

National Eventing News

2007 was an exiting year for the sport of Eventing. This year saw 63 events run nationwide with an increase of rides to 7317 and a silver medal at the Pan Am Games for the Canadian Team. I am honoured to be one of BC's national directors for Horse Trials BC. I, along with 5 others, was able to represent our province at the National Congress Meetings for Canadian Eventing in Toronto at the beginning of November. These meetings allow us to take forward the issues of the BC membership of Horse Trials BC for discussions on a national front. Some of these issues include input to upcoming rule changes and ways we may be able to improve our sport as a whole.

For me this trip, though not my first, was certainly a new experience as early this fall I was named the new Chair of the National Competitions Committee. As such, I am also a part of the Canadian Eventing Committee, which is a subcommittee of Equine Canada. The mandate of the Competitions Committee is to ensure that we support and encourage all events within our country as well as looking at ways to increase the numbers of event sites – including FEI event sites. The Competitions Committee, together with the Officials Committee, is currently planning an Eventing Stadium Course Designing Clinic in 2008 with Sally Ike, a highly renowned Eventing Stadium Course Designer from the US. This clinic has been two years in the planning and we are happy to be able to bring Sally to both a site in western and eastern Canada in the spring of 2008. The dates for the west will be June 13 to 15, 2008 with the location yet to be determined.

The meetings held every November are truly a forum for networking and information swapping with the majority of the provinces being represented. One of the biggest topics of discussion for this year was the establishment of UNCART which is the new competition classification system for implementation in 2008. In a nut shell, UNCART will enable organizers to determine what fees are to be paid based on the level of competition offered, and would allow the competitors to determine what level of sport license they will require base on the level of competition they compete at. This is something every competitor will need to review once released, as a certain level of sport license may be required for all levels of competition.

As 2008 is once again an Olympic year, there was a lot of discussion about the Olympics and what is needed to send our team to Hong Kong. As the funding received for the Olympics nationally does not cover all the costs, the Provincial delegates and members of the Canadian Eventing Committee turned their minds to ideas for fundraising in order to support our team.

Keep any eye on the Eventing ENEWS updates found on the EC website and find out what is new in the sport of eventing or how you can help us support our Canadian Eventing Olympic Team. For more information on the planned Sally Ike Clinic, please email me at jdjohansson@telus.net.

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