

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 1

NOVA SCOTIA EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION



OCTOBER 2014

HOOFPRINTS

Newsletter and 2014 Annual Report





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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Summer is turning quickly into fall and my first year as President of NSEF is drawing to a close. It has certainly been a learning curve with so much going on provincially and at Equine Canada. Some 2014 highlights - Coaching programs are progressing nicely starting with a joint coaching symposium in the spring and on-going development clinics and testing throughout the year for all disciplines. We have had some very impressive clinicians presenting to our coaching body and available to our general membership; We will be hosting the 9th Annual NSEF Trail Ride on October 18 at Porter's Lake Provincial Park. This is a great opportunity to gather in a recreational setting; A Guide for New Riders is now available. This is a very attractive and informative booklet developed through cooperation with OEF; NSEF will be proudly represented in all three disciplines at the CIEC in Blainville, Quebec, October 3 - 5.

I would like to thank our Board of Directors and staff (Heather, Sheila and Joanne) for their support, they are so critical to the running of this sport governing body. I would also like to thank Kim Fortin for her years of service on the Board of Directors.

May you all enjoy the cool fall weather and frisky horses.

Adrienne Smith, President, NSEF



Adrienne Smith
NSEF President

FROM THE ED'S DESK

As 2014 comes to a close, I reflect on the evolution of the federation over the past ten years. NSEF has grown into a vibrant and sustainable organization with well over 3,200 members from every corner of the province.

The growth and development of our sport is evident in our athletes who have had an opportunity to compete at every level within our competitive structure; the increase in our recreational programs; and renewed interest in our coaching certification programs. We continue to work on our website and online database system and we have developed a wonderful Guide for New Riders which will be circulated to libraries, schools and recreation departments across NS.

Our AGM and Awards Reception are slated for Sunday, November 16th at the Old Orchard Inn in Wolfville. At this time we will be highlighting plans for the upcoming year and recognizing members for their contribution to the NSEF via competitions, volunteering, coaching, etc. Hope to see you there.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our staff, Sheila and Joanne for the amazing contribution they make for the NSEF. We all take great pride in what we do and we always strive to provide the best quality programs and services to you, our member.

Our NSEF Board, especially President Adrienne Smith, deserves special recognition as well for its direction and support throughout the year.

Have a great fall and I look forward to serving you in 2015.

Heather Myrer, Executive Director, NSEF



Heather Myrer
NSEF E.D.

NSEF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Cover Photo: Paisley McCallum and Over the Moon. Photographer Pam MacKenzie. Reprinted with permission.

TEAM NOVA SCOTIA PREPARES FOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

After competing all spring and summer at qualifying competitions, nine NSEF athletes have been selected to represent Nova Scotia at the Canadian Interprovincial Equestrian Championships in Blainville, Quebec this October. Along with the Discipline Coaches and Team NS Chef d'Equipes, here are our athletes:



REINING TEAM



Junior athlete **HANNAH MACQUARRIE** hails from New Glasgow where she is coached year-round by Travis Smith. A recent graduate of North Nova Education Centre, she has been riding for 12 years, the past seven have been spent honing her reining skills. Hannah is thrilled to be representing Team NS in Blainville.

18 year old Junior athlete **NOAH MACASKILL**, from Sydney, has been riding for 12 years and has focused on reining the past 3 1/2 years. Coached by Mona Lewis, he and his six year old horse Chex Nu Doll (aka Weezie), have shown at various competitions in their area, winning such titles as, Sumac Slide NRHA Youth 14-18 champion, Cape Breton Ride N Slide Freestyle Reining, Open Reining and Open Trail champion. Noah and Weezie are proud to ride for team Nova Scotia and hope to do their province justice at the 2014 CIEC.



Senior athlete, **RHONAS THOMSON** grew up showing and racing ponies, eventually moved onto horses in eventing and dressage. Since moving to NS in 1999, she has been successfully competing as a Reiner on horses raised at Sumac Farms, where she is the manager. Rhonas will bring a tremendous amount of experience to Team NS.



JUMPING TEAM

Junior Athlete **NICOLE OSMOND** started riding at Halifax Junior Bengal Lancers, the oldest riding school in Canada at the age of 8, following in the footsteps of her older sister. At age 14, she moved on to a competitive large pony and competed in Florida, Vermont and The Royal two years in a row. For the past 2 years Nicole, has been competing with her horse Halentino in the jumper ring as well as developing a few young horses locally in Nova Scotia. Nicole is proud to be named to Team Nova Scotia at the 2014 CIEC.



Senior athlete **KRIS FOLEY** started riding as a child it wasn't until later in life that Krista started competing in jumper competitions, preferring early on to compete in gymkhana competitions. In her late 20s Krista made the switch to English disciplines and discovered that rather than running around barrels she preferred to jump over them! Having made the switch Krista worked her way up through the jumper divisions and has competed successfully up to 1.2m on her previous mount. After a three year absence during which she focused on training her new mare and bettering her own skills, Krista has re-entered the jumper ring and is very excited to be competing with Team NS at the Canadian Interprovincial Equestrian Championships.



Senior Athlete **KATHLEEN YAUDEN** hails from Aylesford with her husband Larry. They share their home with two cats and two horses. Kathleen is employed full time with the Province of Nova Scotia where she works within the Department of Community Services. Kathleen enjoys riding both her horses and competes in the hunter and jumper rings of Nova Scotia. Kathleen is very much looking forward to her first trip to the CIEC, representing NS in the jumper ring!

DRESSAGE TEAM

Junior Athlete **ERICA MACKEEN** comes from Tatamagouche, where she and her equine partner "Sunny" (Sorrel Sunrise) have had success in the competition rings of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. They both received Dressage Canada First Level Bronze Medals in 2013 and she is excited to be a part of Team NS, joining her mom, Kim as part of Team Dressage.



Senior athlete **KIM MACKEEN**, hails from Tatamagouche and is an elementary school teacher. Kim has shown her Arabians in Open and Breed shows, competitive trail rides, endurance and dressage. Kim and Man After Midnight have been competing together for the last three years, and are proud to be representing Nova Scotia.



Senior Athlete **NICOLE SULLIVAN** lives in Nine Mile River NS with her fiancé RJ McConnell, three children, Roderick 10, Lloyd 8 and Fay 6. Nicole began riding when she was 12 and has never looked back. She decided dressage was the path to follow about seven years ago. Nicole enjoys riding her horses at home, taking them out to local competitions, trail riding, and now lucky enough to watch/teach Fay and Lloyd ride their horses. She has a 12 year old Canadian gelding, Magnum, who has been her "main show guy" for the past few seasons. This is the second appearance at the CIEC for Nicole as she had competed at the 2013 CIEC in Calgary!



DISCIPLINE COACHES & CHEF D'EQUIPES

Team NS Chef d'Equipes, **SHEILA CURRIE** began working for the NSEF in 2006 and is currently the federation's Program Coordinator and Provincial Coach Coordinator. Through these roles she has been involved with several NSEF programs especially competitions and coaching. She has also held a variety of leadership roles with Girl Guides of Canada at the Unit, District and Area level. Sheila enjoyed her role as Chef d'Equipes with the 2012 Team Nova Scotia Reiners and the many aspects of this role. Sheila is looking forward to seeing the members of the 2014 Team Nova Scotia compete well against the other provinces at the CIEC. Go Team NS!





