## Tipperary Pony Club Area 3 Showjumping 29<sup>th</sup> Nov 2009

Tipperary Pony Club was the host for the third leg of the league which took place last Sunday at Belline Estate Eq. Portlaw. We were greeted by driving rain and cold wind when we arrived at the venue. After a week of torrential rain the outdoor arena was too wet for warm up and practise jumps, so everything had to take place inside. So, with a good fire lighting in the gallery and Fiona ready to take entries everything fell into place quickly. Deirdre was in charge of the door for the 40cm & 60cm. She put a system in place for the warm up which worked very well for the day, the job was later taken over by Ann, Willie and lots of other helpers who did trojan work.

The show got off to a great start with 6 competitors, 3 of whom were Tipp ladies. Katie Madigan, Georgina Murray and Kelly-Ann Gilleece who was in her very first competition, all jumped clear rounds in the 40cm. The 60cms had a great entry, with 21 taken on the showjumping track of 16 fences which was jumped as a two phase competition. 18 had double clear rounds which included 6 Tipp pony clubbers. They were Katie Madigan, Averil Hogan, Kate Conroy, Henrietta Born, Anna Dowley and Georgina Murray. Kate Conroy, Anna Dowley (Tipps) and Anna Galvin of the Golden Vale are in joint 1st place on 30 points in the league table.

The weather didn't bother these hardy young people from coming out and jumping. Thirty one competitors jumped in the 80cm class and 23 jumped double clear rounds. Thea Lonergan was the first to represent our club, followed by Kate Conory, Henretta Born, Sinead Kennedy, Charles Croome Carroll, Rachel Phelan, Leah Fox, Michelle McMeel all jumping excellent clear rounds. Five riders are sharing maximum league points for 1st place (30points), one on 27 and Leah Fox on 24 is the best placed for the Tipps in the league.

A new course with a one stride double of 9 fences was put in place for the 90cm which included a jump off. 29 competitors took on the track of which 24 made easy pickings of the course and into the jump off. With 11 riders from our own club in the jump off excitement was high. Thea Lonergan was the first to take on the shortened track and with a clear round the scene was sea keen contest. Clear rounds were again the order of the day and with times changing with every rider, it was going to take a very fast round for a win, which came from Aveen O Neill who set a blistering pace to stop the clock in a time of 34.75, Conor Holohan from Waterford went 2nd in a time 35.00, 3rd Rebekah Collins 35.22( G V), 4th Ciaran Foley 36.81 (Tipp), 5th Gavin Dunne 37.28 (G V,) Linsday Dillion thK. 37.6. Aveen O Neill for Tipp and Conor Houlihan for Waterford are joint league leaders on 20 points. Ciaran Foley on 13 points is next on the league board.

A smaller number of 13 riders took on the meter track with 7 making it trough to the jump off. Aisling Miklis who had a bit of a hiccup in the previous competition set the place alight with Princess Dee when she flew around to stop the clock in a time of 35.25 and took first place, 2nd Jayne Mc Guire 36.75, 3rd Gavin Smiddy 37.41, 4th Shauna Commins 39.15, 5th Sean Houlihan 39.38, 6th Charles Croome Carroll 41.78, Kieran Dunne of G V. is league leader on 14 points. Aisling Miklis and Sean Houlihan are on 12 points.

Eight riders went in the 1.10meter with 3 making it to the jump off. Charles Croome-Carroll on Sienna Belle rode a very clever round, cutting all the corners to finish in a time of 41.53 for 1st lace, 2nd Sally McGuire 56 .60, 3rd Shauna Commins. Shauna is leading the league on 24 point. Well, it was a great day for the Tipperary Pony Club with 3 of our members winning the 3 jump off competitions. Next up is Ballyrafter at 10 O'Clock next Sunday.

Thanks to every one who helped to make the show the success it was. A special thanks to Tom, Denis and Willie who stood out in the rain and cold to park the boxes, well done. Thanks to the Order of Malta who sat there patiently all day but thankfully hadn't' to be called on. Thanks to James Coleman for use of arena and Mary and Tony who keep the place so tidy. Frances our judge who kept the show moving all day, Thank you. Best of luck to all riders next Sunday, looking forward to seeing you all down in Lismore.

105 riders competed on the day Thanks for your support.

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