

2015 ISSUE **Volunteer Incentive Program** What to Wear When by Susan Hoffman Pe Get the most out of your Clinic by Brin Blazick 2015 Show Schedule

Collected Comments is a publication of the Dressage Association of Southern California (DASC).

Erin Blazick, Editor - Dressage@Blazick.com

SPRING 2015

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Advertising Classified ads must be submitted to the editor via email in plain text (.txt) or word (.doc).

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Contact: Erin Blazick, Editor dressage@blazick.com, 707.953.1227.

DASC Website: www.socaldressage.com Facebook: Dressage Association of Southern California



Greetings DASC Members!

Well, the year is upon us and moving fast! I can't believe that it's June already!!!!!!!!

DASC continues to revitalize and reshape itself. We have had several changes in the Board structure over the past month. What excites me is that there is a still a strong feeling (and commitment) that DASC offers something essential for the dressage community –education that supports the symbiotic bond that we, professionals and amateurs, have with our horses.

There are several things I would like to expand on in this message.

First, how many got to Vegas for the World Cup? OMG!!!!!!!!!!! What a treat! First seeing Charlotte DuJardin and Valegro in action. Talk about awe inspiring! And then the wonderful participation of our own So Cal community – Charlotte Bredahl and Jan Ebeling wowed the audience with their pas de deux to Grease!

Which raises a question for the Championship Show? Should we hold a Pas de Deux class as a "just for fun" event? Would we get any entries? Please send your thoughts to me at filkins@impulse.net.

Second... our State (and our horse community) is in the midst of a historical drought. If any of you have any stories about your equine activities and how we can help conserve water, please email them to me or our editor – Erin Blazick – for inclusion in our next newsletter.

...continued next page

DASC Mission Statement: The Dressage Association of Southern California (DASC) is committed to fostering the growth and development of its membership in the discipline of dressage.

DASC is a group member organization, DASC membership includes group membership in the USDF.

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Finally – I want to put in a plug for a program that my husband Dale and I have been committed to since the late '90s. (Note: This is probably oriented towards members in the greater LA county area – but there is a lot of LA County....) Both Dale and I been part of an equine response group organized by LA County Animal Control as a result of the Malibu fires in 1996. LA County developed a highly trained cadre of volunteers to support disaster response for equines. The Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care & Control Equine Response Team (LACDACERT) is a unique program in which civilians participate alongside uniformed Government employees in disaster recovery operations involving equines

Recently, the program has not been as active as in the past – people retiring, people moving out of the area – but a committed core remains. The head of LA County Animal Care and Control is a fellow dressage rider and she and I have talked about outreach – so I making a shameless plug in this newsletter. If you would like to become involved.... From Marcia:

"The County of Los Angeles' Department of Animal Care and Control is recruiting for volunteers to join its Equine Response Team (ERT). ERT is a group of trained volunteers that assist the Department with the safe evacuation of horses and operation of temporary sheltering sites during wildfires or other emergencies. Volunteers receive training regarding emergency response, horse handling and behavior, equine first aid and care, wildfire behavior and safety, trailer loading and driving, and much more. California's record drought is placing our equine friends in greater danger of exposure to wildfires, and the Department is in need of additional volunteers to assist in their protection. For further information, please contact Lisa Eldridge at leldridge@animalcare.lacounty.gov."

If you would like to talk to me personally on my involvement, you have my email above. For me, personally, it's been an awesome journey!



Membership Updates

Dressage Association of Southern California (DASC) Board of Directors Meeting Membership Update May 19, 2015

Out of Area DASC Show Qualification

The Board ratified an alternative method for DASC members to qualify for the championship show. Any DASC member that does not have access to DASC recognized shows within 75 miles of their residence may submit scores from USEF recognized show to self nominate for the DASC Championship Show. All other criteria apply.

Horse Database Rebuilt

Through the hard work of our Board Members the Horse Database has been rebuilt. Make sure to verify your horses membership by going online to www.socaldressage.com.

