

RULES / GUIDELINES FOR THE 2009 SERIES OF THE CALIFORNIA CHALLENGE DRIVING TRIALS

All participants are asked to read the rules prior to competing in 2009.

Rules will follow Appendix A and B of the ADS handbook whenever possible, with exceptions/additions as noted herein. All rules in the ADS handbook, which are not modified for ADT's in Appendix A ;and B will still apply. The host facility must follow the rules and guidelines.

Number of events: Attempts will be made to schedule at least six events in the series. There could be more if more event organizers come forward.

Entry fees are at the discretion of the organizer. A person going HC must pay the full fee.

On other than the dressage field, the host facility must not allow participants to practice on the course once it has been set up, whether it is the day before or a week before. A competitor will be eliminated from that event if found to violate this rule.

The ADS handbook Appendix B Section 3 covers the cones course and should be followed as much as possible, with discretionary decisions left to the organizers. Organizers are reminded, however, that most competitors will have little time to study a course in person, and this should be taken into account with the design. Very difficult or hard to follow routs should be avoided.

There will be a dressage judge or known trainer with sufficient dressage knowledge at each event. If the event has more than 20 competitors there needs to be a Technical Delegate on hand. A TD, or knowledgeable horse person should be on hand to perform a safety check on each entry and to check the course prior to the start of the event.

Divisions/Levels/Classes for 2009

Training Limited:

This category is for the competitor who wishes to drive at Training Level and who has never competed above Training Level at any ADT/HDT/CDE. This level is for the BRAND NEW DRIVER.

Also, if a competitor has won 6 first place that competitor may no longer drive in Training Limited. Hazard times will not be taken in the Hazards.

Training or Training Open:

This category is for the competitor who has driven above the training level in any ADT/HDT/CDE at any time. This class is for those wishing to move up from Training Limited or who have a new equine. Times in the hazards may be taken in this division.

Preliminary/Intermediate/Advanced:

These levels are open to any driver/equine combination wishing to compete in them. Previous series competition level or placing has no bearing on who may enter these levels. A prior Champion may repeat in the same series

GENERAL RULES:

An ADT/HDT consists of a dressage test, obstacles and cones. The organizer determines how and in what order each competitor drives their course. A competitor must drive 4 obstacles but there need only be 2 obstacles set up and they can be driven twice.

Once again Overall Medals (VSE; Training Limited, Training, Preliminary, Intermediate and Advanced) to third place will be provided by the Challenge and any other awards will be left to the discretion of the individual organizer. **Following this premise I will send up to 6 sets of medals, depending on how many of the above mentioned divisions, to each organizer.**

Once again the point system will determine the overall winner at the end of the year. Every competitor will receive one point for entering and one point for every competitor they place above. In order to be eligible for the Year End awards a competitor must drive in 3 competitions in the same division with the same equine and at least one of these competitions must be at a different location. For example if a competitor drives 2 events at Shady Oaks they must also drive one event at a different location to make the three needed. Anyone driving at any of the scheduled ADT/HDT is automatically entered in the Challenge. A competitor may earn one point for every event driven whether they are eliminated or not and the three top scores will be added to this. In other words if a competitor drives 5 events they will earn 5 points plus points earned from their 3 top placing's. No competitor will be awarded more than one overall award. If a competitor earns the most points in more than one division they will be awarded the Overall award for the highest division they competed in.

The organizer/secretary is responsible for getting all the scores and competitors names, along with the equine the competitor is driving, to Veronica Campbell, 1100 Stevely Ave., Long Beach, CA or email: t.v.campbell@verizon.net

COMPETITOR RULES:

- 1. Informal dress is permissible for all classes.**
- 2. Helmets are suggested at all times, but left to organizer's discretion, for the driver and any groom/passengers.**
- 3. Gloves and whips are required in competition. Lap robes are not required.**
- 4. Leg wraps may be used during all phases of the competition.**
- 5. Navigators are required. Junior drivers must be accompanied by an adult. Navigators may assist more than one entry and if you don't have a navigator, they frequently can be volunteered for you during the event.**
- 6. Any safe vehicle will be allowed in all divisions/levels. Drivers need to consider if their vehicle is designed for this type of driving and suitable for the local conditions at each ADT**
- 7. No wire spoke wheels shall be used at levels above training, except for VSE vehicles. Pneumatic tires may be used at all levels.**
- 8. In Training Limited and Training Open, in marathon and marathon hazards, no cantering or running will be allowed. Accuracy and correctness should be the primary goal, not speed. Breaks must be controlled immediately, with penalties given or elimination the result, depending on circumstances.**
- 9. Time penalties in the hazards will be used in the scoring for all levels except Training Limited.**
- 10. All dogs must be on a leash and under control at all times. Local organizers may make their own rules regarding allowing dogs on the property.**
- 11. An entry may be eliminated and or excused from the competition site for dangerous driving.**
- 12. All equines brought to a competition must compete in the event. No animals may be there "just for the experience".**

