



Ontario Therapeutic Riding Association

The ManeLine www.ontra.ca

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Vice President: Sonia Koczekan
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The 2008 Grant Program celebrates OnTRA's 25th Anniversary

Three \$2,500.00 Grants will be awarded at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair in November to three of our Member Centres.

Q & A: The OnTRA Grant Program

I am interested in how the points system works for grants. I do hope that it is not the programs with the most points that are

more eligible for grants. If this is the system it means that the groups that are geographically located closer to the Toronto area have a greater advantage than those much further away, or groups that have a smaller rider or volunteer base would be the same. We all pay the same fee to join ONTRA and the same services should be available to all. OnTRA Member Center

Answer:

The idea that perhaps centres should do more to support our provincial organization was the reason we added the point system to our selection process. The idea originat-

ed with the Ontario Equestrian Federation (OEF) as they do the same thing and our Board decided that this might help us get our centres move involved. These points are not the only thing we will be looking at and by no means is the number of points going to be the sole (or even the main) criteria.

The only advantage the closer centres may have in the point system is actually participating in some of the events in the GTA area. Although I must say distance has not stopped some of the farther away centres from participating as we have had riders from as far away as Timmins and Ottawa take part in the

competitions in Toronto and centres from Northern Ontario have hosted OnTRA workshops.

Member centers can send in pictures and stories for the newsletter and our website, same goes for submitting "want ads" to us for publication. We know great things are happening at all of our centres and we want to share those stories!

Many individuals from all over Ontario attend the RAWF, especially to go to the horse show, and could easily add a couple of hours in our booth as part of their visit (and even get free admission into the Fair.)

Sonia Koczekan, Vice-President
OnTRA

COMING EVENTS

OnTRA AT THE 2008 ROYAL AGRICULTURAL WINTER FAIR (RAWF)

November 7th - 16th, 2008
 Come out to support the OnTRA booth at the Fair!
 Ride the mechanical horses
 Purchase horsey products
 Learn about therapeutic riding

2008 OnTRA AGM to be held 10:30 Sat. Nov. 29
 The 24th Annual General Meeting will be held 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, November 29th at the Delta Meadowdale Conference Center, 6750 Mississauga Rd., Mississauga in conjunction with the Ontario Equestrian Federation Conference.

This year you can attend single seminars at the OEF conference. See the OEF web site at: www.horse.on.ca

Now Accepting OnTRA Board of Directors Nominations

To become a candidate or to nominate someone, please submit a "Nomination Form" along with the candidate's profile and mail to:
 OnTRA at RR 1 Straffordville, ON, N0Y 1J0 to be received no later than November 14, 2008.

