



Editors Note

Hi Everyone,

With COVID19 consuming the nationals attention these past few weeks, the Association has been business as usual. This volume of the newsletter includes important information from the Board of Directors; I would like to thank them for their dedication to our Association.

We would like to thank Goodwoods for sponsoring our Ecootemp Hot Wash system for the Buy A Box Raffle. Their generosity and support of the PHAA is amazing. Their latest specials are on the back page, as the colder weather hits consider supporting our amazing sponsor for all your rugging and grooming needs!

In the coming Newsletters we will be including articles on show prep, makeup, banding and plaiting. Thank you to our members who approached us about running these articles.

Your feedback helps us build a newsletter directly benefits our members.

Dakota

Until next time...

FROZEN SEMEN AVAILABLE IN VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

WHATA Vested Asset
HOMOZYGOUS
16.1 H Bay Tobiano Stallion
3X APHA/PTHA
Res. World Champion
WORLD CHAMPION AND
MULTIPLE RES. WORLD CH. SIRE

PROUDLY OWNED BY
FIVE JS RANCH, LLC
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MANSFIELD, GA
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FIVEJSRANCH@MSN.COM

Richland Ranch, Inc.

WHATAVESTEDASSET.COM

Brightbrook INSIGNIA
Homozygous Tobiano Friesa 10/12 APHA 10/10/10

Sire: OTS Hollywood Dence (IMP)
Dam: Poetry In Motion

Stud fee: \$1000
Limited bookings

SPIN SMART
Homozygous Friesa 10/12 APHA 10/10/10

DOC'S SPINFEX (IMP)
Sire: SANS SPINFEX
GAY LADY SAN
CHIKA SO SMART (IMP)
Dam: TINA LYNX
DIAMANTINA LYNX

Ice
4/22/21 5 years old
Sire - Mr Ice Jr
Dam - Shesling's Supreme
Ice (IMP)
Stud Fee: \$1200
Early booking: \$1000

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Brightbrook Paints & Quarter Horses
Leongatha Victoria
Phone Brett 0409 686 340 nesci@bigpond.net.au

Design and Photos: Tana Hobbs, JCF photo Mel Gundt

BUY A BOX

For you chance to win a **Eccotemp L5 Hot Wash**
(valued at \$275)

Proudly sponsored by Goodwoods Saddlery

All Monies raised goes towards the 2021 National Show

\$10 per ticket

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to purchase tickets



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Notice Board

SHOWING UNREGISTERED HORSES

The PHAA would like to remind members that horses cannot be shown until the DNA confirmation has been received from the lab.

If you are found to have exhibited an unregistered horse you may be subject to a fine and/or suspension under Rule 210 of the PHAA Rulebook.

If you have not yet received papers, the status of your horse can be checked on our studbook; any horse with P/Pend/Pending beside their registered name and/or the DNA tab is marked N are not considered to be registered at that time and cannot be show.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS & CLUBS

**Verbal abuse of office
staff will not be
tolerated!**

AO Hunter In Hand is no longer point scoring.

Notice from Board of Directors

Dear Members,

The Board spent much time yesterday discussing the possibility of rescheduling the 2020 PHAA National Show until later in the year .

No suitable time slots were offered to us by AELEC . It was interesting to hear from AELEC how they establish who gets priority over which dates. In summary it comes down to the economic benefit that each show brings to Tamworth. We did not rate as high as say the AQHA , Cutting , Stock Horses or Motor Bikes . Not sure how their formula works but apparently we do bring in over \$250,000 which I'm sure you would agree is substantial but not in the same league as the other shows mentioned above.

The decision of the Board is to cancel the National Show for 2020 and put all our resources behind the 2021 Show. The Board understands this is going to disappoint many members but it was just something we had no control over . The situation with Coronavirus is still changing everyday , it really is uncertain times at the moment.

The AGM has been rescheduled until July 4 , 2020 at Dubbo . We are looking at having the Awards Night at the same time . The dates and venue for these events could change but please pencil this date in your diary . Officially the meeting scheduled for the 10 May at Tamworth has been cancelled, please disregard notices that were sent out.

The NSW State Show is still on at K Ranch , 27-31 October , this should be big , our horses should be chomping at the bit to be let out of their stable by then.

