



Stradbally Foxhound Show

A huge thank you must first be said to the Stradbally Family Fair and National Hound Show for inviting us to take part in their fantastic event this year. It was a wonderful opportunity to ride in the beautiful venue of Stradbally Hall, an opportunity that was fully availed of by our members. A big thank you must also go to Sinead Murray our Vet for the day, Sinead Kinsella who did the paperwork and Michael Moore, the club depends on volunteers like them to run these days so thanks so much for your help.

Our day started with the sun beaming down on the 65 riders who decided to undertake the ride on Sunday morning. This event was also the 3rd Leg of our Novice League which saw 7 entrants on the day.

First out on course were our 7 competitors in the League, Amy Schwan on Klarissa with Mom Anka on Pallas. This was Amy and Klarissa's Novice final which they both passed with ease, well done Amy. Next to take on the course was Mike Cuddihy on Gales Hill Sabre, Mike rode with Terri on Jehol and Evelyn on Boffin who were also completing a 38km CR on the day. Lorcan O'Rourke brought out Apache for the Novice League and won the Race on the day well done to Lorcan, a big congratulations. Sam Linton and Zoe Mortimer on the enthusiastic Cecil and Krystal were next out, with Sam coming second on the day, Sam was crewed by her son Jim. Eamon Conway was our final entrant to the Novice League where he also completed his Novice final. Well done Eamon and Francie who were accompanied for the first 25km by Eamon's daughter Roisin on Peppy. A noticeable rise in speeds was seen on the day a tribute to the excellent going available in Stradbally Hall. For full league details check out our page on the website.

Our final CR of the day was Peter O'Carroll with Shannis Riona, this was Shannis' first CR this year and he completed the course with ease. Peter's daughter Willow also rode on the day with her new pony Charlie, Willow is quickly working her way through our Strides programme, this was her first ride with Charlie who I am sure we will be seeing a lot of.

Suzanne O'Rourke joined us on a different mount today, Bronti, easily completing the 25km course. Suzanne was also available to crew Lorcan to help with his win. Breda Heary with the ever faithful Bailey brought out a group of 4 riders, her daughter Aoife, on Macy, Denise Reilly on Gem and Damien on Buster. The group did the 25km course easily and all enjoyed the day.

Rosemary Ryan on Zara and Breffni on Murphy went out on the course, Breffni lead by her Mum Mary Ann. Both enjoyed the 12km course with Mary Ann and Danny getting plenty of exercise too on foot!

Kim McCormack on the aptly named Dancer, Melanie Byrne on Cloud9 and Anne Kinsella, on Gales Hill Tara headed out for a short spin around the course. The girls enjoyed riding through the venue and are looking forward to returning to Stradbally in the future.

Tara Creighton on Zee, Lorna O'Neill on George, Diana O'Huid on Jake, Ailbhe Gavin on Bob and Faye on Baily joined us, all from Trec Ireland. As some they are competing in the National Championships and European Cup later in July so they decided to use Stradbally as part of their training for this event. We wish them the best of luck in the competition.

Jane Stanley no stranger to endurance riding decided to come and enjoy Stradbally having ridden there in the past, Jane brought her endurance veteran Sunni out for a quick spin round the 25km course.

John, Bernard and Shauna Keogh on their mounts, Storm, George and Tom joined us for the day. They undertook the 25km course with ease and returned back in as fresh as leaving. Siobhan Ovington with daughter Bobbi's mare Hannah went out to do the 25km course. Bobbi waited patiently in the venue helping the Organising Committee!

Eddie MacDonald and Deirdre McCabe on Herbie and Charlie decided to come along with us in Stradbally, for a nice spin around the course, Eddie and Deirdre are no strangers to Endurance and had little trouble quickly completing the 12km.

Louise Parks on the well named Freelancer undertook the 12km course with ease both enjoying themselves immensely. Catriona Foley brought out her Pepper enjoying the 12km loop immensely. Also heading out for a spin were Philip on Sammy and Tom Murphy on Captain. All enjoyed the day.

Rachel, on Volco, Chloe on Ben and Leanne on Tara all headed round the course together enjoying their day. The girls undertook two loops and were keen to try their hand at Endurance again in the near future.

The Owens family joined us on the day, with Kehna, Sophie and Sinead, bringing Pilgrim, Thunder and Jack out for a loop around the 12km course. Big smiles were seen all round at the end of the day.

Rockafoyle Stables joined us with 26 of their riders for one of their Stable's Day's Out, Breda O'Brien accompanied one of the groups around the course with Michelle taking the lead with some of the others. All riders seemed to enjoy themselves and returned home with their Rosettes from the day.

A big thanks to all who took part we hoped you enjoyed yourselves and hope to see you all again soon ☺