

EAST

By Sarah Jenkins

DESPITE a 6hr journey to reach **Sheepgate**, Lincs (6-7 May), from her Shropshire base following a pile-up, Sundancer II showed relaxation belying his five years. He topped the novice 38 qualifier with 73.87% for Tor Smith.

Amanda Wilson bought the 17.2hh gelding by San Remo at Brightwells auction in 2010 for Tor to ride. He showed off his huge movement to come second in the following day's Moloh (Badminton) young horse qualifier, before negotiating another novice 38 qualifier, winning with 74.52%.

"That was his best test — really fluid," said Tor, who trains with Serena Pincus. "Because of his size, the movements come up quite quickly and the challenge is to keep him balanced, particularly in the downward transitions.

EAST: Tor Smith and Sundancer II pull off their 'best test'



"We've worked hard on getting him through and over his back without asking too much of him while he's still green. He tries so hard, but will take another year to mature."