



Notes from the Office

September 2010

BC EQUESTRIAN TRAILS FUND - Be a BC Equestrian Trails builder!

We've seen from the 2010 Equine Canada/HCBC Recreation & Industry Grant how just a few dollars from each Horse Council BC member each year can make a huge difference in building and improving BC's equestrian trails and horse camping sites. If you like to explore new trails, or plan to in the future, help make BC the best place on earth to ride by making a donation to the BC Equestrian Trails Fund. Grants will be made available to HCBC member clubs to assist them in building and improving trails and horse-camping sites. For a generous individual donation of \$25 or more, you will receive a Leave No Trace Canada handy reference card, and for \$50 or more you will receive a 32 page Leave No Trace Horse Use Skills & Ethics booklet. Download a **BC Equestrian Trails donation form** from the Trails section of the HCBC website, or log on to make a donation on-line as an add-on from your "MY HCBC" page.

Doing business with BC's trail riders?

Make a contribution to the BC Equestrian Trails Fund and your promotional dollars will directly benefit members of your target market while earning their patronage and good will. Receive increasing promotional benefits relative to the amount of your contribution, from a sign on the virtual "**Thank You Trail**" to acknowledgement on permanent trail signage and media releases. Download a **BC Equestrian Trails Fund Business contribution form** from the Trails section of the HCBC website or contact Ruth at recreation@hcbc.ca for additional information.

Take your horses camping!

If you like to trail ride, and you like to camp, why not do both at the same time? There is a new Horse Camping Sites page in the Trails section of the HCBC website. All of the sites listed have horse corrals for overnight stays, and some also have high lines and hitching posts for either camping or day rides. Check out the stories and photos on Fish Trap Creek Horse Camp near Barriere, the Churn Creek Protected Area near Clinton, and the Whitworth Horse Camp in Skagit Valley Park just two hours from the Lower Mainland ... and there are more. If you know of any sites that aren't listed yet, let us know.

BC stands for Building Champions – The beginning

This summer we have witnessed British Columbian equestrian athletes achieve amazing results in Provincial, National and International competition. By fall we hope to have seen more spectacular results from BC athletes at the World Equestrian Games. While these equestrians may ride in different disciplines and different styles they all have one thing in common....at one point in time every rider had their very first ride on a horse or pony. Each rider/athlete started out knowing absolutely nothing.

Everyone has to learn how to ride before they can shine in the competition arena or enjoy a recreational outing. Another commonality would be that someone taught them how to ride. It is this person that holds great importance for every rider, whether they compete internationally or enjoy recreational riding. There is a saying that the shortcuts taken at the beginning will come back to haunt you later and this applies to training horses or learning to ride. The Instructor who teaches a beginner how to ride is the base of the pyramid, this Instructor or Coach sets the foundation that the rider builds on as they progress. As with home construction, a poor foundation can lead to some unwelcome complications later on. Riding is not different. Coaches and Instructors who are teaching beginners hold an important responsibility to teach the basic skills to the rider correctly or the rider may face difficulties as they continue on riding at higher skill levels. It takes a lot of specialized knowledge and technique to teach and produce a novice rider that has good basic skills.

As athletes progress towards podium performances they need to work with coaches who are top notch High Performance specialists. This is a natural progression. When you watch our equestrian champions compete, keep in mind the Instructor who taught them how to ride and celebrate those professionals who started these riders on their pathway to the podium.

To find an Equine Canada certified, active Coach or Instructor go to the coaching section of www.hcbc.ca.

BC Summer Games a great success!

2010 saw another successful BC Summer Games. Held at Thunderbird Show Park in Langley, the teams were able to compete at a world class facility, giving the games even more prestige. For some participants it was their first time riding at Thunderbird, others were quite familiar with the facility. All riders were able to enjoy a whirl wind 4 days of competition, fun and for most, not nearly enough sleep. The Head Coaches, the assistant coaches and the support teams made the event possible. Without the 8 Head Coaches as well as the assistants and supporters who volunteered to take on coaching and chaperoning a zone team, we would not have been able to participate in the Summer Games as a sport.