We still have plenty of things to talk about including other items discussed at this weekend's Board Meeting .

Talk soon , keep safe,

Greg

On behalf of the PHAA Board.

Fashion Fixes

Savvy solutions to your most common riding-attire problems to keep you comfortable in the saddle and performing your best.

By ALANA HARRISON

Would you outfit your Paint in a lopsided, coarse saddle pad and a poor-fitting saddle, then ask him to perform a difficult reining pattern or canter smoothly around a hunter course? Would you ask him to run barrels or cut cows on a freakishly hot day in January if he still had a wooly winter coat? Of course not—doing so could increase his risk of injury while also preventing him from being able to perform at his best.

But the same applies to you, as his rider, and your wardrobe choices. If your “equipment” causes you discomfort, limits your range of motion or distracts you in some other way, you’re not going to be able to ride as effectively as you could if your attire was comfortable and functional. Like any athlete’s uniform, your riding wardrobe should work for you, not against you. It should allow you to move with your horse, provide support where you need it and flatter your figure in the saddle—all of which will boost your confidence in the show ring.

Common riding-wardrobe maladies—we’ve all been there, but it doesn’t have to be your reality. Innovative solutions are on tap for some of your most notorious riding-attire complaints.

Arrested Movement

Wardrobe woe: If your event requires a show jacket, you’ve probably experienced the ills of restricted upper body movement. Likewise, attempting to rope or cut a calf in tight, unyielding jeans can prove challenging.

Smart solution: Equestrian apparel innovators have created a number of technical fabrics with advanced elasticity and incorporated them into show jackets, breeches, jeans, undergarments, show shirts and even chaps. Ariat’s Schoeller technology, for example, bonds a breathable stretch fabric with cotton twill to create apparel with an extended range of motion. Additionally, the fabric’s enhanced

elasticity and recovery helps garments retain their shape throughout long days of showing.

Designers have also added strategic paneling into show jackets, shirts and breeches for superior stretch and range of motion. Ariat’s V3 Stretch Mesh technology, featured in their Platinum Show Coat, incorporates ergonomically located elastic panels into the jacket’s lining for more freedom of movement and improved position over fences. Their performance breeches also utilize the V3 technology via an elastic “V” panel built into the back waistband. The panel’s multi-directional stretch adjusts to the rider’s varying hip angles while jumping and maintains a close, comfortable fit during active riding.



COURTESY OF ARIAT

With enhanced fabric technology, apparel designers can even incorporate stretch panels into Western show jackets and shirts with elaborate sequin and crystal detailing. Kristin Titov, CEO of Hobby Horse Clothing Company, says stretch sports inserts strategically placed in the underarms of even their most ornate show tops provide superior range of upper-body movement, helping Western competitors ride more effectively without sacrificing style.

“Well-placed gussets down the sleeves and underarms not only add extra stretch for comfort, but they also offer ventilation where riders need it the most,” Kristin said.

Blended stretch fabrics have also been infused with denim, enhancing Western riders' lower-body range of motion. Cinch's new May Ian jeans are made out of lightweight 11.5-ounce performance denim with an inherent horizontal flex that allows the fabric to move with a rider's motion.

Master reining champion Yonathan Baruch of Marietta, Oklahoma, favors competing in Ariat's performance stretch-denim varieties, designed for enhanced freedom of movement in the saddle.

“I really like the stretch factor in Ariat's jeans, especially for the fast-paced sport of reining,” Yonathan said.

More Products We Love for Movement:

Bolero Show Shirts & Vest Sets: APHA exhibitor Ali Eidson of Tuscola, Texas, prefers showing in bolero tops due to their mega-stretch qualities.

“The bolero really frees up your arms for movement in the saddle and it's not nearly as constricting as the pleasure show jackets,” Ali said.

Ariat M5 Slim Chapman TekStretch Jean & Relentless Performance Stretch Jean: Made from a performance stretch cotton blend, Ariat's stretch denim is designed to provide cowboys with ease of movement in and out of the saddle.



COURTESY OF HOBBY HORSE

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Top-Heavy Troubles

Wardrobe woe: Women riders of all shapes and sizes have experienced how lack of support in the saddle can detract from performance. And if you happen to be on the busty side, you well know the nuisance of restricted arm movement or the inability to keep

your elbows in during an equitation or Western riding class—not to mention the dreaded sitting trot.

