

Area 13 National Riding Clubs and London and South East Horse Trials Qualifiers

Sunday 27th May 2007 at Coombelands, Pulborough

The team horse trials qualifiers were again run over the Witsun bank holiday weekend at Coombelands. Due to the growth in the number of teams competing it was decided to run the competition on a separate day, the Sunday, from the Club's own horse trials competition which is historically run on the Monday. (However due to the weather this was unfortunately cancelled this year.)

We had 2 teams entered in each of the Novice competitions and 1 team in the Intermediate competition. A total of 14 team members represented the Club, with a good mix of experienced combinations and new members.

The dressage is always a challenge being on grass and with lots of distractions nearby – spectators, horses starting off on the cross country course and bike riders whizzing around, so the normal calm attitudes of some become a little tense and were definitely “in front of the leg “ !

Showjumping followed and everyone jumped well on what was becoming an increasingly slippery surface due to the incessant rain/drizzle. The 3rd fence – an innocuous looking rustic parallel seemed to be the bogey fence and many had it down, keeping the Roberts family busy course building !

Cross country was always going to be crucial with the novice teams being run over the 2'9" course and the intermediate teams over the higher course which was also more technical, with a few influential “skinny” fences to test rider accuracy. If you went clear you were doing well, and then time was a factor as it was easy to clock-up penalties for being outside the optimum time.

In the end it was a well deserved win for the Horsham Hippiers, in the Novice London and SE competition and the National Qualifier. The Team of - Amanda Millichamp and Maggie Whatford both won their arenas and Helen Millichamp came second. Unfortunately it could have been a 1, 2 in each arena but poor Liz Pellet missed a fence out XC so was eliminated. So the team go forward to represent Area 13 at the National Championships at Offchurch in August, and the London and SE Champs in September.

Our other teams, Horsham Hooligans came 4th in the National Qualifier and Horsham Hippiers came 4th in the London and SE Qualifier, with Lucy Lempriere coming a well deserved 3rd in her arena.

In the Intermediate competition, our team came 2nd with Ruth Burgess qualifying as an individual as she came 2nd in her arena. So she will be joining the Novice team at Offchurch in August. The competition was won by West Sussex Riding Club.

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Well done to everyone who took part. Sorry there are no pictures to accompany this report but the weather was just “pants” !!!!

Max Gayler Chef D’equipe

NATIONAL NOVICE QUALIFIER

Horsham HIPPIES (1st)

Amanda Millichamp - Ocean Cruise (1st indiv)

Maggie Whatford – Ross the Boss (1st indiv)

Helen Millichamp – Ark Weld (2nd Indiv)

Liz Pellet – Zak

Horsham Hooligans (4th)

Helen Greenwood – Skylark Millie

Helen Morris – Brindisi

Simon Leadbetter – Mr Jon Jo

Pauline Whitmore – Bay Sparkz

LONDON AND SE QUAILIFIER

Horsham HIPPIES (1st)

Amanda Millichamp - Ocean Cruise (1st indiv)

Maggie Whatford – Ross the Boss (1st indiv)

Helen Millichamp – Ark Weld (2nd Indiv)

Liz Pellet – Zak

Horsham Happies

Helen Greenwood – Skylark Millie

Helen Morris – Brindisi

Lucy Lempiere – Golden Sovereign (3rd indiv)

Kate Todman – Nothing comes close to you

NATIONAL INTERMEDIATE QUALIFIER

Horsham Horrors

Ruth Burgess – Red Florin (2nd indiv)

Libby Powell – Gay Challenger

Penny Taneborne – Jasper

Emily Bright – Paddington Brown (3rd indiv)