

Axton August 26, 2018

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From Rusty Lacy on Facebook:

Good weather, great traction and 8 passable sections greeted the 30 riders at the 2018 Dead Horse Trials in Axton, Va on August 26th. The trials is held on a a horse farm...Sandy River Equestrian Center...and the last section is very close to where several horses have been laid to rest over the last 30 years. Hence the name...Dead Horse Trials.

With complaints over the past few years of the Axton event becoming one of the tougher CVOTC events, I relinquished layout duties to trialsmaster David Webster and his very competent work crew. The result was a very user friendly set of sections and a group of competitors with smiles on their faces after the 3 loops of 8. The advanced group did 4 loops...they must have been having fun. No one cleaned the entire Trials, although 2 came very close.

The sections included everything from hillsides to gullies to creek beds to rock sections...aka the dead horse section. The lines included novice, intermediate, sportsman, advanced and expert...with vintage B riding intermediate and vintage A riding sportsman. The novice class and the vintage B even rode up a line in many sections after the first loop...just for the challenge. The other classes seemed to be happy with their assigned lines.

We had riders from as far away as Florida and Pennsylvania, and one truck in the parking area had an Alaska plate on it...I think he lives in North Carolina now. We did miss seeing the Hoover's....Garry and Maddie Hoover. Maddie is in Europe somewhere living the great life of trials and Garry was leaving the next day or two to go visit her....maybe next year.

Here are the results....

Novice

- 1 Darris Smith 9
- 2 Drew Howard 35
- 3 Will Salter 45

Intermediate

- 1 Will Walter 1
 - 2 Jeromy Williamson 13
 - 3 Mark Redbone 17
 - 4 Frank Wolff 22
 - 5 Jim Carey 25
 - 6 Kevin Hobbs 37 8 cleans
 - 7 Justin Bova 37 7 cleans
 - 8 Bill Boulch 59
- Brent Brooks Exhibition
Dallas Stephenson Exhibition

Sportsman

- 1 John French 8
- 2 Jack Burton 9
- 3 Brian Roach 16
- 4 Joshua Hendricks 21
- 5 John Hendricks Sr 31

Vintage A Sportsman line

1 Greg Hales 4

Vintage B Intermediate line

1 Gary Heyer 1

2 Jim Ellis 6

3 Scott Porter 20

Advanced

1 Tim Cone 8

2 Steve Billman 11 29 cleans

3 Joe Palrang 11 27 cleans

4 Allan Hensley 19

5 Kevin Bobal 30

Expert

1 Jeff Hensley 6

2 David Webster 9