

HIGH COUNTRY WORKING EQUITATION

www.highcountryworkingequitation.com



Letter from the Board

In February of 2015, four of High Country Working Equitation founding members stood around our horse trailers at Circle Star Arena and discussed some ideas that had been floating around for a couple of months. We had just finished working with the cattle and were discussing having an outside clinician visit Colorado. The hope was that an outside clinician would give insight into Working Equitation beyond the scope of a few videos on YouTube and the internet. We wanted some outside help, and agreed, then and there, that we would go forward with the formation of an organization. We agreed on the name High Country Working Equitation and each of the founding members contributed two years of dues to open a checking account. We began recruiting members during the Rocky Mountain Expo 2015, and you responded. Membership dues were used to purchase insurance and we all HOPED this would work out. So far it has and our membership is to be thanked for this.

We are a little different type of an organization. When we envisioned HCWE as a model for a local Working Equitation

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HCWE High Point Program



In 2016, High Country Working Equitation will offer a show series consisting of a minimum of three Working Equitation three-phase shows. As part of this series, HCWE will offer its members the opportunity to earn points toward year-end awards. A point system will be utilized and members of HCWE can earn points while showing at any HCWE sponsored or recognized show. The intention of High Country Working Equitation High Point Program is to foster a friendly and fun competition while rewarding our showing members at the end of the year.

The High Point Championship will be awarded for each division of competition that HCWE offers, at each level. These divisions and levels are as follows: Open and Amateur divisions at Intro, Novice and Intermediate. If there are no members who show in a division in any of the HCWE sponsored shows, then the High Point for that division will not be awarded.

Qualifications for High Point Award Program

- Riders must be a member of High Country Working Equitation, in good standing with the organization, whether as an individual or family member.
- All membership fees must be paid in full prior to the first HCWE show.

- The member must show in at least one HCWE show and will be automatically included in the High Point Program upon showing. No additional fees are required.
- Points will be awarded to a Rider/Horse combination team.
- A rider may earn points on more than one horse, but the points will be counted separately for each Rider/Horse combination.
- A Rider/Horse team can only earn points in one division, at one level, throughout the show season. The division and level a Rider/Horse team competes in, at their first HCWE show, shall be the only division and level in which a Rider/Horse team may earn points.
- In the event a Rider/Horse team can no longer compete during the show year, due to equine injury or illness, the rider may replace the horse, one time, with a veterinarian's written confirmation, for as many shows as required. The replacement horse must be shown in the same division and at the same level as the original horse.
- Points can only be earned at High Country Working Equitation shows.

HCWE Recognized Shows

- Spring HCWE Show on May 17th at Circle Star Arena. Rebecca Algar judging.
- Summer HCWE Show on July 16th at Circle Star Arena. Tarrin Warren judging.
- RMIHC Show at Douglas County Fairgrounds, August 26th and 27th. HCWE recognized show for High Point.
- Fall HCWE Show on September 24th and 25th at Circle Star Arena. Judge to be decided.

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Rocky Mountain Horse Expo



Last year at the Rocky Mountain Horse Expo, the beginnings of High Country Working Equitation formed. For the first time at the Expo, there were Working Equitation classes offered through the Ride with the Experts program and the garrocha pole was introduced through Dance of the Garrocha during the Mane Event. It was a beginning . . .

This year, High Country Working Equitation helped host Tarrin Warren at the Rocky Mountain Horse Expo 2016. There were three separate activities provided by Tarrin: a clinic on Wednesday, March 9th; a WEIAUSA B-Rated show on Thursday, March 10th; and Ride With the Experts through the Expo, March 11th to March 13th. There was a clinic on Friday, a clinic on Saturday and two clinics on Sunday.

Last year, HCWE had a display set up outside the stalls in the main barn next to the Event Center. It generated some interest in the people who walked through the barn looking at horses. This year, HCWE and Tarrin Warren shared space in the Hall of Education, offering conversation and community, plus some really awesome brochures, in the sport of Working Equitation. There was information about WEIAUSA and WE United (national organizations), as well as a HCWE club-specific brochure, highlighting the advantages of being a club member and joining this awesome sport.

The clinics went off flawlessly, thanks to Chris Stanko, who worked tirelessly to get the program set up, arrangements made for Tarrin Warren and stalling for all of the riders who participated.