Team NS Reining Coach, **TRAVIS SMITH** lives in Port Howe and is a NCCP Certified Western Instructor of Beginner and is a NCCP Competition Coach Specialist (Reining) Candidate. Travis is an Equine Canada Certified Trail Riding Instructor, Guide Level 1 and Evaluator. He runs a successful equine business, TS Performance Horses. Travis showed locally and in the 4-H show circuits before he found his passion for reining. Travis has had tremendous success as a coach to many Nova Scotian Reiners and happy to be putting his coaching skills to the test at the 2014 CIEC!

Team NS Jumping Coach, **JILL BARKER**, from Windsor, is a highly motivated and successful Coach with almost 30 years of coaching and competitive experience to her name. Her athletes have shown at all levels of competition ranging from local to the international scene. Jill is currently



the Manager and Head Instructor at the Halifax Jr. Bengal Lancers and owner of Horses at Work Competitive Show Barn. This is the third trip to the CIEC as Jumping Coach for Jill. Her experience at this event will definitely benefit our team!

Team NS Dressage Coach, **DAWN HELM** also from Port Howe, has over 20 years of coaching experience in a vast array of settings coaching at local, provincial and national levels - from training to FEI Junior. Dawn has a background that includes 40 years of riding. Since 1999, Dawn has been the owner/operator of Galloway Stables and is the Head Coach for Tantramar Pony Club. Her many years of riding and coaching will help to prepare the team in Quebec. This too, is Dawn's second trip to the CIEC as discipline coach and the benefits of this experience will be felt by the team!



BITS AND BITES

9TH ANNUAL NSEF TRAIL RIDE/DRIVE

The 9th Annual NSEF Trail Ride/Drive will be on *Saturday, October 18, 2014* at Porter's Lake Provincial Park. For more information see the inside back cover of this Hoofprints Edition.

NEW HELMET RULE GOES INTO EFFECT JANUARY 1ST

In recognition of the need to support member safety, the Nova Scotia Equestrian Federation Board has approved the following changes to Helmet Use Rules, effective January 1, 2015. This rule will apply to Scotia Series competitions, NSEF Trail Ride and Drive, Coaching and Rider Evaluations and any clinic hosted by the NSEF.

HELMET RULE - Effective January 1, 2015 - At all times on the event grounds, persons mounted or driving must wear approved protective headgear (as described below) that is properly fitted and securely fastened by a safety harness that is permanently affixed to the helmet.

The NSEF makes no representation or warranty, expressed or implied, about any approved protective headgear. NSEF cautions riders and drivers that serious injury or death may result despite wearing such headgear, as all equestrian sports involve inherent risk and no protective headgear can protect against all foreseeable injury.

HEADGEAR STANDARDS - Protective headgear must be certified under one of the following standards: ASTM (American Society for Testing Materials), or SEI (Safety Equipment Institute, Inc.); BSI/BS EN (British Standards Institution); EN (European Union Standards); or AS/NZS (Australian/New Zealand Standards).

NOTICE TO MEMBERS - MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

NSEF is now accepting Membership Renewals and new memberships for 2015. Members have several options for renewal/joining NSEF: 1) Online at www.horsenovascotia.ca; 2) By Mail; 3) By Fax; 4) In Office

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2014 YOUTH BURSARY WINNERS!

NSEF is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2014 NSEF Youth Bursary Program. Applications were received from young NSEF members from all over the province and it took many hours to decide on the top six applicants. Our Congratulations are extended to: Sophie Chisholm of Port Williams, Emma Simpson of North Sydney, Nichole van Dyk of Caledonia, Christina Backhouse of Kingston, Jessica VanNostrand of Berwick, Talia Bond of Shubenacadie.

All six recipients will receive a \$500.00 bursary to assist them with post-secondary expenses. Many thanks to all you who applied, and remember, you may apply again next year.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2014 LTED BURSARY WINNERS!

To help support Nova Scotia equestrians of all disciplines, the NSEF has created a Long Term Equestrian Development (LTED) Bursary Program from which bursaries will be awarded annually to those individuals who best demonstrate their continuing commitment towards skill development.

The \$250 bursary can be used for Riding lessons (with a Current NCCP certified Coach), Training fees, Competition fees, Continuing education (e.g. clinics), or Other activities that will assist in the achievement of long-term equestrian objectives.

Congratulations to this year's LTED Bursary Winners: Chelsea Clouter (Eventing) of Lawrencetown Halifax County, Evan Phinney (Jumping) of Halifax, Hannah Kenney (Dressage) of Newport, and Travis Smith (Reining) of Port Howe.

2015 Long Term Equestrian Development (LTED) Bursary Program applications are due March 1st.

AWARDS NOMINATIONS NOW BEING ACCEPTED

NSEF members are encouraged to nominate deserving individuals/organizations for the following awards:

THE NSEF VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

The NSEF Volunteer of the Year Award recognizes an outstanding volunteer who has contributed to equestrian sport. Volunteer service may include years of participation, administration, contribution, innovation, or the advancement of equestrian. The Volunteer of the Year Award is presented at the annual Awards Reception to an individual who has dedicated himself/herself to the ideals of the Nova Scotia Equestrian Federation. This Individual has also worked tirelessly for the improvement of the Federation and who has had a notable impact on the sport.

All nominations will be considered under the following criteria. The nominee:

1. must be active in the current year,
2. must be an equestrian volunteer, in any capacity, and
3. must be a member of the NSEF and have, through their volunteer activities, made a special and significant contribution to equestrian sport.

The nominations should include a complete personal and equestrian résumé that lists the nominee's major accomplishments and contributions with corresponding dates.

THE NSEF SPONSOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

The NSEF Sponsor of the Year Award recognizes an outstanding company who has given generously to the sport of equestrian through monetary or product sponsorship. The company can sponsor local, regional or national events throughout the calendar year.

The nomination should include a complete list of sponsorships with corresponding dates contributed by this company and detailing the impact this contribution has made to the sport. Nominee contact information must also be included.

THE NSEF SERVICE AWARD

The NSEF Service Award recognizes an individual for a minimum of 10 years of service to the equestrian sport of NS. This individual gives tirelessly and has made a significant difference to the equestrian community.

All nominations will be considered under the following criteria. The nominee:

1. must be active in the current year,
2. must be a member of the NSEF and have, through their volunteer activities, made a special and significant contribution to equestrian sport.

The nominations should include a complete personal and equestrian résumé that lists the nominee's major accomplishments and contributions with corresponding dates.

2014 NSEF AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

NAME OF NOMINEE: _____ PHONE (H) _____ (W) _____

ADDRESS OF NOMINEE: _____
Street and Number

_____ *Town/City* POSTAL CODE: _____

NOMINEE'S NSEF NUMBER: _____

NOMINATED FOR THE FOLLOWING AWARD: SERVICE AWARD VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD SPONSOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (PLEASE ATTACH RESUME IF AVAILABLE)

NOMINATED BY: _____ *Signature of Nominator* _____ *Nominator's Name (Printed)*

Nominations for all of the above Awards should be forwarded for arrival in the provincial office on or before Friday, October 24, 2014. Nominations received after that date will not be considered.



NOVA SCOTIA EQUESTRIAN FEDERATION

ANNUAL REPORT

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Old Orchard Inn, Wolfville, NS
Sunday, November 16, 2014
10:30am

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Nova Scotia Equestrian Federation will be held on Sunday, November 16, 2014.

