

National ICD Championship 10th to 12th April 2026

JOINING INSTRUCTIONS



Welcome to the ICD Championships!

Thank you for your entry, we have good entries for most classes which hopefully will provide some close-run competitive classes plus excitement and thrills - but please, no spills!

These joining instructions should help you at the Championships. We will keep you updated throughout the weekend in all these different ways:

- Event Noticeboard, indoor collecting ring near Cafe
- ICD Website - [Dedicated Champs Information page](#)
- ICD Website - [Start Times & Results](#)
- WhatsApp group which will share updates

ICD Championships 2026

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/G53Qw65LNd7Gxl6nwc3HnQ>



Thank you!!

Thank you to all of our Regional Organisers, their officials, and helpers at all the winter qualifying events. Without their willingness to freely give up their time throughout the winter, in all weathers, we would not have such good competition to enjoy at the National ICD Championships.

Thank you to all the Sponsors for supporting the National ICD Championships. Sponsors help the Championships be the success we all want it to be. Please support them whenever you can. The list of sponsors is available on the ICD website and in the National ICD Championships Program.

And finally thank you to our 'Championship Crew' without their time there is simply no Championship. With their smiles and enthusiasm, they are very important to the safe and efficient running of the Championships. We appreciate the Crew members who turn up at the event and especially appreciate the ones that have been working for many weeks to prepare and promote the Championships. We politely request that all competitors and their teams thank our crew at every opportunity!

Welfare of the horse

ICD supports the British Equestrian's Charter for the Horse www.britishequestrian.org.uk/equine/ethics-and-welfare

The ICD Committee takes the welfare of the horse and Social License to Operate (SLO) very seriously. Minta Winn has been appointed the Equine Welfare Officer for the Championships. Working with the vet, TD, POJ and Judges, drivers will be observed throughout the championships and any occurrence of horses being unduly pressed, either physically or verbally, or any type of reckless driving will be addressed promptly. Any person wishing to raise a matter of equine welfare please reach out to Minta or go to the Secretary's office.

Guidance is available at the end of this document on what the Welfare Officer will be observing.

Safeguarding

Please note that the videoing and photographing of under 18yr olds at ICD events requires the consent of the parent or guardian who are able to endorse the intended use of the images. The official Photographer and Videographer are exempt.

Any person not wishing to be filmed or photographed should notify the Secretary by 6pm on Thursday.

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Safety

- We are individually responsible for the safety of ourselves and each other, whether driving, helping, or watching.
- Please listen to the ICD Championship Crew who will direct you as efficiently as possible.
- Please be patient, it can be challenging to get everyone to the right place, please be kind.
- Keep the speed down to a walk when moving between arenas.
- Stay aware of your surroundings and try not to become part of a problem.
- Report any problems to the Secretary's Office as soon as possible, or ask a Crew member with a radio for help, they can summon the TD or Safety Officer
- There is a medic and vet on site during competition hours, ask any member of the Crew to help you locate them.
- For medical attention outside of competition hours, please call NHS 111 or 999

Vet - outside of competition hours:

Tower Equine Ltd Tel: 01778 591082

Tower Farm, Grimsthorpe, Bourne, Lincs PE10 0NF. www.towerequine.co.uk

Secretary Opening Hours:

- Thursday between 3pm - 5.30pm
- Friday to Sunday 8am to 5:30pm

Competitor Packs & paperwork - inc Children's Challenge

Please collect your competitor pack from the Secretary's office. You will find the office in the main arena building, next to the café, there is a walkway along by the side of the café, continue to the end where you will find us.

Remember your **Number Holder Bib** please, printed numbers will be provided. We much prefer backsteppers to wear bibs - not have the numbers attached to the carriage - it is easier to see who you are. Small Pony drivers using a 2-wheeler must wear a bib if their groom is not on the carriage - numbers on the front and back.

Horse/pony passport must be available for spot checks by any of the championship's officials as well as the Arena UK's appointed Stable Manager.

SHARING

Since making your entry you need to share ponies, horses, carriages or backsteppers PLEASE contact us ASAP (scdc.kayti.harvey@gmail.com) so we can adjust the times to accommodate - please don't wait until you arrive at Arena UK. Thank you

Emergency Contact Information: if your animal has a problem we want to find you quickly.

Please fill in the emergency contact form and place it on your stable door.

