



# NEWS

PRESENTED BY GRAYSON-JOCKEY  
CLUB RESEARCH FOUNDATION



## Competition Resources

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- [USEF Competition Calendar](#)
- [Post-Competition Evaluations](#)

### USEF Competition Updates

[Updated FEI Driving Dressage Tests: 2\\* H2-P2, 2\\* H4-P4, and 3\\* H4-P4](#)

[New Beginner Dressage Test for 2025](#)

[New Competitions Grant Application for 2025](#)

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## Upcoming 2025 FEI Championships

FEI Driving World Championship for Pairs

August 20-24

Beekbergen, NED

FEI Para Driving World Championship for Singles

September 3-7

Löhden, GER

FEI Driving World Championship for Ponies - Four-in-Hand, Pairs, and Singles

Sept. 17-21

Haras du Pin, FRA

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## Upcoming Pony Measurement Opportunities

### FEI Pony Measuring Session

Location: Charlotte's Creek Farm in Georgetown, Ky.

Date: July 23, 2025

Deadline for Applications: July 1, 2025

[Click here for more details](#)

### USEF Pony Measuring Session

Location: Garden State CDE in Allentown, NJ

Date: October 1, 2025, 3:00 p.m. ET

Contact competition management to make an appointment.

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## Athlete Selection Memo Now Available for the 2027 FEI Para Driving World Championship for Single Horses

US Equestrian has published the athlete selection memo for the 2027 FEI Para Driving World Championship for Single Horses applicants. The 2027 FEI Para Driving World Championship for Single Horses Championship location and date are to be confirmed by the FEI.

[READ MORE](#)

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## 2026 USEF National Championships

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### US Equestrian Announces 2026 USEF Combined Driving National Championships Bid Application and Criteria.

The deadline for bid applications is July 1, 2025.

Interested organizers can access the full [2026 USEF Combined Driving National Championship bid application details here](#).

The [2026 USEF Combined Driving National Championship criteria](#), developed by the Driving Sport Committee and approved by the USEF Board of Directors, outlines eligibility, class offerings, and organizational requirements for host venues. While athletes and horses/ponies who do not meet the specified criteria may still compete in associated classes, they will not be eligible for National Championship placings (see DC 928.2.1.2 for participation guidelines).

### 2026 USEF Combined Driving National Championship Host Offerings:

- Advanced Single Horse
- Advanced Four-in-Hand Horses
- Advanced Pair Horses, Intermediate Horses, Preliminary Horses, Training Horses & Para Driving (Horse and Pony combined division)
- Advanced, Intermediate, Preliminary, and Training Ponies

For more information, [please see here](#) or contact the Managing Director of Sport Logistics & Non-Olympic Disciplines, Steven Morrissey at [smorrissey@usef.org](mailto:smorrissey@usef.org).

[READ MORE](#)

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## FEI Updates

As of May 1, 2025, the new FEI Noseband Tightness Rules and Measuring Device have gone into effect. For more information:

[FEI General and Discipline Specific Protocols for Assessing the Tightness of Nosebands](#)

## [Noseband Tightness Control - FEI Measuring Device](#)

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FEI Young Horse Classes will be offered this year at Tryon Fall CDE. If you are interested in participating, please connect with the USEF FEI Horse Passport office at [passports@usef.org](mailto:passports@usef.org) to get your equine registered prior to the competition.

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The International Carriage Drivers Association has been recognized by the FEI through a memo of understanding, for more information or to join, visit [ICDA-driving.com](http://ICDA-driving.com).

## Athlete Pathways Program

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### Emerging Athlete Program

Upcoming 2025 Emerging Athlete Program Clinic Schedule:

- **July 18-20, 2025**, with clinician Suzy Stafford at Fox Woods Farm
  - **September 5-7, 2025**, with clinician Carrie Ostrowski-Place at Stone Ridge
  - **September 5-7, 2025**, with clinician Jacob Arnold presented by Central Ohio Carriage Driving
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### Developing Athlete and Equine Program

Upcoming 2025 Developing Athlete Program Clinic Schedule:

- **August 1-3, 2025** at USET Foundation in Gladstone, N.J.
  - **October 24 - 26, 2025** at Stable View in Aiken, S.C.
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### US Equestrian Announces Updates to Combined Driving Pathway Program Lists

US Equestrian is pleased to announce the Combined Driving Pathway Program lists for 2025. The Driving Pathway Program is a structured performance ladder designed to increase the national standard of Combined Driving in the U.S. and achieve recognition on the world stage. The pathway consists of Emerging, Developing, Pre-Elite, and Elite programs for driving athletes as well as a Developing Equine Program for horses and ponies with the potential to successfully compete at the international levels.

[READ MORE](#)

## USEF Updates

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### USEF Rules Changes Approved at USEF's Mid-Year Board Meeting

At the recent USEF Mid-Year Board Meeting, a number of rule changes were approved. [Read more](#) about the approved rules and please pay special attention to the DR chapter and GR chapter rule changes that may impact the Combined Driving community.

[READ MORE](#)

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### Interested in Becoming a Licensed Official?

Individuals can apply to become a licensed official for combined driving competitions and serve in different roles. Give back to the sport as a judge, technical delegate, or course designer. The requirements to become a national licensed official are located in the [Licensed Officials Policies and Procedures](#), which includes updated expedited application options for current Athletes competing at the Advanced or CAI2\* levels.

[Learn more about becoming a national or FEI combined driving official here.](#)

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### USEF Warning Card System

As of April 1, 2025, the new USEF Warning Card System went into effect.

The Warning Card System rule was amended to encourage and empower Judges, Stewards, and Technical Delegates to address conduct as it happens and correct behavior that should not be repeated. As part of the revision of this rule, USEF focused on clarity and flexibility by streamlining the existing Yellow Warning Card process and adding a Recorded Warning process to provide a mechanism for addressing less egregious behavior.

The goal of the revised warning system is to have conduct addressed and documented immediately, be it an infraction that rises to the level of a Yellow Warning Card or is less severe and warrants a Recorded Warning.

[For more information, please see here.](#)

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## Support Combined Driving

Interested in ways to support USEF Combined Driving or Para-Driving? You can find the link to donate to the USET Combined Driving and Para Driving [here](#).



Grayson-Jockey Club  
Research Foundation

## Project Update: A Novel DNA Vaccine Platform to Control EHV-1 and EHV-4

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The Wagner lab is using naive Icelandic horses to test and develop a vaccine for EHV-1 and EHV-4.

Equine herpesvirus type-1 (EHV-1) and EHV-4 cause respiratory disease in horses and both viruses can initiate abortions in pregnant mares. EHV-1 also causes neurologic disease, known as equine herpesvirus myeloencephalopathy (EHM). EHM outbreaks continue throughout the United States despite several available EHV vaccines. The medical and economic impact of EHV-1 and EHM outbreaks on the equine industry is substantial through lost training and competing time, costs related to quarantine, treatment, and loss of horses due to death of severely neurologic existing EHV-1 vaccines do not induce a strong memory response, and therefore require regular boosters to supplement their effects. In addition, there is not an adequate vaccine available for young horses to protect them from the virus early in life. But thanks to the Grayson Jockey Club Research Foundation vaccine research is currently being conducted, read more here:

[READ MORE](#)

### Connect with US Equestrian

Stay up to date with U.S. Driving by following [USA Driving on Facebook](#) and US Equestrian on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [TikTok](#), [YouTube](#), and [Instagram](#). Use #USADriving.



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