Smart solution: Whether you're full-figured or are simply seeking additional stability, get a lift with technical sports bras specifically designed for equestrians.

Cheata Equestrian's compression sports bras provide supreme support for riders of all sizes and offer individualized features to meet your specific needs. All styles are made with medical-grade compression fabric that expands and contracts with a rider's movement while also providing maximum muscle-tissue stability; low-positioned under bands minimize excessive movement without chaffing or shifting during riding.



COURTESY OF CHEATA EQUESTRIAN

Mary Helen Shashy, the woman behind Cheata Equestrian, says her bras are designed for women seeking minimal movement in the saddle to increase comfort, improve performance and create a smaller, sleeker profile. The Trotter Compression Bra and tank styles are ideal for high-impact riding; with the same stability of wearing two to three sports bras, these bras make show jackets and riding tops fit better and close more easily.

“The first thing that happens in the saddle for big-busted riders is they hunch their shoulders forward,” Mary Helen said. “When things start bouncing around while riding, this happens even more.”

To combat this problem, the Trotter bra's technical compression fabric has what Mary Helen describes as a “freeing” effect that encourages riders to sit tall and straight to improve their posture in the saddle.

More Products We Love for Support:

Enell Sports Bra: Designed especially for women who are a C-cup or above, this bra's design eliminates bounce and provides superior support during high-impact riding. Wide straps distribute weight evenly to reduce shoulder fatigue and the back cross-strap design provides back support and improves posture. Cathy Keith of Abilene, Texas, competes in trail and Western riding and says the Enell has been a game-changer for her.

"The bounce factor can be really challenging for well-endowed riders. This bra is amazing—it's functional and keeps bounce to a minimum," Cathy said.



COURTESY OF ENELL

Show Diva Designs Zip-Up Show Shirts: Ali loves these designs when she chooses to compete in a shirt without a jacket or vest. Available in an array of exquisite solid colors and patterns, these fitted show shirts are super-stretchy and have a simple fitted zipper up the front.

"I prefer the zip-up design because they have a closer fit and are more flattering than button-ups," Ali said. "When you wear a fitted shirt with buttons, it can pull across the bust-line and cause the buttons to gape."

Shirttails Gone Wild

Wardrobe woe: Riders who compete in reining, cutting, reined cow horse and ranch horse classes know it's easy to lose their shirttails in these high-speed events.

Smart solution: Lt. Col. Val Baker of Minatare, Nebraska, competes in roping, heading and heeling on her tobiano geldings and says her go-to jeans for keeping her shirts tucked are Wrangler's Q-Baby from their Ultimate Riding Jean collection. With a no-gap, stretch waistband and stretch denim, the Q-Babies hug a rider's body to keep shirts secure without limiting range of motion in the saddle.

"My hardest issue is keeping my shirts tucked in when I'm roping or running down a fence to turn a cow," Val said. "The Q-Baby's mid-rise keeps my shirts tucked, and I love that they allow me to get off my horse's back for a good rundown to a calf or goat without restricting my legs or knees."

Val's additional tuck-in trick, especially for roping, is wearing a men's Western performance shirt, such as Cinch's classic-fit blue ombre plaid design.



COURTESY OF CINCH

"Women's sleeves aren't long enough for me to rope in, which prevents me from getting my arms up quickly or correctly," Val explained. "With the men's long-sleeve performance shirts from Cinch, my shirt-tail never comes untucked and I have a much better range of motion with my arms."

More Products We Love for Secure Shirttails:

Ariat Relentless Vanquisher Shirt & Kirby Stretch Shirt:

Featuring Ariat's Western performance sleeve technology, the men's Vanquisher has an extended body-length inseam construction to keep it tucked and prevent sleeves from riding up during active riding. Both the Vanquisher and the women's Kirby have strategic underarm gussets for maximum arm mobility while still keeping shirts secure.

Tailored Sportsman Trophy Hunter Mid-Rise Breech:

AjPHA member Baylee Pitts of Garland, Texas, competes in hunter classes on her Paint gelding and says these breeches keep her show shirts secure even over fences. Available in both a front- and side-zip design, the breeches have a 1-inch higher waistline than the low-rise version and the waistband is slightly higher in back for additional coverage.