Details and agenda are as follows:

TIME: 10:00am – Registration
10:30am – Meeting Begins

LOCATION: Old Orchard Inn, Wolfville, NS

AGENDA:

1. Call to Order. Including declaration of quorum.
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Consideration and Approval of Minutes of 2013 AGM- included in Annual Report, on website (www.horsenovascotia.ca) and available day of meeting.
4. Reports of Officers and Committees – included in Annual Report, on website (www.horsenovascotia.ca) and available day of meeting.
5. Consideration and Approval of Financial Statements – Financial Summary included in this Annual Report. The Full Financial Report will be available at the AGM and on website (www.horsenovascotia.ca)
6. Other Reports
7. Old Business
8. New Business, including
 - i) 2015 Plans
 - ii) Election of Directors
9. Adjournment

UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF 2013 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of members of the Nova Scotia Equestrian Federation held on November 17, 2013, at the Holiday Inn, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia.

Barbie Lewis acted as Chair of the Meeting, and Valerie McDermott acted as Secretary. Sheila Currie took registration and reported to the Secretary that a quorum for the meeting was present.

In Attendance:

Voting Members: Sherri Greenough, Robert MacNeill, Kimberley Fortin, Mary-Clare McLaren, Barbie Lewis, Suzanne Killen, Susan McLeod, Sherry Clark, Adrienne Smith, Don Wescott, Carol Macomber, Laurie Cranton, Valerie McDermott, Sandra Conrad, Pamela MacKenzie, Richard Mountford, Susan MacLean Michel, Karen Quigley-Scanlan. **Not voting members:** Alana Connolly, Doug Lynch, and Ron MacKenzie. Guests: Diana Crimp, Tory Clark.

Barbie Lewis called the meeting to order at 10:40am.

Quorum: Quorum was met for the meeting.

Agenda: On a motion made by Mary-Clare McLaren and seconded by Sandra Conrad, the agenda was approved as presented. Motion carried.

Minutes: On a motion made by Don Wescott and seconded by Sherri Greenough, the minutes of the annual general meeting of members held on November 18, 2012 were approved. Motion carried.

Business Arising from the Minutes: AGM Committee/ Director Reports Distribution period. All committee/ director reports were circulated at least three weeks in advance of the 2013 AGM as per the decision made by members at the 2012 AGM. They were included in the Hoofprints Newsletter and sent to members via email notice.

Officer/Director Reports: The following reports were circulated to the membership prior to the AGM:

1. President's Report
2. Executive Directors Report
3. Director of Competition Report
4. Director of Education Report
5. Director of Recreation Report

An amendment was made in the Director of Education Report to reflect an increase of Rider Level Examinations that took place in 2013: 60 English and 19 Western.

On a motion made by Adrienne Smith and seconded by Suzanne Killen, the Officer/Directors Reports were accepted as circulated with the one amendment. Motion carried.

Financial Statements: The financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2013 as reviewed by Shellnutt Accountants Services were circulated with meeting materials. The statements were reviewed and questions were answered by Heather Myrer and Valerie McDermott. On a motion made by Kim Fortin and seconded by Laurie

Cranton, the financial statements for the year ended March 31, 2012 were approved.

New Business:

1. Proposed By-Law Amendments

Sandra Conrad came forward on behalf of the NSEF By-Law Review Committee to facilitate the presentation of the proposed By-Law amendments.

Discussion was had with regards to the proposed amendments. Re-wording to Section 36d – Six Directors at Large to read – “To preside for a staggered three-year term. Two Directors-at-Large will be voted in for a three-year term at the annual general meeting”

On a motion made by Sandra Conrad and seconded by Don Wescott, the Proposed By-Law Amendments were approved with the one further amendment. Motion carried.

2. NSEF Strategic Plan – Year One Plan

Over the past year, the NSEF Board of Directors with the assistance of Facilitator Blaise Landry of the Department of Health and Wellness completed a Five-Year Strategic Plan.

Susan MacLean Michel came forward on behalf of the board to present an overview of the Strategic Plan and more specifically, Year-one plans.

After discussion of the presentation, on a motion by Susan MacLean Michel and seconded by Laurie Cranton, the NSEF Strategic Plan – Year- One plan was approved. Motion carried.

3. Election of Directors

Prior to the Election, Chair Barbie Lewis thanked and formally acknowledged the dedication of board member Liz Milo who had chosen not to re-offer and thanked Liz for her dedication to the NSEF over the past several years.

Adrienne Smith, NSEF Nominations Committee Chairperson, came forward to facilitate the election of Directors.

Nominations for each of the following positions were sought by the Nominations Committee and subsequently, from the floor at the AGM. Each position had its own election/acclamation; the following positions required no election, as there was only one nominee for that respective position to the Board.

Director of Education – Mary-Clare McLaren

Director of Recreation – Suzanne Killen

Director of Competitions – Sandra Conrad

Director of Clubs (two positions) – Robert MacNeill and Jane Abbott

An election was held for the two Director at Large (3-year terms) positions

Election Results:

Director-at-Large – 3-year term position. Running for these positions were Kim Fortin, Helen Smith and Carol Macomber.

Election Results:

Director-at-Large – 3-year term – Kim Fortin

Director-at-Large – 3-year term – Carol Macomber

Election or Directors ceased after this point and the new slate or directors was welcomed.

Termination: Prior to the ending of the meeting, Adrienne Smith presented outgoing President, Barbie Lewis with a

Certificate of Recognition of her many years of service to the NSEF, particularly, the past nine years, as president.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the Chair declared the meeting terminated at 12:15pm.

Submitted by

Val McDermott, Acting Secretary

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT (SUBMITTED BY HEATHER MYRER)

This year proved to be a positive one for our organization with new initiatives, implementation of Year-One of a Five-Year Strategic plan, membership increase and a full team competing at the Canadian Interprovincial Equestrian Championships.

We developed a Guide for New Riders that will be distributed to various agencies across the province. This is a very exciting guide that will assist parents of new riders in choosing what is best for their child. We are also working with the IWK's Child Safety Link in highlighting horseback riding as one of the activities in which children should be wearing a helmet. We are hoping that our sport will be included as one of the listed activities in all of its promotional material. NSEF is working on a new Social Media Plan that will be considered by the board at its upcoming meeting. Watch for NSEF launching a social media platform in the upcoming months.

NSEF acknowledges and appreciates the funding it has received over the past year from the Province of Nova Scotia via its Amateur Sport Fund and Support4Sport Funding. For the first time, NSEF received non-Canada Games funding that will assist us with sending a team to the Canadian Interprovincial Equestrian Championships and to have various training/athlete identification sessions throughout the winter. Coaches, officials and member clubs are encouraged to contact us for funding opportunities that may also be available through these programs.

We continue to work on our new website and database system. Considerable time was spent this year on implementing the online results input system for Scotia Series. This was a major accomplishment as we are now able to input results online and gives athletes the opportunity to track points from competitions. Members are reminded that with this new system, you can renew membership, shop, and register for programs online. It has proven to be an invaluable service.

As you will read in the Director of Education Report, we have had several successful coaching and official development courses/clinics. We continue to work hard in facilitating the necessary courses and seminars that afford our members the opportunity to advance professionally within the sport of equestrian given the many challenges we face in these economic times.

We were thrilled to be able to provide six deserving young members a \$500 bursary this year. This program continues to be a popular one amongst members. You can find the recipient list in this newsletter. We are equally thrilled to award four members with a newly established Long Term Equestrian Development Bursary of \$250 each.

