

REPORT SGRS 15 AUGUST 2015

A big thank you to SGRS committee for inviting me to judge again this year.

The organisation of such a show is always difficult but the committee carried it off very well

You kept us well fed and watered all day despite the unexpected hot weather

I judged several of the competitors last year and it is pleasing to see how you and your dogs have progressed in the last 12 months

Once again a big thank you to Kevin Edwardson for stewarding for me today (Kevin gave up competing at an Open show today to steward for me)

Also thanks must go to Julia who worked miracles as my scoreboard steward including working out the stay scores. Hope you did not get too sunburnt!!

Thank you to Hazel acting as CSS and the stay stewards for all your hard work in the blazing sun

This year I judged Pre Beginners, Novice and A with quite a number of dogs to judge overall

So here we go

PRE-BEGINNERS

26 ENTERED 25 WORKED (handler had a canine medical emergency at home)

Despite warning all competitors that I would mark for a tight lead many of the handlers worked their round with a tight lead.

A couple of handlers had worked on their footwork and this clearly showed on the turns.

A lot of handlers had problems getting their dogs to present and whilst I appreciate the working goldies are trained to present sitting back from the handler (to avoid a retrieved duck being shoved somewhere sensitive) a little guidance with your hands on the way in would have resulted in many teams losing less marks

The heelwork pattern was a simple "U" shape with a single halt at the end.

Marked in quarters, many of the marks were lost on the about turns wide about (1 fault) and wide about with tight lead (2 faults).

Many of the handlers did not use the dog's name before commands and often praise and encouragement for the dog was lacking. In the lower classes extra commands and encouragement are permitted in all exercises EXCEPT the stays.

Despite all of that the competitors were a happy bunch and did not keep us waiting

There were a few casualties in the stays with 12 dogs breaking the sit stay and 8 dogs breaking the down stay

On to the results with NO runoffs

1st No 40 Juliolian Bobby (Bobby) handled by Dave Toms with the best recall of the day. Lost HOL 2 , HF 2, recall $\frac{1}{4}$ Total $4\frac{1}{4}$. Main faults were wide abouts and lagging on HF. Well Done

2nd No 26 Evergolden Wizards Majic (Merlin) handled by Shirley Lininson. Could have been the winner today apart from the recall was costly with an big overshoot and finish behind the handler. Never mind the dog enjoyed it!!
Lost HOL 1, HF 1, recall $2\frac{1}{2}$ Total $4\frac{1}{2}$

3rd No 2 Fatima Fantastic (Daisy) handled by Jean Allen. Again recall was costly with this pair. Daisy just would not present and then sat crooked on the finish. Almost all you points on heelwork were for wides where the dog drifted away from you. Some static closework training exercises might resolve that problem.
Lost HOL $1\frac{1}{2}$, HF $1\frac{1}{4}$, Recall 2 Total $4\frac{3}{4}$

4th No 33 Sarama Summer Song (Jonty) handled by Ian Richardson. Wide abouts were costly today with Jonty stopping dead on both abouts on HF.
Lost HOL $2\frac{1}{4}$, HF $2\frac{1}{4}$, recall $\frac{1}{2}$ total 5

5th No 21 Mochavulin Hannah of Paddocks (Hannah) handled by Michelle Jankelow. Wides and crooked sits were your downfall today and in recall you stepped back to correct your dog's present, That's OK in training but marked as a fault in competition
Lost HOL $2\frac{1}{4}$, HF 2 , recall 1. Total $5\frac{1}{4}$

6th No 39 Tinuviel Lorindol (Dillon) handled by Dave Toms. Tight lead, wides and several lags were your downfall today. You managed to recover your dog's heelwork position from the lags on several occasions well done.
Lost HOL 3 HF 3 recall $\frac{1}{2}$ total $6\frac{1}{2}$

Also worthy of note

No 12 Sue Francis with "Velvet" although there was a lot of lagging when you encouraged her she was giving you nice attention, something to work on as good attention will pay off in the long run with rosettes

No 45 Mike with "Leesi" who gave me the best present of the day in recall

In this class a Kennel Club Certificate of Merit was awarded to all dogs which lost 10 marks or less overall

Well done to all

NOVICE

10 entered 10 worked

The standard of work in this class showed that all the competitors had spent time training their dogs and apart from those breaking stays the exercises were OK

The round was in the shape of an "H" with no left turns

3 dogs broke the sit stay but only one 1 dog broke the down stay thinking it was fun to have a little dig at the ground in front of her

Scores were marked in ½ points

The results with NO run offs

1st No 27 Varches Summertime "Saffy" handled by Karen Menter losing 2 overall
This was the best round of the day HOL clear HF ½ , Recall ½ , Retrieve 1. Well done Karen most of your points were lost on crooked sits, so not much to put right there

2nd No 16 Diranean Babanango Valley "Sabi" handled by Lesley Holmes. Losing 3 ½ overall.
The majority of the points lost were for 2 wide abouts on HOL and the same on HF apart from that heelwork was clear. Off centre presents in both retrieve and recall also cost you. Sabi holds a lovely position and your footwork helps him to do the job right. Well done

3rd No 4 Maluraya Miltonduff at Petabeck "Boycie" handled by Sue Ashley. Lagging was your main problem today Boycie, but you also produced a clear retrieve Well done
HOL 2 ½ , HF 2 ½ , recall ½ , retrieve clear.

