

# OPEN FIELD TRIAL - STOW BARDOLPH

Judges: Mrs E Winser and Mr J Bird

by kind permission of Lady Rose Hare of the Stow Estate. Sponsored by Skinners Dog Food Ltd

## Date:

30th January 2018

## Weather conditions:

Dry, crisp and sunny, changeable wind direction.

## Scenting conditions:

Good dropping to poor after lunch.

## Type of ground, quantity and species of game:

Sugar beet, white grass, woodland, pheasant, partridge and woodcock.

## General standard of work and handling:

Stow Bardolph continues to be a superb Open ground to finish the season off with. Acres of open white grass lands and sugar beet fields. We just about managed to give every dog a run into wind giving them every chance to show off their Hunting prowess. The majority of game was found in the beet fields this year but while some felt game was thin on the ground I wasn't perturbed feeling that our dogs are bred for just these situations having to hunt open ground and working the wind methodically in the knowledge that once birds were encountered the real test would be how the game was going to be produced for the guns.

Surprisingly for an Open stake I felt some dogs failed to even make or show any skill in working a head wind, failure to quarter, failure to turn into wind all of which equals poor ground treatment and loss of game.

However there was some excellent dog work enjoyed by both myself and co Judge Eileen Winser. Pacey strong hunting dogs taking good ground and using wind to best advantage and only lost through the last part of the day when the scent dropped like a stone and the ever moving birds proved difficult to pin down to point.

## Results:

1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Hjortlands Ekko at Bryantscroft</b>	GWP	Mr R Major
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Not Awarded		
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Not Awarded		
4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Tournesol Inox</b>	Brit	Mr P Bennett

## Judges Critique:

### Hjortlands Ekko at Bryantscroft

An eye catching GWP, often I think to myself if a dog looks well put together it's going to look well on the move and this GWP didn't disappoint. Brought into sugar beet for his first run he quickly and methodically worked a tight pattern into wind slowly starting to take more ground, a nice running style and head carriage typical for his breed and it wasn't long before he came on point and produced a hen pheasant which was tenderly produced to hand .

On his second run in white grass, again into wind, he took good ground and worked well into wind before coming staunchly on point and producing a woodcock which unfortunately wasn't hit by the guns. An extremely polished performance made to look easy.

Water Good

### Tournesol Inox

Second dog to run on the day in a belt of woodland his work was steady and I felt I needed to see more from this game Brittany . His second run in white grass he again worked methodically but birds eluded him and at the end of the day we managed to give him the last run of the day in sugar beet where right at the end of the field a pheasant trapped and carefully worked out by the dog was held on point to be produced for the guns and then retrieved well to hand .

Water Very Good .

I would Like to thank the GSP club and my co Judge Eileen Winser for a very enjoyable day at Stow Bardolph .

**Jim Bird**