Competitions continue to play an important role in our athlete development. We continue to provide athletes with a provincial based competition structure in Scotia Series and various competitions throughout the province are EC sanctioned – a positive step forward in providing a safe and friendly competitive environment for our many athletes. The enclosed Competition Report will provide you with detailed information on this topic.

By the time you read this report, we will have sent a full team to the 2014 Canadian Interprovincial Equestrian Championships in Blainville, Quebec. The team is a strong one and we are hoping for great results and a positive experience for all. Check out our Team members in the profile page of the newsletter!

Our Director of Recreation, Suzanne Killen, has worked tirelessly over the past year organizing the 9th Annual NSEF Trail Ride/Drive. This year, we are excited to announce that it will be held in a provincial park – a first for this event. Suzanne and her committed group of volunteers are hoping for a large turn-out. Check out the back page of this newsletter for more information on how to participate in this event!

As initially stated, this past year has been a significant one for the sport of equestrian and equine related activities across the province. The collaborative efforts of volunteers, staff and members have allowed us to continue our progress in delivering the benefits of this sport to our members and to the horse community in general.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our staff – Program Coordinator, Sheila Currie and Membership Coordinator, Joanne Honeygold – for their hard work and enthusiasm as we work diligently to provide you with quality programs and services. I would also like to thank the NSEF Board of Directors, especially President Adrienne Smith, for their direction and support throughout this past year.

I look forward to working with you in 2015.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (SUBMITTED BY ADRIENNE SMITH)

Summer is turning quickly into fall and my first year as President of NSEF is drawing to a close. It has certainly been a learning curve for me with so much going on provincially and at Equine Canada. I serve on the Provinces Council and the EC Recreation Council and this entails e-mails and conference calls as things unfold at that level. I must give much credit to Barbie Lewis for the years she has dedicated to this position.

- Our coaching programs are progressing nicely starting with a joint coaching symposium in the spring and with on-going development clinics and testing throughout the year for all disciplines. We have had some very impressive clinicians presenting to our coaching body and available to our general membership. NCCP Theory Courses are being offered periodically throughout the year. The Director of Education's report will provide details.
- We are continuing to follow our identified targets/priorities for year one of our five-year strategic plan.
- NSEF was well represented at the Ricoh Sport Awards 2014 by the following people: Official – Sandra Conrad; Volunteer – Val McDermott; Dressage Athlete – Brittany Fraser; Coach – Roz Moskovits; Sponsor – Nick Bruinooge representing Purina.
- Once again we will be hosting the 9th Annual NSEF Trail Ride on October 18 at Porter's Lake Provincial Park. This is a great opportunity to gather in a recreational setting.
- Sport Nova Scotia, through its Support4Sport Funding, will be offering support for PSO's who are not involved in Canada Games and this will impact our Team NS program significantly. Many thanks to Heather Myrer for her persistence in achieving this.

- Our bursary programs are highly popular again this year. Six recipients each received \$500 in the Youth Bursary Program from a group of 17 applicants! Two LTED Bursaries were awarded from 15 applicants.
- Scotia Series shows and awards are continuing to offer competition to our members.
- A Guide For New Riders has been developed and will be available to interested persons. This is a very attractive and informative booklet developed through cooperation from the Ontario Equestrian Federation.
- NSEF E-News is doing a wonderful job keeping our members up to date on happenings in the industry and providing needed information on health care issues.
- The new website offering electronic ability to join or renew memberships has proved very popular.
- Partnership with Horse Trials Nova Scotia re collecting memberships has worked out very well for both parties.
- NSEF will be proudly represented in all three disciplines at the CIEC in Blainville, Quebec, October 3-5. Our Executive Director, Heather Myrer, will be Chef d'Equipes for the CIEC committee. We are pleased that they recognize her abilities in this position.
- I would encourage all our members to use the many services and products available through our office and to attend as many of the events and educational opportunities as possible. Our AGM will be in Wolfville on November 16 – come and be an active part of your organization.

I would like to thank our Board of Directors and staff (Heather, Sheila and Joanne) for their support, they are so critical to the running of this sport governing body. I would also like to thank Kim Fortin for her years of service on the Board of Directors.

NSEF RECREATION REPORT (SUBMITTED BY SUZANNE KILLEN)

The 9th Annual NSEF Trail Ride and Drive will be held on Saturday, October 18, 2014 at the Porters Lake Provincial Park in HRM from 9am to 4pm.

This is not a guided ride, so when you arrive – sign in, get your armband/map and enjoy the park!

Due to the recent strangles outbreak, water will be provided for horses – but you will be required to line the bucket with a plastic bag before filling with water, and then discard the plastic bag after use. Everything will be provided at the watering stations.

There will be apples and carrots for the horses. Lunch will be served between 11am and 2pm catered by The Heron's Nest Tea Room – Homemade Corn Chowder and biscuits. Coffee is provided by Tim Hortons, Main St., Dartmouth locations.

Thanks to our other Sponsors and Supporters – Green Diamond Equipment, Greenhawk, Fiske's, Valleyfield Farm, Merson Hill Sport Horses, Bits N Bridles, Allen Print, Blue Cabin Natural Products, Paul Johnson Towing, Wayne's Saddlery, Reining Western Wear, Tru North Communications, Marine Riders ATV Club, Complete Care Mobile Animal

Hospital, DNR, RCMP and HRP Mounted Unit.

Please fill out your registration & liability forms, mail them in or bring them with you, this will reduce your time standing in line. If you have any questions please contact Suzanne Killen at 902-827-5002 or email larace1@hotmail.com. Hope to see you there!

The NSEF Ride & Drive Rewards Program has 234 Members. If anyone is interested in becoming a member, please visit the NSEF website and click on the Ride & Drive icon for more information.

With 1,186 Members indicating they are Recreational Riders and Hunting Season fast approaching here are some reminder tips for the trail – Ride in a group when possible; make some noise – sing, talk, whistle, attach bear bells or sleigh bells to your horse; carry your cell phone on your person – not on your horse; ride on trails or fields where you are more identifiable and of course; outfit yourself and your horse in lots of bright colors!! Hunting Season for large game runs from September 8th until December 13th so stay safe and remember your hunters orange!

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION REPORT (SUBMITTED BY MARY-CLARE McLAREN)

I am pleased to report to the membership of the NSEF, activities that relate to the MDCAC (Multi Discipline Coach Advisory Committee). A number of items may well be reported elsewhere I am sure. Much of what is accomplished is done from our office, Sheila acting as our Provincial Coaching Coordinator for all of the disciplines. This report is lengthy, but as much happens throughout the year - it is a great opportunity to communicate to you! Please note that this report was submitted in early September to meet our publishing deadlines so any updates past September will be reported at a later date!

At the 2014 Equine Canada Awards Gala held in Winnipeg, MB, Equine Canada honored certified coaches who were recognized for excellence. From Nova Scotia the following coaches were awarded the Equine Canada ProChaps National Coaching Certification Program Awards: English Instructor - Maddie West, English Level 2 Coach - Roz Moskovits, and Western Coach 1 - Norma Graham. NSEF members are encouraged to send in nominations for Certified Coaches when the nomination period opens (usually in December). Nominations from members and coaches go forward to the MDCAC committee for selection before being submitted to the National Selection Committee. ProChaps generously sponsors these awards as well as the National Coaching Program. ProChaps offers chaps at a discount to NCCP coaches and they rebate a percentage directly back to the National Coaching Program.

