
NSW State AGM – 17th of June 2017

CDE Convenors Panel Report

Firstly I would like to thank my CDE panel members Penny Jacobs, Amanda See, Chuckie Englesman and Tony James for their support this year with all the decision making that goes on behind the scenes, particularly with the introduction of the Indoor Series and the 2 year review of the CDE Rule Book, both of which are ongoing for the incoming panel members.

I would also like to apologise for my lack of attendance at State Meetings due to the nature of my shift work, I understand this may not sit well with some, but my job must take preference.

CDE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2016

This years Nationals were hosted by South Australia in Monarto with a fantastic number of 55 entries. There were drivers from every state, which is an amazing effort from Tasmania and Western Australia to attend. Unfortunately in comparison to the number of entries, NSW was poorly supported with only 4 members travelling from NSW for the event. Congratulations goes to Amanda See winning the large open pony class, with Graeme and Debbie Dowling, Bruce and Liz Hammond, Linden Barrey and myself also competing.

In 2017 it is NSW turn to host the CDE National Championships. Bungendore Club put forward an expressions of interest to host this event with the assistance of the Southern Highlands club. Federal Council has since been advised of the hosts club's nomination.

Bungendore Club has also nominated to host the 2016 NSW State CDE Championships on the first weekend in November. As a Convenor I appreciate the club taking on both these events, a mammoth task, which the incoming CDE panel will fully support.

What a great opportunity to try out the venue in the lead up to the Nationals next Easter. I ask all drivers to showcase our state at both these events, whether it be as a driver or helper.

CDE RULE BOOK REVIEW

As many of you would be aware, following the culmination of hundreds of hours discussions and deliberations amongst the Federal CDE panel at the time, the new look CDE Rule Book was developed into one easy to read document released on the 1st of August 2015.

At the time, there was a motion carried that the rule book be reviewed in two years time to address any tweeking of the rules that may be required. The current Federal CDE panel has been working on this review and it is envisaged updates will be submitted and adopted at the Federal AGM this month for release on the 1st of August 2017.

INTRODUCTION OF THE INDOOR/OUTDOOR SERIES

The first of the Indoor/Outdoor trial events was held at Southern Highlands Club on the weekend of the 20/21st of May with Phil Marshall from Victoria kindly giving up his weekend to teach all those who attended the how's and wherefore's of running an event.

Murrumbidgee club then followed up with a trial event on the first weekend in June with Belinda Drury kindly giving up her time to assist the club for that weekend.

Both events were extremely successful and enjoyed by all who attended as either spectators or competitors. Interest is coming through from other clubs around the state and hopefully a few more trial events will be held this season. All clubs are reminded to contact the State CDE Convenor regarding any proposed trial events and dates. The panel is here to support you and pass on the knowledge that we are all gaining as each event is held.

In 2017 the series will kick off as an official series with the culmination of a Final event. As NSW is geographically bigger than Victoria, the panel will be looking at different options for the Final event. Information on the series will continue to be distributed.

Convenors Summary

During the previous months I have had the luxury of being a competitor and thoroughly enjoyed myself. At every event I attended, I've had the good fortune to meet many new members and new horses and ponies out there competing. As a driver I have a lot to learn but have been given so much encouragement by so many, which instills in me the confidence that the sport is growing steadily in the right direction.

I would like to re-iterate that all of us are volunteers in one form or another, who have one thing in common, we love our ponies and horses and we love carriage driving. Everyone can be a critic, that doesn't take much effort at all, and we all know if there is more than one person involved in the decision making, not everyone will agree.

I ask all of us as adults to be sensible in your thinking and look for positive ways forward to resolve any matters that may arise in the future.

It is up to us to make driving fun!

Thanks for listening
regards

Tracey Ellis

NSW State CDE Convenor 2015/2016