2015 DASC Standing Rules

The January Board of Directors meeting was held in conjunction with a very successful 2014 year end awards banquet at Maggianos in Woodland Hills, January 18, 2015.

The 2015 DASC Standing Rules were discussed with final approval to take place electronically. The 2015 Standing Rules are now approved and posted at the DASC website.

DASC Committees for 2015 include:

- Administrative which maintains the governing documents of the organization
- Educational which oversees educational opportunities
- Membership which oversees member outreach efforts
- Show which oversees plans for the DASC Championship Show
- Sponsorship which oversees maintaining DASC sponsorship opportunities
- Representative Outsight which oversees DASC representative recruitment
- Recruitment and committee appoint has been initialized and is ongoing.

DASC will conduct monthly board meetings that can attended either in person or via electronic media.



Please welcome our members to the DASC Board of Directors

Steve Elias | Founding DASC Member

Eileen T. Schifrin, Ph.D.

To Members of the DASC board:

My name is Eileen T. Schifrin, and I am a licensed psychologist in Los Angeles who began riding horses about 8 years ago. During the past 8 years, I've made it a personal goal to understand and use the wealth of knowledge about the importance of the relationship between horses and human riders and caretakers, and the benefits that such a relationship offer. In both my professional life and personal riding experience, I've found that strong relationships between riders and their horses foster important lessons in the areas of personal communication, leadership, and reliability. The horses I've ridden in my short riding history have taught me about heart, honesty, and perseverance.

DASC is an organization that has made these relationships and learning experiences part of their mission. They strive to support and celebrate the newly adventurous rider as well as the seasoned equestrian.

As a new board member of DASC, I look forward to getting involved in the many opportunities that will help advance the mission of this great organization.

Sincerely, Eileen T. Schifrin, Ph.D.



Kellie M. Hunter

Greetings!

I'm very excited for the opportunity to serve on DASC.

I've pursued extensive education from top professionals throughout my Dressage carrier. I've served on two Dressage/Eventing boards in my past.

I own and operate my own Dressage facility in the beautiful woods of Northern MN 45miles NW of our Great Lake and Duluth, MN. KHDragon Heart's is a 12 horse private facility. I currently own 4 horses myself working on training my first to GP. My clients have many different breeds from Warmbloods to a Fjord including a few wonderful grades. We compete in region 4 and 2. Fall of 2016 I will have my Welsh Cob stallion "Black Swan Syr Dewi" in CA for 6 months then home with me for 6 months.

Currently I'm training with: Jodie Cressman, El Sueno, CA Anne Gribbons, Knoll Dressage, FL

I'm currently: A certified coach

USDF Bronze/Silver Medalist WPCSA Dressage Liaison DASC board member Certified Chef currently working @ The Lodge in Biwabik, MN (golf &ski resort)

I am hoping to bring ideas and help in areas needed to DASC as I serve on your board.

Respectfully, Kellie M. Hunter



Be careful of these poisonous plants, trees, shrubs and flowers to horses!



TOXIC TREES

Oak Black locust Avocado **Black Walnut** Golden Chain Tree Choke Cherry or any Cherry Tree Kentucky Coffee Tree Russian Olive Persimmon Chinese Tallow Tree China Berry Red Maples or any Maple Trees

Horse Chestnut, Buckeye

TOXIC SHRUBS

Yew Oleander Yellow Oleander Privet Hydrangea Japanese Pieris Laurel Black Laurel Boxwood **Burning Bush** Lantana **Angels Trumpet** Mesquite Scotch Bloom Day or Night Blooming Jasmine

Azalea Rhododendron

TOXIC PERENIALS

Fox Glove Larkspur Monkshood Lupines Hairy Vetch Crown Vetch Castor Bean

TOXIC VINES

Carolina Jessamine Virginia Creeper

OTHER TOXIC PLANTS

Night Shade Bamboo **Green Tomatoes** Horse Tails Rag Wart Hounds Tongue Flat Weed Cats Ear Milk Weed Water Hemlock

There are lots of reasons to join the Dressage Association of Southern California (DASC). Most members are active competitors, but even if you are not (yet!), your membership dollars work for the entire dressage community here in Southern California to promote our sport and make it the best that it can be.

