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## **Riders put through their paces at Squad induction day 8th October 2009**

Some 22 talented young riders from across the West Midlands attended the Regional Foundation Squad induction day earlier this week (5 October) at Kingswood Equestrian Centre, Albrighton, Wolverhampton - with special guest, Paralympic Gold medallist, Lee Pearson CBE.

The Squad, which aims to produce a pool of up and coming talented riders, has been set up through funding from Sport England and is being co-ordinated by the British Equestrian Federation (BEF). The aim is that it will identify riders between the ages of 16-24 who show the potential to progress to International sporting success.

The selected riders from across the four Olympic disciplines - dressage, eventing, show jumping and para-equestrian dressage - attended the induction day to learn more about the Squad, as well as having the opportunity to hear from Lee about his inspiring equestrian career. Representatives from the BEF, and its member bodies; British Show Jumping, British Dressage and British Eventing will also be on hand to speak to the riders and answer any questions.

"It was great to meet all the riders who were unanimous in their enthusiasm," said David Hamer, Regional Coach for West & East Midlands, BEF. "I feel privileged to be involved in a project like this, working with potential equestrian stars of the future - and I'm sure it's going to be a challenging, yet rewarding experience."

Subsequent mounted squad training sessions will take place at Kingswood Equestrian Centre and Bromyard Equestrian Centre - with the four Regional Foundation Squad coaches; Maria Eilberg (International dressage rider and European Silver Medallist), Fred Bergendorff (International show jumper/ trainer), Jeanette Brakewell (International event rider and double Olympic medallist) and Rhett Bird (International dressage rider).

For more information visit [www.bef.co.uk](http://www.bef.co.uk), [www.britisheventing.com](http://www.britisheventing.com), [www.britishdressage.co.uk](http://www.britishdressage.co.uk), or [www.bsja.co.uk](http://www.bsja.co.uk).

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## **Clubmark achieved by urban city riding school 8th October 2009**

The British Equestrian Federation and The British Horse Society are pleased to announce Vauxhall City Farm as the most recent equestrian centre to achieve Clubmark Accreditation.

Clubmark, introduced in 2002, is the Sport England mark of high quality clubs. It is specifically designed for clubs with junior sections and ensures the well being of young people while participating in sport, enabling them to use their leisure time creatively and optimise their talents and personal ability.

The benefits for the club or centre accredited include club development, increased membership, developing coaches and volunteers and an increased profile.

Margaret Linington-Payne, Director of Standards at The British Horse Society said: "We are delighted to accredit our sixth Clubmark centre; we hope they will benefit from being a part of this scheme."

Linda Hinds of Vauxhall City Farm said: "I found the Clubmark accreditation easy to do, we were in fact already doing most of the criteria and it was just a case of collating the evidence. It has however made us tidy up certain areas of our information."

Clubmark is available to all clubs and centres who are accredited or approved by a British Equestrian Federation Member Body.

For further information please contact: Ellie Layton, The British Horse Society, 01926 707795 or [e.layton@bhs.org.uk](mailto:e.layton@bhs.org.uk)

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## **East Midlands Regional Foundation Squad begins induction training 15 October 2009**

Some 24 young riders from across the East Midlands attended the Regional Foundation Squad induction day earlier this week (14 October) at Moulton College, Northampton.

The Squad, which aims to produce a pool of up and coming talented riders, has been set up through funding from Sport England and is being co-ordinated by the British Equestrian Federation (BEF). The aim is that it will identify riders between the ages of 16-24 who show the potential to progress to International sporting success.

The selected riders from across the four Olympic disciplines - dressage, eventing, show jumping and para-equestrian dressage - attended the induction day to learn more about the Squad, and had the opportunity to hear from motivational guest speakers. Representatives from the BEF, and its member bodies; British Show Jumping, British Dressage and British Eventing were also on hand to speak to the riders and answer any questions.

"It was great to meet all the riders who were unanimous in their enthusiasm," said David Hamer, Regional Coach for West & East Midlands, BEF. "I feel privileged to be involved in a project like this, working with potential equestrian stars of the future - and I'm sure it's going to be a challenging, yet rewarding experience."

"We are extremely grateful to Nottingham Trent University for hosting our un-mounted Squad training sessions for us, together with the advice of their experienced sport and equestrian teams - including physiotherapists and psychologists. This additional support will be of real value to our Squad riders."

Subsequent squad training sessions will take place at Moulton College - with the four Regional Foundation Squad coaches; Mandy McGlynn (International show jumper), Christie Wright (International event rider), Mette Assouline (International dressage rider) and Angela Weiss (World Class para-equestrian dressage coach and International dressage rider).

For a full list of riders on the East Midlands Squad please see [here](#)

For more information visit [www.bef.co.uk](http://www.bef.co.uk), [www.britisheventing.com](http://www.britisheventing.com), [www.britishdressage.co.uk](http://www.britishdressage.co.uk), or [www.bsja.co.uk](http://www.bsja.co.uk).

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## **World Class riders in the spotlight 16th October 2009**

Two dressage riders who are on the British Equestrian Federation's (BEF) World Class Development Programme were under the spotlight at the Horse of the Year Show (8-11 October), when they took part in a dressage to music demonstration.

Kate Atlee (29) from Tenbury Wells, Worcestershire, and Amy Stovold (31) from Hickstead, West Sussex were both asked to perform the freestyle to music test as part of the day's programme at the World's most famous horse show at the NEC in Birmingham.

Kate and Amy are both on the BEF's World Class Development Programme which aims to provide Britain's elite riders with the best preparation to represent Equestrian Team GBR at International level. Funded by UK Sport, the Programme incorporates the three Olympic sports of dressage, eventing, show jumping and the Paralympic sport of para-equestrian dressage.

Kate who rode Anne Willetts' Corbiere, performed her test to a classical tune with a twist of Oasis and Blur. "It was a fantastic experience and Corbiere behaved impeccably," said Kate. "He's only eight and has never done anything like this before, but he rose to the occasion and coped with the crowds and lapped up the applause!"

"I'm so grateful for the opportunity - which wouldn't have been possible without the World Class Programme - it will really have helped build Corbiere's confidence which is crucial for his career."

Amy who rode Julia Jacobs' and Maggi Stovolds' Macbrian, performed her test to a mixture of Queen and Rhianna. "I really enjoyed riding on the big stage - it was a great experience for both myself and Macbrian and the comments we had were very encouraging," said Amy. "He tried really hard and managed to contain some of the tension that he sometimes develops."

"The World Class Programme has been instrumental in my development as a rider so far and I'm sure will continue to play an important role as Macbrian and I look to improve even further."

Selection to the World Class Programme is based on results combined with potential to contribute to team success at major championships. Performance is continuously assessed and riders are regularly reviewed. The Programme is divided into Development (Start and Potential), and Performance squads across each discipline.

The Programme has been funded by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, primarily from the National Lottery, via UK Sport since 1998.

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## **Equine World unites to raise £1 million for Help for Heroes 22nd October 2009**

Ascot Racecourse and The HPower Group are today delighted to launch "Horses For Heroes," which will see 2010 horses ridden from Ascot Racecourse, round Windsor Great Park and back to the racecourse before racing begins on Saturday 10th July 2010.

