



INTERNATIONAL MOUNTED GAMES ASSOCIATION

Newsletter 2010/01

CHAIRMAN'S Comments

How far into a New Year is it still appropriate to wish someone a Happy New Year? I don't know. My feeling is that it should be done in the first two or three days, and after that it sounds a bit silly, so instead of that I'll wish you all a year of success in your participation in Mounted Games competitions in 2010.

We've now passed the 25 year marker, and we can look forward to the next 25. What do you think will happen to our sport, and how will it look in 2035?

Some things I think I can predict with a fair degree of confidence: expansion into Asia and South America, a significant increase in the number of member countries, increased recognition in the established world of equine sport, and appearances on specialist sports TV channels.

Will the games be harder and faster? My feeling is that they will not. I mean, how can they possibly get harder and faster than they are now? But I thought that 10 years ago, and look what's happened! The speed and the levels of skill continue to increase, but there has to be a limit, doesn't there? Well, maybe not. After all, records continue to be regularly broken in all sports.

Will technology become more important? I'm thinking of lighter and safer equipment, more sophisticated electronic and video aids to judging and scoring, maybe electronic score boards, and perhaps communication between trainers and teams.

One thing is absolutely certain, Mounted Games will continue to develop and grow, and if the situation 10 years ago was already beyond Norman Patrick's wildest dreams, then what would he think about the next 10 years, or 25, or more?

Keith Martin

Australia

www.australianmga.com

Following the 2008 World Championships there has been rapid growth in Mounted Games in Australia with regular competitions in most regions.

In 2010 our major National competitions will be teams in April, Pairs in May, and individuals in October. We welcome visiting riders from member countries, a great way to get around!

In 2010 Australia is hoping to send riders to New Zealand, Horse of the Year, South Africa, The World's in Switzerland and hopefully the FEI World Equestrian Games in Kentucky.

Denmark

www.mounted-games.dk

First of all MGA-DK hope you all had a happy new year and are ready for 2010. For the last couple of months ponies and riders have relaxed a bit as winter and Christmas has taken a lot of time, and for the first year in a long time we actually had a white Christmas. The last Danish competition was in September and was Danish pair championship, this competition was held on a big horse show call "Store Hestedag" and during the weekend had about 12,000 visitors. We were lucky to have Peter Hern to do the refereeing and the competition was a huge success and we got extra focus on mounted games in Denmark in a positive and professional way. We are busy to plan The Worlds 2011 and we can not tell you how much we look forward to see you all in Denmark. We strongly suggest you send an email as soon as you know if you are coming and if you want to borrow ponies as we want to get as good ponies as possible for all the riders from abroad. We have a website www.worlds2011.dk where you can find all updates etc. The next important thing in Denmark will be the team selection for the national teams 2010 this year we plan to have 3 teams U14, U17 and Open, this event is going to take place in the last weekend of February. This year we got 2 national trainer Ditte Christensen 22 years for the U14 and Signe Sehested 31 years for U17 and Open.

We look forward to see you all in 2010 and to a lot of great competitions!

Wales

www.mounted-games.org/org/wales

Wales hosts the 2010 European championships at the David Broom event centre between Monday 28 June-Monday 5 July 2010. This year Wales are going to run an individual European championships as well as the team championships, we are asking each country to send two individual competitors to take part in this competition, we have been able to secure sponsorship for this competition of £2200.00 all the information for this event can be found on the web site www.emgwales2010.com which is a site we have set up for this event.

International

www.mounted-games.org

2010 looks to be a big year for International Mounted Games:

2010 World Championship Competitions Team Championship
July 23-25, Geneva, Switzerland

Pairs Championship
September 18-19, Newark, England

Individual Championship
July 15-18, Chepstow, Wales

Newsletter Deadlines

The IMGGA is looking to have a quarterly newsletter but relies on each member country to contribute articles.

Please submit news items and stories as follows:

April Newsletter	15 April 2010
July Newsletter	21 July 2010
October Newsletter	21 October 2010

imga.communication@mounted-games.org