The booth was a huge success, thanks to Keith Jacobson and his display of nicely made obstacles, which were used for the clinic, show and booth. Kitty McLaughlin worked long hours to support both Chris and Keith and her booth design was one of the best at the Expo.

Tuesday, late afternoon and early evening, was spent moving horses in and getting settled. The dressage court HCWE arranged to use was delivered by Pat Paul, and suddenly the Event Center arena seemed really small. We fit the dressage court in one end and arranged obstacles at the other. The obstacles were a gate, a jump, livestock pen, bridge, garrocha pole, bull, pitcher, corridor with a bell, double slalom, figure eight, three drums, switching a glass, and sidepass poles. There were plenty of obstacles to challenge the riders in both the clinic and the show over the next two days.



**A horse cannot balance himself if
the rider is out of balance.**

RMHE: Tarrin Warren Clinic

Wednesday morning started early, with the first riders in Tarrin's clinic slated to ride at 8 am. There were nine riders, with the majority of them just getting started in Working Equitation. Tarrin gave an overview of the discipline, then asked the participants for feedback on what intimidated them or scared their horses the most. The most common answer was the garrocha pole.



Tarrin acknowledged that she too had started out intimidated by the garrocha, but that once you start working with it, you can get addicted to the fun. Tarrin started the clinic participants on the garrocha.



Working with the garrocha is the heart of Working Equitation and the primary difference in Working Equitation versus a Western Trail class.



The garrocha was originally developed to maneuver around the fighting bulls of Spain, and is still used in Spain for cattle working. Aside from that, the garrocha has also developed into a mesmerizing and beautifully artistic dance between horse, rider, and pole, as a way to showcase both the talent of the rider and the collection and obedience of the horse. Being able to handle the garrocha while working the obstacles and spearing a ring is the most rewarding challenge of Working Equitation.

The group of nine riders began working with the garrocha. Some of the horses adapted to their rider lifting and carrying the garrocha fairly quickly, while others were not so amenable.



RMHE: Tarrin Warren Clinic

After working through the challenges of the pole, which did result in protest from some of the horses, riders moved to the livestock pen, the bridge, the double slalom and the corridor with the bell.



As the time went on and the riders worked through the obstacles, you could see the confidence gained by both the horse and the rider. There were questions and answers, plus shared experience and great teaching.



By the time it was approaching noon, much had been taught, practiced and absorbed. There was a break for lunch and then the second half of the clinic commenced.

The afternoon group was more experienced, consisting of riders who had been working the obstacles for at least a

year.



Tarrin skipped past the “how to properly work an obstacle” and instead worked with the riders on approach, lines between obstacles, properly presenting your horse and working more than one obstacle with the garrocha.



Handling the garrocha and the horse through the livestock pen is always a challenge.



RMHE: Tarrin Warren Clinic



Since the goal of any rider is to ride from their seat, having to work the obstacles with a ten foot wooden pole in one hand really points out the gaps in your horse's knowledge and response to leg and seat.



Figuring out approaches to obstacles and maneuvering between them at the correct gait was a challenge for the horses and riders.



It was a great clinic and a great way to push the more experienced riders to continue to improve their skills.



There was a feeling of accomplishment at the end of the day, with many new skills learned.



The riders were ready for the show the next morning, and the opportunity to show off their skills.



Rider's Reactions: Tarrin Warren Clinic

I think that most clinicians have a basic script and often don't go much beyond that. Tarrin has not shown that tendency at all and I was thrilled to even be able to listen to her again. As usual I learned something new and even thought about a special horse who would have benefited so much from it. (Not dropping the shoulder especially in turns). Her clinics are so positive! Being judged by her gives one a feeling that the scores will be a good indication of both successes and projects as she does not miss a thing. --PP

I audited Tarrin Warren's clinic at the Rocky Mountain Horse Expo, as my trainer, Lauren Gueswel, rode my horse Uno. As a beginner WE rider, I learned so much because I could listen and take notes as Tarrin helped each rider. Needless to say, I have a tablet full of notes, which includes tips and instructions about Dressage and ease of handling obstacles. Auditing a clinic is so beneficial and it is an excellent way to learn more about WE.... --JB

I want to thank High Country Working Equitation for bringing Tarrin Warren to Colorado for the Rocky Mountain Horse Expo! I am new to the sport and am definitely hooked. Tarrin has a teaching style that made it very easy to understand the mechanics for properly executing each phase of Working Equitation. Her explanations were detailed, yet very clear. What a fantastic clinician! And all the participants and organizers were fantastic... supportive and welcoming. Absolutely loved the entire week of clinics and showing! --LG

