

## **Report: King River "Harbour News" One Day Event: February 2005**

King River Club hosted the first horse trials event in the Great Southern this season last weekend. "Harbour News" again sponsored the event as it has done over the past years, and this year the event was as popular as ever with 60 riders, many travelling from Kojonup and Mt Barker, as well as a large contingent travelling from Denmark to take part in the competition.

The event is run as an official Pony Club event, caters for all grades from B-Grade down to E-Grade and Leading Rein.

Consisting of three phases, eventing tests the skills of horse and rider in dressage, cross-country and showjumping, with the dressage phase being the first judged.

Chanelle Condren riding Flaming Nijinsky produced an excellent dressage score of 35.40 in the B-Grade to lead that class before an unfortunate run-out at the Arrowhead in the cross country phase relegated that combination to second place overall. Undoubtedly the ride of the day in the B-Grade belonged to Tess Ladner and Harlequin who rode an immaculate line in the cross-country phase to incur few time penalties and no jumping penalties to move into the lead – a position they maintained for the rest of the day.

The C-Grade competition was divided into three sections, and overall winners of the age classes.

There was very little to separate the riders in the PCAWA C-Grade (14 years and over) with close dressage scores, few cross-country penalties, and excellent showjumping results. With a great dressage score of just 37.8 Julia Hensel and Fascination Street lead throughout to win the class from the ever-consistent Kim Porter and Champagne Magnum and Shelley Harris and Navaar producing a double clear cross country to finish a well-deserved third. Tess Ladner and Jacob's Creek rounded off a great event for them in finishing in fourth place.

These four combinations also took out the overall class placings, despite good performances from Dawn Nation (Serenade), Michelle Trott (Oriental Mystery), Lyn Heppell (Brigadeer) and Martin Nation (Beethoven) finishing first, second, third and fourth respectively in the Senior C-Grade class.

The C-Grade (13 years and Under) witnessed the fantastic improvement made by the West Plantagenet riders in recent years. Tiarne Pearce and Stirling Silver continued with their good form of last year to win the class and overall class, from Kimberley Adams (Diamond Cluster) and Clare Beech and Moh Chardonnay who produced the only clear cross country round in third place. New King River member, Rosie Outhwaite and NRG had an unfortunate fall at the very last fence, but bravely remounted to complete the course and finish in fourth place.

Aided by a double clear cross country phase, and a clear showjumping round, Kim Porter (Oakstone Park Opaque) finished on their dressage score to win the D-Grade (14-years and over) from the Leah Bennett/Dreaming Up Rhythm who also finished on their dressage score, showing scant respect for the cross-country phase which claimed a number of victims. Ebony Kinnane and Scarlet finished in third position from Zoe Barrett (Spring Park Alfa Centauri).

In similar fashion, Ferne Faulkner and Remember Joyce produced a double clear cross country phase, and a clear showjumping round to closely win the Senior Section from Rebecca Davey & Sebastian who had lead after a great dressage test.

It seemed that clear rounds were here to stay, when Amy Booth and Waterfords Darken produced yet another double clear cross country phase, and a clear showjumping round to win the D-Grade Junior division. Kelsey Atkinson, with only a handful of time penalties on the cross-country finished a great second, with Gabrielle Pither (Pocket Money) and Hilary Beech (Limehill Galaxy) grabbing third and fourth positions.

In the E-Grade, Denmark rider Thomas Burke and Lilly celebrated his birthday in style with yet another double clear cross country phase, and a clear showjumping round to win and finish on his dressage score. Evie Beech gained another placing for the Beech family with a very solid second, incurring only time penalties on the cross country phase. Paige Wilson and Sahara Stone, also from Denmark, finished a very credible third, from Milly Sexton and Hillview Todd gaining fourth place.

The Senior Division of the E-Grade class saw Holly Taylor and Legal Tender win from Kim Hoveler and Jerrico, who were delighted that the Club had decided to run this class, and give the older riders an opportunity to compete at this level.

The Leading Rein class gave Matthew Moroney and Mouse the opportunity to emulate the efforts of his older brother who had previously won this grade. Matthew made every post a winner, and duly recorded a well deserved win.

Special thanks go to our sponsors, Harbour News and well done to all competitors. I hope to see you all again at the official ODE on 19 & 20 March.