



Foxhound Show 5th July 2015

Endurance Ireland were delighted to be invited back to the Foxhound Show in Stradbally for the 3rd year in a row. This is a fantastic event with so much going on and we thoroughly enjoy taking part on the day. However with thunderstorms forecast we did wonder how the day would go, we needn't have worried however as there were only a few quick showers and most of the day was sunny and bright.

First to arrive at the venue were our two CR riders. Madison Flaherty with her pony Bobby and Bobbie Ovington with her mare Coolhenry Hannah. This was Bobbie and Hannah's 2nd Novice Qualifier and Madison and Bobbie's Final. The girls were accompanied on their first two loops by Colm riding Coolhenry Fancy Pants. The loops were 11.7km in length with both girls setting out to undertake 46.8km (or nearly 30 miles in old money!!).

Leading the trail riders out onto the course were Jennifer Haverty and Aoife Heary on Marble Joe and Aria. The two ladies undertook the 11.7km course enjoying the going with Jennifer then on hand for her IDHBA duties as Stewart.

Next to head out were Marcus on the photogenic Ben and John riding his gelding Woody. The pair headed off around the course enjoying the sunshine and the fabulous going available in this lovely venue.

Tara Creighton brought her gelding Zee out for a spin, Tara has brought Zee to a couple of Endurance Events this year and at this event decided to time her loops to see what speed she was achieving. Tara was delighted with Zee's performance and he came back in after his second loop looking fresh and ready for more.

Eileen Burrell made the trip up from Wexford with her horse Billie, Eileen has ridden and enjoyed this course before and again at this venue partnered up with Jane Stanley on her horse Henley. Both women enjoyed the day with both geldings well matched in pace and taking the opportunity to give the two boys a good gallop around the huge grass fields available for riding.

Marian Cash brought her boy Toby out for the day, the baying of the hounds seemed to spur on Toby who Marian said had plenty of energy and easily completed the 23.4km course.

Gerry Farrell and Debra Carr brought their horses Topaz and Pips out, Debra having been at our last number of events. Pips was very excited to have her companion back again and both riders enjoyed the two loops completing them in quick time.

Patrick Byrne headed out with Bobbie and Madison as they passed the half way point on his mare Amber. This is Patrick and Amber's first season with us and they look to be a combination to watch out for in the future.

Our CR foursome completed their ride in under 4 hours giving them a comfortable 12.4kph. Then it was time for the veterinary inspection. Madison was first up to present Bobby 13 minutes after completing the mileage. He passed easily and we are delighted to offer both Madison and Bobbie congratulations on now becoming Novice Qualified. Bobbie and Hannah presented next again easily completing the checks. Both Bobbie and Hannah have completed 2 CR rides and are hoping to complete their Novice Final in Rossmore at our next event. It is great to see such enthusiasm in our Junior Riders and we are looking forward to see what they get up to over the next few years.

We would like to say thank you to Yvonne Croke for acting as Vet Judge on the day, Susanne O'Rourke as vet writer and Patrick Byrne for helping to unmark the course. We must also thank again the Laois Hunt and the Cosby Family who allow us to run our ride during this fantastic event.