

BVRC Team News

2023 Qualifiers & Champs

Horse Trials Qualifiers, Moreton EC – Sunday 18th June

Although there were 5 applicants, one was me and I felt that it was not right for my debut event on William to be at the Area Qualifier so I instructed Jenny (chef d'équipe) to only enter an 80 team. Having recently had foot problems with dear Freddie, Ness Martin withdrew in the week prior to the Qualifier due to the ground but as a new member with more form had expressed an interest in riding in the team, I still remained as reserve. Unfortunately, the new horse's vaccinations didn't comply so it was not eligible for the Qualifier. Therefore, I eventually put myself in the team, having completed an



1. Kim Male - Billy Loves Cruise In

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ODE the weekend before and gained lots of confidence. The team of Kim Male, me (William), Ruth Spooner and Ella Birch finished a very creditable 3rd. None were individually placed but 3 of the team were 7th, 8th and 12th and only 1.3 penalties separated 6th to 12th place so it was exceedingly close!



2. Ruth Spooner - Aimen Rocket Man

Summer Dressage & Riding Test Qualifiers, Crofton Manor EC – Sunday 2nd July

No BVRC entries.

Summer Style & Show Jumping Qualifiers, Sparsholt College – Saturday 8th July



3. Lily Stiff - Tobar Honey

The interest for this Qualifier was pretty good for the current climate and we entered one 70cm Individual (Junior), one 80cm team and one individual in each of the 90cm and 100cm. Catherine James also elected to do the 75cm Style. We don't often have Juniors competing for us so it was lovely to welcome new member Lily Stiff for the 70. Although I was Chef d'Equipe I was also competing 2 horses, one in each of the 80 and 90 classes and couldn't get there early enough to support Lily and her family at their first Area Qualifier. Sandra Groves kindly agreed to get to Sparsholt early and stand in for me and of course she took some wonderful pictures of those competing in

the morning, for which we are extremely grateful. Although they rolled a pole in each round of the 70, this is a fairly new partnership and Lily enjoyed her debut riding for BVRC. Her mother, Samantha also very kindly came back in the afternoon to fill one of our official helper slots so thank you for that.

The next class was the 75cm Style and Catherine and Dusty put up a stunning, faultless round which earned them first place. Unfortunately, the early rain had stopped and the weather had become oppressive which affected Dusty's COPD and his respiration rate didn't recover quickly enough. Catherine therefore made the sensible decision to withdraw from the 80 team and not



4. Liz Brook - Marque One

risk the wonderful Dusty's health. Leaving the 80 as a team of 3 meant that all scores had to count and Liz faulted in the first round and Ruth in the second. However, the scores were good enough to secure 3rd place. William's

double clear, the first time jumping a 90cm course (the jump-off) with me, was also good enough for individual 6th place, despite going steadily at this new height. It was then Dubai's turn in the 90 class but a poor decision by me to kick on for one stride in the double, meant that I sat up too quickly and Dubai dropped her hind legs on the back rail of the fence in. A clear in the 2nd round (95-100cm) produced an overall score good enough for individual 3rd. The experienced partnership of Ian and Tally finished off the day but a rolled pole in the second round cost them the win as they were slower against the clock than the winning combination who had also rolled a pole.



7. Susie Pool - Ravensberg Regal William



5. Catherine James - Sportsfield Dusty



6. Ruth Spooner - Aimen Rocket Man

All in all, a good day with all BVRC members coming home with a rosette. Thanks must go to Lily's Mum, Sam, and Catherine for coming back to support BVRC competitors and fulfilling a helper duty and also Susan Wheatley for filling a 3rd duty and all 3 helping to pack jumps away at the end of the day. Thanks also to Lindsay who came to support all the Club members throughout the day.

Susie Pool