

Eastern Horse Magazine

ISSUE 43 February 2022

**Equine Balance
Bands**

Be Rug Wise

Road Safety

Training Tips



Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Essex

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EQUESTRIAN DISCIPLINES IN THE EAST OF ENGLAND**

crafty ponies



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And Much More

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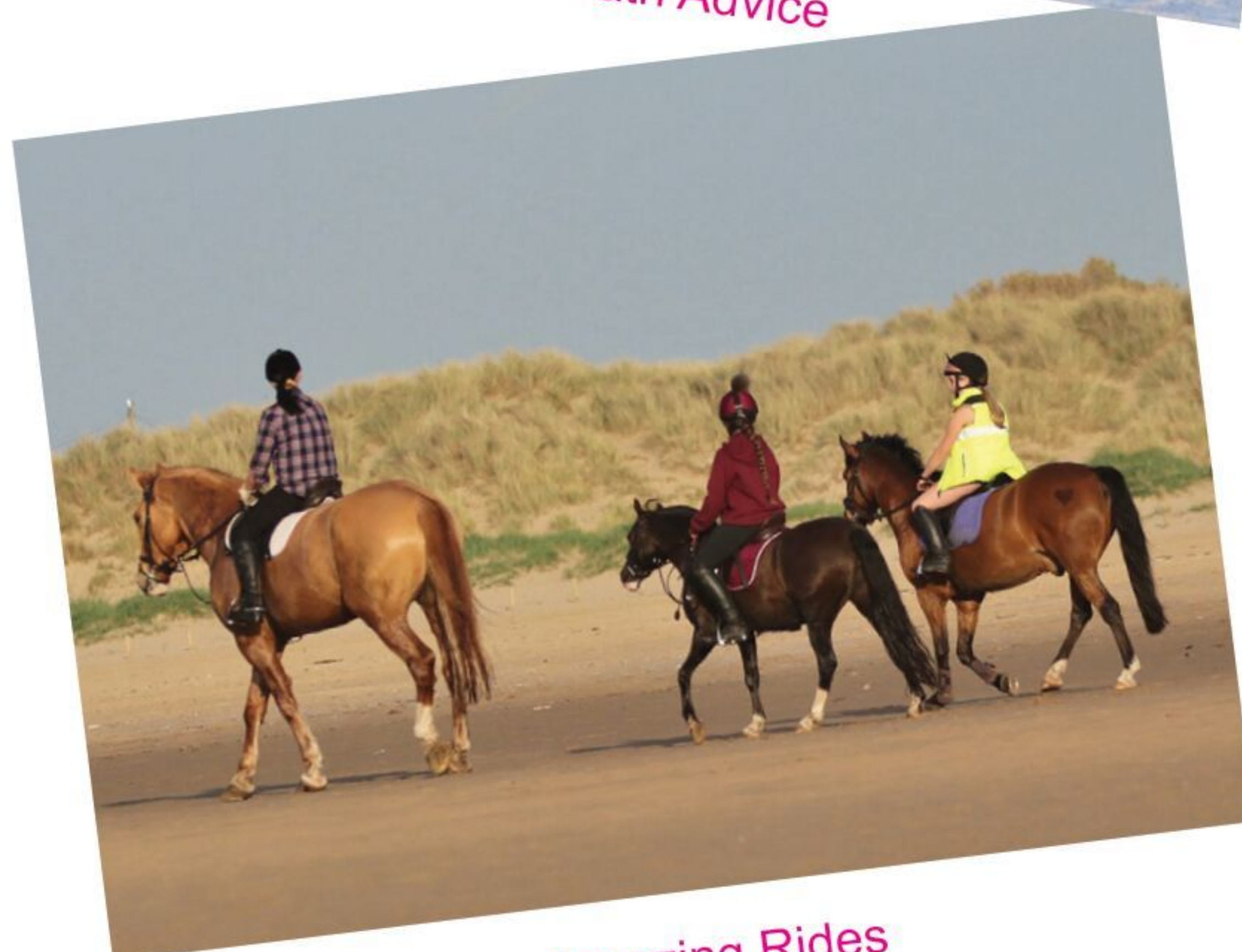
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Showing



Heath Advice



Amazing Rides

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Fun Jumping for Cash



A whole weekend of fun show jumping for cash was held at Codham Park EC with classes starting at cross poles to 1.05m that saw Rebecca Powell take home the leading rider award.

The cross pole class was split into leading rein, ponies and horses won by Connor Callow (LR) Rebecca Powell (P) and Keira Camp (H) Rebecca riding My Blue eyed Boy went on to win the 50cm class with Keira on Sambuca the horse section. Jack Taylor riding Tyngwndwn Coron won the pony 60cm section with Jo Perrin taking the horse class.

There was no stopping the on form Rebecca Powell as she went on to win the 65cm pony section with Nikki Webster on Sailor the horse section Nicki on her other ride Emily won the pony 70cm class with Marie Ford taking the horse class completing the first day's competition.