The same information must be included on the Parking Permit.

Parking Permit

Please fill in the ICD Championships Parking Permit and display in your lorry / towing vehicle & trailer on arrival. Any vehicle not displaying a permit may be asked to leave the venue.

Best Turned Out

Will you win the lovely Elegance Perpetual Cup? This award will go to the turn-out that is clean, tidy and gives a glowing impression of safe smart workmanship. You never know who the judge may be!

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Programme *provisional*

NOTE: All times are approximate, changes will be communicated on the various channels

Thursday 9 th April	
1.00pm	Stables open - Please do not arrive any earlier unless arranged in advance with Arena UK
3:00pm	Event Office Open: Collection of competitors packs (closes 17:30pm)
4:30pm	Cones course and P&P arena open to walk

Friday 10 th April		
9:30am	Indoor Arena 1	Obstacles - Open to walk from 12noon. NOTE: the cones for the Children's Challenge (world cup) will also be in the arena
	Indoor Arena 2	Precision & Paces
	Outdoor Arena 3	Cones To be driven directly after P&P test
<u>4:00pm</u>	Indoor Arena 1	Children's Challenge World Cup Competition for ICD Drivers 14yrs and under
<u>5:00pm</u>	Indoor Arena 1	Dick's Fun Dog Show All Competitors, back-steppers, sponsors, and crew - are invited to attend
<u>6:00pm</u>	Pavillion	Chairman's drinks Meals can be purchased in the Pavillion as the bar will be closed

Saturday 11 th April		
9.00am	Indoor Arena 2	Precision & Paces
	Outdoor Arena 3	Cones To be driven directly after P&P test
9.00am	Indoor Arena 1	All four obstacles Presentation of Awards directly after completion of class.
7:00pm	Pavilion	Championships Social Evening Pork, Turkey, or Vegetarian Roast - £16.50 per head For extra tickets, please ask at the Secretary Office on arrival - cash only

Sunday 12 th April		
9.00am	Indoor Arena 1	All four obstacles Presentation of Awards directly after completion of class. Presentation of Supreme Championship.

Regions - Best Dressed Stable Competition

Townfield Saddlers has generously offered £100 vouchers to the Region with the best dressed group of stables. Judging will be Saturday Morning, with the winners announced at the Saturday Night Social. Decorations must be on the outside, be horse friendly, not block access and not be a fire hazard! To reserve stables together for your region, please provide all the names to Kayti Harvey by **5th April**. Complete the entry form (at the end of this document) or from Secretary and submit by **9am on Saturday** for judging later that morning.

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Championship Officials

President	Richard (Dick) Carey
Vice President	Rita Bundock
Chairman	Hugh Scott-Barrett
Vice Chairman	Dick Lane
Championship Organisers	Julia Crockford & Kayti Harvey
Technical Delegate	Katy Stewart
Safety Officer	Roger Dodson
Welfare Officer	Minta Winn
President of the Jury & P&P Judges	Julie Tomasik (POJ, Paces) & Rowena Moyse (Paces) Sarah Louise Oxborrow(Precision) & Jeff Ormerod (Precision)
Safeguarding	Anne Chambers
Course designer & builder	Antony Petitpierre
Medical Technician	Ian Taylor (Airshowsafety.com)

Championship Classes

Class	Overall Championship	P&P Test
Novice Junior	Novice Junior Champion	Novice P&P Test
Drivers with Disabilities Novice	Drivers with Disabilities Novice Champion	Novice P&P Test
Drivers with Disabilities Open	Drivers with Disabilities Open Champion	Open P&P Test
Novice Small Pony	Overall Novice Champion	Novice P&P Test
Novice Pony		
Novice Horse		
Intermediate Small Pony	Overall Intermediate Champion	Open P&P Test
Intermediate Pony		
Intermediate Horse		
Open Small Pony	Supreme Small Pony Champion	Open P&P Test
Small Pony Pair		
Open Pony	Supreme Champion	Open P&P Test
Open Horse		
Pony Pair		
Pony Tandem		
Pony Team		
Veteran		

NOTE: The organisers retain the right to cancel, divide, or amalgamate classes if number of entries so warrant

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Competition Information

Novice Drivers Harness Inspection - all classes inc Drivers with Disabilities & Children's Challenge

Please report to the collecting ring (Outdoor Arena 4)

- 30 mins before P&P time
- 20 mins in advance of obstacles / Children's Challenge

P&P

Indoor arena two is quite short, you may need to prepare your entrance (trot) from within the lorry park. The crew will make sure there is space for your entrance. NOTE: there is a big bump outside the boards as you approach A.

