

THE PONY CLUB
NFU MUTUAL
NATIONAL QUIZ 2011 – REPORT

Warwickshire College, Moreton Morrell was the venue for the annual Pony Club NFU Mutual National Quiz, held at the Sports Hall on Sunday, 17th April. The Quiz saw 19 Branch teams and 10 Centre teams compete, including teams from Northern Ireland, England, Wales and Scotland.

The quiz consisted of 8 rounds of questions and topics included The Pony Club, Farming & The Countryside, Equestrian Nations, their Flags and Capital Cities, Horse & Pony Care, Practical Round, Foot, Shoeing & First Aid, Picture Round and Odd One Out/Missing Words which tested the competitors on all aspects of The Pony Club and general knowledge. A Powerpoint display ensured that competitors, parents and spectators alike were able to view the questions as they were read out followed by the answers once the answer sheets were given to the scorers.

With the Team Managers briefed, the competitors settled down and the Quiz got under way by the Quiz Master, Mrs Marilyn Boardman. Once Round 8 was completed the tables were turned on the parents who had to answer a few general knowledge questions whilst waiting for the final scores to be added up. The parents and spectators did exceptionally well by guessing most of the answers.

A lunch break was taken after Round 4 where, at the halfway stage, Hampshire Hunt were in the lead with 105.5 points, closely followed by Moray & Nairn with 99.5 points and Chipping with 95.5. The leading Centre at this point was Mobberley Riding School with 87 points from Naburn Grange with 86 points and Lavant House Stables on 82 points.

Well done to Moray & Nairn for achieving maximum points in Round 8 (Odd One Out/Missing Words) and Western Hunt with full marks in Round 3 (Equestrian Nations, their Flags and Capital Cities).

The standard of knowledge from all quiz competitors was extremely high and Moray & Nairn, who had travelled all the way down from Scotland to compete, took the honours with a brilliant score of 261.5 points having coming 2nd in last year's quiz. Closely followed in 2nd place by Hampshire Hunt with 255.5 points and Chipping 3rd with 238.5 points. A clear victory by Naburn Grange Riding Centre took the 1st place honours with 230 points, Talygarn Equestrian Centre with 209 and Twin Trees Equestrian Centre with 208.5 points.

The display of team mascots were exceptionally good this year with Worcestershire Hunt taking the first place with their toy horses dressed up as William & Kate, which was very appropriate for this year and because the standard was so good a second prize was given to Talygarn Equestrian Centre for their Road Rider Safety Test mascot.

Very special thanks must go to NFU Mutual for sponsoring the National Quiz and providing the lovely rosettes, prizes, sashes & salvers and also the additional prizes of numnahs to both Branch & Centre winners and hat bags to 2nd and 3rd placed teams. Each competitor also received a free kit bag on the day from NFU Mutual which was very much appreciated by all.

Special thanks also go to Angela Craddock and Mary Anderson for devising the quiz questions, Marilyn Boardman for being an excellent quizmaster, my daughter, Jessica and the girls from The Pony Club Office, Lucy Goler, Caroline Pole, Rachel Owen and Emma Holliwell who helped with the scoring and adjudication and Pat Sansome who provided the items for the Practical Round.

Hannah Clack
National Quiz Secretary