

ALL AGED FIELD TRIAL – BLETCHINGDON

Judges: S Chant & E Kania

by kind permission of Mr P Bagnall. Sponsored by Rodger Skinner Ltd, Dog Food.

Date:

11th December 2013

Weather Conditions:

Very Foggy very light wind changeable in direction,. Around 4Úc in the morning. The temperature did seem to drop during the day.

Scenting Conditions:

Appeared to be very difficult

Type of Ground:

Young deciduous plantations in the main, some evidence of coppicing, with good ground cover of bramble white grass and other vegetation you would expect to find in set aside or on the edges of game cover. Some maize, hedges and set aside.

Species:

Pheasant, partridge, mallard, rabbit, and hares, All available to be shot, hares only to be shot if pointed.

General standard of work and handling:

Given the conditions on the day, which were very difficult, acceptable. Some handlers did miss ground on their beat. The changeable wind and lie of the land did make hunting efficiently difficult for some of the younger dogs. Birds were inclined to flush in front of the line.

Results:

1st Not Awarded

2nd Not Awarded

3rd Not Awarded

4th Not Awarded

CoM **Sigourney Zammermous** GSP Ivan Martin

Guns Award – **Wamlanghaar Tash of Mullenscote**, GLP, Handler Mr H. Kirby

Judges Critique:

Sigourney Zammermous

Brought into the line to retrieve a previously shot cock pheasant lying on a private road. On a left hand cheek wind, she made the retrieve after negotiating an open bottomed hedge, to hand. Continuing her run through this young plantation into a strip of maze the line turned so now on a head wind she indicated and drew into a point by a bramble. When asked to flush she did try however it proved to be none productive. The line turned again now with a back wind. A cock pheasant flushed some way in front of the line was not shot this ended her first run. Her second run in an area of some 30 -40 acres fenced all round by deer fencing, again a young deciduous plantation with good mixed ground cover, allowing handlers to see their dogs at all times, with cheek wind she hunted carefully with sufficient pace ensuring she covered her beat. She indicated and drew forward some way tracking a bird which eventually clamped allowing her to point staunchly, with the guns placed she flushed a cock pheasant on command, steady to flush, shot and fall the pheasant fell outside the deer fence. As the nearest gate was some way forward we elected to run the next dog. When appropriate we used the gate to try to retrieve the previously shot cock bird. This was not possible, the bird was not found. Her 3rd run still in this large fenced area with a back wind on rising ground working with pace. A hen pheasant flushed on the left hand side of her beat, steady to flush shot and fall, she was asked to retrieve the hen, having located and picked the hen two hen pheasants flushed some 15 yards further out to our left. She stopped and watched the hens away returning to her handler delivering the bird to hand.

Her water retrieve, with an added distraction of several Moscovie Ducks on the pond, was completed efficiently.

Our thanks particularly to: Mr Paul Bagnell for hosting this All aged Trial, Cliff Simons and Paul Bagnell for shooting accurately all day. Picking up dog and handler John and red flag Elaine.

Also thanks to Janice Hawkes Chief Steward and the GSPC for their kind invitation to judge at Bletchingdon, not forgetting my co-Judge Steve Chant

Eddie Kania