Benefits of Membership in the Dressage Association of Southern California (DASC)

The Dressage Association of Southern California (DASC) promotes education through clinics, lectures, and competition through a wide variety of shows and awards programs, insurance for our events and charitable contributions to important organizations in our interest.

Your membership entitles you to participate in the Horse of the Year Competition, Junior/Young Rider Championships, Regional Adult Amateur Competitions, educational activities and seminars. You will also receive "Collected Comments", the quarterly

DASC newsletter (also available online). More information on the benefits of joining the Dressage Association of Southern California (DASC) can be found on the website: www.socaldressage.com

2015 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION AND HORSE NOMINATION



Rider Information

Address: City, State,

e-mail: USDF#

O Open	Adult Amateur	○ JR/YR - Birthdate:
Horse Information:		
Show Name:		
Breed:	USDF #:	USEF#:
Gender:	Birth Year:	
** Sire	** Dam	
** Breed Registry	** Registry #	
Owner Name:	uwo)	(owners must be a DASC member for horse to be eligible for Year End Awards)

DASC Member Number.

** Horse registration information MUST be included to be eligible for Year End Breed Awards (If breed registration is NOT included, all horses will be eligible for mixed breed awards and all performance awards.)

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\$60 Annual Open/AA Membership

00

- \$40 Annual Junior/YR Membership
- \$10 Annual Horse Registration

Horse AND Rider must be paid DASC members at the time the scores are earned to qualify for the Championship show and Year End Performance Awards. Owners must be members by same rules to be eligible for Year End Breed

Make checks payable to Dressage Association of Southern California Mail to: PO Box 1160, Moorpark CA 9302: or pay/renew online at www.socaldressage.com

For a nestions: office@socaldressage

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Volunteer Incentive Program!

The Dressage Association of Southern California is offering its volunteering members great rewards! Even non-members can earn work credits that can be used for a variety of DASC events and memberships.

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Contact the Show Manager/Secretary of the show/ event where you want to volunteer. Contact information is available on the show premium and on the DASC calendar at www.socaldressage.com. Whether you like to scribe, ring steward, run tests, work in the office, or do special projects, there are many opportunities to get even more in return!

OW IT WORKS

YOU will need to send an e-mail to DASC to report your hours after each event. This is how WE keep track of your hours, the log is a backup in case we are missing something for you.

In an effort to help you keep track of your hours (should we miss some of your time or update incorrectly) the first time you volunteer, you should to print out a Volunteer Log here (the show manager may also be able to provide one onsite, but no guarantees!), where you can log your hours and have the show manager/secretary sign off on your time. KEEP this log throughout the

year to help keep track of your hours!! If there is a discrepancy between what we have on file and what you think you have - we can use the signed logs for verification.

Work credits can be used to defray the costs of DASC membership, Banquet tickets, educational/ clinics and more. The more you generously give your time, the more benefit that will come back to you!

Even if you are a non-competing volunteer, work credits can also be used in a drawing for great prizes at our annual awards dinner – it's good for everyone!

EARN CREDITS

Clinic Organizer
Scribe
Scorer
Gatekeeper
Runner
Ring Set Up
Ring Take Down
Committee Chair
ACTIVE Committee Member
Newsletter Contributor

SPENC CREDITS

1/4 Credit = \$2.50 off 1/2 Credit = \$5.00 off 1 Credit = \$10.00 off **OWARDS**

Annual Awards Banquet Tickets

Advertisements in Newsletter

DASC Membership/Horse Nomination

DASC Sponsored Clinic Fees

Prize Drawings at Annual Banquet

5 days of scribing or running tests throughout the year could pay for raffle tickets, annual award dinner tickets, or DASC membership and more. We will also hold a drawing at the end of the year for great prizes for unused work credits. There is no limit to how many work credits you can earn in a year.

