

British Carriagedriving

OFFICIAL NEWS

Council Meeting

The date for the next meeting of the British Carriagedriving Council has not yet been confirmed. 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 email to the British Carriagedriving office.

Clinic Reports National and FEI clinic at the Unicorn Trust

With the weather much improved from last year, when many roads were blocked with snow, the annual clinic at Stow on the Wold got under way with participants from nine countries including four from Australia, Austria, Belgium, Finland, Ireland, Germany, Great Britain, Poland and the United States.

A total of 61 judges, course designers, FEI stewards and technical delegates were present at the clinic, which gave good representation of all the roles.

Andrew Counsell (GBR), Richard Nicoll (USA), Jan Devaere (BEL) and Philip Bateman (GBR) were the Course Directors. Friday afternoon started with the official FEI introduction and a joint session for all FEI participants to prepare for the start of the main clinic. This was followed by the "Passing In" Test for all participants.

Saturday began with a short welcome and update of British Carriagedriving rules, then everyone divided to their respective groups. Andrew Counsell took the judges through some theory first and then went outside into the sun for some practical work. Dick Lane generously brought his horse four and Lucy McGill brought a single horse to help and guide the judges through their paces.

Richard Nicoll had 13 course designers and enthralled them all with his vast knowledge and experience of putting on events.

Jan Devaere had 7 FEI stewards to train to

his high level of efficiency and all met up to his demanding standards, with those seeking promotion obtaining their respective levels. It was good to see that we had three Level 3 FEI Stewards in one place all at the same time.

Philip Bateman took the remaining 11 technical delegates through some intensive training with power point presentations and written tests to achieve their desired levels.

Sunday started as early as possible, with the course designers producing an obstacle cones driving course with some deliberate mistakes. The technical delegates corrected the course and left it for the judges to officiate with Dick Lane and Lucy making as many deliberate mistakes as possible. Then it was time for the final tests and lunch to get everyone on the road straight after lunch, but not before the traditional photograph on the Unicorn Trust steps.

On the lighter side, Unicorn host Sydney Smith, was pleased to welcome the conference participants back again and Fran More, with her team of helpers, produced an elegant three-course dinner which was enjoyed by all 45 diners on Saturday evening. The social and networking aspect of the weekend is a key point, when new friends are made and working relationships are forged. Everyone there could make a contribution and join in discussions based on their own experiences.

TD Club Clinics

With much regret, the TD Club Clinic in the South had to be cancelled, as there were only two names forward to attend, a week before the clinic was due to take place. This is in marked contrast to the Northern clinic where Tommy Thomlinson is anticipating a busy day with 24 delegates booked to attend.

Media Training Day gives high hopes for British Carriagedriving

Representatives from National and Regional Events, International Teams, Clubs that run Novice Qualifiers, Paras and Young Drivers

enjoyed a morning, presented by BC's new media firm PRfect Communications, at Cricklands on Friday 8th March. The initial focus was to target social media channels in a manner that would maximise BC's exposure to the identified target audience. The course then moved on to methods and techniques for creating engaging social media content. The course culminated with a task for all the new PR Liaison Officers to write a press release what you are now reading is one submitted.

The afternoon session focussed on training a cross section of carriage driving athletes for interviews, covering the principles behind giving the athletes confidence to get their personalities across, and to become ambassadors for the sport by spreading the key messages to raise the profile of BC. The attendees were then given various "Do's and Don'ts" for interviews across the various mediums of social media, TV and radio. The most intense part of the course was the 20 minute one-to-one sessions in front of a cameraman recording content for possible future campaigns.

By the end of the course, the feedback from the two groups, the PR Liaison Officers and Media Trained Athletes, was incredibly positive and everyone is looking forward to working together with PRfect Communications to promote British Carriagedriving in 2019.

EVENTS

Ashfields National Event 3-5 May

Closing Date for entries: Monday 15th April. The popular Ashfields event has a marathon course running over fields and farm tracks with a small section on roads. The organisers have a new obstacle planned, if the weather allows it to be constructed in time. Online entries are available via the BC website. Entertainment is planned as usual and the organisers look forward to welcoming you to the first National event of the year.