Nationally, the English Rider Level Revisions were completed and released. The revisions provide interested candidates with readily available resources and study guides. These are published on our NSEF Website as well as Equine Canada. The English Levels 9 & 10 were introduced at the end of August.

Nova Scotia is well represented on the National English Coaching Committee with Jill Barker remaining as National Chair. Jill is also a valuable member of the National Competition Review Committee. In addition, Maddie West, Sheila, Jill and myself as well as Gidget Oxner from PEI, are members of the Equine Canada Review Committee for the Instructor Certification Program.

The High School Personal Development Credit, which was launched last fall in Nova Scotia High Schools, has several NSEF members participating. Information on the program is on the website. Participants are encouraged to register early so they benefit from notices on theory courses and other clinics. Nationally the age requirement for the Theory Course has now changed so individuals over 14 can now take the theory course and receive credit.

Our office has the coach database updating well in hand, coaches are now able to check their currency requirements online through their website log in. Members and the general public can check coaches' Certification and Currency on our Find a Coach Page.

The NSEF Coaching Symposium held in April of 2014 was highly successful. The joint discipline symposium was held at the beautiful Deverness Stables in Antigonish. The weekend included the NCCP Clean Sport Module, arena demonstrations, as well some "networking" discussion.

In addition to the Coach Symposium, NSEF also hosted two

Analyze Performance Clinics through the year. In May, we hosted the Improve Your Eye Clinic in Halifax with Jill Barker. In August, we hosted the NCCP Reining Analyze Performance clinic with Wendy Johnston of Alberta. Many thanks to those who participated and especially our demonstration riders. In addition to the Clinic, both Western Intermediate Rider Evaluations and a Western Competition Coach Specialist Pilot Evaluation were held in August.

We continue to actively promote coaching certification to coaches in the province not only through the usual channels of NSEF communications but through personal contact as well. Although a September date had been reserved for an English Coach Evaluation, it did not materialize so we are now seeking expressions of interest from coach candidates for a future evaluation date.

There has been an increase in interest in the use of the Western and English P'tit Trot program as well as the Learn to Ride and Learn to Drive Programs. The manuals for all of these programs are available through the NSEF Office. Several summer camps are using either the P'tit Trot and/or Learn to Ride Programs for their equestrian camp programming.

Rider Level Evaluations were held between January and August 2014 at 14 locations with the following results:

7 Western Rider 1	4 English Rider 1
6 Western Rider 2	14 English Rider 2
5 Western Rider 3	16 English Rider 3
3 Western Rider 4	4 English Rider 4
3 Western Intermediate Rider Basic Training	
5 English Rider 5	
2 Western Intermediate Rider Horsemanship Component	
3 English Rider 6	
2 Western Intermediate Rider Showmanship Component	
2 Western Intermediate Rider Reining Component	
2 Western Intermediate Rider Trail Component	
2 Western Intermediate Rider Western Pleasure Component	
1 Western Intermediate Rider Western Riding Component	

A total of 83 Rider Level Tests were passed; 34 of those tests were Western and 48 were English. This is almost double the number of Rider Tests that were held during the same period last year!

IOB evaluations were also held through the year and the following are congratulated on their certification:

Gillian Allen - Drive Instructor of Beginner
 Travis Smith - Western Instructor of Beginner
 Lesley Higgins-Elchuck - Western Instructor of Beginner
 Julia Johnston - English Instructor of Beginner
 Emily Bjornson - English Instructor of Beginner

NSEF would like to thank the Support4Sport and the Government of NS for their financial support of several coaching events within NS.

I would like to thank the members of the MDCAC committee for their work to date. For interest the members are: Sherry Clark, Madeline West, Helen Smith, Kim Beaton, Jill Barker, NSEF President Adrienne Smith, NSEF Staff Heather and Sheila as well as myself.

COMPETITION DIRECTOR'S REPORT (SUBMITTED BY SANDRA CONRAD)

PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS PROGRAM (POP)

The listing of Officials is on the NSEF website and we now have officials accredited in many disciplines to support our competitions. Participants from the POP program are asked to continue to send in information on continuing training they have completed to keep their files up to date. The NSEF Officials Program needs to be recognized by EC. This has been requested in the past and we need to move forward to be able to have endorsements from EC. OEF, HCBC are recognized and our program is equal to and of great quality.

COMPETITION/OFFICIALS CLINICS

NSEF hosted a POP Module 1 clinic in June in Truro. This module is a mandatory module for all POP officials and covers general officiating items including expectations of officials, rules, contracts, dealing with competitors and organizing committees. The clinic was very successful and was well received by participants, whose experience ranged from years of horsemanship experience, coaches, parents and general interest horse folks. This Module was offered as an intense one day seminar with all receiving recognition for their attendance and interest in POP.

The NCCP Reining Analyze Performance Clinic in August was a great clinic for athletes, coaches and officials. Part of the clinic was spent discussing and watching videos of what the judges were looking for and the scoring standards for Reining.

SCOTIA SERIES

The Scotia Series Rules/safety regulations were updated again for 2014. A new system for submitting results was developed this year. Once completed, it will allow for faster entry of results onto the NSEF website so competitors next summer will be able to check their scores earlier in the competition season for any point concerns. Results for the Scotia Series are available on the NSEF Website. We anticipate 11 (plus one cancelled) Scotia Series Competitions by the end of the season this year.

However, there has been a decline in the number of organizers enlisting in the Scotia Series. This is disappointing. We have contacted them to set up information sessions to resolve any issues that are affecting this great opportunity for the NSEF recreational - competitive member.

In lieu of these competitions, the future of a Provincial Championship will need to be reviewed.

The NSEF needs to have a program that can support these members who lack the opportunities to compete in the Scotia Series, but yet be recognized for their competitive achievements.

EC COMPETITIONS

By the end of the competition season, 17 Equine Canada Competitions will be held in Nova Scotia. Of those the breakdown of the Equine Canada competitions will be: 6 Bronze, 2 Silver, 9 Gold. In addition to the 17 competitions one other EC competition was offered but cancelled.

Community Award Nominations

The Community Awards presented at the NSEF Awards Reception are nominated by NSEF Members. The community awards recognize individuals who contribute to equestrian sport in Nova Scotia including recreational and competitive sport. The awards include NSEF Volunteer of the Year Award, NSEF Sponsor of the Year Award, and the NSEF Service Award. If you know someone who is deserving of a Community Award please use the NSEF Awards Nomination Form to nominate them. The Awards Nomination Form is found on page 7 and includes the description and criteria for the awards. Nominations are due on or before Friday, October 24, 2014.

NSEF Awards Reception

You are invited to attend the NSEF Awards Reception on November 16th at the Old Orchard Inn in Wolfville to celebrate our Award Winners. Please RSVP to the NSEF Office.

