

Northside Mazda Showjumping Day – 19 June 2005

In the words of Britain's finest wit, Noel Coward, "mad dogs and Englishmen go out in the midday sun". How do you think Coward would have described that intrepid band of showjumpers who turned out for the Northside Mazda Showjumping Spectacular amongst squally showers and strong winds?

Fortunately the day only got better for those who took part.

The grounds looked fantastic. Northside Mazda had many of their magnificent vehicles on display around the arenas, but the one that really caught the eye was the red sports car on the ski jump. In addition, "Zoom-Zoom" flags were set up throughout the grounds and continued to flutter in the winds throughout the day.

As well as sponsoring the day, Northside Mazda provided plenty of prizes for the placegetters to make this a day to remember.

And the showjumping was extremely good with sure-footed horses and ponies tackling the challenging courses.

For the first time this year, the program included an optimum time event, where the combination closest to the time, with no jumping faults, being the winner.

In the 45cm class, Hayley Harris & Louie started off a great day for them by winning the class from Brooke Lewis and Paige Wilson who dead-heated for second place. This form continued into the AM5 45 cm class, with Hayley & Louie posting another win by just 6/100^{ths} of a second from Paige Wilson and Matthew Maroney in 3rd place.

In the helter skelter 45cm AM2 , Brooke Lewis (My Sweet Charity) sped around the course to win from Paige Wilson (Sahara Stone), with Hayley Harris and Louie finishing in third position.

But overall, it was a true sisters day, with Tess & Becky Ladner winning the 85cm-m Jigsaw Pairs from Renae & Bronte Walker. Jess and Sarah Jasper finished second in the 45cm-75cm section of this class.

In keeping with this theme, Jess Jasper (Yooralla Jasper) finished 2nd, and Bronte Walker (Posh Spice) 3rd behind Emma Panizza (Shay) in the Optimum Time 75cm; Renae Walker (Ruby Carousel) beat Tess Ladner (Just Jake) in the 90cm section; and, Sarah Jasper (Impeccable Rhea) won the 1.05m section from Tess Ladner, this time riding Harlequin.

Again, in the 95cm AM5 class, Bronte Walker (Posh Spice) won from sister Renae (Pantomime) and Tess Ladner (Freight Master). Tess had more success in the 1.05m AM5 class, winning with Harlequin and finishing 3rd with Just Jake. Kim Porter on her new horse, Zamight finished 2nd in this class.

Tess went one better, finishing 1st and 2nd in the AM2 1.05m class with Harlequin and Just Jake with Kim Porter (Zamight) taking 3rd place.

The day also marked the second round of the Albany Horseworld Showjumping Championship, with competition at the top of the table really tightening up. At this stage of the competition, Paige Wilson (Sahara Stone) on 42.5 points narrowly leads Evie Bulla (Tonka) on 42.0 points. The consistent Brooke Lewis and My Sweet Charity with 38.5 points sit in 3rd place from Bronte Walker, Sharon Wilson & Tess Ladner.

The leading Senior & Junior rider will be presented with a rug following the final event, the Wiswell Rebels Showjumping day in August.