

## THE UPS AND DOWNS OF RUNNING AN EVENT

The annual South Island Dressage and Obstacle Driving competition ie DOD was set down for 14 January at Timaru to be followed the next day by the South Island NZCDS show.

Initially it looked like the DOD and show were in jeopardy. On closing date only 7 entries had been received, 4 of which were only dressage and cones. What should we do with only a week or so to “kick” off. Obstacles had to be built? Were we going to get more entries?

After a number of e-mails and phone calls a few more entries drifted in, all up now 10. More consultation whether to go ahead or cancel due to the low number of entries. After a few more phone calls it was decided full steam ahead!

More entries, we were over the moon we now had 12 for the DOD, 4 for dressage and cones.

Unfortunately the Xmas break seemed to have been part of the problem. Some thought their entries had been posted and others came snail mail by NZ Post!

By Saturday, the day of the DOD 19 entries all up with 7 of those in the dressage and cones. All our fears about having to cancel the event and show had disappeared! My thanks to all those who entered to make the events possible and very successful.

The South contingent of the Millers and Shanks set forth for Timaru around 10.30 am on the Friday. Finally rain had come to the Taieri and as we left rain was falling which was a welcome sight as our ground was very dry and cracked. The rain continued during our journey and between Palmerston and Hampden the heavens opened – the rain was so heavy that you couldn’t see the road in front. As we travelled on the rain eased and by the time we reached Oamaru it had ceased completely.

On arriving at the Price property in Timaru the rain had stopped but ground conditions were rather damp. We unloaded the horses only to discover that during the downpour water had got into the floats and the float floors were wet and probably wouldn’t dry in time to put down bedding as this was to be our accommodation for two nights. We had thought about a motel but I had persuaded everyone to camp, a decision I was really regretting at this stage. However, Kiwi ingenuity, we had tarpaulins. We swept out the water and then put down tarpaulins and mats. We parked our two floats side by side and put over a tarpaulin to make a roof inbetween the floats. Our bedding was dry, most of it had been transported inside our vehicles. The weather was not great, a few little showers and wind which in fact dried out the ground conditions for the DOD the next day. The mud in the gateways was drying up.

The Millers spent two uncomfortable nights on their hard mattresses vowing to get a motel in future and not be frugal! The Shanks’ beds must have been softer than ours, they didn’t complain!

Saturday was fine, sunny and warm and everything had dried up. The dressage phase commenced just after 9.00 am and although at one stage we seemed to be running late, this was completed by 12.45 pm. As competitors completed their dressage they went straight over to another paddock to drive the cone course.

After a shared lunch the obstacle phase of the DOD commenced with 12 competitors driving 6 obstacles. Unfortunately in the novice 108 cm and under class only one competitor remained alive at the end of this phase and several other competitors unfortunately eliminated themselves. The obstacles were well designed and our thanks go to Andrea and Ian Price for the work they put in.

#### **DOD RESULTS:**

##### **Dressage and Cones – Open:**

- |   |                 |   |
|---|-----------------|---|
| 1 | Margaret Miller | Bluegables Turning States Evidence - 67 |
| 2 | Rhonda Molloy   | Heulwens Jessie James - 69              |
| 3 | Katie Bicknell, | Kodak - 101                             |
| 4 | Mary Brosnahan  | Kaimai Felisse – 104.5                  |

##### **Dressage and Cones – Novice:**

- |   |                |                               |
|---|----------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 | Leo Brosnahan  | Sunnybrae Pollyana – 124.5    |
| 2 | Shona Cusack   | Cotswold Asterix – 134.0      |
| 3 | Karen Wilson   | Beechgrove Cappuccino – 144.5 |
|   | Mary Brosnahan | Kaimai Felisse – 104.5        |
| 4 |                |                               |

##### **DOD 108 cm and under – Novice:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | Katie Bicknell, Da Vincii, Dressage 82, Cones 5.5, Obstacles 53.8 = 141.3         |
|   | Abigail Smithie, Serenity Parks Heaven Sent, Dressage 76, Cones 19.5, Obstacles E |
|   | Susan Fleet, Bluegables de Extreme Makeover, Dressage 63.5, Cones 4, Obstacles E  |
|   | Karen Findlay, Gleneagles Scotch Whisky, Dressage 82.5, Cones 5.5, Obstacles E    |

##### **Open 108 cm and under – Open:**

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|---|--|
| 1 | Brian Shanks, Spot, Dressage 71.5, Cones 0, Obstacles 46.4 – 117.9 |
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##### **Over 108 cm and up to and including 128 cm – Novice:**

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|---|--|
| 1 | Sylvia Rogatski, Willow, Dressage 69, Cones 0, Obstacles 106.1 = 175.1 |
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##### **Over 108 cm and up to and including 128 cm – Open:**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 | Joanne Marama, Burnside Bracken, Dressage 79.5, Cones 0, Obstacles 45.2 = 124.7 |
| 2 | Alyson Todd, Springbrook Pollyana, Dressage 99, Cones 0, Obstacles 51.4 = 140.4 |

**Over 1328 cm – Novice:**

Alan Stephenson, Draytown Corona, Dressage 79.5, Cones E, did not start in obstacle section

