West Waterford Pony Club Area 3 League Sunday 6th Dec

West Waterford Pony Club held the 4th leg of the league on Sunday the 6th Dec. 118 riders took on Ann Waistell well built tracks. The weather again played havoc with the outdoor arena for a second Sunday in a row, so it was back to warm up in the indoor again.

Six riders competed in the 40cm. Emily Kate Robinson from Waterford is the league leader on maximum points (40) from 4 shows. Tipps Katie Madigan is also doing very well in the league and Kellyann Gilleece on snowy. The 60cm is going to go down to the wire with 3 riders on top points in the league. Tipps Kate Conroy, Anna Dowley and Golden Vale's Anna Galvin are all on equal points (40). Avril Hogan (35) and Katie Madigan (30) are close on their heels. Double points are on offer next Saturday which should make for some interesting results. Competitors on equal points will be jumped against the clock in the second round. Good luck to our 4 Tipp ladies in the final.

Thirty riders went to post in the 80cm class and many competitors had double clear rounds. Kate Conroy was the path finder and got the class of to a great start with a double clear round. Having missed the first leg of the league, she still gained 30 points, and with double points on offer next day is still in with a shout. Michael Foley had a good double clear and Michael Mcneel done well also. Four riders are on maximum points (40). They are John Byrne, Amy Finn, Brian Glennon from Nth K. and Gavin Dunne G.V.

90cm - A big field of 31 competitors took on a new track of 9 fences which included a double and treble the first in the series. 13 riders made it to the jump-off, which was one of the best fought rounds of the league so far. Sinead Wall from Waterford was drawn 4th to go against the clock,took great turns to brake the beam in a time of 39.66 which was unbeatable to take 1st place. Tipps Aveen O Neill had a great round 41.53 but an unlucky pole on the floor at the last, kept her out of the rosettes. The Foley Bros and. Kate Quigley had good rounds but a pole on the ground kept them out of the jump-off. Aveen O Neill is still league leader on 22 points and Sean Holohan on 20. With double points next Saturday anything could happen.

Shauna Commins was Tipps sole representative in the 1m.& 1.10meter class. Ann Waistell course designer and judge, revamped the track again for the 17 riders of which 11 went clear. Very fast times were the order of the day. Sean Houlihan in a time of 39.89 took 1st, Kieran Dunne took 2nd and leaves both lads tied on 22 points. Shauna came 5th in a time of 43.87 which leaves her in 2nd place, and Aisling Miklis who did not compete on Sunday, in 3rd place going into next Saturday's final.

Ten riders took on the 1.10m over the same course again. Four made it to the jump-off. Sally McGuire first to go, had a great round in a time of 42.25 which was good enough to give her 1st place and 10pts. Shauna Commins put on an excellent display of jumping but an unfortunate tip at the last fence kept her out of the jump-off. Still leading on 26 points Shauna will give it her all next Saturday forTipp Pony Club.

Ballinamona is the venue for the final next saturday, dec12th. Everyone is welcome to jump on the day, but you must have been at one leg of the league to qualify for final. The league was a huge success so far. Best of luck to everybody and hopefully the weather will be a bit kinder to us. For anybody going to Ballinamona for the first time go to Kilmeaden village, follow the old Cork rd to Waterford , go right at round about , keep going down the dual carriageway till you come to COUSE ROUND ABOUT keep right and Ballinamona is up about half mile on the left.