



DELTA RIDING CLUB

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BULLETIN | MAY 2011

5.2.2011 The perfect day for a show

What a difference a day makes! Today, it's socked in (as it has been most of this spring) and the rain has been relentless. Yesterday, however, we woke to a flawless sky and just a gentle breeze out of the southeast. It was THE PERFECT DAY for a horse show! So, that's what we did!

Nearly 40 horses and their riders started to parade into the club grounds shortly after 7:30 am for the first of four Delta Riding Club English Western shows this season. From the east side of the club to the west, trailers were pulled into place, horses were unloaded, their blankets removed and given a final buff before the show started – as always – promptly at 8:30 am.

As judge Mellissa Buckley (Pyke and Buckley Performance Horses in Langley) and DRC president and perennial ring steward Bruce Walker headed into the ring, France had the coffee perking and the grill sizzling in the clubhouse while Cindy and FrancIE tidied up loose ends in our high-tech entry booth. It was surely going to be a great day!!

It's no secret I lose a lot of sleep worrying about the forecast leading up to our horse shows; what you may not know is how much sleep I lose worrying about filling our roster of volunteers! (I don't sleep much!) Will we – or won't we -- have enough good-willed souls to fill allllll the positions we need filled to make it through the day? Well, I needn't have shortchanged myself on zzz's last week; yesterday we had volunteers coming out of the woodwork – including many NEW faces!! For the handful of us hard-core DRC pot scrubbers and elbow greasers, it made the day as PERFECT as you can imagine!!

We would like to thank PHYLICIA McIVOR and her trusty right hand COURTNEY HENDERSON for spending most of the day co-opping on whipper-in duties! You guys rock!! And then we had T.H.E. M.O.S.T. C.H.A.R.M.I.N.G. out gate volunteer EVER in JEAN-FRANCOIS SANTERRE [santerreshowstables.com]. No matter how your class went, I'm told, he made you feel like you were leaving a winner! TAYLOR DHALIWAL is taking a year off from showing (she was a big winner at year ends last year), but came back and spent the better part of the day as our ribbon girl! (A beautiful one, at that! ù) And then there was FRANCE LAVERDURE on that grill with her side-kicks TANYA and little MARY! (Remember to thank your handsome hubby, Tanya, for use of the tow line! Uh-huh. And whew!)

BABS BAIRD arrived at lunch as promised to take over on the out gate but we found her REAL calling! Babs is a CLEAN FREAK! She and MARY WATERHOUSE (who is soon to take over at Silverwood after Wendy heads up to join Charlie in Merritt) swept and vacuumed and collected up the garbage cans post-show – all the stuff we are normally too whooped to do!! THANK YOU!! And for your help, too, ladies, setting up the Trail course. It was SO refreshing to have so many on hand for that!

Of course, the regulars were there – Francie and Cindy in the entry booth, Sheila on the mike, Bruce in the ring, Diane Moon finished up the day as whip ... but I especially want to thank my “personal assistant” (wink wink!) for the day, FIONA WALKER! A girl could get SO used to that, having a personal assistant!! Thanks, Fiona!! Yer the

best! And – whether by fluke or design – Fiona is also one of two winners of our “volunteer draw” – gift cards to Timmies. (I couldn't have planned that better if I tried!) Courtney Henderson was the other! (And how great to be able to reward a newcomer with a TOKEN of our appreciation, eh?) Thank you to all of you and to others who lent a hand as needed throughout the day!!

Giddy-up

But a horse show is so much more than just the crew! Whether it was the sunshine that made us giddy, or just the fact it was the first show of the season for most and the first show EVER for some, we had a great group of happy-faced exhibitors grace our show ring yesterday, and we are SO GLAD THEY CAME! The senior rider class was probably the most competitive ever – and exciting!! There were – shall we say? – some VERY fresh horses in that first class but their riders managed the silly ones with ease while the rest kept their distance. OUTSTANDING!

We didn't have to split the canter in any classes (anything over 12 and we split, for safety!), but we were close! A huge English Showmanship class. Sheila finds them “boring” – I get GOOSEBUMPS watching exhibitors execute their pattern! Love it! The show paced as most do – we broke for lunch right around noon and resumed a half hour later with the hunter division. Western started a little after 2-2:30 and we were done by 4! Except for the clean-up crew! It was great to see Diane Prosser ride the full day, and Shauna Gough, too – we love our all-arounds! And Keya, too! And Kiana Krahn, one of our 4-H friends from Langley on a striking red dun Quarter Horse, who promises to come back! In fact, she won't be the only one! I received an email from June Allen this morning saying how much she enjoyed the show and how her friends were so impressed, they say they will be coming next time! BRING IT ON!!

