

When we were breeding our dog Fornjot's Freya in Denmark 2014 and we were watching ESK main competitions, it came to our minds that someday we want to take part of those competitions too. We decide to go this year because we can also take part of Ukk- competition too with our young dog Menja. In that competition can take part only those young dogs which have get UKL1 .

Our host were owner of Menja's father (Bjerndrup's Birk) Elisabeth Heian and Peer Clausen. They have organize our lodgings and practice possibilities advance.

Our hotel was in Billund and in Monday we drove about 1 hour to Torö Huse in Assens where we meet Lars and Anders Christian Nielsen and we can go to theirs practice field nearby sea. Don't want to tell nothing more about practice except Menja ran after birds, no listening, robbed her partners pointing etc.... Young dog was like "stud in spring who get first time on field" (Finnish saying). Couple of days travelling in car and no that normal exercise at all and moving in snowy Finland to middle of spring where was lots of smells, sounds etc and Menja take all happiness of that.

Tuesday was resting day and we were little bit afraid what might happen on competition because how our practice went. In the evening we moved to Vildbjerg where was the "competitions headquarter".

Wednesday morning the "hornplayers" welcoming everybody to competitions and we split five different groups. My group moved nearby highway where we started the competition. Menja was in second round and after few minutes searching start point to partridges and make bird situation with avance. Round was stopped and next couple started. Before lunch Menja search 15min more and was "sekundeering" partners rabbit pointing and respect rabbit which was running. How much dog can change in one day! Before lunchbreak judge told us that Menja get UKL1 prize.

In Thursday were again young dogs competition and 16.00 started competition where the best young dog of those two days was chosen. To get access in that competition you have to get 1st prize in those two days. In competition Menja was searching nice even there was a backwind. Four rounds out and searching getting better all the time, but no birds no prize. After that regular competition started that race of best young dog of those two days. There were nine dogs and round was max 2min and better dog can continue. Menja was searching still great and got to semifinals where she lost to the dog which won the whole race. Menja was third and race winner was Senjas Uma-Kill Bill and Kristian Frökjer

In the evening was gala dinner in Vildbjerg where after the meal and many skååls dogs got their prizes. Menja was the second best young female dog in those main competitions and get very nice porcelain dog figure which can't take out of country so we left that with our host.

In Friday UKK- competition 16 dogs take part. Round was 8min long. I got advice that try to make Menja search fine as possible, correct to wind etc. Our number was 16 and that was no good for Menja, because we move on in the field in one group and Menja get more excited after all the waiting time. When I released Menja, search was very speedy, but too far. And she didn't found any bird so she went more more far and to wrong field so she couldn't continue anymore. Winner was Bjergager's Tage and Aksel Spangsberg.

After all I recommend all to go Denmark to competitions. Competition model is nearly the same like ours in Finland. Of course in spring shooting is by startpistol. Maybe more we moved in field in one group and not moving cars all the time beside the field. It is more important what happens before dog finds the birds: How dog move it's feet, "backline, how the head is carried, how turn in wind, how move tail etc. "Birdjob" demands were more easy than in Finland: You can get first prize in young class even your dog run after birds 50m or if judge thinks that "birdjob" was inside hunting range and birds flew away without dog do anything, they put dog sitting down and judge shoot in the air and if dog doesn't move, it can still get first prize. Same in open class. In open class dog must stop immediately when birds fly and can't even go the place where birds rise up. We make our "birdjob" by Finnish style and we get praises of that. One of my co- competitioner make his "birdjob" in bridge over the highway and big trucks goes below at same time!

Young dogs level was very high in those competitions. Especially in search there was very fast dogs and the "searching pattern" was very regular and I didn't see any "bad" dog in that week. After I discuss with one of breeder he told me that in Denmark breeders want to make dogs which are fast and get good style.

In Denmark those competitions were very social events. Everyday was lunchbreak in hunting cabin where was those "smörgåsar". During the break there was many "skååls" and sometimes we don't know why. There was many delicious baked goods on the table and we "skååls" again. In dinner in the Thursday evening were about 130 persons and food was excellent. During the "prize giving" we "skååls" many times and end of evening the party was eventful.

Especially we want to bring it up that 82 years old lady Johanne Hauge who was in competition in both two days and no complaints at all. She might get a new puppy too!

Many thanks to Lars and Anders Christian Nielsen who organize ours great practice areas. And that "neighbour homemade rhum" was quite good... And special thanks to Elisabeth and Peer: We has never met so kind people like you!

Kari + Menja +"background" group

