



Kinnitty Ride 10th September 2017

Riders arrived on a dreary Sunday morning to the fabulous venue of Kinnitty Castle on the 10th of September. This event was the last competitive ride before the Nationals and was also the final leg of the Inter grade league which ran with great success over the year.

First of the CR riders to arrive on site were mother and daughter combo Teresa and Evelyn Moore and also Patrick Byrne. These riders went through the vet and headed out on course with only two minutes between Teresa and Evelyn and Patrick on Amber Sky.

Next out on course was Ann Clarke and her palomino mare Jasmine followed by Sharon Conroy and Sarah Mulhall on their horses Candy and Welchie. Ann, Sharon and Sarah all took on the 18km trail ride. Aisling and Paddy Doyle were next out on the trail with their horses Sally and Kala, Aisling and Paddy also took on the 18km trail class.

The next CR riders out on course were father and daughter duo Pat and Niamh Cooney on their mounts Ringo and Gypsy to take on the 42.25km course.

Both the league runners and the trail riders were brought from Kinnitty Castle out into Glenregan forest where they then followed the route set by Emer Lennon and Yvonne Croke. This route took riders across the forest where riders could see into west Offaly and see as far as the River Shannon. The route then dropped down into the Camcor Valley, as riders crossed the Camcor River the ascended out of the valley and back into Glenregan to finish back at the castle.

All of trail riders enjoyed the course and the sights that were on offer on the day with the odd deer crossing their path. It was then a point of waiting on the competitive riders to arrive back in and present to vet to see the outcome of the days leg of the league and the overall winner of the season.

The last leg of the league was a very tightly run leg with two riders riding to exact time of 12kph for the novice riders and one rider just two minutes off the optimum time. All horses passed the vet and speeds, heart rates and recovery times were handed in for the points to be tallied.

The results of the sixth leg were

1st Pat Cooney on Ringo

2nd Patrick Byrne on Amber

3rd Niamh Cooney on Gypsy

4th Teresa Moore on Sabre

5th Evelyn Moore on Cue

The overall winners were decided by the rider's top five rides and for some it was very close.

1st Teresa Moore (171 points)

2nd Patrick Byrne (169 points)

3rd Pat Cooney (168 points)

4th Niamh Cooney (144 points)

5th Evelyn Moore (135 points)

Well done to all everyone who competed in the league.

Endurance Ireland would like to thank Coillte for the use of this wonderful facility and Kinnity Castle for allowing us to use their carpark to host our venue. We are so grateful to both of these organisations, without which we would not be able to run our events. Thanks must also go to Yvonne for organising such a great, but busy day!