

International Newsletter
July 2008



Ride News:

Owyhee Fandango
International

Spruce Woods -
Spirited Sands

Fort Howes

FEI Proposed Changes

Horse Maintenance Program (HMP)

Malaysia

World Equestrian Games



Owyhee Fandango International May 25, Idaho

Five Canadians Successful

The dusty and sandy trail opened early on the second day of the three-day pioneer ride along the foothills of scenic Idaho country. Of the 25 riders who would venture on the 100 mile ride, five were Canadian, four of which attempting to obtain their FEI Certificate of Capability. **Elroy Karius** was the first Canadian to finish, with a ride time of 9:18:17. He was followed by **Tara and Makayla MacLeod** both with a ride time of 11:26:10. **Yvette Vinton and Kathy Irving** then came in close together at 12:21 and 12:29 respectively, ensuring their CoC along with Karius and Tara MacLeod.



Kathy Irving completed the Owyhee Fandango on time to obtain her CoC.

Congratulations!

Ft. Howes CEI***/** (YR) June 6-8, Montana

The next ride on the North American FEI calendar was that of veteran ride managers **Bill and Jan Stephens**, in beautiful Ashland Montana. Canadians again made a strong showing, with maritimer **Bob Gielen** finishing in good company as the first Canadian to finish the ride. With a final ride time of 11:24:07, Gielen came in a mere second after **Sheikha Madiya Al Maktoum**. Manitoba resident **Myna Cryderman** followed with a ride time of 12:29:30.



Lisa Baker and FV Sharzaam at Fort Howe 50 mile



Bob Gielen & Galaxy finished 7th, giving them their second CoC and are now qualified to compete in Malaysia in November 2008.



Myna Cryderman and Night Skye's 10th place finish gave them their first of two CoC for Malaysia.

Toni Chase and her horse finished the 50 mile ride in xx place.

Spirited Sands Endurance & Competitive Trail Riding Event June 28-30, 2008, Manitoba

The Spirited Sands Endurance & Competitive Trail Riding Event June 28-30 2008 held at Spruce Woods Provincial park was a tremendous success with 51 entries coming from Manitoba, Ontario, Sask, Alberta, BC, USA and United Kingdom. The event included

- June 28th 50 & 25 mile Endurance race
- June 29th 40, 20 and 10 mile Competitive Trail
- June 30th 100, 50 and 25 mile Endurance race

Top ranked Canadian Endurance rider Myna Cryderman did not compete in the 100 mile as she unfortunately was hurt in a warm up ride on Sunday evening and sustained a broken rib and collapsed lung and was admitted to hospital in Brandon on Monday morning.

Kathy Irvine of Blackfoot Alberta wrote about her 100 mile experience at Spirited Sands

"I've always loved this trail because of its beauty and it's unique challenges, and I was excited to be back as I haven't been to Spruce Woods in years.

The sandy footing is one of the things that has to be rated on an ongoing basis. The short stretch of dunes are heavy and steep, but the ride loops were organized in such a way that they were on the second loop of the day, when the horses weren't too fresh, and yet it wasn't too hot yet to take a huge toll.

The "hot" loop was a psychological challenge for me. The terrain and the footing were not so much difficult as they were incessant. Slightly rolling hot, hot, hot in the 4 o'clock sun, in the shade, in the breezes... but you had to keep moving somewhat to outrun the horse flies!

After that, in stark contrast of the junipers and conifers of the sandy land, a beautiful loop led by the Assiniboine river with its hard packed

dirt roads through cultivated fields. I was riding it close to dusk and a deer in trees lining the field spooked my horse. She bolted, (as good excuse as any) but didn't quit! I finally had to see what was going on and realized a fawn was following us! I managed to get the mare under some sort of control long enough to explain to the fawn I wasn't its mommy and it had better not try and run off and join this circus.

I rode the last loop in the dark and I don't know if I would have missed it if I would have known the amazing light show put on by the fireflies in the boggy part of the common trail. In the faintest of dusk, reflected in the water, the fireflies glowed and shimmered in a Canada Day display that I'm sure rivaled anything that I've ever seen.