The summer games are more than just another “show”. They leave lasting memories, friendships, learning opportunities. Three members of the 2010 gold medal winning North American Junior Young Riders Dressage Team started their journey to the Championships after competing in previous BC Summer Games as did other BC riders at these championships. This is the importance of the Games: they can be a pathway to an even bigger podium, or be a long treasured experience by a different

participant. Either way, it is the coaches, volunteers, organizers and supporters that make a huge difference in how the athletes experience the games and where they take that experience.

Deb Fox - Head Coach Zone 5

Alison Bain – Head Coach Zone 3

Georgeann Gregory – Head Coach Zone 5

Jeannine Ellingham – Head Coach Zone Zone 2

Chris Hassell – Head Coach Zone 1

Kiersten Humphries – Head Coach Zone 8

Yolanda Blommers – Head Coach Zone 4

Margaret Rigby – Head Coach Zone 7

Katie Andrews

Leora Burtch

Adrienne Sanderson

Kathryn Southam

Lynda Smith

Michelle Meacher

Sandra Verda

Dr. Susan Thompson – who presented an excellent clinic on Sport Psychology and was there to help where needed.

The games were also a success due to the hard work put in by the volunteers who acted at discipline chairs and held major roles.

Debbie Rogal

Fran McAvity

Sarah Bradley

Sharon Hall

Jane James

Barb Schmidt

Dave Esworthy

And many more!

We also want to congratulate and thank the athletes that took part on their Zone Teams.

Congratulations to the medal winners:

Combined Zone Aggregates:

Gold – Fraser Valley Zone 3

Silver – Vancouver Island Zone 6

Bronze – Caribou North East Zone 8

Dressage First Level test 3

Gold – Ashley Mytting

Silver – Elizabeth Fraser

Bronze – Rebecca Bonnell

Dressage First Level test 4

Gold – Ashley Mytting

Silver – Rebecca Bonnell

Bronze – Amy Wellburn

Dressage First Level Freestyle

Gold – Amy Wellburn

Silver – Lindsay Stuart

Bronze – Rebecca Bonnell

Vaulting Event 1

Gold – Korynn Weber

Silver – Dana Nielson

Vaulting Event 2

Gold – Korynn Weber

Silver- Dana Nielson

Vaulting Event 3

Gold – Cassie Sponchia

Silver – Korynn Weber

Welcome Jumper 1.10 M

Gold – Kaylie Martinoff

Silver – Ailsa Antilla

Bronze – Natasha Sukorokoff

Jumpers Mini Prix 1.10 M

Gold – Ailsa Antilla

Silver – Jessica Lovig

Bronze – Olivia Carr

Jumpers Speed Derby

Gold – Kaylie Martinoff

Silver – Allison Lagan

Bronze – Alexis Vlassopoulos

Reining Pattern 1

Gold – Veronica Blattler

Silver – Jessica Marak

Reining Pattern 2

Gold – Veronica Blattler

Silver – Jessica Marak

Para Equestrian Dressage FEI Grade III Novice

Gold – Stephanie Ross

Silver – Emily Browne

Bronze – Krystal Schrauwen

Para Equestrian Dressage FEI Grade III Team

Gold – Emily Browne

Silver – Stephanie Ross

Bronze – Krystal Schrauwen

Para Equestrian Dressage FEI Grade III Freestyle

Gold – Stephanie Ross

Silver – Rachel Whitmore

Bronze – Danielle Benoit

BC Heritage Finals 2010

The Finals were held in Armstrong July 17 to 18. Carolyn Ferris and her amazing volunteers made this competition a success. This competition was held on a very hot weekend, and the volunteers running this show worked hard so that the competitors could participate in the finals.

Ellen Smailes from Heffley Creek BC judged the Finals and true to form her expertise and good nature was evident throughout the weekend, thank you Ellen!

HCBC would like to thank the following partners, whose generosity helped make this event a winner; **Elite Focus Event Photography, Capri Insurance, Venkat Saddlery, H4 Services and Prairie Coast Equipment.**

Congratulation to the overall Division Champions!

Western Division Champions

13 and Under – Zaria Hayes - LT Defining Moment

14-18 - Monika Schroeder - Hot Cubed Sugar

Senior- Kelsey Hayes RHL Zans Leo Otoe

English Division Champions

13 and Under – Victoria Fryer - Black Rambo Shadow

14-18 Monika Schroeder - Hot Cubed Sugar

Senior Wendy Price - Ima Painted Skeeter

Versatility Championship was won by Stephanie Daoust riding RDR Face of An Angel. This award recognizes the horse and rider combination that successfully competed in both English and Western classes at the Finals.