The initiative sets out to bring together horses and riders from across the equine spectrum and aims to raise at least £1 million for the Help for Heroes charity, whose founder Bryn Parry said:

"Help for Heroes is all about people doing their bit for our wounded heroes. Horses have always supported our servicemen and women so it is wonderful that the equestrian and racing world is jumping into the saddle with such enthusiasm. Remember, it's the first 2010 riders to sign up who will get the chance to be part of this piece of history and the website to log onto to do just that is [www.horses4heroes.co.uk](http://www.horses4heroes.co.uk)"

Registrations for the ride are now being taken and must be made by Friday 18th December 2009. Each rider is required to commit to raising a minimum of £500 in sponsorship.

"Ascot is delighted to be playing its part in this wonderful initiative," said Charles Barnett, Chief Executive at Ascot Racecourse.

"Our special thanks must go to the Crown Estate for embracing the concept and assisting with the route planning through Windsor Great Park. Equally, this wouldn't be possible without the flexibility shown by the Royal Ascot Golf Club, whose activities will be affected for a short period. I can't wait to ride in the event myself - I'll probably be amongst the first out so that I can get back to the racecourse in time to prepare for opening to the public. It'll be a tremendous thrill to see so many people from the worlds of racing and equestrian sport, participants in hunts and pony club riders and many many more, filing up the finishing straight at Ascot in aid of this most worthwhile cause."

Toni Terry, aspiring dressage rider and wife of England and Chelsea Captain John Terry, and Lieutenant Guy Disney, amateur rider for Nicky Henderson, who lost a leg serving in Helmand Province, were at Ascot today to formally launch Horses For Heroes.

Toni, who trains at Oldencraig Equestrian Centre and is currently preparing to perform at Olympia, The London International Horse Show, in a specially choreographed pas de deux with 16 times national champion, Vicki Thompson-Winfield, said:

"I am working hard to achieve the highest levels of dressage and I admire hugely the dedication of the riders that I aspire to emulate, but such dedication is nothing compared to what our brave soldiers demonstrate every day in the face of extreme danger. When I heard about the opportunity to be involved in promoting something that brought the diverse horse world together to do our bit for the armed forces, I jumped at the chance. Vicki and I are both planning to ride at the event next year."

Guy added:

"I can think of few professions that encapsulate the same values of professionalism and dedication more than being a soldier and race riding, and there is a long association between racing and the armed forces, including military races under rules in which I have been lucky enough to compete. Working with the racing and equestrian community to raise such an ambitious sum for Help For Heroes feels like a very natural partnership."

Other celebrity support has been forthcoming from Actor Martin Clunes and Presenter Anthea Turner, who are both keen horse riders and are looking forward to taking part in the event. Visit [www.horses4heroes.co.uk](http://www.horses4heroes.co.uk) to view a special video message from Martin himself.

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## **Talented riders put through their paces with Henk Nooren**

### **22nd October 2009**

Five young, talented British riders attended a two day show jumping squad session at Solihull Riding Club on Monday 19 and Tuesday 20 October as part of the British Equestrian Federation's (BEF) World Class Development Programme.

Show jumpers Danielle Farnsworth, Sam Hutton, Jessi Drea and Matt Sampson along with eventer Georgie Spence are all on the Programme which aims to provide Britain's elite riders with the best preparation to represent Equestrian Team GBR at International level. Funded by UK Sport, the Programme incorporates the three Olympic sports of dressage, eventing, show jumping and the Paralympic sport of para-equestrian dressage.

As well as sessions with renowned Dutch show jumping coach Henk Nooren which focussed on attention to detail of the rider's position and balance as well as the rhythm, balance and suppleness of the horse, each rider was also given the opportunity to have individual pliance assessments with Mark Fisher. This involves using pressure sensors under the saddle which give feedback on a riders' seat position and correct fitting of the saddle. There were also sessions to discuss performance and lifestyle as well as media training.

Tina Goosen, showjumping coordinator for the BEF's World Class Development Programme comments: "I'm delighted with how the sessions went and I know that all the riders really benefited from Henk's expertise. It's the ideal chance to get all the riders together and for them to hone their skills under the guidance of a world class show jumping coach as well as receive help and advice on a range of other important elements associated with becoming a top rider."

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## **Training is out of this world at Global Academy**

### **23rd October 2009**

Two lucky dressage riders were fortunate enough to benefit from 10 days of training with leading dressage rider Imke Schelleken Bartels from Holland, courtesy of the British Equestrian Federation's (BEF) World Class Development Programme.

Nikki Crisp, (31) from London and Gemma Green (26) from Newbury are both on the BEF's World Class Development Programme which aims to provide Britain's elite riders with the best preparation to represent Equestrian Team GBR at International level. Funded by UK Sport, the Programme incorporates the three Olympic sports of dressage, eventing, show jumping and the Paralympic sport of para-equestrian dressage.

The pair were both selected onto the Programme at the start of the year and were offered the opportunity to visit the Global Academy during September as part of their training. They each took two horses, their top ride and one younger horse, and were put up in a cottage near the Academy.

Nikki and Gemma had lessons on most days with Imke, while the horses' also benefited from the other facilities such as woodland for hacking and all weather gallops. They were also able to watch Imke and the other Academy members ride - providing valuable insight into the training, as well as helping them to re-iterate what they had learnt in their lessons. Support also included advice from Imke's father, Joep Bartels, who discussed pre competition preparation in particular.

"I'd met Imke through the World Class selection trials and thought she was fantastic, so to get the opportunity to travel out to train at the Academy was amazing," said Nikki, who combines her riding with working as a freelance photographer.

"The focus of the training was on obedience of the horse - Imke instilled in us the fact that until you have that then you can't progress. She taught us not to use our hands and legs at the same time - so that you are giving your horse very simple clear messages, which ultimately leads to greater harmony between the two of you.

"I'm already feeling the benefits of the training - in fact people at the National Dressage Championships even commented on how good my horse looks and how controlled it seems. I'm already planning my return visit for a fortnight in November."

Gemma who is based at Headley Stud in Newbury echoed Nikki's thoughts. "Submission was the word of the 10 days! It's really made me think about my way of riding; Imke has given me a toolkit to work from but obviously I'm not going to be able to transform my way of training in that short space of time. But, as I was so impressed, I'm planning to return out there for four months in November.

"It was also amazing to see the attention to detail which was awe inspiring as was their dedication - it's not hard to understand where they are today as a result."

Selection to the World Class Programme is based on results combined with the potential to contribute to team success at major championships. Performance is continuously assessed and riders are regularly reviewed. The Programme is divided into Development (Start and Potential), and Performance squads across each discipline.

The Programme has been funded by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, primarily from the National Lottery, via UK Sport since 1998. For more information on the World Class Programme see [here](#)

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## **Horses for Heroes - a sponsored ride from Ascot Racecourse around Windsor Great Park in aid of Help for Heroes**

### **29th October 2009**

Horses For Heroes, in aid of Help For Heroes, will see 2010 horses ridden in a sponsored ride from Ascot Racecourse, round Windsor Great Park and back to the racecourse before racing begins on Saturday 10th July 2010. It is hoped that the initiative will bring together horses and riders from across the equine spectrum in a show of support for our armed forces and will raise at least £1 million for the charity.

Help for Heroes raises money to support members of the Armed Forces who have been wounded in the service of their country. Supporters are asked to 'do their bit' to show these extraordinary young men and women that they are cared for by us.

Over a million people have given to the charity to date and millions of pounds have been raised to buy much needed services that will aid recovery. So far, almost all of the money raised has been allocated to fund direct projects and support other service charities.

Horses for Heroes was launched to the media at Ascot Racecourse by well known ex-jockey Brough Scott on 21st October.

