

POACHER HARNESS CLUB NEWSLETTER

May 2008

We have had a very exciting and well attended first outdoor competition at Swinderby on 11th May. Many thanks for the success of the day must go to the Smith family who hosted the event, designed and erected the course, and stewarded throughout the day. They will also be hosting the 2nd of our training days on 18th May. Many, many thanks for your tremendous support to the club.

Our thanks must also go to our stewards for the day, we hope that those of you who were doing it for the first time enjoyed the experience and wish to repeat it. Names and contact details of those willing to help us should be sent to our Steward Secretary Sarah Braybrook or you could contact me and I will pass them on to Sarah.

In the excitement of giving out the rosettes at Swinderby I forgot to give out groom rosettes, sorry about that but I will put it right either by distributing them at the training day or by post if you are not present on the 18th May. In case you are not aware we have decided that grooms should also be awarded if their team is placed.

Another really good development is that we now have 2 junior members (both called Kelly) and at events where they are both present we will have an additional junior class and placings. This is an area that we really need to concentrate on extending and encouraging. Its an ideal starter for youngsters interested in the sport and should be actively promoted if you know of any young persons interested in competitive driving.

Swinderby was also the first serious occasion that we have used our new club equipment trailer which has made life much easier for those involved in putting up and dismantling courses.

Due to the expected increase in entry numbers I need to advise you that at all future events it will be necessary for you to have walked the cones course prior to entering the dressage arena as you will not have time to do so after the dressage and will be asked to go straight from one to the other. It is expected that a board showing dressage times will be placed by the trailer at each event, please present

yourself outside the arena 10 minutes before your stated time. A competitor briefing will become part of an event day and will take place at 9.30, give or take a minute or two either way. All events for 2008 are timed to begin at 10am. We realise that this may mean that you have to be on the field earlier than in previous years, but it is hoped that this will be compensated for by an early finish.

Our next event is a Swiss Derby at Beelsby on 1st June which will include a timed drive followed by obstacles interspersed with cones sections. There will be no "cones course" following on from the dressage test. Please enter before the closing date

Any photos taken at recent events will be welcomed for the website, please send them in jpeg format so that they can be easily transferred and also please give some info about the subject of the picture e.g. venue, name of driver & groom and also of the horse.

Finally, I shall be retiring from the position of Secretary at the end of this season and also from the committee. Anyone with good computer skills and preferably a non-competitor would be welcome to put their name forward for the committee which will be elected at the AGM in November.

***Your Editor
Angela***