OnTRA MEMBER CENTRES

ASBBURN: The Stables at WindReach Farm- 905-655-0889
BAILBORO: Mirabel Morgan Farm Special Riding Centre - 705-939-6485
BANCROFT: Equine Assisted Living and Learning - 613-339-1668
BARRIE/ORILLIA: Stonegate Farm - 705-327-7801
BELLEVILLE: Quinte Therapeutic Riding Association - 613-395-2990
BRACEBRIDGE: With Care Oke-Cook Family Farm - 705-645-5866
BRANTFORD: The Heart of Dream Equestrian - 519-750-9940
CALEDON EAST: Peace Ranch Inc. - 905-584-9156
CARLETON PLACE: Lanark County Therapeutic - Riding Program - 613-257-7121
CORNWALL: Brave-Hearts Riding Club - 613-528-1616
CORNWALL: Second Wind Acres - 613-528-1616
DESERONTO: Dare To Dream Therapeutic Riding Program - 613-396-3045
DURHAM REGION: Durham Therapeutic Riding Association - 905-668-6680
GREELY: Therapeutic Riding Association of Ottawa-Carleton - 613-821-1844
GUELPH: Sunrise Therapeutic Riding and Learning Centre - 519-837-0558
HAMILTON: TEAD The Equestrian Association for the Disabled 905-679-8323
INNISFIL: Springland Riding Stable - 705-431-7009
KINGSTON: Happy Heart Hippotherapy! (Uniques! Ltd.) - 613-546-7770
KITCHENER: Central Ontario Developmental Riding Program (CODRP) - 519-653-4686
LONDON: SARI Therapeutic Riding - 519-866-1123
MILTON/CAMPBELLVILLE: Windrush Stable Therapeutic Riding Centre 905-854-6008
NEW LISKEARD: Catch A Dream Therapeutic Riding Association - 705-647-8607
NEWMARKET: Horse At Heart Therapeutic Equestrian Adventures Inc. - 905-898-1530
NIAGARA ON THE LAKE: Red Roof Retreat - 905-684-0235
NORTH AUGUSTA: Touch A Rainbow - 613-926-2116
OWEN SOUND: Georgian Riding Association for Challenged Equestrians (GRACE) - 519-372-2721
PETERBOROUGH: PARD Therapeutic Riding - 705-927-0358
PETROLIA: Tomlyn Acres Registered Quarter Horses - 519-882-0958
PLANTAGENET: Passage Equitation Therapeutic Riding Association - 613-673-4875
PORT BURWELL: Jabez Therapy Ranch - 519-874-1168
PORT ELGIN: Pegasus Riding Association Nurturing Challenged Equestrians - 519-832-2522
PORT HOPE: Therapeutic Riding Association in Northumberland 905-885-5770
RIDGEWAY: "I Can" Therapeutic Equestrian Riding Association of Niagara (ICANTER) - 905-894-3276
SAULT STE MARIE: Therapeutic Ride Algoma - 705-759-2965
SHELBURNE: Traditions Farm Therapeutic Riding Centre - 519-925-1866
STOUFFVILLE: Giddyup - 905-642-8001
ST. CATHARINES: Horse Alternative Therapeutic Services - 905-682-3924
THUNDER BAY: Thunder Bay Therapeutic Riding Association - 807-472-5650
TIMMINS: Timmins Therapeutic Riding Association - 705-269-5994
TORONTO: CARD, Community Association for Riding for the Disabled - 416-667-8600
TORONTO: Exhibition Therapeutic Riding Academy - 416-790-2502
TORONTO: Saddle Up for Success - 905-932-1919
VAL RITA: Northern Lights Therapeutic Riding Association - 705-335-2441
WINDSOR: Windsor-Essex Therapeutic Riding Association - 519-969-1261

Disclaimer: Please be advised that OnTRA is not responsible for the accreditation, actions or activities at any OnTRA Member Centre. OnTRA has no legal or structural authority over any Member Centre as each Centre is totally autonomous.

Be aware that horseback riding can be a dangerous sport therefore you should verify the safety procedures & the certification of the instructors at the therapeutic riding facility of your choice.

OOPS, SORRY!

OnTRA wishes to make a correction to a statement made in the August issue of The Rider on page 46 with regard to backriding.

Backriding should no longer be practised and has been strongly discouraged by CanTRA and the international community for the last six years. When backriding was practised, the side walkers were in place for the backrider, not the rider, as the backrider was behind the centre of balance.

At the OnTRA Prince Phillip Games riders must be able to ride independently but riders may take part with a leader for safety reasons. Sidewalkers are not allowed at the Games.

In the Sept. issue in the 2008 OPSG article the photo of Dax Adam was omitted.

OnTRA CLASSIFIEDS

ASSIST OnTRA AT THE ROYAL AGRICULTURAL WINTER FAIR (RAWF) AND GET FREE ADMISSION TO THE FAIR

We are looking for volunteers to help man our booth at this year's RAWF. Your duties would include helping with the mechanical horses, selling various products and talking to interested individuals about therapeutic riding.

By volunteering for 2 - 3 hours in the booth, your admission into the Fair will be covered by OnTRA and you will be free to enjoy the RAWF for the remainder of the day.

If you are interested in helping, please call Sonia at 905 713-6036.

GIDDYUP is looking for a mature adult to instruct at our therapeutic riding program in Stouffville.

Classes are held on Saturday from 8:30 - 2:00 and Sunday from 12:00 - 5:00.

We would prefer someone who could work both days but this is flexible.

We are not looking for riding instructors as this is not a traditional 'learn to ride' program.

