



# HIGH COUNTRY WORKING EQUITATION

## WELCOME TO THE LAST EDITION OF HCWE NEWS 2022!

Hello Friends,

My, how time flies when you're having fun! We are wrapping up for 2022; it's been an interesting year. HCWE didn't have as many shows as usual - the weather was not always good to us. But we still had fun, with a lot of new members trying Working Equitation for the first time.

After COVID (Is it over yet?) we are regrouping and finding new ways to grow HCWE. 2022 was the start of that for us with lead line classes at all of our schooling shows. The kids loved it, and the moms did too; at least I think they did. That's a lot of running on the mom's part! We also had more youth riders. YAY!!

In 2023, which is just around the corner, HCWE has 6 licensed shows scheduled. We also plan to have 3 or 4 schooling shows. We are looking forward to encouraging our new and youth riders as well as seeing our long-time competitors in the new year.

Our national organization, USAWE, is really on the move. Exciting news! USAWE is now a member of the international organization, WAWA. Let's get together and support USAWE and commit to this incredible sport. The 2023 U.S. Rules for Working Equitation and the new dressage tests are on the USAWE.org website. Make sure to read them. It's a great thing to do on those days when it's too cold to ride your horse.

Don't forget - in order to compete and earn points in licensed shows for no additional fee you must be a current member of USAWE, and your horse must be recorded with them. The annual membership fee is \$45 and lifetime horse recording is \$20.00. Go to USAWE.org to join and record your horse.

Come give Working Equitation a try and join the HCWE and the USAWE family. The camaraderie in this sport is like no other I have found in my almost 50 years of horses. The HCWE family looks forward to seeing you and having fun in 2023!

Working Equitation in my opinion is the best cross training you can do for any horse. As long as you are doing it correctly. Don't rush, take your time, keep your horse relaxed at all costs. Pushing only makes your horse tense and unhappy. If you continue on that path you will end up with soundness problems. Slow, relaxed and steady is the way to go.

All my best!

Chris Stanko  
President, HCWE

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*Our gate is always open!*

## **GET READY FOR THE 2023 KICK-OFF PARTY**

**When:** Feb 18th, 2023  
**Where:** Hobby Horse Farm, 5220 Bella Rosa Pkwy, Firestone, Colorado 80504  
**Time:** 1:00pm to 3:00 pm

We will have Working Equitation demonstrations, a membership drive, food, and more.

Watch our Facebook page [High Country Working Equitation | Facebook](#) and the HCWE website [www.highcountryworkingequitation.com](http://www.highcountryworkingequitation.com) for updates or contact me, Chris Stanko, at 970-846-6129 or [1chstanko@gmail.com](mailto:1chstanko@gmail.com)

Shows, clinics, play days and get togethers will be posted on our Facebook page as well as our website.

**COME JOIN US!!! WE  
WOULD LOVE TO SEE YOU**



## SHOW SEASON 2023!

We are very excited for our 2023 Show schedule, play dates and clinics. There are a lot of practice events available to ready everyone for the shows. We are looking forward to seeing everyone. Check the website [www.highcountryworkingequitation.com](http://www.highcountryworkingequitation.com) for event updates. **The March 18 schooling show will be YOUTH ONLY! March 19 is ADULTS ONLY! It will be a SHAMROCK SHOW weekend!**



### HIGH COUNTRY WORKING EQUITATION 2023 SHOWS



#### 6 Licensed shows

APRIL 22/23

Hobby Horse Farm  
5220 Bella Rosa Pkwy  
Firestone, CO 80504  
Judge- Susan Watkins

JUNE 24/25

Circle Star Arena  
16191 County Rd 17  
Platteville, CO 80651  
Judge- Rebecca Algar

AUGUST 26/27

Circle Star Arena  
16191 County Rd 17  
Platteville, CO 80651  
Judge- Doreen Atkinson

#### Schooling Shows

MARCH 18/19

Hobby Horse Farm  
5220 Bella Rosa Pkwy  
Firestone, CO 80504  
18th Youth Schooling Show  
19th Adult Schooling Show  
Judge- Kitty McLaughlin

MAY 21st

Circle Star Arena  
16191 County Rd 17  
Platteville, CO 80651  
Judge- Kitty McLaughlin

SEPTEMBER 30th

Circle Star Arena  
16191 County Rd 17  
Platteville, CO 80651  
Judge- Kitty McLaughlin



## **YEAR END PARTY AND AWARDS**

We had a great time at the year-end party. Congratulations to all who won awards and thank you to everyone who made the 2022 show season possible.