Classes continued the next day with the 75cm won by Polly Flin (P) and Michelle Saunders (H) Megan Callow won the 80cm (P) and Nicola Shaw riding Medrus Gavin Hansen won the Horse section and went on to win the 85cm class. Polly Flin on her other ride Lovely Larry won the 90-95cm pony class with Gemma Cotton taking the win in the pony section riding Crunchie III. The final class of the weekend was the 1-1.05m open won by Harry Orr riding Handsnuck Mischief.

The official photographer was Spencer from Moret Photography, and we have a selection of riders taking part featured here. If you wish to purchase any photograph from the event, please contact Spencer direct as he has plenty more available.

Pictured are:

- 1 Rebecca Powell & My Blue Eyed Boy
- 2 Jo Perrins & West Ends Playboy
- 3 Nikki Webster & Emily
- 4 Polly Flin & Lovely Larry
- 5 Abigail Fitchett Brown & Jack
- 6 Megan Hume & Caspar
- 7 Ellie Blu & Kilcolony Duke
- 8 Zacherie Dale & Celton Avatar
- 9 Claude Spring & Buttons
- 10 Jacob Simpson & Northbeech Creme De La Crème
- 11 Samantha Powell & Rosegate Daisy
- 12 Harry Beckingsale & Robbie

Images by Moret Photography

www.moretphotography.com



A day in the life of Crafty Ponies®

Crafty Ponies are available from your local tack shop or on-line at www.craftyponies.co.uk



Harry and Pippa take Crafty Ponies saddle apart to clean it. They take off the girth, stirrup leathers and stirrups



Pippa cleans the leather girth with a sponge and some warm clean water



Harry cleans the saddle, when it is dry he rubs in some leather conditioner to keep the leather supple and water repellent



'Cleaning your tack regularly is important, so that it is safe and comfortable for you' says Pippa to Crafty grey Pony

STRAWMAX STRAW PELLETS

A BRAND NEW EQUINE BEDDING WHICH WILL SAVE YOU TIME AND MONEY

SUPER EASY

MEGA ECONOMICAL

ULTRA ECO-FRIENDLY

Made simply from high quality straw,

Strawmax straw pellets are a new bedding option created by Bedmax, the UK's leading manufacturer of equine bedding. They have been created specifically to help horse owners save time, money, and the environment.

Why use straw pellets?

Bedmax began making their bestselling shavings over 20 years ago. Their aim was to offer owners a bedding that helped create the healthiest possible stable environment. But no one type of bedding suits every horse and every owner, and although purpose-made shavings are the most popular bedding in the UK today, traditional straw or wood pellets are the second most widely used.

Strawmax combines all the benefits of straw and wood pellets and solves all the problems many owners are increasingly finding sourcing good quality straw at an economical price.

How is Strawmax made?

It is made from locally sourced, high quality, British wheat straw, crushed and dried, then very simply compacted under pressure into pellets and very thoroughly dust extracted. They come in handy 15kg bags through your local equine

retailer, so they're always available, reliably consistent, and easy to handle, store and use in the stable.



STRAWMAX is one of the Bedmax brands of equine bedding that have just become the first to achieve the new BETA NOPS Bedding accreditation. This is a huge step forward in setting an industry standard assurance of bedding quality and you can read more about it on Page 34 of this issue.

Are they good for your horse?

As with Bedmax shavings, Strawmax pellets have been developed to help you create a really healthy and hygienic stable environment for your horse. Just consider the key equine health benefits when you make a recommended Strawmax bed:

KEY BENEFITS for HORSES

- Minimum airborne dust
- Huge volume & depth
- Comfort & support
- Super absorbent
- Suppresses odour

Are they good for you?

Strawmax pellets are especially helpful for time-pressed, value-conscious owners. They're very long-lasting and they isolate urine in small, easily managed patches. This minimises waste and cuts down the amount of bedding you need to replace, and that makes them exceptionally economical. This is particularly useful for wet and messy horses, but again, the benefits for all owners are outstanding:

KEY BENEFITS for OWNERS

- Very easy to use
- Time & labour saving
- Low on waste
- Big on economy
- Small muckheap
- Fast composting

What makes them sustainable and environmentally friendly?

Firstly, unlike most wood pellets, Strawmax is made from locally sourced, untreated straw which is often a waste product. They are produced using very little energy and without any additives at all. Because they minimise muck-out waste, they keep your muckheap small, and they compost so quickly they can be returned to the soil almost immediately.

A Strawmax bag is fully recyclable and made from 30% recycled material, but it's 100% waterproof and keeps the product in perfect condition.

