

4th Annual

**AVON DRIVING PARK
PLEASURE DRIVING SHOW**



Carriage Driving Competition

Friday, July 24, 2026 Combined Test

Sat. and Sun., July 25-26, 2026 Pleasure Show

at

**Avon Driving Park
350 Spring Street
Avon, New York 14414**

***Celebrating
the Year of the Horse!***

Code of Sportsmanship

Our sport of Carriage Driving has the valuable reputation of being welcoming to all, a sport where the welfare of the horse is foremost, and the thrill is in the partnership with our equines (regardless of the results). Protecting these ideals is of paramount importance to the health of driving.

In order for the sport of driving to prosper, our expectation is that every participant knows the rules, plays fairly, graciously accepts the final results, and always conducts themselves in a composed manner. It is the duty of all to behave in a manner that creates a positive environment.

Therefore, any infringement of the common principles of good behavior, fairness or good sportsmanship will result in disciplinary action. Sportsmanship infractions include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a) Abusive, or intimidating language at Driving Events.
- b) Refusal to accept Officials' final decisions.
- c) Intentional circumventing of the rules.
- d) Unsafe behavior while on event grounds.
- e) Damaging land or property.
- f) Actions detrimental to the welfare of the horse.
- g) Negative interaction with volunteers.
- h) The use of social media, or any public platform, to personally attack the character or reputation of fellow competitors, organizers, volunteers, or Officials.

We all have a duty to each other and to our sport to display good sportsmanship.

When all participants display good sportsmanship, it not only makes driving more enjoyable for everyone, but presents a positive impression of the driving community to the general public.

Let us always do the right thing for our equine companions, our sport, our fellow carriage drivers and everyone involved.

Dear Friends,

The summer weather of 2025 was not kind to Avon NY, nor conducive to stage the 4th annual edition of the Avon Driving Park Pleasure Driving Show and CT. This year's presentation of our 4th annual competition promises to be bigger and better as we celebrate The Year of the Horse!

The Village of Avon, NY in conjunction with the Western New York Combined Carriage Association, is proud to host the fourth annual Avon Driving Park Pleasure Show, to be held on July 24th - 26th, 2026 at the Avon Driving Park.

We thank Village of Avon Mayor Rob Hayes for making this wonderful venue available for us to enjoy.

We are again presenting a Combined Test on Friday, and groom and dog classes as well as the added-money Scurry Obstacle Stakes on Saturday. Read the course descriptions presented in this prize list for further information.

Last September, two WNYCCA members competed in carriage driving world championships, both members being from Honeoye Falls NY. Deb Marcucilli competed in Germany at the Para Driving World Championship and Sarah Reitz competed in France at the Combined Pony World Championships.

If you or anyone you know wish to become a Show Sponsor or Show Patron for our competition, a form has been included in with the entry form. Any questions, please contact Sharon Clark at 585-943-9006 or soybeanlady@gmail.com

Thank you,
Western New York Combined Carriage Association

SHOW ENHANCEMENTS FOR 2026!!!

At Grade Manure Disposal

CT Best Score Awards for
VSE, Pony & Horse

Breed High Point Awards

Sunday Morning Ringside
Tailgating!

Prize Raffles

2026 Avon Driving Park Pleasure Show
Competitors WhatsApp



2026 Show Officials

CT Judge	Leonie Fernandes
Pleasure Judge	Tracy Laufer
Announcer	Ruth Laufer
Ringmaster	Lisa Teichert
Technical Delegate	Bruce Jones
Show Organizers	Kevin Scutt Bruce Jones
Show Secretaries /Scorers	Judy Sobczak Susan Sheffer
Stable/Parking Managers	Kevin Scutt
Photographer	TBA
Veterinarian	Genesee Valley Equine Clinic

SHOW RULES

1. The Avon Driving Park Pleasure Driving Show will be run in accordance with the rules listed in the prize list. Any questions or dispute not covered by these rules and regulations will be presented to the show committee for a decision.
2. The show committee reserves the right to add, combine or cancel classes, and/or or to adjust the time schedule.
3. The judge's decision shall be final.
4. All classes will be judged using the rules of the American Driving Society and the US Equestrian Foundation as guidelines, unless otherwise specified.
5. The competition has a Code of Sportsmanship published in the prize list. Furthermore, the competition will adhere to the SafeSport mandate as prescribed by the USEF.
6. Under no condition should the reins be detached from the bit and/or the bridle be removed from a horse/pony/VSE while it is still put to a vehicle. At no time should a horse/pony/VSE be left unattended while put to a vehicle. Doing so will incur elimination and forfeiture of all monies paid to the competition.
7. There will be no schooling on any obstacle course and/or the cross country course under penalty of elimination and forfeiture of all monies paid.
8. **Cantering is not permitted** anywhere on the grounds at any time on Saturday and Sunday of the competition.
9. **NO motorized vehicles** are permitted on the racetrack. Doing so will incur elimination from competition and forfeiture of all monies paid. There will be a designated crossing for motorized vehicles to cross the racetrack.
Note: Motorized vehicles driven by authorized personnel are exempted.