"The higher rise keeps my shirts tucked in and the extra-wide belt loops allow me to wear a sturdier belt for added security," Baylee said.

A Weighty Dilemma

Wardrobe woe: A few excess pounds are making your new, gorgeous—and very expensive—show chaps increasingly harder to zip.

Smart solution: There's no need to buy a new chaps or borrow a larger pair that don't quite match the rest of your outfit. Hobby Horse's chap inserts allow for an additional 2 inches of leg room from thigh to heel. These clever elasticized panels have zippers on each side that easily zip into any pair of Hobby Horse show chaps to give you extra room when you need it. They also work with a number of other chap brands, provided the zipper teeth fit together.



COURTESY OF HOBBY HORSE

If your weight tends to fluctuate, you might consider Hobby Horse's Split Leather Classic Show Chaps. Made from durable split cowhide, these chaps have full-length elastic leg inserts down the zippers for extra stretch when needed.

Visual tricks can also help minimize or maximize body parts for an overall slimmer, sleeker look in the saddle. If you're bottom-heavy, Kristin suggests choosing a dark chap color to minimize your thighs and derriere in combination with a light-colored hat to create the illusion of height through your upper body and draw attention toward your face. If you're top-heavy, opt for a solid-colored blouse or show jacket or one with a vertical pattern to minimize and lengthen your upper body.

"Use pattern and design to create slimming lines," Kristin said. "The pattern on Hobby Horse's Greta Jacket, for example, is very slimming. The sequined design slims the waist, while naturally drawing the eye upward toward the face."

More Products We Love for a Flattering Fit:

Ariat Tri-Factor Grip Full-Seat Breech: Made out of a compression performance fabric, these breeches feature Ariat's tummy-trimming Core Control

Technology to support your core muscles and comfortably smooth your midsection for a slimmer, sleeker profile in the saddle.

Noble Outfitters' Signature Breech: Designed with a technical four-way stretch, high-recovery fabric, both the Signature and the new Signature Full-Seat Breech feature Noble Outfitter's Booty Boosting technology to comfortably minimize for an overall slimming look.



COURTESY OF ARIAT

Thwart Wardrobe Malfunctions

Wardrobe woe: Ten minutes before your class, you suit up in your new show outfit, only to discover the crystals on your blinged-out collar jab you in the neck, your bra strap keeps slipping over your shoulder and your pants are riding up in all the wrong places. Wardrobe malfunctions like these can make it impossible for you to focus on your performance.

Smart solution: Have a full dress rehearsal well in advance of show day, wearing your entire competition ensemble—show blouse or jacket (plus, any foundation garments you plan on wearing under your top), belt and buckle, show pants, chaps, boots and hat. Then, school your horse through every gait and maneuver you'll perform at the show. This will give you ample time to make any necessary adjustments if an element of your show attire malfunctions; plus, it will help you gauge how much time you'll need to get ready for the real deal.



More Products We Love to Avoid Show-Day Glitches:

Ariat's Grip Strip: A number of Ariat's Western belts feature their innovative Grip Strip technology to keep belt buckles centered and prevent belts from riding up or shifting during active competition.

Hobby Horse's Show Saver Dress Shields: These self-stick shields fit directly into the underarms of shirts and jackets, preventing sweat stains and damage to expensive garments and extend the life of your show wardrobe.



COURTESY OF HOBBY HORSE

Keep Your Cool

Wardrobe woe: If you compete in a hot or humid area of the country, showing in the middle of summer can be brutal, leaving you exhausted, dehydrated and unable to perform your best.

Smart solution: Equestrian apparel designers have utilized technology to create technical fabrics that keep riders cool, even in the blistering heat of August. These fabrics are exceptionally lightweight and breathable and many of them have cooling finishes, such as Ariat's signature Schoeller-Coldblack that keeps dark-colored garments cool by reflecting up to 80 percent of the sun's rays.



COURTESY OF ARIAT

Made out of a moisture-wicking micro-TEK fabric with built-in sun protection, Ariat's Marquis Show Shirt features their Icefil cooling technology to reduce skin temperature and its mesh underarm inserts provide enhanced ventilation. Extremely lightweight and breathable without an inner lining, Horseware's MotionLite Competition Jacket is made entirely out

of a nylon and spandex mesh but doesn't reveal show shirts underneath.

