

VILLA LOUIS CARRIAGE CLASSIC  
2010 OFFICIALS

# 2010 Prize List



**September 10, 11, 12, 2010**

*on the lawn of the*

**Villa Louis Historic Site  
Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin**

Organized by: Villa Louis Carriage Classic, Inc.

**[www.carriageclassic.com](http://www.carriageclassic.com)**

*Thank you to all the individuals who make this show possible. Special thanks should be given to the following officials who have aided in making our show a success.*

<b>Judges:</b>	Ms. Marsha Himler <i>Stillwater, New York</i> Mr. William Venditta <i>Cochranville, Pennsylvania</i>
<b>Technical Delegate:</b>	Ms. Mickie Bowen <i>Unionville, Pennsylvania</i>
<b>Veterinarian:</b>	Southwest Veterinarian Services
<b>Farrier:</b>	Dan Tesar
<b>Emergency Services:</b>	Prairie du Chien EMS, Inc.
<b>Site Director:</b>	Michael Douglass
<b>Site Curator:</b>	Susan Caya-Slusser
<b>Facilities Manager Emeritus:</b>	Ken White
<b>Show Manager:</b>	Mike Rider
<b>Show Secretaries:</b>	Shelly Rider, Stacy Rod, Laurie Hampton
<b>Patrons Hospitality:</b>	Shirley Feuerhelm
<b>Hospitality:</b>	Sue Rider, Peggy Miller Pat LaBonne
<b>Obstacles Courses:</b>	Michael Higgins, Shane Hesselberg
<b>Paddock Marshall:</b>	Debbie Polkinghorn
<b>Stabling:</b>	Todd Folyer, Larry Folyer
<b>Marketing:</b>	Patti Walker, Carolyn Sand

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Mike Rider, Chairman  
Villa Louis Carriage Classic, Inc.  
P.O. Box 117  
Prairie du Chien, WI 53821-0117  
Ph: (608) 326-4436  
[www.carriageclassic.com](http://www.carriageclassic.com)    [info@carriageclassic.com](mailto:info@carriageclassic.com)

## CHANGES IN BRIEF

1. To celebrate the 30<sup>th</sup> annual event,
  - A class to welcome those with history in the event has been added to the schedule – please see the class description for the Alumni Class and encourage your friends and past competitors to participate.
  - The Carriage Classic welcomes all to the Chamber of Commerce “Business After 5” open house on Thursday, September 9, 2010, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the Club Tent.
  - A fun event is planned in conjunction with the Saturday night dinner – awards will be given for outrageous hats!
  - A commemorative polo shirt will be available for pre-sale only, see the advertisement in the Prize List for sizing and pricing information.
2. The Pairs division has been divided into Pair Horses and Pair Ponies due to the popularity of this division in recent years.
3. Again in 2010, competitors will have the option of driving the Pick Your Route cones classes on either Friday (see schedule for times) or on Saturday or Sunday at the times specified for their division.
4. The Villa Louis Carriage Classic committee would like to encourage turnouts to consider participating in the Saturday noon Picnic class. A cash prize will be offered – see the class description for more information.
5. A new contract for stabling has been awarded. The new company offers larger stalls. Doors are included on all of the 10 foot by 10 foot stalls. Initial bedding will not be provided, but shavings will be available for sale on the show grounds.
6. The use of motorized vehicles will be strictly forbidden on any obstacle course between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Individuals that must use motorized vehicles for disability reasons must obtain a permit from the show secretary and operate such outside of the above listed hours. Individuals are not permitted to operate vehicles through course markers on any obstacle course. The technical delegate will be available to take those needing assistance on a “tour” of the cross county courses at 6:30 a.m. both Saturday and Sunday.

