



*Connecticut Valley Driving Club  
Carriage Driving Horse Show  
Sunday, July 11, 2021  
(9:00 Registration, 10:00 Start Time)  
North Stonington Agricultural Fair, 21 Wyassup Road,  
North Stonington, Connecticut*

## ***CLASS DESCRIPTIONS***

### ***Ladies' Driving:***

*(ref. American Driving Society, 2021 Rulebook, Article 219)*

This class will begin with the ladies driving into the arena, one by one, to the right. They will be directed, as a group, to walk, perform a slow trot, working trot and strong trot. At some point, they will be asked to go in the other direction. Mostly, the judge will be looking at how appropriate the combination of the horse, carriage and driver (aka "turnout") are for a lady, with an emphasis on outward bearing and appearance, as well as elegance and suitability. A halt may be called for while driving on the rail during the class. Also judged, but to a somewhat lesser degree, will be the driver's skill and the overall impression of the turnout. At the end, they will be instructed to line up, facing the ringmaster for a close-up inspection by the judge and will be asked to rein back, and they will receive their ribbons. After the ribbons are handed out, the ladies may exit the arena, one by one, as they entered.

### ***Gentlemen's Driving***

*(ref. American Driving Society, 2021 Rulebook, Article 220)*

This class will begin in the same way as the Ladies' Driving, one by one, into the arena, to the right to demonstrate their walk, perform a slow trot, working trot and strong trot, in both directions. The horses may show a degree of boldness, but not excessive speed. The judge will be looking at how appropriate the turnout is for a gentleman, with an emphasis on outward bearing and appearance, as well as elegance and suitability. A halt may be called for while driving on the rail during the class. The gentlemen will line up for inspection, be asked to rein back, receive their ribbons and exit the arena, one by one.

### ***Open "Working" Pleasure Driving (VSE and Ponies / Horses and Drafts / Pairs):***

*(ref. American Driving Society, 2021 Rulebook, Article 218)*

These three Open Driving classes will be "open" to all drivers, regardless of gender, age or experience. They will also operate in the same manner as Ladies' Driving and Gentlemen's Driving, by demonstrating their walk, slow trot, working trot and strong trot, in both directions. However, they will be judged primarily on the suitability of the horse to provide a pleasant drive and with a focus on the performance, manners and way of going of the horse(s). To a lesser degree, the judge will also consider the condition and fit of harness and vehicle, as well as the neatness of attire. The two height based divisions

will be based on ponies under 14.2 hands and VSEs under 39 inches. As a safety precaution, Pony, Horse and Draft Pairs are required to have one groom or passenger capable of rendering assistance.

### *Costume Class:*

The Costume Class will be “open” to all drivers, regardless of gender, age or experience. They will begin in the same manner as Ladies’ Driving and Gentlemen’s Driving, by driving into the arena, one by one, to the right. Mostly, the judge will be looking at the costume, considering originality, attractiveness and manner presented. Also judged, but to a somewhat lesser degree, will be the functionality, and the overall impression of the turnout, as well as the work effort and manners of the horse. The judge may also consider the condition and fit of harness and vehicle. A halt may be called for while driving on the rail during the class. At the end, entries will be instructed to line up, facing the ringmaster for a close-up inspection by the judge, they will be asked to rein back, and they will receive their ribbons. After the ribbons are handed out, the entries may exit the arena, one by one, as they entered.

### *Timed Obstacles / Cones:*

This class is to be driven over a prescribed course made up of pairs of cones, set 6 feet apart. The number of cone pairs will be proportionate to the dimensions of the driving area but will not exceed 20 pair.

Enter the ring, walk or trot around, but do not drive through any sets of cones. When the whistle blows proceed to the Start / Finish line within one minute and proceed on course. Time starts when the horse’s nose crosses the start cones. The entry then proceeds through each cone pair, in numerical order and in the correct direction (keeping red on the driver’s right), to the designated finish line. Course faults, such as a dislodged or knocked-down cone or breaking to a canter for four or more strides, are assessed as penalty seconds and are added to the driver’s elapsed time. Entries passing through an incorrect set of cones will be disqualified. Time stops when the horse’s nose crosses the finish cones. Placings are determined on a low total time basis. As a safety precaution, Pony, Horse and Draft Pairs are required to have one groom or passenger capable of rendering assistance, but if in the carriage and on course, they must be seated and may not assist.

**PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR and a DRIVING WHIP IN HAND ARE  
REQUIRED while driving on the cones course.**

## American Scurry Challenge:

Entry will briefly walk or trot around the ring to warm up, being careful not to drive through any of the sets of cones. When the whistle blows, the entry will have one minute to enter the Start/Finish Box and proceed on course. Time starts when the horse's nose crosses out of the starting box. The driver proceeds through each set of cones in order and in the correct direction (keeping red on the driver's right). If off course, the entry may correct it by circling back and going through the correct set of cones. Time stops when the horse's nose crosses back into the Start/Finish box. Entry must stand in the box to the count of 5. If the entry can't stand in the box to the count of 5, they are disqualified. The closest run, including penalties, to the optimal time (under or over) will be first place. The optimal time is based on ADS Pleasure Show cones standards of 725 feet per minute (a good, working trot) for horses and drafts (singles and pairs), and 590 feet per minute for ponies and VSEs (singles and pairs).

Every ball down will be a 2 second penalty to the actual time. If the actual time is under the optimal time, each penalty will be subtracted from the actual time. If the actual time is over the optimal time, each penalty will be added to the time.

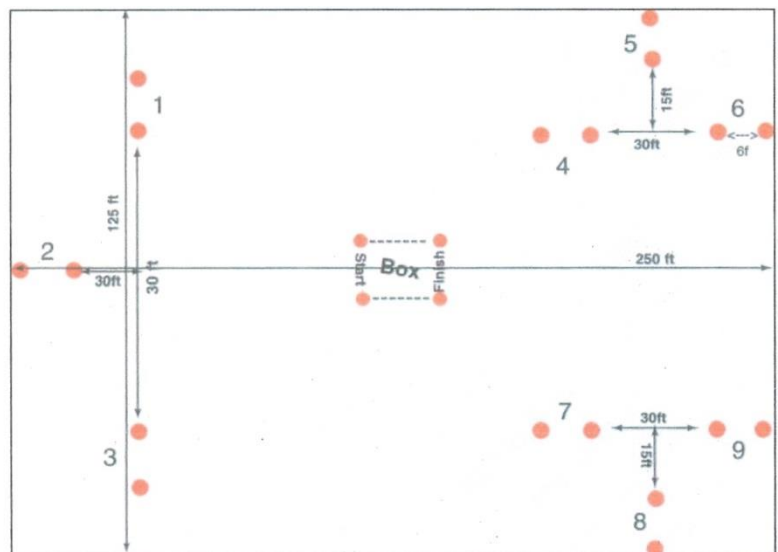
Cones are set six feet apart for all classes. Cones cannot be walked after the class has started.

As a safety precaution, Pony, Horse and Draft Pairs are required to have one groom or passenger capable of rendering assistance, but if in the carriage and on course, they must be seated and may not assist.

### Optimum Times for July 11, 2021

Horses and Drafts: 54 seconds

Ponies and VSE: 1 minute, 6 seconds



**PROTECTIVE HEADGEAR and a DRIVING WHIP IN HAND ARE REQUIRED while driving on the Scurry class.**