

## CIAT Cuts in Compiègne 24.-26.05.2019

Those veterans who enjoyed the charming and personal atmosphere of the Chateau and Park in Cuts from the early events on feel a deep nostalgia when they become aware of the fact that those days have gone. The Chateau overlooking the magnificent park and show ring offered a backdrop to the spectacle played out in the foreground; the skilled negotiating of a set course by horses turned out to the highest standard. And after the prize giving ceremony the laps of honour and the parade of all turnouts passing the front of the Chateau, the drivers and guests waving their farewells.



But now we can look forward to the events to come in Compiègne, where the CIAT Cuts is now run. The first of these took place for the first time from the 24.-26. of June 2019. Some of the drivers were sceptical at first when they found the space for lorries and trailers to be less extensive than that in Cuts but were soon reconciled when they found the stabling for their horses to be exemplary. The stable blocks were solid buildings with covered space between the rows of stalls; a great advantage in wet weather. Everything was in its proper place. The water and electric supply, straw and hay, a place to give the horses a shower and, last but not least, toilets. The incoming teams from 10 nations soon gathered at collapsible tables to drink, to chat and to celebrate the revival of old friendships.



Many of the drivers had been participants at the CIAT Cuts, but there were also many newcomers. Even new turnouts were to be seen. Urbain van de Voorde e.g. formerly excelling with Andalusians in Tandem turnout had decided to take part with a turnout of Gelderlanders

driven three abreast to a Break de Chasse. Fiorenzo Erri, formerly turning out his horses to an American Buggy this time presented a curricule turnout to a Tandem Cart.



Matthias Pfeifer, who often drove his team of warmbloods to a Break, this year presented a pair in an American 4-wheel-Dogcart. Jacek Janton, who often drove his Silesians in Tandem turnout to a Charette, this time presented them three abreast to a French Break de Chasse and Consuelo de Grunne turned out with her fine Siamese Phaeton, but this time not with a pair of donkeys but a team of ponies each representing a different breed. As always the colourful, meticulously turned-out and spectacular Spanish carriages gained the applause of the public.



The connoisseurs of traditional turnouts had many details to discuss and the drivers were satisfied on receiving the judges' appreciating comments. The Routier on Sunday morning, however, proved a problem for those drivers who had not listened carefully to the instructions given by the technical delegate during the reconnaissance drive. Everybody knows that most drivers are well able to negotiate PCs like e.g. "The Greeting" successfully but many drivers didn't so as they simply didn't keep in mind the sequence of the PCs and took "The Greeting" for the PC "The Rails" resulting in unnecessary penalties. A close study of the rules (just a few pages) before participating in events would be helpful.





The cone driving in the afternoon turned out to be a long course, however well manageable as the bends were wide allowing a clear view. Not even the Coaches had serious problems when negotiating the cones, but there were still few clear rounds.



The prize giving ceremony immediately following the cone driving was a very festive occasion as all turnouts ceremoniously lined up beneath the picturesque trees in the show ring, some flying their national flags, and the winners were asked to move forward to receive their cups. The playing of the national anthems produced many a tear in the winner's eye.

As there were nine groups - the winners of which to be presented with cups - the ceremony lasted a while, the clouds becoming darker and darker. The possibility of an impending thunderstorm made the drivers somewhat nervous and shortened the laps of honour despite the fact that the well-known evergreen "Goodbye, my little officer of the Guard..." was playing. As a result the show ring was empty in a few minutes.



The customary party in the traditional white tent on Sunday evening was a happy event, with everybody enjoying the pork, the sausages, the sauerkraut and large quantities of beer as well as the cheerful toasts and short speeches. The longest and most impressive was Baroness de Langlade's farewell speech, expressing her joy at the success and the popularity of the event in Cuts now being successfully transferred to Compiègne.



Richard James answered in moving words to her, praising the high level of the turnouts, the skill of the drivers, the efforts of the organizers and the genius of Antoinette and Christian de Langlade in establishing an equine event of the highest cultural calibre. The actors made their exit from the stage most satisfied at having experienced the birth of a new event.



Report: Hartmuth Huber

Photographs: Monika Stripling

The winners were:

Pony Single:	D. Veerenoghe	(B)
	P. Desmesures	(F)
	R. Zielinski	(P)
Ponies Pairs:	R. Neale	(GB)
	L. Vanden Bussche	(B)
Horse Single:	J. Boden	(GB)
	L. Pierson	(B)
	S. Lecluyse	(B)
Horses Pairs:	J. Stettler	(CH)
	M. Pfeiffer	(D)
	A. Bahuchet	(F)
Horses Tandems:	M. Renaer	(B)
	E. Gohin	(F)
	P. De Meuter	(B)
Horses Three Abreast:	J. Planas Ros	(E)
	U. Vande Voorde	(B)
	J. Janton	(PL)
Pony Teams:	E. Vantroys	(F)
	C. De Grunne	(D)
Horses Teams:	E. Calvet Martinez	(E)
	B. Schnur	(D)
	N. Coulon	(F)
Coaches:	M. Broadbent	(GB)
	J. Kozlowski	(PL)
Prix de Public:	M. Broadbent	(GB)
Prix des Amis de Musée de la Voiture de Compiègne:	M. Broadbent	(GB)