These high-tech, cooling shirts aren't exclusively for English riders or women. Crafted with a lightweight, breathable and moisture-wicking technical fabric, Cinch's short-sleeve ArenaFlex performance shirt was designed to keep guys cool and dry in the show pen.

More Products We Love to Beat the Heat:

Horseware Lea Competition Shirt: Made from a lightweight technical fabric, this show shirt is exceptionally breathable and moisture-wicking, and its multi-directional stretch provides enhanced freedom of movement and ventilation. Plus, the central zipper prevents the button-gaping of traditional show shirts.



COURTESY OF HORSEWARE

Wrangler Premium Performance Cool Vantage Cowboy Cut Regular Fit Jean:

Wrangler's newest innovation in jeans uses cutting-edge moisture-control technology that wicks sweat five times faster than denim of the past by pulling moisture to the outside of the fabric where it dries faster, keeping cowboys cool and dry.



COURTESY OF CINCH

All Bunched Up

Wardrobe woe: Your Western show pants or jeans bunch up under your chaps and boots, chafing your lower legs and distracting you from your performance.

Smart solution: Both Ali and Sara Simons of Simons Show Horses in Aubrey, Texas, favor Kimes Ranch's Black Betty Jeans for the show ring. Made with a tri-blend technical fabric, the Black Betty was designed for ideal fit and versatility—the medium-rise provides full coverage while riding, but resumes a lower rise out of the saddle for a more fashionable street look.



COURTESY OF KIMES RANCH

"The higher rise in the saddle keeps my belt buckle from resting below my chaps, and the waist is a bit smaller so I don't have a gap in my waistline under my belt," Ali said. "And I love the fact that these jeans are so thin through the leg that they don't bunch under my chaps."

Sara also appreciates the Black Betty's higher rise and close fit for comfort and to streamline her silhouette when wearing a belt, buckle and chaps.

"They're also really straight-legged, so chaps go over them easily," Sara said. "Plus, it's nice that they're offered in a 38-length for taller riders."

More products we love to Banish Bulk:

Noble Outfitters' Signature Breech: The lightweight stretch hem at the calf reduces bulk and chaffing under tall boots and half chaps.

Ariat's Olympia Grip Full-Seat Breech: Featuring Ariat's Calf Fit System technology, these breeches won't ride up or bunch and are free of bulky seams or closures for a smooth, irritation-free fit under tall boots. The CFS also provides support to the calf and ankle, alleviating pressure and friction.



COURTESY OF HOBBY HORSE



COURTESY OF HOBBY HORSE

Don't Be a Wallflower

Wardrobe woe: At the last few shows, your performance has been exceptional, but you didn't place as well as you'd expected.

Smart solution: After objective evaluation of your ride, keeping the rulebook in mind, consider rethinking your ensemble. While black is the most figure-flattering color and it's easy to coordinate with the rest of your show ensemble, most of your competition will be wearing it, too. To help stand out

among your competitors and make a memorable impression on the judges, consider adding a color element that flatters your Paint and his markings.

Kristin says one of the latest trends and best ways to stand out in a crowded show ring is to wear a Western hat in a hot, new fashion color. "Pairing a lavender hat, for example, with a perfectly matched jacket and saddle blanket can really pull your look together and is a great way to stand out from the crowd," she advised.

Kristin also suggests adding a wild rag in a fun, fashion color or consider sporting a flashy vest to set yourself apart.

Alana Harrison is a special contributor for the Paint Horse Journal.
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Foal Yard



Owned By
Karen T.



Owned By
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Owned By
Belinda N



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Brightbrook Paint & QHs



Youth Spotlight

Brianna MILLER

Hi, my name is Brianna Miller & I am 18years old. I have been around horses for as long as I can remember & before I was walking. With me, falling in love with Paint horses came when a gorgeous boy named Shaker (Bluegums Shaken FX) came into my world. From that moment on I was hooked. It was the start of an infatuation with them. I love their quirky behaviour albeit at times naughty, their versatility & of course their random patterns.



