

British Carriagedriving

OFFICIAL NEWS

Council Meeting

The date for the next meeting of the British Carriagedriving Council is Wednesday 2 August.

Rule Changes: Advance notice

From 1 January 2018:

- a change will be implemented to Article 939 to allow drivers to compete with pneumatic tyres at any level. The BC Council hope this will encourage more drivers into the sport.
- a change will be implemented to Annex 16, 4.3.5 and 4.4.4. For compulsory progression from Novice to Intermediate or Intermediate to Open, only classes with at least 3 starters will count for drivers' promotion. Classes with only 1 or 2 starters will still count for voluntary progression.
- an addition will be made to Rule 966.1.1. This currently says there has to be a safety check for hats and body protectors and will be expanded to include a check regarding wrapped seat belts.
- Council agreed to amend the penalty for breaching the rule regarding tying ear muffs to the nose band to a yellow card in the first instance unless, in the opinion of the Ground Jury, it is clearly affecting the welfare of the horse, in which case elimination will still apply.

Rule Enforcements

Vehicle Weights: It has been brought to Council's attention that some drivers are not complying with the minimum weight for carriages in their class. Please ensure your vehicle complies with the weights stipulated in the Rule Book as there will be a weigh bridge present at the National Championships.

Highway Code and reflectors: The Highway Code for Horse-drawn vehicles stipulates in Rule 48 that "All horse-drawn vehicles should have two red rear reflectors." This is not a rule in the BC Rule Book but, as marathon routes often utilise section of public road, reflectors must be fitted to your marathon carriage in order to comply with the Highway Code.

RWHS

The procedure for allocating invitations to Royal Windsor Horse Show has been changed. For the 2018 event, the chefs d'équipe for their respective classes will decide to whom invitations will be extended, based on the concept of producing a balance of those needing international exposure and those likely to be representing GBR at World Championships. The final decision will be ratified by Council.

Membership Review

After an extensive consultation involving all BC members and all BC affiliated clubs, BC Council has voted to implement the proposed changes to our membership structure and insurance arrangements. The new arrangements will take effect in the new year, for 2018 renewals. With one exception, they have no impact until the end of the year.

The exception is that BC has, through our brokers Howden UK Group Ltd., arranged a new personal accident scheme with much better benefits (including a loss of earnings section) than the existing policy. Members will be able to opt into that scheme if they wish, and it will be up and running shortly. Full details will be provided as soon as the scheme comes on line.

Full details of the new arrangements for next year will be circulated in the autumn so that members can ensure that, when they renew, they choose the best level of membership for their needs. Key highlights include:

- The requirement for marathon grooms to be members is abolished
- The requirement of officials to be associate members is changed to supporting
- Supporting members can drive one national or regional on a ticket
- All driver competitors (other than novices and those on a ticket) must be full members
- Extended liability insurance for drivers to cover all those assisting at an event
- New categories of Affiliated Club Member and International Driving member
- Simplified discount structure
- Group personal accident insurance replaced with an opt in policy with better benefits
- Club members' liability insurance will cover them at all club events and not just their own.

EVENTS

Caledon Regional 19-20 August

Closing Date for Entries – Friday 11 August

This event is running in a rarely seen estate with the entire marathon route on estate roads, lanes and tracks in the park. Catering is available all weekend with a reception on Friday night and a hot meal with live music on Saturday.

Redenham Regional 26-27 August

Closing Date for Entries – Saturday 12 August

Redenham offers a marathon in beautiful Hampshire countryside which runs over fields, tracks and woodland. There will be seven obstacles with easy access for spectators. Supper tickets at £8.50 for the Saturday night entertainment should be booked in advance.

Stabling and Electric Hook-up at the National Championships

Following feedback via the Event Survey, Council plan to trial the provision of stabling and electric hook ups at the 2017 National Championships. To gauge interest in this initiative and to assist with planning and budgeting considerations, if you are interested in taking up one or both of these options, please contact the BC office.

Sandringham

It was good to see pony tandems increasing in numbers and this class was won by John Wilkinson.



John Wilkinson at Sandringham

Photo credit Amy Mundell



Collette Holdsworth at Sandringham

Tara Wilkinson, driving Emma Burge's pony pair, drove the fastest marathon of the day. The Young Drivers had their championships here and drove a shorter marathon with only six of the eight obstacles. Collette Holdsworth drove a very fast marathon to finish on a score of 78.17.

INTERNATIONAL

The teams for the Combined Pony World Championships, the Horse Pairs World Championships and the Horse Fours European Championships have now been announced following the conclusion of the selection process at Sandringham.

FEI World Pony Championships 2017; Minden, Germany 15-20 August

The team was announced with Rosanna Walters-Symons, Robert Buck and Phillipa Howe in the single class, Tara Wilkinson and Alan Clarke in the pairs and Sara Howe and Roger Campbell in the fours. Sue Mart was selected to compete as an individual. Sadly, shortly after Sandringham, Alan Clarke was

admitted to hospital and has been forced to withdraw, which means Britain are unable to field a team. It is hoped that as many as possible of those who had been selected for the squad will be able to compete as individuals. Chef dequipe, Jill Holah, said: "We send our best wishes to Alan for a speedy recovery. While we are devastated that we are unable to field a full team, we have some hugely talented individuals within the squad and have our sights firmly set on individual medals."

FEI European Championships 2017; Gothenburg, Sweden 22-27 August

Britain will be represented at the FEI European Horse Fours Championships by Wilf Bowman-Ripley, Dick Lane and Daniel Naprous.

In addition to the world-class stadium Ullevi and the Heden Arena, the championships will use the vast city park Slottsskogen and some of the city's most central roads for the driving championships. Tickets can be obtained from the web-site www.gothenburg2017.com.

Tara Wilkinson at Sandringham



Photo credit Amy Mundell

FEI World Pairs Championships 2017; Lipica, Slovenia 20-24 September

Britain will be represented by James Broome, Libby Priest and David Matthews. All the selected team members have World Championships experience. David won Team Gold in Rome 2006 driving a single, has been a member of three single world championship teams and qualified for four pair teams with Slovenia being the fifth. James has competed at two World Championships previously with a pony pair, including one at Lipica, the venue for the 2017 Horse Pair World Championships while Libby has represented Team GB in 2013 in Topolicanky, Slovakia.

GENERAL

200 Club

Thank you very much to all members and friends who have supported the 200 Club. The proceeds have been gifted to BC to purchase a copy of the Philippe Liénart scoring programme, a range of new cones and numbers to allow the option to construct oxers and new hot water urns for the scoring trailer. All these items will be of great benefit to the members and we are very grateful to the 200 Club for supporting the sport in this way.

Congratulations to the winners of the first draw of 2017 which coincided with Catton HDT:

- £50 Joan Goodwin
- £30 Ginny Hanbury
- £20 Mrs Cutforth
- £20 Graham Hudson
- £10 Miss M Andrews
- £10 Elaine Trigg
- £10 Gerald Flanagan

Congratulations to the winners of the second draw of 2017 which coincided with Sandringham:

- £50 Jane Lamb
- £30 Mike & Sally Fithyan
- £20 David Stafford
- £20 Prilly Baron
- £10 Jane Gillman
- £10 Amanda Hawley
- £10 Julian Burleton



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Photo credit Amy Mundell