Members are encouraged to maintain their own work credit records but are *required* to report them to the DASC office after each event to make sure they are recorded properly.

To report hours worked, please send an e-mail to office@socaldressage.com and note the following:

Days/Hours worked

Event name

Job performed

Show Manager (for authorization)

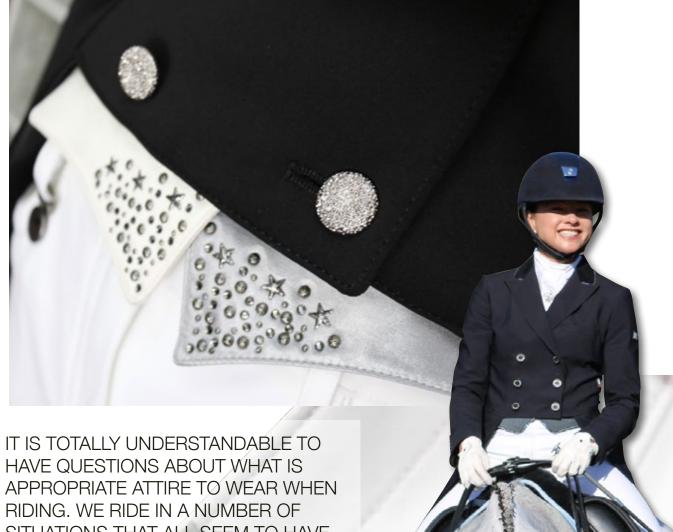




by Susan Hoffman-Peacock

Photos by Cheryl Pelly and shirts provided by Dressage Extensions

Sean Cunningham at Mission Pacific looking smart in a navy shadbelly with a sharp red collar and points accented with bright white gloves and breeches.



SITUATIONS THAT ALL SEEM TO HAVE UNWRITTEN RULES ABOUT WHAT TO WEAR. THIS IS WHAT I HAVE FOUND

TO USE AS GUIDELINES.

The USEF rule book clearly states that we are required to wear light colored breeches, coat of conservative color, tall boots, gloves and an approved riding helmet. Tradition is that the coat is black or navy blue yet dark grey seems to be an up and coming color.

Lately a wide variety of colors are becoming very popular! Velvet collars and colored piping can add some flair. Buttons, don't forget the buttons! They can be the same color as the coat, contrasting color or metallic; shiny or not. The choices seem to be endless. The number one rule is stay traditional. Dressage has a long history and it can be honored by staying close to the lines.

Properly fitting clothes can show off the rider's position, highlighting the positives for the rider position score. Visit the tailor so your sleeves aren't too long or short and the waist doesn't pucker or bulge. Make sure that your breeches are clean and not too baggy. Your boots should shine.

Adrienne Bessey on Wintersnow, shining with some sparkle!

For further specific details and rules regarding show attire, go to the USEF or FEI website:

https://www.usef.org/documents/ ruleBook/2015/08-DR.pdf

http://www.fei.org/fei/regulations/dressage



This showstopping Knabstrupper is Fandango owned and raised by Sandra Hanson in a clinic with Conrad Schumacher.

Clinics The point of a clinic is to learn and to improve. You should look neat and tidy and appropriate for the weather conditions. A helmet should be worn with your hair neatly tied back or contained in the helmet. Ball caps should be avoided. Your breeches should be light in color so that the instructor can see a contrast between your leg and your saddle. A shirt with a collar such as a polo or a fitted blouse will look best. If it is cool most people ride with a vest because it will accent a rider who sits tall. During very cold weather a jacket or sweater may be needed, choose one that isn't going to be too bulky and hide your rider's position. A T-shirt is OK only if you know that you are not going to get too warm and need to take the vest or jacket off during your ride. Once again your boots need to shine. Paddock boots and half chaps are only appropriate if the clinic organizer has approved them or if you have a special circumstance. Most riders choose colors that are not too bright and patterns that are not distracting. White polo wraps are typical but if you don't use polo wraps new looking white protective boots will show the movement of your horse's legs. Saddle pads are usually white with

limited trim. You want to look good enough so that photos

taken at the clinic can be used for promotions.