Awards being presented include:

Community Awards:

Volunteer of the Year Award; Sponsor of the Year Award; NSEF Service Awards

Scotia Series Competition Awards:

Youth Sportsmanship Award

Please RSVP by email (nsefmembership@sportnovascotia.ca) or by phone 902-425-5450 Sheila (ext. 337) or Joanne (ext. 342)



Maggie Stagg - 2013 Youth Sportsmanship Award Winner



Purina Feed Services - 2013 Sponsor of the Year Award Winner

FINANCE REPORT

CURRENT ASSETS	<u>ASSETS</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2013</u>
Cash and cash equivalents		\$ 105,481	\$ 101,963
Accounts receivable, net		2,620	3,373
Short-term investments		<u>70,219</u>	<u>63,554</u>
		178,320	168,890
CAPITAL ASSETS (Note 1, 4)		511	1,166
LONG TERM INVESTMENTS		<u>41,670</u>	<u>40,896</u>
		<u>\$ 220,501</u>	<u>\$ 210,952</u>
	<u>LIABILITIES</u>		
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses		\$ 3,312	\$ 4,172
Payroll deductions payable		2,474	1,787
Deferred revenue		<u>4,500</u>	<u>11,250</u>
		<u>10,286</u>	<u>17,209</u>
	<u>NET ASSETS</u>		
Net assets		<u>210,215</u>	<u>193,743</u>
		<u>\$ 220,501</u>	<u>\$ 210,952</u>
REVENUE			
Athlete development		\$ 39,200	\$ 15,747
Organization operations (Note 7)		199,053	184,995
Programs		10,877	48,544
Investment revenue		<u>7,401</u>	<u>4,458</u>
		<u>256,531</u>	<u>253,744</u>
EXPENSES			
Athlete development		22,011	551
Organization operations (Note 5, 7)		161,620	186,902
Programs		<u>56,428</u>	<u>46,655</u>
		<u>240,059</u>	<u>234,108</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES		<u>\$ 16,472</u>	<u>\$ 19,636</u>
Net assets, beginning of year		<u>193,743</u>	<u>174,107</u>
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR		<u>\$ 210,215</u>	<u>\$ 193,743</u>

Full Financial Statements will be made available to the membership via website, hard copy at the AGM or by a request to the NSEF office.

2014/15 BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINATIONS

Looking for a great volunteer opportunity, a way to give back to your sport? Serving on the NSEF Board of Directors is one way to do that! Our Nominations Committee is actively seeking members of the equestrian community to serve on our board in various capacities. Please contact Heather at the NSEF Office for more information.

1. Nominations are now being accepted for the 2014/2015 Nova Scotia Equestrian Federation (NSEF) Board of Directors. Nominations for the NSEF Board of Directors shall be in writing, using the enclosed form. To make sure that these forms copy clearly, please either **type or print with black pen**. The deadline for nomination is Friday, October 24, 2014.
2. Pursuant to By-Amendments in 2013, the NSEF Board of Directors shall be comprised of Adult Voting Members of the Federation, elected by the membership at the annual general meeting as follows:

- To preside for a two-year term, not exceeding two consecutive terms: a) Director of Competitions, b) Director of Education and c) Director of Recreation
 - To preside for a three-year term: a) Two (2) Directors at Large
 - At a club meeting prior to the annual general meeting (either in person or conference call) elections
 - a) one (1) Director representing Member Clubs will take place. Nominees must first be endorsed by his/her representative club. The newly elected Director will be presented to the members at the AGM and will preside in this position for a one-year term.
3. Please send Nomination form to: NSEF, 5516 Spring Garden Road, 4th Floor, Halifax, NS B3J 1G6. Fax (902) 425-5606.

DEADLINE: Friday, October 24, 2014

2014 BOARD STRUCTURE AND MEMBERS

Board of Directors	Executive Council	Current Position Holder
President	President	Adrienne Smith
Immediate Past President	Immediate Past President	Barbie Lewis
Vice President	Vice President	Susan MacLean Michel
Treasurer	Treasurer	Valerie McDermott
Secretary	Secretary	Krista Foley
Competitions Representative		Sandra Conrad
Two Directors of Clubs		Dr. Robert MacNeill / Jane Abbott
One Director of Recreation		Suzanne Killen
One Director of Education		Mary-Clare McLaren
Two Directors-at-Large - 3-year term		Carol Macomber /
Two Directors-at-Large - 2-year term		Pam MacKenzie / Laurie Cranton
Two Directors-at-Large - 1-year term		Dr. Don Wescott / Susan MacLean Michel

NOMINATION FORM — 2014/15 NSEF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NAME OF NOMINEE: _____ PHONE (H) _____ (W) _____

ADDRESS OF NOMINEE: _____

Street and Number

Town/City

POSTAL CODE: _____

NOMINEE'S NSEF NUMBER: _____

NOMINATED FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITION: DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION; DIRECTOR OF RECREATION; DIRECTOR OF COMPETITION; DIRECTOR AT LARGE

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (PLEASE ATTACH RESUME IF AVAILABLE) _____

NOMINEE'S SIGNATURE: _____

NOMINATED BY: _____

Signature of Nominator

Nominator's Name (Printed)

DEADLINE: October 24, 2014

To: **Nova Scotia Equestrian Federation** · 5516 Spring Garden Road, 4th Floor · Halifax, NS · B3J 1G6 · FAX: 902.425.5606

THIS IS YOUR RENEWAL NOTICE



2015 NSEF Membership Application (expires Dec 31, 2015)

NOTE: By making application to the Nova Scotia Equestrian Federation, you agree to abide by all Policies, Rules and Regulations of the Nova Scotia Equestrian Federation.

Office Use Only
Date Received:
Payment Type:
Payment Amount:

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OPTIONS:

- 1) Online at www.horsenovascotia.ca:** Please see the information on our website for details.
 - 2) By Mail:** Return this fully completed form (2 sides) with payment payable to NSEF
 - 3) By Fax:** Fax the fully completed form (2 sides) to 902-425-5606 - Credit Card Payment Only.
 - 4) In Office:** Call to make an appointment to get your membership processed in the office.
- Please note: Memberships paid by cheque will be subject to a *minimum 10 business day* processing period.

Member Name:		Middle	
1) First	or Initial	Last	
Parent/Guardian's Name (Printed) and Signature if Applicant is of under 19 years old at time of application:		Date of Birth (required):	
		Member Primary Phone # :	
Mailing Address:		Secondary Phone # : Please specify contact name	
City/Town:		Fax:	
Province:	Postal Code:	Primary Email:	
Provincial County/Region (e.g. HRM, Hants, Richmond)		Secondary Email:	
Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male		NCCP Coach # (if applicable):	Equine Canada Sport License # (if applicable):
Are you a Junior Member*? <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes *Juniors are 18 years of age & under in 2015 (born in 1997 or later). If you turn 19 in 2015 you are a Senior Member (born in 1996 or before).			

Family Members (List only those who wish to become NSEF members in addition to the Member named above)

Definition of Family: Open to husband, wife, and/or the **junior aged children** of either/both parents - Juniors are **18 years of age & under** in 2015 (born in 1997 or later). If the child/sibling turns 19 in 2015 (born in 1996 or before) they are a Senior Member and require an individual membership. "Wife" or "husband" may include those who are cohabiting, but not married by law; those who are married, but do not use the same surname; legal guardian(s).

Member's Name	Date of Birth	Relation to the person above	Gender
2)			
3)			
4)			
5)			

For additional "Family Members", please use a blank piece of paper.

Membership Details	<input type="checkbox"/> New Member or <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal Membership or <input type="checkbox"/> Past Member	NSEF# _____ if available
		Payment:
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Membership		\$45.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Family Membership - Please see chart below		

Definition of Family: Open to husband, wife, and/or the **junior aged children** of either/both parents - Juniors are **18 years of age & under** in 2015 (born in 1997 or later). If the child/sibling turns 19 in 2015 (born in 1996 or before) they are a Senior Member and require an individual membership. "Wife" or "husband" may include those who are cohabiting, but not married by law; those who are married, but do not use the same surname; legal guardian(s).

