

Raheen Na Gun Stud, Kilkenny and Colaiste Pobail Osrai Interschools REPORT and RESULTS

A super sunny Bank Holiday Monday made for an excellent day of team jumping across the Interschools divisions at Raheen Na Gun Stud, Kilkenny. The event was kindly joint hosted by the venue and Colaiste Pobail Osrai.

Ten Open teams started off the first rounds jumping, with most teams making it through to the second round on faultless scores. However as Team competitions always tend to go, the second round proved crucial and this was definitely a factor as half the field was dramatically reduced allowing only five teams to complete on a zero score to head into a fast and furious jump off round. Two riders from each team then went forward against the clock.

Newbridge College had both of their teams through, an all girls team from Kilkenny College, Saturdays winners from Ballinamona the Good Council College and finally another locally based team St Kierans, Kilkenny.

Newbridge (Blue) secured a safe and accurate double clear round from both riders Sarah Behan & Hullaballo and Carah Sweeney & Kipporsteelview Jack putting them in an assertive position.

St Kierans answered with a clear round from Diarmuid O'Brein & Genherosa, and were very unlucky when Hugh McKeown & Odyssey slipped up before the final fence leaving them in the bottom two.

Kilkenny College girls tried their best to answer but a pole down from both the riders in the jump off, Molly Hughes-Bravo & HHS Lady and Iseult Cahill & Knocknahanagh Prince, left them finally in third spot, fastest of the faulting teams.

The Good Council who were drawn last of the teams to jump off giving them an advantage. However they took a chance at the last fence which unluckily did not pay off for Jack Ryan & My Little Lady and the team incurred a further faults following a pole being lowered by Oisín Aylward & Coppenagh Oliver Twist - leaving them in 4th place over all.

Overall it was Newbridge(White) team that secured the fastest double clear coming from Caoimhe Sweeney & Rathkenny Snapdragon and Jack Ross & Ballydavid Boy that secured the win for the team on overall time, leaving Newbridge College Teams in both the winners enclosure and runner up slots, making the journey down to the Kilkenny venue very worth while. Chef D'Equipe for both teams praised the teams as they had hoped for a win, so were delighted with a double securing them valuable points leading into the Finals next weekend! They also praised the venue for their running of and event coordination on the day.

BEST TURNED OUT team went to Borris Vocational School - Indian express(Catherine Kavanagh); Tommy Zoom(Claire Kavanagh); Fionn Son(Jerry Skelton); Coppenagh Blitz (James Kavanagh)

Presentation of prizes was given by the Principle of Colaiste Pobail Osrai and also members of the very popular Irish band Seo Linn.

The Open Individuals proved to be a very competitive class with a one round speed competition over a good strong track from course builder Pat Drennan. Clear rounds were hard to come by as fast combinations faulted throughout, with a few riders parting company with their steeds when their Sat Nav's didn't quite match!

Newbridge College again dominated the Open individuals and it came right down to the wire as the winning combination came right at the end of the class from Jack Ross & Ballydavid Souza who cut short all the corners and posted a superb clear round from fellow team mates Sarah Behan & Hullaballo who slotted into second spot, third went to Caragh Sweeney & Kipporsteelview Jack, fourth was Luke Heffernan & Ballymoney Peggy. Diarmuid O'Brien & Genherosa took fifth place, to cut short the Newbridge domination of the top six, with Jack Ross taking the last remaining place on Hullaberry Lady.

The Novice Individuals again meant that clear rounds were the key to success and not necessarily time, when only six riders posted lovely clear rounds in this class to secure themselves ribbons! Quickest of these taking a few tight turns was a very happy Claire Kavanagh on Coppenagh Spirit from Borris Vocational School who broke the Newbridge College run of luck as Rachel Ross & Topaz for Newbridge had to settle for second slot. Third place went to Jessica Halley & Bansha Lady, fourth went to Lucy Ross also riding Topaz, James Kavanagh & Tankardstown Quality Cruise slotted into fifth place, and sixth place went to Caitlin Sherry and the ex racehorse Benjamin Black.

Both Raheen Na Gun Stud and Colaiste Pobail Osrai would like to thank the sponsors Horseware Ireland for the Team and Individual rugs and goody bags, Gain Feeds for the numnahs and Porters Saddlery for the Best Turned out prizes. We would also like to thank our hard working team that made this event a success. we would also like to thank the schools that took part, parents and competitors for the support and trust that you all had a good days jumping!

OPEN Team Results -

- 1st Newbridge College (White)
Rathkenny Snapdragon(Caoimhe Sweeney), Ballymoney Peggy(Luke Heffernan), Primmadonna Girl(Karen Casey) & Ballydavid Boy(Jack Ross)
- 2nd Newbridge College (Blue)
Beyond Persuasion(Rachel Ross), Hullaballo(Sarah Behan), Garnavilla Bob(Emily O'Brien) & Kipporsteelview Jack(Caragh Sweeney)
- 3rd Kilkenny College
Myshall Tom(Jennifer Young), Mayday Cruise(Maria Cairns), HHS Lady(Molly Hughes-Bravo), Knockmanagh Prince(Iseult Cahill)
- 4th Good Council - New Ross
Coppenagh Oliver Twist(Oisin Aylward), Celtic Rebel(Ruairi Aylward), My Little Lady(Jack Ryan), Warship(Neil Dunne)
- 5th St. Kierans - Kilkenny
Odyssey(Hugh McKeown), Outrath Kroontime(Patrick Parle) Genherosa(Diarmuid O'Brien) & Lesiva Ben(Jack McKeown)

OPEN Individual

- 1st Ballydavid Souz (Jack Ross) NEWBRIDGE COLLEGE
- 2nd Hullabaloo (Sarah Behan) NEWBRIDGE COLLEGE
- 3rd Kipporsteelview Jack (Caragh Sweeney) NEWBRIDGE COLLEGE
- 4th Ballymoney Peggy (Luke Heffernan) NEWBRIDGE COLLEGE
- 5th Genherosa (Diarmuid O'Brien) ST KIERANS KILKENNY
- 6th Hullaberry Lady (Jack Ross) NEWBRIDGE COLLEGE

NOVICE Individuals

- 1st Coppenagh Spirit (Claire Kavanagh) BORRIS VOCATIONAL
- 2nd Topaz (Rachel Ross) NEWBRIDGE COLLEGE
- 3rd Bansha Lady (Jessica Halley) FENOR NATIONAL
- 4th Topaz (Lucy Ross) NEWBRIDGE COLLEGE
- 5th Tankardstown Quality Cruise (James Kavanagh) BORRIS VOCATIONAL
- 6th Benjamin Black (Caitlin Sherry) COLAISTE POBAIL OSRAI