



NEWS



Competition Resources

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USEF Combined Driving National Championships



2026 USEF Combined Driving National Championships for Advanced Four in Hand Horses & 2026 USEF Combined Driving Youth National Championships

March 11-15, 2026, at Live Oak International in Ocala, FL.

Click [here](#) to view the full results.

2026 USEF Combined Driving National Championships for Advanced Single Horses

April 22-26, 2026, at Katydid at Tryon International Equestrian Center in Mill Spring, NC. Click [here](#) to view the full results.

2026 USEF Combined Driving National Championships for Ponies & Para Driving

September 15-20, 2026, at Tryon Fall CDE at Tryon International Equestrian Center in Mill Spring, NC.

2026 USEF Combined Driving National Championships for Advanced Pair Horses, Intermediate Horses, Preliminary Horses and Training Horses

November 5-8, 2026, at Stable View in Aiken, SC.

[READ MORE](#)

FEI Updates

On July 1, 2026, the new article 973 of the FEI Driving Rules will go into effect regarding the implementation of cone lifters. For more information, read the FEI Driving Rules [here](#).

On January 1, 2027, the new article 928 of the FEI Driving Rules will go into effect regarding the requirement of protective headgear while riding on a carriage anywhere on the show grounds. For more information, read the FEI Driving Rules [here](#).

[VIEW ALL 2026 FEI RULE CHANGES](#)

If you are interested in participating in FEI Young Horse Classes, please connect with the USEF FEI Horse Passport office at passports@usef.org to get your equine registered prior to the competition.

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

driving.com.

2027 FEI Calendar Applications

The application process for the 2027 FEI Calendar for combined driving competitions is now open. Applications will be accepted now through July 1, 2026, and must be submitted online through the USEF Competition Dashboard at competitions.usef.org.

FEI Pony Measurement Session

USEF is determining interest from athletes and owners on hosting an FEI Pony Measurement Session. If an FEI Pony Measurement Session is held, it is the intention to hold this in Ocala in March of 2027. Please complete [this form](#) if you are interested in participating.

US Equestrian Announces Updates to Combined Driving Pathway Program

The USEF Combined Driving Program operates across three tiers to support drivers at every stage of their journey: the **Emerging Program** hosts introductory clinics using approved curriculum to teach driving basics from beginner through Preliminary level; the **Developing Program** guides committed athlete/equine combinations at the Preliminary level and above toward long-term goals, with a mission to elevate the national standard and contribute to U.S. Team scores at FEI and Para Driving World Championships; and the **Pre-Elite and Elite Athlete Program** provides grant support to competitive Novice Advanced and above athletes, with Elite status reserved for those meeting FEI-level results criteria or having achieved an individual podium finish at an FEI Driving or Para Driving World Championship.

The 2026 Athlete Pathway Program Lists can be found [here](#). Updates to the Pre-Elite and Elite Program Lists are made regularly.

Upcoming Emerging Clinic Information

Emerging Athlete Driving Clinics:

- June 12-13 at Avon Driving Park in Avon, NY. Organized by Bruce Jones (bruceunit@gmail.com).
- July 3-5 at High Hopes Farm in Honeoye Falls, NY. Organized by Sarah Reitz (highhopesfarm43@gmail.com).

- July 6-8 at the USET Foundation in Gladstone, NJ. Organized by John Layton (johnlcedriver@gmail.com).
- July 13- 14 at Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, KY. Organized by Karen Cherry (youth.floridawhipsclub@gmail.com)
- July 25-26 at Wood Hill Farm in Granville, OH. Organized by Parveti Wood (parveti@mac.com).
- August 1-2 at Bliss Combined Driving in Hillsboro, VA. Organized by Paula Bliss (hbbliss@toast.net).
- August 28-30 at Charlotte's Creek Farm in Georgetown, KY. Organized by Jennifer Harber (dunhorse1220@gmail.com).
- September 4-6 at Orleton Farm in Stockbridge, MA. Organized by Harvey Waller (hwaller562@aol.com).
- September 4-6 at Falcon View Farm in Waymart, PA. Organized by Beth Ann Berwanger (bethannberwanger@yahoo.com).

The above list of Emerging Clinics is not associated with USEF until the agreements are signed.

Upcoming Development Program Information

Following the close of the Developing Program applications on June 1st, we are pleased to announce the athletes and equine combinations selected for the program:

Developing Athlete Program:

- Virginia Miner with L.F. Tuscaloosa owner by Virginia Miner
- Ingrid Nichols with Lexus, Nico, Eriny, and Ilonist owned by Ingrid Nichols

Developing Equine Program

- Leslie Berndt with Rainfall owned by Leslie Berndt

USEF is pleased to welcome the new participants the Developing Program.

The Developing Program is designed provide guidance, educational resources, mentorship, and training opportunities to support the development of athletes and equine with international potential. The Program offers multiple Developing Training Sessions throughout the year to the selected athletes, as well as competition planning and goal setting with Clinicians for short and long-term goals. Additional virtual education opportunities may also be offered to further enhance competitive success.

Remaining 2026 Developing Training Sessions:

- July 31-August 2 at the USET Foundation Headquarters in Gladstone, NJ
- October 9-11 at Charlotte's Creek Farm in Georgetown, KY

Athletes can apply for the training sessions through their [USEF Athlete Dashboard](#).

USEF Updates & Resources

On April 1st, 2026, a rule change went into effect regarding FEI Foreign officials. This change can be viewed [here](#).

Competition Coach/Trainer Requirements for 2026

Please note as of December 1, 2025, coaches (in addition to trainers) must be listed on all USEF competition entry forms and submitted in the results returned by the competition organizer. As a reminder, membership requirements for coaches are the same as trainers and show passes are not permitted for coaches. Coaches are those who have or share the responsibility for instructing, teaching, schooling, or advertising a rider, driver, handler, or vaulter in equestrian skills. Coaches may or may not also be trainers. Trainers are those who have responsibility for the care, training, custody, of the horse.

US Equestrian App

Keeping track of your US Equestrian membership and horse ID cards has never been easier. The US Equestrian App allows you to access your membership details, save and flag horse ID cards and much more. Plus, with USEF MemberPerks and discounts at your fingertips, you can save with preferred retailers and brands. Download the app [here](#).

SafeSport Updates

As part of our commitment to members and to their wellbeing, US Equestrian has partnered with the McLaughlin Young Group to offer members free confidential counseling services for mental health first aid. [Learn more](#)

Welfare Updates

When we implemented our expanded Unethical Treatment of Horses rule (GR838) last year, we empowered USEF and licensed officials to take action in cases of unethical treatment of horses, on show grounds and off. [Read more](#)

Interested in Becoming a Licensed Official?

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

Support Combined Driving

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

Connect with US Equestrian

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



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