

AREA 13 HORSE TRIALS CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFIERS, RACKHAM - 14th JUNE

Horsham and District Set for Championships

The day dawned bright and clear for the London and South East and National Championship Horse Trials qualifier. This year the event was hosted at a new venue at Rackham, near Arundel. The courses for the intermediate, novice and junior sections were well designed. Both the novice and intermediate sections were lucky enough to be jumping the BE90 (Intro) and BE100 (Pre-Novice) courses of the affiliated competition from the day before. Rackham also has the advantage of being on sandy soil so the going was good.

In all there were four senior HDRC teams entered and two junior individual competitors. First up to compete were the novice A team comprised of Louise Hamilton, Sam Gates, Anna Finch and Katherine Brown. The team had a tough act to follow as HDRC are the reigning national novice champions. Whilst the A team narrowly missed qualifying for the Nationals they finished a deserving 2nd place overall and qualified for the London and South East (LSE) regional championships to be held at Munstead, Godalming at the end of September. This success set the tone for the rest of the day. The novice B team made up of Amanda Haywood, Libby Powell, Isabelle Lee and Lizzy Gorringe came 5th in the national qualifier. Pam Nixon, Helen Greenwood, Isabelle Lee and Claire Hamshaw made up Horsham's third novice team entered for the LSE regional qualifier. The team also came 5th and have been invited to take part in the LSE championships on Sunday 27th September.

In the afternoon the intermediate class began. Sam Gates, Jane Silcock, Lucy Kenward and Anna Gorringe put in a fantastic effort winning their section and qualifying for the national championships. The success of the team was reflected in the individual placings with Anna being overall winner of the intermediate section; Lucy and Sam also did very well coming fourth and fifth respectively. The team now travel to the new venue for the national championships of Aston Le Walls on August 6th where the final is a full blown 3 day event, with roads and tracks and steeplechase as well as dressage, showjumping and the all important cross country!

In the junior section HDRC had entered two individual riders Florence Turner and Heather Reay. Both the girls did well with Heather finishing second.

On a separate occasion, 28th June, the OPEN HORSE TRIALS were hosted at Borde Hill. Mandy Hammond riding Ballin Queen was the sole entrant for the club but despite her solo performance was placed first gaining her individual qualification for the finals. So Mandy will join the intermediate team at Aston Le Walls in August.

Many thanks to all those who took part on the days including the volunteers who always make these events possible. Good luck to all the successful combinations who will be riding at the National Championships at Aston Le Walls, and the LSE area champs at Munstead.

SENIOR INTERMEDIATE TEAM

Sam Gates Trojans Turn 39.7
Jane Silcock Forever Hopeful 58.9
Lucy Kenward Temple Oracle 37.9
Anna Gorringe Farmer's Choice 32.6

SENIOR NOVICE TEAM A

Louise Hamilton Mr Gigolo 46
Sam Gates Footman Frankie 39.5
Anna Finch Ned Kelly 42.7
Katherine Brown Lucy Locket 95.9

SENIOR NOVICE TEAM B

Amanda Haywood Alston Clover 64.2
Libby Powell Gay Challenger
Isabelle Lee Flynn 96.8
Lizzy Gorringe Bright Future

JUNIOR NOVICE INDIVIDUALS

Florence Turner GJ 55.9
Heather Fay Lady Boiro 37.3

LONDON & S.E. TEAM

Pam Nixon Hurtwood Oliver 48.7
Helen Greenwood Skylark Millie 85.2
Isabelle Lee Flynn 96.8
Claire Hamshaw Marshalls Law 49.6