



# **Northampton Driving Society, Inc.**

**Presents its**

**39th Annual Competition**

**Saturday June 21, 2025**

**at**

**Silver Shoe Farm**

**3336 Pratt Road**

**Batavia, New York 14020**

*“Horses bring people together”*

Dear Friends,

The Northampton Driving Society, Inc. is pleased to present the 39th Annual Northampton Driving Society Competition. Our show will be held at Silver Shoe Farm in Batavia on **Saturday, June 21, 2025.**

**We thank Nicole Cable for making this venue available for us.**

We are pleased to have Lawrence Thurber as our judge this year.

Participants with marathon vehicles are once again invited to join our competition.

If you are interested in, or if you have any questions about, becoming a **Sponsor or Patron** for this year's show, please call Dawn Ziegler (585)586-7115.

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**Nicole Cable has generously offered her arena and grounds for practice driving days prior to our show to accustom your equine to the location. There are a limited number of stalls available if you are driving a distance to take advantage of this. We are extremely grateful for this opportunity! If interested, please contact Nicole directly at (716)474-1818**  
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**2025 Division Championships!**

- |             |       |   |         |
|-------------|-------|---|---------|
| ★           | VSE   | ★ | Novice  |
| ★           | Pony  | ★ | Junior  |
| ★           | Horse | ★ | Utility |
| ★ Multiples |       |   |         |

***Must compete in all classes offered in division to be eligible!  
Must be present at awards ceremony to receive awards!***

## **SHOW OFFICIALS**

<b>Judge</b>	Lawrence Thurber
<b>Announcer</b>	Nancy Vidler
<b>Show Manager</b>	Jerry Lechner & co.
<b>Show Secretary</b>	Terry Brooks
<b>Show Treasurer</b>	Dawn Ziegler
<b>Obstacle Course Designer</b>	Jim Knauer
<b>Ringmaster</b>	Dave Remley
<b>Paddock Marshall</b>	Dawn Ziegler
<b>Assistant Paddock Marshall</b>	Maureen Kingston
<b>Ring Crew Coordinator</b>	Tom Barbato
<b>Trophy Coordinator</b>	Maureen Romeo
<b>Ribbons Coordinator</b>	Laurie Neubauer
<b>Patrons &amp; Sponsors</b>	Dawn Ziegler 585-586-7115

## **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

- 8:00 A.M.     **Show grounds and secretary's tent opens.**  
The show committee reserves the right to combine or  
cancel classes or to adjust the time schedule.  
                 **Coffee and doughnuts available**
- 8:30 A.M.     **Whips Meeting**
- 9:00 A.M.     **Start of first class.**

*“Horses bring people together”*

## **CLASS ORDER**

1. Single Pony - Working
2. Single VSE – Working
3. Single Pony – Reinsmanship
4. Single VSE – Reinsmanship
5. Single Horse – Working
6. Novice – Working
7. Single Horse – Reinsmanship
8. Novice – Reinsmanship
9. Utility – Working
10. Junior – Working
11. Utility – Reinsmanship
12. Junior – Reinsmanship
13. Multiples – Working
14. Multiples – Reinsmanship

**12:30 P.M.** Approximate time of intermission.

**Obstacles Classes will not begin before 1:00**

**TIMED OBSTACLES** *followed directly by SCURRY OBSTACLES*  
*Course Walk will be before the first Timed Obstacles Class*

15. Single Pony Timed Obstacles
16. Single Pony Scurry Obstacles
17. Single VSE Timed Obstacles
18. Single VSE Scurry Obstacles
19. Single Horse Timed Obstacles
20. Single Horse Scurry Obstacles
21. Novice Whip Timed Obstacles
22. Novice Whip Scurry Obstacles
23. Utility Timed Obstacles
24. Utility Scurry Obstacles
25. Junior Whip Timed Obstacles
26. Junior Whip Scurry Obstacles
27. Multiples Timed Obstacles
28. Multiples Scurry Obstacles

 **Division Championship Awards** 

## **CLARIFICATION OF GAITS**

The following descriptions constitute the approved standard for performance of the required gaits in the various divisions of pleasure driving competition.