Thank you to the ride management, the officials and the amazing volunteers for the opportunity to have had this experience."

The following is the unofficial results of the Spruce Woods FEI 3* June 30, 2008

1. Julius Bloomfield
2. Murray MacKenzie
3. Gail Jewel
4. Elroy Karius
5. Wendy Benns
6. Wendy MacCoubrey
7. Yvette Vinton
8. Jan Marsh
9. Kirsten Kimbler
10. Kathy Irvine

Congratulations to all of you!

Riders one to nine achieved a CoFC. 16 Registered riders, 15 started.

Best Condition: Gail Jewel's NL Temptation

The Organizing Committee extends a heartfelt thank you to all the officials and volunteers who participated and assisted in the event. YOU did an awesome job!

The next major Canadian Endurance, Ride & Tie and Competitive event is the **Canadian Championship** to be held in Sundre, AB, July 30- August 4, 2008.





REMAINING FEI RIDES 2008 – NORTH AMERICA

July 31 – North American Young Riders Endurance Championship
Colorado
CEI*** (75)

August 2 – 3 - Rocky Mountain Challenge CEI***/** (YR)
Sundre, Alberta, Canada
Joan Harris

September 6 - Desert Classic CEI***/** (YR)
Las Cruces, New Mexico
David and Tracy Kaden

November 8 – WEG Pre-Breeze CEI** (YR)
Kentucky

FEI Endurance Task Force Recommendations and Proposed Rule Changes

At the end of February, the six Endurance Task Force Chairmen were making final checks to the document that contains their proposed rules changes in advance of it being circulated to the FEI Technical Committee members for Endurance. Throughout the period of review the Task Force has operated as an independent body and has been in touch with a wide cross section of people involved within the discipline. The document, which is in the form of a new Endurance Rule Book contains proposals for change in the following areas:

- Phase distances, hold times, rest periods and number of vet gates
- Course design
- Abandonment of Events
- Time and record keeping
- Forbidden Assistance
- Dress Code
- Weights
- Retirements
- Competition
- Distances related to *Rating
- Horse and Rider eligibility to FEI events
- Mandatory Rest Periods for Horses •

- Horse Log Books
- Championship Qualification
- Team numbers
- Veterinary Examinations

Mrs Ruth Carlson, Acting Chair of the FEI Endurance Technical Committee commented, 'I am very happy that the work of the Task Force has been a success and I look forward to reading their proposals. On behalf of my Committee I would like to thank the Task Force members for all their hard work and thought put into the project'

The FEI Task Force Chairmen met for four days, from 21 to 24 February, to agree on the final recommendations for the new FEI Endurance Rules for 2009 and onwards.

Far reaching changes are recommended by the Task Force that has consulted widely with all those involved in the discipline over the last year following their creation immediately after the FEI World Endurance Forum held in Paris, February 2007. FEI Technical Committee members had an opportunity to review the Task

Force proposals ahead of their annual meeting in early April in Switzerland (see below). At this meeting the Committee added their own comments and input to the proposed new format. The detailed proposals from the Task Force, together with the full input of the Technical Committee, was then circulated to all FEI National Federations.

Feedback from National Federations was requested and such feedback, where appropriate, will be incorporated into the final proposed FEI Endurance Rules for 2009. This final proposal will then be circulated to all FEI NFs for last review. In June we asked you to take some time to read and understand the proposals put forward and provide constructive criticism as to whether you felt it would work or not and propose how it should be changed to make it more fair and relevant. This really has been an unprecedented opportunity for all of us to have a real land positive impact on our sport, its rules,