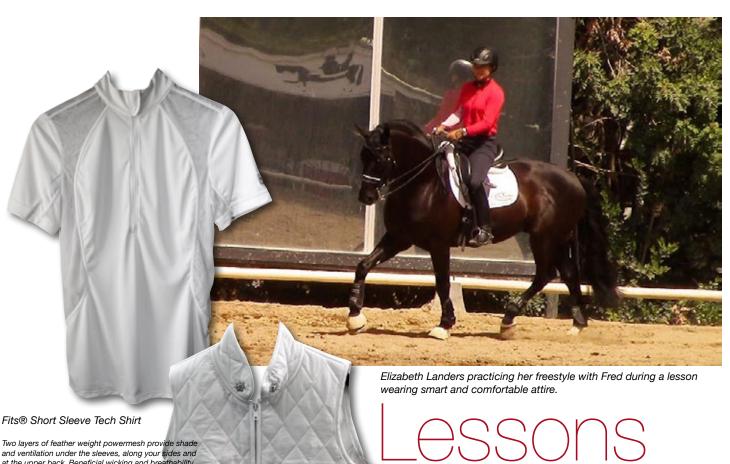


This lovely grey Andalusian Stallion is Pescador ESF ridden by Susan Hoffman-Peacock in a clinic with Conrad Schumacher.

Romfh® Ladies' Signature Competitor Long Sleeve

The Romfh® Ladies' Signature Competitor Long Sleeve is perfect for the hottest of show days, with Cool-touch™ microfiber with Chill-factor™ and breezy micro-sheer mesh panels located discreetly on the bottom side of the sleeves. Features a crisp woven placket and wrap collar with invisible magnetic snaps, stylish contrasting print inside collar and placket and flat seam stitching on body and sleeves, feminine Romfh® embroidered logo design on sleeve and left chest. Available at Dressage Extensions.

There is an old saying, "Dress for the job that you want."



and ventilation under the sleeves, along your sides and at the upper back. Beneficial wicking and breathability technology. Hour glass design shows your curves in this feminine flattering shirt that is amazingly soft and fast drying. Available at Dressage Extensions.

Cool Medics® Crystal Flower Vest

Revolutionary new way to stay cool during your long summer schooling rides. These products incorporate evaporative fabric technology, which causes a rapid cooling effect that dramatically lowers the body temperature. Available at Dressage Extensions.

comfortable while you ride. You do not want to be sloppy or messy. Helmets are highly recommended by most riding instructors. Your hair should always be neatly tied back and out of the way. For safety reasons a ball cap is not recommended even though many riders enjoy wearing them. Darker colored breeches that are easier to maintain are appropriate as long as your instructor doesn't mind. Some students like to coordinate the color of their lesson attire so that their shirt, saddle pad and polo wraps that all match. Some

Lesson attire is more casual than clinic attire. You want to be

instructors have strong opinions about bright patterns and neon colors. They might find these outfits distracting. Some find them entertaining. You are still looking for your instructor's input about your body alignment not your choice of sweatshirts. Ask them if they have a preference.

There is an old saying, "Dress for the job that you want." When you put on the outfit you are in a way creating the rider that you want to be. Dressing for success means that you are putting on the attire that is appropriate to the task.

If you would like to contribute to an article in the award winning DASC Collected Comments Newsletter - please contact us at: cheryl@cherylpellydesign.com

Erin Blazick, DASC Board Member riding Fenian in a lesson



The DASC Championship Show offers:

- Junior Dressage Equitation Championships Medals!
- Introductory through Grand Prix Championship Classes
- Freestyle Championships
 Training Level through Grand Prix, split for AA/JR/YR and Open.
- · Civilized honor rounds and photos!!
- Friendly warmup we know your best ride starts here
- Friendly but challenging atmosphere for a head to head competition
- It is the perfect prep for bigger shows or the perfect way to end a wonderful year with your horse!

