

British Carriagedriving

OFFICIAL NEWS

Council Meeting

The date for the next meeting of the British Carriagedriving Council will be Monday 19 June.

Royal Award for Philip Bateman

FEI Technical Delegate Philip Bateman was presented with the prestigious Geoffrey Cross Memorial Trophy by Her Majesty the Queen at the conclusion of the Royal Windsor Horse Show last weekend. This was in recognition of his commitment, dedication and services to the horse show over the last 32 years. Philip has been involved in the Royal Windsor Horse Show since 1986, first as Assistant Technical Delegate and as FEI Technical Delegate since 1998.

The award remembers Geoffrey Cross who founded the show in 1943 and retired from his role in the organisation after 50 years' service in 1992.

Philip is one of the highest Level (4) TDs and has officiated at many international driving events including World and European Championships. He has served on the FEI Rules Committee and been instrumental in writing the FEI Rule Book as well as serving on the Council of BC for nine years and continues to run Sandringham Horse Driving Trials.

Philip was delighted to receive the silver plate from Her Majesty during the prize-giving ceremony on Sunday and very much appreciated this royal award. He said: "This award came as a complete and utter surprise to me. I was standing beside the Queen in the



Philip Bateman receives the Geoffrey Cross Memorial Trophy from HM The Queen at Royal Windsor Horse Show

Photo: Rinaldo de Craen

main arena as she made the show jumping presentation of the Rolex Award when the Chairman suddenly asked me to hand him my radio and papers. When Her Majesty The Queen spoke to me and made the presentation I was totally flabbergasted".

Fenix and Howden Drivers of the Year

In the event of an equality of points for Champion or Reserve Champion, the better marathon score at the National Championships will decide the winner. Should only one of the drivers with the tied score compete, they will be deemed to be the winner.

At all events where points are awarded, a competitor must complete the competition without elimination or retirement to qualify

for points and must be resident in the UK or Ireland.

Presentations to the Driver of the Year in each class and the runners up will be made at the National Championships.

EVENTS

Event Survey

After each event, don't forget to send your views via Survey Monkey. The survey is designed to be quick and easy to complete and is applicable to drivers, grooms, volunteers or spectators.

The survey is straightforward to complete so please, send your views whether they are positive or negative, to help improve the experience for everyone at <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/785LW3Y>.

Worshipful Company of Saddlers Prizes

The Worshipful Company of Saddlers will once again very generously present a hand stitched English leather headcollar to the para-equestrian driver and young driver (as stipulated for BC Young Members) with the lowest overall score at each National event (irrespective of the class entered). If the driver with the lowest overall score is already in receipt of a Saddlers' prize in 2017, the headcollar for that event will be awarded to the next eligible driver. Multiple prizes will only be awarded if there are no eligible drivers not yet in receipt of a Saddlers' prize at that event.

In addition, at the National Championships, they present a set of leather reins to each Intermediate Champion



Photo: Amy Mundell

Daniel Naprous, seen here at Catton, was one of those who represented GBR in the CAIO 4* competition at RWHS

and a saddlery voucher to the British Carriagedriving Young Driver with the lowest overall score.

Allerton Regional 17-18 June

Closing Date for Entries – Friday 2 June

This popular Regional event offers a full range of classes. The marathon route runs through the picturesque estate and around the beautiful lakes over parkland, field margins and tracks. Allerton has an amazing water obstacle which crosses onto an island.

There will be a catering van on-site for the duration of the event and a meal and party in the marquee on Saturday night for all competitors and volunteers.

Sandringham National and FEI 2* 29 June – 2 July

Closing Date for Entries – Friday 9 June

If you are a British driver entering the FEI classes at Sandringham, remember to send your entry on the normal BC entry form. There are FEI classes at 1* and 2* level. Young Drivers should pay particular attention to their own schedule and rules on pages 66 and 67 of the BC Yearbook.

The marathon route wends its way around the glorious Sandringham estate, over tracks, parkland and farmland with eight obstacles including two with water. Please note that Young Drivers who are not entering the National event will only drive Section B with six obstacles.

There will be trade stands open all day and catering offers hot snacks and a licensed bar with a disco on Saturday night.

This year, apart from the driving trials, the Coaching Club will be meeting on Friday and collecting in the main arena around 1pm. They will participate in a drive of their road coaches and carriages around the estate.

Other events taking place include the Young Drivers Championships and, on Saturday and Sunday, there will be an AIAT d'Attelage event. Further details of this can be found at www.aiat-driving.net/en

Ashfields National 14 – 16 July

Closing Date for Entries – Friday 30 June

Ashfields is always a popular venue with a marathon route which runs over undulating ground, fields and farm tracks with 8 obstacles which are all in relatively close proximity and within walking distance of the stabling field.

You will be well looked after with evening meals available and hot snacks served during the day while a licensed bar will be open throughout the event. All sponsors, competitors, volunteers and officials are invited to the Pimms reception on Friday evening in the club house. This is also the venue for the Saturday evening entertainment where a meal which will be followed by a disco.

BYD Easter Camp

The camp took place on 15-17 April at the Unicorn Trust Equestrian Centre in Gloucestershire. The training started with sessions for the Advanced Young Drivers, coached by Anna Grayston, who hworked her magic with everyone benefitting greatly from the experience.

The AYDs had their obstacle lessons on the final afternoon as the British Young Drivers arrived. Their programme started with Katy Stewart's fitness session which focussed on driver fitness in addition to the fitness of the horses and ponies.

A busy afternoon followed where participants were tasked with learning the parts of the harness followed by a team competition to see who could put the harness back together in the quickest time which offered a fun way of learning about the harness and the importance of each individual part.

This year the British Young Drivers National Championships will be held at Sandringham. This involves a horse inspection and with many of the drivers having never participated in an inspection before, a practice was considered to be a good idea. Ellie Wallace kindly lent her lovely pony to help demonstrate



Photo: Emily Viller

British Young Drivers at Easter Camp

what an inspection entailed as well as how to do it well and how not to do it!

Baileys Horse Feeds, a long-time sponsor for the Young Drivers, attended the camp and discussed the importance of nutrition. Drivers were also given the chance to label the parts of the horses' digestive system.

That evening it was time for all the juniors to come together for dinner (cooked by the amazing Fran). Crossover day is great as it is one of the only occasions where all juniors get to spend time together, 48 drivers; parents and coaches had dinner together that evening!

After dinner games were played in the arena and included an assault course with the obstacles and stuck in the mud.

Lessons began early the following morning with coaches Sarah Jane Williams, Sara Howe, and Sarah Garnett focussing on dressage with cone driving in the afternoon. In the evening, chaos reigned at the Unicorn Trust as the annual BYD Easter egg hunt commenced.

The final day featured a world cup style competition which rounded off another highly successful and enjoyable Young Drivers' Easter Camp.

INTERNATIONAL

Progression to Foreign International Events

At their last meeting, Council reviewed the criteria for Progression to International Competition (Annex 16 4.11). It was agreed to revise the existing requirements to ensure drivers complete 2 National events and one 2* event or 2x 2* events. This will be added to the Rule Book in 2018 and used as the basis for decisions in 2017.



Photo: Amy Mundell

Wilf Bowman Ripley at Catton. Wilf was among the GBR contingent at Royal Windsor Horse Show



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