Horse Trials PEI Newsletter - Spring 2003

New Directors for 2003

Many thanks to Judy Simms, Christin Campbell and Sara MacPhail for their past contribution as directors of HTPEI, we wish them well in their new endeavors. Welcome to Donna Allen, Brian Vicars, Lisa MacGillivray and Mathew MacPhail as new directors to HTPEI.

Click here for a complete list of HTPEI directors.

HTPEI Membership, 2003

If you would like to join HTPEI this year, please send the enclosed application to Lana Wright at P.O. Box 1541, Charlottetown, PE, C1A 7N3. It is important to note that we submit insurance money to Island Horse Council (IHC) in mid-April and you will not be able to purchase IHC insurance after that time.

New Helmet Rule for 2003

This is a reminder that effective January 1,2003, EC requires all junior riders to wear proper fitting approved protective headgear with safety harness correctly secured at all times while mounted on competition or event grounds. Headgear must have ASTM and SEI seal, BSI is also acceptable. We will be asking that at events, you bring your helmet to the secretary office for inspection when you check in. You will not be able to compete unless you have the proper helmet.

Local Pony Club Member Wins National Award

Sara MacPhail of the Charlottetown Pony Club was one of two winners of the Todd Sandler Memorial Scholarship Award. We are looking forward to hearing about her experiences of her two weeks this summer at Horse People Inc. in Ontario. Congratulations Sara!

Canadian Eventing...Horse Trials Canada has a new name

Actually, the changes go well beyond a new name. In keeping with the restructuring which Equine Canada has recently undergone, the structure and name of the organization overseeing eventing in Canada has been revised. Horse Trials Canada has been replaced by Canadian Eventing, which will function as a committee of Equine Canada. The names, structure and day to day functioning of provincial Horse Trails Associations will not change. However, HTPEI now interacts with Canadian eventing at the national level. These changes were finalized at the HTC AGM in Toronto in November 2002. So, when you see Canadian Eventing referred to from now on, this is a committee of the same dedicated volunteers who have been working at the national level all along. However, the structure now allows Canadian Eventing to work more efficiently and effectively to advance this sport at the local, Provincial, national and international level.

Maritime Levy Dollars Working Clinic at Strathgartney August 9/10

Canadian Eventing Team long listed rider Garry Roque will be offering a two day clinic at Strathgartney equestrian Park August 9/10. This is a fabulous opportunity for Maritime preliminary, training and pretraining level competitors to have access to Garry's expertise at rates well below market value.

In return for the financial support which elite riders receive from the \$7 levy paid to Canadian Eventing by Horse trial participants, these riders have agreed to support provincial programs throughout Canada at a minimal charge. Garry has agreed to come and coach free of charge as part of this Levy Dollars Working initiative organized by the Athlete Development Committee of Canadian Eventing. Consequently, the fees for this clinic are astounding. PEI participants will pay \$40 total for stadium jumping Saturday and cross country Sunday. NS and NB rider will pay \$20 for the weekend. The fee difference is designed to help alleviate the costs of travel which NS and NB participants face. Entry forms will be distributed in early June. There are seven spaces available for each province on a first come first served basis. Entry deadline is Friday July 25. After entries close, seats will be assigned to riders on the waiting list also on a first come first served basis. Susan Dohoo is the PEI organizer, in collaboration with Liz Certain of NB and Kim Elliot-Foster of NS. Spectators are welcome and encouraged to attend free of charge.

Garry has bees involved with three day eventing at the international level since 1990. He was a member of the 1991 Pan American Games silver medal team, and has been a member of the Canadian talent squad or long list every year since 1997. In 2002, he qualified three horses for the Canadian Team long list. Garry also has a strong coaching background. We are fortunate indeed to be welcoming him to Strathgartney this season.

Other Cross Country Clinics This Year

Alex Beaton will be at Strathgartney again this year for a cross country jumping clinic June 14 and 15. This is a good opportunity to get out on the course and get in gear for the summer horse Trail. It is a good idea to get a few lessons in before hand to get the most out of the clinic.

Mike Gallaghar will also be here to oversee the Jump Building clinic May 24. We need many hands on that day to make light work and it is also a good experience to learn how and why a course is built the way it is.

New Stadium Jumps for Strathgartney

There will be a new set of stadium jumps at Strathgartney Equestrian Park for the 2003 show season. IHC and HTPEI have shared the cost of materials for the construction of these jumps for use at the park. This is part of Phase II of the Rejuvenation of Strathgartney. The jumps will remain on site at the park, and will be maintained by IHC as part of the infrastructure needs to improve the park as a competition facility.

There will be forty poles, 8- 10 planks, 46 standards as well as filler which HTPEI has assembled over the past three years. These will be available for use during competitions and clinics at the site. The Pony Club Show will be held at Strathgartney June 7, so the jumps will have to be ready by that date. Ian Dohoo has started construction of the standards, and once the weather

warms up in May, IHC will have a party to paint the jumps. Of course we hope to see lots of HTPEI members there with paint brush in hand, since these jumps will make stadium preparation much easier for the organizers and will make for a great set of jumps for competitors to enjoy at our Horse Trails June 28 and September 13.

New Coach and Returning Coach

We are fortunate to have Brain Vicars move to the Island last year and he is coaching out of Horseshoe Hill Farm along with Heidi MacLeod who has returned from out west. Brian has worked for Jonathan Asselin who was on the 2000 Olympic Show Jumping Team, Peter Gray who was the 3-day Event coach at the time Brian worked for him. He has also been on the National Eventing Talent Squad list for five years and has competed up to a One Star event level. Heidi has competed in the 4'6-4'9 jumper and equitation divisions throughout the Maritimes, Quebec, Ontario and the Eastern States. She has also run a successful training program including riders from beginner to preliminary jumpers. They are both working toward their level II coaching certificates.

There are many coaches on the Island, this is a good time of year to investigate for one if you don't have one already. It is good to check out two or three, watch some of their lessons and talk to them to see if they are what you are looking for or needing in a coach.

Click here for the 2003 HTPEI Event Schedule