## GENERAL RULES

1. The Villa Louis Carriage Classic is approved by the American Driving Society and every class offered herein which is covered by the current rules and specifications of the society will be conducted and judged in accordance therewith.
  2. The Committee reserves the right to decline any entry and/or return any entry fee before or during the competition without being liable for any compensation. In case of horses/ponies being entered and not exhibited, entry fees will be forfeited, unless a veterinarian certificate attests to the inability of the animal to participate due to injury or illness. The certificate must be received before the beginning of the show, September 10, 2010, at 8:30 a.m. A \$25.00 administrative fee will be assessed to refunded entries. Stall fees are not refundable.
  3. The Committee reserves the right to combine or divide or cancel classes or divisions if the number of entries warrants such a change. If classes are cancelled (by the Organizing Committee), entry fees will be refunded by mail by October 1, 2010.
  4. Ribbons will be awarded to five competitors in each class. Points will be awarded towards Division Championships in this manner:
    - 6 points to 1<sup>st</sup> Place
    - 4 points to 2<sup>nd</sup> Place
    - 3 points to 3<sup>rd</sup> Place
    - 2 points to 4<sup>th</sup> Place
    - 1 point to 5<sup>th</sup> Place
- CHAMPIONSHIP DIVISIONS and their respective classes are listed elsewhere in this prize list. In divisions that offer three obstacle classes (cones, cross country and gambler’s choice), only the two highest placings will be used for scoring championship totals. In the event of a tie for divisional points, placing in the reinsmanship class shall be used to break the tie. If a tie remains, placing in the working pleasure class will be used to break the tie. In the event that two individuals remain tied at that point, a drive-off may be utilized to break the tie. Appropriate awards and recognition will be given.
5. For division championships, an entry is defined as the driver, the equine(s), and the vehicle; any change in the above within a division requires the turnout to carry a different number.
  6. Our hosts, the State Historical Society – Villa Louis, has requested that drivers and their passengers be allowed to introduce period costumes that are appropriate to their turnout in the Picnic class. The use of wire wheeled vehicles is not allowed. Permission may be granted from the show committee for antique vehicles with wire wheels.

7. **Under no condition shall a bridle be removed from a horse while it is put to a vehicle. Failure to comply will incur elimination or disqualification.**
8. Obstacle competitors are reminded that there is no posted “time of go.” Within each division, competitors will be taken in ascending numerical order. If a competitor is not present when it is his turn to run the course, he may be asked to drive the course after the other drivers in his respective division. Friendly consideration will be afforded to those turnouts with schedule conflicts involving arena competition.
9. No dogs will be allowed on the show grounds unless under control or restrained by a leash. Any dog not restrained will be detained and turned over to the city animal control officer and the City of Prairie du Chien will assess any regular penalty fees.
10. Cross country obstacle course maps will be available Friday, September 10, 2010, upon approval of the courses by our officials. Cones and gambler’s choice obstacles will have a map posted at both the course and the official scoreboard. There will be **NO OFFICIAL COURSE WALKS**. A question and answer session will be held at 7:30 p.m., Friday, September 10, 2009, in the Club Tent with the judges and technical delegate present – all are encouraged to attend.

## Prize List Advertisers

### **AmericInn**

608-326-7878

800-396-5007

[www.americinn.com](http://www.americinn.com)

### **Country Inn & Suites by Carlton**

#### **Buckhorn Grill & Pub**

#### **Bearfoot Bay Waterpark**

608-326-5700

800-596-2375

[www.countryinns.com/prairieduchienwi](http://www.countryinns.com/prairieduchienwi)

[www.bearfootbay.com](http://www.bearfootbay.com)

### **Little Switzerland Inn**

563-873-2057

608-412-0400

[www.littleswitzerlandinn.com](http://www.littleswitzerlandinn.com)

### **Neuman House Bed & Breakfast**

608-326-8104

877-340-9971

[www.prairie-du-chien.com](http://www.prairie-du-chien.com)

