

Report to NSEF

November 2009

From: Director Coaching English and Provincial Coaching Co-Ordinator

The continuing introduction of LTED started off our year as well as the long awaited Rider Manuals now available. At the EC National Coaching Meetings in February, Jill and I presented the Rider 9 and 10 outline and received approval to pilot before the 2010 meetings. The format and outline for the NCCP Competitive Coaches was presented at the convention and were reviewed by both the English and western coaching committees. Our national office unfortunately had another hard year with a vacant office until this summer.

The first annual Nova Scotia English Coaching Symposium was held the last weekend in February at the Halifax Junior Bengal Lancers. This was well attended by coaches, candidates and interested coaches not yet in the NCCP program. The first day was a review of the Policy and Procedures Manual changes from 2008 and 2009 as the Manual is (still) not updated. In addition a presentation on LTED, Rider Levels 1-10, and NCCP certification outlining the IOB and Competition Coach was presented by Jill Barker, Master Course Conductor, and myself. A brief meeting was also conducted for the purpose of electing a Provincial Coach Conductor and I thank the coaches for their confidence in me and returning me to this volunteer position.. It was also agreed at this meeting that , in Nova Scotia, coaches must attend a Nova Scotia English Coaching Symposium at least once in every two years to remain current and in good standing. Following the meeting, Kevin Crosby presented Gymnastics for Novice Riders and Jill Barker presented Lunging for the IOB level.

The second day provided an opportunity for coaches, instructors and candidates to `practice teach` with guidance and direction from Jill and Kevin. The format seemed to work well and we look forward to 2010. In review of the weekend, we cannot stress how important it is for Candidates to mentor and practice teach as much as possible. The need for instructors to develop their skills at analyzing performance by identifying core areas of improvement in the novice rider is evidently an area that we need to develop training opportunities for in the future. Plans are underway to develop that module for our 2010 symposium.

The sale of rider manuals were strong at our NSEF office (125) but the actual testing for rider levels was low with Rider 1 (2), Rider 2 (7), Rider 3(14), Rider 4 (4), Rider 5 (6), Rider 6(5). We feel one of the reasons for low numbers may be simply the overwhelming schedule of events here in Nova Scotia – a lot of events that pull our coaches, riders, and resources in many directions.

Several IOB evaluations were done, 6 individuals completed their jumping module, and several more are working on their requirements. The IOB program received a great marketing boost with the article by Judy Davis who openly wrote about her journey this year into becoming certified. We continue to promote certification and rider levels as much as we can. Our office has sent out several communications to coaches to determine the needs of our coaching community.

The new Stable Management manual is now available; the French version is coming soon. We are also excited to hear that there is an English discipline version of P'tit Trot that will be released by Quebec in the coming year as well – what a great program!

LTED has been on the road a few times and Jill and I are off to Cape Breton the last weekend of November to present in a couple of areas. We will be multi tasking on the trip as well with several rider level and evaluations scheduled.

There is favourable word that the Introduction to Competition Coach and the Competition Coach Specialist programs will be ready to launch in 2010. We also hear that the request for change to the adult amateur rule in the Hunter Jumper disciplines may be favourably considered at last!

I would like to commend the NSEF office and our President for their active role in considering the coaching programs continuity in light of discussions with Equine Canada. It appears that we have strong support from our provincial government through Sport Nova Scotia as well as CAC. As your co-ordinator, I plan to continue to move forward to provide educational opportunities for all instructors and coaches, and continue to promote our great programs and opportunities for coaches and riders.

Sincerely submitted;

Mary-Clare McLaren