

TROT UP

FEB 2018

5-4-3-2-1 Good Luck!

We may not quite be ready to have horses in the start box just yet, but planning is well underway for the 2018 SsangYong Blenheim Palace International Horse Trials! We are all looking forward to another great event and we hope that the **Trot Up Newsletter** will keep you bang up to date with what is happening at Blenheim in the run up to the event in September.



Firstly, welcome back and thank you to our volunteers from last year and **“hello and welcome”** to those of you who are new to the event this year. We say this every year but it's true and bears repeating - the event just could not run without its wonderful army of volunteers; passionate and knowledgeable about the sport, willing and flexible, conscientious with just the right amount of craziness! Every role that you undertake, every duty you turn out for is greatly appreciated.



4 days

After last year's five-day extravaganza, we are back to four days of competition this year as we are not hosting the Event Rider Masters final. However, we are expecting a fantastic calibre of entry in both the CIC and CCI3* classes, as well as the Eventer Challenge series (on Thursday, Friday and Sunday this year). These classes are always very well supported and often places are filled on the first day of entries being open! We may be losing some top riders and their horses to the World Equestrian Games (WEG - more on that later) but it will give the opportunity for other combinations to rise to the challenge!



We are again grateful for the sponsorship of **SsangYong Motors GB Ltd.** It was their first time at Blenheim last year – indeed their first foray into eventing – and the word that came back from the top brass was that they were “delighted” with the event! Let’s show them that we can raise our game again this year.



REBRANDING IN PROGRESS... YOUR NEW LOGO IS AWAITING APPROVAL

Together with SsangYong, the office team has been working on a new logo for the event to incorporate both the SsangYong ‘wings’ and the traditional event logo. We think they’ve come up with a winner, but it’s just waiting final approval before you start to see it on correspondence, marketing material, the website and, of course, on our own range of event wear.



Official event clothing

We’ve upped the ante on the range of clothing from Lansdown this year with some stylish garments in contrast colorways and superior fabrics, with the new logo in pride of place. We will again be using **#TeamBlenheim** for volunteers and hope you will be delighted with the range of clothing on offer this year. Details of the volunteers’ discount will be announced soon and we hope to see the range available at the end of June.

World Equestrian Games

As keen eventing supporters, you may know that Blenheim 2018 coincide with the eventing at the World Equestrian Games in Tryon, USA.

DON'T WORRY you will not miss out on the WEG action as we plan to livestream from Tryon to Blenheim (with some extra special behind the scenes filming) and you can share the excitement with colleagues and like-minded friends and give your support to Team GBR from the event and enjoy the WEG party at Blenheim! On Saturday evening we are even planning a special WEG inspired ‘screens and supper night’ - more details to come ...



Volunteer packs

In a move to save stationery, do a small bit for the environment and to keep postage costs down, we won't be sending out volunteer packs in the traditional sense. Instead of that bulky envelope dropping through your letterbox in early July, you will receive E-tickets which can be exchanged for your wristlets and car park pass when you arrive at the event. There will be a volunteer registration area, located near to the buggy stop at the top of the car park, where you can exchange your E-ticket and collect your volunteer pack.



Details of your volunteer duties and briefing locations will be sent out via email in advance of the event, however you will need additional time when planning your arrival so that you can collect your pack and wristlets. If you are volunteering for two days or more, you will receive a second E-ticket for each day in place of the usual additional wristband. This means all you have to do is forward your guest E-ticket by e-mail. More details will follow, but if you have any queries on this, please don't hesitate to contact your Head of Department.



Join the conversation

Keep up to date with the latest information! Visit www.blenheimhorse.co.uk/volunteer and follow us on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook –

use the hashtags **#TeamBlenheim** and **#SYBlenheim!**



Thank You!



If you have any questions or need any further information, please don't hesitate to contact your Head of Department or the office team.