

Horsham & District Riding Club

Area 13 Dressage team competition

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| LOCATION: | Burgess Hill | DATE: | 17 th July 2010 |
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The Riding Club Area 13 dressage qualifier was held in Burgess Hill, where there were six grass arenas in action for much of the day. Horsham were represented in the both the national and the regional qualifier competitions at "novice", "open" and "riding test " levels. In these team competitions the best three of four scores count.

Novice Dressage Teams - (prelim tests)

Horsham Hooligans

Tiffany Tasney riding her husband's lovely coloured horse Another Artist, Ruth Burgess on her young mare Rusty's Little Gem, and our off duty "copper " Isabelle Lee and Flynn, all did superb tests to win their respective arenas. Jackie Lambert and her lovely mare Hardham Gamebird came second in their arena, which confirmed their recent form where they were 3rd at Hartpury in the national RDA music championships. This proved to be an unbeatable set of scores and the team won and qualified for both the National championships at Lincoln in September and the Regional championships to be held at Ardingly in October.

Horsham Horrors

Were a creditable 4th with Pam Nixon and Hurtwood Oliver gaining 3rd individually. Lucy Lempiere riding her old partner Golden Sovereign came 4th, as did Ruth Burgess riding her second young horse Little Victory, and Gail Taylor and Birthday Party came 5th individually.

Horsham Harriers

Were a relatively inexperienced team, with some young horses and new faces which was great news for the future of the club. Caroline Exley did a lovely test on her new mare Copperfield Iris for individual 5th place. Jenny Nolan rode a good test for her team debut on the appaloosa Lakota Sioux. Jane Wilmslow had a great ride for individual 4th place on her beautiful bay mare Chloe, and Lucy Kenward rode her 4 year old thoroughbred Ouisins Boy, whose test had some very promising moments together with a few bucks of joy ! The team came 7th overall.

Open Dressage Team - (novice and elementary tests)

Due to injury there were a couple of late changes to the team so thank you to Libby Powell who came in at the eleventh hour to ride Novice 24 with no time to practice ! Lucy Kenward also had a late change to ride Jane Silcock's mare Harmony, but still managed to win their arena and qualify individually for the championships. Linzi Wiseman tactfully steered Webster round the slippery grass arena for individual 4th and Liz Pellett and Zak, back after an 18month lay off, completed the quartet with a 3rd place riding the elementary test. The team came 4th overall with Rudgwick RC taking the championship qualifying slot in first place.

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Riding Test Team

This is where the rider is judged on their riding and style rather than in a dressage test where it is the horse's performance that is marked.

In the national qualifier competition, two riders do test 11 and two ride test 13. Tiffany Tasney and Ruth Burgess both rode no. 11 and came 4th and 2nd respectively. With Lucy Kenward and Liz Pellett riding test 13, who came 5th and 3rd individually. This was good enough for second place as a team, beaten only by Rudgwick who qualify for the national championships.

A similar competition is held to qualify for the regional championships, but in this case all four riders ride the same test No. 11. So joining Tiffany and Ruth in this team were Pam Nixon and Gail Taylor. Again everyone rode these new tests very well, with accuracy and rider empathy the key to success. However Horsham were just pipped into second place again by Ouse Valley RC. But this was good enough to qualify for the regional championships at Ardingly later in the year.

So a very busy and successful day for Horsham RC. Thanks to all those who stepped in at short notice, and to our support crews and our willing helpers Christine Russell and Carol Porter who were stewards for the day.

Please take a look at the pictures taken by Elise Gayler in the gallery section of the website. Full scoreboard will be available on the West End Riding Club website.

Report by
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Chef D'Equipe