4th No 28 Varches Topaz Jewel "Emma" handled by Karen Menter . Bits and pieces here really Karen. Emma stopped for a scratch on HF, a sniff on recall and a chomp on the dumbbell on retrieve. Lost 6 ½ overall

5th No 22 Friendborn Eleganza "Ella" handled by Helen Kimberley. Helen the majority of Ella's marks were lost going wide on every turn and crooked sits. I mentioned to you afterwards that on the straight she has good attention and position and if you remember to call her name before you make a turn you may well improve the situation. Also perhaps you could try doing some close static work. I appreciate that you have some difficulties with your balance on the turns but you could train your dog to compensate for that by giving her lots of encouragement and praise. Well done

6th No 47 Lestorm Alberich "Blake" handled by KayAbbey. Last to work, you told me that Blake had been in 4 agility classes during the day no wonder he was tired. The majority of your marks were lost for lagging and wide abouts. However most of the time when he dropped back he kept his position which was about half a pace behind you and caused the

wide abouts. He tried very hard to keep up with you but every time he caught up to you and then dropped back it cost you another mark

Worthy of note No 34 Tiltham St Maarten "Lucy" handled by Jenny Rush. Sadly Lucy did something to her leg towards the end of HOL and was limping in HF and was withdrawn Hopefully it was just a minor twinge with no lasting effects. Later she completed the recall and retrieve exercises with no apparent discomfort Well done

Thank you to all in class for accepting my decisions and for not keeping us waiting

CLASS A

There were only 5 entries in this class which is a major leap forward from the Novice class as you cannot give any extra commands or signals.

Stays were at noon and it was very hot with a blazing sun so we reduced the out of sight down stay to two minutes instead of the usual 3 minutes

The heelwork pattern was a capital "E" giving some abouts left and right turns

One of competitors had to leave early to catch a train back to Exeter so we had the scent discrimination test first.

In Class A scent has 6 cloths laid on a straight line with the handlers scent one cloth and no decoys.

The results were

1st No 16 Dirnanean Babanango Valley "Sabi" handled by Lesley Holmes Losing 6. Lesley the faults on your earlier Novice round were not apparent in this class, however there were crooked sits on HF and on recall, On the retrieve Sabi did not present to you but went straight into finish position with dumbbell in his mouth. He picked up the right cloth dropped it and picked it up again on scent.

Well done. Wins in A at open show will surely come soon with such impressive heelwork just sort out the other bits and pieces

2nd No 4 Maluraya Miltonduff at Petabeck "Boycie" handled by Sue Ashley. Sue you know where you lost most of your points extra signals and extra commands on HF when Boycie was lagging on HF a very slow pickup on the recall, some twitchy fingers on the retrieve and an extra command (cough) on the scent. Nevertheless only minor things sort these out and red rosettes will surely come your way

3rd No 22 Friendborn Eleganza "Ella" handled by Helen Kimberley. Helen worked first so she could catch her train home. She told me she had not worked A before. All credit to you Extra commands and all the wide turns that you know are a problem cost you dearly in HF. A Recall saw a slow start and a slow pickup in fact you almost walked into the ring netting.

Retrieve had extra commands, a hand signal and some mouthing. On scent for your first attempt you lost some points for chomping the cloth followed by Ella dropping the cloth in front of you. Lost 24 ½ overall

4th No 27 Varches Summertime “Saffy” handled by Karen Menter.
Karen you completely forgot this was Class A and gave lots of extra commands which cost you dearly. In scent your dog mouthed a couple of cloths and you gave yet another extra command Lost 27 overall

5th No 28 Varches Topaz Jewel “Emma” handled by Karen Menter again!!.

Karen you worked Emma before Saffy so there were even more extra commands and hand signals When you called Emma for the A recall you used a different word and Emma sat there wondering what you wanted her to do Your extra command prompted the right response from you but you had already halted before the dog got to you. Extra commands and a chomp on the cloth in scent put you in this place. Nevertheless they really are just bits and pieces which could be remedied with some more training Also the only dog to break in the stays. Lost 51 overall

Well done to you all the leap from Novice to A with no extra commands or signals is a really big one and it is hard work correcting all of the mistakes made in training for the lower classes

Once again thank you to SGRS committee for such an enjoyable day

Hope to see some of you at the Obedience shows in the future

Mike Moloney