Independently tested

Straw pellet bedding like Strawmax has recently won the highest praise from a leading equine health consultant to the FEI, and many owners all over the UK are now trying Strawmax and loving it, including the Equestrian editor of Farm Week:

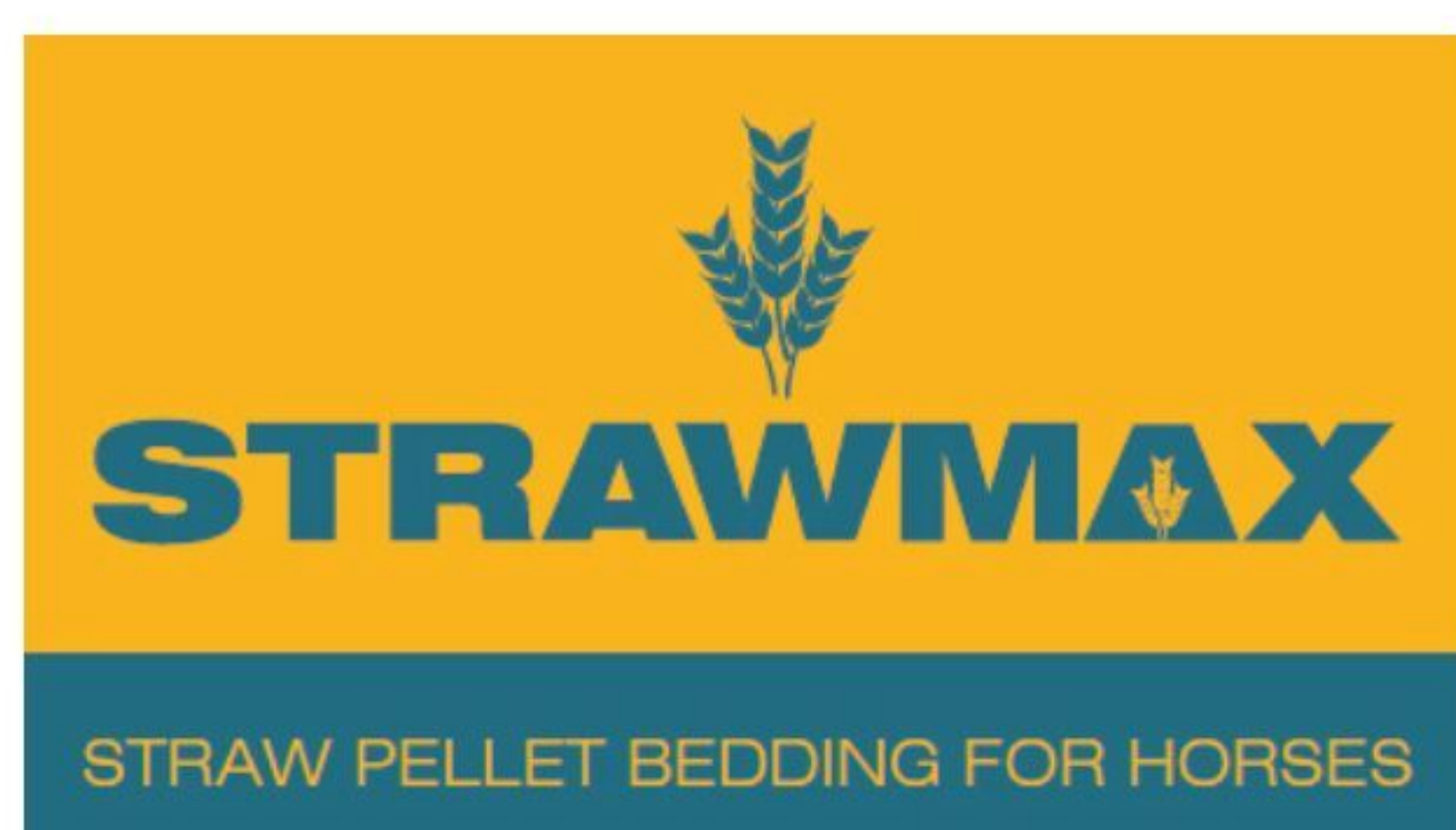
“I would definitely encourage any horse owner who is conscious of time, cost and waste to give it a try. My horse and I give it a big thumbs up!”

Farmweek

It takes about 6-8 bags of STRAWMAX to make a full bed 20-24cms deep in a clean stable. Watering is recommended to ‘fluff the pellets up’. A bucket of water per bag will swell them to 3 x volume but still leave them super absorbent to soak up urine. Maintaining optimum bed depth after mucking out droppings and urine ‘patches’ should only require about 1 bag (suggest pre-watered in a barrow) to be added each week.