Congratulations to our high point winners of the day:

WALK TROT

Tuxedo & Megan Schiewe
r / Clairvoyant & Teri Agle (Hey, aren't they from the same barn?!?!)

JUNIOR RIDER

Black Rambo Shadow & Victoria Fryer (all the way from Mission!)
r / Fall En Rain & Lauren Proudlove

INTERMEDIATE RIDER

Pacific MacKenzie & Vanessa Melney
r / Cuz Im Purdy & Devon Smith (Did anyone miss Roxy?)

SENIOR RIDER

Super Miss Lucy & Tamara Jameson
r / She's Amusing & Diane Prosser (if we had an award for happiness ...)

WESTERN

Super Miss Lucy & Tamara Jameson
r / Kahlua Cream & Key Milaire (air! AIR! I get it now!!)

Vanessa and Lauren, your prizes await you in the clubhouse. We'll be there on Wednesday, May 11 for our monthly meeting OR you can pick them up at our next show on May 15. High point winners took home those really cool storage stools for high point (courtesy of our pals at Greenhawk Vancouver – thanks, Laura, for the special delivery!), and our reserve awards this year are DRC-branded brush totes in your choice of colour – blue, yellow or Cindy's favourite: purple!

The next English Western show is SUNDAY, JUNE 19th – we'll all be



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wearing our ties in honour of DAD!

Hunter show next up

Our first Hunter show of the season is less than two weeks away! Mark SUNDAY, MAY 15 on your calendar – we have Lisa Mander booked to judge and it promises to be a great show, too! We already have four stalls booked!!

We've taken out our jumper classes and added a 3' HUNTER division this year, so we're looking forward to seeing some more competition in the bigger courses!! We'll have more news soon – we'll probably be looking for muscle to set up the course the day of our meeting or the 12th (a couple of us are already committed on the 13th – it's grad night in Ladner!) and we'll be looking for crew members, too!

If you have any questions about the Hunter show, Francie is in charge. She's not so computer-savvy, but you can call her at 604.940.8960 if you have any specific questions, or you can email me and I'll pass your message along. Save time in the entry booth by dropping off your entries early at Dog & Pony or Roddicks! And don't forget to send in your membership so you will be eligible for year end awards, too!

Clinics cancelled

It appears clinics are a hardsell here in Delta! I heard from Leslie Dowler last week that she has had no one show her the money for the Susan Norman French Classical Dressage Clinic she was trying to organize on behalf of the club in June. And then Susan Randall emailed just the morning to say she hasn't had enough response for the Paul Dufresne clinic she was trying to pull together for this coming weekend. Are we all too smart for our own good? I dunno. I know they're both disappointed ... as are we! We would love to see the club used on more occasions for more events!

New sponsors

We'd like to welcome two new sponsors to our 2011 roster: Vanderveen Hay Sales out on the hill between Cloverdale and Langley are bronze sponsors and Westway Feeds (your Proform dealer) has come through with a Platinum sponsorship this year!! Thanks, Jess & Brett!

Adiva Murphy evening clinics start next week

I can't believe how fast time flies!! There are still a couple of spots available (I think) to participate in the Adiva Murphy Evening Riding Clinics starting next week. The clinic on Thursday, May 12 will focus on Lateral Work, and the one on May 26 on Pattern Work. They're JUST \$30 a rider with a maximum of six people! I'll be there – guess I better ride a horse before then. It's been weeks!! Contact Cindy at cindy@adivamurphy.com for more information and to reserve your spot! (You don't have to take both – you can choose one or the other – Cindy and I are in for both, though!)

Percentage day later this month

Don't forget we've added a fourth Percentage Day to the schedule this year! (There is no rest for the wicked!) The next one is SUNDAY, MAY 22. Contact Sheila at sheila.forsyth@hotmail.com for info. Percentage Days are pre-entry events only and the deadline is

SUNDAY, MAY 15.

