



HSI MEETS MINISTER ON HORSE WELFARE

HSI meets Minister on Horse Welfare HSI Chairman Joe Walsh led a delegation comprising of HSI, the Irish Horse Welfare Trust and the ISPCA, to meet Minister Brendan Smith TD on 14th Oct. to discuss horse welfare. Joe Walsh said that the large number of horses in the country, combined with the economic downturn, could result in problems as winter approaches.

He pointed out that the horse welfare bodies do great work in caring for and re-homing horses but that there was a limit to what they can do. The Minister has agreed to set up a meeting involving the relevant agencies to ensure the correct protocols are in place. Other issues discussed included the need for a proper traceability system for horses akin to the excellent systems in place for cattle and sheep; the need to improve the breeding industry to ensure more valuable horses are bred; and the requirement for more horse abattoir facilities in Ireland.

BREEDING

Irish Sport Horse Studbook 4th at the FEI World Breeding Eventing Championships for Young Horses, Le Lion d'Angers 2009. In the individual classes Camilla Speirs & 'BT Crew Master' (ISH) finished in 5th place in the CCI1* for 6-year-old horses. Stuart Crawford & 'Amacuzzi' (ISH) finished in 8th place in the same class. In the CCI2* for 7-year-old horses, Britain's Pippa Funnell finished in 4th place with 'Billy Landretti' (ISH), with Ciaran Glynn & 'Killossery Harvey' (ISH) best of the Irish in 17th place.

DRESSAGE

See Dressage Ireland Autumn/Winter Schedule 2009/2010 at www.dressageireland.ie/shows/dates.htm

National Championships 2009 Congratulations to the new Dressage Ireland National Champion, Yvette Truesdale. See www.dressageireland.ie/results/nationalchampionshipsresults2009.htm for full results.

Major Change to Rider Categories to simplify Dressage Ireland's rider categories, with a more even split at Preliminary & Novice level, there will be a major change from Nov. 1st 2009. See www.dressageireland.ie for full details.

EDUCATION

Sport Horse Breeders Skillnet – Proposed Equine Nutrition Course Qualification: FETAC Level 6 (with FETAC Level 5 exam & option to do Level 6 exam later). Location: Marion Hughes' Stud, Cuffesgrange, Co. Kilkenny. Time: 6.30pm-10pm, 2 evenings a week for 4 weeks during November. Tutor: Catherine Rudenko, Head Nutritionist at Connolly's Red Mills. Cost: €150. Contact: Nadia Rea on 045-854532 or at nrea@horsesportireland.ie

EVENTING

CCI 3* at Boekelo, NED, 11th Oct., 4 double clear rounds in show jumping put Ireland in 4th place at the end of this 3 star event.

Sam Watson wins at Weston Park, UK on 11th Oct. riding the 8-year-old Irish-bred Puissance gelding 'Hoyo' at this 2-star event, Sam finished at the top of the 46-strong field.

Tredstep Joint Winners Congratulations to our Tredstep Junior Rider Series Winners Phidelda Elvin on 'Cloud' & Rebecca Dunlea on 'Cashlene Captain' who won training bursaries with William Micklem. Both finished on 42 points.

Last Event of the season, held at Ballinacloy, Co. Waterford, ran on 18th Oct. Regional training courses will be run over the winter to keep horses & riders fit. The Northern Region is running 'Try Eventing Days' with Joseph Murphy from 29th Oct. Check www.eventingireland.com for details.

Regional Balls November sees the Munster & Northern Regions' annual balls taking place. Tickets available online at www.eventingireland.com.

JUMPING

Shane Breen had a tremendous show at St. Lo, FRA, 16th – 18th Oct, CSI3* event with 'Royal Concorde' (ISH) & 'Dorada' (ISH), finishing in 2nd place in 4 classes & taking top position in the 1m45 class with 'Dorada' (ISH).

Cameron Hanley wins German Masters Grand Prix 18th Oct. with 10-year-old stallion 'SIEC Livello'. Denis Lynch claimed 3rd on Thomas Straumann's 9-year-old gelding 'Tarpan'.

Jessica Kurten 6th in Helsinki, FI, World Cup 18th Oct. A single fence down in the jump-off denied Jessica Kurten victory in the Rolex World Cup competition riding Lady Georgina Forbes's 'Castle Forbes Cosma'.

Birmingham's Horse of the Year Show 8th Oct. Irish riders took victory in the first two major competitions. The Grandstand Welcome Stakes saw Shane Breen take 1st prize on the Irish-bred 'Dorada', with Billy Twomey & 'Tinka's Serenade' & Cian O'Connor on 'Baloufina' also claiming top 10 places. **Billy Twomey struck gold** with Ahmad Hamsho's bay gelding 'Ceasar', to take 1st place in the Sky Sports Trophy 2-phase competition.

MEDICAL EQUESTRIAN

The Medical Equestrian Association (MEA) is hosting a Seminar & Skills Training in Equestrian Sports Injuries Management for Doctors on **Saturday 28th November** from 9.30am-3.45pm at Tattersalls, Co. Meath. Contact Dr Antonia Lehane on 01-8407430 or at antonialehane@eircom.net to register.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS IRELAND GAMES

The Special Olympics Ireland Games will take place in Limerick from June 9th-13th 2010. 2,000 athletes will participate in 13 sports, one of which is equestrian. For more information, contact Frances Kavanagh, Director of Sport, on 01-8823972 or at info@specialolympics.ie or visit www.specialolympics.ie

TOURISM RELATED EQUESTRIAN ACTIVITIES

TREC To find out what Trec is all about check out the BBC's coverage of the Trec British Championships at www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nr9zQv5-MM0 Trec Ireland's PRO, Gwen Bastian, and her piebald horse 'Humbog' are featured in this clip. Gwen and Sarah Turnall of BHS came first at Level 3 Pairs. For more information on Trec Ireland visit www.trecireland.com

FACT FILE

Did you know, there is a breed of horse from Russia called Akhal-Teke that can go for days without food or water.