

# Draught Tests Hinchingsbrooke Country Park 3rd November 2013

## Judges Report

### Level 5

This is the top level of draught work and therefore it is expected that near perfection is achieved by the entrants and they show off all the hard work that is necessary to gain a pass at this level. I can understand the nerves that take over when entrants walk into the ring and it is noticeable in the way the handlers act although the dogs on who it all relies just act as if its another job to do. Unfortunately those nerve are transmitted to the dog even though they are off the lead if only we could get a barrier to stop it we would have a lot more passes. It was quite noticeable that when the two entrants who achieved passes realised during the test that something was not quite at the standard required they then improved it at the next chance, this showed that they had achieved skill level required.

All entrants worked hard but there are fundamentals that must be achieved and this was lacking in some, the back up for example must be crisp, clean and straight , the dog must react to the commands cleanly.

In those that went forward to the manoeuvre section completed it without problem but I would have liked to see a little more flair and I know if it had not been under test conditions I would have seen it.

Well onto the haul what can I say I have never completed a haul in the dark before but there is a first for everything fortunately all of the tricky parts of the haul were completed before it got dark and it was great walking by the lake in the moonlight. Both dogs and handlers coped easily with any obstacles thrown at them and showed themselves worthy of a pass at this level.

### Level 3

Isn't it strange how when you go down the test levels how the nerve levels reduce as well when it came to the manoeuvring section it was a pleasure to watch how the dogs flowed around the course and took it in their stride. Is it because at this level we have much less to prove and so we are not as stressed and therefore the dogs are more natural.

Everyone had a good test, but and there is always a but there is a lot of work to do before the next level, those backups need a lot of work in most cases the judge does not expect to see a dog being forced back it must move back cleanly without intimidation.

This was a hard haul for some of the dogs but they all came out the other end tired but smiling, it was great to see them all working so well and you all have dogs to be proud of.

You all deserved your passes and worked very hard to get them I look forward to seeing you at Level 4 in the future.

John Tyler  
Judge