11. Country vehicles shall include those that would have been used in an everyday rural setting. This division is open only to four-wheel vehicles that are not cut-under (runabouts, democrat wagons, doctor’s buggies, surreys, etc.) that are put to a single horse or pony. Lap robes are optional.
12. The Villa Louis Carriage Classic defines very small equines as those less than 39 inches (9.3 hands). The Small Pony Open division is intended for single pony of height 9.3 hands high but not taller than 13.2 hands high. Large ponies are those taller than 13.2 hands but not taller than 14.2 hands high.
13. The Draft Horse division is a single horse division with horses that meet the criteria outlined by the American Driving Society Article 70. Gloves, hat and whip are required; lab robes are optional.
14. The entry fee for all classes is \$10. **Entries close August 20, 2010.** Post entries will be accepted up to the closing of the office the day before the class provided the class has not been closed, for a fee of \$20 per class. All entries must be paid before entering the class.
15. All animals must be sound and in good health. Wisconsin Regulations provide that all animals must have proof of negative Coggins test taken during the current calendar year. Please submit with registration. Out of state horses that need official health papers may present these at the show office.
16. The “water obstacle” may consist of six to eight inches of water. Animals may be schooled only in the water obstacle area in halter only. No schooling will be allowed on any other part of any obstacle class. No schooling is allowed from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on either Saturday or Sunday.

17. All of the cones classes are “Pick Your Route”; please note, however, that refusals, run-outs and circling will not be penalized on these courses. The American Driving Society Pleasure Driving Committee, specifically for the 2010 Villa Louis Carriage Classic, has approved this “house rule” as a modification of current American Driving Society rules.
18. It is the responsibility of each driver (or guardian) to ensure that all passengers on his or her turnout have signed the ADS disclaimer on the reverse of the entry form. Failure to do so could disqualify the turnout.
19. **No motorized vehicles are allowed on the lawn of the Villa Louis** without special permission of the show management or host. Permission will be granted to those individuals with physical handicaps. All operators of motorized vehicles assume liability for their actions and must be insured and licensed accordingly. Only show official vehicles will be allowed on any obstacle course between 8:00 a.m .and 5:00 p.m..
20. In all combination classes (Drive and Ride, Sporting Tandem and Combination Hunter), the same person need not complete both the driving and riding sections.
21. The Villa Louis Carriage Classic is an American Driving Society approved show; therefore, all drivers must be either ADS members or pay a \$30.00 ADS non-member fee. ADS insurance coverage is extended only to ADS members.
22. Competitors are allowed to utilize bicycles to walk the cross country obstacles. Bicycles will not be permitted on the pick your route or gambler’s choice courses.
23. All competitors are required to deposit \$10.00 for the reuseable number. The deposit will be returned upon receipt of the number before 6:00 p.m. on September 12, 2010.
24. All exhibitors are automatically entered into the Concours d’Elegance class. Competitors will be selected based upon the overall turnout as presented throughout the show. The class winner will be selected from these individuals in the final class of the show.
25. Competitors and equines may enter more than one division, provided their schedule allows timely participation in events. Please contact show management for permission to “cross-enter”. Competitors and equines may not cross-enter in gambler’s choice obstacles.
26. The Carriage Dog class will be conducted according to the American Driving Society rules. The judge may ask for assistance from the audience in judging by way of applause for entries. As a “house rule”, at the Villa Louis Carriage Classic, more than one canine may accompany one turnout.
27. Any turnout of single horse or pony may compete in the Novice Driver or Novice Horse/Pony division provided said driver or equine has not won three or more first placings in any ADS or USEF competition. Events with less than 3 entries do count toward advancement from the novice division (ADS Article 31).