STRAWMAX is available from equestrian retailers UK-wide. You can find out all about this great new bedding and locate your nearest supplier at:

www.strawmax.co.uk



TO ORDER YOUR PRINTED COPY OF

Eastern Horse Magazine



www.northernhorsemagazine.co.uk/buy-eastern



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OR GO TO THE WEBSITE

www.northernhorsemagazine.co.uk

OR OUR FACEBOOK PAGE



Myerscough College FEBRUARY 2022



All Entries are Online Only Via Horse Monkey

Wed 2nd - Unaffiliated Dressage

Sat 5th - British Dressage

Sun 6th - British Dressage

Wed 9th - British Dressage

12th-17th – BD Regionals

18th-20th - Para Championships

Wed 23rd - Clear Round Jumping

Sat 26th - Geoff Billington Demonstration

Schedules for each event can be found on Horse Monkey

Visit Horse Style here at Myerscough or view the range at
Horse Style Equestrian - Riding Wear - Riding Boots - Equestrian Supplies

01995 642115 or 642337 www.myerscough.ac.uk

Abram Hall Riding Club Show Dates 2022

Sunday March 6th – Working Hunter

Saturday 19th March – Dressage

Sunday 3rd April – 1st Points & Championship Show

Sunday 17th April – Working Hunter Championship Show

Saturday 30th April – Dressage

Sunday 15th May – 2nd Points Show

Sunday 29th May – Working Hunter

Saturday 11th June – Dressage

Sunday 26th June – 3rd Points Show

Sunday 10th July – Working Hunter

Saturday 23rd July – Dressage

Sunday 7th August – 4th Points Show

Sunday 21st August – Working Hunter (Double Points)

Sunday 4th September 5th Points Show (Double Points)

Saturday 17th September – Dressage

SCHEDULES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

WIGAN WN2 5XA

TEL: 07835 931603

CHAPEL AND DISTRICT RIDING CLUB

B.H.S AFFILIATED

Events 2022



Welcome to Chapel & District Riding Club, we are a small friendly club based at Charley Lane, Chinley, (SK23 6DX) We run many shows, practice evenings & training sessions for our members and non-members throughout the year. Below are dates for some of our shows in 2022.

Everyone is welcome, be it your first show ever or you are a seasoned pro, who does not want to win one of our lovely rosettes or that beautiful best in show sash?

We look forward to seeing you at our show ground in the High Peak very soon, remember to check our web-site or Facebook page for further details.

Dates for your diary:

Open Easter Show 17or 24th April 2022 (TBC)Charley Lane Show Ground
Includes Easter Egg Hunt

Open Show 22nd May 2022 Charley Lane Show Ground

Open Show 19th June 2022 Charley Lane Show Ground

Open Show 17th July 2022 Charley Lane Show Ground

Open Show 18th September 2022 Charley Lane Show Ground

All schedules and additional events will be posted on our website, where you will also find contact details.:

You can find us at www.cadrc.org.uk

We will also be offering Training & Dressage Competitions.



**Caverswall
& District**
RIDING CLUB



SHOW DATES 2022

10TH APRIL

8TH MAY

12TH JUNE

10TH JULY (DOUBLE POINTS)

28TH AUGUST – OPEN SHOW (NO POINTS)

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THE SUNSHINE TOUR***



WWW.CAVERSWALLRC.ORG

caverswallanddistrictrc@gmail.com

OUR SCHEDULE CAN BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE
ENTRIES VIA HORSE MONKEY

Ribble Valley Riding Club

2022 Events Registered for STARS

Sat 2nd & Sun 3rd April at Croft Top EC BB5 2DP
qualifiers BSPA RI

Outdoor open shows held in the picturesque setting
of Witton Country Park, Blackburn BB2 5LE

Sun 24th April qualifiers SSADL, NCPA & VHS

Sun 5th June The David Horsfield Memorial Show
qualifiers SSADL & BSPS

Sun 3rd July qualifiers VHS

Sun 7th August Horse & Open Dog Show

Sun 4th September Trophy Show

Classes include Ridden, In Hand, Dressage, Working
Hunter, Handy Pony, Beginners Ring & Mounted Games.

Fun, friendly show with panel judges and a great
atmosphere. Points awarded to members to qualify for
STARS and end of year Trophies. All details will be in our
schedule and will also be available online, facebook and
instagram (ribblevalleyrc)

www.ribblevalleyridingclub.co.uk

South West Pony Association

SHOW SECRETARIES

Why not affiliate your show to SWPA?

*Affiliation is **FREE !!***

Our members are constantly looking for shows holding our qualifiers, and this year there are no cards to give out, as our members will have their cards that just need signing.

Just go to our website www.swpa.co.uk and follow the links 'Affiliate your show to SWPA'

You will find all the information you need and the 'affiliation form'

For more information send an Email to

RichardatSWPA@aol.com



South West Pony Association



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Or Email: RichardatSWPA@aol.com

On-Line entries, memberships, and schedules at www.showingscene.com



Our 2022 showing dates are now confirmed.
Membership can be secured via the website, and we encourage pre-entries where possible.

2022 SHOW DATES

- 20th March – Clinic
- 10th April
- 08th May
- 05th June
- 03rd July
- 31st July
- 28th August

Notes

- 2022 will also be holding a SUPREME Championship on the 28th August 2022 from all member champions throughout the year.
- The Rising Star Award will also be returning for 2022. Nominations for members under 18.

