

Drive Canada E-BULLETIN



Canada's National Sport Organization representing Combined, Draft, Pleasure and Recreation driving since 1983.

PHOTO & WEB DESIGN CONTEST

Driving, similar to all the eight equestrian disciplines must comply with Equine Canada's new web site specifications. What will be new for most disciplines is meeting the requirements of a fully bilingual presentation. Just as EC does today (www.equinecanada.ca) the home page must give the viewer a choice between entering the site in either of the official language. From that point forward, everything must be a complete mirror image, differing only by language.

What a great opportunity for us to use more pictures and involve the entire community from coast to coast to launch our twenty-fifth anniversary year as the National Sport Organization for driving. We have always had four primary areas of driving interest: Pleasure, Combined, Recreation and Draft. Our annual membership renewals indicate the following primary levels of interest: Combined Driving at 42%, Pleasure Driving at 30%; Draft Horse at 2% and Recreation only at 26%.

We know there are some very creative people in our community, and many have great ideas on how we can present driving – areas of interest, twenty-fifth anniversary, fun activities, competitions and what we do in the different seasons and areas of the country.

With the enormous popularity and affordability of the digital camera, it has unleashed a tremendous amount of excellent quality photos capturing the spirit and excitement of our sport. If you have a photo we can use either in our web design or in future bulletins, please forward by e-mail. We require .jpg format in high resolution. The ideal size is 4"x6" and at 300 dpi. Just remember many e-mail providers have a 5mb boundary, so your total e-mail must be less than 5mb. If you need technical assistance, just send us a note and we'll be happy to help. Write to us at www.drivecanada.org .

DRIVE CANADA HALL OF HONOUR

Next year Drive Canada will celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary. Fred Gutoski from Oak Bank, Manitoba has been very active most of those years and a driver, coach, organizer, course designer, director, officer and provincial president. At a recent meeting of the Board of Directors we were discussing a fitting tribute to recognize our licensed officials who are voluntarily retiring from years of service to the community. Fred proposed the idea of a Hall of Honour to make sure the good deeds, encouragement and support of the driving community be recognized and recorded.

As a major anniversary project, we would like to form a committee to record the history of this organization and make sure neither our history or our leaders are forgotten. If you would like to serve on this committee, please contact any member of the Board. Nominations for inductees are open.

Already suggested are three categories – licensed officials – after a long dedicated service upon voluntary retirement; community leaders for service to the organization and/or support of the driving community, and members of the Canadian Equestrian Team who have brought distinction to Canada.

Nomination are open – we would like to hear from everyone who has someone in mind along with reasons and a short bio. A photograph, especially in a driving related circumstance would be most welcome.



The MacGillivray family of Limehouse, Ontario wins at the inaugural Lexington CAI-B. Kylie, driving Cruise with sister Camille as groom; and sister Courtney driving Typhoon Velvet with groom Pam, a very proud mom.

CANADIAN (SISTERS) DRIVERS WIN AT CAI-B LEXINGTON

Lexington, KY - The inaugural Lexington Combined Driving Classic, held October 4-7 at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, KY, was a resounding success. Fifty-nine competitors braved unseasonably warm temperatures and a bit of rain on the first day of Dressage, to compete for top honors in 13 classes.

Three years from now, also at the Kentucky Horse Park, the world championships in four-in-hand driving and seven other horse sports will be contested at the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games 2010.

The international panel of officials included Klaus Christ (president of the jury) of Germany, Diana Brownlie (judge) of Great Britain, Martha Nicoll (judge) of the U.S., Philip Bateman (TD) of Great Britain, and Richard Nicoll (course designer) of the U.S.

Susan Gilliland, who will be organizing the driving portion of the Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games 2010, was the event organizer, and Leslie Hernandez was in charge of organizing the event's many volunteers.

Two Canadian sisters, Courtney and Kylie MacGillivray made the long trip down to Kentucky to compete. Other Team MacGillivray members with the two drivers were Jeff Kohler (coach and Kylie's navigator), Pam MacGillivray (groom), Camille MacGillivray (groom) and Bill MacGillivray (navigator).

Both drivers won their Advanced Dressage sections. This was Kylie's first time competing at the Advanced Level, where she scored 52.27 on FEI Test 7. Courtney scored 49.71 on FEI Test 9.



Marathon day proved to be very warm again. Kylie and her Welsh pony, Ardmore Nightwind (aka "Cruise"), was one of six Advanced Single Pony competitors to test the new course at the Kentucky Horse Park. She drove a steady marathon and placed fourth.

Courtney attacked the course with her Dutch Warmblood gelding Tyfoon Velvet, and finished just behind Sterling Graburn and Wendy Ying.

The final day of the competition was sunny and pleasant. A fair crowd of spectators had gathered to see the competitors battle it out in a tricky Cones course.

