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Fox-Pitt reclaims the lead at Burghley as he goes for his sixth title

By SPORTSMAIL REPORTER

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Great Britain's William Fox-Pitt reclaimed the lead after day three of the Burghley Horse Trials.

Fox-Pitt, chasing a record sixth Burghley title, lost first place to Germany's Simone Deitermann's on Friday but the newly-crowned world number one returned to the top of the leaderboard following Saturday's cross country.

Riding Parklane Hawk, Fox-Pitt leads on a score of 39.7, with New Zealand duo Andrew Nicholson - on Avebury - and Caroline Powell, the defending champion, riding Lenamore, in second and third place, respectively.

The in-form Nicholson also holds fifth spot with Nereo, just behind Mary King, who lost top spot on Friday in the HSBC Rankings to Fox-Pitt, and Kings Temptress.

Just 3.7 penalties now separate the top four heading into Sunday's showjumping.

Overnight leader Deitermann was eliminated after a fall from Free Easy NRW.

Fox-Pitt, who is also in ninth spot with Neuf Des Coeurs, said: 'It was a big attacking track this year and we all knew we had our work cut out.'

'Parklane Hawk is a horse I rate highly but you never know and it is always a relief to come home clear. And he came home full of running and is one who is very exciting for the future.'

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Out in front: William Fox-Pitt on board Parklane Hawk leads the way at the Burghley Horse Trials

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