

World Class Start & Potential Newsletter Update – March 2007

News

Eventing

There was a 2-day dressage training session with Nick Burton for a number of Potential riders and those entered for Badminton at The Unicorn.

Piggy French won the AI section at Poplar Park with Chicago II. Kitty Boggis has been familiarizing herself over the winter with Coup de Coeur, who led the dressage, but with 4 faults and a steady cross-country finished down the order.

Ruth Edge and Two Thyme who are Badminton bound, won one of the OI sections at Lincoln, whilst Piggy French and Chicago II won the other OI section.

Ruth also dominated the Scottish winter dressage regionals, winning the Biotal Equine Gold Medium Open, Teviot Elementary Open, and Equissage Elementary Freestyle riding Paper Tiger and won the Blue Chip Open Novice on her own Shadowfax.

Lucy Wieggersma riding Shaabrak won the AI section at Gatcombe, with Kitty Boggis and Coup de Coeur finishing in second place.

Show Jumping

At the Rowallan Senior Premier show James Billington won the 1.40m open on Lady Des Hayettes and was third in the Blue Chip B and C qualifier on Insultech IZ Zusi Kiu.

A 2-day squad training session with Bert Romp was held at Solihull Riding Club, with nutritional advice for the riders from Liz Purcell and Spillers discussed equine Nutrition issues and updates.

Dressage

A non foot squad session was held at The Unicorn that included sessions with Georgina Sharples from the E.I.S that focused on Performance Lifestyle, a medical update with Peter Whitehead, a Physiotherapy session with Andy Thomas, Nutritionist advice from Liz Purcell and Sponsorship / Marketing advice from Rebecca Rawson, Wallace PR and Roger Hart, Countrywide Promotions.

Henry Boswell won two elementary classes and a medium class at Addington Manor's pre-winter regional show.

At the Addington winter regionals, Andrew Gould riding Ultra Jazz won the Bailey's Horse Feeds Novice Music class, with Lara Griffiths riding Warlock won the NAF Prix St. George class.

At Myerscough Premier League show, Becky Moody riding High Fashion won both the prix st. george and freestyle classes, whilst Anne-Marie Perry triumphed in the young riders on Forrest Fire.

The newly selected riders received a range of products from Woof Wear as part of their support to the World Class Development programme.

Para Dressage

The first two-day ridden squad session for this year was held at The Unicorn. The theme for this squad session was riding under Championship conditions. The two days focused on the pressures and conditions that a rider might come under when competing at a major Championship. On the first day each rider rode their Kur for National Coach Michele Assouline, to assess the music and choreography. Ken Barnsley, who is a top music producer, gave advice to each rider and from the day took video footage to produce a music test for the riders long listed for the World Championship in July.

Spillers Feeds sent an equine nutritionist to assess each horse and discuss their individual diets for maximum performance. World Class nutritionist, Liz Purcell gave each rider advice on their diet in order to maintain a good level of energy when competing.

In the evening the riders got a first in a series of presentations on the equine athlete with the first session focusing on the horses' physiology system. As the second day of the squad session was given over to a 'Championship' day, the riders met with the coaches to discuss protocol for this 'Championship' day.

Each rider rode the Championship test of his or her grade before a list one judge, and the sports psychologist, Jennie Killilea, selected a few riders that would be placed in various scenarios that would test them as a competitor. The riders warmed up under championships conditions and the selected rider's and horses under went a 'mock' dope test.

Trish Gardiner, who judged the morning class, then went through each test with the rider and the coaches using the test sheets and video feedback.

Andy Thomas and Joyce Sherriff saw each rider and assessed their fitness and made a physiotherapy assessment, which was particularly important for the four new riders on the programme.

The G.B. Team Vet and Farrier, John McEwen and Hayden Price assessed each horse, which included an 'Equinalysis' and force plate assessment.