

Hi Per

We have just finished the first day of the Clwyd two day open at Checkley Wood in Cheshire and Logo is one of eight left in for tomorrow. The dogs only had three retrieves in a walk up day in stubble and stubble turnips.

Logos first retrieve was a short 30m partridge in front in knee deep turnips. He got to the fall so quickly that the live bird didn't have chance to run.

His second was similar but longer about 60m and this time the live bird had moved. He got to the fall and put his nose down to pick but the bird had gone. He quickly hunted around the fall and winded the bird, which flipped up and over him. He caught it in mid air and brought it back.

His third retrieve was more difficult. A partridge had been shot earlier about 120m across a field of deep grass, towards a hedgerow. We weren't given a very good mark but he got the the area quickly , hunted carefully and picked.

Tomorrow we're not in line straight away being no 14 , but we will be doing our best to stay clean. Even without eyewipes and runners a clean dog can win. We will see.

I will let you know.

Day 2

Adding to what happened on day 1.

Logo was one of eight dogs in day 2 and once again the trial was walked up in stubble and knee deep stubble turnips.

He was soon in line for two retrieves in the third round and two partridges were shot on the left. One looked very alive. As we were cross retrieving I was sent about 60m to the end of a game strip and Logo noted the fall of the live bird. He went back out of sight and reappeared quickly with a dead bird and because the birds were close together it was accepted. The other bird was never found.

We were then in line for a long time and had a couple of dry runs at runners, luckily not first dog, as other dogs were put out first dog down on runners. Finally we had a partridge in an open field that had been down for some time behind the line about 120m away and with a bit of handling Logo found and retrieved it.

In the final round of 1 retrieve other good dogs were lost as wounded birds were not found and by the time it was our final retrieve, there were just four of us left.

A partridge was shot off the other end of the line, about 150m away. We were up a hill looking down across the line and I had a good view of the fall. Logo for once didn't mark it and ran a good but not accurate line at first. He flushed a live bird near the fall but ignored it and with two handles I was able to put him behind the bird on the wind and he picked it confidently.

I was amazed to win, having expected a C of M because Logo had done nothing special, just achieving six A retrieves.

All the other dogs had eyewipes or runners so i was literally speechless to be declared the winner. It transpired that Logo was the only clean dog the others all having knocks.

He is very reliable and calm now and I look forward to the championship where with luck he could do well. I am running again tomorrow because it is close and the practice will be helpful. Training days next Friday and Saturday so I will keep him fit and in practice.

Paul