Anyone can take part in the ride, from individuals, to riding clubs, to pony clubs and hunts, but all participants are asked to raise at least £500 for the charity. Riders will be invited to bring supporters and stay for racing at Ascot after the ride. All participants will be given a goodybag and medal to commemorate the event.

It is hoped that should the Ascot event be over-subscribed, smaller satellite events will also be organised.

Final details are still to be confirmed but the website is already online for those who wish to register an interest in being a part of this very worthy event.

Just visit [www.horses4heroes.co.uk](http://www.horses4heroes.co.uk).

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## **Seventh Centre attains Clubmark accreditation**

### **2nd November 2009**

The British Horse Society and the British Equestrian Federation are pleased to announce Woodredon Equestrian Centre as the latest BHS approved centre to achieve Clubmark accreditation.

Margaret Linington-Payne, Director of Standards at The British Horse Society said "We are really pleased to welcome Woodredon Equestrian Centre as a Clubmark accredited centre. Obtaining this status helps to reassure parents that children are well cared and catered for at Woodredon and will be given a structured and positive learning process."

Kevin Butchart, proprietor of Woodredon EC, said: "Woodredon Equestrian Centre are delighted to add its name to the growing listing of equestrian establishments that have recently become Clubmarked. Since its purchase in 2001, this run-down riding school is a testament to the dedication and hard work of how to build a successful Equestrian Centre. Due to the success of young riders and the growing interest surrounding horses it seemed a logical next step was to become Clubmarked."

More about centres accredited recently:

- Clubmark achieved by Vauxhall City farm

- Clubmark achieved by Quob Stables Equestrian Centre and Runningwell Equestrian Centre

If you would like further information about how to become a Clubmark accredited Club please contact Ellie Layton, The British Horse Society on 01926 707795, email [e.layton@bhs.org.uk](mailto:e.layton@bhs.org.uk) or [click here](#)

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## **Polocrosse launches on Country Channel TV 2nd November 2009**

The United Kingdom versus South Africa Polocrosse test match programmes, which have been showing on Sky Sports throughout this week, have now started being screened through the Country Channel's own online TV player. The programmes can be seen at [www.countrychannel.tv](http://www.countrychannel.tv). The first ladies match has gone up today (the 30th of October) and the rest of the programmes will follow throughout the week.

Also on the 5th of November the Country Channel will start showing the programmes through their own Sky and Freeview listing on My Channel (Sky 171) - full details of screening times are below

Polocrosse is an extreme horse sport best described as lacrosse on horseback. For more information on polocrosse please visit [www.polocrosse.org.uk](http://www.polocrosse.org.uk), home to the United Kingdom Polocrosse Association.

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## **Jean puts riders through their paces at National Convention 5th November 2009**

Two dressage riders on the British Equestrian Federation's (BEF) World Class Development Programme took part in a dressage demonstration at the British Dressage National Convention held at Addington Manor Equestrian Centre, Buckinghamshire over the weekend (31 October - 1 November).

Amy Stovold (31) from Hickstead, West Sussex and Lara Griffith (20) from Milton-under-Wychwood, Oxfordshire each took part in two 45 minute demonstration lessons with Jean Bemelmans, renowned German dressage team medallist and trainer for the Spanish dressage team, in front of a packed house.

Amy and Lara are both on the BEF's World Class Development Programme which aims to provide Britain's elite riders with the best preparation to represent Equestrian Team GBR at International level. Funded by UK Sport, the Programme incorporates the three Olympic sports of dressage, eventing, show jumping and the Paralympic sport of para-equestrian dressage.

Amy, who rode Julia Jacobs' and Maggi Stovolds' Macbrian, said: "I really enjoyed the lessons and it was a great chance to work with such a well known and respected dressage trainer."

Lara, who rode Hilary Sawyer and Leonie Porter's Dawning Hopes, was also presented with awards for the highest placed rider at the European Championships and most improved young rider. She said: "It's such a privilege to be given the chance to have a one-to-one lesson with Jean and Dawning Hopes behaved impeccably."

Selection to the World Class Programme is based on results combined with potential to contribute to team success at major championships. Performance is continuously assessed and riders are regularly reviewed. The Programme is divided into Development (Start and Potential), and Performance squads across each discipline.

The Programme has been funded by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, primarily from the National Lottery, via UK Sport since 1998.

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## **World Class Development Dressage rider receives two awards at National Convention 5th November 2009**

A dressage rider from Milton-under-Wychwood, Oxon received two awards at the British Dressage National Convention held at Addington Manor Equestrian Centre, Buckinghamshire over the weekend (31 October - 1 November).

Lara Griffith (20), who is on the British Equestrian Federation's (BEF) World Class Development Programme, was given awards for the highest placed British rider at the European Championships and most improved young rider. The awards were presented by Jennie Loriston-Clarke, chairman of British Dressage and Desi Dillingham, president of the British Horse Society. Lara also went on to have two 45 minute demonstration lessons with Jean Bemelmans, renowned German team medallist and trainer for the Spanish dressage team, in front of a packed house.

The BEF's World Class Development Programme aims to provide Britain's elite riders with the best preparation to represent Equestrian Team GBR at International level. Funded by UK Sport, the Programme incorporates the three Olympic sports of dressage, eventing, show jumping and the Paralympic sport of para-equestrian dressage.

Lara, who rode Hilary Sawyer and Leonie Porter's Dawning Hopes, said: "It's been such a fantastic weekend. The lessons with Jean Bemelmans were brilliant, it's great to get the chance to have the advice of such a renowned dressage trainer and the two awards were the icing on the cake. I've been

working really hard and with the help and support from the World Class Programme I really feel like I am moving in the right direction."

Lara is currently in her final year studying Equine Science at Oxford Brookes University. Once she's finished her degree, she is hoping to focus on Human and Equine Physiotherapy to help support her riding ambitions.

Selection to the World Class Programme is based on results combined with potential to contribute to team success at major championships. Performance is continuously assessed and riders are regularly reviewed. The Programme is divided into Development (Start and Potential), and Performance squads across each discipline.

The Programme has been funded by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, primarily from the National Lottery, via UK Sport since 1998.

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## **British Equestrian riders give thumbs up to Greenwich Park 6th November 2009**

A group of riders from the British Equestrian Federation World Class Programme visited Greenwich Park on 4th November and gave a resounding thumbs up to its use as the equestrian venue for the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The group, many of whom saw the Park for the first time, received a briefing on the London 2012 Organising Committee's (LOCOG) plans for the holding of equestrian events in Greenwich Park and were shown round the venue. The group are all members of the UK Sport funded World Class Programme which has identified them as having the talent to represent Great Britain at an Olympic or Paralympic Games.

Will Connell, Performance Director of the British Equestrian Team, said "We are lucky to have such a fantastic and iconic venue. Greenwich is a historic Park and it is exciting to be so close to the main core venue, the Olympic Park. This puts equestrian events right back into the heart of the Games. It gives LOCOG the chance to develop new ideas, and combine this with a historic setting. LOCOG has no intention of cutting down trees or closing the Park for a year, and I think that local residents should be proud that such an exciting Olympic sport will be on their doorstep in 2012.

Tim Stockdale, Show Jumper, British Equestrian Team, said: "I am very impressed, I was not aware of the Park's sheer magnificence, tradition and heritage. It has fabulous buildings, and I believe will have a lot of soul. It is more than suitable, it is fantastic. It will be great to be able to stay in the Olympic Village as well so that the riders can be part of the action."

