

CDE Volunteering

Weekend of fun with friends and horses

Front row seat to the action

* We couldn't do shows without you! *

What do CDE Volunteers Do?

Dressage - need to ensure orderly flow of competitors

Safety check, wheel measurement, warm-up, into arena, actual test

Marathon – observe competitors on course

Safety check, timing each section, observe obstacles, vet check

Cones – assuring cones are set correctly for each competitor

Setting cones, re-setting cones, timing each run

Officials brief volunteers for each job, and are available for questions as needed

Dressage

- Track width of each carriage is measured in preparation for cones, to ensure level playing field
- Safety check – done by an experienced driver
- Warm-up steward – keep track of drivers arriving in advance of test, send them along to the arena at appropriate time
- Arena steward – usher in each competitor at right time
- Scribe – experienced driver, writes down judge's score and comments
- Score runner – collect scores from judges and take to scorer

Anatomy of the Marathon

Each competitor trots around a prescribed course, starting out at ~5 min intervals.

Depending on the show, this may consist of 1 or 2 separately timed Sections (A and B).

They must maintain an average speed which is different for each level and size of equine. Penalties are assessed for going too fast or too slow.

Section B includes Obstacles which are timed and must be executed correctly.

Vet examines each horse at the end of each Section.







Marathon

- Throughout the day, SAFETY is top priority
- Safety check – experienced driver
- Start and End timers for Sections A and B – write down the time each competitor starts or completes the course
- Obstacles – observe and write down what each driver does, time each through the obstacle; a team of ~3 people on each
- Vet box – keep orderly flow of competitors, write down pulse and respiration rates per vet's measurements
- Score runner – collect scores from timers and observers and take to scorer

Being an Obstacle Observer

- Each obstacle consists of a series of “gates”, which are openings in a sort of maze, and which are labeled A, B, C, etc. The competitor must pass through each gate in order, but each is free to pick his/her own route. The Observers watch carefully, and write down each gate’s label as it is executed.
- Each competitor is timed inside the Obstacle, and tries to go as fast as possible. The volunteers operate a stopwatch.
- You are there, first and foremost, for safety. You have a radio, and in the event of a problem, that’s the fastest way to get help. You are not a rescuer! Your job is to provide information to get appropriate help.

Cones



Cones

- Course consists of 20+ pairs of cones (similar to traffic cones), with a ball balanced on the top of each.
- The distance between cones in each pair is based on width of each carriage and the level of the competitor – smaller clearance for more experienced competitors.
- Competitors must drive through each pair of cones in the correct order. A time limit is set for each level.
- Penalties are assessed for knocking a ball off a cone, and for exceeding the time allowed.

Cones Volunteers

- Timer - time each competitor with stopwatch
- Cones setter – set the distance between cones using measuring stick. You are told the setting, and are assigned 5-6 pairs of cones. Replace dislodged balls.
- Scribe – writes down each time a ball is dislodged (per judge's instructions).
- Score runner – collect scores and take to scorer

The End

Questions?

