

**Chef D'Equipe Report from the International Coalition for Kids Driving (ICKD)
Meeting held in Budapest Hungary 23rd - 25th October 2009.**

I would like to begin by thanking everyone concerned for supporting me in attending this meeting as the Irish representative.

International Coalition for Kids in Driving was established some 8 years ago with the aim of affording young carriage drivers an opportunity to compete at an international level with their peers, thereby developing the skills of our young drivers and their understanding of what is required to compete at an international level (Vet inspection / trot up , presentation , complying with the stated times to be in collecting arenas etc).

The **World Junior Trophy** and **Channel Cup** events are run in accordance with F.E.I rules with some amendments to account for age classifications and safety.

Age Classification.

8 - 10 years

10 - 12 years

12 - 14 years

14 - 16 years

16 - 18 years

Safety measures

The aim is to cover all three elements of a HDT event in a secure environment

Dressage - FEI tests

Derby - 3 fixed obstacles (cantering allowed) and cones in between to be driven at trot only in a secure arena

Overall time and obstacle times combined for final score

Cone driving phase

The aim is to encourage accuracy and control of the pony.

The Irish Junior team attended **The Channel Cup** in August our first time to compete under I.C.K.D format.

The event was hosted by England in The Ashfield Equestrian Centre ,Essex.

There were Teams from France , Germany , Wales , England A & B as they were the host nation and ourselves.

We had a team of 5 members covering 3 classes.

Stephen Spillane won his class outright 12 - 14 years a fantastic achievement with Edward Goodwin placed 5th in the 14 - 16 years class.

The format was new to us and we had a great learning experience with the team finishing 4th overall.

I acted as Chef D'Equipe at this event and met the directors of I.C.K.D who were very keen to have an Irish representative within I.C.K.D.

The junior team then travelled to The British Junior Championships in Escrick , York at the end of September.

Here we had a class win for Lauren Robinson 10 - 12 years (see Horse & Hound Oct 2009 for article)

Stephen Spillan 3rd in 12 - 14 class

Rachel Campbell 6th 14 - 16

Jeremy Cairns 7th 14 - 16

Edward Goodwin 8th 14 - 16

David Sheehan 2nd 18 - 25

Paudi O'Sullivan 4th National class

The team finished 2nd overall a wonderful result which showed a marked improvement from Ashfields and demonstrates the benefit and experience gained from competing at this level.

The main focus of the Budapest meeting was to finalise the plans for the World Junior Trophy 2010 to be hosted by Hungary.

There were representatives from Germany , France , England , Wales , Sweden , Austria , Switzerland and Hungary.

It is expected that the event will run in August 2010 and we visited the venue over the weekend.

The organisers are aiming for 120 entries from a wide range of European countries.

The junior drivers eligible under the age classification to compete in 2010 will begin training and preparation in the new year .

The next I.C.K.D meeting in 29th January 2010 will be held in Malmo , Sweden to clarify Ground jury , Technical Delegates and the range of judges all of whom will be invited from within the FEI.

I hope that we can call on your continued support for 2010.

Many Thanks

Pauline Campbell

Irish Junior Drivers Chef D'Equipe 2009