10. **Stabling** – Stalls will be available on the show grounds at \$125 for the weekend (Thursday - Sunday). A separate \$50 check payable to WNYCCA must be included with your entry. The check will be returned upon cleanliness approval from the stabling manager. Stalls are 10x10 of the temporary variety with a millings base. Please bring your own bedding as it will not be available on the grounds. The number of available stalls may be limited and will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.
11. **Tack Stalls** – As a general rule, tack stalls are not available. However, in the event that tack stalls will be available, a waiting list will be kept. This will be done on a first come, first served basis. To reserve a possible tack stall, a separate check in the amount of \$125 must be included with the entry form. Checks will be returned if tack stalls are not available.
12. **Entries must be postmarked or emailed on or before 7/10/26.** An entry will be deemed complete when payment is received.
13. Post (late) entries will be accepted for the Pleasure Show classes only. No late entries will be accepted for the CT. Post entry fees will be \$35 per class/\$150 Division package price. Day of show entries will be accepted and are \$35 per class.
14. In the case of a horse/pony/VSE being entered and not exhibited, entry fees will be forfeited. Refunds will be made only 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.
15. **Divisions** – CT divisions are: Horse, Pony, VSE. Pleasure show divisions are: Horse, Pony, VSE, Novice Whip, Utility.
16. **Horses** are defined as being over 14.2 hands. **Ponies** are defined as being 14.2 hands and under (large ponies are over 12.2 hands to hands and small ponies are 12.2 hands and under). **VSEs** are 39 inches and under,

17. A **Utility** division is included in the show and is limited to vehicles, such as marathon carriages, that cannot be entered in the other divisions. Hats or helmets, gloves and aprons are required in the Utility division.
18. The **Novice** division is open to whips who are in their 1st, 2nd, or 3rd year of carriage competition. The novice whip may not enter both the novice and open division classes. A novice may compete with a horse/pony/VSE that is competing in an open division and is driven by a different whip. Utility vehicles are permitted in this division.
19. **Multiples** will participate in the respective size division, If 4 or more multiples enter the competition; a separate division will be added for multiples.
20. **Juniors** are defined as persons under the age of 18 years as of the first day of competition - July 24, 2026. **Juniors under the age of 14 years** (as of the first day of the show) must be accompanied by a knowledgeable adult. No other passengers will be allowed. Juniors are not permitted to drive stallions at any time while on the show grounds and/or parade route. Junior whips and/or passengers will be required to wear an approved helmet
21. The use of a helmet by those over 18 is encouraged and will not be penalized.
22. Six ribbons and a prize will be given in each class. Concours d'Elegance will be judged throughout the show and will be presented Sunday afternoon with the Championships.
23. To be eligible for Division Championships and Awards, a competitor must enter AND compete in every class of that division. Participation in the Presentation Parade Drive (class number 21) is **REQUIRED** for eligibility for Division Championships. No championship points will be awarded for entries in classes 20, 21, 22, and 33A/B.
24. **Parade Participation** - In order to be eligible for championships, turnouts **must** complete the entire parade as directed. Participants will give their number to the secretary as

they embark on the parade route. Exceptions will be made only for any Novice who does not feel confident to participate. Novices who participate in the parade are required to have a knowledgeable passenger with them.

25. The pleasure driving show encourages the use of wooden wheeled vehicles. Antique wire spoked vehicles may be permitted at the discretion of the judge and show manager. A VSE may be shown to an appropriate wire wheeled vehicle. **Hyperbikes are NOT permitted in any class.**
26. 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.
27. It is the responsibility of each competitor to ensure that the harness and vehicle are in good repair. In the interest of safety, it is essential that the harness and bridle be fitted properly to the horse/pony/VSE and that the vehicle is appropriate for the equine.
28. The owner, whip/driver will take 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.
29. 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 show organizer of tack or whip changes, or unforeseen circumstances prior to the start of the class.
30. On Sunday, the Pick Your Route classes will begin promptly at 10:00 AM. Whips must complete their division PYR class prior to their division reinsmanship class. Failure to do so will result in no points given for the PYR class.
31. Classes in Ring I will begin promptly at 11:00 AM on Sunday. Division Championships will be awarded at the conclusion of each Reinsmanship class in Ring 1.

