



## **United States Equestrian Federation**

### **USEF Driving Sport Committee (DSC)**

Many who are interested in driving sports in the United States may know that, after more than a year of deliberations, the American Driving Society (ADS) and the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) reached an agreement, reinstating ADS as the USEF Recognized Affiliate for Combined Driving and Carriage Pleasure Driving. This is very good news!

As USEF CEO Bill Moroney wrote in a letter to ADS President Mike Arnold, “We look forward to a collaborative relationship between USEF and ADS that will result in the growth of driving and a strong sport.”

In his letter to ADS membership, Mike Arnold noted, “This agreement best serves the driving community as well as the needs of both USEF and ADS organizations. Driving has long been an essential part of equestrian sport and recreation; a renewed connection between our organizations is a vital part of unifying the sport, providing ample opportunity to share the joy of our unique discipline throughout the entire equestrian community.”

Naturally, there are a few wrinkles to smooth out. Both USEF driving committees will be meeting with ADS representatives in the coming month.

In the meantime, the Driving Sport Committee (DSC) met in early May and welcomed Danielle Aamodt as the new USEF Director of Driving. Danielle replaced Lizzy Staller, who resigned the position in May. Danielle is originally from Harrisonburg, Va., and has a Bachelor of Science degree in equine studies from Centenary College in New Jersey, as well as an MBA from Murray State University in Kentucky. She comes to US Equestrian from Dietrich Equine Insurance in Louisville, Ky., where she served as the director of sales since 2014. She also served as horse show secretary and volunteer coordinator for both Hermitage CDE and Live Oak International CDE. Danielle also enjoys dressage and driving, and she has served as a groom for drivers at World Championships. Danielle’s office will be at the US Equestrian headquarters in Lexington, Ky.

The committee also discussed selection trials and staffing for the 2017 FEI World Driving Championships for Pairs, which will take place in Lipica, Slovenia, September 20-24, and the FEI World Driving Championships for Ponies, held August 15-20 in Minden, Germany.

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