I started as a lot of kids do, riding in the Pony Club/Gymkhana circuit and loving every minute of who could go the fastest and jump the highest. My little Levi (pictured) & I loved the adrenalin rush of competing which had me out in the paddock straight after school every day & nagging mum to take me out & about most weekends! I loved the Pony club days. Pony Club & the volunteer coaches taught me a lot & it wasn't until I got my first QH Mac (So Good To Be Cool) at 13years old that my eyes were opened to the world of Western Performance.

At this time, I started training with KND Show Horses and the rest, as they say, is history. Spending every spare weekend and school holiday with Ken and Nicole saw me step up from beginner level classes and start competing at national and state level with both with Quarter horses and Paint horses.

This year I am lucky enough to have been selected for the Youth World Cup team competing in Germany in August. I am extremely excited & happy to have such an amazing opportunity offered to me & will do my absolute best.

This year my boy Tigger (The Hypnotist - pictured) & I will be out & about on the show circuit. We have an absolute ball showing, learn something new each & every week & have met some amazing people along the way.



Event Spotlight

In Dressage competitions, horse and rider perform a series of predetermined movements, known as ‘figures’ or “movements” in an arena of either 20x60 metres or occasionally 20x40 metres. The arena has 12 lettered markers placed symmetrically indicating where movements are to start and finish and where changes of pace or lead are to occur. In all competitions, the horse has to show the three paces: walk, trot and canter as well as smooth transitions within and between these paces.

As soon as the horse enters the arena it is being judged. The judge actually judges the horse, not the rider, although the rider is given a mark out of 10 for position, seat, correctness and effectiveness of the aids, at the end of the test. Each movement is given a mark out of ten and half marks may be used by the judge. Once totaled, these scores produce a percentage and the animal with the highest total score is declared the winner.

TEST: Preliminary 1A

TEST			DIRECTIVE IDEAS
1	A	Enter in working trot	Regularity and quality of trot; willing calm transitions; straightness, attentiveness; immobility (min 3 secs)
	X	Halt, Salute Proceed in working trot	
2	C	Track left	Regularity and quality of trot; shape and size of circle; bend; balance
	E	Circle left 20m	
	EA	Working trot	
3	A	Circle left 20m, developing left lead canter in first quarter of circle	Willing, calm transition; regularity and quality of paces; shape and size of circle; bend; balance
4.	AFB	Working canter	Regularity and quality of canter; bend and balance in corner; straightness
5	Between B & M	Working trot	Willing, calm transition; regularity and quality of paces; straightness; bend and balance in corner
6	CE	Medium walk	Willing, calm transition; regularity and quality of walk, bend and balance in corner
7	EF	Change rein in free walk on a long rein	Regularity and quality of walks; reach and ground cover of free walk allowing complete freedom to stretch the neck forward and downward into a light contact; straightness; clear, balanced transitions
	FA	Medium walk	
8	AE	Working trot	Willing, calm transition; regularity and quality of trot; bend and balance in corner; straightness
9	E	Circle right 20m	Regularity and quality of trot; shape and size of circle; bend; balance
	EC	Working trot	
10	C	Circle right 20m, developing right lead canter in first quarter of circle	Willing, calm transition; regularity and quality of paces; shape and size of circle; bend; balance
11	CMB	Working canter	Regularity and quality of canter; bend and balance in corner; straightness
12	Between B&F	Working trot	Willing, calm transition; regularity and quality of trot; straightness; bend and balance in corner
	FA	Working trot	
13	A	Down centreline	Bend and balance in turn, regularity and quality of trot; willing, calm transition; straightness, attentiveness; immobility (min 3 secs)
	X	Halt, Salute	

Leave arena in walk on a long rein at A



PRACTICE @ HOME

Dressage In Action

Dressage Hint & Tips

Practice Practice Practice; Dressage is a test of your training and consistency.

Use the Directive Ideas on the test to assist in understanding what is expected of each maneuver.

Preparation of movements is KEY! In traditional western events our transitions have to be soft and subtle. Same goes for dressage, with one exception. The Judge is looking for the set up and the ask for each movement.

Ensure that your test is tidy and ACCURATE. Your paces/gaits have to be forward moving and fluid. While there is a time allocation... Do Not Rush Your

Immune Mediated Myositis aka

written by Teniel DUKE

A few people will recognise my gelding 'Vintage Investigator' from the show pen. But what a lot of people don't know is that Barney is positive for Immune Mediated Myositis and MYH1 Myopathy (IMM), and has been suffering attacks for the past eight months.