13. All participants are expected to follow the ADS rules concerning behavior and sportsmanship. This includes inappropriate comments, excessive noise during competitions, excessive use of the whip, cruelty to animals, etc.
14. Competitors are reminded to read and follow any additional local rules that may be distributed or posted at an event
15. A competitor may question the decision of any official at an event within a reasonable time of the decision. However the final decision of the official shall be final and no further appeal is permitted.

2009 CALIFORNIA ADT/HDT READY TO START

These ADT/HDT's are great warm up tools and learning opportunities for driving the major CDE's.

Once again the point system will determine the overall winner at the end of the year. Every competitor will receive one point for entering and one point for every competitor they place above. As in 2008 a competitor may drive the same venue twice aka Shady Oaks HDT's and only have to drive one other event in order to be eligible for the final award. As an example of compiling points: Say there turns out to be 9 ADT/HDT, a competitor could possibly gain 9 points just for entering (and driving) and the points from said competitor's top 3 events would be added to that 9 and this would be their final score.

This year a new division has been added. This division is Training Limited and is for the brand new driver who has never driven above Training in ADT/HDT or CDE. This allows the true new drivers to compete with their own peers. The regular Training Division is still in tact for those drivers who do not yet feel they are ready for Preliminary and for those drivers who might be bringing along a new equine.

The Divisions will be as follows:

- Training Limited
- Training Open
- Preliminary
- Intermediate
- Advanced

Each ADT/HDT will award medals 1-3 to the Overall Winners in their division.

Year end awards will be awarded to the Overall Winner in each division and an award will also be given to the high point winner of each class ie. VSE, Pony, Horse, Singles, Pairs and Multiples

Following is a partial list of ADT/HDT for 2009. Other dates will be added as they become available.

February 8	ADT (ADS Recognized)	Carol Dahlberg's Smoketree Morgans Ranch near Victorville	Judge: Holly Brinker	Organizer: Suellen Hall 661 944-4677
March 21 st	NCDC	Ione		Email: lizhendrick@comcast.net
May 2/3	HDT (ADS Recognized)	Shady Oaks		Bonner Murphy 209 481-0843
June 27/28	HDT (ADS Recognized)	Shady Oaks		Bonner Murphy 209 481-0843
August 24	ADT	Arroyo Grande		Ann McClure email: makomc@msn.com
Oct	Graystone ADT	Phelan		Diane Pitzler 760 900-9498
Nov		Central Valley		Celine Rickards email: celine@carriagedrivingessentials.com

This information will be posted on various club's websites as well as in Celine Rickards Master Calendar
Any other questions about the Challenge may be directed to Veronica Campbell 562-431-7264
email t.v.campbell@verizon.net

HEADS UP TO ALL DRIVERS!!!!!!

The CA Challenge for 2009 begins on February 8th at Carol Dahlberg's.

There will be a clinic with Larry Brinker on Saturday, February 7th followed on Sunday with an ADT with Judge Holly Brinker.

This year will feature a division in the Training Division. We will offer a LIMITED DIVISION, this division is for those new drivers who have never driven Preliminary and have not won 6 Blue Ribbons in Training.

The regular Training Division will be an OPEN DIVISION for all other competitors. We feel this will encourage the newest drivers to feel they can be more competitive with their peers.

Be sure and put these dates on your calendar as it will be a great start to the 2009 driving year and with Larry's clinic you can get a jump on the upcoming CDE year which in 2009 there will be 5 CDE's and at least 2HDT's.

For more information refer to your Omnibus under
SWEET HEART ADT

or contact organizer Suellen Hall @661-944-4677 or secretary Veronica Campbell @562-431-7264; email t.v.campbell@verizon.net

Entries open Jan.1 and close Jan. 26

Entry fee: \$55.00

Larry Brinker Clinic: \$80.00

Stabling is available

You may use the CDE entry form found in your Omnibus or download a form that will be on the Whip'rSnapper website @www.Whiprsnappers.com