

# BRITISH HORSE DRIVING TRIALS ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL NEWS

## OFFICIAL NEWS

### Rule book amendments

Updated inserts are now available for existing rule books. If you require a copy, please send a SAE, with stamps to the value of 60p, to the office.

### Insurance

There has been a wide range of questions asked this year on the subject of insurance. One thing that has become clear is that no one is clear about insurance. When you receive your yearbook with your membership card, please take time to read the policy summaries given on pages 79-84.

## COMPETITIONS

### Are you ready?

Before the season begins, have you checked:

- your paperwork and vaccinations are up to date?
- your lorry and caravan comply with the rules on fire extinguishers and these have not passed their 'sell by' date?
- you have applied for an ATV pass from the BHDТА office where appropriate?
- your marathon groom is a member of the BHDТА?
- if you are aiming at international qualification for world championships, the organiser has confirmed this is an option for the class you are entering?

### Entry forms and start fee forms

These are available on the website [George Bowman being congratulated by HRH The Princess Royal at the The British Horse Society's Equestrian Hall of Fame ceremony.](#) in PDF format for you to print as required. If you have a PC and

use Microsoft Word, there is also a word version of both these documents to enable you to download and save them onto your own computer. Once you have filled in the information, it can be saved and used for subsequent events with a few minor changes. If your computer uses Works as its word processing programme or you have a Mac, you will need to print out the PDF version.

If you do not have Internet access, please telephone or write to the office with a note of the number you require.

### Walk speeds

After considerable discussion by the BHDТА Council and the Rules Committee, it has been decided that no recommendation will be tendered at present to the FEI to reduce walk speeds. It is intended to hold trials at events throughout 2008 to gauge competitors' views and the effect on the horses and ponies. The times for classes which are FEI World Championship selection events will not be altered.

### Tandem Test

Council have decided to recommend Test 6a for pony tandems in 2008. The proposed new tandem test will be discussed in the months ahead and trials held to establish its suitability before its implementation at competitions.

## EVENTS

### Brighton

The closing date for entries is **Wednesday April 9<sup>th</sup>**. Brighton is a selection event for the FEI World Single Horse Championship 2008.

### Hopetoun

Hopetoun takes place on **23<sup>rd</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup> May** and preparations are well underway, with Ian Gilbert and Colin Smith busy planning changes to some of the obstacles. You will have noticed in the yearbook that for the first time there is a three-section marathon for all classes. This will make it much easier for the organisers, and competitors will be pleased to know that you will still get the interesting drive along the shore of the Firth of Forth.

There are selection classes for horse four-in-hands and single horses for their world championships and Hopetoun has been approved as an FEI qualifier with Gé König and The Hon Sarah Mullins as international judges. It will be well worth travelling north, particularly if you still have unqualified horses.

We have put on a special class to allow disabled competitors, training for this year's IPEC World Championships, to compete at Hopetoun but to drive the IPEC dressage test.

The BDS organises private driving Classes on **Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May** and this year has a much greater variety of classes. BHDТА competitors are welcome to enter and schedules can be obtained from Ann Varley on 01576 610399.

We look forward to seeing many of you at Hopetoun and please help by sending your entries in good time; the closing date is **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April**.

### Novice Qualifiers

The following events will be running novice qualifiers for the national championships.

#### APRIL

Midlands Driving Trials Group at Thoresby **19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup> April**

Scottish Carriage Driving Association Ltd at Dalmeny **26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> April**

#### MAY

Scottish Carriage Driving Association Ltd at St Fort **10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> May**

Windsor Park Equestrian Club at Windsor, Berks **17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> May**  
White Horse Harness Club at Redenham Park, Andover **24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> May**  
Full contact details were given in the December office newsletter and the January 2008 edition of Carriage Driving.

## BHDТА CLINICS

### Stewards' training day

A stewards' training day has been organised on **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April** at Escrick Park, near York (A19). Philip Bateman will be giving everyone the benefit of his vast knowledge of the sport and demonstrating how rewarding and enjoyable an experience stewarding can be. Proceedings get under way at 10am. Free light refreshments will be available for everyone attending.

This training is open to anyone wishing to become a steward as well as existing stewards at both national and club level. If you wish to book a place, please telephone Sheila Hawking on 01977 682298.

Details of the clinics can also be found on the website.

## CLUB COMPETITIONS

### Competence cards

These require to be completed by anyone wishing to take part in their first national novice (level 2) with a single or their first national (open) with a multiple. They are available to download from the website or by contacting the BHDТА office. These should be filled in on the day. It is important to let the organiser know if you are completing a competence card so that the judges can be asked to pay particular attention to your turnout.

### 'Old' Dressage Test 7

A number of clubs have intimated they wish to continue using the 'old' number 7 dressage test. Copies of this can be found under 'Archive' on the website with the up to date tests.

## INTERNATIONAL

### Pony measuring

The FEI has notified National Federations that 2008 will be the last year requiring height certificates for international pony passports. From 2009, driving will fall into line with the other equestrian disciplines where ponies will be measured at the event.

### Team fund-raising

There have been cheques arriving from numerous sources, all supporting the efforts of our teams to travel abroad. Many thanks to everyone who has contributed by organising, sponsoring or taking part in any of these activities.

The single horse fund received a very generous donation of £650 recently, raised by Sarah Owlett and a number of friends. On 20<sup>th</sup> December they held a buffet supper where Paul Chambers was able to demonstrate the finer points of his culinary skills. A raffle and auction contributed to the success of the evening. Pam Neill held a barn dance at their farm and raised £770.

Competitors hoping to take part in the Junior World Trophy

organised a successful raffle at the end of season dinner which raised in excess of £400. Since then individuals have written letters to attract sponsors from a variety of businesses, held cake stalls, table top and second hand sales etc. The fundraising activity has raised a great deal of interest and a number of young drivers have been on their local radio stations spreading the good news about carriage driving in general and JWT in particular.

Two families got together and organised a carriage driving supper for 100 guests. Mark Broadbent of Fenix Carriages was the chief after dinner speaker and he took the opportunity afforded by the event to hand over a cheque for £250 for the JWT fund. The dinner raised £950 in addition to Mark's generous donation.

## GENERAL NEWS

### TASS

Recently, the British Equestrian Federation made the BHDТА aware of the Talented Athlete Scholarship Scheme (TASS). Applicants must hold a UK passport but be resident in England.

Eight applications were considered by a panel of five trainers from the BHDТА Training Committee who independently ranked the applicants on their merits according to the criteria. The BHDТА put forward their allotted quota of the first five candidates and four applications have been successful. Congratulations to our young drivers: Rosanna Walter-Symons, Roger Campbell, Edward Foster and Frank Campbell.

### BHS Hall of Fame

The British Horse Society's Equestrian Hall of Fame was launched in July 2005. The plaques are on display at the new permanent home, the Household Cavalry's Hyde Park Barracks. The ceremony, on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> February, was attended by many of the BHS Equestrian Hall of Fame's Laureates and two of the great horses. The unveiling ceremony was performed by HRH The Princess Royal. The plaques can be viewed by the public from Hyde Park.

The sport of carriage driving has three Laureates: HRH Prince Philip, George Bowman and Cynthia Hayden. George (19 times carriage driving British National Champion) attended the recent ceremony.

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