Lucy Wieggersma, Eventer, British Equestrian Team, said: "Greenwich Park is a truly stunning setting with the Observatory, the National Maritime Museum and all its natural features. I am surprised it has not been considered before for a cross country event. It is a long way to go to the Olympics, but if I manage to make the team in 2012 it will be the fulfillment of all my dreams."

Nicola Wilson, Eventer, British Equestrian Team, said: "The cross country course is wonderful, it has undulations and is in a superb setting. It has been a long term dream to go to an Olympics, what could be better than competing at a Games on home soil, and where else can you jump over the Meridian Line?!"

Sophie Christiansen, Para-Equestrian Dressage rider and Paralympic medalist, said: "It is an amazing venue, so beautiful and in the centre of London. It highlights what Great Britain can do in terms of innovation. I can't wait to compete here and I hope to win three gold medals this time around!"

Sophie Wells, Para-Equestrian dressage rider, British Equestrian Team, said: "It is very motivating for me to see the Park and will encourage me to train harder. Being part of a home Games will be great to have the support of the home crowd and for my friends and family to be able to watch and support."

Simon Laurens, Para-Equestrian Dressage rider and GB rider representative, said: "The Park is a perfect fusion of modern and history. Holding the Paralympic Dressage events here will be great for the profile of disability sport, and it will be good to be so close to the rest of the action in the Olympic Park."

The riders visiting the Park are all members of the UK Sport funded World Class Programme which has identified those riders as having the talent to represent Great Britain at an Olympic or Paralympic Games.

LOCOG will submit its planning application for the venue at the end of November. Recently it announced that:

- the entire Park will only be closed for a four week period from 6th July to 3rd August in 2012;
- the Children's Playground and the majority of the Flower Garden within the Park will remain open throughout this four week period with the exception of cross country day;
- there are no planned residential road closures,
- no trees will be cut down
- after the Games the Park will be returned to the condition in which it was received.

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## **SEA Coaching Conference - 15th & 16th January 2010 10th November 2009**

The SEA Coaching Conference will bring two world-renowned coaches to Inglisdon Equestrian Centre, Bishopton. Cmdt John Ledingham and Richard Davison will describe their coaching philosophies and share their expertise in a series of practical sessions working with novice, developing and advanced horses and riders.

The conference will appeal to trainers, coaches and riders, as well as those that simply want to enjoy seeing how two legends deal with everyday training issues.

## Provisional Schedule

Friday 15th January, 2010

- Coaching principles - aims, styles and differences between coaching and instruction
- Coaching novice dressage and show jumping horses and riders
- How humans learn – the psychology of coaching
- Coaching the developing show jumper and dressage horse

Saturday 16th January, 2010

- Fitting Scotland into The UK Coaching Framework
- Dressage coaching for jumpers
- Anatomy of riding – what can the physiotherapist do?
- How can jump training benefit dressage riders and horses?
- Improving rider fitness
- Coaching advanced show jumping and dressage

Registration for the two days is £45 for SEA members (£60 for non-members), and includes coffee/tea.

Single day registration is £30 for SEA members (£40 for non-members).

A soup, sandwich, biscuit and fruit lunch is available for an additional £6.35 per day

Please contact the SEA office, [Fiona@s-e-a.org.uk](mailto:Fiona@s-e-a.org.uk) or telephone 01563 549802 or check the website [www.s-e-a.org.uk](http://www.s-e-a.org.uk) for further information.

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## **Natalie in the running for national award 11th November 2009**

Natalie Banks (23) from Bromham, Bedfordshire, has been selected to go through to the final of the British Dressage Young Professional's Award.

The Award is part of a new scheme which aims to identify and assist young professionals in their development with the dressage industry. Natalie is one of six riders to have made it through to the final, following three training days with leading dressage coaches Richard Davison, Gareth Hughes and Jennie Loriston-Clarke.

Natalie is also a member of the British Equestrian Federation's East Midlands Regional Foundation Squad - which has been set up through funding from Sport England with the aim to identify riders who show the potential to progress to International sporting success.

"We were particularly impressed by Natalie at the selection trials for the Regional Foundation Squad, so it's not hard to see why she's made it through to the final of this Award," said David Hamer, BEF

Regional Coach for the West & East Midlands. "It's fantastic news for Natalie and further acknowledges her ability as a dressage rider."

Natalie combines her riding with working as a freelance dressage trainer, teaching around 30 clients on a regular basis, as well as studying for a BA Honours Degree in Marketing. She trains with Jill Day and Daniel Greenwood and has represented GB at Roosendaal, Saumur, Soley and Addington CDIJs being placed in the top ten at each.

The British Dressage Young Professional's Award final will be held on Monday 15 February 2010 at The Talland School of Equitation, Cirencester. Natalie will have to ride a variety of unknown horses and be involved in discussion on future aims and plans. The judges will be Carl Hester and Nicola Jourdain. All six finalists will receive generous training grants and the winner will receive a valuable package of benefits over the following 12 months.

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## **Laura in the running for national award 16th November 2009**

Laura Jarvis (19) from Sandiacre, Nottingham, has been selected to go through to the final of the British Dressage (BD) Young Professional's Award.

The Award is part of a new scheme which aims to identify and assist young professionals in their development with the dressage industry. Laura is one of six riders to have made it through to the final, following three training days with leading dressage coaches Richard Davison, Gareth Hughes and Jennie Loriston-Clarke.

Laura is also a member of the British Equestrian Federation's (BEF) North Regional Foundation Squad - which has been set up through funding from Sport England with the aim to identify riders who show the potential to progress to International sporting success.

"We were particularly impressed by Laura at the selection trials for the Regional Foundation Squad, so it's not hard to see why she's made it through to the final of this Award," said Emma White, BEF Regional Coach for the North. "It's fantastic news for Laura and further acknowledges her ability as a dressage rider."

Laura successfully completed a BD Apprenticeship in 2007/8 at Gunthwaite Dressage, Sheffield where she continues to work, train and gain invaluable experience from both Hannah Moody, her trainer, and Becky Moody.

The British Dressage Young Professional's Award final will be held on Monday 15 February 2010 at The Talland School of Equitation, Cirencester. Laura will have to ride a variety of unknown horses and be involved in discussion on future aims and plans. The judges will be Carl Hester and Nicola Jourdain. All six finalists will receive generous training grants and the winner will receive a valuable package of benefits over the following 12 months.

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## **British Equestrian Federation Statement on Clean Sport 30th November 2009**

The British Equestrian Federation (BEF) applauds the decisions made by the General Assembly of the Federation Equestre Internationale (FEI) in relation to Clean Sport with one major exception.

The leadership shown by the FEI to improve matters in the field of anti-doping over the last eighteen months has been excellent. In particular the work undertaken by the two FEI Clean Sport commissions, led by Lord Stevens and Professor Ljungqvist, and the effective consultation has been right for our time. The recommendations made by the BEF in relation to education, intelligence based testing, greater clarity on banned substances and harmonization of laboratories all, happily, find a place in the final conclusions.

However, we are deeply disappointed that this outstanding work has been completely overshadowed by the General Assembly's adoption of the "progressive list" of banned substances. This list includes a range of drugs that, while banned in principle, are now permitted up to a limited threshold level where as, for many years, they have been entirely banned for use in competition. Specifically, the "progressive list" allows Acetylcysteine, Dichloroacetate (Lactanase), and Isoxuprine. Further, it allows Phenylbutazone (up to 8 mcg/ml in plasma or serum), Salicylic acid (up to 750mcg/ml in urine and up to 6.5 mcg/ml in plasma or serum) and Flunixin (up to 500 mcg/ml in plasma or serum,) so long as those substances are not detected in a horse's sample above the prescribed limits noted and are used in isolation and not combined.