I enjoyed working with Tarrin at Expo Her method of teaching is always informative, supportive and challenging. I highly recommend anyone wanting to learn Working Equitation attend her clinic and show. --KM

This was my first experience at Rocky Mountain Horse Expo and it was so much fun! The atmosphere was friendly and professional. My horse and I enjoyed the show even though we were the slowest in the speed phase; probably by twice the time of the next slowest competitor! It didn't matter, because we had so much fun participating and enjoying the friendship and support of the other competitors. --OH

RMHE: B-Rated Show

Intro Amateur Scores and Results

Leslie Martien on Satori	
Dressage Score:	57.5
Ease of Handling:	71.875
Danielle Leniger on Apache	
Dressage Score:	55
Ease of Handling:	63.75
Kate Steffes on Eddy	
Dressage Score:	50.625
Ease of Handling	DQ

Champion: Leslie Martien
Reserve: Danielle Leniger

Novice Open Scores and Results

Kitty McLaughlin on Joe	
Dressage Score	49
Ease of Handling	52.778
Speed Time	04:27.00
Cat Beardsley on Pico	
Dressage Score	60
Ease of Handling	61.111
Speed Time	DQ
Lauren Gueswel on Smart Uno Alena	
Dressage Score	58.667
Ease of Handling	DQ
Speed Time	DQ

Champion: Kitty McLaughlin
Reserve: Cat Beardsley

Novice Amateur Scores and Results

Stacey Ruel on Amante CDF	
Dressage Score	55.667
Ease of Handling	62.778
Speed Time	03:46.00
Annaleen Vermeulen on Beyond the Light	
Dressage Score	63
Ease of Handling	58.889
Speed Time	04:25.00
Olga Hendrickson on Carolo	
Dressage Score	61.667
Ease of Handling	61.667
Speed Time	05:00.00
Karen Burch on Thee Ashke	
Dressage Score	59
Ease of Handling	56.111
Speed Time	Scratch
Netti Zillman on Aragorn	
Dressage Score	51
Ease of Handling	DQ
Speed Time	04:12.00

Champion: Stacey Ruel
Reserve: Annaleen Vermeulen

Intermediate Amateur Champion

Tiffany Gardner on CCP Too Small to Cooke	
Dressage Score	53.125
Ease of Handling	DQ
Speed Time	03:15.00

Intermediate Open Champion

Chris Stanko on C.O.	
Dressage Score	51.875
Ease of Handling	64.21
Speed Time	03:29.00

RMHE: RWTE Tarrin Warren

Rocky Mountain Horse Expo offers the opportunity for riders and their mounts to participate in clinics with the experts they bring in for the weekend. Tarrin Warren was one of those experts in 2016. The riders who participated in the clinic and show had the opportunity to ride in several Working Equitation mini-clinics from Friday thru Sunday.



Here Tarrin demonstrates to a rider, unfamiliar with the garrocha pole, how to lift, extend, roll and tuck the pole for optimal ease.



And the rider successfully completes the lift and carry of the garrocha pole through the double slalom.

Straighten yourself before you look to correct your horse.

There was a lot of interest from the spectators at the Expo on Friday and Saturday and some new people who had seen early clinics who wanted to ride with Tarrin later in the week.



There was a lot of garrocha work and intricate challenges.



Riders were encouraging and helpful with each other and Tarrin demonstrated many helpful tips and training strategies for developing the skills needed to be successful at this discipline.

By Sunday, late afternoon, riders were exhausted, but satiated, the horses were tired but educated and it was with some sadness that the week had to end.

Thanks Tarrin! See you in July!!!

Spotlight on: Pat Paul



Pat riding Bailey through the livestock pen

Tell us something about yourself that most people might not know.

I grew up in Chicago where I did water sports. I moved to Colorado when I was 18 because I had a high school teacher that encouraged me to go to the University of Colorado – Boulder. I majored in Spanish because I wanted to be a translator. At some point I realized that being a translator meant that I would have to live in a big city and although I went back to Chicago for a year I made my way back to Colorado.

What are some of your earliest memories of working with horses and riding?

I started my “new life” here; while I was at CU I joined the ski club and, at the encouragement of my roommate, the riding club. I never did very well at skiing – the horses were more important – but I rode with Monte Foreman who had a

ranch on Lookout Mountain and I learned the nuts and bolts of working with horses. We used to have 50 horses brushed and ready to go by 10 AM.

