



Scottish Carriage Driving Association

Newsletter

January 2008

First of all, a very merry holiday season to you all, and may all of your resolutions be fulfilled.

Membership Renewals

The time has come to renew your SCDA membership and a membership form is enclosed with this newsletter. Please note that **there has been a change to the subscription rate for 2008**. The subscription for Full members has increased from £23 to £27 for 2008; this is expected to add revenues of around £500 per year.

Event levy: the levy of £5 per competitor that covers the BHDTA levy and the cost of entertaining helpers and stewards at the AGM is to be increased to £7.

As usual, anyone who is a paid up member of the association prior to the A.G.M. will be able to collect their Omnibus on the day.

Please note that if you have not paid your subscription by the A.G.M. or do not attend the A.G.M., your Omnibus will be sent out with the next newsletter. It is necessary to distribute the newsletter after as many memberships as possible have been received in order to minimise the number of reminders sent and to maximise the efficiency of the mail shot.

Nomination of Directors

Please send nominations for new directors to Simon Sanders, as 3 members retire by rotation and are available for re-election. To bring the total number of directors up to 12, there are vacancies for 2 new directors as well.

SCDA Conference

The conference took place on the 25th November and was the scene of some lively debate on several issues.

The Chairman thanked the outgoing secretary, Mary Kusin, for all her work for the Association, and wished her well in her new role with the BHDTA. She then introduced the new secretary, Simon Sanders, who much appreciated his warm welcome from the meeting.

The Chairman invited the meeting to congratulate Ian Bertram and Helen Hunter on winning their classes at the National Championships held at Catton Hall in September.

She also presented the rosettes for the BHDTA 2007 Points League to the following:

Ian Bertram: 2nd, Advanced Horse

Janet Pilling: 3rd, Intermediate Pony

Carol Boswell: 3rd, Horse Tandems

Jane Isaac: 3rd, Novice Horse

The Chairman gave an update on the Club liaison with the BHDTA. The UK and Ireland have been divided into 7 areas, each of which will have a Club Liaison Officer. Each area will probably have several clubs affiliated to the BHDTA (for example, Scotland has the SCDA, South West Scotland, Dumfries and Galloway and Junior Chariots). Each club will soon be sent a nomination form to put forward a representative. If there is more than one nomination from an area, there will be a vote. Members of more than one club in an area will only have one vote. The voting papers will be sent back to the Scrutineer appointed by the BHDTA and the successful representatives will be announced. These representatives will then form their own committee and elect one of their number to be chairman.

One person from this committee will be elected to go forward to the BHDTA Council as a full Council member for two years, and after the first year a second person will be elected to go forward to the Council, so that after the first year there will always be two Club representatives on the BHDTA Council. We hope that this is the way forward for closer liaison between Clubs and the BHDTA.

Colin Smith gave an informative presentation on recent legislation that requires the use of tachographs by drivers of any vehicle or combination of vehicles weighing over 7.5 tonnes. While the subject prompted many questions, Colin's final and emphatic advice was that, in view of the increasing level of monitoring of such vehicle movements by the police and the Vehicle and Operator Services Agency (VOSA), and in the light of the very severe penalties for non-compliance, members covered by the legislation must make sure that they are complying fully.

Ewan MacInnes summarised the Welfare in Animals Transport Order (WATO), reminding all members that the key condition for the requirement of certification was the transport of horses in connection with an economic activity. He advised all members to examine the information on WATO on the BDS website and decide for themselves whether they were affected by the requirements. A training day for WATO certification will be held at Maryculter on January 28th 2008.

Ian Gilbert informed members that the next Club course builders' clinic will be on March 16th in Penrith.

The Scottish Points Awards were presented by Chairman Audrey Barron.

The Fun and Friendship Trophy, presented by the Rome family in memory of Viv, was awarded to Ian Bertram.

The directors chose to present the Buddy Trophy to Carol Boswell in recognition of the number of people she has introduced to competitive driving at the fabulous fun event at Seacliff.

The Bellcrown Shield was presented to Owen Pilling for his first place at both Hopetoun and Castle Kennedy.

The Archie Donald memorial trophy was awarded to Zoe Ross in recognition of her commitment to scoring which has been of such immense help and service to the SCDA.

The Graham Murray trophy, awarded this year to the best pony pair from the two combined Scottish National events, was presented to Mary Kusin for her 2nd place at Hopetoun and 1st place at Castle Kennedy.

The presentation concluded with the rosettes for the Scottish Points League.

Anneke thanked Ian Gilbert and his team, all the enthusiastic and loyal helpers, and Owen and Janet Pilling for their generous and most welcome sponsorship of Hopetoun – and announced, to loud applause, that Owen and Janet's sponsorship has been confirmed for 2008. She stressed that more helpers will be welcomed for a variety of tasks.

