

British Carriagedriving

OFFICIAL NEWS Council Meeting

The next meeting of the British Carriagedriving Council takes place on 5 September. Council always welcomes and takes into account feedback received from members, so if there are any matters or issues which you would like council to consider please send an e mail to the office. The deadline for submitting matters to be considered at the September meeting is 28 August.

At the last Council meeting, Patti Atkinson kindly agreed to share her first year's experience with the members, hoping to encourage more members to stand for election to Council. Council wish to stress that dates and venues for meetings of the new Council will be fixed to suit those members elected in November and there is no assumption that meetings will necessarily take place during the week or at Kegworth.

Patti says: "Having been very involved in competition carriage driving since 1988, with stewarding, competing and judging, when I was asked in 2017 to put my name forward for election as a member of Council and a Director of British Carriagedriving I was in equal measure honoured and terrified. Members very kindly elected me and now, nine months in, it seems like a good opportunity to tell BC members and prospective future members of council about the experience.

First, lets dispel some myths.

I, probably along with many others, thought Council only existed to promote the FEI and help those members with foreign competition aspirations. Wrong. Yes, there has been some FEI discussions at meetings and by email but not nearly as much as I expected.

Being on Council would not involve a lot of work. Wrong. There are the Council meetings of course. These are usually held at Kegworth and they last a very full day but there are not many of them. Currently held mid week, because that suits the majority of the current Council, they could equally be held at a different location on a weekend. There are however a huge number of email discussions – in February for example I received over 240 emails about Council business!

Council doesn't listen to members. Wrong. Decisions can be made that don't appear to support the apparent public opinion, but there are also a lot of other opinions that are expressed privately that are not in the public domain. The more input we receive from members the more info we have to shape policy.

Council ignores Facebook forum comments. Wrong. Some Council members don't follow social media but all are appraised of the discussions that are happening. And it would not be right for Council members as individuals to respond to Facebook messages.

The elected Council members are Directors of BC and are BC members. As such we act in what we believe to be the members' interests – not our own. Not all of us will agree with every decision made but a consensus is reached, and a decision made. That is what you elect us to do. If you have a query - ask us. If you don't agree with something - tell us. If we get something right - praise us (we like a bit of praise sometimes!).

Elected by the members from the membership there are elections held every year and I am happy to talk to anyone with an interest about how the process works.

Is being on Council what I expected? It is certainly much harder work and I miss sometimes not being able to always say what I feel in public.

Highlight so far – apart from being elected? Representing British Carriagedriving at the Buckingham Palace Garden Party.

Would I stand again if asked? Yes, absolutely. Roll on the next 9 months!"

EVENTS

To enable prompt and accurate treatment, all drivers or grooms with a medical condition are strongly encouraged to keep a note of this on their person at all times when at an event to ensure that it is accessible in case of an accident.

Class Structure

Following a lengthy discussion on Social Media, Council will be discussing possible revisions of the class structure either at their next meeting in September or (possibly) at a separate meeting as soon as possible thereafter.

Members are invited to forward comments on the current class structure, or suggestions for a way forward to revise the class structure, to the BC office: email@britishcarriagedriving.co.uk for consideration by Council.

Bywell Regional Event 25-26 August

Closing Date for entries: 13 August

Bywell Driving has an event on Facebook, "Bywell Horse Driving Trials" and a page, "Bywell Driving" where updates are posted regularly.

Club classes will be run in conjunction with Regional classes. British Carriagedriving rules apply throughout so competitors are reminded that any "club rules" will not apply. There will be one exception to this: Article 938, Equipment. At Bywell, carriages used in dressage by the club competitors will not need to have lamps.

The organisers invite all stewards, competitors and crew to the drinks reception on Friday evening at 8pm and request smart attire please.

The prize giving for the Halspan Points League will be on Friday evening following the drinks reception with Dressage and Cones rosettes presented on Saturday after the marathon briefing. This will be followed by a party featuring "Wrong Side of the Grass" who proved immensely popular on their first marquee gig at Hopetoun. Bring your own drink (as there will not be a bar) and your dancing shoes. Overall results and prizes will be presented on Sunday as soon as possible after the completion of the marathon. You are welcome to stay over on Sunday night.

Please note that access to the venue has been changed since the BC Year Book was



Photos: Amy Mundell



published. Please use Post Code NE43 7TS. The venue is 1 mile from the A69 dual carriageway, only 1 roundabout north of London!

