

Waveney Water Lions Water Tests June 28th 2015

Judges Report Sections A & B

A great day for tests the dogs and handlers all worked excellently.

All the 'A' dogs had good passes and all got invited to join in on 'B' apart from one because of the age limit.

Doreve Dill Clifflen & Georgia Goffin

In 'B' we had 2 good passes and those that weren't quite ready need to touch up on the controlled swim but all worked extremely well.

All in all the day was a wonderful, friendly event and I'd like to say thank you to all that attended whether to do tests or just help.

Hopefully we will see you all on 27th September 2015

Doreve Dill Clifflen

Judges Report Sections B & D

Tania Matthews

My thanks to the LCGB and Waveney WL for the invitation to co judge the Section B & D entries today along with Dill Clifflen (B) and Nik Knott (D).

I had the pleasure of judging 5 of the 6 entries in Section B (the 6th entrant was to be worked by my mother, so Ben kindly stepped in to judge that test for me, many thanks) we had 2 lovely passes, one from a golden oldie just coming out to have some fun, now the higher level tests are a little too much like hard work for him. He worked really well, a pleasure to watch, and the other was by a lovely young Newfoundland who performed a text book pass.

Those that did not quite make the grade today were caught out by either the underwater retrieve, the controlled swim or in some cases both. These exercises do need a lot of practice, starting small and building them up to the full exercise steadily. With a little more work they should all manage a good pass next time.

I judged Section D with Nik Knott and we only had one entrant, although she worked well, she did not quite put it all together on the day, better luck next time.

My thanks to all the organisers and stewards who work so hard all day long, without your support these test days would not be possible.

Tania Matthews

Judges Report Section C

Helen Matthews

My thanks to the LCGB and Waveney WL for the invitation to co judge the Section C entries today along with Ben Mayhew, it is always a lovely venue both to work and test at.

We had three entries today producing 2 passes and a not quite. All the dogs worked well the dog that did not quite make it today completed three beautiful exercises just deciding that today's stranger was not to his taste. Both the passes worked very enthusiastically, but displayed the required control alongside this. One controlled swim, although it was just good enough to pass, could do with a little more polishing, please keep practicing the swim even as you go forward to train for the higher levels, once they pass an E it can be fun to go back and multi pass at the lower levels so you may still need your controlled swim!

I look forward to seeing all three teams' progress through the levels in the future. They were all a credit both to you and your training.

Helen Matthews

Sections B & C

JUDGE: Ben Mayhew

Water test area was well fenced off and had a very good entry into the water weather conditions were overcast and water was very calm and still.

Section C

3 entries with 2 passes and 1 fail.

All dogs in this section worked well and were ready for this level, such a pity that one of the dogs missed out on the opportunity to move on to the next level.

Section B

1 entry with 1 pass

Very good pass and should progress up to the higher levels quite quickly.

General

Good venue and hospitality was excellent.

Judge's Report Section D

Nik Knott

Thank you to Waveney Water Lions for inviting me to judge section D of their recent LCGB Water Test; it is always a pleasure to judge at Weybread lakes.

To arrive at the standard required to enter a section D test requires hard work and lots of patience. I have previously judged this dog at lower levels and so it was particularly pleasing to see its progression. Overall this was a good attempt at this level with some well worked exercises and considering there had been a change of handler this season the handler should be very pleased with their achievements.

In Exercise 1 the dog worked enthusiastically but sadly the team ran out of time. Also, there were a few handler errors with regards to physical redirection. I suspect that this was down to nerves but it would be worth all handlers at whatever level getting used, early on, to reduce the amount of physical handling they do with their dog. Most dogs will work willingly by your side in the water and so there is very little need to either grab their harness or touch them when setting them up for an exercise. If those new to water training can get into this habit early on then by the time they reach these exercises it will have become second nature.

Exercise 2 was a lovely demonstration of how to exit the boat and Exercise 3 was well set up with no sign of the physical redirection errors of the first exercise. The team finished on a high with a near perfect demonstration of how to swim out to a hidden stranger and return them back to shore.

Well done to both dog and handler for their efforts at this level. Entering these high levels early on in the season can often prove difficult but I feel sure that their next attempt later on will prove successful.

Thanks again to Helen and Dill for a well-run and friendly test, with a great BBQ afterwards! My thanks must also go to Tania Matthews, my co-judge for the day.

Nik Knott, July 2015