

# OPEN FIELD TRIAL - STOW BARDOLPH

## Judges: Nigel Cox (A) and Stephen Robson (B)

By Kind permission of Lady Rose Hare & The Stow Estate Trust. Sponsored by Skinners Dog Food Ltd.

### Date:

Tuesday 29th January 2019

### Type of ground:

Open woodland with bracken beds, open white grass, set aside

### Game:

Pheasant & Woodcock

### Weather:

Bright sunny but cool, with a good breeze

### Results:

1	<b>Berriedale Vista of Riffmuir</b>	GSP	A Learmonth
2	<b>Wamilanghaar Djynn</b>	GLP	R Gould
3	<b>Quintana Hollie Berry</b>	GSP	M Nixon
4	Not Awarded		
CoM	<b>Trubon Grafyte Treve</b>	Wei	S Burton

### Judges Critique:

We ran the day with twelve dogs, with a good range of HPR breeds represented in the card for this trial, on a superb Open trial ground, which the keeper had been saving especially for this event, something we all should be thankful for. Dogs running included, German Shorthaired Pointer, German Wirehaired Pointer, German Longhaired Pointer, Korthals Griffon, Weimaraner, Hungarian Wirehaired Vizsla.

#### **Berriedale Vista of Riffmuir:**

This dog was running number seven in the card, the first run being in the open woodland with a cheek wind, using the track as the centre of its beat the dog worked both left and right hand sides of this track. With nice quiet handling the dog worked with correct pace for the ground presented and eventually came onto a very staunch point into heavy cover on the left hand side of its beat. Asked to produce, the dog flushed a cock bird and was steady. Unfortunately the bird was not shot, working on the dog covering all of the ground available to it.

Brought in for a second run, this time on the open white grass, this dog with pace and style worked a very wide beat working the wind correctly, which was proving to be changeable. Wide on the right hand side of its beat it started to indicate scent, drawing onto game the handler and guns approached the dog, moving slightly to the right, relocating the bird, coming onto a staunch point. Asked to flush, the dog produced the bird which was shot and retrieved straight back to hand.

The water retrieve was a blind across the corner of a small manmade lake with a testing entry for both dog and handler! But this was an open stake and the retrieve was carried out very well.

#### **Wamilanghaar Djynn:**

Running number five, the first run was in the open woodland, (We were fortunate to be able to run all twelve dogs in the first round in the same woodland, making for a level playing field) again working with a cheek wind this dog soon came onto point into an area of bracken and old fallen trees on the left side of its beat. As we approached a cock bird could be seen to be moving away, remaining on point, asked to flush a hen bird lifted, was shot at but unfortunately missed, the vagaries of shooting in woodland is not always easy. Working on the dog completed its allotted time working its entire beat.

The second run started in some tall reeds we then moved onto the open white grass, again with a changeable wind which the dog coped with very well, after an extended run with no birds we picked the dog up.

We decided that we would like to see this dog for a third time, with ground being available near to where we were to do the water.

Working some very low sparse strip of cover crop the dog was soon indicating scent, coming onto point, asked to flush, duly obliging flushing its bird which was shot and quickly returned back to hand. Working on, very quickly pointing on another bird, this was produced, but flew away low not offering the guns an opportunity to shoot. Finishing off working this area to the right the dog came on point again, flushing when requested, this time the gun was able to shoot the bird, a smart retrieve to hand was completed.

The water retrieve was completed after some distraction with the pink buoy in the middle of the small lake.

#### **Quintana Hollie Berry:**

Running number one, starting off in the open woodland with a cheek wind, (which proved to be consistent for all dogs working this piece of ground) working both sides of her beat, with the track as the centre, a cock bird lifted way out to the left on ground the dog had not covered as yet. Working on the right the dog came on point in a denser area of bracken and trees. Two cock birds were produced, both of them being expertly shot, but out of the dog's sight. Two very good blind retrieves were executed out of dense bracken cover, back to hand.

A second run was on the open white grass into wind, but that soon changed and kept changing as we went through the dogs run. Covering a good beat unfortunately there were no birds on this run.

The water retrieve was completed satisfactorily.

#### **Trubon Grafyte Treve**

The last dog to run in the first round, with the dog's first task to retrieve a bird shot from the previous dogs run, the hen bird was picked and returned to hand after some controlled handling.

Hunting on towards the end of the woodland which became more open, the dog indicated a bird in some dense cover of bracken, the bird lifted and could not be shot, and this concluded the dogs first round run.

The second run started in some tall grasses through the entrance to the field, with the dog indicating a bird in front and to the left straight away, pushed on the bird lifted, providing a difficult shot for the gun who was unable to connect. Working on into more open ground this dog indicated and came onto a staunch point towards the base of a tree, asked to produce the bird a woodcock was produced, lightly pricked the bird flew on into the distance and was latterly gathered in by the picking up dog. Asked to come forward for a retrieve on a woodcock that had been shot previously, on being sent to the indicated fall, to everyone's surprise, dog handler and especially the gun, the bird got up and flew away. Being the last dog in the second round we worked on to the end of the field with no more birds to be found.

The water retrieve was completed very well.

A small word on the water, controversial as it might be, we saw today, why I think that it is very important for us to keep the water at the end of a field trial testing a dog's character and temperament.

Chief Steward – Janice Hawkes

FT Secretary – Janice Hawkes

Keeper & Steward of the beat – Nigel Davis

Guns – Andy Chatfield, David Winser, Bambos Charalambous

I would like to thank Janice and the GSPC for inviting me to judge this trial, Nigel for pointing us in the right direction around the ground. The guns who were all experienced in shooting over the dogs, an important part of a successful day, and to my co judge Nigel Cox who it was a pleasure to judge with again and learn more from his vast experience. Lastly a big thankyou to the competitors for allowing us to judge your dogs and taking our decisions with good grace, we saw some very promising dogs on the day who with more luck could have been in the awards, for all those not in the awards keep trying.