

British Carriagedriving



OFFICIAL NEWS

Council meeting

The date for the next meeting of the British Carriagedriving Council is Wednesday 14 January, 2015.

Looking for a Christmas gift?

Have you considered giving a British Carriagedriving membership as a Christmas present? We are happy to process memberships in December and send membership cards early, so that these can be given as Christmas gifts. Yearbooks will be sent as soon as they are available. Please contact the BC office if you wish to give a gift that lasts all year.

Membership renewals

It's the time of year again when annual subscriptions are due for renewal. If, over the festive period the form has been misplaced (it was sent with your December Office News), you can print one from the website or join online. Alternatively, you can make a direct bank payment. A BACS payment means that British Carriagedriving receives the full amount of your subscription without a deduction for the credit card fee. Did you know that almost £5 of a full membership and just over £2 of an associate membership goes to the credit card company? Multiply this by the number of members and it comes to a significant sum of money annually.

Membership cards will be sent with the yearbooks before the end of January. Please do

not phone the office before the end of January unless confirmation of insurance cover is urgently required for new members. Existing members are insured until 31 January, 2015 as long as the renewal is paid by this deadline.

Training clinics

For 2015 club clinics have been organised in the north and south for technical delegates. It is recognised that many people in clubs do more than one job, so courses will be run in alternate years. In 2016 clinics will be organised for judges and course designers.

The national training clinic takes place on 1 March, 2015. This will be a combined clinic for national officials.

On 27/28 February, there will be an FEI Joint Clinic for judges, technical delegates and course designers. All national officials are invited to attend as observers.

Booking forms should be returned to the British Carriagedriving office at least two weeks before the clinic you plan to attend. These were sent with your December Office News or can be downloaded from the BC website. Alternatively, online bookings are also available.

FEI Combined Conference

- Date: Friday 27 and Saturday 28 February 2015
- Trainers: Judges: Mark Wenten (BEL), TD: Philip Bateman (GBR), CD: Wolfgang Assendorf (GER)
- Venue: Unicorn Trust, Netherswell, Stow on the Wold, Gloucestershire, GL54 1JZ

- Times: 9:0am for 9:30 am-5pm
- Cost: 125 Euros for delegates, £65 for observers for two days

National Combined Conference

- Date: Sunday 1 March 2015
- Trainers: Judges: Mark Wenten (BEL), TD: Philip Bateman (GBR), CD: Wolfgang Assendorf (GER)
- Venue: Unicorn Trust, Netherswell, Stow on the Wold, Gloucestershire, GL54 1JZ
- Times: 9:00am for 9:30am-3pm
- Cost: £30 inc lunch, tea and biscuits

North Club Technical Delegates

- Date: Sunday 15 March 2015
- Trainer: Philip Bateman
- Venue: The Rheged Centre, Redhills, Penrith, Cumbria, CA11 0DQ
- Times: 10am for 10.30am – approx finish 4pm
- Cost: £25 to include tea/coffee and biscuits and soup and sandwiches for lunch

South Club Technical Delegates

- Date: Sunday 22 March 2015
- Trainer: Ian Douglas
- Venue: Holiday Inn, Reading-South M4, Jct.11, Basingstoke Road 500, Reading, RG2 0SL
- Times: 10.30am for 11.00am – approx finish 4pm
- Cost: £25 to include tea/coffee and biscuits and soup and sandwiches for lunch

EVENTS

Events calendar

A list of 2015 events is now published on the British Carriagedriving website. Schedules will be printed in the yearbook and will be available online in due course.



New rules

At the time of going to press, the FEI has not yet confirmed the rule changes they will implement following their General Assembly on 14 December. A summary of the rule changes for 2015 will be published in the yearbook. One of the main ones for the attention of BC members is the need to wear a back/body protector on the marathon from 1/1/15 at all national novice, regional or national events.