A very special thanks to **Kitty McLaughlin** for her commitment and hard work to this organization over the years.

See you in 2023!

Check out the High Point Program on the website: [High Point Program  
highcountryworkingequitation.com](https://highcountryworkingequitation.com)

High Country's Facebook page has more pictures of the year-end party.  
[High Country Working Equitation | Facebook](#)





## **MEMBERSHIP**

### **Join us! Membership year runs January 1st through December 31st**

#### **HCWE membership benefits include:**

- Support and promotion of Working Equitation as a unique and valuable equestrian sport
- Discounts on training, clinics, and shows.
- Inclusion in HCWE events such as demonstrations, exhibitions, parades, clinics, competitions, social gatherings, and practice sessions based on WE related skills.
- Our members-only High Point Program gives you the opportunity to earn points toward year-end awards.

*Individual member price is \$50, family is \$75. Membership form is posted on webpage and Facebook. Payable through PayPal, venmo, credit card, or mail a check to HCWE, PO Box 177, Firestone, CO 80520.*

#### **USAWE membership benefits include:**

- Eligibility to serve on committees, hold office, and vote.
- Performance recognition on a national level.
- The chance to qualify for regional competitions.
- USAWE is affiliated with WAVE, the World Association for Working Equitation, based in Portugal. Adult (over 18) membership is \$45. Junior membership is free. Horse recording fee \$20 (good for the lifetime of the horse, any owner or rider.) See USAWE.org for more information.

USAWE Membership form and USAWE Horse Recording Form – <https://usawe.org/membership/>

Thank you all!

Maureen Beavin - HCWE Board Membership Chairman



*Our gate is always open!*

## **MEMBER SPOTLIGHT – Sophia Block (Youth Member)**

I got into working equitation in early 2022 because there was a clinic at my barn, and I wanted to try something new. At the clinic I really enjoyed the challenge and the different obstacles that I was working through. I decided that it was something that I wanted to try and pursue. The local group was High Country, and my trainer was willing to learn about this with me.

Something I love about working equitation is the challenges, from the obstacles to the dressage tests that require thinking and planning for what's next. Ever since I joined everyone has been so nice and kind to me. The group is a nice break from the competitive world of horseback riding.

This has been a great journey with my pony, she is a jumper and this experience has been a great challenge for her to learn. She is 17 and this is a new experience which we are both loving.

This journey has been amazing, and I am glad I decided to pursue working equitation as my discipline. I can't wait to become even better for many seasons to come.



Please check out our website for current information on any upcoming events at [www.highcountryworkingequitation.com](http://www.highcountryworkingequitation.com)



## **BOARD MEMBERS CONTACT INFO**

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|---|
| Chris Stanko – President / show management – <a href="mailto:1chstanko@gmail.com">1chstanko@gmail.com</a> 970-846-6129        |
| Karen Burch – Vice President / treasurer / show management – <a href="mailto:Crickest413@gmail.com">Crickest413@gmail.com</a> |
| Maureen Beavin – Secretary / membership – <a href="mailto:mabeavin@gmail.com">mabeavin@gmail.com</a>                          |
| Erin Gilbert – Director / volunteer coordinator – <a href="mailto:Gilber.erin@gmail.com">Gilber.erin@gmail.com</a>            |
| Janie Brueckner – Director / communications – <a href="mailto:jtbinsett@comcast.net">jtbinsett@comcast.net</a>                |
| Kaite Lorentz – Director / youth coordinator – <a href="mailto:HobbyHorseFarms01@gmail.com">HobbyHorseFarms01@gmail.com</a>   |
| Carmen Attiyeh – Director / social media – <a href="mailto:carmen_attiyeh@yahoo.com">carmen_attiyeh@yahoo.com</a>             |

## **SPONSORSHIP**

If you would like to be a HCWE sponsor, it's never too late! Please visit our website, click on the Sponsors menu option, and download the form. Sponsorships and donations are tax deductible.

Please be sure to support our sponsors. You can find links to their websites on our sponsorship page:

<https://www.highcountryworkingequitation.com/sponsors.html>