Applicants should be outgoing and self-confident, have good people skills and be comfortable working with children and adults with special needs.

Horse handling skills would be an asset but are not mandatory. We will provide extensive training. Contact Laura at: 416-771-2217 or laura@theleadhorse.ca

Part-Time Therapeutic riding instructor position available at CARD in Toronto.

Community Association for Riding for the Disabled (CARD) is looking for instructors for its therapeutic riding program. CARD is looking for highly motivated, safety conscious NARHA or CanTRA certified instructors for weekday and evening positions. Applicants must be punctual and work well with volunteers. CARD will consider having multiple instructors take over the available shifts.

CARD is also looking for one OEF Certified Instructor specializing in dressage to teach Rider Level classes.

To apply, please contact or send your resume to: Alie Volpatti, Program Director at card.equestrian@sympatico.ca or call 416-667-8600 x72.

For more information about CARD please visit our website at www.card.ca

Five Top Five Finishes for Evi Strasser at CDI-W Wroclaw

Ottawa, ON—Canadian Olympian Evi Strasser enjoyed five top five placings in the Grand Prix and Advanced division classes at the CDI-W Wroclaw in Wroclaw, Poland, September 12-14, 2008.

Strasser and Quantum Tyme, a 13-year-old Oldenburg gelding (Quattro x Argentinus), started the competition off with a score of 66.167% in the Grand Prix test which was good for fourth place. Out of a field of 16 starters, the pair then went on to finish tied for fourth place in the Grand Prix Freestyle with a score of 68.600%.

"Quantum was in top form, and he was very focused in the in Grand Prix test. We received high marks for our piaffe, passage, pirouettes and changes," said Strasser of her long-time partner. "I am also very thrilled with our Freestyle. He was a little up in the beginning, but settled in and showed off his quality throughout the performance. The judges commented on how well he is going, and that they thought that he is getting better and better."

Her success continued in the Advanced division with her second horse, Action Tyme, an eight-year-old Oldenburg stallion (Aktuell x Aleksander). In the Prix St. Georges test, the pair scored 65.583% for fourth place. Strasser and her stallion moved up one place, to third, in the Intermediaire I test with 65.550%, and finished off with a score of 66.650% and fourth place in the Intermediaire I Freestyle.

"Action Tyme was also in fine form, and in the Freestyle he was fantastic," noted Strasser. "The only problem we had during our Freestyle was that the music stopped on the last centerline, and it was just a technical problem. I was very happy with how he performed."

Strasser will be making her way to the next CDI competition which is CDI 3* Saumur held September 25-28 in Saumur, France.

The international judging panel included Slawomir Pietrzak (FEI C—POL), Barnabas Mandi (FEI O—HUN), Peter Hansaghy (FEI I—HUN), Wlclaw Pruchniewicz (FEI I—POL), Janusz Lawin (FEI I—POL), Maja Stukelj (FEI I—SLO), Raphaël Saleh (FEI C—FRA), and Zofia Gorska (FEI I—POL).

About Dressage Canada

Dressage Canada, as a committee of Equine Canada, is the National governing body for Dressage in Canada. Dressage Canada's objective is to foster the growth of Dressage and the pursuit of excellence in the sport at the local, national and international levels. Dressage Canada provides support and guidance to both amateur and professional through the following programs: coaching education and programs, officials' education and programs, rules & qualifying criteria, sport development, publications & awards. For more information about Dressage Canada, please visit the Dressage section of the Equine Canada site.

Para-Equestrian Canada Coaching Clinic Offered at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair

Ottawa, ON—Para-Equestrian Canada (PEC) is pleased to offer a coaching clinic on November 13th, 2008 at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair. The clinic is designed to educate coaches on topics associated with coaching riders with a disability and to encourage Equine Canada certified coaches to include riders with disabilities in their training and competitive programs.

It is anticipated that those who attend will be able to use knowledge acquired from the clinic to introduce more people with disabilities to equestrian sport and to identify and encourage potential Para-Equestrian (PE) competitors.

