

Old Surrey & Burstow Games Competition

Junior Novice - 8th May 2011

This was the very first and only opportunity this year for our youngest members to take part in a mounted games competition. The junior novice competition is designed for the newest and least experienced riders to have the opportunity to try out Mounted Games as they work towards developing their skills and moving on into the junior team itself. It is open to any age as long as they have not reached the age of 11 on the 1st January. The riders can be lead but not assisted and any leaders are encouraged not to "help" improve their teams' performance as the judges are watching!



Taking part were Oliver Rainer(6) on Bailey, Rufus Uloth(6) on Harry Potter, Sky Cook(6) riding Kizzy, Amber Ranson(5) on Spritzer and her sister Amelia Ranson (4) on Penny.

With such a young team all were being lead with the exception of the very confident Rufus!

There was a large entry of 11 teams taking part (this is normally limited to 6) so the decision was made not to run heats and finals but to award points from 6 to 1 based on the finishing places in each heat. The random draw meant that we could be competing in a heat of 6 or 5. There were a total of six races which are run with the same equipment and under the same rules as the Junior Competition.



The first race was Bending and the team rode well enough to secure a 4th out of 6. Then came the Bottle race, which was more of a struggle, finishing 5th out of 5. Next was Two Flag with another 4th out of 6 followed by our best performance in Old Sock with a 3rd place out of 6! After this was

Two Mug with another good 4th out of 6 finishing up with a 5th out of 5 in the second Bending race.

It was very clear that all the children had a fantastic time and were very proud of their 9th place finish and posh rosette! I think even the leaders enjoyed themselves and it was great to see so many young Pony Club members taking part.



For us these are the future of Mounted Games so a HUGE congratulations to you all!!! ☺