To find out more about our shows visit our website, sign up as a member and you can also download our show schedule

Which straps should I attach my girth to?



In this issue Society of Master Saddlers' President, Master Saddler, Master Bridle Maker, Master Harness Maker, Registered Master Saddle Fitter and Registered Qualified Bridle Fitter, Helen Reader, provides advice on which straps to attach the girth to.

This is a common question, especially as saddles now can have up to five girth straps each side which makes it confusing for the rider. Traditionally there would be only three girth straps. One on a narrow web just behind the front arch of the tree and then a further two both stitched onto the same wider web set behind the first web.

However, over the years things have changed and now there are more options including a point strap, which is attached to the point at the front of the tree and a balance web which attached to the back of the tree, often by means of a v-web system. The v-web system allows the girth strap to find its own centre and not pull the saddle forwards. These additional girth strap positions allow your Society of Master Saddlers Registered Qualified Saddle Fitter (SMS RQSF) to assess which girth straps to use to achieve the best fit.

The girth straps must not be used to make an ill-fitting saddle stay in place, they are used to refine the fit and help with stability of the saddle.

When the saddle is placed in the correct position on the horse, the most suitable girth straps will lay vertically inline with the girth groove and therefore the girth. Ideally the girthing arrangement will help to distribute the pull of the girth over a wider area and give better stability of the saddle. If that line is not vertical and then the saddle will move forwards or backwards to achieve that vertical line and in turn will move the saddle either forwards onto the shoulders or backwards on to the lumbar region. Neither of these options are desirable and will cause the horse discomfort and possibly pain.

The point strap is used if the saddle tends to slip forwards, however by using the point strap it can pull the front of the saddle down and make the back lift, move and bounce. Generally, a balance strap would also be used when using the point strap to support the back of the saddle. The balance strap can also be used to prevent saddle slip, but only if the cause of the saddle slip has been

identified and can't be corrected, eg.

The rider has an injury which means that they ride twisted to one side and pull the saddle across with them. Then the balance strap can be used one side to support the saddle and prevent it from twisting, just like a balance strap is used on a side saddle to support the saddle on the side without the rider's legs.

Your SMS RQSF will select the girth straps that they feel are most suitable after assessing the saddle on the horse and looking at the line of the girth groove. You will then be asked you to ride in the saddle to make sure that the saddle doesn't move, is balanced and that both you and the horse are comfortable in the saddle. If the saddle is used for jumping, then you will be asked to jump a fence or two. Whilst you are riding the SMS RQSF will be assessing the saddle on the horse, the horse's way of going and your position and balance. Depending upon what they observe they may change the girthing arrangement and then ask you to ride again, so that they can reassess everything.

Once they are happy with the girthing arrangement then they will explain to you which girth straps you need to use for your horse and why.

For more information visit

www.mastersaddlers.co.uk

Amazing Horse Adventures

All horse lovers will agree that spending time with their equine companion is the highlight of the day. Is there anything better than trotting along immaculate beaches or galloping freely into the sunset? In the summer or on a crisp winter afternoon, a horse ride is what you really need to unwind.

Luckily, the UK is rich in splendid bridleways and riding routes. From mesmerising coastal paths to wild and lush green spaces, British horse riders are truly spoilt for choice. That said, we have put together a list of some of the most scenic bridleways in the country. It has been no easy task - but we are confident both you and your equine companion will enjoy them.



Bodmin Moor, Cornwall

In search of an itinerary that combines nature and history? Bodmin Moor in Cornwall has it all. Over the years, artists and writers have been inspired by its untouched beauty. The route also takes you past Bronze Age stone circles and prehistoric settlements, offering you the chance to gallop back in time.

Bodmin Moor is not recommended for new starters, but there are riding schools in the area to help wannabe equestrians develop their skills and confidence. In this respect, it is always wise to be covered by riding school insurance, which will protect both teachers and learners in the event of a misadventure.

Holy Island, Northumberland

The Holy Island of Lindisfarne is a heavenly location for you and your horse to explore. With its pristine, sandy beaches, you can sweep across the shore at a gentle pace while admiring the majestic and picturesque Lindisfarne Castle in the background.

Keep an eye out for the many seabirds and seals that dot the island and its surroundings. If you and your equine companion are brave enough, you can also take a dip in the icy waters of the North Sea.

The Pennine Bridleway

There is no question that the Pennine Bridleway truly deserves to make this list. With 200 miles of stunning landscape and riding to enjoy, there is the opportunity to make some special memories with your horse.

Extending from Derbyshire to Cumbria, and cutting through the Peak District and the Yorkshire Dales, the route is packed with incredible scenery and challenging hills. Furthermore, it is the UK's first National Trail, specifically designed for horse riders, walkers, and mountain bikers.

Great Windsor Park

Fancy a royal canter? Great Windsor Park is only accessible with an annual

permit, but it may be worth splashing out to indulge in a proper regal experience.