Location: Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, Direct Energy Centre on the Exhibition Place, Toronto, ON
Date: Thursday, November 13th, 2008

Time: 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Cost: \$75.00 (includes classification manual, rule books and other handouts)

Participants: Limited to 30 participants

Open to all interested coaches and of special interest to Equine Canada dressage and driving coaches and CanTRA coaches.

The clinic has been developed by the members of the PEC Coaching Committee.

Fionna Christensen: CanTRA Coach/Examiner, EC Coach 2, FEI – PE National Classification Advisor

Jane James: CanTRA Coach/Examiner, EC Coach 1, former Para-Equestrian Team Chef d'équipe (Athens 2004)

Marion Slatter Blitstein: Physiotherapist, international FEI-PE classifier

Karen Brain: Paralympic bronze medalist, EC Coach 2

Jan Jollymour: EC Coach 2, High Performance Coach and Competitor

The clinic will introduce and explain the Para-Equestrian Classification System that is currently in place for Para-Dressage and Para-Driving. It will include video examples, explanations, and demonstrations of adaptive tack and equipment for both training and competition. There will also be a discussion of disability issues and contraindications, including where to seek support and advice on medical, liability, and other issues.

Attendance at this clinic will qualify for six upgrading hours.

For further information or a copy of the registration form please visit Para-Equestrian Canada's website at www.equinecanada.ca/para-equestrian, or send an e-mail to para-equestrian@equinecanada.ca.

About the Para-Equestrian Discipline

In Para-Equestrian, each rider is classified according to his or her functional ability. They are assessed by trained physiotherapists and doctors who evaluate either muscle strength, coordination, or a combination thereof throughout the athlete's body. The rider is then given a functional profile that indicates the grade in which they can compete. There are five grades of competitions in dressage, with Grade IA representing the more severely impaired riders, and Grade IV representing the least severely impaired riders. The competition within each grade is judged on the functional skill of the rider, and not the level of disability.

About Para-Equestrian Canada

Para-Equestrian Canada is the discipline committee of Equine Canada that is responsible for developing and implementing programs on behalf of the Para-Equestrian community and administering the high performance program for dressage riders with a disability. For additional information regarding Para Equestrian Canada please visit www.equinecanada.ca/para-equestrian.

Para-Equestrian Canada Launches 2008-2009 Video Competition Series

Ottawa, ON—Para-Equestrian Canada is pleased to announce the return of the Sea-to-Sea Para-Dressage Video Competition series with the addition of an entry-level series this year entitled the Coast-to-Coast Para-Equestrian Introductory Video Competition series.

The Coast-to-Coast Introductory Video Competition series is geared toward therapeutic riding centres that are planning to conduct shows at their facility. The top three riders in eligible classes at each of the centre's show(s) can submit a video of their performance for further judging against other riders from across the country.

The Sea-to-Sea Para-Dressage Video Competition series is a video competition series for more advanced riders. As the number of participants for this series is reduced, it is not necessary to qualify the entry into the national competition. Riders can simply tape themselves at their stable or as part of a local horse club show that has agreed to include the FEI Dressage Test designated for their grade.

Greenhawk Harness Inc. will be co-sponsoring all first, second and third place prizes along with Para-Equestrian Canada

for each of the competitions this year. The partnership with Greenhawk and their generous support has enabled Para-Equestrian Canada to expand the number of competitions to ensure that more riders will have an opportunity to experience competition conditions in the comfort of their home stable and on a familiar horse.

Submission deadlines

Sea-to-Sea Para-Dressage Series
Show Series 2 – October 15, 2008
Show Series 3 – November 15, 2008
Show Series 4 – December 15, 2008
Show Series 5 – January 15, 2009
Show Series 6 – February 15, 2009
Show Series 7 – March 15, 2009

Coast-to-Coast Introductory Series

Show Series 1 – October 15, 2008
Show Series 2 – November 15, 2008
Show Series 3 – December 15, 2008
Show Series 4 – February 15, 2009
Show Series 5 – March 15, 2009

All rules, information and forms can be found online at www.equinecanada.ca/para-equestrian.

To Find out more about becoming an OnTRA member check our website, www.ontra.ca or call 905-839-4931

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