Villa Louis Carriage Classic
Visitor’s Guide – 2017

Event & Locations

Main Arena – hosts arena classes including
- Reinsmanship – the emphasis of the judging is on the performance of the driver
- Turnout – the judging is focused on the look of the horse, driver, vehicle and tack
- Working – the spotlight is on the performance of the horse(s)
- Picnic – turnouts present in the arena for a brief viewing, followed by the presentation of a picnic on the front lawn of the Villa Louis – spectators are welcomed to attend and cast your vote for the “Spectator’s Choice” – the awards are presented at the Awards Party.
- Carriage Dog – the judging for this class is on the canine attendant of the carriage – audience participation is invited to assist in the judging
- Antique Turnout – a class for antique vehicles, be they restored or in original condition
- Drive & Ride – a class in which horses are shown in harness followed by a tack-change where the same horses are shown under saddle
- Concours d’Elegance – an invitational class in which the most elegant turnouts are shown for the top honors
- Attendant’s Class – a chance for the “behind the scenes” folks to take the stage and show off their skills at driving in the class

Obstacle Areas

- Gambler’s choice obstacles - just north of the main arena is the “Gambler’s Choice” obstacle area – in this class, the drivers are given 90-120 seconds to accumulate points for negotiating obstacles. The driver may do each obstacle twice, but not in succession. Higher point values are assigned to obstacles that are technically more difficult or take more time.

- Cross country obstacles – this obstacle course consists of colored numbers along with a pair or red and white markers. Turnouts drive on a simulated country drive with the red marker on their right-hand side. An ideal time is established and the driver that completes the obstacle course without any penalties and comes closest to the ideal time is the winner. Obstacles include laundry lines, a bridge, a water crossing, and trails through the woods.

- Timed obstacles – for this cones course, turnouts must drive between paired cones (#1-#12) that are set about a foot wider than the width of their carriage. Knocking the balls from atop the cones adds 5 seconds for each ball down to their time on course. The fastest time wins.

Friday, September 8, 2017

9:00 a.m. – Obstacle competition in arena (Scurry) and North Lawn (Timed Obstacles)
10:00 a.m. – “Talking with Horses” – Club Tent presentation by Gloria Austin
1:30 p.m. – Obstacle competition in arena (Your Route/My Route) and North Lawn (Gambler’s Choice)
2:00 p.m. – Stable tour begins – meet under the Villa Louis Visitor Center (admission area)
7:00 p.m. – Friday Night Dinner (Catfish & Chicken) – reservations required

Saturday, September 9, 2017

8:00 a.m. – Competition begins & continues through day, main arena
10:00 a.m. – “What Is the Judge Looking?” – Club Tent presentation by Gloria Austin
10:30 a.m. – Cross-country obstacles begin (best viewed near red brick building)
12:00 p.m. – Picnic Class – main arena and Villa lawn
1:00 p.m. – Gambler’s Choice obstacles begin (viewed north of main arena)
2:00 p.m. – Stable tour begins – meet under the Villa Louis Visitor Center (admission area)
2:00 p.m. – Antique Turnout (main arena)
4:00 p.m. – Drive & Ride class (main arena)
7:00 p.m. – Saturday Night Dinner – reservations required

Sunday, September 10, 2017

8:00 a.m. – Competition begins & continues through day, main arena
10:00 a.m. – “What is Turnout?” – Club Tent presentation by Gloria Austin
10:40 a.m. – Cross-country obstacles begin (best viewed near red brick building)
12:40 p.m. – Carriage Dog Class – main arena
1:20 p.m. – Gambler’s Choice obstacles begin (viewed north of main arena)
2:00 p.m. – Stable tour begins – meet under the Villa Louis Visitor Center (admission area)
3:30 p.m. – Attendant’s Class – main arena
4:00 p.m. – Concours d’Elegance – main arena