

OBEDIENCE CHALLENGE

28th Feb. 2003

Each year at the Western Classic there is an obedience challenge, this comprises of the three classes, and to qualify competitors send in their top three scores from the previous year and ten dogs are chosen to compete in the challenge. Obviously it is always a wonderful evening of trialling as the best in the west compete for the title of Classic Winner. Our judges this year came from NSW and they were Peter Franks, Daryl Turley, and Meg Yerbury, they were very pleasant and their rounds were both interesting to watch and work, all the judges went to great trouble to put each handler at their ease. The WA obedience fraternity were impressed with them and they in turn were impressed with the standard of work shown by the dogs and the demeanour and dress of the handlers.

As it is possible to qualify for more than one class there were quite a few dogs that had qualified in open and utility, but for the first time a dog that had started novice at the start of the year qualified for all three classes, and in fact he had gone one better as he had also gained his Obedience Champion title so well done to O CH Brynbank Dangerous Liason with his owner Debbie Hyde on a great achievement.

The novice class was a delight to watch and seeing the stars of the future work with such confidence was great, the winner was a delightful Sheltie that not only concentrated every step of the way on the work but also on keeping four feet on the ground as the wind was so high!! Congratulations to Cheslyn Rise Rosette CD JD and her very happy owner Andrea Patching on a beautiful round that was almost faultless. All the dogs in the open class were dogs that work utility with great success, so obviously the standard was very high and the dogs did not disappoint with the winner showing class and style O CH Torravean Moon Spinner AD JD Golden Retriever with Sue Hogben, a wonderful win for a very popular pair, great work well done. Utility had a plethora of talent that made the evening one to be looked forward to with great anticipation, however for some reason these normally reliable dogs kept nging on one exercise, we were left wondering if we would have a winner. However one dog and handler had no doubt, they went into the ring with confidence and worked the round superbly and ended up winning the class in a very decisive manner so congratulations to the very handsome Standard Poodle who works as well as he looks, O CH Kimari Magic Moment with his excellent handler Kerry McGillivray.

So ended the challenge for this year and what was so nice to see was so many breeds represented, GSDs, BCs, Goldies, Shelties, Aussies, Tollers, a Bernese Mountain Dog and a crossbreed.
CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE QUALIFIERS YOU ARE ALL WINNERS.



Ob Ch Brynbank Dangerous Liason
the dog which qualified for all three classes



Novice Challenge Winner,
Cheslynrise Rosette



Open Challenge Winner,
Ob Ch Torravean Moon Spinner



Utility Challenge Winner,
Ob Ch Kimari Magic Moment



Open Trial winner Lara UD



Jumping Masters winner Luocratif Barbwire Babe

OBEDIENCE TRIAL

2nd March 2003

There was a good entry for this trial and thankfully the wind had dropped so it made working the dogs a little more pleasant. This showed up in the utility class with dogs paying more attention. It was great to see over the two days of the obedience trials that no matter what happened in the ring, pass or fail, handlers were leaving the rings with a pat for the dog and even better to see so many dogs working happily and stylishly without correction collars or any negative training, well done everyone.

The standard of work was again very high in all rings and it was difficult to know which ring to watch as it was a pleasure whichever ring you sat by.

Congratulations to the winners this evening and all placegetters you certainly had to work hard for your ribbons the standard was so high. It certainly was not an easy job for our visiting judges. One judge in between judging decided to go for a spin in a wheelchair belonging to one of our competitors, which brought about very many ribald comments on his ability to judge our agility competitions!!! Someone actually took a photo of this judge, who shall remain nameless (see Peter I said I wouldn't tell) so we can prove to all and sundry what happens when we invite interstate judges, as you can imagine everyone was in very good spirits as the judge returned to his ring, only problem was he left the owner of the chair Lee Cuthbertson stranded, I am not sure whether she along with everyone else was just laughing too much to be able to move. OK on to the serious stuff, the results of the trial were as follows, Novice: Sugargum Lst Dragn Slayer (Aussie) with Sue Hogben with a fabulous display of work and this was this dogs first trial so he looks to have a very promising future. Open: this class saw two dogs on the same excellent score Lara UD ADX JDX (xbreed) with Sandi Gee and O Ch Mhadaidh Doggy Dancer ADM JDX (Goldie) with Amanda Houston, Lara winning on a count back, super work from these two experienced dogs and handlers well done. Utility: O Ch Torravean Moonspinner AD JD (Goldie) with Sue Hogben Spinner worked a lovely round and looked to be grinning all the way round. This made three wins from the six classes of obedience at the classic for Sue, so she obviously gets the top handler award, if there was one! So many congratulations and many more successes to come.

The four days of the Classic were a pleasure with the Challenge on the first night, the second night saw the agility trial where there were so many good fast rounds, but one dog that is always in the winners circle and this weekend was no exception was Luocratif Barbwire Babe CDX ADX JDX with Karen Phillips winning amongst other classes Masters Jumping with a scintillating run, well done. They along with fellow competitors from WA will be attending the Nationals in Melbourne, the standard they set tonight should stand them in good stead. The third night was the open obedience trial and the fourth ended it all with the teams event where 19 teams competed the win going to the Southern River Fadz comprising of O Ch Max o M/M Rhoden, Icarra Picture Perfect o P Hind, Chacole Magnum Opus o M/M Rhoden, Verosu Streetfighter o F Fitzpatrick and Seigen Brun Berg o A Richards all the dogs are GSDS and certainly worked well as a team congratulations.

The Classic is over for another year and it is thanks to the committee that we have four days of obedience and agility, also to the many hardworking stewards who were brilliant the whole weekend. Special thanks to our sponsors City Farmers and Pedigree, our inter state judges whose good humour lasted the whole weekend even with the work load, lastly thanks to the competitors, did I say lastly of course not our most grateful thanks go to our wonderful dogs for allowing us all so much fun.

HAPPY DOGGING , JILL HOUSTON