Monte Foreman taught classical horsemanship and dressage, which was the basis of cavalry. Learning from him was the “dream come true” experience of beginning the horse journey in the barn of a terrific trainer and teacher, and learning from the ground up. I was soooo dumb!

Since those early days in Colorado I have learned some things about most farm animals, managed a ranch of 350 mother cows, driven a Belgian team pulling a winter hay sled in Montana, spent many years in the 4-H horse program as a show mom and rider tester, and raised two kids who are still active in the horse world.

How did you first learn about Working Equitation and what attracted you to the sport?

I don't remember the first time I heard about Working Equitation but I remember seeing a video on Facebook that someone posted for general entertainment. I like the versatility; it keeps the riders and horses from getting bored. I've also had an interest in Western trail speed classes so Working Equitation seemed like a good fit. A few years ago I had an opportunity to attend an open house at Leslie Martien's house to learn more about the sport. It was such a fun, welcoming group.

Prior to Working Equitation what other riding disciplines were you, or are you still, interested in?

I got married to an apprentice horse trainer who was in the military so we moved around a lot. When I was living in Ft. Campbell I had the opportunity to do a beagle dog trial, which meant I could ride all day while my son was being watched at the barn. I even had a trainer from Ireland who would hold my son while teaching me how to jump.



Bailey demonstrating patience



Pat and Bailey with the garrocha pole

Over the years I've ridden in dressage, jumping, Western versatility (trail, reining, cow work) and mountain trail riding. While I was at CU I even rode in the Jackpot rodeos on Sundays.

What are some of your goals with Working Equitation (e.g. showing, improve your dressage, fun for you and/or your horse)?

I want to have fun with my horses and keep them soft and supple. I think Working Equitation will help to keep old me and my old ponies limber and healthy.

Tell us about your horse (e.g. breed, age, personality, training, how long you've had a partnership).

I have two horses: Bailey (Smoking in the Sun), a twenty-year-old mare and ET (Eternal Smoking Gun) a twenty-one year old gelding. Bailey and ET are foundation AQHA and full siblings. They both have wonderful minds and are very laid back. I got Bailey as a yearling and brought her up in general training and small child readiness for grandkids. I got ET as a four year old and he was a heading rope horse for about 14 years.

Rebecca Algar Bio



Rebecca Algar of Gainsville, Texas is an internationally recognized rider, trainer and coach. She has competed successfully at the highest levels in a variety of equestrian sports. Her varied experiences, and the knowledge gained from the diversity of racing, Three-Day Eventing, dressage, Western riding and Working Equitation, give her the unique ability to look at the training of horse and rider from all angles.

As a young rider, Rebecca was awarded a two year scholarship to study Doma Classica and Doma Vaquera in Spain. She also trained under one of Germany's leading dressage coaches. Later, she applied that knowledge to the showing and training of western horses and moved to the USA in 1995. Rebecca held an AQHA judge's card for 13 years, during which, she judged world-wide, including the Youth World Cup.

She also held an APHA judge's card for 11 years. Rebecca is one of the four fully credentialed judges for Working Equitation for Working Equitation International Association of the USA (WEIAUSA).

Her competitive achievements include 4 World Championships, 2 Reserve World Championships, 19 European Championships, Individual and Team Gold Medals at the World Nation's Cup, and she has represented both the UK and the USA in International competition. Her former students include World and European Champions and an Olympic Gold Medalist.

Rebecca is fluent in English, German, French and Spanish. She has an international network of clients and can organize and act as an interpreter for people wishing to buy horses overseas, with access to the top breeders in Europe.

High Country Working Equitation is truly fortunate to offer an equestrian with such a broad reservoir of knowledge to judge our show at Circle Star arena and then instruct our members in a clinic format the following day.

Rebecca Algar

HCWE Show May 21st

Cost \$125 Member/\$150 Non-Member

HCWE Clinic May 22nd

Cost \$150 Member/\$175 Non-Member



Obstacle Overview: Slalom between Parallel Posts

Perhaps one of the most challenging obstacles to perform is the Slalom between Parallel Posts. When ridden well, this obstacle demonstrates the grace, timing, flexibility, and partnership between horse and rider that exemplifies the sport of Working Equitation. Also known as the Double Slalom, this obstacle requires several changes in bend and direction in rapid succession, similar to what might be required of a horse working cattle in the field. The following is a description of how the Slalom Between Parallel Posts should be constructed for competition, how to execute the obstacle, and judging considerations which can be found in more detail in the WEIAUSA Rule Book (www.weiausa.com/#rulesandshows/c6gz).