Photos: David Brown



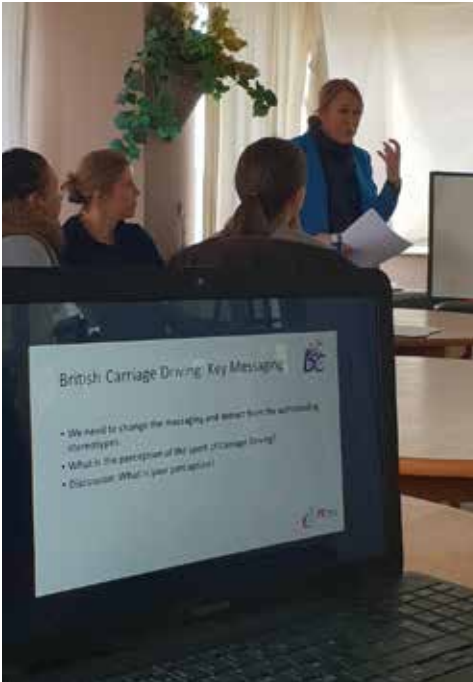
Andrew Counsell addressing the judges



International attendees at the Unicorn Trust



Dick Lane provided practical



Media training at Cricklands

Royal Windsor Horse Show

The British contingent, competing at Royal Windsor Horse Show this year, are:

Horse Fours: Wilf Bowman-Ripley, Karen Bassett, Pippa Bassett, Dan Naprous, Dick Lane and James Broome.

Horse Pairs: Chris Smith, David Matthews and Libby Priest.

Pony Fours: Sara Howe, Roger Campbell and Rowena Moyses.

Saddlers' Company Prizes

The Worshipful Company of Saddlers will present a training voucher to each para driver and young driver (as stipulated for British Carriagedriving Young Members) who completes 3 National or Regional events in one calendar year (the National Championships may count as one of the events). Multiple prizes will not be awarded.

The amount of the training award will depend on the number of applicants. To apply, download the Saddlers' Company Training Grant Prize Form from the web-site. Complete the table in respect of the events you completed and send the form to the BC office by 31st October. No further applications can be received after this date.



assistance for judges' training



Getting to grips with interview technique

INTERNATIONAL

Hopetoun and Sandringham FEI 2* Events

If you are planning to enter the FEI classes at Hopetoun and Sandringham, the respective Entry Secretaries of these events will forward your details to the British Carriagedriving Office to enable the information to be uploaded into the FEI Entry System. Please enter on the normal National Event Entry Form and clearly mark which class you wish to enter at Hopetoun as this event offers the option of Advanced or International classes.

FEI registration is required for both driver and horses. The relevant Forms can be downloaded from the BC website under Information / Forms. For FEI 2* events in GBR, horses can compete without FEI passports but do still need to be registered.

The following scans are then required:

1. The front of the National Passport
2. The Name page of the National Passport
3. The Breeding pages if they are available
4. The Diagram page – which must be signed and stamped by the breed society/vet
5. The Owners page

Scans should be sent by email to the BC office. There are some really good apps now that don't cost anything where you can point your phone at the page and it will scan as a pdf file, e.g. Scannable for iPhones. If you are unable to provide scans, please send the passport with your application for registration and add £10 to cover the cost of return postage by Special Delivery. Scans will get rejected if they are not clear or if information is missing.

FEI Badges of Honour

If you are eligible (having completed two or more World or Continental Championships) and wish to obtain one of these badges, please send the BC office a list of the events at which you competed; include the year in which the event took place and your placing. Further details were given in the March edition of Carriage Driving.

Possession of one of these badges confers certain privileges on the athlete. If you wish to apply for laissez-passer, (to do so you must be a badge of honour holder), please send a digital passport type photograph to the BC office. A full description of the privileges is detailed in Article 132 of the FEI General Regulations.



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