

THE 10TH AKITAINU HOZONKAI L.A. BRANCH SHOW OF 1979
OFFICIAL JUDGE: Mr. Hiroshi Ishida

For this year's show, we are honored to welcome Mr. Hiroshi Ishida from the *Akitainu Hozonkai* Headquarters in Japan.

On October 28, 1979 the LA Branch Show was held with a total of 64 dogs entered. I understand in the past, the Branch Shows were held at the LA Police Station parking lot during the *Nisei* Week Festival in August. But since the dogs were afraid of the echo the speakers produced from the P.A. system, the Branch Show was moved to Arcadia Park this year. I also know that the month of October is the rainiest season. In Japan, a little rain would not bother the show, but I was informed that in LA, when it rains, dogs do not gather themselves well. The day before the show, we were worried about the weather for the next day, but it turned out to be a nice day. The park was so open, that this type of vastness is unthinkable in Japan. The open park was all green with large trees growing here and there. The show ring was set at a spot just the right size, even though there wasn't a tent. There was hot water to serve coffee and soft drinks readily available. There was even a toilet close by. There was not a thing that you could complain about.

THE SHOW EVALUATION:

Fifty people came to the evaluation meeting. There were many questions posed, and I was surprised by everyone's enthusiasm. Eighty percent of the dogs were of the old type. Three examples would be the dirty brindle, the black goma, and the colorful pinto. I was able to see a lot of them. Many dogs' ears were too close together and some were not well-formed. Even though, the *shimofuri* brindles had a nice color, their muzzles were too loose, their eyes were too light and their overall body was too loose and rather too fat. The dogs are given too much food, not enough exercise and being overly loved.

I think the majority of these people are AKC members, and the care of these types of dogs differ largely from the ones in Japan. These people don't know the quality of the Akitainu in Japan. Perhaps because this type of information is lacking in the United States. The other day, I saw an Akitainu book, at a pet shop with a black goma dog on the cover. This is considered an undesirable coat by the Japanese Akiho Standard.

From *yohchiken* to *seiken* a few have the potential to be shown in Japan. He was referring to the best in the show, **Akifuji-Go** owned by Dr. Chokuro Yoshida of Gardena, California. Even though they were not at the show, I was able to see a few dogs which possessed good qualities. Use these nice quality dogs as a base, and make a plan to up-grade the quality of the Akitainu, breed. After watching slides of a Headquarter Show in Japan, two or three members wanted to go to Japan to purchase a dog. Nevertheless, don't use the old type of dogs for breeding.

(The Basics Of The Akitainu by Hiroshi Kuwabara, 2nd Edition)