

Phone : (058) 68122

Ballynahemery,
Cappagh,
Co. Waterford.

4/12/89

Dear Bob

Many thanks for your letters and I'm extremely sorry for my procrastination. I'm delighted with your invitation and look forward to seeing your trials. I'm also to judge trials in Norway next Spring from skis, I'm not sure which I worse on skis or horses, I'm looking forward to the challenges and the bruises!!

Please send me particulars of where you want to send the puppy and what immunisation requirements they have in that state. She is shep'ing up nicely and hope she'll give you alot of pleasure.

I had a most enjoyable time in Scotland and Norway this August. The beauty of the Norwegian Mountains has to be seen to be believed - they have

quite a good population of Willow Grouse, which are very like our Red Grouse but they appear to stay for the dog much better than the Red Grouse. Their Rules are unique in that the only grouse fault is chasing game and even then they are allowed ten meters grace, passing game is not an eliminating fault. They have some good dog mainly English setters - their Irish Setters are not as good as ours and the American influence doesn't seem to have improved matters. The Norwegian Irish Setter Club are presently visiting all European countries trying to find blood to improve their stock and I had some Representatives visit my kennels some days ago and we passed a most enjoyable day. I was "trying" to shoot Sika Grouse in Scotland at the end of October for a week - a very humbling experience - lots of empty shells and very few birds.

My

They were like Rockets whizzing past my ears. The shooting season here is in full swing - we have a nice few woodcock presently but pheasants and snipe are very scarce. I hope the snipe improve as they are my favourite game bird but shooting here depends largely on the weather.

The "Hailstone" dog you asked about is by W. Garryboy x Judy, my old F.T. cat. bitch who passed away unfortunately last Spring. He's a big dog, very workman like with good style and intensity about game but a little heavy in his gallop. He won alot very quickly and is showing himself to be a very good sire. He was born the same month as Jerry.

Talk to you soon.

Regards.

Ray.

