

NOVICE FIELD TRIAL - DRUMOCHTER, INVERNESS-SHIRE

Judges: Eileen Winser and Brian Botterman

By kind permission of Mr A. Finlay. Sponsored by Rodger Skinner Ltd, Dog Food.

Date:

14th August 2013

Weather conditions:

Dry, sunny, with a light breeze

Scenting conditions:

Very good

Type of ground, quantity and species of game:

Moorland with heather and grass and rushes.

Game seen:

Plentiful grouse and snipe.

General standard of work and handling:

Very good, quite sensibly handled

Results:

1st **Stubblemere Cawdor** GSP Handler M Canham
2nd **Tournesol Douce** Brittany Handler M Hirst
3rd **Jhebron's Crachin** GSP Handler D Elliot
4th **Enryb House Party at Clannlaith** Weimaraner Handler P Ross
CoM **Hosta Pride in Greyspirit** Slov RHP Handler L Hunter

Judges Critique:**Stubblemere Cawdor.**

This young dog hunted with style and purpose. She quickly came on to a covey, the adult pair lifted and the dog pointed staunchly on a covey of cheepers at very close range. On command she stayed until the cheepers were safely lifted. She was again cast off and quickly pointed a single grouse that was shot. She was steady to shot and fall and made a good retrieve to hand.

On her second run she again covered the ground well. Made a very good point holding the birds for some time until the guns were in place. Produced the birds on command, steady to flush and shot. Made a smart marked retrieve on a live bird. An excellent all round performance.

Tournesol Douce.

This dog hunted with great drive and purpose, but occasionally turned back on the wind. She came on point but the bird lifted before the guns could be in place, no fault of the dog and was steady to flush.

Second round. She was much improved covering her ground with great purpose. She had a very good point on a covey, holding the birds until the guns were in place. She was steady to shot and fall of two birds which she retrieved efficiently and tenderly to hand.

Jhebron's Crachin.

This young dog hunted with style and pace. He pointed staunchly to a covey on the top of a bank, was steady to flush and shot. The bird fell as a runner some distance away down the bank, was sent to the area. When hunting the area she pointed another pair. From a distance the handler managed to quickly get the dog to flush the birds and continue to hunt for the runner. This she successfully achieved.

On her second run she again covered a great deal of ground. Unfortunately there was no game.

In her third round she quickly came on to point, was steady to shot and flush and made a smart marked retrieve.

Enryb House Party at Clannlaith.

He did not cover a great deal of ground but the area covered was hunted methodically. He came on to ground scent on a bank of heather; the birds had left the area and run on to some cover. The dog had a very good point was steady to shot and made a retrieve on a live bird to hand.

On his second run he again hunted with a low head carriage he tracked and eventually pointed a covey. A bird was shot and the retrieve took some time.

Hosta Pride in Greyspirit.

This dog was handled and hunted quietly, was slow to come on to game, due to his lower head carriage, pointed a covey, was steady to shot and made a good retrieve.

On his second run his ground treatment was a little erratic, he hunted out a single bird, mainly by ground scent; the bird lifted but was too far out to be shot.

Our thanks for the success and enjoyment of this Trial are due to all those who helped to organise it and particularly to the Head Keeper, Alistair Lyon. Thanks also to the Steward Margaret Hamilton and the red flag; and to the Scottish Branch and the Highland Group for their hospitality and excellent catering.

We extend our thanks to the GSP Club for the opportunity to judge this most successful Trial, which we thoroughly enjoyed. The conditions were ideal, on the most perfect ground, on which every dog had birds. The Guns, Keeper Allen and Guest Gun, from America, Chris, were excellent and contributed to the success of the day; both shot particularly well and at all times were in tune with the handler and the dog. Thanks also to the competitors for their good sportsmanship and good humour throughout the day.

Eileen Winser and Brian Botterman