

Norwegian Elkhound Notes May 4th

There are no show results this week until Birmingham National on Thursday where the entry is 33, an excellent entry for mid week. Judge Mrs Hazel Fitzgibbon, Group judge Mrs Diana Stewart Ritchie. We are in Pavilion A (grandstand area indoor/outdoor rings.) The show starts at 9am. Our judging time is below.

Ring 6 Saluki (39)38 followed by Greyhound (34)41 not before 10.30am followed by Norwegian Elkhound (34)33 not before 11.30am followed by Cirneco Dell' Etna* (9)8. Good luck and safe travel to everyone.

As we no longer show, it's a long time since I read right through a schedule but the National's schedule was so well laid out, I made time to go through every page in detail. Now obviously I know how much prices have risen and that attempts have been made to reduce costs by, for instance, not having benching but I had a real shock when I compared several other schedules.

I'd had an email recently from someone who now rarely shows these days, who was totally shocked by the cost to enter just one dog in two classes at a show where we don't have CCs, so I decided to compare two shows at random. I'll call them show 1 and show 2 for obvious reasons and will assume first that we have no CCs.

Show 1 benched. Show 2 unbenched .

Show 1.

Breeds with CCs 1st entry £33.00

Breeds without CCs, 1st entry £20.00

Each subsequent entry £6.00

NFC (bench provided) £12.00

Spectator dogs £5.

Pre-paid printed catalogue £7.00:

Online entries single day catalogue download £4.

Caravan pre booked up to a week, £60; one night £15.

Car Parking Free.

So, for comparison One dog entered in 2 classes plus a downloaded catalogue, plus a bench, plus parking and a spectator dog in a breed with no CCs, the cost would be £35.

Show 2 unbenched.

First Entry (with CCs): £31.00

First Entry (without CCs): £17.00

Subsequent entries £6.00

NFC £15.00

Catalogues: £7.00

Catalogue download: £4.00 per day

Parking £6. On the day £12

Spectator dogs £10

Caravan £25 per night; up to 5 days £80

So, for comparison, at show 2, One dog entered in 2 classes plus a downloaded catalogue, no benching plus parking and a spectator dog in a breed with no CCs, the cost would be £43.
(Show 1 was £35)

If we had ccs, show 1 would cost £48 with benching; show 2 would cost £57 without benching.

At first glance it doesn't seem a huge difference but if you start adding 4-5 days camping, the parking if you forget to book in advance, the costs for NFC or spectator dogs and a printed catalogue where is the saving that an unbenched show should be making and passing on to exhibitors? Of course, the judge is an important factor but in the present climate I'm sure people will vote with their feet. With travel costs, meals and possible overnight stays, it's no wonder that entries are dropping

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