Andrew Mylius offered personal thanks to the Hopetoun team for the swift and efficient way they had dealt with his accident.

The Chairman opened the floor to the members who raised a wide range of issues. Chief among them was a concern that the dressage tests used for club events are not of a sufficient standard to prepare competitors to go forward to national events. However, it was generally felt that the tests chosen for 2008 are of a good club standard, and the option may be available at a few events to practice a more advanced test in a 100 x 40 metre arena.

Another concern was the proposal to strip voting rights from associate members in an effort to keep levy costs down. This issue has now been resolved by adding a new non-voting category to the membership – that of Supporter.

BHDTA Clinics 2008

BHDTA office 0845 643 2116 or email
bhdta@horsedrivingtrials.co.uk
Payment can be made on-line

Unicorn Trust, Stow-on-the-Wold near
Cheltenham GL54 1JZ

26-27 Jan Judges' Conference:
presentation by Diana Brownlie on Tests
8b, 9 and 10.

27 Jan Dressage Teach-in for
competitors on tests 8b, 9 and 10 by
Diana Brownlie, 1:30-3:15, cost £15
payable in advance to the BHDTA

2 Feb Technical Delegates' Seminar

2 Feb Club Course Designer's Clinic
with Mark Ingham and Derek Holah, cost
£25 inc. lunch.

George Hotel, Penrith CA11 7SU

16 Mar Club Course Designers' Clinic

Scropton Riding and Driving Centre,
near Derby, Derbyshire DE65 5PL

23 Mar Club Judges' Clinic by Sarah
Garnett for all club members, 10:30 start,
cost £25 inc. lunch. Book at the Midlands
Driving Trials Group website at
www.mdtg.co.uk

Novice Qualifiers in Scotland

The following events have been selected
as novice qualifiers for the National
Championships.

26-27 Apr Dalmeny

10-11 May St Fort

AGM & Helpers' Thank You Lunch

9th February, 10:30 am

Blair Drummond Village Hall

This is a fine opportunity for drivers to
bring their helpers along for a free hot
lunch, and to hear what promises to be a
most entertaining talk by Diana Brownlie
on her travels abroad.

To find the venue, take junction 10 off the
M9 and follow the A84 towards Callander
for 5 miles. After passing the Safari Park,
the hall is on the left hand side by the bus
stop, and near the junction of the A873 (if
you pass the Church, you have gone too
far).

For further information, see the enclosed
agenda.

Child Protection Officer

As we now have so many young people
competing, it is necessary to appoint a
Child Protection Officer. Please send your
application, citing experience and
references, to Simon.

Scorers Wanted

Everyone knows that Zoe Ross has been
doing a sterling job as scorer at virtually
every event, but we need someone to
take over if she can't be there in future.
We would like it if 2 people were scoring
at events, Zoe and A.N.Other. Please let
Simon know if you can help, or would like
to learn how to score.

2008 Dressage Tests

The dressage tests at SCDA points
qualifiers will be:

Classes 1-5 Intermediate 2008

Classes 6-9 Novice 2008

Competence Cards

Before competing at a Novice Qualifier, competitors must have a completed Competence Card. This stipulation also applies if you wish to compete for the first time with a multiple.

The BHDTA rules state that competitors must have these signed immediately after the Club competition (they should not be signed retrospectively) and they should be accompanied by a full set of results from each competition. If you need a Competence Form, copies can be obtained from the SCDA Secretary, the BHDTA office or downloaded from the BHDTA website reference section on the website www.horsedrivingtrials.co.uk.

www.scda.co.uk

The full event results are posted on the web-site as soon as Vic receives them. This means that you can pore over your obstacle times, in comfort, at your leisure. If you are not familiar with the web-site, log on to www.scda.co.uk for the up-to-date news and chat on the discussion page. Don't forget that the web-site operates an advertising service, free of charge for members, where you can post "wanted" or "for sale" items and reach a wide audience quickly.

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Light Harness Horse Instructor

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SCDA information

Newsletter

Material and adverts for the newsletter should be sent to: Karen Blair-Imrie, Lunan Home Farm, Arbroath, Angus. DD115ST. Tel. 01241 830 374, e-mail newsletter@scda.co.uk

Adverts

Private adverts in the newsletter cost £5 and business adverts cost £10. Please make cheques payable to the Scottish Carriage Driving Association and send them, with details of your advert to: George Jeffrey

Don't forget that you can also place an advert on the SCDA website. This service is free to members. Go to www.scda.co.uk