Well, time to put the hip waders on and waddle over to the barn. Thanks again to all who came out to Delta Riding Club yesterday to make our first English Western show of 2011 such a success!!

Coming up

Wednesday, May 11 General membership meeting at the clubhouse, 7 pm. EVERYone welcome!

Thursday, May 12 Adiva Murphy Evening Clinic: Lateral Work cindy@adivamurphy.com

Sunday, May 15 DRC Hunter Show, Francie, 604.940.8960

Sunday, May 15 Entry deadline for Percentage Day, May 22 sheila.forsyth@hotmail.com, 604.940.9698

Thursday, May 19 (tentative) Rain date for Adiva Murphy Lateral Work (if necessary)

Saturday, May 21 Horse Agility Training Day & Competition, cindy@adivamurphy.com

Sunday, May 22 Percentage Day sheila.forsyth@hotmail.com, 604.940.9698

Thursday, May 26 Adiva Murphy Evening Clinic: Riding Patterns cindy@adivamurphy.com

Sunday, June 5 DRC Hunter Show, Francie, 604.940-8960

PS: Special message to our Prez and Senior Grounds Keeper, Mr Walker: I bought you a tow rope of the Canadian Tire persuasion today! If all goes according to Murphy, you may never have to haul another rig off the grass again!! Yer welcome!! Give the Mrs a hug from me!

5.9.2011 Three foot division makes its debut

Delta Riding Club's first HUNTER SHOW of the season is this coming Sunday, May 15! I corresponded with judge Lisa Mander today and she is good to go – and so are we!

This is the first show that will have a 3 Foot division – a move we hope will draw more riders to our bigger jumps. This year, we are offering six Hunter divisions (and six corresponding high points ù): Cross Rail, 2 Foot, 2'3", 2'6", 2'9" and 3'. And we're honouring our platinum sponsors by naming one over fences class in each division after them! (Last year, we called them DRC classes and folks thought perhaps they were for DRC members only! Not so – and this opportunity to acknowledge the folks and businesses that support us eliminate that little bit of confusion!) We've got very nice high points (and reserves) for each division and – as always – ROSETTES to sixth place! COME SHOW WITH US!!

We need just a little help ...

We appear to have most volunteer positions spoken for (surprise!!!!!!) BUT ... we are still looking for some help in the kitchen. We need a cook and a cook's helper, if you're so inclined! Please email or call if you would like a crack at the grill! We would love to hear from you!! And thanks to everyone for already stepping up to make this show a success!! You're the BEST!!!

Otherwise ...

The gates open at 7:30 and the coffee will be on. We do have a handful of stalls already booked. If you would like a stall, please let



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me know asap so I can put your name on it. They're \$15 for the day.

Drop off your entries early at Roddicks or Dog & Pony (by 5 pm this Friday, please) and save time in the entry booth on show day. If you would like your number laminated (for a small donation, \$2 minimum per number) let us know and we can have it ready for you.

Percentage Day entry deadline this Sunday, too

Wow! We have another Percentage Day show just around the corner (Sunday, May 22) and the entry deadline is coming up quick: this Sunday, May 15. Drop your entries at our friends at Dog & Pony or Roddicks OR come by the show on Sunday and drop them off in the entry booth. Sheila likes to have the ride times figured out by Thursday and we'll try to put them on the website again, just like last time. That worked well.

Judge switcheroo

We've had a bit of a glitch for our June 5 Hunter Show, no thanks to some crazy (I'm being kind) rule that Equine Canada has come up with in the last year or so. They are insisting that their senior carded judges (Hunter, Jumper, Dressage) judge nothing less than a EC-sanctioned bronze show (or silver OR gold) and so Linda English has had to send her regrets – and she genuinely is disappointed she can't judge our show on June 5.

However ... in every grey cloud there is a silver lining, and I had the opportunity to speak with Jan Blackhall yesterday. Jan used to be a senior carded EC judge, but hasn't renewed her EC licenses (or whatever they call them) and so EC's loss is OUR gain: she says she would be DE-lighted to come out our way to judge our show on June 5. Thanks, Jan! Version (I'm losing count) 10 (?) of the show program will be available to download from the website [deltaridingclub.com] in the next day or so.

Bring your muscle to the meeting this week – we'll need it!