Cones

Wait for the bell before driving the cones.

Just for fun, if no one is waiting to go, you can drive the cones a second time. This needs to be immediately after your official timed round, you cannot 'come back later.'

Obstacles

Obstacles will not change during the weekend. They will remain built in Main Arena 1 throughout the weekend and will be open for walking from 12noon on Friday.

The Children's Challenge (World Cup course) will be set up on Friday as well - please walk around the cones and DO NOT move them.

The Children's Challenge will drive gates A to D in both obstacles. The course will be driven twice.

Do not rush from the warm-up through the entrance into the main arena, you might not see our arena crew members until it is too late.

Remember to wait for the bell before driving the first obstacle.

The timing screen (clock) may not be zero - it will automatically reset when you 'break the beam.'

Photography

The on-site Photographer will be situated in Main Arena 1 and will be able to print photos while you are there - www.atgphotography.net

Filming

Horse & Country TV will be filming the obstacles on Saturday and Sunday. For those not coming to Arena UK, they can pay to watch the obstacles of ICD Championships
<https://horseandcountry.tv/>

Catering

Café will be open 8.30am to 5.30pm on Friday, Saturday & Sunday

Thursday Evening - Pizza Shack selling woodfired pizzas

Friday Evening - Chairman's Drinks from 6:00pm

Pavillion will serve meals on Friday evening & Pizza Shack selling woodfired pizzas.

Saturday Evening - Social evening from 6:15pm

Serving meals in the Pavillion are by pre-paid ticket only.

Drinks from 6:15pm, Food will be served at 7:00pm with the raffle drawn after.

General Information

- The Main Arena building is locked overnight, the opening hours are 7am to 9:30pm - please co-operate with the Arena UK team politely and promptly.
- There are ample toilets around site and showers near the pedestrian entrance to the main indoor arena. Please leave them clean and tidy, as you would want to find them.
- If you need regular medication, please remember to bring sufficient to last for the duration of the event, and potentially an extra day in case of emergency. If you are diabetic or taking warfarin, please let us know so that we are aware if a medical emergency occurs.
- NO bicycles or scooters are permitted on site, except for mobility scooters.
- Dogs are welcome but must be on leads at all times. Please put waste bags into one of the many bins on site, not hung on hedges or forgotten on tow hooks!
- Please note that *dogs are not permitted* in any of the arenas - with the exception of the Dog Show.
- If shod, please ensure your horse / pony is well shod, as there is no farrier on site or on call.
- Stallions must wear a disk on their headcollar and bridle at all times stating they are a stallion. When walking out all stallions must be bitted with the lead rein attached to both sides of bit.
- Smart marathon dress and safe clean equipment to be used throughout the competition.
- Correctly fastened hard hats must be worn at all times by any person on a carriage.
- Young Drivers (under the age of 18 years) MUST wear body protectors during all phases.
- Body Protectors MUST be worn during the obstacle phase - **Back protectors are not permitted.**
- No Horse / Pony may be tied to a lorry / trailer and left unattended at any time.
- No Horse / Pony may be left inside a lorry / trailer overnight.
- No Horse / Pony may be left in side stabling overnight.
- Shavings only may be used, either bring your own or they can be purchased from Arena UK when booking stable(s) via the Arena UK Website. No other type of bedding to be used on site please.
- Clear your beds to the muckheap only and put rubbish/litter in bins provided.
- NO SMOKING is permitted within the stabling at any time.

Dick Dastardly's Fun Dog Show

5pm Friday Evening, Main Arena 1

All are welcome to Dick's Fun Dog Show, human, and canine! There will be a range of classes - from Junior handler to best pair of dogs, to best puppy - there is a class for every dog!

Just turn up, take part or cheer on our best friends - entry is FREE

Thank you to Dick Lane for sponsoring.

ICD Branded Clothing

Clothing and Caps can be purchased in the ICD shop on the JS Teamwear website. If you do not see the garment you like, just ask them!

