

Jan 10, 2010 Whidbey Island trial

We lucked out once again weather wise for Sunday's trial. Lani Dorman came down from Canada to judge and, in true Canadian style, through in a tough dog leg fetch for the Open handlers. The dog leg fetch proved difficult but doable for both dog and handler, once we figured out that you can't hold the sheep hard on set out in the direction they are supposed to go on the dog leg fetch. LOL Thanks for pointing that out Sue. A couple of re-runs, a minor adjustment in the set out and the trial was under way. I was lucky to be at set out when the first open dogs ran. This was a great vantage point to see how the dogs and handlers worked the first part of the fetch, which was against the strong draw back to the pens.

One team handled it near perfectly with a score of 91. Ron Green and Tigr, owned by Hope Harris, laid down one of the prettiest runs I've had the pleasure of seeing. Congratulations, on your first Open win Ron.

Results for Open class 100 points possible

- 1: Ron Green and Tigr 0-0-1-8-0-0 91
- 2: Charmaine and Reo know she was 2nd, but don't know her score
- 3: Heidi and Pete 0-2-7-14-0-10 67
- 4: Diane P. and Nan 2-3-8-12-0-10 65
- 5: Brian R. and Doc 1-3-11-10-0-10 65
- 6: Diane P and Roo 2-4-10-6-3-10 65
- 7: Sue Mac and Jan 1-0-10-15-1-10 63
- 8: Diane P and Scott 2-3-11-13-0-10 61
- 9: George Mac and Chris 1-2-6-20-1-10 60
- 10 Brian R and Mig 0-1-5-15-10-10 59
- 11 Diane P and Lucy 1-0-7-16-10-10 56
- 12 George Mac and Huck 3-1-7-6- DQ
- 13 Ron Green and Kane 0-0- DQ

I got to scribe for the Pro-Novice class, giving me a different perspective of the field. Most of the teams were pretty successful dealing with the draws and the re-active sheep. I really enjoyed watching the different penning techniques people use. The highlight of the class for me was watching Susan and Zen, (we all know how Mom complains that Zen is so slow)J

Well I was biting my nails when they got to the pen, and had not timed out yet, the sheep were almost in the pen...I felt like yelling, "Mom just slam them in there and shut the gate!" as the

timer ticked down 3,2,1 seconds...I think poor Lani really hated calling time because it was such a nice run. Low and behold, Susan and Zen won the class anyway, in spite of no pen points. Janet and Scott had a very nice run, too, coming in second place. I don't know a lot of you very well, but I could sure tell the seasoned handlers from the nervous beginners while scribing for this class. Dick Wilson and Raygan are continuing to improve, ...Dick, relax !
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Pro-Novice Results

- 1: Susan C and Zen 5-0-4-12-10 59
- 2: Janet T and Scott 6-9-5-15-1 54
- 3: Corinne B and Tay 2-4-4-28-1 51
- 4: Jo- Roach and slider 2-4-8-18-10 48
- 5: Sue Mac and Jackie 4-6-12-22-1 45
6. Erin O and Z 6-2-18-24-1 39
- 7: Dick W and Raygan 15-6-14-28-10 18
8. Norm Rivers and Scotia RT
9. JB Brick and Scamp DQ
10. Kathy Rivers and Mick RT
11. Pamela H and Caymus DQ
12. JB Brick and Dodge RT
13. Susan C and Rani RT

Ranch class had a little bit longer out run and drive than we have had at the past few trials. This didn't seem to bother the dogs too much.

Most handled the sheep very well, and, though some may have retired, the dogs were all trying very hard and are coming along nicely. In my opinion it is better to retire than to have a wreck that may take months of training to recover from.

Ranch Results 90 points possible

- 1: Diane P and Faye 4-4-0-26-0 56
- 2: Norm R and Lana 2-6-12-10-7 53
- 3: Kathleen T and Emma 4-4-2-22-10 58
- 4: Ron F. and Steve 0-4-6-30-10 40

5. Erin O and Molly 22
6. Ron G. and Ruby RT
7. Brian R and Clark RT

All in all it was a fun trial. We want to thank Sue and George for all their help. Lani for judging, Susan for providing a wonderful lunch, and facility, Dave and Karyl in the pens, Dick tell your wife thank you for the scones...yummy, and whoever brought the peanut butter cookies, too. We look forward to more fun at the February trial.

Michelle Pardee has posted a number of pictures from the trial here.
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/bluegemdog/sets/72157623185514724/>

Alison Deilke...Susan's daughter and trialer in training