Our regular monthly meeting is scheduled for this Wednesday, May 11 but – it's going to be a bit of a work party-cum-mini-meet instead! We need some muscles to set up the jump course for the Hunter Show on Sunday, so bring your gloves, bring your muscle – and then sit in on what is likely to be an abbreviated version of our monthly meeting. (There shud be eats!) We'll probably start arriving after 6:30 for a 7 pm go at the course!

Oopsie ...

Well, I haven't messed up a date lately but I did make a somewhat embarrassing faux pas in the last bulletin. Turns out the new managers at Silverwood Stables (across from the riding club) are Brian (Bucky), Heather and Emily McNABB, not Mary Waterhouse! My bad – seems in the absence of concrete information (I misunderstood someone), I just make it up!! Sorry about that! Heather writes they're looking forward to making some changes, fixing paddocks, etc and if you'd like to contact them about boarding opportunities, you can reach them at 604.946.8932 or hmcnab@dccnet.com or find them on our webpage [deltaridingclub.com] under "Stables" (which Devon will be UPDATING toute de suite!!!! DEVON!!!!).

Alrighty then!

Didn't have any intention of turning this into a marathon, so I'm going to leave it at that. Will someone with some pull please have a conversation with Mother Nature between now and Sunday??? And please come by Wednesday and lend a hand!! We are a friendly bunch!!

5.22.2011 Could we PLEASE catch a break with the weather?!

Last weekend, Sheila told me she already had 16 rides booked for tomorrow's Percentage Day at Delta Riding Club. I'm pretty certain more have come in since then, so it looks like it's going to be a full morning and early afternoon affair. Drop by, if you like, for a coffee and some munchies and watch as judge Virginia Allen scores riders as they go through their paces.

Hunter people are hard core

The forecast wasn't in our favour last Sunday, May 15 as the first Hunter show of the season got underway. HOWEVER ... it wasn't as bad as it could have been (the horses didn't balk at the brollies!) and 14 exhibitors made for a very nice showing in all but the three foot division. We had five and six and even seven horse classes and the show paced well, wrapping up about 1:30, with no break for lunch. Judge Lisa Mander made good use of our Judge's Palace (on wheels ù) and we had a wonderful slate of volunteers, which is always refreshing! Congratulations to our high point and reserve winners who took home DRC-branded saddle pads and totes, respectively:

CROSSRAIL

Kim Taylor on Izzy
r/ Virginia Nicolls on Espresso

TWO FOOT

Megan Kenney on Hylee Classical QT
r/ Diane Prosser on She's Amusing

2'3"

Diane Prosser on She's Amusing
r/ Jennifer Andrews and Peaches

2'6"

Katie Andrews and Catalina
r/ Shelby Yule and Sugar & Spice

2'9"

Sarah Brown on Changed the Stars
r/ Katie Andrews on Rrrrrrhumba

Don't let your guard down

The next Hunter show is coming up on Sunday, June 5 – just two weeks away! And ... the long range forecast is looking (finally) consistently sunny. Maybe Bruce will even get a chance to mow – there was standing water on the infield and in the parking area last week! Again!

Remember, you can drop your entries off early at Roddicks or Dog & Pony and save time in the morning waiting in line at the entry office.



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The next English Western show is Sunday, June 19th and is a BC Heritage qualifying show.

Not too late to compete for year ends

If you haven't already paid your membership dues, it is not too late to ante up and compete for coveted DRC year end awards.

Exhibitors must compete in at least two shows (two hunter of three offered, or two EW or dressage of four offered). You still have a chance! You can download our membership application at [deltaridingclub.com]. We really appreciate the support, too, of "social" members – folks that will not be riding or competing with a horse at DRC, but just want to demonstrate their appreciation for the effort we put into Delta's horse club!

We have a winner!

Congratulations to DRC director Lynne Carter. Lynne dutifully trucked Webster up to Kamloops for the Wish Ride on the May 7/8 weekend where riders raised over \$9000 for the Children's Wish Foundation. Lynne – as is always the case – raised a staggering \$2,645, earning her two tickets to anywhere Westjet flies!! Well done!!

Equine Herpes Myeloencephalopathy (EHM)

We are continuing to monitor the plethora of information online about the status of horses that are being tested for this potentially fatal and highly contagious virus that gained notoriety during a cutting competition in Utah. The latest is that a horse in the Fraser Valley has tested NEGATIVE – it does NOT have EHV-1.