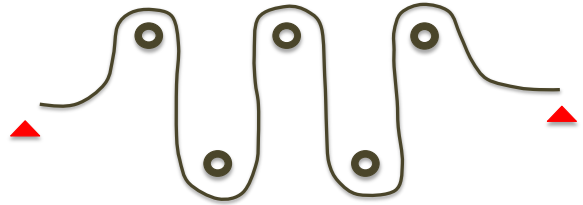
Construction of the Obstacle

The Slalom between Parallel Posts consists of an odd number of upright posts, 2 meters (6.5 feet) in height. Children, Intro, Junior, Novice and Intermediate levels should have a minimum of five posts while the Advanced and Masters levels should have a minimum of seven.

The posts should be arranged in two, staggered, parallel lines:

- The distance between the lines and posts should be 6 meters (20 feet). The line with the even number of posts should be set midway between the line with the odd number of posts.
- The posts should be supported by a base that is not sunk into the ground, which allows give in the pole in case of contact by the horse or rider.
- Flags should be placed on the appropriate side of first and last post to indicate the entry and exit points

of the obstacle. The red flag should always be on the right hand side of the rider.



Execution of the Obstacle

Competitors at the Children, Introductory, and Junior levels should perform the obstacle at the trot. Novice level riders may choose to perform the obstacle at the trot or canter – the difficulty of riding the obstacle at a canter will be taken into consideration for scoring. Intermediate, Advanced and Masters level riders must perform the obstacle at a canter.

The obstacle is ridden as a half loop around each post. Each change of direction, with lead change, should be performed halfway between the two lines of posts. The horse's leads should conform with the direction of the turn.

If the obstacle is being ridden at the canter, Novice level may perform a simple change of lead through the trot at the midpoint between the parallel lines of the posts. At the Intermediate level the rider can ride the lead changes at a flying change or simple change through the walk.

The obstacle must be ridden on the correct lead and not ridden in counter canter.

Judging Considerations

Consideration will be given to the smoothness and precision and regularity of the gait with which the rider negotiates the

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Perspective

Private Lessons vs. Clinics: *The Advantages of Each*

Spring and summer are rapidly approaching (although as I write this there is a foot of snow on the ground). Many of us are anxious to get back in the saddle and tune up our horses and the Working Equitation skills that may have gotten rusty over the winter. While there are plenty of skills we can work on alone, most of us need some training help from a professional from time to time.

Few of us have a big pot of money sitting around, so it is important to spend our training dollars wisely. With many competent trainers and clinicians available, deciding how best to spend our money can be daunting at best and a waste of money at worst. We may wonder: "Am I better off taking private lessons or will my horse and I benefit more from a clinic"? To some extent, the answer to that question depends on how you and your horse learn. While the decision is personal for each rider here are some things to keep in mind about the advantages of clinics and private lessons:

The Advantages of Clinics:

- The cost is spread out over the number of riders in the clinic
- Less focus on a particular horse and rider – this is especially good for riders who are unaccustomed to lessons and tend to get nervous

- Riders and horses get to watch others and learn from them. Don't be fooled; your horse is watching too and can learn a lot from other horses.
- Often held in a larger venue with greater access to obstacles
- Provides your horse with the opportunity to learn to work in a group of horses in different surroundings
- Riders can train with high profile or "Big Name" trainers to which they might not normally have access

The Advantages of Private Lessons:

- Concentrated focus on you and your horse
- Concentrated focus on a particular problem or skill
- Often the rider can choose what problem or skill to work on
- Trainer and student often develop a long-term relationship
- Can often take place at your location – no need to travel
- More flexible schedule
- More consistent training (can be weekly or bi-weekly)

When you're trying to decide whether you'd like to ride with a trainer or clinician, auditing can be very beneficial if the opportunity is available.

Although nothing replaces working on skills in the saddle it's a great way to see if you and a trainer or clinician "click". The best teacher in the world is the one that is able to connect with you and your horse, identify what you need to work on, and give you the tools to improve.