Redenham Regional Event 25-26 August

Closing Date for entries: 11 August

Redenham offers a 15km marathon on farm tracks and lanes around this beautiful estate and seven easily access obstacles. Please remember to book your meal tickets in advance for the dinner on Saturday evening.

Cuffesgrange Regional and FEI 2* Event 25-26 August

Closing Date for entries: 12 August

Cuffesgrange has upgraded to an FEI 2* event, running in conjunction with the BC Regional event and the 2018 All Ireland Championships. If you wish to enter the international event, please remember that you need to comply with Annex 16, 4.11 in the British Carriagedriving Rule Book and send your entry via the international event entry form on the BC web-site.

British Carriagedriving National Championships 14-16 September

Closing Date for entries: 24 August for all events except 31 August for qualifiers from Bywell, Redenham and Cuffesgrange

After a very successful Cricklands National Event, the organisers are now building a new obstacle for the National Championships. They report that they have had a debrief of the event at its conclusion and have looked at several ways to improve the event. They are really looking forward to welcoming everyone to Cricklands for the National Championships.

Sharing of grooms or carriages at the Championships will be permitted however the organiser reserves the right to refuse sharing if it cannot be scheduled without competitors running out of class order.

Level of membership required for the National Championships

Unfortunately, the qualification section of the rule book was not updated for 2018 to reflect the new membership categories. Novice drivers may continue to compete as Associate members. Qualification for all other classes is open to International and Full members and to Associate and Supporting members who qualify on a ticket. For those drivers qualifying on a ticket, a membership upgrade to International or Full membership will be required to enter the National Championships.

INTERNATIONAL

FEI Athlete Representative for Driving and appointment to the FEI Driving Technical Committee

Great Britain has 2 candidates forward for election in 2018: Rosanna Walters-Symons is standing as the FEI Athlete Representative for Driving and Andrew Counsell hopes to be appointed to the FEI Driving Technical Committee.

A record number of 52 athletes from 26 countries on 5 continents are bidding for the eight Athlete Representative positions which will be decided through an online voting process.

To be eligible to vote for the Athlete Representatives election (Article 6.9.4 of the FEI Internal Regulations), you must be at least 18 years of age at the time of the vote and have competed in one of the last two senior FEI World Championships for Driving. The voting process opens on 29 July and closes on 23 September 2018.

There are six candidates for the position of Athlete Representative for Driving in addition to Rosanna: Mr James Fairclough (USA), Ms Mareike Harm (GER), Mr Vilmos Jámbor (HUN), Mr Franz Schiltz (LUX), Mr Chester Weber (USA) and Mr Mark Weusthof (NED). Their nominations and letters of motivation can

be viewed on the FEI web-site: <https://inside.fei.org/fei/elections/candidates>. If you are eligible to vote, British Carriagedriving hope that you will support Rosanna in her bid to be elected.

The position of Member of the Driving Committee is appointed by the FEI Bureau. Andrw is contesting this position with 5 other candidates: Mr Miguel Angel Gutiérrez Camarillo (ESP), Mr Jeroen Houterman (NED), Mr Friedrich Otto-Erley (GER), Mr Hillar Talts (EST) and Mr Chester Weber (USA).

International Competition

The Single Horse World Championships at Kronenberg (NED) takes place from 28 August to 2 September 2018. Following the four selection events, the drivers representing Great Britain have been confirmed as Frank Campbell driving Z, Karen Scott Barrett driving Don Diego, Sara Clough driving Windfall's Daylight and Tracey Fletcher driving Mastro's Noble Boy. They will be supported by Chef d'Equipe Minta Winn, Team Trainer Wilf Bowman Ripley, Team Vet Rosie Mould and Team Physio Hazel Potter.

The European Youth Championships take place in Aszar Kisber (HUN) from 16th to 19th August 2018. Britain will be represented in the Children class by Oliver Bennett driving Joe and Nicole Holdsworth driving Cennen Simba, in the Junior class by Collette Holdsworth driving Pepper, Isobel Wesbroom-Warr driving Chinkwell Basil and Megan Wheeldon driving Penraven Prince and in the Young Driver class by Katy Alvis driving Tyssul Rambling-Rose, Grace Smith driving either Tempelier or Goliath and Jay Snow driving Menai Carlos.

Further information, including driver biographies, will be published on the British Carriagedriving website.

GENERAL

200 Club

The 200 Club Summer Draw winners are:

£50 Geoff Glaister

£30 Lynda Christian

£20 Grace Smith

Team selected to represent Great Britain later this month includes: Karen Scott-Barrett (above) and Tracy Fletcher (previous page)



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