Kylie went into the Cones section with a lead over Jean-Paul Gauthier of just over 2 points. She drove the course with her usual "throw-caution-to-the-wind" and hung on to win the FEI Single Pony Division. Jean-Paul Gauthier finished in Second place, with Sandra Green of the USA finishing in Third.

Courtney went in to the final day of competition in 1st Place with a 5 point lead and maintained her position over the other 7 competitors. Wendy Ying was Second overall and Donna Crookston was Third.

DRIVE CANADA AGM

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair on Saturday, November 10, 2007. Following the routine business of the Society, members and guests were invited to an aisle party in the horse stables hosted by Bill and Pam MacGillivray at the Glencameron stalls.

This year we were delighted to meet many Carriage Association of America members who on tour at the Royal. In all, well over a hundred members and friends of the driving community stopped by including drivers and grooms from the Carriage Derby teams, competitors and supporters from the Welsh, Morgan and draft horse teams. The party was held in the main show barn, in the draft horse section where the members and friends were able to stop by between the meeting and the evening classes. It was a very enjoyable event, and the positive feedback suggests this should be an annual event. Minutes of the meeting are posted on the Drive Canada website, www.drivecanada.org.



Drive Canada members and friends at the Glencameron aisle party. Notice the Clydesdale horses in the background, being groomed for their next class were enjoying the party as well.



EC COMPETITION STRUCTURE REVISED

The UNCART competitions structure we have heard about off and on for the past 4 years has finally been defined and will form the basis for all equestrian competitions in Canada. It is a major challenge to explain everything to everyone without making the various levels and classifications sound overwhelming and confusing. The concept is rather simple – pay to play. If you are involved in any equestrian discipline, the new system structure will affect you as an Organizer, Official and Competitor. For driving, we have always had four distinct areas of interest: Pleasure, Combined, Draft and Recreation, and this article will address the changes, primarily from the Competitor’s point of view.

Around the same time as UNCART was evolving, Sport Canada introduced the Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD), applicable to all Canadian sport. The concept is based on creating a progressive system of involvement through introductory competition for the grassroots to major events leading to the international podium. While the age groupings may differ in equestrian sport, especially in driving, the basic concepts are a requirement for all disciplines as Equine Canada has subscribed to this model requiring compliance for all Coach’s and Licensed Official’s programs and competition structure for each of the eight EC disciplines.

UNCART has now been officially titled the “Equine Canada Revised Competition and Sport License System”, and is based on the following concepts:

1. To match Sport Canada’s LTAD model by creating a progressive system of competition from the grassroots level to the international podium;
2. To simplify the current competition system by reducing the number of levels from 13 to five;
3. To create a system that affords the most latitude for disciplines and breed sports to write rules and guidelines that apply to their particular sport within the new structure; and
4. To ensure a fair user-pay system for all competition in Canada. Those showing at the highest levels (FEI) need to pay more than those at the entry level. Participants who use the most resources (i.e. coaches, rules and officials) need to cover the cost for creating and providing these resources.

“Discovery” is the entry level competition designed for fun, low level, introductory competitions and entry level schooling shows. These events do not require a Sport License, do not require horse identification, nor pay drug testing fees. This year we have introduced two new competitions, TREC driving and *Country Heritage*. You will see the similarities between TREC driving and a Driving Trial – but with no Driven Dressage component, no signage, greatly reduced paperwork and volunteers, and may be done without a licensed official. Originally planned as another variation of a Combined Driving DT based on experience we gained last year and with the help and encouragement of the British Driving Society, it was ultimately classified as a Recreation competition.

Country Heritage was originally being introduced as a lower level Pleasure Driving show, but made an ideal companion as another Recreation competition. It is similar to the ADS *Traditional Day of Driving* and CAA’s *Sporting Day of Driving*. Both of these events are ideal for meeting the LTAD goals. We have published guidelines, not rules, and are able to assist any organizer (individual or club) with their first event. Judging by the positive feedback after our first event and subsequent bulletin and comments at the AGM, these going to be a very popular in the driving community, especially since there are no formal rules, no licenses required, and open to every style of turnout and driving style.

For these recreation competitions, the person in charge may be a “Knowledgeable Horseman”, as determined by the Organizer, rather than the traditional official. Certified Coaches may also officiate at these competitions and incorporate them into clinics. Also included in the Discovery level are draft horse classes; Pleasure show ring classes; Pleasure Show obstacle-games classes with less than 10 entries; and Combined Driving Arena Trials limited to a Training Division only event.



For Pleasure Driving shows with 10 or more entries, and all Combined Driving classes for Training and Preliminary divisions, an EC Bronze Sport License is required at \$20 per year for unlimited number of events. At Bronze level competitions, drug testing fees will be charged at a rate set by each PSO, payable with entry fees. There is no Horse ID required other than Health or Coggins if required by the event.