Paton Martin Veterinary Services have been providing timely updates to their clients and online on any news related to the outbreak and how it may or may not affect horses in the Fraser Valley. You can access their latest updates at [http://www.pmvetservices.com/NewsItem.aspx?NewsID=563].

Of course, everyone is being urged to practice due diligence. If your horse is not 100%, keep it at home and isolate him or her. If symptoms persist or get worse, don't delay in calling your veterinarian. There are no vaccines and isolation is key to keeping this international "outbreak" to a minimum.

Hors concurs

We allow riders to show "hors concurs" at our regular season shows – that means they are in the ring for a class but are not being judged. Those riders will remove their numbers or have their numbers turned around. They pay the regular entry fee but are – essentially – schooling without disrupting the competing members of the class. It's important to note, however, that you can only ride hors concurs in a class that you are eligible to compete in. For instance, a senior exhibitor cannot ride hors concurs in an English Pleasure class for Intermediate riders. If you are riding hors concurs, you are forfeiting the opportunity to compete with your peers, not warming up in a class you wouldn't otherwise be eligible to ride in. It was a discussion that came up at our May meeting that needed clarity. It's all good.

5.31.2011 Like to jump?

This Sunday not only marks day three (if you can trust the weather forecast) of 12 days of SUNshine (mixed with a few scattered showers), it is also Delta Riding Club's second HUNTER SHOW of the year!! Drop your entries off early at Dog & Pony or Roddicks (Friday

by 5). We have great high points in all six divisions, starting with Cross Rail all the way to 3 Foot. Meghan Parlee is our judge (after two others had to cancel: NOT that she is third best at all – she comes HIGHLY recommended by our good friend and Silver DRC sponsor KIM ROSE).

We are looking for a few good hands to help out on show day, although the Hunter days seems to require the minimum number of warm bodies! (What I am really REALLY going to be begging for is help on June 19th, our next English Western show!). Regardless, THIS Sunday is promising to be one of the nicest days of this ridiculously long and soggy spring, so plan on spending it with us! Our hunter shows are friendly and easy going – suitable for allllll levels of riders. You can download the show schedule and entry form from our website: deltaridingclub.com. Call Ms. Francie Shuttleworth at 604.940.8960 if you have any questions or email ME to book your day stall! Hope to see you Sunday!!

Work party this Thursday

Sheila is suggesting we pull together the clan for a work party THIS Thursday. We have jumps to re-arrange and horse tail to pull. Meet us there at 6:30!

Monthly meeting next week

The second Wednesday of the month comes early in June. Our regular monthly meeting at the clubhouse gets underway PROMPTLY at 7 pm on June 8th. Everyone is welcome to come and put in their two cents!

Another Percentage Day on our radar

I don't know if you realized it, but we snuck an extra Percentage Day into our show schedule this year. (Sheila is a bear for punishment, alright!) It's coming up rather quickly, on SUNDAY, JUNE 12. Percentage Days are always pre-entry the Sunday before the show (that would be THIS Sunday – egads!!). Why not drop your entries off while we're all there at the Hunter Show? Looks like Joan Simmons is officiating! The next Percent Day isn't until September, so pitter patter ...

Put the Summer Classic on your calendar

June is going to be a busy month at DRC – the year AND the show season will be half over, although I think none of us can believe that, given the (ahem) weather ... That said, you should be making plans to attend our two day SUMMER CLASSIC, August 6 and 7. This is our BIG show of the season. BIG prizes! BIGGER high points! Awesome competition! And just so you know, we have Maureen Walters lined up to judge the Hunter Day (Saturday) and ... Virginia Allen will be back to take on our English/Western competitors. We'll be working on the program in the coming weeks so watch for it!!

Is there a handyman among us?

You know, we spent almost allllll of last year working on the clubhouse renovations and I don't think anyone would argue that it wasn't worth the investment and effort. Running water, fancy grill, new and just-too-efficient entry office – bells and whistles up the whazoo – everything – almost -- except ... the backsplash in the kitchen. We HAVE the tiles; we just don't have anyone lined up to put 'em up!! Know someone with some tiling experience and a couple of hours to spare? We would love to meet him or her and have this loose end tied up before the August shows -- and we would be ETERNALLY grateful!! ù