



IDHBA Laois Branch ODE-Stradbally Hall 21st May 2017

Sunday the 21st saw a big influx of riders to Stradbally Hall for the combined ODE, organised by the Laois branch of the IDHBA, and Endurance Ireland. This has been a great day for both endurance riders and Irish Draught riders since its beginning almost 5 years ago. The idea of the combined event was the brain storming of Eileen Brennan, David Cosby and Kevin Croke of the Laois branch to show the versatility of the Irish Draught and all its capabilities as a competitive horse. As always Sunday did just that in both events.

This was the 3rd leg of the league for Endurance Ireland and also the Irish Draught class and Irish Draught ODE/Endurance class.

Riders were out on course early with the first competitive riders on course for 9.30am. First out was David Cosby on his ID mare Ballycreen Minerva, a mare well known in endurance, showing and the hunting fields. David and Minerva had won this class for the last 3 years and yet again came in for yet another win and then went on to compete in the one day event .

Our integrated league riders all vetted under our vet Aisling Fenton. Teresa Moore and daughter Evelyn were first out on track followed by father and daughter Pat and Niamh Cooney and Patrick Byrne.

Our trail riders were next out on course with Michelle Quilty and Jonathan Sheridan on their horses Marley and Paddy. They were soon followed by Anne Kinsella and her mount GalesHill Simitar and Ann Clarke and her mare Jasmine.

Susanne O'Rourke took on ground duties with Emer Lennon and Yvonne Croke while her daughter Natasha and husband Niall went out on course with their horses Apache and Rio. Eimear Gleeson and John Liderith were next out on course with their horses Nollaig and Woody, with John also competing in the ID class.

The Byrne clan arrived in force with Lorna (on Bengie), Jillian(on Kyle), Kate (on JJ) and Neil (On Robbie). Lorna, Jillian and Kate all took on the 26km course in 2 hours and 10minutes. The girls are well known in the Carlow pony club. Neil Byrne on Robbie and Saran Buttle on Willow along with Mums Liz Byrne and Anna Marie McHugh took on the trail ride and also called into the shop for a quick ice cream to cool themselves down on what turned out to be a fantastic day weather wise. Claire Walsh made the trip from Co. Clare with her horse Setanta as did Eamon and his granddaughter Catilin. Eamon also took part in the ID class on his Merry Mate horse.

Aisling and Paddy Doyle also took on the trail ride with Jill Mullen on Sam and Lisa Regan on George. Jill had Sam out on his first day ever and he behaved immaculately given all the horse had to take in. Jane Stanley, a well known rider in endurance came with Mossie from Wicklow to take on the tracks and moved on with ease.

Lara Brennan, who is the yard manager in Stradbally Hall equestrian centre, rode with Katherine Brady on Mason, a super coloured cob, and Pamela Meagher on Lucy. Deborah and Gerry Carr with their horses Pips and Topaz took on the trail ride as did Marisa McGrath on Oreo and Robin Clancy on Boyguinen.

The competitive riders came in off course to present their horses to Aisling for vetting with all horses in both the league and the ID classes all passing the vet. Patrick Byrne on his mare hit the speed of 13kph and riding time of 3 hours spot on leaving starting at 10.21am and finishing at 1.21pm, well done to Patrick. With all passed and speeds, heart rate and presentation times taken into the scoring the results were in. As this league is points based, during the league , there will be joint places given(see below) and only at the end of the league will there be the final placing.

1st Evelyn Moore (34 points)

1st Teresa Moore (34 points)

2nd Patrick Byrne (33 points)

3rd Pat Cooney(31 points)

3rd Niamh (31 points)

Our Irish Draught class was yet again another great day with riders and horses coming in in great time with horses presenting with great heart rates.

1st David Cosby

2nd John Litherth

3rd Eamon Conway

David also went on to have his mare win the combined endurance /ode shield for the 2nd year running. Thanks to Thomas Cosby for the venue and facilities on site and thanks to all who made the day possible in setting the course and on the ground on the day.