Please join us at www.socaldressage.com

No DASC shows in your area? NO PROBLEM. DASC now has an out of area waiver allowing you to enter *** ANY *** USEF show and submit qualifying scores to DASC provided you and your horse are DASC members at the time scores are earned, and you reside more than 75 miles from a DASC rated show.



How to qualify for 2015

The DASC Championship Show

- A. Horse and Rider must be current paid DASC member in good standing at the time of earning qualifying scores to compete in the Championship.
- B. Horse/Rider combination must earn at least three qualifying scores from two different judges. Horse/rider combination need only earn one score at the free style level to qualify.
- C. Riders may qualify with scores from any test in the level. Cross entry is not allowed in two divisions (i.e., Open and Adult Amateur, Open and Junior, etc).
- D. Score Verification: All entrants will need to provide proof of qualification for DASC Championships. A copy of the front of a test sheet, a CenterlineScores.com report, or a USDF score report are all acceptable. Required scores for each level are listed below.

2015 DASC CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW Qualification Requirements

3 scores x 2 judges at any test in the level (one score for Freestyles) Open Jr/YR Level Dressage Seat Introductory -First 65 60 60 Second 57 Fourth 60 57 57 57 Prix St Georges 60 Intermediare I Intermediare II 58 - - - -Grand Prix

- E. Scores must be earned one division per rider.
- F. Qualifying scores may be obtained in two ways:
 - F1. Through attendance at DASC rated shows
 - F2. Out of Area Qualification: Any member that does not have access to DASC recognized shows within 75 miles of their residence may submit scores from USEF recognized shows to qualify for Championships.
- H. Qualifying scores earned in open classes at the Championship Show WILL count toward the next year's DASC Championship eligibility. Scores in Championship classes WILL NOT.

DASC Recognized Competitions 2015

JUNE 2015	6th - 7th 7th 7th 13th - 14th 20th - 21st	Dressage at Spirit Equestrian SLO - CDS Spring Fling Almost Summer Fling Summer Dressage II at El Sueno Dressage at Mission Pacific
JULY 2015	11th - 12th 12th 18th - 19th	Summer Dressage III SLO - CDS Summer Fling Dressage at Spirit Equestrian
AUGUST 2015	1st - 2nd 8th - 9th 15th - 16th 22nd - 23rd 29th - 30th	Dressage at Mission Pacific Dressage at Spirit Equestrian Summer Dtessage in the Valley SLO - CDS Fall Fling Dressage Show Dressage at Spirit Equestrian
SEPTEMBER 2015	4th - 6th	DASC CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW Dressage at Spirit Equestrian Dressage at Spirit Equestrian Dressage at Mission Pacific
OCTOBER 2015	17th - 18th 24th - 25th	DASC CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW Dressage at Spirit Equestrian Dressage at Mission Pacific Go to www.socaldressage.com Go to www.socaldressage.com For the latest show information for the latest sh
NOVEMBER 2015	21st - 22nd	Las Vegas Dressage Fall Fling

DASC Year End Awards Qualifications

The criteria for the DASC 2015 Year End Awards are as follows:

- Horse and rider must be paid DASC members in good standing at the time scores are earned.
- Owners (if not the same as the rider) must be paid DASC members for breed recognition awards.
- Horse and rider combinations may earn scores at any test in the level to qualify.
- Horse/rider combinations must earn a minimum of six (6) scores at Intro 4th level or three (3) scores at FEI level competition (PSG-Grand Prix) and Freestyles
- Breed recognition awards include all scores from eligible horse/rider combinations (ie. Two riders/ one horse)
- In keeping with USEF and USDF procedures DASC will use the *median* score of all eligible scores to determine ranking.

