphony	7	22	15	11	3	58	1
End O'Maine Patridge	7	15	10	9	3	44	1
Cu-Machree Tim	5	38	20	12	7	89	0
End O'Maine Luckalone	5	12	9	4	5	41	0
Charles River Color Sergeant	5	12	7	5	6	37	3
Margevan's Real McCoy	5	11	4	3	5	28	1
Milson Top-Notcher	5	29	48	18	12	115	0
Patricia of Boyne	5	9	0	1	1	14	0
Tyronne Farm Shanahan	5	16	6	1	0	23	0

Next will be considered the outstanding producing sires and dams of the breed. Ch. Higgins' Red Coat, a brother of Ch. Higgins' Red Pat, sired 30 champions from 15 different bitches. He had 220 registered offspring from 39 bitches in 29 litters. Ch. Kleight of Aragon, a grandson of Red Coat, also sired 30 champions from 19 bitches. He had 595 registered offspring from 94 bitches in 131 litters.

Pete, as he was called, sired six litters from Ch. Charles River All Afire. Ch. Kinvarra Kermit sired 29 champions from 9 bitches. He had 154 registered offspring from 23 bitches in 29 litters. I suspect that World War II had its effect on these figures.

A list of ten Irish Setter sires showing the number of their champion progeny is as follows:

Sire	No. Champions Sired
Ch. Higgins' Red Coat 634787	30
Ch. Kleight of Aragon A-380784	30
Ch. Kinvarra Kermit (d) A-217049	29
Ch. Red Star of Hollywood Hills CDX A-932359	24
Ch. Thenderin Brian Tristan S-226483	23
Ch. Tyrone Farm Malone II S-45636	21
Ch. Milson O'Boy II A-94054	20
Ch. Seaforth's Dark Rex S-158260	19
Ch. Milson O'Boy 850620	17
Ch. Charles River Color Sergeant A-570236	17
Ch. Redwood Russet of Harvale A-95567	16

A similar tabulation of Irish Setter dams of champions is less impressive:

Dam	No. Champions Produced
Ch. Ruxton's Mollie O'Day 911477	14
Ch. Kinvarra Portia A-580097	12
Ch. End O'Maine Claret C-751758	7
Ch. Didona A-68592	7
Ch. Kinvarra Bootsie S-29285	7
Ch. Ruxton's Shannon of Boyne 908829	7

Nine of Ch. Kinvarra Portia's champion offspring were sired by Ch. Red Ranger Pat.

Then there is the usual question as to the maximum number of Irish Setter champions in one litter.

No.	Champion
7	Ch. Carrvale's Terry Terhune ex. End O'Maine Claret
6	Ch. Kinvarra Kermit ex. Ch. Didona
6	Ch. Kinvarra Kermit ex. Ch. Ruxton's Molly O'Day
6	Redwood Rocket ex. Ch. Ruxton's Shannon of Boyne
5	Ch. Peter Patrick ex. Ch. Coppercoat's Sleep Time Gal
5	Ch. Red Ranger Pat ex. Ch. Kinvarra Portia
4	Ch. Red Ranger Pat ex. Ch. Kinvarra Portia
5	Ch. Red Star of Hollywood Hills ex. Ch. Boxley Holly Anne
4	Ch. Red Star of Hollywood Hills ex. Chares River Destiny
3	Ch. Red Star of Hollywood Hills ex. Ch. Redlog Strawberry Blonde

It appears that Ch. Higgins' Red Pat won the most Best in Show awards (24) with Ch. Kleight of Aragon as runner-up (21). The latter was first in the Sporting Group 55 times. Cr. Rosecroft Premier received the most Best of Breed awards (124).

Many Irish Setters not listed in the table had numerous and impressive show wins, but less than five Best in Show awards. In contrast there were some dogs that became champions and yet they had no Best of Breed ribbons. Pal Himself won 12 Best of Breed awards in five years with no Group wins. Gerbet's Irish Duke and Lady Minstrel Boy each had one Best in Show with no other Best of Breed wins and they did not become champions. Of interest also is the fact that Ch. Erin's Beau Brummell went Best in Show at Milwaukee in 1941, the first time shown. Ch. Delaware Kate was never defeated in the breed classes. An Irish Setter has never won Best in Show at Westminster; however, at Morris and Essex Ch. Milson O'Boy went Best in Show in 1935 and Ch. Tyrone Farm Clancy did the same in 1950. Ch. Carrvale's Terry Terhune has been Best Irish Setter at six Midwest Specialty Shows.

At 445 all-breed shows in 1959, Ch. Wautoma won Best in Show three times and Ch. Kinvarra Kimson once.

Up to and including "The American Kennel Gazette" of February 1960, there have been recorded 1426 Irish Setter champions, including 18 field champions. Ch. Elcho, who acquired the title in 1876, was the first Irish Setter bench champion; in fact, he was the first American champion of any breed. In 1959, seventy-one Irish Setter bench champions and two field champions were crowned. In that year the American Kennel Club registered 2403 Irish Setters in a total of 460,300 dogs. The Red Setter ranked 27th in number of registrations. Last year "The Field Dog Stud Book" registered 370 Irish Setters, including 195 males.

### All-America

#### IRISH SETTERS

Sulhamstead Norse D'Or (Sulhamstead Montebellos ex Sulhamstead Banco D'Or), consistent winner, W. E. LeGrande, Douglassville, Pennsylvania, owner.

Fyn, winner Midwestern Red Setter Open Championship, B. C. Cotton, Dry Ridge, Kentucky, owner.

Double Jack (Hard Tack ex Willow Winds Baby), winner in open trials, W. E. LeGrande, owner.

Likely's Mr. Casey (Redleigh of Shadycrest ex Winnie), winner in open shooting dog stakes, T. J. Likely, Independence, Missouri, owner.

Valley Hi Jay (Double Jay ex Van's Red), consistent winner, David J. Hasinger, Huntington Valley, Pennsylvania, owner.

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Double Champion Of America Joe, Jr.

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