From 800-year-old woodlands to deer parks, this 5,000-acre estate enshrines many gems that make each outing a memorable moment. Brimmed with coffee shops here and there, you can stop for a drink and break up those long, tiring gallops.

Gallow Hill, Scotland

Scotland never disappoints when it comes to unspoilt nature and mind-blowing views. Gallow Hill, in particular, is a special place to take your horse for some exercise.

On one side, the many hills make for an intense workout and help build stamina. On the other, panoramas of the sea from the top of the hill truly repay the effort and hard work. Surrounded by thriving countryside and beautiful woodland, there is no place like Gallow Hill!

Murthwaite Green, Lake District

Close to the coastal village of Silecroft

in Cumbria, Murthwaite Green is just a short ride away from its five miles of beaches. The location is ideal for both first-time and experienced riders, who can enjoy its shallow water and golden sand.

It also allows you to ride at the pace you feel most comfortable with. Are you just starting out? A nice, relaxing walk would be perfect. Are you a bit of a jockey? Shoot along the shore and charge through the shallows. Make sure you bring some spare clothes – you'll need them by the end of the ride!

The New Forest

Are you a lover of both flora and fauna? Saddle up and explore the forest's wild vegetation, restful streams, and free-roaming ponies. Is there a more suitable location for a peaceful horse ride?

With plenty of unique tracks and bridleways, you can take in a myriad of enchanting views. There are also many pubs and restaurants along the way, as well as accommodation that offers all-important livery facilities.

The Cotswold Hills

Last but certainly not least, the Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (CAONB) provides horse riders with an endless choice of itineraries. From tranquil lanes and bridleways to pretty villages with honey-coloured cottages, the Cotswold Hills offer a variety of amazing routes.

You can venture through ancient paths and open fields while admiring spectacular views of the Brecon Beacons. All in all, it is a brilliant location for you and your equine companion to enjoy.

There is nothing like sharing a special moment with your horse. What do you think? Will you visit one of these wonderful routes in the near future?

List prepared by Cliverton

www.cliverton.co.uk/policies/riding-school-insurance/



Be rug-wise this winter for the health of your horse, says Blue Cross



National pet charity Blue Cross is advising owners not to rug up their horses just because they are feeling cold themselves. Even though horses may look warm and cosy a rug from an anthropomorphic perspective, it may not be the kindest or healthiest course of action to wrap them up in the equine equivalent of a padded anorak.

“As temperatures start to drop it’s tempting to reach for the extra rugs, but does your horse actually need one at all?” said Ruth Court Horse Welfare Manager at Blue Cross. “There has been a lot of research around rugging in recent years and there are many reasons why we may not need to rug our horses, the most obvious one being weight gain.”

Blue Cross has put together nine

points to consider before deciding to put a rug on your horse:

Self-protection: Horses are programmed to protect themselves in bad weather, turn their backs on wind and rain to protect their head, neck, eyes, ears and belly.

Natural shelter: They may choose natural shelter such as hedges and trees and keep together to share body warmth. Or they may have access to a field shelter.

Natural insulation: Horses with frost on their backs may look cold but they are quite the opposite as very little body heat is escaping through the air which is why the frost hasn’t melted.

Compromised thermoregulation: The horse has a very efficient coat covered

with tiny hairs. The hair erector muscles for each hair need ‘exercising’ in order to work efficiently and over rugging may compromise this natural mechanism.

Heat imbalance: Over rugging means that the horse warms up under the rug but not in other exposed areas.

Over-heating: If the horse becomes too hot under the rug, he doesn’t have a natural ability to cool down and may begin to sweat and become uncomfortable.

Natural weight control: The use of rugs can affect the horse’s natural weight control system. Horses are designed to use fat reserves over winter to keep warm. By keeping horses over rugged and over fed during the winter we are increasing the risk of further weight

gain in the spring, increasing the risk of laminitis.

Forage: munching and digesting forage for 24 hours a day will help generate heat to keep a horse warm naturally.

Individual needs: There are some exceptions to the rugging rule: lighter, elderly or unwell horses may benefit from the additional warmth of a rug. Clipped horses and stabled horses with restricted movement may also appreciate a rug.

“Horses have evolved to deal with the cold,” said Ruth. “As long as we meet their basic management needs by providing ad lib forage, water, equine companionship and access to shelter they should be comfortable and warm with the lightest of rain sheets or no rugs at all.

“Do remember to make any changes gradually though, to give them time to adapt their natural heating system and they must be checked at least once a day to be sure that they are happy in the field.”

If you need support, advice or guidance about caring for your horse visit

<https://www.bluecross.org.uk/advice/horse>

For details of Blue Cross horses looking for homes please visit <https://www.bluecross.org.uk/rehome/horse>. If you are not in a position to rehome, but still wish to help, please consider supporting Blue Cross here.

Blue Cross is a national charity that has been helping sick, injured, abandoned and homeless pets for over 120 years. Helping thousands of pets in need every month by providing veterinary care, expert behaviour help, and find them loving homes.

