



IDHBA ODE 7th May 2018

The month of May has been a good month for endurance here in Ireland. Our big ride of month was in the fantastic Stradbally Hall in Co. Laois courtesy of Thomas Cosby and family. This event was in conjunction with the Laois Branch of the IDHBA who were running their ever popular One Day Event. We have been very lucky to have such a good relationship with the Irish Draught Horse Breeders Association and as those who follow Endurance Ireland will know we are very much in favour of promoting the Irish Draught horse where we can.

May 7th saw riders descend in their droves to Stradbally Hall in the early hours of the morning to get the competition under way. Endurance Ireland were ready for the off on the nod of Thomas Cosby once he had brought in all his flock of sheep, it was wonderful to see him working his dogs making it look effortless.

Our first riders of the day were David Cosby from Wicklow, Peter Mcloughlin from Kildare and Charlotte Moore who made the trip down from up North. David was riding in the combination event of the ODE and endurance as was Peter while Charlotte was competing in the endurance event. The three horses all went through the vetting and set off on course. Peter and David completed their course and then went in front of the vet for a final vetting. Whereas Charlotte and her mare headed out again on course on her own for a final lap before coming in to be vetted. John Lidiirth and his horse Woody also covered the endurance ID class, arriving later in the morning to take part.

The intergrade league was also in action with Niamh and her dad Pat taking place along with Evelyn Moore and Terri Moore. Distances were limited on the day to 50km in order to facilitate the x country phase of the ODE. All four riders went through the vetting and headed out on course. The speed was set at 15kph on the day and all riders hit the speed at ease which meant the results of the ride were very tight on the day, and to top it off recovery rates and heart rates were all very good. In 1st place was Pat Cooney with Ringo followed by Terri Moore in 2nd place with Galeshill Boffin who gave off a lovely display of how big he could buck on the way out on course. In 3rd place was Evelyn Moore with Slaneyside Queen followed by 4th place with Niamh Cooney and her mare Gypsy.

Very local riders Lara Brennan and Pamela Meagher with their horses Victor and Lucy took to the trail ride having a great spin around familiar grounds. Members Niall O'Rourke and Natasha with their horses Rio and Apache completed two loops with ease on the day. All the way from the West saw Claire Walsh and her sidekick Emma O'Driscoll with Setanta and Bella. This is one of the ladies' favourite courses to ride.

Pat Doyle and his mare Kala arrived with Lisa Regan on Sally. Sally is normally the mount of Aisling who unfortunately injured herself on the run up to the event. Lorna and Liz Byrne brought two new riders to endurance on the Monday with Kaitlyn and Ella O'Riordon.

The Three Counties riding club had a strong turnout for the trail event with Michelle McCormack organising the day for the riders. Michael Fullam brought riders Jimmy, Mark, Michael Jnr, Barbara, Jane, Caroline, Colette and Niamh around the course. We look forward to seeing them out again with us. Sheaffe Monteith and her mount Boynehall Benny took on the course on her own enjoying the tracks and trails. Charlotte Clear and Marie Martin took Ollie and Joe out around the estate taking in all the sights as they did. Michelle Quilty and Johnathan Sheridan with their handsome cobs Paddy and Marley made the trip up from the south; it was great to see them out again.

Clare Stanley, Richard Copa along with Maria Keatley and Clair Kelly moved on around the course enjoying all the tracks. Ann Clarke and her mare Jasmine lapped up the good going with Jasmine loving the great going, Mary Hegarty on Fizzy, Paddy Quinn on Tia, Gary Phelan on Flanders all took on the course too. Last but by no means least out on course were Vicky Farrell on Layla, Roisin Clancey on Baby Guinness and Marisa McGrath on Oreo , all three riders had a great day out and getting in before the cross country for the ODE.

It was great to see so many riders out and we look forward to see them all out doing endurance with us again.

Thanks to all who organised on the day, from Vet Judge, course marking, paper work and vet writing, volunteers are the lifeblood of the organisation!