

Para-Dressage Newsletter

April/May 2011



Dear Riders, Coaches, Parents and Judges

London 2012 Paralympics

SASCOC has announced a long list of riders for London 2012. Congratulations to the following riders:

Philippa Johnson

Wendy Moller

Marion Milne

Anthony Dawson

Cathy Lloyd

Nicole Sanders

Please take note that this is not the final team selection and it can change. Also SA will only be allowed to send 4 riders to the Paralympics

For more info on the rules and qualification criteria for London 2012, follow the link below:

<http://www.fei.org/events/games/paralympic-games/london-2012>

CPDEI 3* Deauville France (15-17 April 2011) By Philippa Johnson

Dear All

We have just returned from the first international competition of 2011 in Deauville, France. We left on Wednesday morning and after a smooth 8 hour drive arrived at the new Hippodrome in Deauville. It has only been open since October and it is fantastic. After settling Verdi we went off dropped our bags at the hotel and came back to give Verdi a half hour light work so he could stretch his legs. Needless to say he was super fresh, not helped by the fact that it was 4°C with a horribly sharp wind!!

Thursday he pulled out even fresher but we were able to work him in both the indoor & outdoor competition arena's. Friday, first day of competition, he had still not settled and I was starting to stress just a little for my ride in the afternoon. That been said when we started warming up he felt a thousand times better and I could actually start riding him. As a result of his behaviour I rode a very 'safe' first test and we finished 6th with 66,09%. There were 10 horses competing in Grade IV.

Saturday morning we rode him again in the morning and he felt super, so that afternoon I rode much more along the lines of how I have been competing him in the able bodied competitions. I was thrilled, it was a much better test with no mistakes, unfortunately being the Championships the judges always mark stronger, we finished 5th with 64,94%.

Sunday we rode the kur in the indoors. My aim was to ride with a little more spark, which Verdi gave in buckets! As we entered at the canter, he kicked out and did 3 flying changes before we halted!! He got a little to sparky but we were able to do a reasonable test and finished 4th with 68,25%. As Chris said we just needed to stay 3 more days to get the result we wanted!!

It was the first time the organizers had ever organized such a competition and there were some things that needed to be improved but generally it was a super competition with 14 countries competing. It was great

being back in the international arena again, it gives both Chris and I a very good insight into the competition we are up against and this only motivates us to work harder!!

Philippa

Also congratulations to Nicole Sanders who competed, and got reclassified to a grade 1B. An article on Nicole's experience and photo will follow in the next newsletter

Shows & Show results:

Results: Well done to you all!

(If you want your scores included in the newsletter then you must send them to me - it's your responsibility)

CPDEI3* Deauville France (15-17 April 2011)

Philippa Johnson :	Grade 4	66.09% - 6 th , 64.94% - 5 th , 68.25% - 4 th - Verdi
Nicole Sanders:	Grade 1B	53.71%, 51.52%, 53.91% - Kemal de B'neville

18 April Nissan Easter Festival (GHS)

Marion Milne :	Grade 1B	74.55%, 67.39% - Baron
Anthony Dawson:	Grade 2	79.09%, 65.31% - Ardmore Ceramics Remus B
Wendy Moller:	Grade 2	73.81%, 70.48% - Willows Rafiki
Sarah Hughes	Grade 2	63.81%, 58.09% - Rival

Picture of the month:

This month we have a picture of the grade 2 prizegiving at Easter festival , Wendy Moller, Anthony Dawson and Sarah Hughes. *Due to the file size I can only include one picture of a rider at a show, therefore I will select a new one every month.*



TID Training Camp 13-15 May 2011

The next TID training camp will be held at the Hpc TuksSport, with a focus on feedback from the previous assessments; the development of individualized programmes; visual skills; nutrition and sport psychology. There will be no riding at this camp and the coaches and administrators are looking in to how riding camps can be facilitated in the various provinces so that horses don't have to be transported at great expense.

SANEF Competition

A request for special dispensation to include para classes at all SANEF 2011 competition, will be made to Dressage for National judges to judge para classes at the SANEF competition. KZN, Gauteng and WP will have para classes concurrently with the dressage competition. Freestate will get classes added in Kimberley.

FEI CPEDI 3*/ SA National Championships 2011

The CPEDI3* including the SA Paradressage Championship and Interprovincial will be hosted by Kwa-Zulu Natal at the Shongweni Club over the period 5 – 7 August 2011. This competition will be a qualifier for London 2012 and the selectors will be watching so ensure you are entered if you intend being considered for London 2012. **Please take note that as of 2011 it is compulsory for all riders to ride the musical freestyle at the SA Champs.**

This event will be judged by 3 international judges and Kathy Amos Jacobs will be presenting training clinics for both paradressage and able bodied dressage athletes after the competition. Watch this space for more info

Rules

SANEF have agreed to the dispensation that Para dressage riders are able to compete in able bodied dressage with their compensating aides. It is necessary for riders to submit a copy of their classification card at the time of entering the competition as well as to carry the card on their person during the competition. This is the riders responsibility.

Until next time happy riding!!

Wendy

PS. Feel free to contact me if you have any tips, funny horsy stories or anything you would like to add.