For Advertising ring 07591 999209



They also offer education for current and future pet owners plus pet bereavement support for those who have lost their pet companion. Pets help us in so many ways and they depend entirely on us, with your support we can give back to more pets in need. Pets change lives. We change theirs.

www.bluecross.org.uk

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The Hidden Benefits of Wearing Hi-Viz



In the midst of a frosty winter, many of us are looking forward to the warmer, longer days that summer brings, allowing us to get out more and enjoy time with our horses. Come rain or shine, there is always a need to wear hi-viz however, as light levels are not the only factors at play when it comes to safety on and off the roads.

Before going out it is important to be up to date with the Highway Code. Many of us will need to use roads to get to off-road sections, so it is important to know about our rights and responsibilities while doing so.

The British Horse Society always recommends wearing hi-viz clothing when riding or carriage driving, regardless of whether you ride or drive on or off the road, the time of day, season or weather conditions. The BHS commissioned a scientific study on how visible horses and riders are on the road by the Transport Research Laboratory. You can find the full report to download at bhs.org.uk/hi-viz

While riding off-road can be safer than being on roads there are always some risks attached with riding. Being www.northernhorsemagazine.co.uk

prepared can help minimise these. Wearing hi-viz whilst riding off-road allows dog walkers to see you from a greater distance, giving them more time to get their dog under control. If you are out hacking in an area where there are low flying aircraft or helicopters, the pilot is also more likely to spot you up to half a mile sooner, giving them the opportunity to either change course or gain altitude to reduce the likelihood of your horse reacting in fright.

Hi-viz may also help save your life if the worst happens, and you have a fall while out for a hack on your own and part company with your horse. Increasing your visibility can be vital in locating you if you are unable to move, particularly if you have lost consciousness. It could help a search party spot you or even make it easier for a helicopter or search drone to spot you from above.

In addition to hi-viz tabards, consider using hi-vis hatbands and gloves as well as LED lights for your boots and arms. Hi-Viz needn't be restricted to just riders, with hi-viz leg bands and neck straps available for your horse too. Plan for the worst and consider fitting your horse out with a breastplate, tail guard or exercise

sheet so he's protected should you be unlucky enough to part company and he heads for home alone.

For those wanting to learn more, the BHS offers a Ride Safe Award as part of the BHS Challenge Awards. Ride Safe gives you the confidence to ride in the environments you are most often faced with, keeping you and your horse safe. The course provides practical examples, tips and guidance to make you knowledgeable when riding in all situations including:

- Riding safely on the road, along rights of way, across agricultural land, at the beach and when warming up at competitions
- Negotiating hazards
- Understanding common signs
- Dealing with conflict or difficult situations when riding out
- Negotiating obstacles, wind turbines and solar panel farms

Please visit bhs.org.uk/ridesafe to learn more.

Tell the BHS

Remember, if you encounter any equine-related incident, you can report it us quickly and easily through the new BHS safety app, 'Horse i', which is available to download for free from the Apple store and Google Play or scan the QR code. If you do not use a smartphone, you can still record incidents via the online form at www.horseincidents.org.uk



Top tip – Maps and Apps

Downloading the app “what3words” can help pinpoint your location in the case of an emergency. Some areas have very poor phone signal however, so letting somebody know where you are going and when you are likely to get back can also be a good idea.

Similarly, when going out on a new route for the first time taking a physical map is a good idea, in case phone signal is particularly poor.

The
British
Horse
Society



Knowing What and How Much to Feed your Horse



By Dr. Courtney Miller BS BVetMed MRCVS, Technical Director at Dodson & Horrell and Rosie Dearing Crampton Flood, Nutrition Intern at Dodson & Horrell, BSc Equine, Sports and Business Student at Van Hall Larenstein

What should you feed your horse?

Horses can be tricky animals to feed. There are so many options on the market, including various compound feeds, forage, balancers and supplements. Knowing what to choose can sometimes seem overwhelming! To simplify things, we will break down feeding into its components and provide some advice to help guide your feeding decisions.

Water – The Starting Point

Before delving into feeding, remember the importance of water. Providing

readily available, clean and fresh water is crucial for all horses and ponies so they can perform their baseline bodily functions.

