

## 2016 Area 17 Winter Intermediate Dressage Qualifier Saturday 5 March 2016 at Sparsholt College

Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> loomed large – a very cold but dry day, and in my case with no voice. Some might say that is a blessing!! I was praying that having freely offered to call tests that I would not be required to as a whisper was all it would be... Susie kindly stepped in on the one request thankfully!

Teams were made up of four riders each riding one of BRC D3, BRC D10, Novice 30 and Elementary 44. We had a great response to team requests and fielded three full teams, plus 3 individuals (D3, D10 and Medium 63).

The day started well with Emma Mills winning the non-qualifier class doing Novice 28 on 68.75% so the day started with lots of smiles!

The D3 Prelim class was very hotly contested - such was the standard that 10 riders had 70% plus! Won by Pippa Griffin from Meon on Tolkein's Trilogy with a huge 76%. Ruth Allen produced a beautiful test on Tanzanite Firenze to score 71%, and this secured 9<sup>th</sup> place. Becky Darke was pleased to contain Disco who produced a good test for 66.8%, and Sandra and Timmy were very close behind with 66.6%.

Katie Gould was first on with the diminutive Farwinds Little Miss Sunshine and had to ride round until their arena was repositioned prior to them starting. They produced a lovely test for 68.13% and 5<sup>th</sup> overall. Emma Mills and her big grey Creve Lad produced another lovely test and finished 9<sup>th</sup> with 66.67%.

The Novice 30 class was tightly marked and Fen Hargreaves and Brit Pop produced a smooth test for 65%, closely followed by Jenny Cox and Biscuit Man with 63.65%.

Fay Chivers and Wolf Whistle won their Elementary 44 class on 70.8% and qualified for the National Winter Intermediate Championships at Bury Farm on Saturday 30 April as an individual. Louise Wright on her beautiful mare Willow also produced a great test for equal 4<sup>th</sup> on 69.8%. Susie was pleased with Humphrey who produced a clean test for 64.8%.



Fay and Wolf Whistle. They also contested their first ever Medium at this competition scoring 66.72% for 5<sup>th</sup> place. Fay was really pleased with her performance.

Overall the winning team was New Forest Green on 9 points, with Bourne Valley White finishing in 4<sup>th</sup> on 15 points, and our Blue team 6<sup>th</sup> on 18 points. A closely contested competition!

Lots of smiles all round, even if not every performance went as planned as is always the way with horses!

Thank you to Brenda Harman who helped with our volunteer duties writing for one of the dressage arenas for 4 hours starting at 8.30 – this was very much appreciated as it was a cold day. Our afternoon role was car park steward, which we were able to cover in hour slots from team members, so thank you all for pitching in. Without the volunteers we cannot field teams or run Area qualifiers so the organisers and Lindsay, Susie and myself were very grateful for your time. Thank you!

Well done everyone, and thank you for not testing my voice too much!

LM