



**HAPPY NEW YEAR** and best wishes for a safe, happy and prosperous 2008!

I hope that each and every one of you had a safe and festive Holiday Season. As the New Year begins we would like to start off by letting you all know about some of the upcoming **changes to the competition structure** (see below) and some of the areas in which equestrian sport will be included for 2008. We are very excited for all of our athletes and are looking forward to passing on great stories to you as the year progresses. We are also working on providing new and useful projects for our recreational riders.

For all of you coaches and officials stay tuned to the website for a list of upcoming clinics and seminars that we will also be offering this year.

**GREAT NEWS** for our *Senior Equestrian Riders!* Equestrian has been accepted as one of the 4 new demonstration sports for the BC Seniors Games. The Games will be held in **Prince George Sept 10-13, 2008**. We are hoping to have competitors from *REINING, DRESSAGE, HUNTER/JUMPER AND DRIVING*. We are so very excited to be able to have something for our senior equestrian competitors to work towards, and from what I have heard the Seniors Games are a real fun time and a great experience for everyone who attends.

The deadline for entries will be **July 15th, 2008** and we are just in the process of setting the discipline levels and categories we will be offering. The Seniors Games website is also being updated daily and the new information for the Prince George Games should be up and available by the end of January 2008.

For more information check out our website for a direct link to the BC Seniors Games site. The only real criteria and qualifier is that the athletes be 55 yrs of age or older.

If you have any specific questions, please send them to [administration@hcbc.ca](mailto:administration@hcbc.ca).

## MEMBERSHIP



**REFER** a **NEW** member to Horse Council and receive a discount on your next year's membership. We have some great new programs available for the 2008 season so please checkout our website for all the information [www.hcbc.ca](http://www.hcbc.ca)

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Just a friendly reminder to please fill out your **birth date** and the **survey** questions at the back

of the renewal form. This is very important for HCBC to fulfill our requirements for continued funding from Sport BC.

## **HORSE COUNCIL BUSINESS MEMBERS**

Previously our business membership ran for a calendar year regardless of the purchase date; we are pleased to announce that we were able to change our system so that our business membership effective date will now run for one full year from the date of purchase.

*HCBC - working towards better service for our business members!*

## **MEMBERSHIP Fee Structure for 2007 and 2008**

Horse Council BC Membership fees are as follows:

**Senior:** \$40.00      **Junior:** \$32.00      **Family:** \$99.00

**Business:** \$65.00      **Affiliate:** \$160.00      **Club:** \$60.00

**A subscription to PACIFIC AND PRAIRIE HORSE JOURNAL (PPHJ) is also offered at a discounted rate for HCBC members,** and can be paid for with your membership. The reduced one-year rate is \$12.00 (\$12.72 incl GST); the two-year reduced rate is \$24.00 (\$25.44 incl GST). **(See page 10 for more information on PPHJ's half-price subscriptions for HCBC members.)** PPHJ is the official publication of HCBC, and carries this membership newsletter in each monthly issue.

SEE THE NEW **BREEDER SECTION** added to Horse Council's website - Check it out!

## **Equine Canada Revised Competition and Sport License System Effective January 1, 2008**

Equine Canada has revised its system for classifying competitions for numerous reasons:

1. To more closely match Sport Canada's Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) model by creating a progressive system of competition from the grassroots level to the international podium.
2. To simplify the current system by reducing the number of levels from 13 (Primary, Provincial and 11 National) to 6 (Bronze, Silver, 3 Gold and Platinum). Not every discipline will use all 6 levels.
3. To create a system that affords the most latitude for disciplines and breed sports to write rules that apply to their particular sport.
4. To ensure a fair user-pay system for competitions in Canada. Those showing at the highest Federation Equestre International (FEI) levels need to pay more than those at the entry level. Participants who use the most resources (i.e. rules and officials) need to cover the cost of creating and providing these resources. New to the system is the Bronze License, which is appropriate for competitors showing at the entry-level.
5. To support all levels of competition and competitors in cooperation with our provincial partners, Equine Canada is responsible for providing rules and officials for all levels of competition provides rules and officials for all levels of competition.

