

Report: Horseworld Showjumping Spectacular – 22nd May 2005

The first event in the Albany Horseworld Showjumping Championship series was held at the Club grounds on 22 May, with some 60 horse and rider combinations turning out on an overcast and drizzling day to take part in the competitions.

Albany Horseworld also sponsored the day's competition and was pleased both with the event, the level of competition and the promotion throughout the day.

The level of showjumping was high and the very first class – Clear Round jumping showed what was to come. No fewer than 40 combinations went clear in classes which ranged from 45cm in height to 90cm.

The second event of the day, the AM5 class, was also the first class in which combinations could gain points in the Championship series. All the results were very close, with Brooke Lewis (My Sweet Charity) winning the 45cm class in 25.84 seconds just .13 of a second in front of Paige Wilson (Sahara Stone) and Amy Kennedy (Cinnamon Girl) in third place.

It was just as close in the 60cm class with Hannah Graham (Tex) winning from Kelsie Atkinson (Windrush Symphony) by under half a second. It was a very similar margin in the 80cm class, with Ebony Kinnane (Sir Ripper) winning by just .41 of a second from Sherona Smith (Marli).

Wider margins were evident in the 90cm and 1.05m class, with Jasmin Watkins taking a very sharp line to win the first class by almost 3-seconds from Tess Ladner (Freight Master), with Tess, this time on Harlequin winning the 1.05m class from Kim Porter on Zamight by an exact second margin.

The next classes were the Encourage, Improvers and Graduation qualifiers for the Albany Show. It was very pleasing to see six combinations go double clear in the Encourage; three more in the Improvers and Kim Porter (Zamight) double clear in the Graduation. The King River club should be well represented in the finals.

The second event in which riders could earn points in the Championship series was the AM2 classes – one round against the clock. Holly Elms and Point 08 had an easy win in the 1.05m class, being one of only two combinations to jump clear. Jasmin Watkins (Rumps) notched their second win of the day by winning the 85cm class from Julia Hensel (Fascination Street) and Bronte Walker (Posh Spice).

Michelle Trott (Meg) won the 60cm class from Kelsie Atkinson (Windrush Symphony) and Evie Bulla (Tonka). This was the second time on the day that Kelsie had been beaten by around a half second. In the 45cm class, Paige Wilson (Sahara Stone) reversed the tables by winning from Amy Kennedy (Cinnamon Girl) by a mere .25 of a second, and Amy Kennedy (Cinnamon Girl) finishing a further .15 of a second away in third place.

The final event of the day was the exciting Jigsaw Pairs class. In the 45-70cm class, the Wilson sisters gave no one else a chance and picked an excellent course to win by

over 4-seconds from Amelia Radford name Evie Bulla. And just .01 of a second away in third place was the Hannah Graham & Lana Maskey.

In similar vein, the Ladner sisters took out the 85cm-1.05m Jigsaw Pairs Class in an exciting finish from Jasmin Watkins/Holly Elms. Third place went to Julia Hensel and Bronte Walker.

At the end of the day, the top five horse/rider combinations on the Championship Leaderboard are Paige Wilson/Sahara Stone (21.5), Kelsie Atkinson/Windrush Symphony & Evie Bulla/Tonka on 20-points, Hannah Graham/Tex on 19.5 and Jasmin Watkins/Rumps on 19. Full details are available at Albany Horsecworld.

There is both a Senior & Junior award at the end of the series with Juniors being classified as the year in which they turn 16 and under.