[Indoor Carriage Driving Branded Clothing](#)

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Directions to Arena UK

Arena UK, Allington, Grantham, Lincolnshire. NG32 2EF
What3words - film. landscape. hound

All competitors **must** use the A1 to access Arena UK - there is direct access from the Gonerby Moor, North Grantham interchange on the A1. (Grantham Services).
Follow signs to Equestrian Centre, the venue is approximately half a mile from the A1

From the A1

Take the B1174 exit towards Grantham/Gt.Gonerby/Downtown/Allington

At the roundabout, take the 1st exit onto Gonerby Ln

In about ¹/₂ mile Turn right into Arena UK (look for tall white gateposts)



Arriving at Arena UK

Please do not arrive before 1pm on Thursday 9th April.

Upon arrival, please sign in with the Arena UK stable management team who will direct you to your booked stable(s), and to your parking area (remind them if you have booked Electric Hook up).

Stables are booked in advance, please remember that you will be asked for a cleaning deposit (£20 cash), the stables should be empty when you arrive, please speak directly to the Arena UK stable management team if you are not happy with your stable before moving in. When you leave, ask the stable management team to check your stable to get your deposit returned. Every year we were complimented on how good our people were at leaving tidy stables - let's keep it up!

IMPORTANT: For those allocated a stable by the indoor arenas, please note that the exit onto the walkway that leads to the main arena has been closed, this is for the safety of all. Please use the exit at the other end of the stables - thank you.

Only one vehicle per hook up. One EHU point and two lead take offs are NOT permitted.

Please remember to leave at least 5m between camped vehicles to provide a fire break.

Caravans/living area on horse boxes **MUST** have an up-to-date FIRE EXTINGUISHERS on board and easily accessible by the groom's door. Fire Blankets are recommended next to cooking apparatus.

BBQ's or BBQ type outdoor cooking is not permitted in the lorry park / camping area.

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Venue Map

Please obey the one-way system and signs when moving between arenas. The venue has some blind corners, especially going into the Main Indoor arena 1.

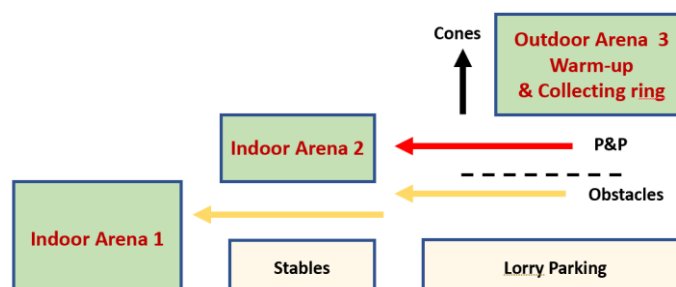
Please pay attention to our Crew who are giving instructions - they could easily be aware of something you cannot see yet.



Driver Movements (especially on Saturday)

Saturday is a very busy day with P&P, Cones & Obstacles all running at the same time. To move drivers safely and quickly from the warmup to the P&P or Obstacles, there is a system in place.

- P&P Drivers - Use the RED Channel from the warm-up to Arena 2
- Obstacle Drivers - Use the YELLOW Channel from the warm-up to Arena 1



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Exercise & Warmup

Thursday afternoon.

- **ONLY Arena 5** is available for warm up on Thursday afternoon

Friday & Saturday

- Arena 4 is the collecting ring for the event, maximum speed is trotting
 - **no cantering in Arena 4.**
- Arena 5 is to be used for canter warm up on Friday & Saturday
- Arena 3 (not cones area) can be used AFTER the cones have finished on Friday & Saturday afternoon.
- Arena 2 will be used as collecting ring (trot only) once the P&P has completed on Saturday.

Do not arrive in this arena more than 30 mins before the scheduled P&P time or Obstacle class.

Lunging (single or dual reins) is not permitted in any of the arenas.

Warm Up Arenas

The warmup arena can be a daunting place; everyone is focused on doing their best and not always aware of what is going on.

We ask that you follow these guidelines when using the warmup arenas.

