

## **National Obedience Class Finals**

Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2017 at The Kennel Club Building Stoneleigh Warks

Novice final sponsored by Norton Rosettes

Judge Juliette Bloomfield

Ring steward Janet Bates

Score Steward Paul Bloomfield

54 entries, 43 ran

Thank you to Fran, Rhiannon, Paula and Dave for the invite to judge at this prestigious and well organised event. I for one look forward to this event every year now and what an honour it was to be asked to judge.

We had planned to stay overnight on the Saturday as I knew we would be tired after travelling and a long day but decided against it as heavy snow was forecast and indeed as we arrived there was snow on the ground. We were greeted by very cheerful carpark attendants standing in the freezing cold who I gather were from the Isle of Man. Fran and her team have really got this event well organised and we were looked after really well all day from breakfast through to cakes by Penny Banks (worth all the stress Penny as they were lovely and a bonus to be able to take some home thank you!) for tea. Our hot lunch was really welcome on a day like that. Thanks must also go to all the other helpers that I know help to set up/take down and run the show and keep the scores and collecting ring going. I know from running shows at that venue how much equipment there is to put away at the end!

At first I was a little daunted when I saw my huge entry, especially at an event like this there are not going to be the training rounds you get at an open show, and knowing I couldn't be finished too late. I needn't have worried as I had 2 excellent stewards, Paul who kept people coming in at a rapid rate (thanks so much honey) and Janet Bates who put people at their ease and made an excellent job of stewarding. Thanks so much we made a great team and had a fab day.

I was very pleased with my line up and I thoroughly enjoyed my day judging. The environment and atmosphere of this event is very different to what a lot of dogs (and their handlers) are used to. As a result, some teams suffered to extremes. I saw some great and sympathetic handling where dogs were clearly worried on the other end of the spectrum some just had a ball! Its all a learning curve at this level especially with young dogs and everyone excepted their results with good grace.

Results as follows.

1<sup>st</sup> Nicky Murrell with Jodame Fantastic Boy. Wow, what a fabulous boy. This was really what I was looking for in my winner. Style, accuracy and a good knowledge of what was expected of him. Nicky's experience shone through with her handling of her young boy. Very little to mark and I will watch this lovely team with interest as I think he is destined for great things. Well deserved well done.

2<sup>nd</sup> Barbara Colledge with Call Me Cloe ISDS. Lovely round and again an experienced handler bringing out the best of her dog. Loss of position on turns but other than that a neat round . Well done and good luck with her for the 2018 season.

3<sup>rd</sup> Louise Williams with Tydfi Jif. I know Louise was pleased with Jiffy today and rightly so, just loss of pos in HW but the HF was a bit more costly today but one of the few with lovely clear sets. Well done and I hope you have a good 2018 show season with him.

I ended up with a 4 way run off for 4<sup>th</sup> place with some very good dogs so I decided to do HF again.

4<sup>th</sup> ARO Lynne Webster with Friendborn Forever Gold. What a stunning girlee and a great team, she so wants to please her mum. Lovely attitude to work I know you were over the moon with this place. Well done and good luck in 2018

5<sup>th</sup> aro Justin Parker with Conquell Urs . Well handled with Neo, something upset him in his original round and it was all going so well. HF pushed you down the placings or would have been a different result. Well done and im sure you will do well in 2018 with this lovely big shepherd boy.

6<sup>th</sup> aro Hillary Holley with Rannock Feargal. Nice round with just minor inaccuracies, Rec was costly today but well done on your place and good luck in 2018

7<sup>th</sup> aro Joanne Wallace with Badger's Hopes Are Sett. Lovely team and I could see the potential, HF was better than Hol. You were up there with the best so well done and good luck in 2018.

After a run off with a Retrieve for 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>

8<sup>th</sup> aro Maureen Conlin with Jarysmystic Ear Comes Mo. A steady round but the few inaccuracies add up. HF much better than Hol. Lovely retrieve secured this place in the run off. Well done and good luck in 2018.

9<sup>th</sup> aro Pat Read with Kingsfarm Dannee at Kingsvale. Nice round, bits and pieces in the HW added up but well done with your place in a huge class. Good luck in the forthcoming season.

3 way run off for 10<sup>th</sup> place, I wish I had rosettes for all of them as it seemed a shame for people to miss out as there was so little to divide them. Anyway, I had to find a winner and for me the best retrieve was

10<sup>th</sup> aro Heidi Dixon with Lightning Lilly Beg ex. What a super little dog with a great attitude. Hf not as good as hol, but would have been at the other end of the line up if silly mummy hadn't dropped the dumbbell in the original round! Luckily you were a good sport and could see the lighter side of it. We've all done it! Well done winning the run off and good luck for 2018 .

Those unlucky in the run off for 10<sup>th</sup>, Emma Winwood with Stormlake's Jewel n'Sparkle and Pauline Fletcher with Halligalli High Jynx.

Well done everyone and don't forget win or lose we all take the best dog home!