

Horsham & District Riding Club

Area 13 Horse Trials Team competition

LOCATION:	Rackham and Borde Hill	DATE:	4 th July 2010
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This was a riding club area qualifier for the national championships to be held at Aston Le Walls in August and the Regional championships to be held at Ardingly in October.

Horsham is a strong club for horse trials and were the only club in area 13 that could field teams at all levels. Horsham entered two teams in the senior novice competition, an intermediate and an open senior team, and two junior novice individuals.

Senior Open Team

The 'open' section was held the previous week at Borde Hill, where there was no opposition from Area 13 so Horsham just had to get three of the four team members round to complete and qualify for the championships.

It did not start off too promising in the dressage where Mandy Hammond and Ballin Queen retired as the horse was unlevel. That meant the remaining three had to finish ! The showjumping caused quite a few problems and a few poles were lowered but all survived to start the cross country, which is BE novice level. Sam Gates and the ever improving Trojans Tern, Helen Millichamp and her experienced Arkweld and Lucy Kenward with the 6 year old palomino Teddy did a great job and got round the imposing cross country course without too many problems to ensure they completed as a team and Horsham now go to the national championships in a couple of weeks time, when it becomes a full blown, long format, 3 day event with roads and tracks and steeplechase as well as the dressage, cross country and show jumping.

Senior Intermediate Team

The intermediate competition was held at Rackham around the BE pre-novice or BE100 course. Again Horsham were the only club in the area to be able to field a complete team so it was another case of just being able to ensure three of the four team got round to complete. The dressage started well and all four team members did good tests for scores in the high 20's or low 30's. The show jumping was fairly straight forward but surprisingly only Chris Berry and Lucky Luspan jumped clear with everyone else rolling one or two poles. Then on to the cross country where the ground was quite good, given the dry weather and rock hard conditions everywhere else.

The course was a good galloping course, up to height with a tricky corner towards the end. Claire Hamshaw and Marshall's Law was able to make light work of it for a lovely clear round. Helen Millichamp riding the less experienced mare Jubilee Star just had one stop at the spooky chair with cushions ! Sam Gates and the young Footman Franke also had one stop, so too did Chris Berry. But this was good enough to win and qualify for the championships at Aston where it also becomes a long format 3 day event.

Claire Hamshaw, Marshall Law, 34.2, 4, 0, 12, = 50.2

Chris Berry, Lucky Luspan, 34.7, 0, 20, 12.8, = 67.5

Helen Millichamp, Jubilee Star, 29.5, 8, 20, 12, = 69.5

Sam Gates, Footman Frankie, 36.3, 4, 20, 13.2 = 73.5

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Senior Novice Teams

Six teams contested the novice competition, held over the Rackham BE intro or BE90 course. Horsham had two teams taking part.

Horsham Hooligans

Tiffany Tasney and Another Artist came individual 2nd with a double clear and a few time penalties to add to their good dressage score of 35.0. Ruth Burgess riding her 5 year old Little Victory had a brilliant team debut for individual 3rd, finishing clear cross country and within the time. Sonia Marfleet and Bilwood Tomputt came 5th with a respectable dressage score and double clear. The fourth team member will now affectionately be known as the "galloping granny " as 72 year old Jan Allan came out of retirement to jump a double clear on her faithful grey Ballymore Roberto and record the fastest time of the day cross country ! This proved to be a winning team score by a narrow margin of 5 penalties and they now go forward to the national and regional championships later in the year.

Tiffany Tasney, Another Artist, 35.0, 0, 0, 6.8 = 41.8
Ruth Burgess, Little Victory, 38.2, 4, 0, 0, = 42.2
Sonia Marfleet, Bilwood Tomputt, 39.1, 0, 0, 9.2 = 48.3
Jan Allan, Ballymore Roberto, 43.2, 0, 0, 18 = 61.2

Horsham Horrors

Pam Nixon and Hurtwood Oliver jumped a lovely double clear to add to their dressage score and finish 6th individually. Gail Taylor and Birthday Party had a good start on their team debut, also jumping a double clear and picking up a few time penalties. Isabelle Lee had made an excellent start leading after dressage and jumping clear show jumping but Flynn's dislike of ditches caused a fall at the coffin to end her chances, although both were soon to their feet unharmed. Louise Hamilton and Mr Gigolo, who did not look at his best, did an ok dressage and clear showjumping but skewed awkwardly over the 3rd fence cross country and Louise took a nasty fall to end their day. Louise had concussion and needed a few stitches in a cut hand and Mr Gigolo was a bit sore in his back but is now enjoying some physio!
So unfortunately the team did not complete.

Pam Nixon, Hurtwood Oliver 39.1, 0, 0, 10 = 49.1
Gail Taylor, Birthday Party, 39.5, 0, 0, 5.2 = 44.7
Isabelle Lee , Flynn, 30.5, 0, E = E
Louise Hamilton, Mr Gigolo, 40.9, 0, E = E

Junior Novice

Katie Roberts and Josh won the competition and qualify for Aston Le Walls with a well judged clear cross country just within the time to finish on their dressage score 44.1. Chloe Barnes also did well to finish second on 47.7, 4, 0, 13.6 = 65.3.

Congratulations to everyone on a couple of fantastic days competition where Horsham complete a hatrick of wins in the seniors, qualifying the novice, intermediate and open teams for the national championships , where Katie Roberts joins them as a junior individual. Should be a fantastic weekend of horse trials at Aston Le Walls from 5-8th August, and later in the year at Ardingly for the regional championships.

See Rudgwick RC website for full results from Rackham, and Horsham website for pictures. Thank you to all our support crew and Marilyn Turner and Carol Porter who were stewarding.

Report by
Max Gayler Chef D'Equipe.