1. Listen to the Crew and do as they ask - quickly!
2. Always be polite and respectful of everyone, volunteers enable you to compete, standing out in all weathers.
3. Give other drivers room - cutting people up and rushing up behind them is not kind or safe.
4. Be aware of other turn outs, backsteppers particularly need to be vigilant.
5. Pass other drivers left hand to left hand.
6. Pass other drivers left hand to left hand should you be traveling at similar speeds.
7. Think about where you are standing, do not block entrances and working areas.
8. If another driver is having difficulties, stop immediately.
9. If practical and safe to do so, put down the backstepper and go to the horse's head.
10. Pick up all dung from your turn out - after you have competed if necessary - it might not be yours, but it still needs to be picked up!

We look forward to greeting you at Arena UK soon; we hope your preparations go well, you have a safe journey and that above all that you have fun at the Championships!

Good Luck to you all!

The ICD Committee



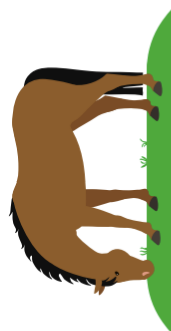
THE CHARTER FOR THE HORSE

As responsible members of the equestrian community, we pledge to this charter for the ethical and fair treatment of all horses and other equids under our care.



Empathy

Recognising horses are intelligent and emotional beings, we always prioritise their mental and physical health and overall wellbeing.



Care

Throughout their entire life, during exercise and rest, we offer horses a secure and suitable setting to create positive experiences that address their social, behavioural, nutritional and physical needs for a high quality of life.



Respect

Through compassionate, mindful, patient and empathetic interaction, we foster positive relationships with horses based on trust and respect.



Consideration

Each horse is an individual, and we strive to understand and meet their specific needs, including how they learn. We don't push horses beyond their health, fitness or ability levels, and we never let competitive or commercial influences compromise their welfare.



Ethics

In all our equine interactions, whether for leisure, training or sport, we adhere to the highest standards of equine welfare, safety, equipment, veterinary care and biosecurity, always guided by ethical principles.



Learning

Through continuously improving our equine knowledge, we evolve our behaviours based on education and informed advice from qualified professionals and the broader equestrian community.



Understanding our sport is key

As our partnership with horses has evolved from requiring workhorses to enjoying competition horses over the years, welfare has been constantly assessed and consistently improved.

British Carriagedriving is committed to guiding continued welfare advancement and positive perception of our sport through educating drivers, officials and of course the public.



Driving equipment and aids are different from riding aids:



We use our voice accordingly,
instead of our leg (no shouting!)



Our whip is also a driving
aid that replaces the leg



We use blinkers to protect horses from
being startled or unduly distracted



Modern harness and bits are carefully fitted
with comfort and safety paramount



Fitness and suitability for the turnout are key to welfare and enjoyment for all

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ICD Welfare Checklist & Guidance

The ICD Welfare Checklist provides information and guidance on the duties of the appointed ICD Welfare Officer and other Officials at the ICD National Championships and also at regional qualifying events.

Also please refer to the ICD Rulebook and / or British Carriagedriving rulebook

Notes for Participants

Action	Notes
Check all stabling are fit for purpose	
Walk through stables for food, water, and appropriate bedding	
No animals left tied to lorries unattended	
No lunging (single or double reins) or use of tie downs	
Monitor warm up arenas e.g. trot only or canter arenas	
Junior Drivers under 16yrs - adult / parent /guardian present and responsible for the turnout	
Liaise with the onsite Vet	
Monitor animals participating in more than one class	
Any visible blood on an animal is checked	
Turnout is clean, tidy, and fit for purpose	
Animal is sound and appropriately presented for the weather conditions	
Appropriate use of Driving Aid, voice, and grooms interaction with the animal	
Suitable harness and vehicle Note: Bitting spot checks may be undertaken	
Monitor that animals are being appropriately warmed up and cooled down	
Monitor for animal being over driven	
Liaise with Commentator if weather warnings need to be issued	
Concerns in regard to young or vulnerable people, will be reported if considered a safeguarding issue	

Notes for judges and stewards

Action
Organisational or venue Issues - report to Organiser / Secretary
Competitor, scoring or competition issues - report to POJ
Safety Issues - report to the Safety Officer, POJ and Organiser

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BEST DRESSED STABLES COMPETITION 2026

Kindly sponsored by Townfield Saddlers

Entry Forms must be submitted to the Secretary by 9am on Saturday morning
The winners will be announced at the Saturday Evening Social

Region:	
Point of Contact Name:	
Mobile Number:	

Stable Number	Name of Driver