

HICKSTEAD TEAMS OF 3

31st July, Hickstead

Here are more pictures (courtesy of Ben Hicks) and a further report on this event:

I had a lovely day thanks Faye was a star, the biggest show she had ever been to - had to do the walk of Fame on the horse walk passing marquees, generators, banners, balloons prams, not to mention the golf buggies whizzing to and fro she behaved like a complete pro!

The warm up arena was fine although I would have expected coloured poles and not rustics, they did make us line up in a waiting line of 4 to jump which I was not expecting and I think Faye had probably switched off a little.



It was hard to get her sharp again once in the arena, as so little time - but I can see this is something that we both need to work on! I think Maria and I found the ground quite disappointing; it was very rutty and slippery. We saw quite a few horses slipping over on their bums, and by all accounts studs didn't help much. It seemed to be the more experienced horses/riders who were getting round.

I met a lady at camp last week from another area team and she said exactly the same - in fact she jumped and her horse ended up on its bum - she also said that they would not be taking their teams to Hickstead again and are writing a letter of complaint about the ground.

Anyway I was of course a bit upset all that training the weeks before and time/money, but I have to say it was well worth the experience and just wish I could have done better for the club! I hope that the areas is at Crofton again next year as I am going to do their winter dressage/jumping series so should be well up for the teams next year if picked!!

Chrissy Quilliam & Faye

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