Barney contracted a virus while attending Nationals in April 2019. It presented as your typical 'young horse' virus and he was put out to spell under supervision. The virus worked through his system as expected but he had rapidly lost condition and muscle mass and was very stiff and hesitant to exercise, or move freely while paddocked. After a few weeks he appeared to have mostly recovered but was left on spell.

Early June saw another attack. In the space of 48 hours Barney had gone joint sore in all four legs and was experiencing problems with his front hooves. He was on a strict diet of chaff, hay and a vitamin/mineral mix and due to drought conditions had no access to pasture, so feed related joint problems were crossed out. This had been keeping him in quite good condition but again, he rapidly lost weight and the muscle in his topline and rump deteriorated in a very short amount of time. Veterinarians were consulted and Barney was put under supervision. He again improved but not back to his previous condition.

This continued in a pattern until his worst, and to date, last attack in the beginning of November. By this point Barney had grown a long curly 'pain coat' that wouldn't shed and because of this was drinking excessive amounts of water. He was unable to handle temperature fluctuations and if let get too

hot, or too cold he would rapidly lose weight. His temperament had completely changed and he became quite difficult to handle and was very depressed and agitated. His skin was extremely sensitive to touch and a lot of products that could previously be used now caused irritations. He was experiencing hoof pain and joint problems in all four legs and was very stubby toed in movement. He would no longer get out of a walk in the paddock and attempting to do so clearly caused him discomfort. In the space of a week Barney had lost a large majority of muscle behind and had drastically dropped condition.



Article continues on next page...



He was taken to the vet clinic for further testing and examinations. On the lunge he was unable to place his back legs underneath himself at the trot or canter due to stiffness and muscular atrophy. His bloodwork reflected very elevated CK and AST levels and it was suggested to test him for IMM, to which he is n/IMM. I am extremely lucky that I didn't lose him prior as we were unaware of IMM so weren't treating him as the disease requires. I have been working with two excellent veterinarians who have put time into researching IMM so we can correctly manage and treat him moving forward.



Barney is now on a low sugar, low starch, high protein diet and has been left to spell in the paddock. He requires close management to ensure he stays warm with constant review on his joints and hooves. He is kept alone and quarantined if other horses in the area become ill. For now he is stable and as sound as I can hope at this point, and has mostly reverted back to his old temperament. We are just enjoying the time that we have left with him, however long it may be.

Please have a read of the below links to gain some more knowledge on IMM and how it can affect your horses.

<https://www.midriversequine.com/immune-mediated-myositis-imm-horses/>

https://www.animalgenetics.us/Equine/Genetic_Disease/IMM.asp

<https://www.vgl.ucdavis.edu/services/horse/IMM.php>

<https://cvm.msu.edu/research/faculty-research/comparative-medical-genetics/valberg-laboratory/inflammatory-myopathies>

Horses suffering an attack may need to be treated with corticosteroids which aren't typically associated with the symptoms alone if unaware of IMM status. It is also recommended to discontinue vaccinations as this is highly likely to bring on an attack. Majority of research documentation states that the issues will subside in a matter of weeks, but in my experience, and after speaking with others that have symptomatic horses, this is not the case.

I encourage everyone to get their breeding and young stock tested. Not every horse that carries the gene is symptomatic, but having the knowledge to treat any attacks correctly in a symptomatic horse will be crucial. Similarly, if you have a horse positive with PSSM, or any other muscle related disease (QH specific or not) that isn't responding to treatment/management, I encourage you to test them for IMM. As the muscle issues could initially be confused with tying up before other symptoms present. You may be under the impression that your horse is symptomatic for PSSM or another health issue when it could be IMM and will require a different treatment approach.

