

OPEN FIELD TRIAL - CORNHILL-ON-TWEED, NORTHUMBERLAND

Judges: Irmgard Alcock and Peter Howard

by kind permission of Mr G Jamieson. Sponsored by Rodger Skinner Ltd, Dog Food.

Date:

6th November 2014

Weather Conditions:

The trial commenced with a full card of twelve runners. We had slight rain early on but ceased around 11am. Wind was slight but adequate for dog work. There on the weather remained overcast.

Scenting Conditions:

Good all day allowing the better dogs to stand off their birds and produce easy shots for the guns.

Type of ground, quantity and species of game:

There was a regular plentiful supply of game, which included Pheasant, Great Snipe and Woodcock. Early runs took place in grassy wetland followed by white grass in a plantation of Conifers. From then on the remainder of the trial was spent in Kale strips and the occasional connecting hedgerow.

General Standard of work and handling:

General standard of work was good, control in particular was precise from most competitors to cope with the narrow beats. Being able to finish with seven dogs in the awards is an indication of the standard and the quantity of game available.

Results:

1 st	Stubblemere Cawder	GSP (b)	Mr M Canham
2 nd	Warmilanghaar Tash of Mullenscote	GLP (d)	Mr H Kirby
3 rd	Sigourney Shakira	GSP (b)	Mr P Bakewell
4 th	Monkey Business of Moorrinner	GWP (b)	Mrs J Hay
CoM	Witham Friary Tullulah	GSP (b)	Ms G Pillinger
	Essen Nazia Vorstehund	GSP (b)	Mr D Smith
	Birkemosen's Petra at Trudvang	GWP (b)	Mr C Gray

Judges Critique:

Stubblemere Cawder

Impressive Black and White GSP Bitch, when in her first run displayed all the caution and steadiness in testing conditions in an open bottomed hedgerow with birds visibly running on, Initially was sent for a hen pheasant second dog down but couldn't retrieve as the bird was suspended in the hedgerow and picked by hand.

The bitch's second run in Kale cover crop (which needed a really good frost) was no more than 15 m wide. The adjacent maize strips were unworkable. Very quickly a bird was found, produced and retrieved on command but was shot fairly close. The bitch was put down again and within seconds found, pointed well off her bird and produced a cock pheasant which was shot after another copybook flush on command with the now customary steadiness to flush and fall. The bitch completed her run retrieving tenderly to hand. A very complete steady professional performance with the dog /handler team in front of the field

Warmilanghaar Tash of Mullenscote

A stylish hunter, always in control was given thick grassland and young conifers but unfortunately had a blank run. In his second run working a difficult kale patch again had a blank run. In his third run again in kale, a cock pheasant was pointed and produced to which he was steady to flush, shot and fall. On command the bird was retrieved quickly and tenderly, nice to watch.

Sigourney Shakira

Somewhat workmanlike bitch but thorough. Her first run was along a hedgerow where she was unfortunate in not making the most of a woodcock. She went on to point and was steady to a flush of three pheasants before the guns were in place and the command to flush was given. A second run was in an uphill Kale game strip where a hen pheasant was pointed, produced on command and shot landing over a stock fence in a wood. The bitch was steady to flush, shot and fall. A difficult retrieve was made to look easy as the dog worked out the best way round the fence.

Monkey Business of Moorrinner

A bird lifted immediately the bitch was cast off for her first run but sadly this was the only pheasant on her beat. Her running style could be a little more fluent but covered her ground.

Her second run was in a kale plantation on a hill where she pointed and held a cock pheasant, she produced on command was steady to flush, shot and fall but the bird fell behind a row of large circular straw bales. Eventually the dog completed the retrieve the long way round.

There were also three certificates of merit awarded to;

Witham Friary Tullulah - effective but lacked pace.

Essen Nazia Vorstehund – needs to maximise retrieving opportunities.

Birkemosen's Petra at Trudvang - retrieving was adequate but not perfect.

Unfortunately the water was not accessible for handlers or dogs in the areas where the water was deep enough for the dogs to swim, we made the decision therefore to issue water certificates.

Our appreciation and thanks must go to Mr. Glynn Jamieson who worked tirelessly all day to find us game holding ground and was very good to work with. Also our thanks go to the GSP Club for inviting us to judge in this beautiful part of the world and finally to Janice Hawkes who stewarded efficiently over a very long day.

Mrs Irmgard Alcock & Mr Peter Howard