

DRUMOCHTER GROUSE POINTING TEST

Judges: Jackie Hay and Darryl Elliot

By kind permission of Lady Nickson and Mr Alistair Finlay

Date: 8th April 2018

Gradings:

Very Good

Jhebrons Talasigo
Jhebrons Haven

GSP
GSP

N Haigh
R Hall

Good

Tomduchallan Merkel
Seasham Marie Marie
Angy Ailka at Culdrein

GWP
GSP
HWV

J Harley
S Fuller
R Buchan

Weather: Dry, light wind, scenting conditions ok

Judges Critique:

Junior Group

Juniors ran into a light head wind

Jhebrons Talasigo

This dog was first to run and was challenged from the start when a single grouse lifted very close moments before the dog was cast off. The dog dealt with this initial distraction well and was cast off into a very light head wind resulting in 3 separate points during the run which the dog and handler managed very well producing the birds in a calm unrushed fashion. Graded **VERY GOOD**.

Jhebrons Haven

This enthusiastic bitch opened up from the start of its run into a slightly stronger head wind, after a few minutes we had to stop the dogs run and restart it again after negotiating a difficult steep gully, the dog then recommenced its run but ran straight into a pair of grouse at no fault of the dog or handler, the dog was run on and soon acknowledged scent drawing forward with a high head carriage to come on point, the birds were moving which the dog soon realised and relocated them in style and produced them very nicely. Graded **VERY GOOD**

Tomduchallan Merkel

This young dog started its run cautiously into a light head wind but was soon rewarded with a stylish point on a single grouse which the dog and handler managed well. When cast off again this young bitch opened up nicely covering its ground with growing confidence and pace. Graded **GOOD**

Adult Group

All adult dogs had a back wind on their beats

Seasham Flash Gordon

This dog covered its ground very thoroughly under good direction from the handler and was rewarded for its diligent work with a very stylish point and nice production of a pair of grouse, this dog did open up during the remainder of its run and covered its ground well. Graded **GOOD**

Angy Ailka at Culdrein

This bitch started its run cautiously in a swirling back wind making the undulating ground ahead more tricky. The bitch soon acknowledged scent in a small sheltered hollow, the dog then moved forward a short distance and came on point in a very stylish manner with a high held ridged tail, the handler approached the dog carefully and the pair of grouse were produced slightly to the dogs right demonstrating the difficulty in dealing with swirling wind. This bitch also nicely acknowledged a snipe shortly after this well executed run in tricky conditions. Graded **GOOD**

As always, a total privilege for the GSPC to come to Drumochter for their grouse pointing test, many thanks to Lady Eira Nickson and Mr A. Finlay for their continued support. A big thank you to Alasdair and his keeping team for putting on a perfect supply of grouse and also for their understanding of what is required for our dogs. The end of day food is always a treat and many thanks to all involved in putting on a great spread. Phil kept the day flowing and directed us all immaculately. It was a pleasure to judge with Jackie and spend the day watching all the dogs show off their skills some of which were unfortunately tripped up, a few dogs found the temptation of the hares to much which is always a challenge, but all the dogs had grouse on their beats which made everyone's day a superb one.

Darryl Elliot