We are deeply concerned by this development. The "progressive list" was sent to the national federations of the FEI on Friday 13 November, just six days before the day of the General Assembly on Thursday 19 November. There was no time for consultation, effective global debate or consideration of the serious implications of the dramatic policy change placed before the General Assembly. We have doubts about the legitimacy of the vote taken in light of the failure in timely notification of the resolution in question. We do not believe that all national federations could have been alert to the vital issues for the future of our sport when they were asked to vote on the earlier list, sent to national federations on 20 October (subsequently renamed the 'Current List' which added further ambiguity), and the later "progressive list".

We therefore urge the FEI's leadership to review the situation with the greatest possible urgency and either:

- defer the date of introduction of the "progressive list" of the key banned substances until after the 2010 World Equestrian Games to allow for a period of reflection and consultation

or

- withdraw the permissibility of the drugs in question from the "progressive list" before the published implementation date of 1 January 2010.

Andrew Finding, BEF's Chief Executive, said:

"Never before have we seen so much anger in our sport in Great Britain. It is deeply saddening that the very good work undertaken by the FEI in Clean Sport, and in other areas, is not recognised for its excellence. Of course there are differences of opinions amongst nations and within in the FEI, it could not be otherwise in a highly competitive sporting body. The majority of nations present voted in favour of the "progressive list" and we must respect the democratic processes but on this occasion, the proposal was "bounced" on national federations at unacceptably short notice and so we have a deeply flawed decision and a crisis of confidence on our hands. There is a universal demand from our community in Great Britain for change or amendment to the "progressive list". Its abolition and replacement by the "20 October list" would be better still."

He added:

"While this crisis unfolds and a satisfactory conclusion is sought, we encourage our sporting bodies, welfare groups, show and event organisers and their sponsors to maintain their programmes and plans in place. We will continue to use all means at our disposal to impress upon the FEI the necessity for change and will accordingly work with our partner NFs in Europe and elsewhere. We have established a small working group of experts to consider the issues at hand, to monitor developments and provide advice. We will publish a set of recommendations for publication that covers all of the implications of the Clean Sport initiatives shortly."

Further Information

The "20 October" and "progressive lists" of banned substances may be found at:

- 20th October List
- Progressive List

The new FEI Equine Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Regulations, effective from 1st January 2010, may be found here.

The BEF Clean Sport Working Group members are:

- Andrew Finding - Chief Executive, BEF (Chair)
- Amanda Bond - Chief Executive, British Dressage
- Tim Stockdale - International Show Jumper
- Mark Lucey - Veterinary Surgeon
- Will Connell - Performance Director, BEF
- Janice Shardlow - Head of Governance and Legal, BEF
- Anna Greenway - Head of Communications and Marketing, BEF

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**British Equestrian Federation welcomes delay of "Progressive List"**  
**2nd December 2009**

The British Equestrian Federation (BEF) welcomes the move taken by the Bureau of the FEI to defer the introduction of the new Equine Prohibited Substances List and the accompanying Equine Anti-Doping and Controlled Medication Regulations until 5 April 2010. This positive step recognises the urgent need for further discussion and reflection on the consequences of rushing through the "progressive list" without further debate.

The BEF will now seek the views of our FEI sporting member bodies, and through them riders, organisers and officials, as well as other organisations and individuals as appropriate. A consolidated view will be passed to the FEI.

Between now and 5 April 2010 the BEF will work closely with the FEI in order to ensure that riders, team managers, owners, veterinarians and other stakeholders have clear guidance as to the regulations in force. We will also work with the FEI to seek to find a way through this period that does not compromise our collective clean sport principles.

"This is a most positive move by the FEI," comments Andrew Finding, Chief Executive of the BEF. "The objective must now be to find a global consensus that meets the needs of a clean sport. For us, this needs two things: very high levels of equine welfare and the complete support of the international community."

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## **Judy Edwards receives the Liz Dudden Trophy**

### **4th December 2009**

Judy Edwards, Chief Executive of The Pony Club, has been awarded the Liz Dudden Trophy by the British Equestrian Writers Association (BEWA). The award was presented at BEWA's annual lunch, held this year at Saddlers Hall, London.

The annual trophy was first awarded in 1993, and is given to a person, other than a competitor, who has made a major contribution to equestrian sport. The first to receive the trophy was Ronnie Masarella and other former winners include Jacky Wood, Bill Henson, Hugh Thomas and Douglas Bunn to name but a few.

Judy Edwards has enjoyed a lifelong interest in horses and riding, beginning in the South Staffordshire Branch of The Pony Club. In a vast career Judy has set up and run the Coppice Acres Show Jumping Arena, been elected to the British Show Jumping Association (BSJA) Executive Committee, BSJA Junior International Training and Selection Committee and The Pony Club Council as Chairman of the Show Jumping Committee; before taking up her current role as Chief Executive at The Pony Club in 2005. This role has given and continues to give Judy enormous pleasure and she has made a number of changes including bringing The Pony Club into an active and respected position within The British Equestrian Federation as their junior arm, creating a number of 'in house' appointments including The Pony Club's own Press Officer and instigating the move to the new offices at Stoneleigh Park. Judy has also been an enthusiastic advocate for moving forward the Centre Membership scheme, which allows children who do not own their own pony to enjoy and benefit from Membership of The Pony Club.

Also an F.E.I judge, Judy has judged at all the major International Shows in the UK and continues to judge regularly in France.

"It is such a privilege to be associated with past recipients of this award," commented Judy. "For the lifetime of pleasure that my association with equestrianism has given me, to be recognised in this way by BEWA is an honour indeed".

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## **Woodredon Equestrian Centre successfully pioneers new BEF Club and Coach funded programme for schools**

Woodredon Equestrian Centre, run by Kevin and Sandra Butchart in Waltham Abbey, Essex are currently pioneering a brand new BEF Club and Coach funded programme teaching pupils from a local school Horse Riding and Horse Care. "Young Riders" is a scheme which has been offered to 58 pupils from Davenant Foundation School in Essex, aged 16 and all new to riding in which pupils are taught through the ABRS structured programme of Horse Riding, Care and Stable Management. So successful is the scheme that it has led to Woodredon being chosen for a documentary to be filmed to demonstrate the cross cutting benefits of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games combining the key themes of sport and education for the East of England. Nations and Regions East is a group set up to co-ordinate the 2012 Games related regional issues working with major stakeholders to maximise the benefits of the Games.

The story begins with Woodredon EC being submitted for and subsequently chosen to be included in the London 2012 Pre-Games Olympic Training Guide. Recognised for being in the Essex area but also on the cusp of the London region this proved to be an ideal starting point for WEC to be able to construct a way of being able to share being chosen with our local community.

Woodredon started the ball rolling by contacting Rob Hayne, the then SSCO for the region, who invited us to attend a West Essex Schools Sports Partnership day where we gave a brief presentation on the Riding Centre and outlined our aims and objectives in encouraging children who have never tried the sport to give it a try and also to see a career with horses as a viable option when considering their future education and development. The response we received was tremendous and showed that instead of this just being a pipe dream of ours, it demonstrated to us, and indeed on a larger scale, the whole equine industry, that schools are taking a forward thinking approach to other sports and are keen in diversifying their sporting curriculum to their pupils.

