

rather back the next day to collect him. He is an amazing jumper and brave with it," said Tom.

Dressage leaders Laura Collett and OBOS Cooley slipped out of contention after the Irish-bred hit the first fence in the showjumping, which proved straightforward for these accomplished five-year-olds despite its twists and turns. Just 15 from 46 faulted in this phase.

Ruth Edge was one of nine rueing "too fast" cross-country time-penalties. Just three pairs, all with refusals, were over the time.



Ruth led after the first two phases on the Dutch-bred Basco (Uranien-Goodtimes) — third in the four-year-olds last year — but was 3sec too fast to end up fourth.

"I have never, ever had penalties for going too fast," said Ruth. "Unless you know the course, it does make it a bit of a lottery —

but the horse was wonderful."

Ruth was also 10th with Blacklaw Thymelord (Dramiro-Broadsword), the highest-placed British-bred horse in this class.

Ruth's loss was Brook Staples' gain and the Australian — another to feature regularly in these finals — took second with Zoe Warren's Doonaveeragh O Six (Creevagh Ferro-Ballinvella), last year's four-year-old champion. Brook was concerned about going too fast, but stayed on his dressage score.

"As he has done five novices and this is a flat and open BE100, it did occur to me that we could be too quick — it was possibly just luck that we weren't," said Brook.

Brook was also third in the four-year-old class with Doonaveeragh Dot Corn, who has the same owner and breeder and is by the same stallion, but out of a Diamond Lad mare.

"I've had three by the sire and all are really nice horses," he said.

Emily Llewellyn and her Dutch-bred stallion Bueno Uno (Numero Uno-Riverman) stood third.

BYEH winner triumphs again
ALTHOUGH showjumping proved more influential for some "lairy" four-year-olds, the top eight all

finished on their dressage scores with just 2.5pen dividing them. Last month's Burghley young event horse winner Cekatinka (King Kolibri-Julio Mariner XX), with Rosalind Canter in the saddle, gained the edge to win again.

"She is a wonderful mover and has so far been extremely straightforward," said Rosalind.

Owned by Joanne Pullan, the mare was found by Judy Bradwell and was bred by Dutch vet Jan Greve, who also bred Bojangles.

Alex Postolowsky and Prima Donna IV, by former grand prix dressage stallion Donnersong, took second and best British-bred. Her owner-breeder Melanie Harris won the Sport Horse Breeding of Great Britain (SHB(GB)) trophy for the top horse by one of their approved stallions.

Another SHB(GB) stallion is the now advanced event stallion Take It 2 The Limit, who was third in these championships as a five-year-old with Leslie Law. Two progeny finished fourth (Hartpury Take It 2 The Top) and seventh (Hartpury Sky is the Limit). **H&H**

Results

5-yr. — 1, Belco (T How) 27.3,0.0=27.3; 2, Doonaveeragh O Six (B Staples) 28.8,0.0=28.8; 3, Bueno Uno (E Llewellyn) 29.5,0.0=29.5. **4-yr.** — 1, Cekatinka (R Canter) 28.5,0.0=28.5; 2, Prima Donna IV (A Postolowsky) 28.8,0.0=28.8; 3, Doonaveeragh Dot Corn (B Staples) 30.0,0.0=30.



Cekatinka completes a clean sweep for Dutch-breds by taking the four-year-olds under Rosalind Canter