

Obedience Critique - Hovawart Club Show 30/09/17

My thanks to the Hovawart Club of Great Britain committee for the invitation to judge the obedience section of their Club show. Thanks to my daughter Neasha for giving up her day to steward for me. The results are as follows:

PRE BEGINNERS

1st (No 35): Mrs G Stockton and **ANNVAD LADY HAZEL**.

Gill did a good job with this big dog; they lost points on the first exercise of heel on lead but Gill gained control for the rest of the test.

2nd (No 29): Mr D Brown and **ZWARTBOS MOONSHINE WHISKEY**.

Dave made a gallant effort with Leo who is trained by his partner. He was doing well until Leo had to pass a bowl of chips left by the ringside, so he took a little snack. I have to say that if it had been my dog passing the bowl, he would have scoffed the lot.

BEGINNERS

1st (No 10): Tania Connor and **QUINCEBOIS SALLERON**.

This lady was the only one to tell the dog which exercise it was doing (it makes a difference). A lovely round, attentive heelwork and a faultless retrieve. A worthy winner.

2nd (No 46): Ms E Whitmore and **ZWARTBOS BRIGHSTONE OF DRIFTINGSKY**.

Very nice heelwork though turns a little wide and a messy pick up on the retrieve put them in 2nd place.

3rd (No 18): Sara Hemsworth and **DRIFTINGSKY TOUSLE**.

Tousle was first in the ring and full of herself so did not give of her best.

NOVICE

1ST (No 32): Maggie Spencer and **KANUKALOS HARMONY AT HIGHTIMBERS**.

Echo did lag a little at the start of the test but picked up the pace as the test continued and made good marks with very good set exercises.

2nd (No 18): Sara Hemsworth and **DRIFTINGSKY TOUSLE**.

Tousle was now calmer and showed how well she could work, she had the best heelwork marks, but made a mess of the finish on the recall exercise; without this the positions would have been reversed.

Thanks to all the competitors and members of the club for making Neasha and myself very welcome, we had a very enjoyable day.

Irene Balmforth