

BRITISH YOUNG HORSE CHAMPIONSHIPS 2010

Growing in strength and depth, British-bred horses showcased at Addington for championship titles and generous BEF/British Showjumping-funded bonus prizes for jumping clear every day.

HOYS 2009 Horse and Hound Foxhunter and Grade C champion Sultan V smoothly headed the Old Lodge eight-year-old championship for Bruce Menzies and owners Old Lodge.

"He was keen, so I rehearsed the turn [into the penultimate vertical] and gave it respect" said Bruce, "He's not a speed horse but covers the ground."

Bob Ellis' strong 1.55m track provided distance, scope and tight time questions. Initially, clears were scarce, but six accessed the jump-off as quality emerged.

The penultimate vertical – approached on a looping turn – proved the bogey and regularly fell, but Bruce guided Sultan, who boasts Irco Mena/Voltaire bloodlines, slightly wide.

They weren't headed. John Whitaker and Keeley Durham's Arko son Argento was just 0.20sec behind for second, John ensuring a clear to take the £4,000 bonus, Tom Hudson Tankard for best British-bred stallion and a HOYS seven and eight-year-old finalist place.

Old Lodge were also winners in the Equimat five and six-year-old Stars of the Future as Shane Breen guided the Vigo D'Arsoouilles five-year-old Fahad to an unbeatable target.

Georgie Crumley (nee Strutton) secured the British-bred six-year-old title with a sole round-one clear on Strijder IV, but had to jump-off for a HOYS six-year-old finalist place in extreme conditions as a squally shower engulfed the arena. However the Shearwater Olivier son bred by Ben Maher often works in shallow water on the beach near Georgie's Sussex home, and the unflustered pair jumped clear for HOYS qualification.



Robert Maguire profited with three horses taking HOYS finalist places in the non British-bred six-year-old seven horse jump-off. First ride Elixir St posted a clear for an eventual third spot, while Robert's Grosso Z sired Zidane VIII – bought in January from Robert Bevis and Keith Doyle and ably ridden by Rachael Connor – clinched the top spot. The icing on the cake, however, came with Michelle Rothwell's Indoctro/Ahorn gelding Beckham IV. Coolly calm, Robert snagged the £4,000 bonus prize riding the only six-year-old to remain clear throughout the show.

"I love Zidane! It was huge and he kicked ass!" said an elated Rachael, Lancs based Robert's stable jockey for 18 months.

Also HOYS-bound are Shane Breen (Cor Dela Rossa Z) and Angie Thompson's Zomeroos.

Using her final draw in a 14-horse decider, Pippa Funnell and Billy Stud's Cevin Z gelding Billy Manhattan took the British-bred five-year-old title.

"He's been produced by Emma McGlynn and only came to me three months ago, but he's definitely a showjumper" said Pippa, who shared the bonus, clear-rounds prize with non British-breds Anouk B, Pennie Cornish's Taloubet K daughter, and All American, a Guidam/Libero H gelding ridden by Julie Welles for Laura Kraut.

The non-British five-year-old also jumped-off 14, with Nicole Pavitt and Festiena Van Texelhof bettering sister Louise's target on Brendon Stud's Lupicor son Lupicos.

"She's brave so I nipped inside to a vertical" said Nicole, who acquired the Bentley Van De Heffinck daughter when she remained unsold at a Brightwells/Addington Sale. Lisa

