

NDSJC 21st & 22nd March '09 Show Report

S. Rudiger

With the SA Showjumping season in full swing, Northern Districts Show Jumping Club held a well supported two day show on March 21st & 22nd. With kind support from the Light Regional Council the club have been fortunate to secure the Kapunda Trotting Track for this and future shows. The new grounds proved successful, with a well managed grass surface proving a good surface to jump on.

Our current dry climate coupled with water restrictions has meant that good quality grass surfaces are becoming few and far between. I am sure horses and riders appreciated the opportunity to compete on such a nice surface. Continued access to such good jumping surfaces can only benefit our sport.

One ring of jumping on Saturday, with junior classes the feature of the programme; saw several promising young junior riders show their aptitude for the sport. Georgie Bezzina and her pony Spot The Difference were in good form, winning the first two classes with quick, clean jump off rounds. Keeping success in the family, Georgie's older brother Sam also had success, winning and placing in the Junior Top Score and running second and third in the Junior Classic on SB Blackjack and Ringleader, behind Paige Jardine on Terrific in 2nd.

Megan Jones has kindly put her support behind junior showjumping in SA. In combination with NDSJC, Megan is sponsoring the new MJET Series, (Megan Jones Eventing Team Series). The MJET series will be held over 3 rounds at 3 separate NDSJC shows.

The first round of the MJET Series was held on Saturday with 3 junior classes counting for points towards the riders final points total. At the end of the 3 shows the junior rider with the highest points tally will receive \$300 worth of MJET merchandise and \$100 cash.

At the completion of the 3 MJET qualifying rounds on Saturday, the MJET leader board is currently headed by Alana Missen. Alana did exceptionally well on her chestnut gelding Harvey Shackleton in the junior classes. To keep up to date with the MJET series check the leader board at www.ndsjc.org.au for current point totals.

Sunday saw perfect weather conditions and the committee were pleasantly surprised with the number of competitors who supported the day. The new grounds had a real buzz and great atmosphere with everyone enjoying the luxury of green grass to park & ride on! Two rings had the smallish committee working flat out, with club president Leanne Bruggemann squeezing in a ride here and there on her own horses!

The main ring Sunday was judged by Mr Brenton Ames and courses were designed by Mr Richard Bruggemann, while Miss Jackie Beshman judged in the second ring.

Jeff Bloomfield had his usual successful day with a win on Pingstar in the D grade, from Adam Beckel on Wallace McGee. Sam Bezzina was again successful in the Young Rider 1.15-1.2m class with a 1st on Fruitloops and a 2nd on SB Blackjack and Katie Clark did a superb job on Philadelphia running 3rd. The day ended with Mandy Gerhardy and her super careful Colour Image winning the D & C grade.

I am always amazed at how willing the showjumping community are to lend a hand to put up a rail here and there or to help pack up at the end of a long weekend. It all puts back into the sport even in a small way.

NDSJC will be holding an absolutely bonanza show on 22nd and 23rd August to kick off the 2009/2010 season. So check www.ndsjc.org.au for show programmes, training day dates, club news & photos.