SHOW REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

Please send the completed entry form, the signed waiver, a **COPY** of a current negative Coggins (2025-2026) as well as a **COPY** of a current rabies certificate and the entry fee to:

**Judy Sobczak, Show Secretary
445 Sheffield Road
Ithaca NY 14850-9246**

Entries must be postmarked or emailed on or before
11:59 P.M. Friday, July 10, 2026

No post entries will be accepted for the CT.
However, a waiting list will be kept.

Pleasure Show Post entries, if mailed, must be received by
Tuesday, July 21, 2026

Or brought to the showgrounds by
7:00 P.M. Friday, July 24, 2026

Please contact Judy for post entry form

**Correctly completed and paid entries
will have priority consideration.**

Emailed entries will be considered complete when
payment by check or money order is received.
No electronic payments will be accepted.

Make checks payable to: **WNYCCA**

New this year is the Stall Cleaning Deposit. A separate check made out to WNYCCA for \$50 is required of each competitor reserving a stall. The check will be returned upon clean stall approval by the stable manager.

A \$25.00 fee, plus any bank fees incurred, will be collected for any checks returned due to insufficient funds.

Any questions or concerns regarding your entry, please contact Judy at 607-220-7955 or judy.carriagedriver1@gmail.com

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Thursday July 23, 2026

- 1:00 PM** **Grounds open for stabling**
- 5:00 PM** **Secretary's office opens (closes at 7:00 PM)**
- 7:00 PM-?** **Join us for S'mores and Smiles at the Firepit**

Friday July 24, 2026

- 8:00 AM** **Secretary's office opens (closes at 7:00 PM)**
- 9:00 AM** **Dressage Start**
 Dressage Tests will Be:
 Training Test B
 Preliminary Test B
 FEI Any Test

Cones to be run after the dressage test in the same vehicle.

- 7:00 PM-?** **Join us for S'mores and Smiles at the Firepit**

Saturday July 25, 2026

8:00 AM Secretary's Office opens (closes at 5:00 PM)

8:30 AM Whips Meeting

10:00 AM Start of Classes

CLASS ORDER

Ring 1

- 1. Turnout VSE**
- 2. Turnout Pony**
- 3. Turnout Horse**
- 4. Turnout Novice**
- 5. Turnout Utility**

Ring 2

- 6. Timed Obstacles VSE**
- 7. Timed Obstacles Pony**
- 8. Timed Obstacles Horse**
- 9. Timed Obstacles Novice**
- 10. Timed Obstacles Utility**

Lunch Break

- 11. Working VSE**
- 12. Working Pony**
- 13. Working Horse**
- 14. Working Novice**
- 15. Working Utility**

Outside Course

- 16. X Country VSE**
- 17. X Country Pony**
- 18. X Country Horse**
- 19. X Country Utility**

20. Grooms

21. Carriage Dog

33A/33B Scurry Obstacles Stakes

6:00 PM Chicken Barbeque at Pavillion

Sunday July 26, 2026

8:00 AM Set up start for Ringside Tailgating

9:00 AM 22. Presentation Parade Drive

10:00 AM Judging of Ringside Tailgating

10:00 AM Start of Classes in Ring 2

11:00 AM Start of Classes in Ring 1

CLASS ORDER

Ring 1

**23. Reinsmanship
Horse**

**24. Reinsmanship
Pony**

**25. Reinsmanship
Novice**

**26. Reinsmanship
VSE**

**27. Reinsmanship
Utility**

Ring 2

**28. Pick Your Route
Obstacles Horse**

**29. Pick Your Route
Obstacles Pony**

**30. Pick Your Route
Obstacles Novice**

**31. Pick Your Route
Obstacles VSE**

**32. Pick Your Route
Obstacles Utility**

Division Championships will be presented at the conclusion each division performance class in Ring 1

Concours d'Elegance will be awarded as the conclusion of the winner's reinsmanship class.

Class Descriptions/Information

PLEASURE DRIVING – TURNOUT Prize and six ribbons presented

A pleasure driving class in which entries are judged primarily on the performance and quality of each turnout. To be shown both ways of the arena at the walk, slow trot, working trot, and strong trot. To stand quietly and rein back. To be judged; 70% on condition, fit and appropriateness of harness and vehicle, spares and appointments, neatness and appropriateness of attire and overall impression. 30% on performance, manners and way of going.

PLEASURE DRIVING – WORKING Prize 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 Prize 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.