## CHAMPIONSHIP DIVISIONS

### COUNTRY VEHICLE

Cones  
 Cross Country  
 Gambler’s Choice  
 Reinsmanship  
 Turnout  
 Working

### DRAFT HORSE

Cones  
 Cross Country  
 Gambler’s Choice  
 Reinsmanship  
 Turnout  
 Working

### JUNIORS

Cones  
 Cross Country  
 Gambler’s Choice  
 Reinsmanship  
 Working

### LARGE PONY OPEN

Cones  
 Cross Country  
 Gambler’s Choice  
 Reinsmanship  
 Turnout  
 Working

### MULTIPLES

Cones  
 Cross Country  
 Reinsmanship  
 Turnout  
 Working

### NOVICE DRIVER HORSE

Cones  
 Cross Country  
 Gambler’s Choice  
 Reinsmanship  
 Turnout  
 Working

### NOVICE DRIVER PONY

Cones  
 Cross Country  
 Gambler’s Choice  
 Reinsmanship  
 Turnout  
 Working

### NOVICE HORSE/PONY

Cones  
 Cross Country  
 Gambler’s Choice  
 Reinsmanship  
 Turnout  
 Working

### PAIR HORSES

Cones  
 Cross Country  
 Gambler’s Choice  
 Reinsmanship  
 Turnout  
 Working

### PAIR PONIES

Cones  
 Cross Country  
 Gambler’s Choice  
 Reinsmanship  
 Turnout  
 Working

### SINGLE HORSE OPEN

Cones  
 Cross Country  
 Gambler’s Choice  
 Reinsmanship  
 Turnout  
 Working

### SMALL PONY OPEN

Cones  
 Cross Country  
 Gambler’s Choice  
 Reinsmanship  
 Turnout  
 Working

### VERY SMALL EQUINE

Cones  
 Cross Country  
 Gambler’s Choice  
 Reinsmanship  
 Turnout  
 Working

***2009 Villa Louis Carriage Classic  
Division Champions***

**American Driving Society Advertisement**

**[www.americandrivingsociety.org](http://www.americandrivingsociety.org)**

**608-237-7382**

<b>Division</b>	<b>Champion</b>	<b>Reserve Champion</b>
Country Vehicle	<a href="#">Derrick Dupler</a>	<a href="#">Debra Sauer</a>
Draft Horse	<a href="#">Jennifer Thompson, DVM</a>	<a href="#">Paula Thompson</a>
Juniors	<a href="#">Valerie Dingman</a>	<a href="#">Grace White</a>
Large Pony Open	<a href="#">Michael Scott</a>	<a href="#">Marilyn Day Zaetta</a>
Multiples	<a href="#">Mark Dahlberg</a>	<a href="#">Candis Hankins</a>
Novice Driver Horse	<a href="#">Samantha Poirier</a>	<a href="#">Marsha Kremer</a>
Novice Driver Pony	<a href="#">Heather Curtis, DVM</a>	<a href="#">Robert Long</a>
Novice Horse/Pony	<a href="#">Marguerite Meade</a>	<a href="#">Jennifer Nelson</a>
Pairs	<a href="#">Phillip Odden</a>	<a href="#">Aaron Achenbach</a>
Single Horse Open	<a href="#">Michael Ridge</a>	<a href="#">Mary Jo Stockman</a>
Small Pony Open	<a href="#">Jared Radcliffe</a>	<a href="#">Pat Smith</a>
Very Small Equine	<a href="#">Myrna Rhinehart</a>	<a href="#">Linda Schutte</a>

## **Patron's Club Membership**

Please consider joining our Patron's Club, members will enjoy the following amenities

### **Gold (\$500)**

Obstacle Sponsorship  
2010 VLCC Artwork  
Four 2010 VLCC Lapel Pins  
Six tickets to:  
Friday Fish Fry  
Saturday Night Dinner  
Exhibitor Reception & Dessert  
Use of Patron's Pavilion for four  
Listing in Program

### **Silver (\$250)**

2010 VLCC Artwork  
Two 2010 VLCC Lapel Pins  
Four tickets to:  
Friday Fish Fry  
Saturday Night Dinner  
Exhibitor Reception & Dinner  
Use of Patron's Pavilion for four  
Listing in Program

### **Bronze (\$100)**

One 2010 VLCC Lapel Pin  
Two tickets to:  
Saturday Night Dinner  
Exhibitor Reception & Dessert  
Use of Patron's Pavilion for two  
Listing in Program