Award Categories:

Training Level Jr/YR.
Training Level AA
Training Level Open
First Level Jr/YR
First Level AA
First Level Open
Second Level Jr/YR
Second Level AA
Second Level Open
Third Level Jr/YR
Third Level AA
Third Level Open
Fourth Level Jr/YR
Fourth Level AA
Fourth Level Open

Prix St Georges Open Intermediare Open Grand Prix Open Freestyle First Level Open Freestyle Second Level Open Freestyle Third Level Open Freestyle Fourth Level Open Freestyle Intermediare Open Freestyle Grand Prix Open Trainer of the Year Student of the Year Volunteer of the Year Kick-Ass Award Breed Awards:
American Warmblood
Arabian
Danish Warmblood
Dutch Warmblood
Friesian
Grey Poupon
Hanoverian
Heinz 57
Holsteiner

Iberian
Oldenburg
Morgan
Pony
Quarter Horse
Swedish Warmblood
Thoroughbred
Trakehner
Westfalen
+ Others!

The School Horse presents



OPTIMIZE YOUR EDUCATION

HOW TO GET THE MOST OF YOUR CLINIC

By Erin Blazick

A

F

1. Read the materials provided.

This will give you background and a baseline of what to expect from the Clinician.

2. Know what is expected.

Should you braid? Should you be warmed up before your lesson? Are there lectures you need to attend? Is bedding and feed provided for you? Who is in charge of feeding and cleaning? When is payment due? Will the organizer give refunds? How much does auditing cost? How many people are you allowed to bring with you?

P

3. Be a good guest.

Clinics are often held at private facilities other than your own barn. Treat it like your home, pick up after yourself, be courteous, offer to help, park in designated areas, don't let your horse nuzzle with resident horses, ask before letting your horse graze or turning your horse out in an arena, use approved lunging areas. If your unsure just ask, most organizers are happy to clarify any questions.

B

Try to avoid special requests.

If a clinic requires your attendance all day – be prepared to stay all day. Many times watching the other riders is just as helpful as your own lesson. If you can't participate in the whole program, make sure to inform the organizer and see how they feel about it. There are times when special requests are unavoidable. If that happens be sure to make arrangements with the organizer as far in advance as possible and understand sometimes your request cannot be accommodated.

R

5. Be on time.

Arrive on time and be ready well in advance of your ride time. Being late or unprepared is disrespectful and puts stress on the clinician and organizer. If you are late, apologize and be prepared that your session will end at the scheduled time. The other participants should not be penalized for your tardiness.

6. Be respectful.

Respect includes arriving on time with a clean horse and dressing appropriately. You are there for the Clinician's expertise, so even if you don't agree with what they say, ask for clarification it may just be a misinterpretation. Do not argue or make excuses, you are there to learn so try and just take it all in.

7. Dress appropriately.

Clean breeches, a comfortable but reasonably fitted shirt should be tucked in, tall boots, helmet, gloves and, if applicable, spurs and whip. You and your horse should be tidy and all equipment fully functional.

8. Watch the other rides.

You will learn something from watching the other participants and you will be better prepared for your ride. Knowing what the clinician is looking for, becoming familiar with his or her speech pattern and the acoustics of the arena will give you a head start.

Make sure your horse is up to date on their vaccines and in good health.

Give your horse the best chance for success by making sure that he is vaccinated, current on worming and healthy before signing up for a clinic. Traveling and clinicing puts stress on your horses system. Give them the best chance of having a good experience by making sure they are healthy.

10.Please leave your dogs at home.

We love our horses and our dogs. Keep in mind, you are going to a clinic to learn, caring for a dog while there is a distraction. Also, clinics are often held at private facilities with their own dogs and they may not appreciate the company.

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DASC would like to thank the generous support of our sponsors!!!





DASC BESSAGE ACLIFECTATION OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

P.O. Box 1160 Moorpark, CA 93021

Callected _Comments

Deborah Barber Tomlinson riding 1/2 Arabian-Hanoverian Hermes Echo, owned by Wyn Schumacher at LAEC.

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED

