

RESULTS and REPORT FOR SUNDAY

The day started slightly dull but whatever the weather held in store for us it wasn't going to dampen anybody's enthusiasm for the day. As it happened, the weather, like the day, was perfect!

We were treated to an incredible menu of events, starting with a 15 minute practice session in a flat dressage arena, which was followed by the most innovative cones section!!

Boz and Tony really went to town to test our skills and fitness!! It went like this:

The Cones section comprised of 3 elements timed from start to finish.

ELEMENT 1: A conventional driven course

ELEMENT 2: 3 cones, A, B and C then had to be driven individually but the groom had to extract a flag from each set and then it was delivered to an "Orphan" cone some distance away.

ELEMENT 3: The groom then tackled the cones course on a bicycle which was provided.

The course was slightly undulating (understatement) and there were quite a few red-faced grooms at the end of this section!

This was followed by a good long lunch-break, where we all congregated together and generally got to know each other and welcome newcomers to the fold. Well done Boz, managing to look after Kenina's lovely horse with one hand, whilst eating your lunch with the other!!

After the break everybody got the chance to walk the obstacles, and we were then briefed, officially, as to what we were to do.

Obstacle 1 was an inverted U and tested peoples observational skills as to the number of gates that there were.

Obstacle 2 tested rhythm and continuity. It was about who could drive the perfect, fastest 10 metre circle (twice) whilst holding a bucket of water attached to a rope attached to a post, without

spilling too much (Well, any of it, as Boz was there measuring every spilt drop).

Obstacle 3 was (for those of you who are familiar with Swinderby – shame on those of you who aren't) the permanent obstacle of telegraph poles but (big but) the groom had to collect balls off the top of the posts for extra bonus points.

This marked the end of the official competition but this was followed by an optional drive around the lanes of Swinderby.

The results of the competition are as follows:

NOVICE:

- 1st Lucy Barclay**
- 2nd Carol Wood**
- 3rd Kenina Platts**

OPEN:

- 1st Sarah Braybrook**
- 2nd Julie Jackson**
- 3rd Sue Smith**
- 4th Cathy Towle**

A **BIG THANK YOU** to all of the Smith family for welcoming us to their venue, especially to Boz and Tony for their innovative thinking and excellently thought out obstacles – the course builders course was worth it then???

Also, a **BIG THANK YOU** to the stewards (superbly organised by Sarah), without whom, the day would not run like clockwork.

Who is the other guy we have to mention? – Oh, I remember – **THANK YOU** Greg for being “Cones Timer Extraordinaire”!!