

NOCF 2016

Judge Class B: John Clark,

Stewards: Hilary Holley and Kevin Puckett

Scent Decoy: Kate Claxton

What can I say about this brilliant event that's not already been said before? A fantastic day out with our dogs; dogs and everyone all blinged up; showing team work at its very best and enjoying this amazing day.

Fran Bush; Rhiannon Mulrenan; Dave Banks and Paula Flakes, you have all done another fantastic job organising this event, no easy task I'm sure. Now in its third year, it just gets better and better, well done!

To my ring party: table steward – Hilary, the table decorations; getting me organised; all the running about on the day; chasing up competitors so we were not kept waiting; giving up working your own dog and getting up at 04.15, thanks, you were brilliant.

Ring steward – Kevin Puckett you were perfect all day and very good company (is that what you told me to say?) Also for putting all the handlers at ease and for making sure our dress code was not too tacky; an excellent steward, thank you.

Scent Decoy – Kate thanks for the table decoration and acting as my sent decoy. You did a fantastic job with all the dogs preferring the handlers scent to yours.

Results:

1st No 15, Rob Bint and Skid – this team came into the ring extremely focused and gave a round of team work at its very best. Handler and dog giving very little away, the best I've seen this team work and what a day to produce it. Good luck in C and above.

2nd No 32, Jan Morse and Ellie - lovely team work matching the above team in heel work. Just a wee bit messy on the retrieve taking most of the marks but, another excellent performance.

3rd No 2, Jan Morose and Darcee - what can I say? Two dogs in the line-up with only a quarter of a point separating them with heel work taking most of the points today. You must be a very happy lady, good luck.

4th No 4, Louise Healey and Stanley – loved this little boy's attitude to his work, holding a nice heel work position. Little bits in send away and retrieve costing a higher place finishing with a clear scent.

5th No 18, Jane Sutherland and Capri – another lovely team, very well handled by Jane, most of the marks lost today were in heel work which I am sure you will soon sort out. Good retrieve and send away finishing with a clear scent.

6th No 27, Sue Star and Bounty – well done in gaining this place by winning the run off; send away was a little bit costly but I'm sure you will quickly sort this out and have a very successful season. Another very good team finishing with a clear scent.

7th No 30, Fran Godfrey and Chime – gained this place after a run off with the above dog, lovely relationship between dog and handler. Handsome big strong boy; a wee bit forward working and extra commands in send away were costly. Still finishing a credible 7th in very good company.

8th No 26, Enid Heard and Moss – well done in your place today with heel work and send away costing a higher place. Once you have tightened up the turns in heel work, I am sure you will go far.

9th No 16, Ruth Britton and Purdy – working a lovely round of heel work with a good retrieve and a clear scent. Send away was costly to this team today.

10th No 24, Elaine Barker and Mallec - winning the run off to gain this place, a good round of heel work with the send away position costing a higher place. Good luck next season.

11th No 8, Jane Wood and Lenny – just losing out to above team finishing in 11th place. Loved this dog, he liked my little red bow on the back send away marker. He was even clever enough to undo and take it off. Very smart dog, good luck and well done.

Thank you all for your entries; hope you enjoyed your little Christmas tipple. I felt very honoured to be asked to judge and thoroughly enjoyed the experience; you were a great bunch of competitors. The standard was very high and the scent exercise in this class was one of the best I have judged. Look forward to seeing you around the shows.