

We all made a welcome return for the third year running to the excellent venue of Allerton Park near Knaresborough on the 13th/14th June. A record entry of 73 drivers took part which delighted event organiser Ken Walmsley

The pre-novice class was again well supported here, with six people actively competing and a further five drivers going HC. Eventual winner was Terry Bingham who got a good head start in the dressage and a double clear in the cones.

In the Novice pony class it was victory for Birgitta Kronqvist who put up an unassailable performance in the dressage with her new pony Larry to give her the win over Kelly Wilson, despite Kelly having a faster marathon. In the novice horse, Steve Nichols led throughout all three sections with his ever-improving trotter cross, Bob to win the class. He finished the event some 23 penalties ahead of his nearest rival, Carolyn Cunningham.

The open classes saw the usual suspects battling it out, with Gary Brown taking the Open Pony from Jackie Herd and Susan Henry winning the Open Horse. Susan perfectly illustrated the importance of a good dressage test with the best score of the competition on 33 penalties. This allowed her a degree of relaxation on the marathon, although Judy Hilditch came storming through to record the fastest time of the day and nip at her heels to take second place. Susan was also awarded the prize for the lowest overall score of the competition, the only person to finish under the 100 penalty mark on 91.30.

Pony pairs class was the largest of the weekend with twelve competitors. Lynn Winder from Tebay in Cumbria finished in first place, a good dressage and double clear in the cones standing her in good stead to finish in front of George Spencer from Derbyshire.

David Calvert, returning to competition after a break, had an excellent marathon to pull up from third place to head the intermediate horse class from a consistent David Wagstaff-Myers. Nigel Williams continued his dominance of the Intermediate Pony class, his much improved dressage helping him to the win over second placed Sandra Johnson.

The mixed multiple class saw four tandems and two teams competing for the honours. Lynn Howard took an early lead in the dressage with her pair of attractive bay welsh ponies from Rene Schoop. Fastest marathon went to Peter Shannon with his team of black welsh cobs so a shake up in the order left Lynn in first place from club stalwart Pat Cooper who performed a double clear in the cones.

Sponsors for Allerton Park were very generous again this year and several special prizes were on offer. Lorraine Swift won a voucher for £35 kindly donated by CRS Carriages for the fastest double clear in the cones. Birgitta Kronqvist won a prize kindly donated by SMJ Falconry entitling her and a guest to a half-day bird of prey experience and pony pairs driver Tony Mould was awarded the Alan Robson Memorial Trophy for the fastest marathon by a pair of ponies.

Results:

Pre-Novice:	Terry Bingham, Wragby
Novice pony:	Birgitta Kronqvist, York
Novice Horse:	Steve Nichols, Thirsk
Intermediate Pony:	Nigel Williams, Washingborough

Intermediate Horse:	David Calvert, Richmond
Open Pony:	Gary Brown, Chorley
Open Horse:	Susan Henry, Felton
Pairs:	Lynn Winder, Tebay
Tandem/Team	Lynn Howard, Cheshire