First two Family Members-	\$65.00
Additional Juniors-	_____ x \$20.00

OPTIONAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

<input type="checkbox"/> NSEF Ride & Drive Program A Reward program recognizing NSEF members for hours spent Riding/Driving a horse. You MUST be an NSEF member to participate. Just Ride/Drive for your reward! One time fee per member. (Optional)	\$20.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Horse and Pony Magazine Subscription through NSEF Affiliate Program (4 issues) (Optional)	\$11.50
<input type="checkbox"/> Horse Canada Magazine Subscription through NSEF Affiliate Program (6 issues) (Optional)	\$20.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Canadian Horse Journal Magazine Subscription through NSEF Affiliate Program (Optional) 1 Year Subscription (11 issues) - \$27.60 2 Year Subscription (22 issues) - \$44.85	
<input type="checkbox"/> Horse Trials Nova Scotia Membership –process online or attach HTNS application – payment on one cheque to NSEF.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Please send me information on donating to Team NS (Canadian Interprovincial Equestrian Championships Donation Program which provides tax receipts for qualifying donations to Team NS through National Trust Program Form)	

TOTAL: _____

PAYMENT TYPE: <input type="checkbox"/> -Visa <input type="checkbox"/> -MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> -Cheque <input type="checkbox"/> -Money Order <input type="checkbox"/> -Cash (in office only – please call ahead)	
VISA/MASTERCARD PAYMENT INFORMATION:	Credit Card Admin Fee \$2.00
Total Credit Card Payment Enclosed: _____	
Credit Cardholder Name:	Signature:
Credit Card #:	Expiry Date: _____ Verification Code (located on back of card): _____

Nova Scotia Equestrian Federation 5516 Spring Garden Road, 4th Floor, Halifax, NS, B3J 1G6 Phone: 902-425-5450 ext 337 or 333

MANDATORY INFORMATION																																																																																													
<p>PRIVACY POLICY & EMAIL EXPRESSED CONSENT The NSEF recognizes the privacy of individuals with respect to their personal information and is committed to ensuring the privacy of its members. The NSEF does not offer our mailing lists to any outside organizations. Information will be forwarded to the appropriate organization for optional programs i.e. magazine publishers or club memberships. By becoming a member, you are giving the NSEF expressed consent to inform you of events and activities and notify you of issues or special offers that may be of interest to you through any of the contact information you provide on the application. Members may choose to customize their communication preferences by contacting the Membership Coordinator at nsefservices@sportnovascotia.ca or 902-425-5450, ext. 342. Please check one and sign below:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I give my expressed consent to NSEF to send me communications using both the primary and secondary email address provided.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I give my expressed consent to NSEF to send me communications using the following email address: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I do NOT give my expressed consent to NSEF to send me e-newsletters. However, I will receive the NSEF AGM & renewal notice.</p> <p>Please sign here (parent/guardian signature, if under 19): _____ Date: _____</p>																																																																																													
<p>NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP EXPRESSED CONSENT The NSEF does not offer our mailing lists to any outside organizations. However, as an NSEF member, you are a member* of Equine Canada (EC). If you are interested in accessing information about Equine Canada member programs or participating in voting at the Equine Canada level, your expressed consent is required. Please check one:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I give expressed consent to NSEF to send my information to Equine Canada</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I do NOT give expressed consent to NSEF to send my information to Equine Canada</p> <p>Please sign here (parent/guardian signature, if under 19): _____ Date: _____</p> <p><small>*An EC membership does not include an EC Sport License. If you are competing at Equine Canada competitions in 2015, you will require an EC Sport License. Please refer to www.equinecanada.ca for Sport License Renewal/Purchase. Late fees apply after April 1st.</small></p>																																																																																													
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<p>Nova Scotia Equestrian Federation 5516 Spring Garden Road, 4th Floor, Halifax, NS, B3J 1G6 Phone 902-425-5450 Fax 902-425-5606 Website www.horsenovascotia.ca Membership Coordinator: Joanne Honeygold, Extension 342 Email nsefservices@sportnovascotia.ca <small>Executive Director: Heather Myrer, Extension 333 Program Coordinator: Sheila Currie, Extension 337 Email nsefmembership@sportnovascotia.ca</small></p>																																																																																													

SMITH SHARES THOUGHTS ON A SUCCESSFUL YEAR (WRITTEN BY HEATHER MYRER)

Despite living and growing up on a dairy farm, Travis Smith's hunger for horses was what drove him to use money from his first job as a young milker to purchase his first horse.

Travis showed in local circuits before he found his passion for starting colts and reining. Travis credits Jim Durling for this turning point in his horse career and still greatly values Jim's input. Over the next few years, Travis developed from a green Reiner to open competitor, enjoying the thrill of showing Reiners. He also quickly earned a reputation as the "go to guy."

During this period, Travis attended the Nova Scotia Agricultural College and earned a Diploma in Enterprise Management-Equine, as well as a Bachelor of Science (Agriculture) Major in Agricultural Business.

More recently, Travis is fulfilling his dream of running a successful equine business. TS Performances Horses, situated at Sumac Farms in Pictou, consists of what he enjoys most - training horses and helping equine enthusiasts learn more about horses!

Travis took time out of his busy schedule to "chat" with me about his past year and his goals for the future. Here is what he had to say:

HM: 2014 seems to have been a significant year for you as a coach and trainer. What goals have you set for yourself to make this happen?

TS: Yes, it has been a successful year as a trainer winning the Codiac Reiners Derby and several Open classes. However, I'm even more proud of the accomplishments of my students! They have had an awesome year bringing home championships in Non Pro, Limited Open, Rookie, and Green Rider classes! I think the most important goals that have made this happen are short term ones focusing on slowly improving our horses and ourselves as riders. I always focus on improving performance piece by piece rather than thinking about the end result!

HM: Your business, TS Performance Horses, has built a great reputation for itself. What can you tell me about how this business has grown over the past several years? Where do you see it five years from now?

TS: First off, I'm very fortunate to be a part of Sumac Farms, one of the leading reining facilities in the Maritimes. The support I receive from the farm and everyone here has allowed my business to grow the way it has. My reputation as a trainer who is honest with customers and adjusts my program to fit each horse has allowed my training program to really thrive. I have been lucky to get a wide variety of great horses in for training from reiners to hunters and jumpers. My coaching program is really starting to build momentum now! Looking forward this is where I would like to keep expanding and help new and existing reining



enthusiasts move up through the reining ranks!

HM: You will be the first Western Coach in Nova Scotia to be certified under the new NCCP Coach Program as a Competition Coach Specialist, congratulations on that accomplishment. Tell me how you felt the process was to becoming certified and what you might say to others to have them become certified.

TS: Thank you! At first the process can be overwhelming and slightly complicated! However, there are some great people in the coaching program who are willing

to help. As the new program becomes more established I'm sure it will become an easier process. At this point everyone is learning! My advice to those interested in becoming certified would be to talk to someone who has experienced the new program first hand. Their experience will be invaluable!

HM: You are the Reining Coach for Team NS traveling to Blainville, Quebec this October. Please tell me about your experience so far and what your goals are for the team.

TS: So far it has been a learning curve for everyone since this competition context is very different than our National Reining Horse Association (NRHA) competitions. However, we now have a more than capable team of three to represent us in Blainville! Our goals will be to represent Nova Scotia to the best of our ability and learn from our experience to be able to help make improvements towards Team Nova Scotia next year. We're also going to have fun doing it too. GO TEAM NS!!