**Over 128 cm – Open:**

1 Jill Stephenson, Draytown Corona, Dressage 81.5, cones 5, obstacles 43 = 129.5

**Multiples 128 cm and under:**

1 Andrea Price, Beechgrove Royal Rose and Beechgrove Splash Magic, Dressage 67, Cones 15, Obstacles 57 = 139

**Multiples Over 108 cm – Open:**

Bindy Dakin, Kanuku and Koru, Dressage 73.5, Cones 0, Obstacles E

**Training:**

Val Shanks, Minnie, Dressage 64.5, Cones 5, Obstacles E

The Timaru DOD is a South Island event overseen by the South Island NZCDS executive however, without all the hard work by the Price family, their friends and relations who come year after year as stewards and helpers this event would be impossible to run. Our thanks also to Jocelyn Robertson who is always at the forefront getting food organised.

Saturday evening a number of us went to the local RSA for a get together and a meal. On arriving home around 10 that evening we found the wind had got up and was very strong. Some time during the night Val Shanks was out in her night attire removing the tarpaulin between the two floats as she thought we were going to be airborne as their float was moving, however somehow the Millers were oblivious to this and must have fallen asleep, although I felt I was awake most of the night due to the hard bed!

Sunday, South Island NZCDS Show. We woke to a nice day, sunny but around 8ish we could see clouds were rolling in and possibly rain. As the show wasn't to start until 9.30 am, most of the campers decided to pack up gear not needed in case of rain. Everyone was scurrying around, packing up bedding, loading up gear that was not needed.

Show time – sun was still out, no rain, wind a little strong but a warm day. Our judge was Adair Hogg from Temuka who had also judged dressage the previous day. The show attracted 13 entries.

**BEST EXHIBIT, NZCDS MEMBER:** – Leo Brosnahan driving Sunnybrae Pollyana. Pollyana had only been broken in a month. A well deserved winner showing style and elegance in harness. There was one little hiccup when a belly band came undone and the shafts shot up, Leo just stopped the

mare and she stood while it was rectified. Our congratulations to Mary and Leo for breeding such a lovely elegant horse.

**SHOW RESULTS:**

**Concours d'elegance:**

1	Alyson Todd	Springbrook Pollyana
2	Leo Brosnahan	Sunnybrae Pollyana
3	Val Shanks	Minnie
4	Bindy Dakin	Kanuku and Koru

**108 cm and under conformation – Novice:**

1	Margaret Miller	Turning States Evidence
2	Karen Wilson	Beechgrove Cappiccino
3	Richard Price	Beechgrove Royal Rose/Beechgrove Splash Magic

**108 cm and under conformation – Open:**

1	Brian Shanks	Spot
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**108 cm and under Paced:**

1	Margaret Miller	Bluegables Turning States Evidence
2	Brian Shanks	Spot
3	Karen Wilson	Beechgrove Cappiccino

**108 cm and under - Mannered:**

1	Margaret Miller	Bluegables Turning States Evidence
2	Brian Shanks	Spot
3	Karen Wilson	Beechgrove Cappiccino

**Champion:** Brian Shanks, Spot **Reserve:** Margaret Miller, Bluegables Turning States Evidence

**Up to 128 cm conformation – Novice**

1	Leo Brosnahan	Sunnybrae Pollyana
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2	Joanne Marama	Burnside Bracken3
3	Rhonda Molloy	Heulwens Jessie James

**Up to 128 cm – Open**

1	Alyson Todd	Springbrook Pollyana
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**Over 128 cm – Open**

1	Mary Brosnahan	Kaimai Felisse
2	Val Shanks	Minnie
3	Jill Stephenson	Draytown Corona

**Over 108 cm - Paced**

1	Jill Stephenson	Draytown Corona
2	Rhonda Molloy	Heulwens Jessie James
3	Joanne Marama	Burnside Bracken
4	Val Shanks	Minnie

**Over 108 cm - Mannered**

1	Jill Stephenson	Draytown Corona
2	Rhonda Molloy	Heulwens Jessie James
3	Joanne Marama	Burnside Bracken
4	Val Shanks	Minnie

**Champion over 108 cm** Leo Brosnahan, Sunnybrae Pollyana, **Reserve** Alyson Todd Springbrook Pollyana

**Multiples – Conformation**

1	Bindy Dakin	Kanuku and Koru
2	Richard Price	Beechgrove Royal Rose/Beechgrove Splash Magic

**Multiples – Paced**

1	Bindy Dakin	Kanuku and Koru
2	Richard Price	Beechgrove Royal Rose/Beechgrove Splash Magic

**Multiples – Mannered**

1	Bindy Dakin	Kanuku and Koru
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Richard Price

Beechgrove Royal Rose/Beechgrove Splash Magic

**Champion Multiple** – Bindy Dakin – Kanuku and Koru, **Reserve** Richard Price – Beechgrove Royal Rose/Beechgrove Splash Magic

**NZCDS BEST SOUTH ISLAND EXHIBIT** – Leo Brosnahan, Sunnybrae Pollyana

The weekend ended with a shared lunch.

Margaret Miller, Convenor