



Orianna Scheck

Standardbred Canada Director
Western Region Nomination

Personal Profile

Hi, I am Orianna and I have been involved with and participated in Harness Racing since the fall of 2003. I have owned several racehorses during this time and have had horses race across Canada including Alberta, British Columbia, Saskatchewan and Ontario. I am very passionate about my horses and enthusiastic about this industry.

I am employed by Dal & Hartel Holdings as the Executive Assistant to Dr. Mark Zivot, CEO, and work in a very professional environment. I have 20 years of office administration experience with advanced skills in all of the Microsoft Office programs. I also worked in the Harness Racing industry for 2 years with the Alberta Standardbred Horse Association (ASHA). During this time, my responsibilities included coordinating the Alberta Sires Stakes Program, managing an 800 member database, conducting the monthly reconciliation of both the main operating and Sires Stakes accounts, and taking care of all banking, payroll, and insurance policy duties.

As a youth, I competed nationally as a Figure Skater. I then went on to coach competitive Figure Skating for 15 years, which was an incredibly rewarding experience. My participation in and coaching of competitive sports has provided me with invaluable experience and skills that have been transferable to all aspects of my career. My heartfelt passion for horse racing comes from this strong need to satisfy my competitive spirit, and my sincere love and admiration for these fine animals.

One of my biggest and proudest contributions to Harness Racing has been "Standardbreds Forever Day"! I approached Northlands Park back in 2008 with this very unique proposal. It is an event that I, along with the wonderful support of Northlands Park, organize and co-produce annually. The purpose is to honour our great Alberta racing champions while giving back to the Harness Racing community and its fans. This is a fun-filled day that has something for everyone. I am proud to say that our attendance and handle, especially last year, speak to the success of the event. It was my hard work and participation with Standardbreds Forever that earned me the honor of being selected as one of the top 100 people who helped Alberta Horse Racing in 2009. However, the true reward for me comes from the proud smiles I see on the owner's faces when their beloved horse hits the racetrack again, and the crowd shows their respect and appreciation.

My love of Harness Racing is not limited to Alberta. I really enjoy attending the yearling sales, which have included Lexington, Harrisburg, FCYS and of course the Alberta Yearling Sale. I travel often to racetracks across North America and have attended the O'Brien Awards on two occasions.

I would be honored and thrilled to be given the opportunity to serve as a Standardbred Director for the Western Region. I would treat my responsibilities with the utmost respect, be very committed to promoting our breed, and represent the Association in the best way I could. I can bring to the Board enthusiasm and excitement, along with fresh and innovative ideas. I have a proven track record for initiating a plan and putting it into action. My primary goal would be to help Harness Racing across Canada come alive again and to introduce new fans to our great sport. Regardless of whether or not I am named Director, I will forever be a positive spokesperson for this industry. The integrity and strong work ethic of the people I have met in this business humble me, and I am proud to be a part of it.