

FROLESWORTH LODGE POINTING TEST

Judges: Jean Robertson and Peter Szalai

By kind permission of Mr K & Mr M Wells

Date: 7th April 2018

Gradings:

Very Good

Stubblemere Beauchamp

GSP

T Wignall

Stubblemere Guthrie

GSP

F Fillingham

Good

Mystic Made

GSP

R Fairbrother

Judges Critique:

Ground: Mainly Rape but some Winter Wheat.

Weather Conditions: Dry, Chilly in the morning and very changeable wind direction

Game: Partridge and Pheasant

Many thanks to the Club, Janice Hawkes and the committee for the invitation to judge their SPT in this lovely ground and also thanks to Jean Robertson for judging with me. I think both of us agreed it was a very difficult day especially for junior dogs and their handlers as the wind was changing and coming from all directions in one particular field of rape. Even though the conditions were not ideal we saw some very good dog work and quiet handling from some of the juniors but unfortunately, we were not able to grade any but I hope the day was educational for all the competitors who took part of this event. When we got to the adults we saw some brilliant work but of course they would be more experienced with the changing wind conditions.

Adults

Stubblemere Beauchamp

Running in rape was a pleasure to watch. Hard running strong hunting dog who read the wind perfectly and worked the given ground evenly. Did not take long for him to catch up with the scent of a pair of partridge what he worked out well after a point as they were running. He did not flush the birds they lifted but he stayed steady on a whistle. He carried on working and located and pointed a single partridge which also lifted on approach the dog sat to the whistle once again so was graded **VERY GOOD**.

Stubblemere Guthrie

Worked her little paws off in the rape fields and came across Hares, Partridge and Pheasant. Steady and watched a hare away in her first minute and carried on hunting with good speed and desire to find game. Covered her ground extremely well and stayed in contact with her handler responding to the whistle well. She came onto point when asked to produce she flushed a hen pheasant and stayed steady, but partridge also lifted close to this. On the second run she carried on working with speed and great ground coverage and locked on point close to the end of the field. Another pheasant. Straight to the next field she found another one after a few minutes hard hunting. On her 3rd run she finally came across a pair of partridge one lifted on approach but she held point but that also lifted without being flushed she stayed steady and watched the bird away. The pair graded a well-deserved **VERY GOOD**.

Mystic Maid

Started off on the rape field where the previous dog finished her run so the scent of the bird pulled her nose to the ground for a while, but she covered a fair distance either side of the handler. This dog worked the ground on a slower pace but the handler made mistake not to push her enough and made her back cast a few times but I'm sure it will be corrected. No game in her first run so the pair got the chance to run again on a similar ground. On this run she quartered much better turning into head wind with only minor little mistakes and in the very end of her run came onto a nice point. Unfortunately, as we approached the pair of Partridge lifted but the dog stayed completely steady and therefore was graded **GOOD**.

A very enjoyable day by all I believe. Many thanks to Jean to judge with me and for you all competitors to reward us with some nice dog work. Thanks for Mr. K and Mr. M Wells for providing the ground and hospitality and wish you all a good time with your dogs.

Hope to see you all again in the field

Peter Szalai