

WVRC Open Field Trial held at the Batsford Estate, 16th January 2023

We held our 12 dog open field trial on Monday 16th January 2023 at the Batsford Estate, Moreton-in-Marsh, by the kind invitation of Lord and Lady Dulverton. We are extremely grateful to them for their very generous support, and for all the hard work that head keeper Matthew Farmer and his team contribute to the successful running of the trial.

Thank you to our judges Heather Bradley, Mel Brooks, Brian Chesser and Dave Field, and all the others who worked so hard to make the trial run so smoothly - Chief Steward Iris Wright, judges' stewards Nicola Pointer and Claire Raymond, game carriers Steve Prosser and Katie Powell, Red Flag Dale Pointer, markers Zena Churchward, Gordon Corner, Terry Dukes, and Paul and Sarah Egginton. Official picker up was Killy Pennell.

Catering was provided by Sarah Akehurst. It was a very cold day so competitors and helpers were all grateful for the hot refreshments she provided. Thank you Jean Tidmarsh for the cakes.

Our grateful thanks go to the beaters, who put the birds over the guns excellently, and well done the guns for then putting them on the floor in a very efficient manner. The gallery was impressed!

I'd also like to thank Phil Bruton who gave up his time today to provide commentary and information on the trial as it was proceeding to a small group new to the sport. I hope they have gone away feeling a little more knowledgeable and are inspired to trial themselves in the future.

Thank you very much too to our sponsors Skinners. Their support is very appreciated.

Results:

Winner & Guns' Choice: FTCH Think Twice Zero to Hero, handled by Nathan Laffy
2nd Place: FTCH Berryshot Bernie, handled by Jason Mayhew for Steven Berry
3rd Place: FTCH Brockaghs Forba, handled by Jim Collins
4th Place: Ticefield Ramble on to Elmertown, handled by Angie Townsend.

FTCH Brockaghs Forba, handled by Jim Collins, took home our new cup, the John Jones Memorial Trophy for the best retrieve (Open).