UpComing Events

HCWE WE United Show

Judge: Rebecca Algar
Date: May 21st, 2016
Location: Circle Star Arena
Cost: \$125/ Member
\$150/Non-Member

HCWE Rebecca Algar Clinic

Date: May 22nd, 2016
Location: Circle Star Arena
Cost: \$150/Members
\$175/Non-Members
Auditing: \$30/Non-Members

HCWE WE United Show

Judge: Tarrin Warren
Date: July 16th, 2016
Location: Circle Star Arena
Cost: \$125/ Member
\$150/Non-Member

HCWE Tarrin Warren Clinic

Date: July 17th, 2016
Location: Circle Star Arena
Cost: \$150/Members
\$175/Non-Members
Auditing: \$30/Non-Members

HCWE Tarrin Warren Private Lessons

Date: July 14th, 2016
Location: Circle Star Arena
Cost: \$75/Members
\$90/Non-Members
No Auditing of Private Lessons

RMIHC Show

Judge: Stephanie Soule
Date: August 26th & 27th, 2016
Location: Douglas County
Fairgrounds

HCWE WE United Fall Show

Date: Sept 24th & 25th, 2016
Location: Circle Star Arena
Cost: \$125/Members
\$150/Non-Members

HCWE Members Only Cattle Working Clinics

April 16th, May 14th and June 18th
\$60 per half day

Application available on our website:
www.highcountryworkingequitation.com

Visit High Country Working Equitation website for entry forms and more information
<http://www.highcountryworkingequitation.com/page15/index.html>

UPCOMING WE COMMUNITY EVENTS

Kitty and Chris' 2nd Working Equitation Clinic Series

Introductory Classes:

April 23, May 28, June 11
\$100 for Clinic/Haul In/Lunch
Circle Star Arena, Platteville, CO

Contact:

Kitty McLaughlin garrowk@aol.com
Chris Stanko 1chstanko@gmail.com

Kitty and Chris' 2nd Working Equitation Clinic Series

Novice & Intermediate Classes

April 24, May 29, June 12
\$100 for Clinic/Haul In/Lunch
Circle Star Arena, Platteville, CO

Contact:

Kitty McLaughlin garrowk@aol.com
Chris Stanko 1chstanko@gmail.com

Carlos Carneiro Working Equitation Clinic

Day One Dressage
Day Two Ease of Handling

June 25th & June 26th
\$400 for both days
Auditors: \$50/day
Circle Star Arena, Platteville, CO

Contact:

Chris Stanko 1chstanko@gmail.com
Allison Mazurkiewicz
ftcollinsridinglessons@gmail.com

TC Farm Working Equitation Lessons

\$50/Lesson for 45 mins to 90 mins
Work on Dressage or EOH
Loveland, CO

Contact:

Chris Stanko 1chstanko@gmail.com

UPCOMING WE COMMUNITY EVENTS

Cattle Working Clinics Working Correnti Cattle

April 30, June 4, July 2, Aug 6,
Sept 3, Oct 1
\$125 per horse/rider
10 am – 1 pm
@ Circle Star Arena

Contact Keith Jacobson:
970-391-1838

Tall Grass Working Equitation Customized Lessons

\$50 for 1 rider up to 90 minutes
\$45 each for 2 riders up to 90
mins
\$40 each for 3 – 4 riders up to 2 hr
@ Silver Whip Acres
Or I will travel to your facility

Contact Allison Mazurkiewicz:
970-556-1950

Working Equitation Mini Clinics w/ 1, 2, or 3 Riders

Flexible Scheduling
\$75 for 1 rider for 90 minutes
\$50 each for 2 riders for 2 hours
\$50 each for 3 riders for 3 hours

Contact Keith Jacobson:
970-391-1838

Tall Grass Working Equitation Practice & Play Days

March 19, April 9, May 7, June 4
\$45 per Horse/Rider
1 – 4 pm
@ Silver Whip Acres

Contact Allison Mazurkiewicz:
970-556-1950

Letter from the Board continued

group we agreed that most of the failures in these types of organizations stemmed from “burn out” by the organizers. Consequently, we created the model where the organization was a **cooperative** means of attracting riders to the various local educators. By offering **our members** access to low cost, quality education, at a minimal fee, under the **banner** and **insurance coverage** of **HCWE events**, we could financially benefit the organization but also benefit the educators with clients who would get to know them and participate in an educator’s private lessons. This is the model that HCWE has in place with the various clinics that are held and promoted through the HCWE website, Facebook and newsletter.

