



LEVEL 1



L1/2 Trakhener



LEVEL 2



L2 Picnic table



HRV HERO



L1 Seat



LEVEL 3



LEVEL 4A



LEVEL 4B



LEVEL 5

Smythesdale ARC

HRCV HORSE TRIALS

HRCV Horse Trials are well and truly up and running after the hugely successful Smythesdale Adult Riders Club (SARC) Horse Trials, which were held on 30 April at the Woody Yaloak Equestrian Centre (WYEC) just out of Smythesdale. Over 100 entries were received and 91 horses ran on the day that was blessed by the weather gods, with no wind, beautiful sunshine and so many brilliant smiles throughout the day.

The cross country course is what Horse Trials are all about and we have to say that the WYEC course had been prepared to perfection. The small, but mighty crew of the SARC Horse Trials Committee, had given it their all with so many hours put in that most members were set to be divorced! With recent rain, the four creek crossings were running, the going was brilliant and the grass green. This made for a very picturesque course in a setting that is second to none. (Yes we are totally biased!).

Some jumps were moved, some altered and some were new. The five courses, which incorporated over 100 fences on almost maximum distances made use of the hilly terrain, and yes the 'Man from Snowy River' slide was there for the Level 1,2 and 3 riders to enjoy. Most jumps were dressed, thanks to beautiful pot plants kindly loaned by Avalon Nursery in Haddon. The flower / fruit boxes were filled with plastic fruit and others adorned with foliage from various trees around. The course was beautiful to look at and absolutely THE best fun to ride!

Time was hard to get and the combinations that could cover the ground and jump cleanly were rewarded and often climbed the placings after their run. Double clear rounds were achieved by 1 combination in Level 1, 2 in level 2, 3 in level 3, 15 from the two divisions of level 4, and only one in level 5 – Smythesdale's own Jenni Allen!

Linda Lewis put together a brilliant and challenging Showjumping course. It demanded the respect of riders and horses alike and most definitely had to be ridden. Clear rounds were not a given, and had to be earned – which is as it should be in a true test.

The event was again sponsored by Horseland Ballarat. We are so grateful for the ongoing support of our sponsors. Most have been with us for several years and we appreciate their continued contribution to our event. All section winners received a luxurious navy woollen Horseland Trophy rug, suitably embroidered for the event.

A further rug was also embroidered and awarded to the Best Performed Smythesdale ARC rider of the day, which was club stalwart Jenni Allen and her legend of an Arab pony 'Bill' (Shirwill Zantino). Jenni also received a voucher from Fiona Dearing Bit Fitting valued at \$120. Second, third and sometimes fourth place getters were rewarded with a bag of feed from longtime sponsors of SARC- The Haymarket of Ballarat. Not forgetting, the blocks of chocolate handed out for the trip home!

These events take an army to run and we sincerely thank everyone that pitched in and helped us out when we needed it. Special thanks to Rosedale and Gisborne clubs for taking on the first and last cross country jumps to man for the running of the cross country phase – truly appreciated.

The winners of the day were:

Level 1 Danni McKeon and Understudy (OTT)

Level 2 Michelle Pap and Aruriteson (OTT) also Winner of the Off The Track Award

Level 3 Sue Williams and Purple Rain

Level 4A Lynn Moore and Boonderoo Replay

Level 4B Debby Fraumano and Croftcnoc Murray

Level 5 Jenni Allen and Shirwill Zantino also Best Performed SARC Rider

HRV Hero Award for the Best performed Standardbred went to Alison McLaren & Yoshi Dynamite who competed in Level 5

The day shone, not only from the beautiful sunshine but from the smiles on pretty well all the competitors and support crews faces. The vibe of the event was what HRCV is all about – getting together and having fun with our horses and each other.

So many competitors and supporters went out of their way to say thank you for the event, that it really did make all the hard work worthwhile!

Megan O'Rourke – Event Director