

Old Surrey & Burstow Games Competition Seniors & Juniors - 8th May 2011

Today was our team's second opportunity to gain vital experience against real opposition and both our Senior and Junior Teams made improvements in their overall performances. This week our Senior Team was represented by Oliver Shone, Holly Fletcher, Erin Collins, Serena Kullich & Katie Hillier and our Juniors by Daisy Fletcher, Ethan Collins, Katie Hillier, Honor & Nonie Uloth.



The 8 races for the seniors were the same as last time and again there were 12 teams taking part. In the heats we completed Bending in 5th followed by a 4th in Bottle and in Old Sock although we finished 5th we narrowly missed out on 3rd which would have qualified us for a final. Next up was Rope again with a 4th place finish. Although in Stepping Stones, Two Mug, Pony Club Pole & lastly Five Flag we finished in 6th place we succeeded in completing each race without elimination giving us a total of 8 points. Spirits were again high as this was considered great progress for such a new team!

In the afternoon the Juniors were also up against 11 other teams so this was another perfect opportunity to gain valuable experience. The Junior competition, as always, consisted of 7 games with Bending first up which didn't get us off to a great start with a 6th place heat finish. This was followed by Bottle which ended in 4th and then Old Sock also in 4th. Next up was the Tyre Race which consists of riders 1, 2 & 4 at the start finish line and rider 3 at the far change over line. Rider 1 & 2 ride down to the centre line with rider 1 dismounting and climbing through the tyre whilst rider 2 holds their pony, rider 1 re-mounts and the pair head off to the changeover line. Rider 1 then drops out with riders 2 & 3 returning to repeat the process. The team had their best performance of the day finishing the heat in 3rd which for the first time ever qualified them for a final! Up against 5 of the strongest teams we came 5th in the final which gave us two more valuable points! Unfortunately in the remaining three races, Two Mug, Stepping Stones and Five Flag we finished in 6th place but for the Juniors the day will be remembered for making a final before the Senior team and gaining those extra points which overall saw the team finish in 10th place out of 12! Very well done to you all!



It's clear that after a very short time both teams are enjoying their Mounted Games and are already showing signs of improvement as both riders and ponies become more familiar with the games, equipment and the rules!!