FEI Bureau Meeting, Interlaken (SUI), 10 April 2008

The main item brought to the attention of the Bureau for information and approval following the meeting of the FEI Endurance Committee was the complete review and proposals made by the Endurance Task Force established to carry out a full review of the discipline and in particular, regarding the rule revision carried out since the Endurance Forum in Paris in April 2007. This was a huge undertaking by the members of the group who gathered the thoughts of people involved with endurance world wide over the course of the past year. A great deal of effort, planning, investigation and thought was invested by the Task Force Members, to produce a

document which, following the Bureau Meeting will be circulated amongst the National Federations with the comments from the committee for feedback. A Triple E Three Year Plan was presented to the Bureau - Elevation, Education and Equitation. These can be summarized as follows: ELEVATION OF ENDURANCE IMAGE – Whilst the growth of the discipline has been rapid and a very positive asset for the sport of Endurance, the issue of quality at all levels should now be addressed. In particular, enhancing the image of the sport in the eyes of the public and the media by implementing a minimum dress code that is both functional and professional for riders, their support crew as well as the FEI officials. EDUCATION of Judges, TDs, Veterinarians, Organizing Committees and competi-

tors through updated course materials for Judges and Technical Delegates, as well as the development of new courses for Endurance Vets, all of which will be partly funded through the new Two Year Educational Program sponsored by Hydra Properties. EQUITATION – By investigating and maximizing the use of existing athlete development programs within the NFs. By identifying opportunities to provide riding instruction and improvement programs and encouraging the participation of riders of all ages and at all levels of endurance competition. And finally, by focusing on the education and equitation needs and opportunities for Junior and Young Riders who are, after all, the future of the sport.

development and image. **IN MID-JUNE, ENDURANCE CANADA SUBMITTED OUR COMMENTS TO FEI, VIA EQUINE CANADA. MYNA CRYDERMAN, CHAIR OF ECI, PREPARED THE SUMMARY, BASED ON THOSE COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM ENDURANCE RIDERS ACROSS THE COUNTRY.**

Formal approval of the new rules will be carried out at the FEI General Assembly in Argentina in November and, if so approved, will come into force in January 2009.

The FEI would like to express its gratitude to all of those who have contributed to the process so far and have given so much of their time and effort to this review. The review is an opportunity for those directly involved with the discipline to create a sound foundation upon which FEI Endurance can continue to grow in the years to come.

First Class Educational Programme for Endurance

The discipline of Endurance is undergoing a full review of its rules. One of the key innovations introduced in new rules, which will come in force on 1 January 2009, is the emphasis put on the education of all officials involved in the discipline be they judges, technical delegates, and veterinarians. A significant contribution towards this new development will be brought by the agreement which was recently concluded between the FEI and Hydra Properties of Abu Dhabi (UAE). Thanks to this support, which spans over two years – 2008 and 2009 – amounts to DHS 500,000 (CHF 134,000), a worldwide educational programme will be set up. Courses will be organized and the documents used in these courses will be thoroughly reviewed and updated to include a handbook on the discipline, CDs and DVDs. Hydra Properties' sponsorship is the very first of its kind

and is quite unique in the sports world in general in that it is solely intended for use in education. It is key in that it comes at a crucial moment of the development of the sport and, if well used, will contribute towards setting the foundation for proper growth. Hydra Properties, in conjunction with the Abu Dhabi Sports Council, has been a strong supporter of FEI competitions within the UAE. Hydra Properties is an organization which is behind some of the most prestigious residential and business developments in the UAE. The FEI is proud of its association with Hydra Properties and sees it as a fantastic opportunity but also as a challenge to develop the professional level of Endurance.





ALLTECH FEI WORLD EQUESTRIAN GAMES Kentucky, September 25–October 10, 2010

Only 18 tickets remaining!

The World Equestrian Games, held every four years, are comprised of the world championships for eight equestrian sports - show jumping, dressage, eventing, driving, reining, vaulting, endurance and para-equestrian. The inaugural games were held in 1990 in Stockholm, Sweden, and have never taken place outside of Europe. The 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games™ in Kentucky will represent the largest equestrian sporting event ever held in the United States. Because of the proximity, we anticipate that Canadian participation/spectators is going to be high. And we anticipate that once tickets become available to the general public they will be sold out very quickly. The Games Foundation has announced a ticket deposit program for National Federations, whereby we can reserve tickets for full discipline sessions. Through Equine Canada we have been given an opportunity to pre-purchase 50 Spectator tickets for the sport of Endurance for \$50 each.

