

Class: Novice Part 1

Judge: Kathryn Reynolds

Well that was a day which will bring a smile to many a face for some time to come (provided the grey cell don't start acting up). Thanks you to the Organizers Fran, Rhia, Paula and Dave (whose company we greatly missed but hopefully we will see you both in the new year) for inviting us to be part of this joyous occasion. You spurred us along with your messages from start to finish and the hilarious messaging between judges nearly blew my iPad up at one point.

Grateful thanks also go to Gill Durkin for controlling the score board and guiding competitors efficiently to the ring, Chris who despite being hoarse at the end of the day kept smiling (yes for those doubters out there smiling) and, of course, the competitors who took the time to compete in our ring. All stars in your own right having successfully gained enough point to enter.

It had been a busy time in the Reynolds household as a 4 tier wedding cake took priority for 3 weeks prior the event. 50plus sugar roses gave me the opportunity to ponder on the round and having knowledge from last year, I decided to keep teams away from adjoining rings as much as possible to avoid meeting another team in the next ring head on. However, I've often thought asking dogs to walk into corners at indoor venues can be equally as intimidating so, therefore, my option was to use the middle as much as possible.

For most this worked well be one or two teams were intimidated by the building strut. Enough rambling results as follows:

1st Susan McManus and Rebelicious O'Grady. Susan used all that is available to novice handlers to motivate her dog. Timing and control were spot on as it was in the ultimate run off from my spectators position. What an achievement for you and your Shepherd with such a fantastic coat. Many congratulations on being the Winner Novice N O C F 2015.

2nd Samantha Rice and Tollerice Aivazoff Not quite as confident off lead as the above handler but excellent set exercises and congratulations on your place in the 2015 Novice N O C F.

3rd Chrissy Harrison with Jacob Osborne of Neath. A very strong boy who looking at the run off to have the tendency to take over but you kept this well under control but just edging through in heel free. Many congratulations on your place in the ring and ultimate run off.

4th Carol Hale with Tumuluregis Odysseus @ Vanellus. Just two words absolutely stunning. Places would have been different if it had not been for the anticipation on recall. Nonetheless, I was drooling as I watched your ultimate run off which I believe you won. Fantastic.

5th Sheila Rodger with Briabar Taylor Made. First in a three way run off for this place but didn't take part in the ultimate run off.

Worthy of Mention: Annegret Tack Benton with Jin'N Tonic. Real progress from this team just a little change of position.. not bad for a young boy.

Elaine Hopwood with Brambledale Black Taffee. Another team who have now got their act together. Just a little overawed at the event and long day.

I would also like to mention Sue Flight whose dog Jezzaddy It's Teazel Time worked a cracking round (despite extra marks for the excited bark) but fell just at the last hurdle of off lead heel work. Perhaps startled by the photographer.

One last never forgotten memory of the event...can be deleted if you wish...Every good girly judge of certain age carries a spare pair of knickers. Thankfully mine were not need and remained firmly at the bottom of my bag...until...Thursday hairdressing time when I came to pay and pulled out my new mauve knickers bought specially for the occasion instead of my purse...o dear.

Great Day peeps make sure you are there for the 2016 N O C F.