

Under-25s jump to ribbons

A French rider leads the way, while Greta Mason leaps into the spotlight with the national title

THE top three riders in the British Horse Feeds under-25 all finished on their dressage score.

France's Héloïse le Guern put in smooth, assured jumping performances on Benedicte and Philippe le Guern's lovely grey gelding, Canakine Du Sudre Z, to rise from fourth after dressage to win.

Greta Mason, 24, took the national title in second on her partner of 10 years, Sarah Winfrey's Cooley For Sure, moving up from eighth after dressage.

"I came hoping to be competitive, but there's a lot of good riders here and I wasn't

"He makes a big course feel like a BE100"

GRETA MASON

sure how I'd fare," she said. "All I could do was hope I did my best.

"He's an absolute machine across country. It's a big thing for me to go round these tracks, as I've never done it before and he makes it feel like a BE100."

Greta is based with Rodney Powell and Alex Franklin, training



"All I could do was hope I did my best": Greta Mason takes second in the under-25 class and claims the British national title with her partner of 10 years, Cooley For Sure

BRITISH HORSE FEEDS UNDER-25 CCI4*-L

- 1st Héloïse le Guern (FRA) on Canakine Du Sudre Z
- 2nd Greta Mason (GBR) on Cooley For Sure
- 3rd Heidi Coy (GBR) on Halenza

with Rodney for jumping and Alex on the flat.

Heidi Coy was third on Halenza and ninth on Russal Z, the little grey mare who was second in this class at Bicton last year and who broke a pin at the double of white gates across country this time.

"Obviously after a long day yesterday, you never know how they're going to jump, but the atmosphere lifts Halenza and she rises to the occasion with a bit of pressure on her," said Heidi.

Phoebe Locke led after the cross-country, but slipped to fourth place with one down

on Bellagio Delcylange.

"I'm basically going round with one leg, as I did the ACL [anterior cruciate ligament] in my right knee last November and it's painful. I need reconstructive surgery, but this has always been the aim so I wanted to get this out the way first. I'm having an operation on Monday," said Phoebe, who demonstrated great determination and stickability when she jumped three elements of the final water with no stirrups.

Alex Holman, 25, was emotional after leading the dressage with Carrick Diamond Bard – "It doesn't happen to

people like me" – and rode with maturity across country to bring the 10-year-old home with 2.4 time-faults. Two fences down on Sunday left them fifth.

Two riders fell at the Equine America UK Bedstead table (fence 17) in this class, including Ailsa Wates (Woodlands Persuasion), who spent the night in hospital but was reported to be feeling well on Sunday. Harry Mutch, sixth after dressage, fell off when he ended up close to the hedge oxer which was the middle element of the Suregrov Kidney Ponds (fence 11abc) and HD Bronze landed steeply, tipping his jockey off.