The tickets were first made available through the Provincial Endurance Organizations and 16 tickets were spoken for and paid for, the remaining 34 tickets are being made available to the Endurance Canada Members and Friends and will be allocated on a first come basis.

If you are interested in any of these tickets then please send your \$25 deposit (payable to Equine Canada) to:

Maura Leahy
Secretary/Treasurer & Membership
Endurance Canada Committee
Box 36, Gr. 36, RR #2
Dugald, Manitoba R0E 0K0
Phone: 204-444-2314
Maura.Leahy@mts.net

Note: officials, authorized crew and competitors will not require tickets as they will receive accreditation.

Endurance Participation in Equine Canada's Horse Maintenance Program 2008 (HMP)

Information for those FEI riders who are not nominating for Malaysia but who are interested in HMP for 2008.

Equine Canada's HMP policy is to encourage owners of international caliber horses to make them available to the Canadian Equestrian Team. Only owners of passported, registered (FEI) horses are eligible to apply for participation in the Equine Canada Horse Maintenance Program.

Equine Canada will charge owners a fee for reviewing receipts and issuing the tax receipt for expenses incurred. This fee is subject to change without notice (\$325 in 2007). Keep ALL of your ORIGINAL receipts for expenses during 2008.

Endurance has 20 spaces available for HMP.

(Those riders who nominated for Malaysia, and who have subsequently been ranked, will have priority.)

Participation opportunities will be offered as per the following priority system:

You and your nominated horse must have entered a FEI CEI*** ride

in 2007 and/or 2008, and by October 1st, 2008, you must have submitted all your ride results, electronically, for the years 2004 through 2008 (not just FEI) to Trisha Dowling DVM (trisha.dowling@usask.ca); instructions and the Excel file template will be sent to you upon request.

The available opportunities will be afforded to those owners of horses according to:

- Horse completed the FEI event that it was nominated for.
- Horse started the FEI event but did not complete.
- Horse attended the FEI event but did not start.
- Horse qualified but did not go to the FEI event.

Each level above will be further ranked according to the ranking of the horse and rider team from the Equine Performance System based on information entered by the 1st of October, 2008.

Owners of nominated horses must declare the name(s) of the horse(s) and their qualification as

above for participation in the HMP. If there are multiple horses nominated by one owner, the owner must declare the order in which the horses are to be considered. This information must be received by Trisha Dowling DVM by October 1st, 2008.

The nomination fee for a horse and rider team is \$50. The nomination fee for a second horse for a nominated rider is \$25.

Please make cheque payable to Equine Canada – specify for Endurance Canada and mail to:

Trisha Dowling, DVM
ECI Secretary
Western College of
Veterinary Medicine
52 Campus Drive
Saskatoon, SK
S7N 5B4

Phone: 306-966-7359

Email: trisha.dowling@usask.ca

Please contact Myna Cryderman, Chair of the International Sub-committee (ECI) mcryderm@mts.net or Trisha Dowling DVM trisha.dowling@usask.ca for further information.

Support our Endurance Canada Team

Help support our Endurance Canada Team who will be traveling to Terengganu, Malaysia to compete in the FEI World Endurance Championship November 6-9, 2008.

The team will consist of 6 Riders and Horses, 12 Grooms, Kay Melvin - Chef d'Equipe, Dr James Carmalt – Team Veterinarian, Maura Leahy – Assistant Chef d'Equipe, and Dr Roxy Bell – Assistant Team Veterinarian, and others

Make your donations payable to Equine Canada, with Endurance Team donation in the memo field and send it to
Endurance Canada Treasurer
Box 36, Group 36, RR2
Dugald, MB R0E 0K0.

Donations over \$25 will receive a tax deductible Charities receipt from Equine Canada on behalf of Endurance Canada.