### **WALK**

A free, regular and unconstrained walk of moderate extension is required. The horse should walk energetically but calmly, with even and determined steps.

### **SLOW TROT**

The horse should maintain forward impulsion while showing submission to the bit. The trot is slower and more collected, but not to the degree required in the dressage collected trot. However, the horse should indicate willingness to be driven on the bit while maintaining a steady cadence.

### **WORKING TROT**

This is the pace between the strong and the slow trot and more round than a strong trot. The horse go forward freely and straight; engaging the hind legs with full hock action; on a taut but light rein; the position being balanced and unconstrained. The steps should be as even as possible. The hind feet touch the ground in the footprints of the fore feet. The degree of energy and impulsion displayed at the working trot denotes clearly the degree of suppleness and balance of the horse.

### **STRONG TROT**

This is a clear, but not excessive, increase in pace and lengthening of stride while remaining well balanced and showing appropriate lateral flexion on turns. Light contact to be maintained. Excessive speed will be penalized.

### **HALT**

Horse and vehicle should be brought to a complete square stop without abruptness or veering. At the halt, the horse should stand attentive, motionless and straight, the weight evenly distributed over all four legs, and be ready to move off at the slightest indication from the Whip.

### **REIN BACK**

Rein back is defined as backward movement in which the legs are raised and set down simultaneously in diagonal pairs with hind legs remaining well in line. To be performed in two parts: (1) The horse must move backward at least four steps in an unhurried manner with head flexed and straight, pushing the carriage back evenly in a straight line. The driver should use quiet aids and light contact. (2) Move forward willingly to former position using same quiet aids.

## **SHOW RULES**

1. Under no condition should the bridle be removed from a horse/pony while it is still put to a vehicle. At no time should a horse/pony be left unattended while put to a vehicle. Doing so incurs elimination.
2. Entries must be postmarked on or before 6/12/25. **Day of the show entries will be accepted with a \$20 late entry fee** (each horse and whip combination). **NDS Show Swag Bags to pre-entries only!** There will be a \$25 fee for any check returned for insufficient funds. In the case of a horse/pony being entered and not exhibited, entry fees will be forfeited. Refunds will be made upon receipt of a Veterinarian's or Physician's certificate attesting to an illness or injury. The certificates must be received by the Show Secretary prior to the start of the show. Pre-show cancellations should be communicated to the Show Secretary as soon as possible.
3. The show committee reserves the right to combine or cancel classes or to adjust the time schedule.
4. To participate in a Novice class, the whip may not have previously won three blue ribbons in a driving show class. (Such class must have had four entries for a blue ribbon win to be counted.) The novice whip may not enter both the novice and open division classes. A horse/pony may be driven in both the novice and open divisions.
5. A horse/pony may be permitted multiple times in the same obstacle class with different whips.
6. Whips or passengers under 18 years of age (as of the date of the show) will be required to wear an approved helmet.
7. A knowledgeable adult must accompany whips under 14 years of age (as of the date of the show). No other passengers will be allowed.
8. The whip assumes full responsibility/liability for all passengers.
9. The use of a helmet by those over 18 is encouraged and will not be penalized.
10. Throughout the competition, the dress of the whip, passengers and grooms shall conform to the type of vehicle used. Driving aprons, hats, gloves and whip in hand are obligatory for whips. Period costumes are discouraged.

11. It is the responsibility of each competitor to ensure that the harness and vehicle are in good repair and structurally sound. In the interest of safety, it is essential that the harness and bridle be fitted properly to the horse/pony and that the vehicle is appropriate for the equine.

13. Cantering is not permitted anywhere on the show grounds or the road running next to the show grounds.

14. We encourage the use of wooden wheeled vehicles. However miniature horses may be shown to an appropriate wire wheeled vehicle. Antique wire spoked and marathon vehicles will also be permitted at the discretion of the judge and show manager.