Events that are listed as HCWE events are **for members only** and are generally offered at a discounted price. The Board understands that few of us have unlimited funds, so these activities are a way to get an education at a minimal cost and often for free. In the future, there will be informal rides, Fun Days and show practice days for members only, communicated via email. Many of these days are designed to give the horse/rider team an opportunity to work on their dressage test and ride an EOH course while enjoying the friendship of other like-minded riders. Unfortunately, the number of riders that can attend may be limited by the size of the facility, and a haul-in fee may be assessed by the facility host.

Working Equitation activities that are not listed as HCWE events are open to the public and insurance coverage is the responsibility of the host. These WE activities are considered open clinics and HCWE has no responsibility for organizing or collecting fees for these events.

HCWE will list, or provide links, to these activities on our website, FB page and

newsletter as a method of community building within the greater Working Equitation community. Events that are not related to WE will not be advertised by HCWE.

It is the aim of HCWE to have all of our educators on the same page with respect to our knowledge of the various rules associated with competing in WE and insight into ways to use WE as a tool for training your horse. And, of course, to encourage and support our horse and rider teams in having fun within the discipline of Working Equitation.

All of HCWE’s endorsed trainers have WE specific background, training and riding foundations that will help any attendee to a clinic or fun day progress in their riding. Our trainers have invested time and money to increase their knowledge of Working Equitation and to build a solid foundation from which to teach the clinics. Many of them have traveled to attend clinics, judge’s seminars and Train the Trainer classes. They have traveled to attend clinics with Working Equitation International judges to gain a better understanding of how the sport is conducted across Europe and in South America.

Because Working Equitation is such a diverse and complex discipline, different educators have different talents that are uniquely suited to helping a horse and rider team move forward. Some may excel at dressage training, while others are great at starting a horse and rider on cattle. Each has their own strengths. HCWE intends to help foster this pool of knowledge by endorsing and supporting their educators. This also means HCWE won’t endorse a trainer unless we are certain the educator meets HCWE’s standards for knowledge and ability **as it applies** to Working Equitation.

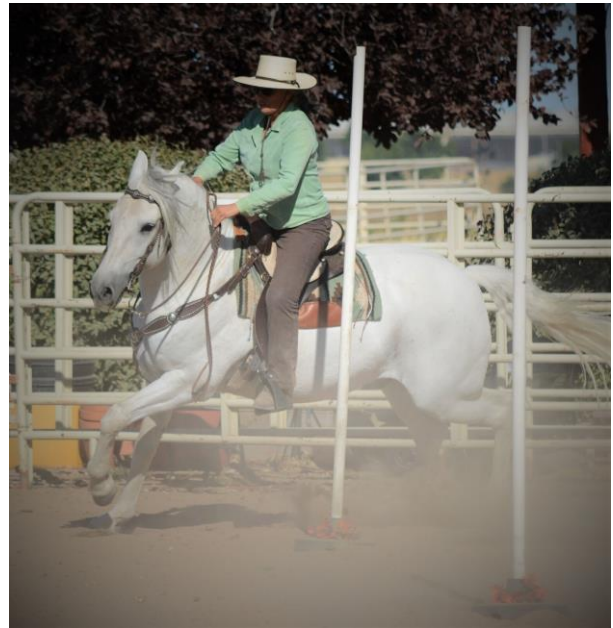
[return](#)

Slalom between Parallel Poles continued

obstacle. The rider should maintain the same distance from each post when negotiating the turns and the pattern should be ridden in a “U” shape rather than an “S” shape. When ridden at the trot the horse should demonstrate a distinct change of bend at the midpoint between the parallel lines; when ridden at the canter the change of lead should also occur at the midpoint.

Riders will lose points for incomplete changes of lead, failure to change leads or change the bend of their horse. Points will be deducted if the obstacle is ridden in counter canter or counter bent. Bumping or knocking over one or more posts will also be penalized by a reduction in score.

Riding the Slalom between Parallel Posts requires good timing, coordination, and preparation of the rider and lightness and responsiveness of the horse. Horses that rely on the rider's reins to pull them around a corner will tend to lean in on their shoulder or fall out through their haunches. When ridden correctly, it is a great obstacle for bending the horse and



Chris Stanko and CO performing the Double Slalom

demonstrating the effectiveness of the rider's seat and legs.