## **What is changing in 2008?**

### **Levels**

The first step is to reduce the number of levels from 13 to 6 and to re-name them:

- Primary level competition becomes **Bronze**

- Provincial (Trillium) level competition becomes **Silver**
  - National level competition becomes **Gold A, B, or C** (not every discipline will use all 3 levels)
- EC has created a new category, **Platinum**, to recognize top-level competitions. This simply means that the competition is offering both the EC Gold level and FEI-sanctioned classes. Each discipline will specify in its rulebook the levels of competition it will offer.

## **Licenses**

Competitors showing at the Bronze level will require a Bronze License. A competitor with a Silver License is eligible to compete at both Bronze and Silver competitions. A Gold License enables competitors to show in Bronze, Silver and Gold level Competitions. Only members competing in FEI classes will require a Platinum License. License fees for 2008: Bronze \$20; Silver \$60; Gold \$100 and Platinum \$150.

## **Concurrent competitions**

Competitions will not be allowed to run multiple levels of competition at the same time or during the same week (exception: Platinum may run Gold and FEI level competitions concurrently). A competition must choose one level to offer; the sanctioning and license fees will be based on that level. However, this rule will not apply to certain disciplines with smaller numbers of competitors. For example, Dressage will permit two levels of competitions to run concurrently and pay the relevant sanctioning fees. Eventing and Driving may offer all levels of competition at one competition site on the same day, but will only pay one sanctioning fee. Please refer to Equine Canada's discipline-specific rules for additional information regarding concurrent competitions. The concurrent competition rule will also apply to Discovery Competitions, which will not be allowed to operate at the same time as another EC-sanctioned competition. Please see Section A—Article A302 of the 2008 Equine Canada rules for the definition of a Discovery Competition.

## **Competition sanctioning fees**

For 2008, the sanctioning fees will be the same as the 2007 fees and are determined by the level of prize money offered. The Competition Date Notification Form included in this package contains charts that outline the changes in criteria which define the level of sanctioning and the corresponding sanctioning fee. All the new 2008 competition forms are available on the EC website at [www.equinecanada.ca](http://www.equinecanada.ca).

## **Officials**

The new classification system does not require any change to the level of officials used in 2007. Bronze Level competitions will have the identical officials' requirements that Primary shows had in 2007. However, some disciplines may be changing their rules for officials when they conduct their annual review of requirements for officials. All officials, competition organizers and participants need to review discipline/breed sport specific rules and charts which will be available on the Equine Canada website at [www.equinecanada.ca](http://www.equinecanada.ca)

## **Rules**

The only changes to the rules for 2008 caused by the new classification system are those relating to the system. Disciplines have changed some of their rules for 2008 in the course of their normal annual reviews.

## **Passports**

For 2008, there will be no change to the current system. Silver and Gold competitions will require passports. Bronze level shows will not require any sort of horse identification.

## **Temporary Sport Licenses**

No change for 2008. If a competitor arrives at a show without a Sport License, he or she will be able to purchase a \$30 temporary license from the competition. Temporary licenses are not available at the Platinum level. Competitors using Temporary Licenses do not accrue points.

## **Single Event Sport License Upgrades**

Different from a Temporary Sport License, a Single Event Sport License Upgrade is for a competitor who arrives at a competition without the correct Sport License level. The competitor may pay a fee of \$15 to the competition to compete at a level higher than their license. The Single Event Sport License Upgrade is valid only for that competition. A competitor may upgrade from Bronze to Silver, Bronze to Gold, or Silver to Gold. Upgrades are not available from any level to Platinum. Competitors using Single Event Sport License Upgrades do not accrue points.

## **Mid-year change in Sport License**

At any time, a competitor who wishes to change his or her level of Sport License may do so. The fees already paid will be applied to the cost of the higher-level License. It is important to note that competitors must make such changes at the provincial or Equine Canada offices—not at a competition.

## **Forms**

Forms included in this package include:

- Competition Date Notification Form
- Prize List Approval Form
- Officials Approval Forms

These forms are to be used for all levels of EC sanctioned competition. Please only use the forms which have been provided. All forms are to be submitted to your provincial office.