Following on from this initial interest Davenant Foundation School, a sports specialist school, expressed a serious interest in taking part in our idea and to gauge interest with their pupils invited Woodredon to take part in their own week long of sporting activities as part of National School Sports Week. The week, aims to raise the profile of PE and School Sport at both a local and national level and to introduce new activities to young people in order to increase participation in different sporting activities. Woodredon Riding School went along and demonstrated riding to a captivated audience of pupils aged from 11yrs to 18yrs. Children were invited to groom and stroke the horses and given information on how to pursue riding as a career opportunity or just as a leisure activity.

We knew then that we were on the verge of something new and exciting but needed some expert advice and guidance on how to make this very special idea now become a reality. It was at this point that we decided to approach equestrians governing body The British Equestrian Federation. We were

put in touch with our Regional Development Co-ordinator Gill Barham, who came to visit us immediately. After lengthy discussions regarding funding possibilities and other opportunities that could lead on from this, Gill offered us her allocation of BEF Club and Coach funding to help us get our first project off the ground. She was able to offer funding under the remit of increasing and broadening participation by providing opportunities for children from schools in inner city and/or more deprived areas. To receive this funding from the BEF was validation that we were definitely moving forward and that the BEF investment was a real commitment to roll this programme out further. Gill Barham's assistance was immeasurable and she was always available to offer advice and support and was implemental in gaining us further funding for a junior inner London school in being funded by the London region of the BEF. Gill also funded a new Vaulting group at Woodredon and gave support again in finding us a coach and sourcing the equipment needed.

Immediately Davenant signed up 58 pupils to take part in the now newly named "Young Riders" project. The scheme was developed into a comprehensive introduction over three terms of ten weeks for 1½ hours per visit. The training is split into 3 areas and follows the ABRS test curriculum of Horse Riding, Stable Management and Horse Care. Training takes place within school hours in the PE allocated slot in the timetable as part of the schools enrichment projects and is given by ABRS (Association of British Riding Schools) and BHS (British Horse Society) accredited teachers, all of who are CRB checked and First Aid qualified.

As an additional benefit of the project at the end of the training all candidates are examined and if successful will be qualified at ABRS Level 1 of Equitation Skills and Stable Management. This qualification is nationally recognised and should pupils choose to pursue a career in one of the many Equestrian related careers, this qualification would help facilitate entry to further education or act as a starting block to continue your own independent training. Davenant School were also keen to support at least one visit by the Grooms Association as an introduction to Equestrian careers opportunities.

Jo Daniels Director of Specialism at the school said "The aim was to try something new which is why the school initially invited horse riding to come along to National School Sports Week as it is not usually covered in the school curriculum. It was as a result of the immediate popularity that we jumped at the chance of being able to include Horse Riding in our PE curriculum."

Kevin Butchart - Proprietor of Woodredon EC said, "One of the advantages of horse riding is that it appeals to people who may not be interested in the traditional sports offered in school. It's also amazing how many children we have met that have never seen a horse before and also how many that do ride regularly. As a member of the Association of British Riding Schools and the British Horse Society I am really pleased to see riding is definitely growing in popularity and to support this, Woodredon EC launched the new scheme to local schools in conjunction with the British Equestrian Federation to encourage more youngsters to take up the sport."

The amount of interest generated from the Davenant project led to further funding from BEF London to give the opportunity to an East London inner city Primary School. Again 48 children aged 7 years, have started coming to Woodredon over 3 terms. Again this has proved immensely popular and on each groups last session parents are invited to come along to an end of term party and to watch the children have a go at gymkhana games.

To show our further commitment to new riders Woodredon EC will offer all children who take part in our schemes the opportunity to continue their riding lessons at a discounted rate at our riding school.

All participants will also be given free membership to the Equine Club, a newly launched online community designed especially for riders and spectators of all ages and anyone associated with the Equestrian industry or simply just interested in horses.

Woodredon EC is also a large competition show centre that runs events throughout the year and we also extend an invitation to candidates to act as stewards at these shows. There is also the opportunity for children who decide to ride regularly to also join the Woodredon Stable Club who meet every weekend and during the school holidays and enjoy taking part in competitions, gymkhanas and numerous clinics and themed hacks. They will also be able to join our soon to be launched regular after school club during the week which is open to horse and pony enthusiasts, whether they are riders or simply have an interest in anything equestrian.

Another activity we have subsequently held was in the summer of 2008 when we played host to the termly meeting of the Essex Schools Sports Co-ordinators where all the teachers had a fabulous time experiencing what we teach the pupils coming to us on the 'Young Riders' projects. This has now generated 3 other local schools to take up the offer seeking their own means of funding from their school or in one case from a trust fund associated with the school.

The pastoral benefits of horse riding and their care have always been well known within the industry and as expected has proved very popular as a sport with children who are bullied, withdrawn, have low self esteem or have other behavioural or social issues where they feel they do not fit in. In acknowledgement of these benefits, each school involved site these advantages as one of the major reasons why they would like their school to continue the project. We feel this is validation that horse riding has moved away from its image of being an elitist activity and has now become a sport which appeals across all demographics and one which can give lifelong involvement in.

A further spin off of our success has been that our local Council have now begun offering programmes for older members of the local community to take part in riding and stable management which will lead into our newly established Volunteers programme. Volunteers will be able to come to the centre and gain valuable experience in all aspects of running a working riding school and gardening and land management. Woodredon have also in conjunction with the councils Sports Development Officer written a successful bid to Sport Essex who will now be funding a group of children from deprived areas and age groups who are known to not favour sports. These pupils will be coming along voluntarily outside of school hours to learn horse riding and stable management and will be funded entirely by the council to encourage as much participation as possible as part of the Governments initiative to offer subsidised sporting activities. Young Riders has become so popular an initiative that we have already received sponsorship support in the growth of this newly established brand - "Young Riders" - "Equine Sports in Schools" (see attached banners)

Word has spread already of the success of these projects and we now have many other schools both in London and Essex who want to participate in the coming year. Already the National and local press have covered stories involving all of our projects and are keen to continue to track our progress. These projects have immediately shown the advantages that riding and horse care can bring to all age groups.

Woodredon Farm Lane, Waltham Abbey, Essex, EN9 3SX  
T: 01992 714312 M: 07506 465320 E: woodredon.ec@virgin.net  
www.woodredonec.co.uk

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## **British Equestrian Federation in the running at Coaching Awards 4th December 2009**

The British Equestrian Federation is hoping to pick up a red rosette this month, following their short listing for the UK Coaching Awards 2009 - a ceremony set to honour the success of coaches and coaching organisations over the last 12 months.

Sports Coach UK has announced British Equestrian Federation as finalists for the Governing Body of the Year award. A highly competitive category alongside fellow finalists Rugby Football Union and British Swimming, the winner will be announced at a glittering evening ceremony held in London on Tuesday 8 December.

The accolade, supported by Sport Structures and Jobs with Balls, is to be awarded to a governing body that has made a significant contribution and impact on the development of a coaching system and individual coaches across the UK.

Suzanne Genery, British Equestrian Federation Head of Sports Development, says: 'The promotion of quality coaching is the privilege and responsibility of all organisations involved in our sport. We're committed to creating a coaching system which delivers the right coach to the right place at the right time, for the needs of every rider at every stage of their development. We're delighted to have been nominated for this prestigious award and hope that we are successful on the night!'

