

Southern Golden Retriever Society Limited Obedience Show. Saturday 13th August 2016

Thank you for the invitation to come back and judge; I thoroughly enjoyed my day and it was good to see so many familiar faces.

One comment I would like to make is please remember you and your dog are working as a team – whatever happens in the ring, good or bad, you do it together. If it doesn't quite go to plan all it means is your training is not over. I know you all love your dogs so be proud of them and show them off!!

Pre-Beginners

A mixed standard of work which is to be expected. Most of the dogs are quite young and the majority of handlers are not that used to working under ring conditions so the dreaded nerves kick in!

A lot of marks were lost by handling errors: having a tight lead which I always make a point of reminding people about, 'nice loose lead'. Again, nerves play a part but it's silly marks to give away. Many dogs also lagged which is not helped by the handlers slowing down, believe me, the slower you walk the slower they'll go! Deep breath, positive thoughts and go for it!

We'll gloss over the exciting set of stays except to say thank you to everyone for accepting my decisions!

None of my line up made any major errors, just little changes in heelwork position, drifts, lags, crooked presents and finishes, which all add up – sadly!

1st: Ian Richardson and Sarama Summer Song. Losing 2¼. HOL 1, Recall ½, HF ¾, stays-clear
Very, very nice team to watch. Well done and thoroughly well deserved – keep at it!

2nd: Colette Fagan and Wiesgelden Breaking Dawn. Losing 3. HOL 1, Recall ¼, HF 1½, stays: sit ¼,
down clear
Won a 3 way run off so well done. A real sweetheart of a dog and handled very well.

3rd: David Wimsett and Paleharvest Autumnal Gold. Losing 3. HOL 1½, Recall ½, HF 1 stays-clear
Not much wrong just little bits and pieces

4th: Mandy Cosby and Canonbie Miss Saigon. Losing 3. HOL 1¼, Recall ¼, HF 1½, stays-clear
Sweet dog and lovely attitude from Mandy.

5th: Christine Collie and Glenlmond Uallach. Losing 3½. HOL 2, Recall clear, HF 1½, stays-clear
One of the few clear recalls, so well done!

6th: Peter Barnard and Tiltham St Kitts. Losing 4. HOL 1¾, Recall 1¼, HF 1, stays-clear
Merlin just made me smile, loved him! Handled well by Peter. My notes say 'full of promise' – enjoy!

Novice

Only 6 runners so everyone got a rosette which is always nice!!

Again no major errors but, being a novice class I do tend to be more critical and mark a little harder – sorry! One thing I am very picky about is mouthing on the dumbbell, these are gundogs after all! Stays were costly for some, but the afternoon did turn rather warm and why sit when you can lie down!

1st: Sue Ashley and Maluraya MiltonDuff at Petabeck. Losing 2¾. HOL 1½, Recall clear, Retrieve ½, HF ¾
stays-clear

Just little bits and pieces and an untidy pick up on the retrieve. Nice attitude from dog and handler – well done!

2nd: David Jarrett and Maluraya Mozart. Losing 3. HOL 1, Recall ½, Retrieve ¾, HF ¾, stays-clear
Very nice to watch, handled well as always. Lovely left turns but costly mouth in retrieve.

3rd: Ann Benefield and Coombstock Snow in Summer. Losing 10¼. HOL 5¾, Recall ½, Retrieve ¾, HF 3¼
stays-clear

A clear set of stays secured this place which goes to show that all the exercises count.

4th: Jenny Rush and Tiltham St Maarten. Losing 10½. HOL 2¼, Recall ¼, Retrieve ½, HF 1¼, stays -sit 6¼
down clear

Lucy did a very nice round but the heat took it's toll in the stays. Never mind, there's always next time!

5th: Qumaara Miss Money Penny handled by Debbie. Losing 10¾. HOL 1¼, Recall ¾, Retrieve ¾, HF 1½
stays – sit 6½, down – clear

Again a very nice round but oh so costly stays!

6th: Sue Francis and Tiltham Isala Santa Lucia at Velvenya. Losing 11¼. HOL 2½, Recall clear, Retrieve ¾,
HF 1½, stays – sit 6½, down clear

Only the second clear recall in the class – well done. Again very nice round but costly stays.