## **Competitors**

To accommodate the purchase of the Bronze License the EC website will be equipped to take new Bronze License payments starting January 31, 2008. A form will be available to print, complete and mail or fax in for the new Bronze License as of December 21, 2007, for competitors who are competing at EC-sanctioned Bronze competitions prior to January 31, 2008. After this time, competitors who require a Bronze License will be able to purchase the license online at <http://members.equinecanada.ca>

## **Additional Information**

Testing for equine medications will now extend to the Bronze level of competition, formerly known as the Primary level. There will also be an extension to the submission and display of results for all competitions at the Silver level. Silver level hunter, jumper, dressage and eventing competitions will now be required to submit their results online using ECRIT or SECRET. All other disciplines must submit results to the Equine Canada office in hard copy. To facilitate the submission of results, competitions will receive submission software and documentation on the submission process in the New Year. It is also imperative that all prize lists for EC sanctioned competitions reflect all of the newly adopted 2008 competition related changes before prize lists are approved and printed. This will ensure that sanctioning for the competition is granted. Attached in this package are all the discipline/breed sport charts. These charts will assist in the understanding of the 2008 Equine Canada competition system. Please direct all questions regarding the new system to [inquiries@equinecanada.ca](mailto:inquiries@equinecanada.ca).

## **Western Heritage Performance Classic**

Western Heritage Provincial Championship date correction July 12 and 13, 2008

## **BC Summer Games 2008**

Equestrian has once again been included in the 2008 BC Summer Games to be held in Kelowna on July 24 -27, 2008. The disciplines will be Reining, Dressage and Jumpers. Competitors must be between 13 and 18 years of age as of January 1, 2008. Check the web site [www.hcbc.ca](http://www.hcbc.ca) for details.

The BC Summer Games is an exciting opportunity for exhibitors wanting to experience multi-sport competition. Our inclusion is significant in the fact that the Equestrian discipline is not represented at any other provincial games or at the Canada Games. The BC Summer Games brings a shared common goal within the zones and their respective members. All young riders are encouraged to vie for spots on their zone teams at designated qualifiers. Check our website under competition/sport section for the growing list of qualifiers. While at the BC Summer Games, athletes will work with level 2 coaches. Level 1 coaches will augment this by offering one on one support. This is an exciting and unique opportunity for our equestrian athletes.

## **BC Summer Games Qualifying Competitions - Attention Show Organizers**

Qualifiers have started and will run until June 16, 2008. We need your competition! If you would like your show to be a qualifier, contact Kelly at the HCBC office for information. We need many more qualifiers throughout the province. There are no extra fees and just a little extra paperwork!

## **ENVIRONMENTAL FARM PLAN (EFP)**

Check out our website, call or email for more information on this great program! Don't let your manure storage and removal become a problem again this year. Call the office or direct inquiries to our Planning Advisors. They are available to assist and offer guidance and support.

Here is a list of our Planning Advisors:

Sean Suggitt – Lower Mainland and Fraser Valley	<a href="mailto:ssuggitt@telus.net">ssuggitt@telus.net</a>	604-299-0390
Lee Hardy – Vancouver Island & Gulf Islands	<a href="mailto:poplarlanefarm@shaw.ca">poplarlanefarm@shaw.ca</a>	250-652-1618
Ken Huber – Cariboo & Okanagan	<a href="mailto:huberx3@telus.net">huberx3@telus.net</a>	250-456-6050

They can help answer any questions you might have about your farm and any environmental issues that are happening.

## **How to Reach Us**

The HCBC office hours are Monday to Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. If you need an HCBC service and just can't get to the office during regular hours, please call us and we will make every effort to accommodate you. The address is 27336 Fraser Highway, Aldergrove, BC, V4W 3N5. Phone: 604-856-4304 or 1-800-345-8055. Fax: 604-856-4302. Web site: [www.hcbc.ca](http://www.hcbc.ca).

## **Emails for all staff:**

General inquiries: [reception@hcbc.ca](mailto:reception@hcbc.ca)

For administrative/industry/policy (Executive Director, Mona Desy): [administration@hcbc.ca](mailto:administration@hcbc.ca)

# Notes FROM THE OFFICE

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January 2008

For new and renewing memberships: [support@hcbc.ca](mailto:support@hcbc.ca)

For business members, database, website, clubs and affiliates: [membership@hcbc.ca](mailto:membership@hcbc.ca)

All education & coaching questions: [coaching@hcbc.ca](mailto:coaching@hcbc.ca)

Competitions, officials, clinics, and western heritage programs: [competition@hcbc.ca](mailto:competition@hcbc.ca)

Bookstore sales & video rentals: [bookstore@hcbc.ca](mailto:bookstore@hcbc.ca)

Horse Council BC

Membership Newsletter

by Mona Desy, Executive Director