The Event

The FEI World Endurance Championship 2008 ("WEC") will be held at The Terengganu International Endurance Park in Terengganu, Malaysia, November 6–9, 2008.

Situated a few kilometers from the South China Sea, the venue offers visitors and competitors the best of Malaysia's natural beauty and hospitality, as well as:

- * First class stabling and quarantine areas for horses
 - * Excellent trails, groomed for a safe, yet challenging Endurance competition
 - * Sheltered cooling and crewing stations and vetting area
 - * Spectator-friendly viewing areas
 - * Hospitality and refreshment centers
- The course is designed to provide a safe yet challenging competition, taking riders along the stunning coast line,

through palm plantations, along canal banks and through natural vegetation forests. A long and wide stretch of track provides ample space for the start of the competition and egress from the venue, and for a safe finish line and entry back into the Endurance Park.

Important Dates

Entry dates to note are:

- Entries in principle: June 1st, 2008
- Nominated Entries: August 21, 2008
- Definite Entries: October 1st, 2008

The arrival of the first batch of international horses in Terengganu International Endurance Park is expected to be on October 16th, 2008.

Ceremonies and Events

- Opening Ceremony: November 6
- Flag Off: November 7, –3:30pm
- Prize Ceremony and Gala Dinner, November 9.

Qualification Procedures & Competition

Qualification Procedures

As this is the first time that the event is held in tropical climate, there were concerns about the weather affecting the performances of the horses. Therefore, the FEI has set strict qualifying criteria for this year's championship

According to FEI qualification procedures, to qualify for the WEC Malaysia 2008, a rider/horse combination must

- **Complete 2 FEI CEI 3* rides** ie; 1 in 24 months and the other 12 months prior to the closing date of nominated entry.
- **Successfully completing the ride in a time equal to or less than 13 hours 20 minutes per 160KM distance.** This calculates to an average speed of 12km/h.

Once achieved, the rider will have a Certificate of Capability (CoC) for eligibility to enter the WEC.

In addition, any rider qualified as per the criteria mentioned but is eliminated from any consecutive events (FEI or National level) within 12 months of the nominated entries deadline will experience forfeit of qualification if the elimination is found to be of a metabolic reason. This also applies to any horse that is eliminated from any FEI or national competition for metabolic reasons.

Source: www.fei.org

The Competition

The welfare of the horses in the sport is paramount and very carefully attended to, with several veterinarians ("vets") present at every event. The number of vets depends on the number of horses participating and the horses are thoroughly checked by the ride vet before they are allowed to start.

The check includes measurements of the horse's temperature, heartbeat rate, respiration rate and a full metabolic profile. The horse is also trotted out to confirm its soundness. These checks are done at intervals throughout the ride and at the end of the ride.

The horse must pass all checks to successfully complete the ride. If a horse fails any of these vet checks, it is then immediately withdrawn from the event and the rider is eliminated.

The ride begins as a group start when the gate is "opened" or "flagged off" to start at a specific time. The riders are then free to go at their own pace throughout the ride as long as they do not exceed the time limit for their ride distance, or the cut-off times for the vet checks. Riders may also run, walk or jog alongside their horses at anytime throughout the ride. Endurance is a strategic test of horsemanship.

Riders are challenged with regard to effective use of pace and thorough knowledge of abilities and level of fit-

ness with regard to their horses against the difficulties of the course, terrain and weather. A rider can take up to a year or more to train themselves and a horse as such that they are ready to compete in the 80km ride and several more years to complete in a 160km ride or an FEI 3* event.

Entry Formalities

Passport and travel Documents

Visitors to Malaysia must be in possession of a valid passport/travel documents with a minimum validity of six months beyond the period of intended stay. In the case of a national passport not recognized by the Malaysian Government, the holder must be in possession of document in lieu of passport obtainable at the nearest Malaysian Diplomatic Missions Abroad. The national passport must also ensure his re-entry into the country of his citizenship.