15. All dogs are to be on a leash.

16. The show officials will be on the lookout for unsafe conditions/situations. Any person who breaks any of the rules will be asked to leave the show grounds. NDS members are encouraged to also be on the lookout for unsafe conditions and report them to the show manager.

17. It is the responsibility of each whip to be on time for each of their classes. At the discretion of the show manager, the entrance gate will be closed to late arrivals. The entrance gate will temporarily be held open for whips that have notified the Paddock Marshall of unforeseen circumstances prior to the start of the class.

18. All of our classes are judged in accordance with the rules of the American Driving Society unless otherwise specified.

19. **Refunds:** Refunds will **not** be made due to class cancellations. If the show must be stopped due to weather or other emergency conditions, the show committee will suspend classes for 30 minutes. If the decision is made at that time to permanently cancel classes, refunds will not be made for the classes missed.

20. The owner, whip/rider takes full responsibility for the safety of any passengers in his/her vehicle. Whips, passengers and grooms must sign the release form included in the entry form.

## **PLEASURE DRIVING - WORKING**

### **Trophy and six ribbons presented**

A pleasure driving class in which entries are judged primarily on the suitability of the equine to provide a pleasant drive. To be shown both ways of the arena at a walk, slow trot, working trot, and a strong trot. To stand quietly on the rail and while lined up and to rein back. All entries chosen for a workout may be worked both ways of the arena at any gait requested by the judge. You also may be asked to execute a figure of eight and/or to perform other appropriate tests. To be judged: 70% on performance, manners and way of going of the equine, 20% on the condition and fit of harness and vehicle, 10% on neatness of attire.

## **PLEASURE DRIVING – REINSMANSHIP**

### **Trophy and six ribbons presented**

A pleasure driving class in which entries are judged primarily on the ability and skill of the driver. Equine is to be shown at a walk, slow trot, working trot, and a strong trot. Drivers shall be required to rein back. All entries chosen for a workout may be worked both ways of the arena at any gait requested by the judge. You also may be asked to execute a figure of eight and/or to perform other appropriate tests. The driver should be seated comfortably on the box so as to be relaxed and effective. Either the one or two-handed method of driving is acceptable. Common to both methods, the elbows and arms should be close to the body with an allowing but steady hand enabling a consistent “feel” with the equine’s mouth. Drivers should not be penalized or rewarded for using one general style over another. In order to evaluate a driver’s versatility, the judge may request a test involving driving with one hand. To be judged: 75% on handling of reins and whip, control, posture, and overall appearance of driver, 25% on the condition of harness and vehicle and neatness of attire.



## **OBSTACLE DRIVING – TIMED OBSTACLES**

### **Trophy and six ribbons presented**

To be driven over a prescribed course consisting of no more than 12 obstacles. Faults on the course will be scored as penalty seconds. The winner will be determined by adding the penalty seconds incurred on the course to the time taken to complete the course. Ties for first place will be decided by a drive-off. Failure to carry a whip in an obstacle driving class incurs elimination. The required pace is a trot. Please note the course walk times on the schedule.

## **OBSTACLE DRIVING – SCURRY OBSTACLES**

### **Trophy and six ribbons presented**

To be driven over a course of unnumbered obstacles consisting of cones and balls, not to exceed 12 obstacles. After passing through the Start markers from any direction, the driver shall proceed through each obstacle from any direction, in any order. Each obstacle must be driven once. The “off course” rule will apply to any obstacle driven twice and the driver will be eliminated. Upon completion of the course, the driver must pass through the Finish markers from any direction, where time will be taken.

The dislodgement of an obstacle will be scored as penalty seconds and added to the driver’s elapsed time. Refusals and run-outs will not be penalized. Placings will be determined on a low total time basis. Ties for the first place will be broken by a drive-off.