The British Equestrian Federation is the recognised governing body of horse sports in the UK. It exists to provide leadership, vision and purpose in steering the direction of equestrianism.

Equestrian is one of the priority sports working with Sports coach UK to develop the UK Coaching Framework. The framework highlights how Sports Coach UK plans to work in close partnership with governing bodies of sport to enhance the quality and quantity of coaches at all levels, leading to increased and sustained participation and improved performance.

Andrew Finding, the British Equestrian Federation's Chief Executive, says: 'I am delighted that our work in coaching has been recognised in this way, but it could not have happened without the dedication of Colin Wilson and Suzanne Genery who have provided the leadership in coaching within our Federation. I want also to pay tribute to the leaders in the 16 member body organisations that make up our Federation - these are the people who have made it happen on the ground'.

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## **LOCOG submits Greenwich Park planning application 8th December 2009**

The London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games and Paralympic Games (LOCOG) has submitted its planning application for the use of Greenwich Park to host the Olympic and Paralympic Equestrian Events and Olympic Modern Pentathlon Events in 2012.

The document is available online at <http://www.london2012.com/greenwich-park/greenwich-park-planning-application.html>

Research conducted by LOCOG's market research partner, Nielsen, shows that nearly 85% of Greenwich residents support the Park being used as a London 2012 venue, providing it is not closed for more than six weeks and is returned in the condition it was received.

Sebastian Coe, LOCOG Chair, commented: 'Greenwich Park is one of London's treasures, and it will be a wonderful sporting venue for the world to enjoy in the summer of 2012. Leading international Equestrian competitors are looking forward to competing in this unique setting in the heart of the Olympic City of London, and there are unparalleled opportunities for local people of all ages to get involved, with many benefits for the community. We take our responsibilities seriously - we know the people of Greenwich love their beautiful Park, and we have spent considerable time developing our plans to make sure we protect it. Our planning application shows the lengths we are going to in order to make sure we return the Park to The Royal Parks and the local community in the condition in which we will gratefully receive it.'

Mark Camley, Chief Executive of The Royal Parks, said: "We welcome the opportunity to host the Equestrian and Modern Pentathlon Events in Greenwich Park in 2012. Our priority is to protect the Park's historic and natural environment for the enjoyment of current users and future generations. We are working with LOCOG to ensure any impact to the Park and Park users is minimised and are assured that LOCOG has publicly committed to returning the Park to its pre-Games condition".

LOCOG has undergone an extensive community and stakeholder consultation exercise over the last 18 months to explain plans to the public and to listen to and address concerns. This has included: a series of meetings, material on [www.london2012.com](http://www.london2012.com), brochures, attendance at local events in and around the Park, public exhibitions, meetings with statutory groups and community groups, and the opening of an exhibition shop in Greenwich town centre in October. Over 10,000 brochures were distributed with feedback forms for people to return.

Greenwich Park is a site of unique historical, environmental and archaeological significance, and important to residents and users. Therefore, LOCOG has worked closely with The Royal Parks, English Heritage, Natural England and other statutory bodies and organisations to ensure the Park is returned in the condition we receive it. Full details can be found in the Environmental Statement which is submitted as part of the planning application.

The costs to stage the Olympic and Paralympic Equestrian Events and Olympic Modern Pentathlon Events in Greenwich Park are paid for by LOCOG's privately raised budget.

Proposals listed in the application submitted to Greenwich Council on 30 November, include:

#### Venue Details

Greenwich Park, the National Maritime Museum (NMM), the Old Royal Naval College (ORNC) and Blackheath Circus Field will host the Olympic Equestrian and Modern Pentathlon Events in July and August 2012 and the Paralympic Dressage competitions in September 2012. Equestrian events consist of Dressage, Eventing, Jumping and Paralympic Dressage.

Dressage takes place over four days in the Temporary Arena, and involves 50 competitors in team and individual events. Eventing takes place over four days and consists of Dressage, Jumping and Cross Country. Eventing includes team and individual events for 75 competitors. The Cross Country section lasts for a single day and is the only element of Equestrian competition held outside the Temporary Arena. Jumping takes place in the Temporary Arena over four days. The jumps are designed to showcase the history of the host country. There are team and individual events for 75 competitors. Paralympic Dressage takes place over five days in the Temporary Arena. There are team and individual events involving 75 riders. In Modern Pentathlon athletes compete in five disciplines - Fencing, Swimming, Riding, and a combined Run/Shoot event - in a single day. Men compete on one day, women on a second. The Riding section involves completing a Jumping course in the Arena. The combined Run/Shoot event also takes place in the Arena with the running course extending a short way into the Park near the Arena.

The key elements required for the Greenwich Park Events are:

- A Temporary Arena with up to 23,000 seats and supporting facilities (spectator areas, main stables, training and warm up areas, veterinary centre, medical centre, hospitality areas, broadcast compound, media centre, offices, food outlets, toilets, etc) in the north west of the Park.
- A Cross Country course (approximately 6km) and supporting facilities (spectator areas, warm up areas, toilets, food outlets) and a Modern Pentathlon running course (approximately 1km) to the south east of the arena.
- Spectator queuing, screening, and administration facilities within the grounds of the ORNC and NMM.
- Secondary stabling, training ground, storage, offices and a spectator queuing area in Blackheath Circus Field, adjacent to the south-eastern side of the Park. This area would also be used as a compound during the set up and removal phases.
- Additional facilities - utilities, use of existing roads and footpaths, lighting, cabling, perimeter security fence, etc throughout the project site.

The key elements of existing permanent infrastructure that would be used to provide temporary event facilities at the project site are:

#### Accommodation

Administrative and hospitality facilities in Devonport House, the Maritime Galleries and Queen's House respectively, north of the Park.

#### Transport

As part of the London 2012 Transport Plan, the Olympic Delivery Authority has invested £80 million in the Docklands Light Railway, which will improve services in time for the 2012 Games and beyond, by increasing capacity by 50 per cent across most of the network by 2010. Full details of the transport plans are contained in the planning application. Access to Greenwich Park for spectators at Games time will be via the National Maritime Museum side of Romney Road and Blackheath Gates.

The plan includes a managed crossing of Romney Road and, for one day only (Cross Country day), a managed crossing of the A2 Shooters Hill Road.

Local residents and businesses near to Greenwich Park will have priority parking provision and access to their homes and properties throughout the Games period. The revised transport plans contained in the

planning application have been based on residents' comments and remove Games traffic from Greenwich town centre.

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## **British Equestrian Federation triumphs at Coaching Awards**

### **10th December 2009**

The British Equestrian Federation (BEF) has won the Governing Body of the Year at the UK Coaching Awards 2009.

The glittering awards ceremony which is hosted by Sports Coach UK, was held in London on Tuesday 8 December and presented by John Inverdale. The awards honour the success of coaches and coaching organisations over the last 12 months. It was a highly competitive category which included the Rugby Football Union and British Swimming with the BEF coming out on top.

The accolade, supported by Sports Structures incorporating [jobswithballs.com](http://jobswithballs.com), is awarded to a governing body that has made a significant contribution and impact on the development of a coaching system and individual coaches across the UK.

Andrew Finding, the BEF's Chief Executive, says: "We are delighted to have won this award - it's fantastic to be recognised as a leading sport in this area. The lottery funding we receive has been instrumental in allowing the Federation as a whole to professionalise the sport. Last night the judges also recognised our collaborative work. The great thrill has been to see our broad community working together, be they from Vaulting, Driving, Show Jumping, the British Horse Society, the RDA or the Pony Club, from England, Scotland or Wales. It is the effectiveness of this collaboration of equals that has made the difference.