Every visitor to Malaysia has to fill in a disembarkation card (IMM.26). This has to be handed to the immigration on arrival together with the national passport. A passport is also required for travels between Sabah and Sarawak.

Passes issued upon entering Peninsular Malaysia are not valid for entry into Sarawak. Fresh passes must be obtained upon arrival at the entry point in Sarawak. However, subject to conditions stipulated, visitor passes issued in Immigration Authorities in Sabah and Sarawak are valid for any parts of Malaysia.

Competition Tracks

The trails used for the WEC consists of paths that lead along the beaches, wooded areas, several water crossings, through village settlements, flat logistic roads & tarmac crossings. The trails will be marked prominently at strategic points to guide the riders. Along the trails, there will be designated water

points at approximately every 2.5km distances. These will serve as cooling and drinking points for the horses as they continue trekking to complete their distance.

Most of the ride will be done during the night and different coloured LED guide lights will be used as guides on the trails.

Welcome to the Terengganu International Endurance Park

The venue will be the Terengganu International Endurance Park ("TIEP") Lembah Bidong, Merang Setiu, Terengganu, Malaysia. The TIEP is the second sole endurance village in Asia, the other being in the Middle East. It has been known as one of the top endurance villages in the world.

Some main features on TIEP are:

- Top of the notch stables, spacious boxes with 8 different quarantine blocks and isolation stables area.
- Permanent arrival and departure gates and permanent vet gates with up to 20 trotting lanes with good footing.
- Secretariat offices and media room equipped with facilities.
- Restaurant Marquee for all participants and officials.

Stables

Horses will be stabled in groups according to the various stables in their respective quarantine zones at the venue. The main grouping will be the Western Europe, Eastern Europe, North America, South America, Australasia, Asia and the Middle East. Hay and fodder will be provided by the organizers with hay and grains being imported from various areas for the competing horses.

ENDURANCE CANADA WOULD LIKE TO RECOGNIZE AND CONGRATULATE

the
CANADIAN ENDURANCE TEAM OFFICIALS
 for the
World Endurance Championships In Malaysia 2008
 and the
World Equestrian Games In Kentucky 2010:

Kay Melvin – Chef d'Equipe
 Maura Leahy – Assistant Chef d'Equipe
 James Carmalt DVM – Team Veterinarian
 Roxy Bell DVM – Assistant Team Veterinarian



As of July 1st, the following horses and riders are now fully qualified for the World Endurance Championships:

- Ruth Sturley – RBF Super Sport
- Bob Gielen – FC Galaxy
- Julius Bloomfield – Avtar
- Yvette Vinton, DVM – Teese
- Wendy MacCoubrey – Mariah
- Wendy Benns - Supreme Justice

ENDURANCE CANADA CONGRATULATES EVERYONE!

Beijing Olympic News!

Only 7 countries have qualified teams in all 3 disciplines of Jumping, Eventing and Dressage: among them – Canada! Congratulations! Good luck to the entire Canadian Equestrian Team from Endurance Canada!

Websites:

www.eventuz.com
www.malaysia-wec.com

Endurance Canada Proudly Announces the 2008 Ranked Long-list of Riders and Horses

Rider	Rider's score	Horse	Horse's score	Combined Score
Myna Cryderman *	3989	Night Skye	3228	7217
Yvette Vinton	4179	JS Sedona Sun	2107	6285
Ruth Sturley *	2806	RBF Super Sport	2713	5519
Yvette Vinton	4179	Adida	1228	5407
Yvette Vinton	4179	Faras Fali	1158	5337
Yvette Vinton *	4179	Teese	943	5122
Julius Bloomfield *	2239	Avtar	2107	4346
Bob Gielen *	1795	F.C. Galaxy	2109	3904
Trisha Dowling	2267	ZF Mocha	1443	3710
MacKenzie	1236	Ransom	1347	2584
Dorchester	1346	SH Rock N Roll	1158	2504
Wendy MacCoubrey *	1125	Mariah	1277	2402
Wendy Benns *	1697	Supreme Justice	683	2380
Wendy Benns	1697	Flirt With Ecstasy	513	2210

* - riders nominated for WEC in Malaysia, as of date of 'entries in principle'

Equine Canada News

Rules for Traveling Equestrian Officials from Canada

There is important information available for equestrian competition officials from Canada travelling to the United States.

