

## 2025 IYB Report

2025 was a building year, preparing for the 2026 IYB competition at the Niedersachsisches Landgestut in Celle, Germany July 16-19.

February 2025 brought about changes as long-time head of the team, Maria Ardito stepped down. Many thanks to Maria for the many hours of dedication and successful trips to international competitions from all the past and present IYB members, your commitment is much appreciated!

Resuming the coaching duties is the trio of veteran team leaders Lyssa Caine (ON), Kailey Parkin (AB), and Lisa Longtin (SK) who three all attended international competitions in 2022 in Ermelo, Netherlands, and in 2024 in Martofte, Denmark.

### Activities in 2025 included:

1. The development of a list of regional breeders willing to provide training and educational opportunities on a regular basis which would be more aligned with the European studbooks and YB clubs. Thank you to the many breeders across the country who put forth their names and facilities!
2. Efforts to include junior members (12-15 years of age) to those regional opportunities in order to develop YB at the grassroots level.
3. An online Information Session for YB from the Alberta Chapter's Education Committee to help boost PR for Young Breeders which was held in July and was made available as a YouTube video for future use as well.
4. YB and Mare Inspection prep clinic was hosted in SK in August.
5. Fundraising plans were started for possible training camp travels as well as the team's international travel and team uniform expenses.
6. The CWHBA National Tour was held in Sept/Oct and had many YB members in attendance. They were so valuable in helping breeders to prepare their mares and youngstock as well as for running and presenting on the triangle. Ontario members also had opportunities to participate in several other studbook inspections, gaining valuable experience.

On to the exciting part! The 2026 IYB team for Celle, Germany has been picked and we have a full Jr and Sr team as well as 3 travelling reserves. With 4 veterans on the team we are encouraged for a strong result.

Sr Team – all from Ontario: returnees Hailey and Jessica Larkin, and Avery Caine, with new member Victoria Smith.

Jr Team – returnee Katelyn Mullin (ON), new members Ainsley Maclean and Grace McConnell (AB), and Rielle Longtin (SK)

Reserves – Danika Beauchamps, Orla Leigh, and Liana Spies, all from ON.

If you know any of these members, please congratulate them, and offer your support as it is an honour to represent the CWHBA on the world stage!

Training is already underway with Ontario members hosting a 2-day training session in February with the excellent guidance of past coach Maria Ardito and Sr Inspector Heather Cowell. A portion of the weekend was even made

available as a You Tube video for the rest of the team members to learn from as well! Currently we are working on online practices, studying for the written exam, and always working individually on the in-hand presentation.

This a costly trip with international airfare, accommodations, and outfitting the team. While the team has some fundraising already planned and some sponsors secured, we still need a few items sponsored (such as team ball caps). To date, several Items were curated for the SSA. Ontario members have a Mother's Day Tea fundraiser planned, Sask member has horse day camps and spring photo shoot fundraisers planned, while AB is meeting in April to make their plans. If any corporate, personal, or chapter donations are available, please consider contributing to this important program which helps to develop future breeders and inspectors for the CWHBA and our horse industry.

Please get in touch with any of the three coaches if you are, or know of, a keen young person interested in this unique program. The Facebook page for information or to contact coaches is Canadian Warmblood – Young Breeders ([young-breeders.com](http://young-breeders.com))

Respectfully submitted by,

Lisa Longtin