HM: From your viewpoint, where do our reining athletes here in Nova Scotia fare on the competition scene? What are some of the challenges NS athletes face in "making it" in this sport? Where do you see yourself in helping athletes overcome these challenges?

TS: Our reining athletes fare quite well on the competition scene! We have high caliber horses and riders too. Results from away competitions have proven this, such as Mona Lewis just last weekend winning the Limited Open in Blainville! Probably one of the largest challenges NS athletes face is footing. Far too often when I travel for clinics and lessons we cannot train the sliding stop because many facilities lack footing appropriate for sliding. I think education about footing will help, as well as knowledge on where facilities with good footing are located!

HM: Thanks Travis for your time, in closing, what advice do you have for NS coaches and athletes as they prepare themselves for winter training and upcoming competitions?

TS: Keep riding, get a good pair of long johns and lots of toe warmers!

FUNDING AND RECOGNITION PROGRAMS FOR MEMBERS

NSEF members have opportunity to access various funding and recognition programs throughout the year. Each program has its own deadline and most are available to apply online. The following is a summary of such programs accompanied by the submission deadlines.

RECOGNITION PROGRAMS

NSEF Community Awards

Deserving individuals are recognized at the NSEF Awards Reception in the categories of Volunteer of the Year, Service Award and Sponsor of the Year. Deadline to nominate is October 24th. Nomination form can be found on page 6.

NSEF Youth Sportsmanship Award

Scotia Series Competition Organizers and Officials are invited to nominate competitors for the Youth Sportsmanship Award. Detailed formation on the nomination process can be found in the Scotia Series Organizers Handbook on the NSEF website.

NSEF Long Term Equestrian Development (LTED) Bursary

To help support Nova Scotia equestrians of all disciplines, the NSEF has created a Long-Term Equestrian Development Bursary Program from which bursaries will be awarded annually to those individuals who best demonstrate their continuing commitment towards skill development. Up to four awards of \$250 each will be given out yearly to active NSEF members who exemplify a commitment to personal Long-Term Equestrian Development (LTED). The money from this bursary program can be used towards Riding lessons (with a current NCCP certified Coach), Training fees, Competition fees, Continuing education (e.g. clinics), or other activities that will assist in the achievement of long-term equestrian objectives. Applications and criteria can be found on the NSEF website (www.horsenovascotia.ca/Education-NSEF-Bursary). Deadline for submission to the NSEF is March 1st.

NSEF Youth Educational Bursary Program

The NSEF Educational Bursary Program is a financial Bursary funded by the NSEF to assist members attending a post-secondary educational institution. Up to six awards of \$500 each will be given out yearly to active NSEF members who exemplify the objectives of the NSEF. The bursaries will be applied towards post-secondary expenses at a recognized Educational Institute. It shall be applied towards full-time studies only. A candidate may only receive this Bursary once in their lifetime. However, an unsuccessful candidate may re-apply. Applications and criteria can be found on the NSEF website (www.horsenovascotia.ca/Education-NSEF-Bursary). Deadline for submission to the NSEF is May 1st.

Equine Canada ProChaps National Coaching Awards

Members are encouraged to nominate their Equine Canada Certified Coach/Instructor during the nomination period (usually December) to recognize outstanding coaches. Nomination criteria will be communicated to members when they become available from EC.

FUNDING PROGRAMS

Sport Chek Athlete of the Month Award is presented to deserving male and female athletes on a monthly basis for an outstanding event performance or series of performances.

Only those performances that take place during the month of nomination will be considered. More information on the criteria and a copy of the nomination form can be found on the Sport Nova Scotia website www.sportnovascotia.ca under About Us, then Member Programs, then Award Programs. Deadline for submission to the NSEF is the 4th day of each month.

Coach and Official Funding

Individual Certified Coaches and Officials can apply on a monthly basis for certification and training initiatives. Coaches must be a fully certified and active competition coach (or completed the old level 2) and generally are not funded for travelling to events with athletes. Coaches and Officials will be supported based on the quality of their initiative and their ability to assist the Nova Scotia sport system at all levels and be in good standing with NSEF. Deadline for submission to the NSEF is the 13th day of each month.

Athlete Funding

Funding for athletes is results-based and must meet the pre-determined criteria developed by the Support4Sport Program partners. These criteria are currently used to determine high-performance athlete funding in Nova Scotia and is further explained on the Sport Nova Scotia website at www.sportnovascotia.ca. Athletes are asked to review the Tier Chart on this website to ensure eligibility prior to applying.

Athletes can apply at any time. Applications must be completed and submitted by the applicant, and endorsed by NSEF, by the 13th of the month to be reviewed by the Support4Sport Committee at the end of the month.

NS Amateur Sport Fund Manulife Community Sport Grant

 This funding supports projects that are intended to increase sustainable, quality, participation sport programs. This may include new programming or the expansion of existing programs. NSEF clubs are welcome to submit an application twice annually. Deadline for submission to the NSEF is the 24th day of January and July.

Support4Sport Canada Games Sport Equipment Grant

 The Support4Sport Canada Games Sport Equipment Fund was made possible by a \$1 million contribution from the Support4Sport program, as well as a contribution of over \$600,000 from the Halifax 2011 Canada Games Host Society. The Support4Sport Canada Games Sport Equipment Fund is designed to support community sport organizations in their efforts to increase participation in sport. The fund will support projects that are intended to increase sustainable, quality, participation-based sport programs by helping to offset the cost of sport equipment. This may include new programs or the expansion of existing programs

Subway SportScape and Subway Sunsweep Fundraising

 Member Clubs or Members of Provincial Teams may use these ready-made, hassle free ticket campaigns designed to raise money for sport teams, clubs and organizations throughout Nova Scotia. The SportScape and Sunsweep campaigns run at two different times of the year. For more information please see the Sport Nova Scotia website.

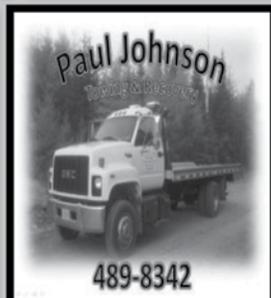
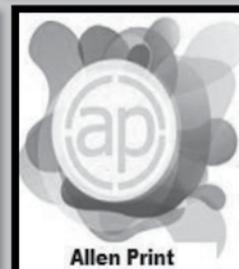
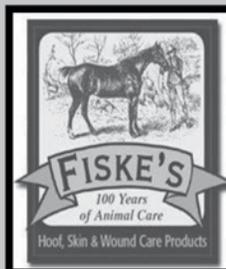
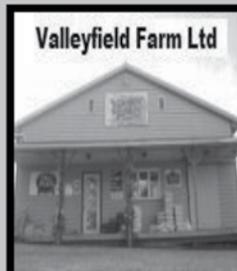
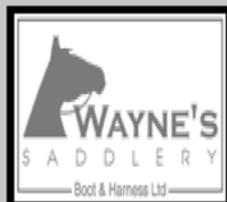
The 9th Annual NSEF Trail Ride & Drive

Porters Lake Provincial Park

Saturday October 18th, 2014 from 9 am until 4 pm.

For more information on this Event, Volunteering, Registration or Sponsorship please contact:

Suzanne Killen at 902-827-5002 or larace1@hotmail.com or go to www.horsenovascotia.ca



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*Sherri Greenough, with Gahn Ya'ar Hermes Paris
Photo by Cathy Arsenault*

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