

Dukeries (Notts) Gundog Club. Novice Field Trial Stake

A Novice Trial was held at Caversfield, Oxford on Saturday 30th October by kind permission of Mr Mark Firmin.

Judges: Mrs J Robertson and Mr P Dark

Weather Conditions

AM – dry and bright with slight breeze

PM – sunny with slightly more breeze

Scenting Conditions

OK in morning with definite improvement after lunch.

Ground Type

Hedge rows, ditches, set aside and cover crop.

General Standard of Work

The overall performance was of a good standard. A couple of dogs lacked drive and all dogs had birds on their beat.

Results

1 st	Not awarded	---
2 nd	Mr L Loveridge	Eelyrags Manhattan GSP d.
3 rd	Mr P Gardiner	Kimmax Kiss My Brass GWP d.
4 th	J Izard	Jennaline Ello Jibble GSP b.

Gun's Award

Mr S Kirby Huwlindragon Fly GSP b.

Critique

2nd

This dog had a very fast pace from the start, his ground was a long hedge row with a cheek wind and he covered his ground well. Out in front a bird lifted to which the dog honoured the game away. The dog came on point in thick cover, no game was produced but the dog marked a rabbit hole. On its second run in Mustard this dog really looked stylish coming on a staunch point. The dog travelled some distance to produce its bird, it sat to flush and completed a swift retrieve to hand. The dog was ran on and had another staunch point, the dog flushed on command and the bird was shot beyond a hedge. The handler was given a mark and the dog made the 60 yard retrieve look easy. The bird was retrieved to hand.

3rd

This dog had a ditch with white grasses and thick reeds in places. The dog handled the ground very well with birds running along the bottom of the ditch. The dog came on point, the bird was flushed

but not shot. The dog was ran on and came on point, the dog flushed two birds, one of which was shot. The retrieve was done after a bit of handling.

On its second run in Mustard, the dog was indicating game but birds were moving forwards. Its natural ability to get beyond the birds and point them was great to watch. It produced a bird on command and made a good retrieve to hand.

4th

This dog's first run was a hedge turning into a ditch with thick cover of white grasses and reeds. The dog covered the ground well and came on point, on command it flushed three birds, two of which were shot. On its first retrieve it had to be handled and made an easy retrieve more difficult than it was. Its second retrieve was completed satisfactorily and to hand.

On its second run in Mustard it moved with a slow pace finally locating and pointing a bird, it flushed on command and completed a good retrieve.

All three water retrieves were of a very good standard.

I would like to thank Dukeries (Notts) G. C. for the appointment to judge my 1st Field Trial. I would like to thank my Co-Judge, Chief Steward, Guns, Host and the Competitors for a most enjoyable day.

Paul Dark