

Malthouse Winter Dressage Final held on 28 April 2019

We were lucky that Storm Hannah had eased off after a blustery Saturday to leave a cool but better-weather-Sunday.

The final was also tied in with the second round Trailblazers competition and so there were some competitors who's focus was to get to these Championships. We had one team (Sorrel and Vicky Gibson with My Kingdom Warrior) who do a 150-mile round trip to join us ☺. We would like to wish all those competitors entering Trailblazers Championships the very best of luck!

The Malthouse Winter Dressage league runs grass roots unaffiliated dressage from Intro to Elementary and was specifically introduced to encourage young riders to have a go at dressage. Junior riders are judged separately from the Seniors and the competition is further sub-divided into two leagues of Intro + Preliminary and Novice + Elementary. Last season's junior Novice + Elementary winner, Hope Gardner, came along with her new horse (of five weeks) 'Chestermill' and achieved an excellent 68.96% in the Elementary 45 test. Hope is expecting to be competing at Medium very soon.

We have been very lucky to have Sarah Lambert-Gibbs judge for the complete season and we would like to thank Sarah very much. This continuity of the same judge gives the opportunity for regular competitors to measure their improvement over the season with supportive and encouraging comments from Sarah.

Three leagues were decided on Sunday – the Junior Intro + Preliminary, the Senior Intro + Preliminary and the Senior Novice + Elementary. There were some amazing tests ridden and, continuing with our tradition, double points were awarded on the final competition day. Whilst this didn't impact on the leaders, some of the lower places were shuffled around.

The winner of the Junior Intro + Preliminary championship was Laura Fowler riding Oliver V. Laura won a grooming kit, Weatherbeeta polo bandages in denim-blue, a sash for Oliver V, a large rosette and a Quaich cup. In second place was Finlay Peters with Stanley and in third place was Anna Peters with Max. They both received Weatherbeeta polo bandages in denim-blue and a huge rosette.



Laura Fowler and Oliver V who won the Junior Intro + Preliminary Championship. Sarah Lambert-Gibbs is presenting the awards.



Laura and her mum pose proudly with Oliver V to show off the sash, rosette and Quaich cup.



Finlay Peters and Stanley who came 2nd in Junior Intro + Preliminary Championship. Sarah Lambert-Gibbs, our judge, is shown presenting the polo bandages.



Anna Peters and her Norwegian Fjord pony Max. Anna and Max were 3rd in Junior Intro + Preliminary Championship

The Senior Intro + Preliminary championship was won by Janet Cope on Mac (also known as Macauley). Janet won a Weatherbeeta saddle cloth and matching polo bandages in denim-blue, a sash for Mac, a large rosette and a Quaich cup. In second place was Jeanette Turner on Kilmanseck and third place went to Tamsin Karn with Heezazari. Fourth place went to Jenny Le Huray with Bo Peep and fifth place was Rachel Mulford and Sharp Henry. Sixth place went to Sylvia Pajak and Lettuce, seventh place to Amanda Mansbridge with Coblit and eighth place went to Caroline Bown and Diamonds in Clover. Those in places second to eighth received Weatherbeeta polo bandages in denim-blue and a rosette.



Janet and Mac being presented with their first-place prizes by Sarah.



Jeanette and Kilmanseck with Sarah awarding their prizes



Tamsin and Heezazari with Sarah awarding their prizes



Jenny Le Huray with Sarah. Jenny's horse Bo Peep was at home having a few weeks off.



Sylvia Pajak with Lettuce receiving their polo bandages from Sarah



Amanda Mansbridge and Coblit are seen here with their rosette and bandages



Caroline Bown, with a big smile, is here with her horse Diamonds in Clover after coming in at eighth place.

The Senior Novice + Elementary championship was won by Tamsin Karn with Heezazari. Tamsin won a Weatherbeeta saddle cloth and matching polo bandages in navy-blue, a sash for Heezazari, a large rosette and a Quaich cup. In second place was Janet Cope with Mac and third place was Rachel Mulford and Sharp Henry. Fourth place went to Caroline Bown and Diamonds in Clover and fifth place went to Jeanette Turner with Kilmanseck. Those in places second to fifth received Weatherbeeta polo bandages in navy-blue and a rosette.



Tamsin and Heezazari are being presented with their awards by Sarah. Tamsin and Heezazari have been very consistent and are taking this trophy home for the third year running.



Janet and Mac receiving their second-place navy-blue bandages and rosette from Sarah our judge. Janet and Mac completed their first Elementary test today and received the Elementary class top marks, with a fracture under 70%!



Caroline with her Diamonds in Clover achieved fourth place. Caroline has been very consistent throughout and they deserved their placing.



Jeanette and Kilmanseck achieved fifth place and were delighted having only recently starting riding at this level

We couldn't have run the competition without volunteers working hard in the background. Bob Skinner has been our Door and Collecting Ring Steward for the competition. Bob has recently been poorly and so wasn't able to make the final. A thank you gift has been sent to him. On the day Laura and her daughter Petal stepped in at short notice and carried out a super job of keeping the competitors rolling through. Ami, Roger and Faye have been keeping the shows running in the background by preparing the arena and warm-up school.



Mary Booth, a good friend of Janet Cope, comes to every show to groom and give her support to Janet and Jenny Le Huray. Mary ended up reading the tests for a lot of the competitors. I'm not sure how Mary can manage to speak at the end with all the tests she reads! This was recognised with a bottle of fizz and a box of chocolates. Mary is on the left-hand-side.



Moirira (on the left) receiving a tied bouquet and a bottle of fizz for her hard work as Secretary



Our Judge Sarah (on the right) also received a tied bouquet and a bottle of bubbly to thank her for all her help in judging for the season.

We would like to thank all of our competitors and friends for supporting the Malthouse and wish them good luck for the coming season. Penny