Intermediate classes will be in conjunction with a Silver or higher rated competition. The Competitor will require either a Silver Sport License (\$60 for unlimited events during the year), or a one-event upgrade fee (\$15) for Bronze Sport License holders. Similarly, a Competitor wishing to enter an Advanced division class will require a Gold Sport License (\$100) for the year or the one-event upgrade fee of \$15 for those holding either a valid Bronze or Silver Sport License. There is also a Temporary Sport License available for those arriving at an event without a Sport License, good for one event at \$30 for all levels except Platinum (the license required to enter FEI classes).

Back to the challenge – describing what you will require, without getting overly complicated. Perhaps the best way to illustrate these new levels is to present some examples of new and previous year's events. Let's start with entry level competitions and show the progressive requirements:

1. A fun, one-day recreation competition or draft horse classes – show classification “Discovery” – Competitors do not require any Sport License, horses do not require ID; no drug testing fees collected.
2. A local schooling show with Training division only classes or a Pleasure Show with less than 10 entries – same as above.
3. All divisions at Arena Trials, Carriage Derbies and Driving Trials; or any Pleasure Shows (other than Championships) – show classification “Bronze” – Competitors require an EC Bronze Sport License, pay drug testing fees, no horse ID required.
4. Combined Driving Events for Training and Preliminary classes, same as above.
5. CDE including Intermediate – show classification “Silver” – Competitors at Training and Preliminary will be as in (3) above; those in Intermediate require a Silver Sport License (or a \$15 upgrade on a Bronze), will need horse ID and pay drug testing fees.
6. CDE including Advanced – show classification “Gold” – Competitors at other than Advanced as in (5) above; Advanced classes require a Gold Sport License (or a \$15 upgrade on a Bronze or Silver), will need horse ID and pay drug testing fees.
7. CDE with FEI classes – non-FEI will be as in (3) above, with FEI class competitors requiring a Platinum Sport License (must be purchased in advance), a FEI driver license, a FEI Horse license, Horse identification for each horse, and pay the FEI drug testing fees.

Licensed Coaches and Officials have already been sent a heads-up description of the new structure, and Organizers and TD's are being sent a package with the revised Guidelines and Application Form for 2008 competitions. All of this will be posted once we have completed translation.

Unfortunately there is some misinformation already circulating suggesting a “big-brother” attempt to control our sport or dismal suggestions on where all this may lead. Be assured that past social events and non-competitive driving has not changed.

Driving has had a privileged road over these past several years not enjoyed by other disciplines. These were concessions offered to an emerging sport by exempting us from drug testing fees, class levies, discipline membership and passport requirements at the lower levels. We are very much a part of the Equine Canada family of disciplines and certainly must contribute to our share of the sport. The concept of user-pay is believed to be the fairest model by nearly everyone. We hope each of you will work with us, give the system a reasonable trial and forward you constructive comments to help improve driving competitions within the goals set by Equine Canada. Enjoy yourselves, have fun, take pictures and share your positive comments with the rest of the country – let us know the negatives to pass along to those who work in a proactive manner to continue improving programs for all the driving community.



SAFETY MESSAGE

Thanks to Rene Racine of Abbotsford, BC for passing this reminder along.

We all carry our mobile phones with names & numbers stored in its memory but nobody, other than ourselves, knows which of these numbers belong to our closest family or friends.

If we were to be involved in an accident or were taken ill, the people attending us would have our mobile phone but wouldn't know who to call. Yes, there are hundreds of numbers stored but which one is the contact person in case of an emergency? Hence this "ICE" (In Case of Emergency) Campaign.

The concept of "ICE" is catching on quickly. It is a method of contact during emergency situations. As cell phones are carried by the majority of the population, all you need to do is store the number of a contact person or persons who should be contacted during emergency under the name "ICE" (In Case Of Emergency).

The idea was thought up by a paramedic who found that when he went to the scenes of accidents, there were always mobile phones with patients, but they didn't know which number to call. He therefore thought that it would be a good idea if there was a nationally recognized name for this purpose. In an emergency situation, Emergency Service personnel and hospital Staff would be able to quickly contact the right person by simply dialing the number you have stored as "ICE."

For more than one contact name simply enter ICE1, ICE2 and ICE3 etc. A great idea that will make a difference!

Let's spread the concept of ICE by storing an ICE number in our Mobile phones today!

ICE will speak for you when you are not able.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT

Remember, as an affiliate of Equine Canada, all Drive Canada members are automatically members of Equine Canada and are eligible for significant savings on the new "Equine Canada Members First" program. Substantial cost savings on products and services from Dodge vehicles and John Deere agricultural equipment are available through group purchasing.

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