### **Associate (\$50)**

Two tickets to:  
Friday Fish Fry  
Use of Patron's Pavilion for two  
Listing in Program

### **Class Sponsor (\$30)**

Use of Patron's Pavilion for two  
Listing in Program

## **SPECIAL CLASS DESCRIPTIONS**

### **ANTIQUÉ TURNOUT**

A pleasure driving class in which entries are judged primarily on the performance and quality of each turnout. To be eligible for this class, vehicles must have been built before 1940. All appointments of the turnout will be considered in judging. Turnouts are to be shown both ways of the arena at a walk, slow trot, working trot, and strong trot, to stand quietly and to rein back. To be judged 30% on performance, manners and way of going, 70% on the condition, fit and appropriateness of harness and vehicle, neatness and appropriateness of attire, and overall impression.

### **PICNIC**

A pleasure driving class in which entries are judged primarily on performance and quality of turnout, dress of passengers and presentation of the picnic itself. Competitors will be asked to briefly work their turnout in the arena. The horses will be expected to stand quietly during the picnic and must be removed from the vehicle. Safety is of utmost importance.

All picnic participants and their amenities must be a part of the turnout during the arena portion of the class. They will be dismissed to travel on the Villa Louis' property to the assigned picnic location.

After an appropriate period of time has elapsed, the judge(s) will visit the picnic areas (honorary judges may be used for this class).

Placings will be based on the following: 20% on performance, manner and way of going; 20% on condition, fit and appropriateness of harness and vehicle; 60% on overall impression including presentation of the picnic. The picnic class awards will be presented during the awards party. Assistance is available via local contacts to help competitors with planning, preparing and storage of picnic necessities.

A cash prize will be awarded to the winner of this class; 1<sup>st</sup> place - \$250.00

### **PICTURE YOURSELF**

This scavenger hunt through Prairie du Chien has objectives to familiarize competitors with the history and uniqueness of the city of Prairie du Chien; and vice versa. Turnouts will be provided with a camera and a listing of places to have their turnout photographed. The competitor returning the camera and film with the most correct photographs will be the winner. In the event of a tie for the number of photographs, time taken on the drive will decide ties. Turnouts participating must be traffic-safe, carry a photographer/passenger, and carry a slow moving vehicle sign. Sport casual attire is preferred. The winner will be announced at the Awards Party on Sunday afternoon.

### **ALUMNI CLASS**

A pleasure driving class in which entries are judged primarily on the ability and skill of the driver. To be shown at a walk, slow trot, working trot and strong trot. Drivers may be required to rein back. All drivers chosen for a workout may be worked at any gait requested by the judge and may be asked to execute a figure of eight and/or perform other appropriate tests. To be judged: 75% on handling of the reins and whip, control, posture, and overall impression of the driver; 25% on the condition of harness and vehicle and neatness of attire. This class is open to any individual that participated in the first ten years of the Villa Louis Carriage Classic (1981-1990).

## CROSS COUNTRY OBSTACLES - PACE

To be driven, at the prescribed pace (trot), over a prescribed course of natural and artificial obstacles designed to simulate those that might be encountered on a country drive (e.g. bridges, water crossing, gardens, etc.)

After passing through the starting line, the driver shall proceed through each obstacle, in order, keeping within the limits of the designated course markers and passing through the designated finish markers. Walking to ensure safety will not be penalized when approaching an obstacle; however, walking, stopping, circling, or driving serpentine between the last set of course markers and the finish line are not permitted under penalty of elimination. Mandatory stops may be required when crossing a city street. The entire turnout must stop before the stop sign or penalties will be incurred. After the road has been deemed clear of traffic, a road guard will permit the turnout to proceed. If a turnout is held at the road crossing, the held time will be deducted from the overall time on course.

Placings will be determined on a low course fault basis. An "ideal time" will be established for each class based on the pace and distance of the course. The speeds will not exceed 15 kilometers per hour for horses, 14 kilometers per hour for large ponies, 12.5 kilometers per hour for small ponies, 11.5 kilometers per hour for very small equines. In the event that there is a tie in course faults, the winner will be the entry that finishes closest to the "ideal time." A passenger/groom may offer directional assistance to the driver in a discreet verbal manner. If a tie occurs in both course faults and time faults, the winner will be determined by a drive-off.

### Course Penalties:

a.	Knocking down or dislodging an obstacle or course marker	5 faults
b.	Break in gait to canter	
	1 <sup>st</sup> break to canter	5 faults
	2 <sup>nd</sup> break to canter	5 faults
	3 <sup>rd</sup> break to canter	5 faults
	4 <sup>th</sup> break to canter	Elimination
	Prolonged canter	Elimination
c.	Disobedience or groom(s) dismounting anywhere on course (cumulative over course)	
	1 <sup>st</sup> incidence	3 faults
	2 <sup>nd</sup> incidence	6 faults
	3 <sup>rd</sup> incidence	Elimination
d.	Failure to stop before the stop sign	6 faults
e.	Failure to wait at the stop sign until directed by the road guard	6 faults
f.	Starting before the signal	Elimination
g.	Failure to cross starting line within one minute	Elimination
h.	Off-course	Elimination
i.	Exceeding time limit (2X ideal time)	Elimination
j.	Outside assistance	Elimination
k.	Failure to carry a whip	Elimination
l.	Use of a tie-down or overcheck	Elimination
m.	Breakage of harness or vehicle	Elimination
n.	Deviation from the trot, circling, driving serpentine, and walking or stopping from the last set of course markers to the finish line	Elimination

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### ADMISSION FEES

Admission is \$9.00 adults and \$4.50 children ages 5-17. The admission fee allows visitors to tour the Villa Louis mansion complex and to participate as spectators at the weekend Carriage Classic. A \$24.00 family package is available and includes two adults and their dependent children. Exhibitors will receive three "show only" passes. Additional passes are available in advance at a cost of \$3.50 each. Please order the needed passes on your registration form.

### LODGING & CAMPING

Only the motels advertised in this prize list support the Villa Louis Carriage Classic financially. Please patronize one of the advertised establishments. A complete listing of area lodging is available via the Prairie du Chien Chamber of Commerce (800-732-1673 or [www.prairieduchien.org](http://www.prairieduchien.org)). If you choose to stay at an inn that is not advertised, please encourage the manager to financially support your sport and this event. Primitive camping on the grounds is available to competitors only; please register with the show office and submit your \$20.00 fee with your show registration.

### STABLING & STORAGE

We have made arrangements for on-site covered box stalls. The cost of \$100 per stall includes Thursday through Sunday evenings. For those wishing to work from trailers and not reserve a stall, a grounds fee of \$20 per competitor is applicable. Limited storage space may be available for carriages offered on a first come-first served basis. The organizers cannot accept responsibility for stored items or stabled horses. Please note that the water system has high pressure at times. If you bring a hose to attach, you must turn it off at the base so as to not destroy your hose. Emergency contact information must be posted on each stall door as well as trailers.

### FARRIER SERVICES

Dan Tesar of Wauzeka, Wisconsin, will be on call for emergency shoe repair only. You may contact him at (608) 874-4428 or (608) 412-1501.

### VETERINARIAN

Southwest Veterinarian Services, SC., shall serve as official veterinarian. They may be called at (608) 326-6464.

### SHOW PHONE NUMBER

Beginning Thursday, September 9, 2010, and continuing throughout the event, the show phone number will be (608) 326-2721.

## PARTY PAGE

### PARTY PASS

We offer a party pass, including admission to each of the parties listed below and lunch for Saturday and Sunday. The cost of the pass is \$50 for adults and \$35 for children under 12 years of age.

### FOOD STAND

Lunch will be provided on the grounds Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Breakfast will also be served on Saturday and Sunday. Your party pass will include a box lunch and drink for Saturday and Sunday.