Officials who are Canadian citizens travelling to the US to officiate at any level of competition—local, state, national and international—may need additional documentation depending on the nature of their visit and type remuneration.

A non-Canadian citizen, such as a landed immigrant, requires a visa to enter the US, and they need to make a visa application prior to entry.

If a Canadian official is paid an honorarium in exchange for officiating services, no work status is necessary. The word honorarium must be used in all paperwork. Honorarium (8 CFR 214.8.) is defined as a gratuitous payment of money or any other thing of value to a person for the person's

participation in a usual academic activity for which no fee is legally required and that an honorarium may be of any dollar amount with no minimum or maximum dollar amount required. This definition makes clear that honorarium is altogether different than a salary that an individual receives on a continuing basis. Please reference <http://www.uscis.gov/pro-pub/ProPubVAP.jsp?dockkey=10ee592e9db187d8afe8e0869fb341be> for the definition of honorarium for this purpose. When payment is in the form of an honorarium, Canadian officials should deal directly with US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officers at the Port of Entry. They do not need to come to the Embassy or a Consulate for a visa first.

A B-1/B-2 visa is a visitor visa—a B-1 is for business, while a B-2 is for

pleasure. If the compensation is an honorarium, then this is the correct status for the visitor. If the official is a Canadian citizen, then he or she applies at the border and is admitted with this status. If the official is not a Canadian citizen, then they need a visa.

If the method of payment is not an honorarium, then a Temporary Work Status or H-1B visa is necessary. The employer of the Canadian official must initiate the hiring process and the subsequent H-1B process through Citizenship and Immigration Services (CIS). After it is approved, the Notice of Approval (I-797) will be sent to the official. The Canadian official takes I-797 and proceeds to the border to enter the US as a temporary worker. In the case where the official is not a Canadian citizen, they should take the I-797 to the Consulate to apply for a visa.

Phone inquiries about any kind of visa should be directed to the US Visa Information Call Center:

- 1-888-840-0032 from either the US or Canada—you will be asked to provide your credit card number at a cost of \$1.59/minute in CDN funds,
- 1-900-451-2778 from within Canada—you will be charged \$1.89 per minute in CDN funds, or
- 1-900-443-3131 from within the US—you will be charged \$1.89 per minute in US funds.

Many office phones and all pay phones are set to block calls to 900 numbers. If the 900 telephone service is not available to you, please use the 888 number above.

Additional information about visas to the US is available at <http://amcits.com/exceptions.asp>.

Important Information for Equine Canada Competitions with International Officials

Equine Canada is pleased to inform all Equine Canada competitions that any official travelling to Canada to officiate an equestrian event at any level (local, provincial, national and international) of sport competition does not require a work permit to work at Canadian competitions.

Please reference the following sections of the Citizenship and Immigration Canada document Foreign Worker Manual: 5.9. Work without a work permit R186(h)Athletes and coaches, 5.14. Work without a work permit R186(m)Judges and referees and 5.15. Work without a work permit R186(n)Examiners and evaluators. The Citizenship and Immigration Canada document Foreign Worker Manual is found online at <http://www.cic.gc.ca/ENGLISH/resources/manuals/fw/fw01e.pdf>.

Information for officials who are Canadian and landed-immigrants who reside in Canada and officiate in the United States will be available soon on the Equine Canada webEquine Canada site at www.equinecanada.ca.



Equestrian Venue Wanted for 2015 Pan American Games

The greater Toronto area (Golden Horseshoe) is considering making a bid for the 2015 Pan Am Games. The province of Ontario is undertaking a feasibility study that includes looking at venues for the sports involved.

Ontario equestrian facilities are invited to send in applications to be considered. It is preferable that all three Olympic disciplines be at one site; however, trucking horses to a near by cross-country course has been accepted in previous bids.