"It's a tribute to the hard work and dedication of everyone, but particularly Colin Wilson, who started the work in a consultancy role for us, and then Head of Sports Development, Suzanne Genery who has provided the leadership in coaching within our Federation. I want also to pay tribute to the leaders of our 16 member body organisations that make up our Federation - these are the people who have made it happen on the ground - thank you all."

Joanna Jones, Equestrian Coaching Systems Manager at Sports Coach UK, said: "The BEF truly deserve to be recognised for this award. They have placed coaching at the heart of their delivery and significant work has taken place through the BEF Coaching Development Action Team to create a clear vision for coaching for the forthcoming years."

The BEF is the recognised governing body of horse sports in the UK. It exists to provide leadership, vision and purpose in steering the direction of equestrianism.

Equestrian is one of the priority sports working with Sports Coach UK to develop the UK Coaching Framework. The framework highlights how Sports Coach UK plans to work in close partnership with governing bodies of sport to enhance the quality and quantity of coaches at all levels, leading to increased and sustained participation and improved performance.

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## **Carian Scudamore wins World Class Development programme qualifying competition at Ingliston Equestrian Centre**

### **15th December 2009**

The second of the qualifying competitions for the World Class Development Programme Championship was held on 5th December at Ingliston Equestrian Centre, Renfrewshire, Scotland.

The competition, which is open to riders aged 23 years or under, attracted twenty-four entries at this BSJA Premier Show and, with an up to height course, built by Peter Gillespie, it produced five clear rounds through to the jump off.

The honours went to Junior European Gold Medallist, Carian Scudamore riding Larino 0087, who was second at the first qualifying class at Addington Equestrian Centre the previous week, putting her in the lead at present on 74 points. Philippa Dobby riding Nirvana Doc was second with Mercaddes McDonald riding Ramzes II in third place.

As part of its sponsorship, the World Class Development Programme is funding the first place prize money of £300 at the qualifying competitions, as well as Training Vouchers, which are awarded to the first six prize-winning riders, currently eligible for British Team selection. The other three riders who received Training Vouchers were Alison Barton (4th), Laura Hutt (5th) and Carian Scudamore (6th).

Corinne Bracken, Junior & Young Rider Team GB Coach said, "These young riders were able to experience competing at one of the best equestrian facilities in Europe last weekend and with it's fantastic arena surface a strong show jumping course was built. Carian Scudamore, the winner of the class, certainly showcased her talent, who is not only riding with great maturity but also in great style. A healthy Scottish contingent took part in the class and were also in the final line up, with Mercaddes taking third place and Laura in fifth".

Together with the further five qualifying competitions being held at various venues during January, February and March 2010 the top twenty-two horse and rider combinations, based on points from that horse and rider combination's best four results, will come forward to jump in the World Class Development Programme Championship and, it's supporting competition, the World Class Development Programme Pathfinder. These will be held at The British Open Show Jumping Championships in Birmingham's LG Arena (7-10th April 2010).

The World Class Development Programme is Lottery and Exchequer funded through UK Sport, and seeks to identify and develop talented athletes who have shown the potential to reach the world stage. The Programme underpins World Class Performance and, together with the Equine Pathway, they comprise the Equestrian World Class Programme, incorporating the three Olympic sports of dressage, eventing, show jumping and the Paralympic sport of para-equestrian dressage.

The Programmes work closely with the three British Equestrian Federation Olympic Member Bodies; British Dressage, British Eventing and British Showjumping, whose own training and competition programmes work hand in hand with the programmes run within World Class.

Special rules relating to the qualifying classes can be found under 'Competitions and Classes' in the Show Area on the BSJA website [www.britishshowjumping.co.uk](http://www.britishshowjumping.co.uk)

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## **Olympic legacy project Hoof outlines 3 year plan 17th December 2009**

Hoof, the Olympic legacy project to the London 2012 Games, set up by the British Equestrian Federation, today outlines its plans for the next three years, to make horses more accessible to all Londoners.

Hoof was awarded £750,000 funding by Sport England this year for a three year campaign which will centre on;

- A campaign to make riding in London more accessible to all regardless of social or financial status
- A schools riding programme to provide opportunities for children to experience the pleasures and benefits of riding for the first time, which will be led by the British Horse Society
- A series of investments to provide new as well as improve existing facilities for riding in the city
- Representing the view of the equestrian community within London to ensure that all the benefits of equestrian sport, being at the centre of the games in 2012, are maximized

Commenting on the investment plans launched today, Andrew Finding, Chief Executive of the British Equestrian Federation says; "London will be home to the Olympic and Paralympic equestrian events in 2012, taking our sport right into the heart of London. Now is the time for us, in partnership with all our member organisations, to exploit the publicity that will follow, by encouraging more people to get involved and creating better facilities and opportunities for all to ride in London.

"Hoof will support the Ebony Horse Club ([www.ebonyhorseclub.org.uk](http://www.ebonyhorseclub.org.uk)) with up to £200,000 of capital investment. Ebony is a leading light in equestrian charity work in London, bringing life skills and personal achievement through horse riding and care, to some of the most disadvantaged children and young people growing up in deprived communities in Brixton's Coldharbour Ward. The new facility, which requires significant fundraising in addition to the Hoof investment, will enable the horse club to expand the number of children it can support from 40 to 160 children a week, enabling many more young people to enjoy the unique positive attributes that working with horses brings."

Rose Spearing, Development Director of the Ebony Horse Club welcomed the move;

"The BEF, through Hoof, is taking the lead in the horse world in reaching out in a major way to urban youth and in doing so, showcasing the unique contribution that horses can make to the lives of individuals and communities."

Mr Finding continued; "Hoof will also provide up to £200,000 of funding towards the construction of a landmark new facility in the London borough of Greenwich, The centre, which is proposed at Shooters Hill, just a stone's throw from the Olympic equestrian venue, will provide a lasting sporting, community and educational legacy for the equestrian community in the city. This project will also be supported by significant local authority funding. "

Councillor Chris Roberts, Leader of Greenwich Council said; "We see the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games as a tremendous opportunity to inspire people to take up sports and are doing all we can to develop a new equestrian centre in Greenwich, as well as a host of other new sports facilities.

"A new equestrian centre will not only introduce thousands of London children to the thrill of horse riding, it will also provide educational and training opportunities for many people for years to come. Our plans are to provide a top quality training centre so that people can gain skills and qualifications in an area that will open up opportunities across the world.

"The Games aren't just a 17-day sports event for London - they are a chance to create new opportunities and inspire people and we have to start now so that the benefits can last for generations to come."

Mr Finding continued;"Finally, as part of a wider campaign to drive demand for the sport, Hoof will continue to market the benefits of horse riding to Londoners, with the launch of Hoof it to Health - a new campaign to get people off the sofa, away from the computer and out into the open air to enjoy the exercise that horse riding can provide. Hoof will work with partners such as Riding for the Disabled to explore the many positive physical and mental benefits that can be derived from an involvement with horses." Concludes Mr Finding.

Hoof will primarily be working with Sport England and the BEF member bodies. It will also be working with a number of partners including the Sport England funded ProActive, sports partnerships and others to maximise opportunities for children and adults across London to enjoy riding for the first time.

For more information on Hoof visit [www.hoof-in-town.co.uk](http://www.hoof-in-town.co.uk)