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“Work with the horse, not against him. Always listen to what the horse is trying to say. And always think for yourself.” – Mark Rashid

The Expo began with a clinic with Tarrin Warren, who is very good at explaining the Ease of Handling obstacles and their purpose and in how dressage aids in handling/maneuvering about the obstacles. We were set on the obstacles to practice and my horse refused the bridge and kept refusing. Upon seeing this, Stacey Ruel came over and offered to lead us across. My horse still balked at the bridge, so Karen Burch came and walked next to us as Stacey led us. This kind of support is typical of the sportsmanship and camaraderie I have found with High Country WE. WE is a great way to bond with your horse and have fun with a great group of people. I look forward to more events with this great group! -- OH

High Point continued

Earning Points

- Members will earn points by showing in above listed HCWE recognized shows.
- The competition period is from April 1st to November 1st. HCWE Board of Directors reserves the right to add or remove eligible shows from the above list.
- Point accumulation for each division and each level will be progressive over the show series.
- Points can be earned by members, even if only one show is attended.
- One point will be earned for each point scored on the dressage and Ease of Handling tests.
- A disqualification (DQ) will result in a score of 40 for that phase of the show.
- The Intro division will be determined by adding together all of the points each rider has earned in their dressage and Ease of Handling phases for the shows in which they competed. Intro level riders do not compete in the Speed, so those points will not be considered.
- The points for the Speed Trial will be determined by the following:
 - Each rider will start with 70 points in the Speed Trial.
 - The total time of a rider's Speed Trial, once penalties and adjustments are made, will be converted from minutes and seconds to minutes and parts per hundred. See Conversion Chart below.
 - The resulting number will be deducted from the 70 points. For example, if a rider has a Speed time of 3:45, this time converts to 3.75. The resulting score will 66.25 for the purposes of the High Point calculations.

- This calculation is used only for the High Point Program and has no effect on the actual show scoring or placement at the show
- If a rider DQ's, they will receive 40 points for the Speed phase of the competition.

Point Calculation and Recording

- The calculation and awarding of points shall occur after each High Country Working Equitation show by the High Point Committee.
- All member teams (horse and rider) from each show will receive points, based on the criteria listed above, even if they only ride in one show.
- A list of member teams and their earned points will be available for viewing on HCWE website once the show scoring and awarding of points is complete, with the exception of the End of Year show in September. Those scores and final points earned will be revealed at the End of Year party.
- All decisions of the High Point Committee and/or Board of Directors regarding the awarding of points are final and may not be appealed.

Recognition and Awards

- High Point Champion, Reserve High Point Champion and Honorable Mention will be recognized and rewarded after the final HCWE show, by division and level.
- Highest total points earned is High Point Champion, second highest is Reserve Champion, and third highest will win Honorable Mention, in Open and Amateur, at the Intro, Novice and Intermediate levels.
- These riders and horses will be determined by adding together all of the points earned at HCWE shows for the year. In case of a tie, the combined dressage scores for the show

Disclaimers:

- series will be used to break the tie. If a tie still exists, combined scores for the EOH will be used.
- The High Point Championships will be awarded at an End of Year party.
 - HCWE reserves the right to change these rules at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

- High Country Working Equitation has the right to cancel a HCWE show at their discretion.
- No member has the authority to compel HCWE to hold a scheduled show or reschedule a show or set any policies or rules governing the show.

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Level	Dressage Phase	Ease of Handling Phase	Speed Phase (Timed Event)	Points Earned Toward High Point
Intro	One point earned for each point scored on test.	One point earned for each point scored on test. DQ = 40 points.	Not eligible to compete.	Dressage + EOH
Novice	One point earned for each point scored on test.	One point earned for each point scored on test. DQ = 40 points.	70 points minus total time (including penalties and adjustments) DQ = 40 points.	Dressage + EOH + Speed
Intermediate	One point earned for each point scored on test.	One point earned for each point scored on test. DQ = 40 points.	70 points minus total time (including penalties and adjustments) DQ = 40 points.	Dressage + EOH + Speed

HCWE Recognized Shows for High Point:

Show at Circle Star Arena w/ R Algar
May 21st Three Phase Show

Show at Circle Star Arena w/ T Warren
July 16th Three Phase Show

RMIHC Show at Douglas County
Fairgrounds

August 26th & 27th Three Phase Show

HCWE Fall Show at Circle Star Arena
August 24th & August 25th

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