An Equine Canada review committee will forward, to the Ontario Government, all expressions of interest from venues seen to have the appropriate facilities, logistics, management and history, with an emphasis on providing the equestrian community with a lasting legacy.

Please contact candreas@equinecanada.ca for additional information.

International Endurance Championships proposed

The President of the Bahrain Royal Equestrian and Endurance Federation (BREEF) Shaikh Nasser bin Hamad Al Khalifa announced today his intention to push for the organization of an international endurance championship in cooperation with the International Equestrian Federation in a bid to globalize this sport and extend it to different parts of the globe. He also unveiled his intention to allocate great financial awards for the winners as the Championship would be sponsored by many sides. Shaikh nasser also asked the FEI to organize this championship in more than one part of the world and to create the necessary mechanisms to ensure its success. The main objective of Shaikh Nassers idea is to promote this sport worldwide and prepare future equestrians, especially that the sport is widely practiced in europe, north and South America and Australia.

Malaysia Update: Important News, July 25:

It is with regret that we have learned that **Dr. James Carmalt** will be unable to accompany the Canadian Endurance Team to Malaysia in November, but Endurance Canada is pleased to announce that Dr. Roxy Bell has agreed to assume the role of Team Veterinarian.

In order to fill the now vacant position of Assistant Team Veterinarian, and in keeping with our policy of East/West, West/East, and as Dr. Bell is from Alberta, we are hoping to find a suitable candidate from Eastern Canada, but will welcome resumes from across the country. If you are interested in this, or know of someone who may be, please contact the Endurance Canada International (ECI) secretary, Trisha Dowling, DVM, for the application form and information: trisha.dowling@usask.ca

Endurance Canada International (ECI) Committee Report



I would like to introduce myself as chair of the ECI committee. My name is Myna Cryderman. I have been involved in endurance riding for 30 years. I have 9,000 endurance miles and have represented Canada as a rider at two World Championships, a World Cup and three Pan Am Championships. I was the chief organizer of the 1999 Pan Am Endurance Championships. I have been a member of this committee, first under CaLDRA and now Endurance Canada, for over 12 years. I have been the organizer for 5 FEI CEI*** star rides. I am confident that this experience will assist me in heading up this committee of Endurance Canada.

Our committee members are: Ruth Carlson for B.C., Martin Marsh for AB., Trish Dowling for SK., myself for MB., Simon Benwell and Nancy Beacon for Ont., Lynda Townsend for Quebec and Bob Gielen for Atlantic Canada. If you have any input or wish to be kept abreast of the committee business please contact your provincial rep. or myself. The International Newsletter will be issued every couple of months.

Our mandate is to set policy for international team selection and all matters to do with forming and sending a team to international competition. This committee under CaLDRA developed the current totally objective and transparent point system for ranking our international riders which has proven to be far superior to the previous very subjective system. Our large geographic area creates challenges for any committee to compare riders from such diverse geographic locations.

The committee is currently working on developing criteria for any organizing committee in order that they receive permission to host an FEI ride. It is important that any group of people wishing to put on such an event possess some necessary skills and have some idea of what they are getting into in order to protect the integrity of the sport. We want to ensure that if anyone is hauling to an FEI event in Canada that the event lives up to certain expectations of quality trail and organization. If you have any suggestions please contact your provincial rep. or myself – mcryderm@mts.net

I hope to keep the communication open within our international community so feel free to contact me with any concerns.

Myna

Endurance Canada Website has Launched!!!!

The best news – the most exciting news - our website has been launched – check it out: www.endurancecanada.ca
Please note that this is still a 'work in progress', as we 'fill' the pages with documents, updates etc. Such a special thank you to Eve Comrie for undertaking this HUGE commitment, and to her colleague, Gloria Zahara, for assisting her. Kathy Dagneau, former webmaster for ERABC, will be our Endurance Canada webmaster – thank you, Kathy! If you would like to put something on the website, please contact Daphne: daphnedr@shaw.ca

