



## VILLA LOUIS CARRIAGE CLASSIC VISITOR'S GUIDE – 2023



### 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)
- **Carriage Dog** – the judging for this class is on the canine attendant of the carriage – audience participation is invited to assist in the judging
- **Drive & Ride** – a class in which horses are shown in harness followed by a tack change where the same horses are shown under saddle
  - **Attendants' Class** – a chance for the “behind the scenes” folks to take the stage and show off their skills at driving in the class
    - **Concours d'Elegance** – an invitational class in which the most elegant turnouts are shown for the top honors
  - **Picnic Class** – turnouts show their horses and ponies in the arena then set up a picnic on the lawn of the Villa Louis – judging of both sections is combined for a winner – spectators also get to vote for their favorite to win the Spectator's Choice Award

### 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 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. The driver who accumulates the highest points is the winner, time is used to break ties.
- **Cross Country-Pace Obstacles** – this obstacle course consists of colored numbers along with a pair of 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 based upon the size of the equine; the driver that completes the obstacle course without any penalties and closest to the ideal time is the winner. Obstacles include laundry lines, bridges, 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.

### BRIEF SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

#### Friday, September 8, 2023

- 9:00 a.m. – Obstacle competition in main arena (Reverse Psychology) and North Lawn (Timed Obstacles)  
11:00 a.m. – Lecture: *How Did Horses Come To Be* by Mary Chris Foxworthy – Club Tent  
12:00 p.m. – Obstacle competition in main arena (Progressive Obstacles); Sporting Day of Traditional Driving turnout inspection – Paddock Area  
1:30 p.m. – Gambler's Choice Obstacles on the North Lawn  
2:00 p.m. – Stable Tour – meet under the Visitor Center  
2:30 p.m. – Obstacle competition in main arena (Your Route/My Route)  
7:00 p.m. – Friday Night Dinner – reservations required

#### Saturday, September 9, 2023

- 8:00 a.m. – Arena competition begins & continues through day; timed obstacles begin on North Lawn  
10:00 a.m. – Cross-country obstacles begin (best viewed near water crossing)  
10:00 a.m. – Stable Tour – meet under the Visitor Center  
11:00 a.m. – Lecture: *Development of Horse Breeds in the Americas* by Mary Chris Foxworthy – Club Tent  
12:00 – Picnic Class – main arena and Villa Louis gardens  
1:00 p.m. – Lecture – *The Artesian Stock Farm* by Mary Elise Antoine – Club Tent  
1:00 p.m. – Gambler's Choice obstacles begin (viewed north of main arena)  
2:00 p.m. – Stable Tour – meet under the Visitor Center  
4:00 p.m. – Drive & Ride class (main arena)  
4:00 p.m. – Lecture/walking tour – *Archeology at Villa Louis* by Dr. Amy Rosebrough – Club Tent  
7:00 p.m. – Saturday Night Dinner – reservations required

#### Sunday, September 10, 2023

- 8:00 a.m. – Arena competition begins & continues through day; time obstacles begin on North Lawn  
10:00 a.m. – Lecture/walking tour – *Archeology at Villa Louis* by Dr. Amy Rosebrough – Club Tent  
11:00 – Stable Tour – meet under the Visitor Center  
11:00 Cross-country obstacles begin (best viewed near water crossing)  
12:00 p.m. – Carriage Dog Class (main arena)  
1:00 p.m. – Lecture – *The Fire Horse: A Historic Look at Horses and Firefighting* by Mary Chris Foxworthy – Club Tent  
2:00 p.m. – Gambler's Choice obstacles begin (viewed north of main arena)  
4:00 p.m. – Concours d'Elegance (main arena)



MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW – SEPTEMBER 6-8, 2024