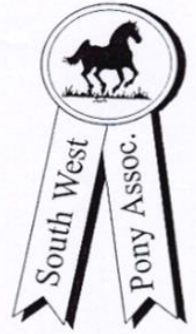




South West Pony Association



2023 Championship Show Report

By Richard Broad

Another fantastic three day championship show held at The David Broome Event Centre has drawn to a close. Many dreams have been made, nerves overcome, and memories made.

Thursday was rain affected, but fortunately no 'biblical downpour' however it didn't seem to dampen anyone's spirit. The show got under way with dressage, show jumping, and a working hunter master class in the Magic Arena, closely followed by In-Hand and Ridden classes in the Superflex Arena & Ballan Rings. In the afternoon the working hunter and show jumping arenas gave way for arena eventing. Thursday classes are run under the banner of the RMB Festival, with overall championships held in the Evening Performances. By late afternoon the rain had abated ready for the first of three evening performances, and this year we were delighted to welcome Mrs Carey Knox and Miss Corrin Knox to share commentating duties.

The evening started with the very popular Concours d'Elegance classes followed by the RMB Festival Overall In-Hand Championship. Champion was Donaghpatrick Black Smoke and Miss Amelia O'Connor with reserve going to Miss Kelsie Savage and Aruc Azreal. The RMB Ridden title went to Glebedale Jumanji and Mrs India Latter-Sears with reserve going to Mrs Jacqui Falconer's General Consensus. This was closely followed by the SWPA Senior Riders championship, there were two classes during the day with some 13 entries forward, which just shows how popular these classes are. Judge Miss Lisa Davey had a hard decision to make in the championship, but decided the Fell pony, Stennerskeugh Harvey ridden by Mrs Sue Smith, with reserve going to Miss Toni Zelazny and The Roadsweeper. Both of which have



amassed a large collection of wins. We then moved onto the first of the prestigious SWPA Wynsand Finals. Thirteen exhibits competed for the In-Hand title, which was won by Miss Alice Sheen's stunning Highland, Carlung Xephyr with reserve going to Miss Amelia O'Connor's Donaghpatrick Black Smoke. As is the format with the association's evening performances the evening finished with a 'fun event' This year a 'Beer Challenge' where riders completed a course trying to keep their pint glass full. Lots of spills and thrills.

The weather was much improved for the start of Friday's classes, which more or less mirror Thursday's classes but under the banner of Wales & West Festival. Friday evening performances started out with the Lorry Dog Final, followed by another round of Concours d'Elegance classes. Then it was the turn of the Festivals Working Hunter Championship, with first & second placed equines from all the working hunter classes over the last two days competing. Champion was Miss Summer Boustead's Annadale Earl Grey, with reserve going to Poppy ridden by Master Charles Brown. The Wales & West In-Hand Championship went to Starward Christmas in April shown by Miss Bryony Lovell-Williams, with reserve going to Mr Dean Baker's Springbourne Edoardo. The ridden championship was won by Sarum Rembrandt ridden by Miss Phoebe-Rose Joyner, with the reserve going to Miss Amelia O'Connor and Donaghpatrick Black Smoke. The evening continued with 'Medwin's Family Challenge Final, with the championship going to Miss Amelia O'Connor and Donaghpatrick Black Smoke, and reserve going to Caffreys Jack The Lad ridden by Miss Lily-May Joyner. Next championship in the arena was the SWPA Ponderosa Stud Family Showing series, taking the championship was Mrs Debbie Baker's London Tilly Trotter, with reserve going to Mr Gavin Merkel's River Field. The last championship of the evening combined champion & reserves from both Thursday and Friday's Festivals. Sponsored by Carn Nicholas the Festivals Championship went to Sarum Rembrandt ridden by Miss Phoebe-Rose Joyner, with reserve going to Miss Amelia O'Connor and Donaghpatrick Black Smoke, showing what a versatile pony he is.

The best event was left to last, 'Wheelbarrow Racing' a favourite with both children and adults.



A very pleasant warm start to Saturday's championships. Competitors compete all year round to qualify for a full range of classes for horses & ponies in all types of classes. The first major championship of the evening was the Concours d'Elegance this year won by Lingerswood Polestar and Miss Lily Pink, with reserve going to Mrs Liz Twite's Kirtonian Loch Birnie. This was quickly followed by the VHS Regional Championship this year won by the prolific winner Redemption Ground ridden by Mrs Christa Frain.

The Poltimore Plant Ltd Dressage Final was next in the arena with the championship going to Miss Katrina Poole's Horeb Legacy with reserve going to the novice combination of Dabernon Kid Rock ridden by Miss Faye Jackson. Excitement was gathering for the next championship into the arena, which was the Snuggly Hoods Mini Ridden Final, this year won by Ms Olivia Edwards riding Trevadlock Lizzie Longstockings, with reserve going to Miss Lily Pink riding Felineben Brynllyr.

On Saturday SWPA run a series of classes open to all exhibitors under the banner of 'Show within a Show' This year the championship went to Mrs Chris latter and The King 11, with reserve going to Cherokee 1X and Miss Amelia Lockhart

It was now the turn of the prestigious SWPA Wynsand Ridden Final, each qualifying exhibit required to do a freestyle show to suit their exhibit. Champion went to Miss Alice Sheen's



Mini Ridden Final, won by Ms Olivia Edwards riding Trevadlock Lizzie Longstockings



Supreme Ridden of Show, won by Miss Frankie Currell Riding Rhydaman Seren Enfys Owned by Mrs Ruth Roberts

Highland Carlung Xephyr, with reserve going to Mrs Jacqui Falconer's General Consensus. We then moved onto the Supremes of the show. First up was the Supreme In-Hand of Show, won this year by Miss Millie Logan's Welsh D Penlangrug The Democrat, who had won the Mountain & Moorland In-Hand title. Reserve went to Mr Paul Muxworthy's Murrhall Oregon. The Supreme Working Hunter of Show was next with the championship going to Miss Victoria Bertorelli's An Cathaoir, and reserve going to Miss Alice Sheen's Caislean Gearr Mack. This was swiftly followed by the Supreme Ridden of Show, with the championship going to Rhydaman Seren Enfys Owned by Mrs Ruth Roberts & Ridden by Mrs Frankie Currell, this was the first major show for this youngster. Reserve ridden went to Miss Alice Sheen's Carlung Xephyr, another pony in it's first full year of showing.

Then came to the major final of the evening, the SWPA Medwin Broad Memorial Supreme of Show, judged this year by two of our most

respected judges, Ms Gwyneth Edgar & Miss Lisa Davey. Each exhibitor was asked to do a freestyle show. The Championship was awarded to Miss Alice Sheen's Caislean Gearr Mack who performed a perfect show for the judges. Reserve Champion went to Carlung Xephyr ridden by Miss Alice Sheen, with First Reserve going to Rhydaman Seren Enfys ridden by Miss Frankie Currell. All three of these champions making a winning start to their careers



Overall Show Reserve Champion went to Carlung Xephyr Owned & Ridden by Miss Alice Sheen, who had also won both the SWPA Wynsand In-Hand & Ridden Finals

We look forward to seeing you all again in 2024

Richard & Team