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Teams of New Brunswick Equestrian Athletes to participate in inaugural Atlantic Canada Equestrian Championships

Fredericton, NB – *June 1, 2017* – Four teams of equestrian athletes, under the auspices of the New Brunswick Equestrian Association (NBEA), will be participating in the first annual Atlantic Canada Equestrian (ACE) Championships later this show season. Horses and riders who qualify for the teams will represent the Province in the competitive disciplines of Dressage, Eventing, Jumping and Reining.

“We thrilled to be able to provide this opportunity for our member athletes,” said NBEA President Deanna Phelan. “Here in Atlantic Canada we face a number of challenges in preparing athletes to be able to represent the province and compete on regional or national teams. Distance, and the costs associated with travelling with a 1200 pound athletic partner to out of province locations that offer inter-provincial competitive opportunities, make such athlete development difficult.”

Phelan met with her counterparts from Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and together they agreed to create the Atlantic Canada Equestrian Championships.

Riders in each province will compete throughout the current show season vying for the coveted spots on their respective teams for each competitive discipline.

“Right now it is cost prohibitive to hold a single, multidiscipline, competition for the Championships. We agreed that the Championship competitions would be held within each discipline’s end-of-season shows,” Phelan continued.

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This event is pivotal in the development of equestrian's next generation of national, and potentially international, athletes. The Championships will bring each provincial team together to test their skills against fellow Atlantic competitors. Their goals are not just to win a medal but to have the opportunity to be identified as up-and-coming talent for future training development opportunities.

Equestrian athletes wishing to vie for a spot on their discipline's team need to register their declaration of intent by the following deadlines:

Dressage: June 14

Eventing: June 26

Jumping: prior to first competition that scores will begin to be eligible

Reining: August 18.

Forms will be available on the NBEA website along with details on the required criteria.

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For further information, please contact Deanna Phelan.

BACKGROUNDER

Over twenty years ago the NBEA, under founding President Sally Williamson, fielded teams in several equestrian disciplines, to participate in the Atlantic Coast Games, last held in Rothesay, NB. When that source of regional competition came to an end, there was a void in the opportunity to train New Brunswick equestrian athletes to be members of teams and to represent their province in regional or national competition.

Then the Canadian Interprovincial Equestrian Championships (CIEC) came into being through Equestrian Canada. For several years New Brunswick able to field teams to represent us on that national stage, bringing home medals for their efforts. But again, the logistics became increasingly difficult and expensive for all participants so the event was cancelled.

For 2017 the Atlantic Canada Equestrian Championships (ACE Championships) will take place in four separate locations, one for each competitive discipline:

Dressage
(Training & First Level)
August 26 & 27, 2017
Dressage PEI Summer Show
Crapaud Agriplex
Trans-Canada Hwy, Crapaud, PE

Eventing / Horse Trials
(Entry & Pre-training)
September 30, 2017
Strathgartney Fall Horse Trial
Strathgartney Equestrian Park
18 Strathgartney Rd, Bonshaw, PE

Jumper
(1m & 1.10m)
October 7 & 8 2017
NBEA Championships
Princess Louise Park,
10 Leonard Dr, Sussex, NB

Reining
(One Handed & Two Handed)
September 22 & 23, 2017
Sumac Slide
Sumac Farm
7480 Pictou Landing Road, Trenton, NS

The event has the cooperation and support from Equestrian Canada and National Reining Horse Association sanctioned competitions hosting the Championships in the Atlantic region. Gold, Silver and Bronze medals to be presented to the top three teams. Individual awards will also be presented.

Criteria:

[Dressage](#)
[Eventing](#)
[Jumping](#)
[Reining](#)