

The Crystal Combination League

Aims and Objectives

The Aims and Objectives of The Crystal Combination League are:

1. To encourage new members to join Carriage Driving Ireland (CDI) and to offer an entry-level class which is of a shorter duration than a full One Day Event.
2. To encourage members who, for whatever reason, may not be in a position to produce the level of fitness required to drive a full three- or five-phase marathon to compete at a less demanding level.
3. The league is not intended to be a test of stamina or fitness, but rather as a gentle introduction to the sport of F.E.I. driving.

Rules of the Crystal Combination League

1. Carriage widths must be at least 1.25m.
However, in the case of ponies under 12hh the width may be less provided that, in the opinion of CDI, the vehicle is sufficiently balanced to be safe in any obstacle.
2. Crystal Combination participants may not train other drivers or riders, or break, buy or sell horses for financial reward in any equestrian discipline.
3. They may not compete at either Open or International level in any equestrian discipline.
4. Winners of the Crystal Combination League may not compete at this level for their next competition season. However, this rule is subject to appeal to Council in the event of the competitor finding themselves out of the depth in their new grade. All appeals must be made in writing to the Council.
5. Any competitor who completes a full season in the Crystal Combination League must upgrade for the following season.
6. Any competitor who drives an equine that is 11hh or under may stay in the Crystal Combination League.
7. Crystal Combination League participants may only compete in Section E of the Marathon.
8. Crystal Combination League participants may compete in a maximum of five obstacles in any event, whether a one-, two- or three-day event.
9. Crystal Combination League participants will only be timed in their obstacles and not overall on Section E.

10. All Crystal Combination league competitors will be required to drive all of section E but will only be timed in the obstacles. (Update May 2005)
11. Crystal Combination League participants will compete in the last class of the day.
12. Fitness/Soundness
In the event of marked lameness/unsoundness of any animal competing in the Crystal Combination League the organiser, on having this brought to his/her attention shall immediately request the vet in attendance at Section E to examine the animal in the presence of the owner/driver and the CDI Steward/TD. The vets opinion shall be final and without appeal. Once the lameness/unsoundness has been notified to the organiser the competitor will be requested to retire, pending inspection by the vet.
13. The CDI rules for age eligibility for young competitors apply to the Crystal Combination Class.