OBSTACLE DRIVING – TIMED OBSTACLES

Prize 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 – PICK YOUR ROUTE

Prize and six ribbons presented

To be driven over a course of obstacles with no set route. After passing through the start markers the driver proceeds through each obstacle to the designated finish markers choosing his own route. Each obstacle and the start / finish lines may be driven from either direction. Driving an obstacle more than once or through the start / finish lines out of sequence will be considered off course.

PLEASURE DRIVING – X COUNTRY

Prize and six ribbons presented

The distance of the cross country course is not to exceed 3 miles. The winner will be determined by the whip who comes closest to the ideal time regardless of being over or under time. All parts of the cross country course are to be driven blind. No cantering will be allowed. A marker (~300m) from the finish line will designate the “no deviation from the trot” area.

PLEASURE DRIVING – CARRIAGE DOG

Prize and six ribbons presented

Judged primarily on suitability of the dog to serve as a companion (maximum 1 dog per vehicle). To be judged both ways of the arena at a walk, slow trot and working trot. The dog must be sitting or standing on the vehicle at all times while being judged. The driver should not hold the dog, and the dog should not interfere with the driver in any way.

PLEASURE DRIVING – GROOMS

Prize and six ribbons presented

To be judged both ways of the arena at a walk, slow trot and working trot. The Groom will be solely responsible and in control of the turnout.

AVON SCURRY OBSTACLES STAKES

Class 33 will be an added money stakes class, with 100% of class entry dollars plus \$200 added money to be returned to the competitors.

The class will be split into two divisions:

Class 33A for Horses and Large Ponies

Class 33B for Small Ponies and VSE's.

The two divisions will be run consecutively over the same course.

Entries participating in the stakes must also have competed in either the CT or the Pleasure Show.

Placings in this class do not count towards overall division championships.

Cash prizes will be awarded to finishers in the top half of each division up to 6 places, rounded up.

(Example: 8 entries will pay 4 places; 9 entries will pay 5 places).

The \$200 added money will be divided between the two divisions based upon percentage of entries.

(Example: if class 33A has 12 entries and class 33B has 8 entries, 60% of the added money will be awarded to class 33A and 40% of the added money will be awarded to class 33B).

The exact amount of payback for each finish position will be determined after all entries have been received, and will be posted at the show office the morning of the event.

Course maps will be distributed with welcome packets, and the course will be open to walk for 45 minutes prior to the running of the class.

Cantering on course is **not** permitted and will be penalized.

3 or more canter strides will be cause for elimination.

OBSTACLE DRIVING – SCURRY OBSTACLES

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.

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.

Western New York Combined Carriage Association (WNYCCA)

Welcome! We are thrilled to have you join our community of horse-drawn carriage enthusiasts. Our mission is to promote carriage driving through recreational drives, competitions, and clinics, prioritizing safety and fun. Don't worry if you're a rider or a passenger; our events are tailored to accommodate everyone, and the best part is, you can always bring a friend!

Our association keeps members engaged with year-round activities. We love embracing every season, and you'll often find us on a fun drive, rain or shine, bundled up in winter gear or sporting raincoats. With events planned nearly every month, there's something for everyone to enjoy!

Here's a glimpse of what we offer:

- Professional Driving Clinics – Learn from top clinicians, polish your driving skills, and join us for a BBQ social.
- Recreational Drives – Explore WNY's beautiful trails with us and enjoy a social hour afterward.
- ECHO – events planned throughout the year, with year-end awards for competitors
- Combined Drives - 3 events throughout the show season, with year-end awards for competitors and volunteers
- Competition Support – We attend and support each other in various driving events.
- Volunteer Committees – Provide your input on how to improve our organization by joining one of our committees. Held remotely or in-person.
- Annual Meeting/Auction – Celebrate year-end awards and enjoy a silent auction.

For a detailed look at our WNYCCA events, please refer to our website <http://www.wnycca.org> We encourage all our members to volunteer at our events, so if you're interested, please sign up using the volunteer forms found on our website. While you're there, don't forget to read our WNYCCA bylaws to familiarize yourself with our organization's structure and regulations.

We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events and getting to know you better. Once again, welcome to the WNYCCA family.

Warm Regards,

Bruce Jones

President, WNYCCA

**The Western New York Combined Carriage
Association would like to give
special thanks to
Steve Canne
for being this year's food concessions
partner for the Chicken BBQ.**

**Remember, Saturday evening is Chicken
Barbecue night. Join us for a delicious
dinner in the pavilion. Tickets are \$25 in
advance, \$30 the day of the show.**



Avon Driving Park Pleasure Driving Show
Judy Sobczak, Show Secretary
445 Sheffield Road
Ithaca NY 14850-9246

