Novice Field Trial - Drumochter, Inverness-shire

Judges: Mrs A Johnson and Mrs L Janniche

by kind permission of Lady Eira Nickson and Mr A. Finlay. Sponsored by Rodger Skinner Ltd, Dog Food.

Date:

17th August 2016

Weather conditions: Warm, slightly overcast with a light wind.

Scenting Conditions:

Slightly below average.

Type Of Ground, Quantity and Species of Game:

Moorland with grassy patches, undulating, but not steep. Easy walking.

General Standard of Work and Handling:

Unfortunately nine dogs were eliminated during the first round for a variety of reasons including missing birds on the beat, failure to point/bumping, failure to retrieve, out of control and chasing birds.

Results:

1stStubblemere EvenescoGSPM Canham2ndTournesol IndulgenceBritJ Cottrell

3rd Not Awarded 4th Not Awarded

Judges Critique

Stubblemere Evanesco

Awarded first prize, handled by Mick Canham ran wide and fast with great ground treatment. This dog clearly knew what it was looking for. The dog established a good point almost immediately but though she stood staunch, the covey lifted well out and got away from the guns with just a feather taken out of one bird. We relocated our beat to try to find this bird but sadly it was not seen again. The dog came on point on the edge of its beat and one bird lifted, but the dog remained steadily on point till guns arrived. It then moved forward to locate the rest of the covey, flushed on command and retrieved two shot birds perfectly tenderly. On its second run the dog found a bird that was running on in deep heather, but she established a point well ahead of the party. By the time the guns had caught up, the birds lifted too far ahead to be shot, but the dog had handled the situation well. Slight hesitation on the water retrieve, but acceptable.

Tournesol Indulgence

Awarded second place, handled by John Cottrell ran with tremendous keenness looking for game. An obedient dog in tune with its handler. Got the opportunity to show steadiness to hare as well. When the dog came on point, two birds got up at the arrival of the guns, but the dog remained steady and performed a very good retrieve. At the water test this dog did everything to perfection and was awarded the prize for best water retrieve.

Our thanks for the success and enjoyment of this trial are due to all those who helped to organise it and particularly to Chief Steward Margaret Hamilton, Duncan, Steward of the beat and the guns, who shot so well.

Mrs L Janniche