## **CONCOURS D' ELEGANCE**

The essence of this award is the word “Elegance”. The winner will be the turnout that, in the opinion of the Judge(s), presents the most consistent elegant effect. This will include the vehicle, harness, appointments, equine(s), the Whip, passengers, grooms, etc., but above all, general impression is most important. Vehicle and harness may be inspected to ensure thoughtful restoration and careful maintenance. Attention will be paid to the personal appearance of the Whip, grooms, and passengers as it contributes to the overall picture. Performance will not be judged unless it detracts from the elegance of the turnout.

### **BEST SINGLE PLEASURE DRIVING TURNOUT**

This trophy will be awarded to the single horse/pony turnout demonstrating the best suitability to provide a safe and pleasant drive.

**Judging for Concours d' Elegance  
& Best Single Pleasure Turnout**

will take place during the morning classes.  
The awards will be presented during the intermission.

### **DIRECTIONS TO THE NORTHAMPTON DRIVING SOCIETY COMPETITION**

Silver Shoe Farm is about 5 miles NW of Batavia.

**GPS address:  
3336 Pratt Road  
Batavia, NY 14020**

Follow NY-5W/Main Street about 3.3 miles to Kelsey Road. Turn right on Kelsey, traveling about 0.5 miles to Pratt Road. Make a left turn onto Pratt. Silver Shoe Farm is about 0.5 miles down Pratt.

## **Northampton Driving Society, Inc.**

The management of Springdale Farm, Monroe County Parks Department organized a carriage driving event in June 1987 for the entertainment of the general Public. On September 17, 1987, a group of 13 people met to organize the drive for the following year. The **Northampton Driving Society, Inc.** is an outgrowth of that effort.

The Northampton Driving Society (NDS) was formed to promote the equine sport of carriage driving. It was started with the novice whip in mind, but strives to reach all members equally. The NDS is funded primarily by the collection of annual dues and an auction held at the annual dinner meeting in January.

Membership is open to any person wishing to become a member. Driving or even owning a horse/pony is not necessary to enjoy the benefits of the organization. Simply fill out our application form online at [NorthamptonDrivingSociety.org](http://NorthamptonDrivingSociety.org) and return it with a check for \$25 payable to the Northampton Driving Society (NDS). You will be notified of future club events by e-mail or snail mail.

## **SHOW REGISTRATION PROCEDURE**

Please send the completed entry form, a **COPY** of current negative Coggins, as well as a **COPY** of current rabies certificate to the address below:

**Terry Brooks, Show Secretary  
Northampton Driving Society  
67 Aristo Terrace  
Arcade, NY 14009  
(585) 682 4232**

Entries must be postmarked on or before **June 13, 2025**.

Entries are non-refundable unless the show is canceled.

**Day of the show entries will be accepted with a \$20 late fee.**

Make checks payable to: **Northampton Driving Society *or* NDS.**

**There will be a \$25.00 fee for any checks returned for insufficient funds.**

If you have any questions regarding your entry, please contact Terry Brooks at (585) 682 4232, prior to the show.

# **CLASS SPONSORS & SHOW PATRONS**

The success of our show depends on support from people like you who enjoy and appreciate horses.

If you would like to help us provide more competitions like this in the future, please consider sponsoring a class in our show. And if you cannot sponsor a class, please consider being a show patron.

Recognition of your participation as a Sponsor or Patron will be announced throughout the day.

**Sponsor a class for \$50**

**Be a show Patron for \$25**

Make out an appropriate check for either, payable to the

**Northampton Driving Society (NDS)**

Please be sure to specify the class you wish to Sponsor

Then mail to

**Dawn Ziegler  
Northampton Driving Society  
209 Pleasant Way  
Penfield, NY 14526**

If you have questions, call Dawn @ 585-586-7115

or

E-mail [dmz19@tiernet.net](mailto:dmz19@tiernet.net)

**Terry Brooks**  
**67 Aristo Terrace**  
**Arcade, New York 14009**