### FRIDAY NIGHT FISH FRY \$16.50 ADULTS \$12.00 CHILDREN

Please join us for our “Fish Fry” served from 6:30 – 7:45 p.m. under the Club Tent. The menu will include fresh Mississippi catfish, chicken, au gratin potatoes, coleslaw, roll and butter and choice of beverage.

### FRIENDS OF THE VILLA LOUIS RECEPTION

The Friends of the Villa Louis will host a reception and open house in the Villa Louis Mansion complex on Saturday evening beginning at 5:30 p.m. Wine and hors d’oeuvres will be served. An adult must accompany children under 18 years of age. **Business attire is expected.**

### SATURDAY DINNER \$24.00 ADULTS \$15.00 CHILDREN

Saturday night dinner will feature a 10-ounce prime rib, baked potato, salad bar, roll and butter, choice of beverage, and dessert. Vegetarian lasagna is also available to those who request this in advance. Serving will begin at 6:30 p.m. Entertainment will be provided. Awards will be presented for outrageous headwear during the auction that follows.

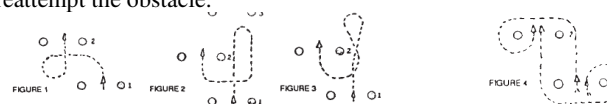
### AWARDS PARTY

Following the competition on Sunday, there will be an Awards Party under the Club Tent.

## Villa Louis Carriage Classic Frequently Asked Questions – Obstacles

### Q: What is the rule regarding “circling” and where is it applied?

A: The only obstacle course at the 2010 Villa Louis Carriage Classic that will enforce the circling rule is the cross country obstacles. ADS Article 54 (2) paraphrased states that *between* consecutive course markers, a turnout may not cross its path. There is one exception to the circling rule; following a run-out or refusal, a turnout is allowed one circle to reattempt the obstacle.



Penalized as disobedience/circling

Not penalized

### Q: What is the definition of break of gait?

A: Canter is not allowed at the Villa Louis Carriage Classic. The ADS rulebook (Article 56) defines a break to a canter as three strides if an advantage has been gained or six strides if no advantage has been gained. The judge will determine whether or not an advantage is gained. Walking in obstacle classes is not penalized except in cross country obstacles between the last course markers and the finish line. In multiples, all equines must break gait in order for penalty to be assessed.

### Q: Is a salute required before starting an obstacle course?

A: In pleasure driving, a salute is not required before starting on an obstacle course. The turnout should enter the ring at the direction of the steward, when the bell or whistle sounds, the turnout must cross the starting line within one minute.

### Q: On Gambler’s Choice and Pick-Your-Route cones, how do I negotiate the start and finish?

A: In both of these courses, you may start from either direction; you may also finish from either direction, regardless of the direction taken at the start.

### Q: In cross country obstacles, which gates are on my course?

A: As in the past, the cross country obstacles will be “color coded”. Only those markers that have the color of your division will be considered on your course. All other markers do not exist in terms of your course. Any knockdowns, however, will remain knockdowns. Also, unlike combined driving, you may never negotiate a course marker more than once in pleasure driving.

### Q: Can my groom help me on the courses?

A: In Pick-Your-Route cones and Gambler’s Choice, the groom may not “help” in any manner under penalty of elimination for outside assistance. However, at the Villa Louis Carriage Classic, the passenger/groom is allowed to give discreet verbal directional assistance on the cross country obstacle course without penalty. Please note that this is a “house rule” and may not apply at other American Driving Society events.

### Q: Where do I obtain a copy of the American Driving Society rules?

A: American Driving Society members can obtain a copy via their website ([www.americandrivingsociety.org](http://www.americandrivingsociety.org)); non-members may find a copy of the same via the Villa Louis Carriage Classic website VLCC website ([www.carriageclassic.com](http://www.carriageclassic.com)) via the “Competitors” page.