

Keeneland Concours d'Elegance Report – Dana Banfield

The following is a description and summary of the committee responsibilities for organizing and hosting a Concours d'Elegance.

- Volunteer at a Concours d'Elegance in your area. Do this for your first year to understand the operation of the event. Offer to the Vehicle Selection and Event Chairperson's, the idea of having a display or judged class of Antique Carriages. Either carriage class could be paired with Automobiles creating a unique theme of similarities, *i.e.* Brewster carriage w/Brewster bodied Auto. Use photos of carriages in your presentation mentioning this will be a evolution / celebration of transportation. Also tell them this interesting class will be a draw for your spectators.
- When a carriage class is approved with your Concours, volunteer to contact carriage owners in your area. Encourage owners of the carriages to nominate their vehicle with the Concours for consideration. The Automobile selection committee could help with finding the cars if it is desired to pair them with carriages.
- Attend all Concours planning meetings.
- Work with the grounds committee to verify the carriage class location. Since the carriages are moved from the trailer area to the show location by hand, strive to have this fairly level. For the move in and out, Golf cars may be considered, and a group of volunteers to push the carriages by hand.
- A display of carriages are not judged. If desired is to judge the class of carriages, help to identify Carriage Judges and invite these Judges, usually 3. Work with the accepted judges on scoring, CAA showcase score sheets may be considered. Remember everyone involved are volunteers, no one would be paid for helping or reimbursement for travel expenses. Concours events are Charity driven, show expense kept low means a larger donation to the Charity.
- Review and choose, usually 8 Carriages (and 8 Automobiles if paired) for the Class. Share your choices with the Selection committee chairperson to send out acceptance letters. Be sure to have back up entries in case you have an invited owner not able to attend.
- Attend the event. Supervise and help with trouble shooting any needs in the Carriage class. Enjoy!