Novice Part 1.

Judge: Kath Westell

Ring Steward John Westell

Score Steward Richard Kebble

Wow what a day! Thank you so much to Fran & Co. for inviting me to judge at the very first Obedience Class Championships. It was indeed an honour to be part of such an exciting day. Everyone rose to the occasion with all their bling and sparkle. I think we out-shone Crufts! I won't mention the mud – ssshhhh lol My thanks to John for steering everyone around the ring, and huge thanks to Richard for offering to score for me. He was only coming along to watch and do a bit of decoying, and then offered to help this lady in need. So thanks again Richard, for being so well organised, and organising everyone else as well.

I had a few spectacular teams today, and a few that sadly couldn't cope with all the razzmatazz going on around them.

1st. Christine Skelly with Bordelair Chocolat Ruffle. Last dog to work and totally blew my round to pieces! Lost half a point hol for losing position on a left turn and half a point on hf on a right turn just as someone walked past the ring rope. Clear recall and ret. Wow! You are going to have such a good 2015 Christine. Unfortunately got mega distracted on one stretch of heelwork in the run-off for first place with the other half of Novice, so didn't win overall which is a great pity. Many congratulations on your place and for having such a stunning dog. I know Domini was well chuffed!

2nd. **Robert Bint with ItsJaros Journey**. Skid worked his little socks off today Rob, and I know you were really pleased with him. He's a super little boy and you're going to do so well with him. Good luck next year.

3rd. **Tracy Ansell with Chalkwell Express Yourself**. Oh wow Tracy, what another prospect for the future. Heel free was a tad expensive because he hadn't got his brain in gear when you started off, so he had to play catch up. But after that – awesome! Best of luck with him, showing and competing.

4th. **Carole Hanney with Edenvillage Diamond**. A very neat, dainty little dog, and very smartly handled. Well done on your place Carole.

5th. **Julia Harbord with Starnias Dock of the Bay**. What a big, handsome lad. I really liked him. Interesting to see the final scores for the run-off as well. Dave Pask obviously liked him too! Good luck with him next year Julia.

Joint 6th place but didn't have to run off because only the top 5 dogs in each part of Novice were required to run off against each other, were **Nerys Thomas with Lady Fflur of the Ffrwd** and **Marie Stokes with Madsovtik Super Velma Bear**. Well done both of you.

Thanks to Nortons Rosettes for sponsoring my class, and thanks to Marcia and her very efficient stay team. And HUGE, give yourselves a pat on the backs, thanks to Fran, Rhia, Paula and Dave and all your other willing helpers, for taking on this mammoth task and carrying it off superbly. I hope it becomes established in the Obedience Calendar.