Photography credited to Tania HOBBS



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H I O T C P N R C R E S H N L
E N R C Y O A O K L L T O I L
S G T N N I I H S A R E W M I
T C I I O N B T K N A R M O O
N U N T P T O N I D C O A L N
U Y G S V L T I N Y I F N A O
T M G I Z H N A Z A N M S P V
G E L D I N G P P B G E H N E
R A N C H R I D I N G R I U R
N N W O R B U S T W Z I P D O
E T A C I F I T R E C T P F U

PAINT HORSE	PONY CLUB	BROWN
STALLION	JUMPING	BAY
MARE	GARLAND	PALOMINO
GELDING	HIGH POINT	BUCKSKIN
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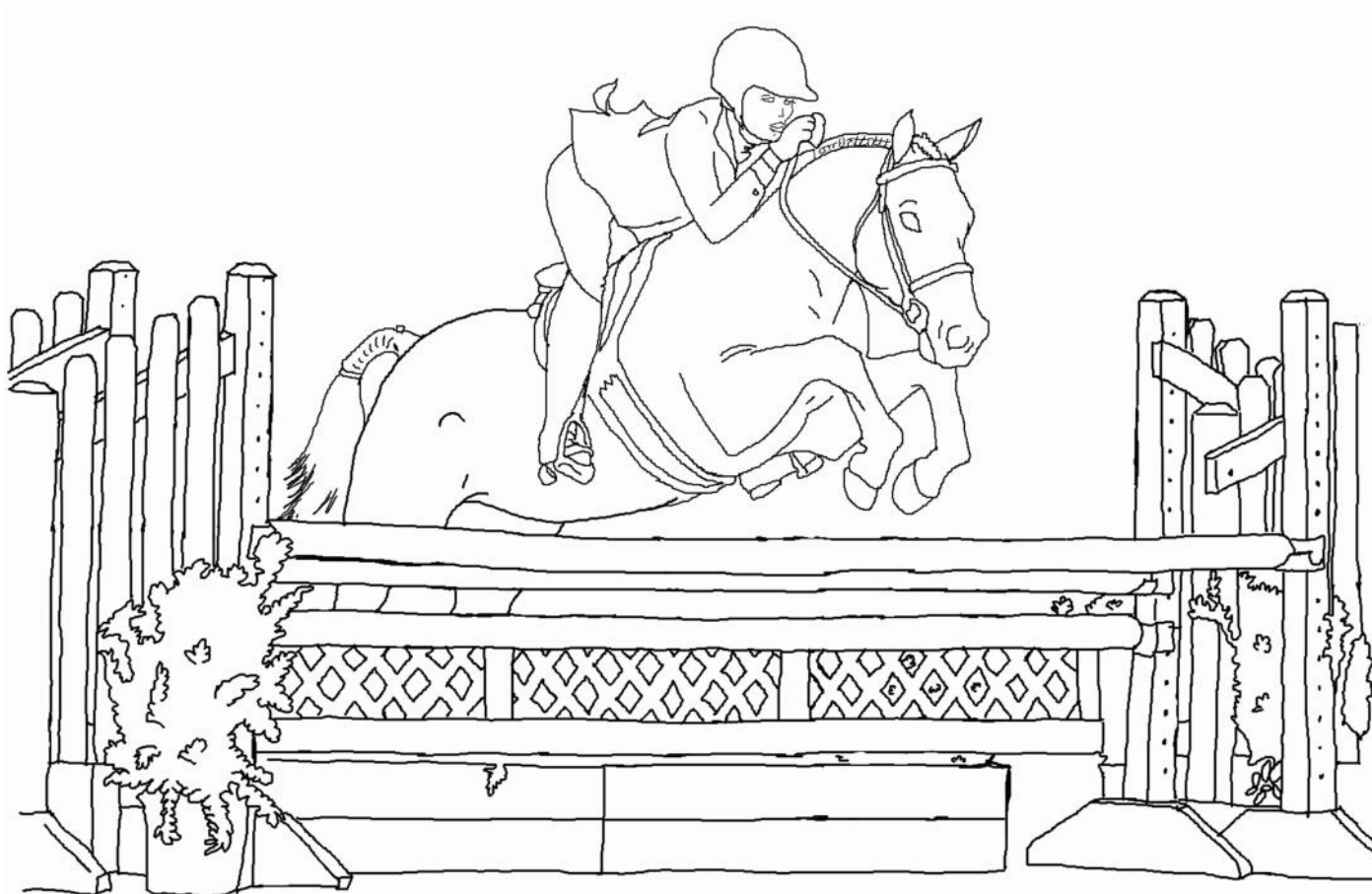
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