Battle of the Breeds Winning Team

Team Quarter Horse

Kelsey Hayes

Dawanna Monks

Veronica Blattler

Exciting new classes offered in the BC Heritage Program for 2010/2011!

Hunter Over Fences 2'-3' / 3'-3'6"

Jumper 2'-3' / 3'-3'6",

Dressage Training/First Level

Driving; Reinsmanship, Pleasure, Command, Games-Barrels, Poles

BC Riders named for World Equestrian Games Teams!

2010 FEI World Equestrian Games (WEG) to be held in Lexington, KY September 25—October 10, 2010.

Congratulations to **Wendy Christoff** and Pfalstaff of Delta who have been named reserve combinations for the 2010 World Equestrian Games Dressage Team.

The Equine Canada Canadian Reining Committee (CRC) has announced the Canadian Reining Team. HCBC is pleased to congratulate **Lisa Coulter** of Kelowna, BC and her horse Pilot Point, TX for being named to the team.

The Endurance Canada International Committee is pleased to announce the squad and alternates who will represent Canada at the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games. HCBC is proud to congratulate **Elroy Karius** on Apache Eclipse and **Gail Jewell** on NL Temptation for being name to the team. **Terre O'Brennen** of Delta BC has been named as an alternate and **Gail Jewell** was named as Alternate on two other horses.

The BC riders named to the Eventing team are Langley's **Hawley Bennett-Awad** on Gin & Juice, Summerland rider **Rebecca Howard** on Riddle Master and Summerland rider **Stephanie Rhodes Bosch** aboard Port Authority.

Named to the Vaulting team are **Colin Schmidt** and **Alyssa Porter**, both from Chilliwack.

At press time the Para Dressage has not been announced however, BC has an excellent representation of riders who stand a very good chance of making these teams.

BC Riders shine at the 2010 North American Junior and Young Rider Championships

The Championships were held July 28–August 1 at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, KY, the site of the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games.

The NAJYRC gives up and coming riders the opportunity to represent their area, province or country as a team, and prepares them for future international competition. The 2010 edition featured the disciplines of dressage, eventing, jumping and reining. The Junior Championship division is open to riders fourteen to eighteen years of age while the Young Riders Championship division is open to riders sixteen to twenty-one years old. Many of the world's top competitors, including many Olympic medalists, began their careers at the NAJYRC.

The British Columbia / Quebec Combined Eventing Team won the bronze medal in the Junior Championship division Congratulations to **Nayla Charbonneau** of Surrey, BC, who was a member of the Bronze medal winning team.

The British Columbia Junior Dressage Team won the gold medal in the FEI Junior Team Competition

The Gold Medal Team, comprised of **Esmee Ingham** of West Vancouver, BC, **Sylvie Fraser** of Armstrong, BC, and **Monica Houweling** of Delta, BC, scored a decisive win with a Team total score of 201.297, 3.5 points ahead of the silver medal team.

In the Junior Freestyle, **Esmee Ingham** of West Vancouver, BC, riding Norseman, a 14-year-old Swedish Warmblood gelding won the bronze medal with a score of 70.900%.

Taking the bronze medal in the individual Reining final was **Vanessa Strotmann** of Salmon Arm, BC riding her seven year old Quarter Horse gelding, Listos May Day Hobby to a score of 212.

"Rooster Kicker went really well. It was a running pattern, and we both thrive on that type of pattern," said Pratch. "He is a solid stopper and there were four stops which also helped us. I plan on staying in the reining pen and working in some of the other western performance sports as well."

Youth Olympic Games 2010

Dominique Shone, 17, of Langley, will represent Canada at the inaugural Youth Olympic Games in Singapore from August 14-26, 2010.

The Youth Olympic Games will see 3,000 athletes representing 205 nations competing in 26 sports. The show jumping events, the only equestrian discipline included, will take place at the Singapore Turf Club Riding Centre. The organizing committee will supply horses capable of jumping courses of up to 1.20m for the 30 international competitors. The athletes will draw for the horse that they will ride for the duration of the team and individual competitions.