

TUX NEW ZEALAND YARDING CHALLENGE**HEAT @ Kaitaia NORTHLAND****Date: 15-16 November 2024****FINAL RESULTS****JUDGE: Nigel Sinton, King Country**

OPEN	COMPETITOR	DOG	POINTS
1st	Leo Jecentho	Zap	96
2nd	Rhys Dackers	Shade	94
3rd	Leo Jecentho	Cloud	93.5
4th	Tony Comins	Hope	92.5
5th	Murray Child	Bruce	91.5
6th	John Foss	Gem	89.5
7th	Laura Geering	Ella	89
8th	Dave Schaw	Trump	88.5
9th	Peter Campbell	Pace	87
10th	Tony Comins	Dave	86
11th	Grant Smith	Lad	66.5
12th	Kauri Warmington	King	55
MAIDEN			
1st	Rob Scrafft	Nero	84
2nd	Ron Kitchin	Zoi	59
3rd	Jack Casey	Elle	

A wonderful trial held at the Kaitaia Showgrounds with ex-Northlander Leo Jecentho taking out 'the double' – winning both heading and handy dog events. At the time of writing this, Leo had already qualified the maximum number of dogs for the North Island yarding runoff so Northland competitors Rhys Dackers (2nd with Shade) and Tony Comins (4th with Hope) will represent Northland at Taupo in January 2025.

The Friday presented testing conditions with rain and cold, however this cleared later in the afternoon and also for Saturday. The sheep were a credit to Colin Jay and his team who had spent days pre-working them. Everyone was given a chance, there were very few re-runs. Only a handful of runs did not make it to the pen, with 60% of runs penning and a further 20% of runs making it to the pen but then retiring. The sheep generally worked really well, however would punish any mistakes by the competitor and/or the dog by just squirting past a little and thus losing valuable points.

The inaugural Merv Cameron Memorial Trophy was won by Mervs 'home' club of Mangonui. Their team was Rob Scrafft (with Nero) and Colin Jay (with Grate). This was Robs first ever dog trial and Mangonui had four maiden competitors representing them this year! The Bay of Islands team came second and Tangowahine came third.

Many thanks to Colin Jay and the Mangonui team, the many others who came along to help, to the judge Nigel Sinton, to all the sponsors – Tux Nestlé Purina, Mangonui Transport and Landcorp Rangiputa in particular – and to everyone who stayed to help clean up.

See you all next year at the grandstand!