

Judges Field Trial Report
The Hampshire Gundog Society
Open 12 Dog HPR Trial

An Open Stake for all HPR breeds. Held at Grange Farm, Upper Helmsley, North Yorkshire on 3rd January 2024. By kind permission of Sean Chamberlain and Upper Helmsley Sporting.

Weather Conditions

An overcast day with temperatures slowly warming to 10 degrees. Wind conditions were light and consistent throughout the trial. Scenting conditions were good, improving slightly as the air temperature warmed throughout the day.

Type of Ground

The ground offered a variety of woodland, cover crops, white grass and hedgerows.

Species of Game

Pheasant, Partridge , Woodcock

Results

1stAnd Guns Award Deepthatch Rocket...GSP Dog
Owned by Mr. & Mrs. Webster...Handled by Mrs. R. Webster

2nd....Cadanbyrig Maestral....GLP Bitch
Owned and Handled by Mrs. A Jones

3rd..... Ekkolander Dark Rivva...LM Bitch
Owned and Handled by Mrs. K. Saynor

4th FTCh Stubblemere Fulmar....GSP Dog
Owned and Handled by Mr. P. Pearson

1st Deepthatch Rocket...GSP Dog

First Run

Coming into line at No. 11. Hunting a field of mixed cover, he quartered with real flair and experience, the dog came onto a spectacular point, when asked to flush, a pair of partridges lifted and both were accounted for. The dog was steady to flush, shot and fall. He made easy work of retrieving both birds cleanly and to hand. This full 'HPR' on two birds was truly memorable. This completed a first class run.

Second Run

Hunting with pace and style, the dog made easy work of a game strip. The dog quartered systematically requiring very little input from the handler. Leaving no doubt as to the experience and quality of this dog.

2nd....Cadanbyrig Maestral....GLP Bitch

First Run

This dogs first run started with a blind retrieve. The shot bird was located approximately eighty yards away across a cultivated field. The dog made an excellent job of the retrieve, quickly locating the bird and delivering tenderly to hand.

Then asked to hunt a field of cover adjacent to a hedge, the dog quartered nicely, showing off its natural pace. No game was found on this run.

Second Run

This time coming in as 'second dog down' the dog was asked to make a retrieve that had been shot some way out, the bird had fallen into a cover crop. The Cock bird was retrieved quickly and delivered to hand with 'its head up.' Completing an excellent 'eye wipe.'

When asked to hunt, the dog quickly located and pointed a bird that was tucked into the hedgerow. Producing the bird on command, she was steady to flush, shot and fall. The subsequent retrieve was performed quickly and efficiently, delivering the bird tenderly to hand.

3rd.... Ekkolander Dark Rivva...LM Bitch

First Run

Asked to hunt in woodland that contained light bramble, bracken and areas of rhododendron plants, this dog worked methodically and thoroughly. Unafraid of cover she worked hard to find her game. Hunting in the rhododendron she started to indicate game, whereupon a bird jumped. She acknowledged the flush and was then asked to work on. No further game was seen on this run.

Second Run

The handler was instructed to work an edge of woodland adjacent to an estate track. Working the light bramble the dog located and pointed a bird. When asked to produce the bird the dog was steady to flush, shot and fall. The bird fell into bramble and was then retrieved efficiently and tenderly to hand.

4th FTCh Stubblemere Fulmar....GSP Dog

First Run

Running in woodland the dog worked hard to find its game. Coming onto point the dog was asked to produce the bird. It was quickly obvious that the bird was reluctant to flush and the wounded bird was retrieved to hand.

When asked to 'hunt on' the dog worked quickly, efficiently and thoroughly. No further game was found on this run.

Second Run

The dog was asked to work in woodland before moving onto a thick hedgerow. Coming onto point and when asked the dog flushed and was steady to a bird that was unable to be shot.

Third Run

Once again in woodland the dog showed its experience and focused its efforts on areas likely to hold game. It worked hard and located a bird at the edge of the woodland. When asked to flush it was steady to flush shot and fall. The bird flew out of the wood and was shot, falling into cover crop. The dog marked well and the bird was retrieved cleanly and efficiently to hand.

A superbly organised Trial with thanks to, Field Trial Secretary Heather Gray for her hard work and organisation. To Leigh Miller for doing an excellent job as Chief Steward. A huge debt of gratitude is owed to Sean Chamberlain and Upper Helmsley Sporting for allowing us to use this superb Trialling Ground.

A 'quality' team of experienced Guns, ensured the plentiful supply of game was accounted for. Their skill, experience and knowledge contributed significantly to the efficiency and very successful outcome of this trial.

May I also take the opportunity to thank my senior judge, Mr Eddie Kania for his expert advice, encouragement and mentoring, making this Judging appointment a real pleasure. The opportunity to learn from such an experienced Judge was invaluable. I thoroughly enjoyed being part of this extremely successful days rough shooting.

Finally I would like to thank the Hampshire Gundog Society and committee for offering me this Judging Appointment.

Judges

Mr. Eddie Kania (A Panel)

Mr. H. Kirby (B Panel)