



British Equestrian Federation / *British Breeding* Press Release

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Top finals sport ponies all score over 80%

The final of the South Essex Insurance Brokers/*British Breeding* Young Horse Evaluations 2006 pony series 2006 secured top guest slot on the first day of the Sports Pony Studbook's in hand and grading show at the Heart of England Equestrian centre on Saturday 21 October.

In the first pony final of this series, the section having just been introduced this year, the top 4 qualifiers were invited back from the 6 regional qualifying evaluations and showed their paces, in hand, first of all, to evaluators Claire Ballantyne and Celia Clarke.

Horses then entered the main ring to ride a sequence of movements demonstrating paces and transitions which were all executed beautifully by these four year old ponies. The show jumping pony then tackled a course of 90cm fences set out by BSJA's Geoff Glazzard who joined the in hand evaluators for this performance phase.

Top honours this year went to Nicki Parnell's bay dressage pony mare Conchita by Constantin out of Moonlight by Michaelangelo. Ridden by Nicki's daughter Sarah, Conchita's overall score was 85.65%. Conchita also secured an Elite Mare Diploma for her final score.

A very close second was British bred dressage pony Tynycae Sandmartin, by Wurlitzer out of Tynycae Goldfinch by Sarnau Valentine owned by Serena Pincus and bred by Serena and her mother Mrs S Morgan and ridden by Kara Smith with a final score of 85%. Sandmartin was also the winner of the Central Prefix Register (CPR) award for the highest qualifying score held by any horse or pony with a CPR registered prefix in this year's qualifying evaluations.

Third placed and top potential show jumping pony was Nicola Slater's Machno Showtime bred by Merion Jones at the Machno Stud and by the 2005 top sire of performance ponies Carregcoch Bleddyn, out of Machno Syndod by Oerfa Guto with 83.9%.

Said *British Breeding*'s Jan Rogers "we have seen some super ponies today, all of them slowly and carefully improved since the qualifiers which is exactly what we are looking for in this series".

The winning pony's owners will be invited to the *British Breeding* Breeders' Dinner at the Grange City Hotel in London on Saturday 13 January 2007. Tickets are now available for sale and everyone is welcome.

Media Information

Full results available from www.bef.co.uk

Photos from David Wisehall www.wisehall.co.uk or 01543 425060

British Breeding Breeders' Dinner tickets from janrogersequine@aol.com or 07725 332595

South Essex Insurance Brokers www.seib.co.uk or 0845 450 0631.

The South Essex Insurance Brokers/ *British Breeding* Young Horse Evaluations series is now in its fifth year and aims to attract quality four year old potential dressage horses, show jumpers, eventers and sport ponies for evaluation. All finalists, in addition the kudos of having been enrolled and receiving a *British Breeding* Performance Diploma for scores over 70%, will have their performance recorded for the benefit of the equine industry on the National Equine Database, coming soon.

British Breeding, who set up the Young Horse Evaluations series, based the system on a Swedish initiative where a combination of the following serve to indicate horses' potential in competition. To qualify for this final, four year old horses have been evaluated in qualifying rounds for:

- soundness (two veterinary stages – static and dynamic)
- conformation and paces in hand (suitability for the discipline)
- paces under rider (suitability for the discipline)
- jumping either or both loose and under rider
- temperament and trainability

ENDS



Further information

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