

NOVICE FIELD TRIAL — FORD, NORTHUMBERLAND

Judges: David Winsor & Roger Mann

by kind permission of Lord Joicey. Sponsored by Rodger Skinner Ltd, Dog Food.

Date:

8th November 2013

Weather conditions:

Fine and mild with a steady light breeze all day.

Scenting conditions.

Fair to start with but just before mid-day the temperature suddenly dropped. · Scenting conditions were immediately affected, to the detriment of four dogs which missed game during their second run.

Type of ground, quantity and species of game:

Open, rushy ground with banks of bracken, some small stands of birch and gorse, white grass, boggy areas and short heather.

Game was plentiful - mainly pheasants with some woodcock, snipe and hares present. A total of 8 pheasants and 1 snipe were shot during the course of the trial.

General standard of work and handling: Some handlers could have done more to optimise the chances of their dog. Some dogs worked well in the conditions.

Results

1 st	Birkenmosens Petra at Trudvang	GWP	Chris Gray
2 nd	Not Awarded		
3 rd	Not Awarded		
4 th	Not Awarded		
CoM	Kinlochmore Lovat Luck	GSP	Shona Ritchie

The Michael Joicey Memorial Trophy (Guns award), was given to **Stubblemere Mey** handled by Caroline Kenney

Judges Critique

Birkemosens Petra at Trudvang

This dogs first run was in a large area of white grass with some rushes and a few gorse bushes. She had a tail wind. Immediately on being cast off she indicated scent on her left hand side, following a hard running bird along a hedged fence line towards a stone wall that was at right angles to it. The bird lifted but was not shot. The dog remained steady. She was cast off again and the handler allowed her to go well forward in the white grass to quarter back towards us methodically into the wind. Her ground treatment was excellent. Whilst she was on the left side of her beat a pheasant lifted far to the right. She was never downwind of it. Towards the end of her first run and whilst about two hundred yards distant a hare lifted in front of her as she quartered back to us. The dog dropped on seeing the hare and immediately returned to quartering back towards us when told to do so by the handler.

Her second run was with a left cheek wind along a bracken covered bank. Again, her ground treatment was excellent. She had a staunch point on a pheasant which she held whilst the Guns were positioned. The bird was flushed on command and the dog sat. The bird flew over some low bushes and tall bracken to fall into another area of bracken 80 yards away. This was unsighted for the dog but she did mark the line. On command and without any further help she worked the line and retrieved a live bird tenderly to hand.

The water test was completed satisfactorily.

Kinlochmore Lovat Luck

Whilst this dog has some trial experience, it was the first time her handler had entered. Her first run was into wind in an area to one side of the moor which had gorse bushes, heather and bracken. The dog went very slowly, often indicating the scent of birds running on. The run was unproductive.

The second run was in an area quite close by, but this time she had a right cheek wind and it was at a time when the scent had dropped completely away. Again going very slowly the dog worked her ground closely and staunchly pointed. Guns were positioned and the dog was ordered to flush. She moved forward purposefully for some 15 yards tracking a running snipe, which flushed and was shot to fall wounded in the heather. The dog remained steady and when told to do so, made a quick and tender retrieve to hand.

The water test was completed satisfactorily.

Certified that there was sufficient game to test all dogs.

Our thanks for the success and enjoyment of this trial are due to all those who helped to organise it and particularly to Lord James Joicey for gifting this trial to the Club; to Steward of the Beat and Head Keeper Les Handwell; to the Chief Steward and Field Trial Secretary, Janice Hawkes; to Red Flag Beth Wright and the Guns, Les Handwell, Stuart Symmers and Mick Canham.