Advanced Horse Pairs National Championships

Due to the timing of the FEI World Championships for Horse Pairs in 2015, it will not be possible to hold this championship at Cirencester. Raehills will therefore be the venue for the Advanced Horse Pairs National Championship in 2015. This is the latest possible event to give drivers the greatest opportunity to qualify as Lowther is running with a different format. There will still be an advanced horse pairs class at Cirencester, which will be a qualifying event for the 2016 National Championships.

Transfer section

To avoid confusion on the marathon, event organisers have agreed to have a separate start and finish for the transfer section, which reverts to the system used for the old walk section. There will be an allocated start time for the transfer as penalties can be accrued if drivers are over the time allowed.

Dressage test change

Following the conference, the FEI announced a change to the dressage tests being used in 2015. After considerable discussion, the Judges Committee recommended to council that FEI Test 11 is adopted for the pony fours at national level too as many feel that it flows better than 8c and is not more difficult to drive. This means that horse and pony fours will now drive the same test.

The FEI has also renumbered their tests using the star system so please take care with the test you learn for 2015. The British Carriagedriving Yearbook will list the test numbers in both forms for 2015.



FEI 2* events

Hopetoun and Sandringham will again run FEI 2* classes in 2015. This will give British drivers an opportunity to gain a qualifying score as part of their World Championship selection process and allow others to gain valuable experience of international competition. The Hopetoun event will also run national classes for advanced competitors which removes the need to pay for FEI horse and driver registration, however anyone in any of the selection classes must enter the FEI 2* class. The advanced national class and FEI 2* class will be amalgamated for the purposes of National Championship qualification and Driver of the Year points.

Start fees

Council has agreed that there will be a change to start fee rates in 2015. To reduce the disparity between the rate paid by singles and fours, £5 will be added to the single rate and a £10 reduction applied to the Fours.

At our two 2* international events, any British Carriagedriving members, who are eligible to qualify for the National Championships, are required to pay a start fee. This applies irrespective of the nationality of the driver.

Prohibited substances list

Remember that the anti-doping strategy BEFAR is administered by the British Equestrian Federation and competitors to be tested are drawn at random. You are as likely to get tested in the novice class as the advanced!

The FEI Clean Sport website (www.feicleansport.org) lists all the prohibited substances for ease of reference as does the British Carriagedriving website under the information heading.

INTERNATIONAL 2015 FEI World Driving Championships for Young Horses

The FEI has approved the first FEI World Driving Championships for Young Horses of five, six and seven years-old in 2015 and

have now opened bids to secure a venue. Approached by National Federations and Breeding Associations, coupled with the development of the discipline, the Driving Technical Committee felt that it was the right time to recognise the development of young driving horses.

The FEI World Driving Championships for Young Horses will consist of a dressage test and a cones Course for the five year old horses, a dressage test and a combined marathon course for the six and seven year old horses. The new driving championship rules are available on www.FEI.org.

Selection events

Selection events for the forthcoming championships for all classes are listed on the British Carriagedriving website www.britishcarriagedriving.co.uk.

GENERAL

Reem Acra Best Athlete Award 2014

The FEI has announced the shortlist for the Reem Acra Best Athlete Award 2014 which includes one of our own members, Boyd Exell.

The FEI says: "After a year of outstanding sporting achievements from our athletes across all disciplines, it was an especially difficult task to create a shortlist of only four athletes. The public nomination process highlighted a wide range of athletes from which the following four were selected to go through to the judges' vote: Boyd Exell (AUS) for driving, Daniel Deusser (GER) and Jeroen Dubbeldam (NED) for show jumping and Joanne Eccles (GBR) for vaulting.

"Since winning his first driving competition aged 16, Boyd has gone on to dominate the discipline of driving in a manner never before seen. His 2014 win at the FEI World Cup™ Driving Final means he has now won a record five times. Success in Normandy at the Alltech FEI World Equestrian™ Games 2014 means he is now World Champion for the third consecutive time."

*Opposite page: Matt Were at Sandringham 2014
This page: Boyd Exell is one of those shortlisted for the Reem Acra Best Athlete Award 2014*



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