Forage – The Most Important Part of your Horse's Diet

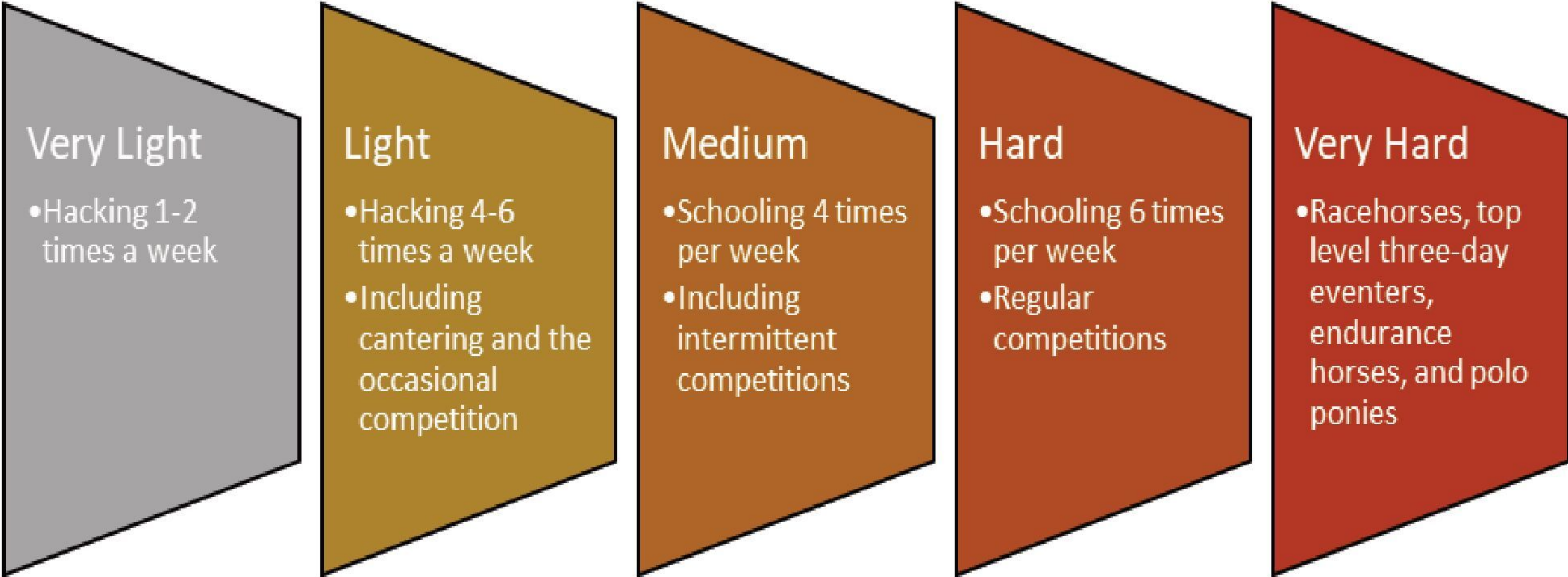
A horse's diet should be comprised mainly of forage totalling 1.5 – 2.0% of their bodyweight in dry matter. Dry matter is the weight of your forage without its water content. This means that a horse weighing 500 kg should be getting 7.5 – 10 kg of forage daily. Choosing what forage is best for your horse depends on whether they have any special considerations, e.g., nutritional disorders such as laminitis or EMS. In these cases, it is sometimes better to feed hay rather than haylage, because hay often has a lower energy content. If you want to be sure about this, speak with your vet at your

horse's next check-up. Also consider testing your forage to get a baseline assessment of its nutrient and energy content. Below different types of forage have been described to help guide you to making most suitable choice for your horse.

Complementary Feed – Concentrated Feed v's a Balancer

To complement the forage in your horse's diet by rounding out the vitamins and minerals it provides, and sometimes to give that extra push in energy when horses are working hard; complementary, or hard feeds, can be used. There are many concentrate feeds available, including cubes and mueslis with various feeding rates. The wide choice available means you can find the feed that is a perfect fit for your horse's appetite, condition and workload.

Forage Type	Description	What type of Horse best suits it?
Hay	Hay can vary in its energy levels although generally lower value than haylage.	Generally suitable for all horses and ponies. Those with nutritional disorders or good doers benefit from its lower energy. Not always suitable for horses with respiratory issues as dust and mould spores can be retained during the drying process. Hygiene testing can help assess this.
Haylage	Usually cut early, it has a higher protein and energy content.	Often suited to horses in medium to hard work, it usually has a higher energy content. It's higher moisture content means you need to feed slightly more to get to 1.5 to 2% in dry matter weight. A great option for fussy feeders as it is highly palatable.
Fresh Grass	Pasture grass can consist of many different species, in the UK it is largely perennial rye grass.	All horses can eat grass though those prone to laminitis or good doers should be monitored and/or potentially restricted. Sugar content in fresh grass can fluctuate throughout the seasons and the day, spikes in sugar can elicit an internal reaction linked to laminitis.



Secondary to workload, there are other factors that should play a role in choosing whether a concentrate feed is the right option for your horse, including breed, age and type of discipline.

If your horse is a good doer or prone to laminitis, if you’re looking for something lower in calories, sugar and starch, or if you are finding the choice of concentrate feeds overwhelming and have a horse who is in very light or light work, a balancer would be a perfect option. Balancers provide needed daily vitamins and minerals and have low feeding rates therefore making a relatively low contribution to calories in the overall diet. There are lots of choices within

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the balancer market, and it is possible to select options that have targeted supplements built in for additional support.

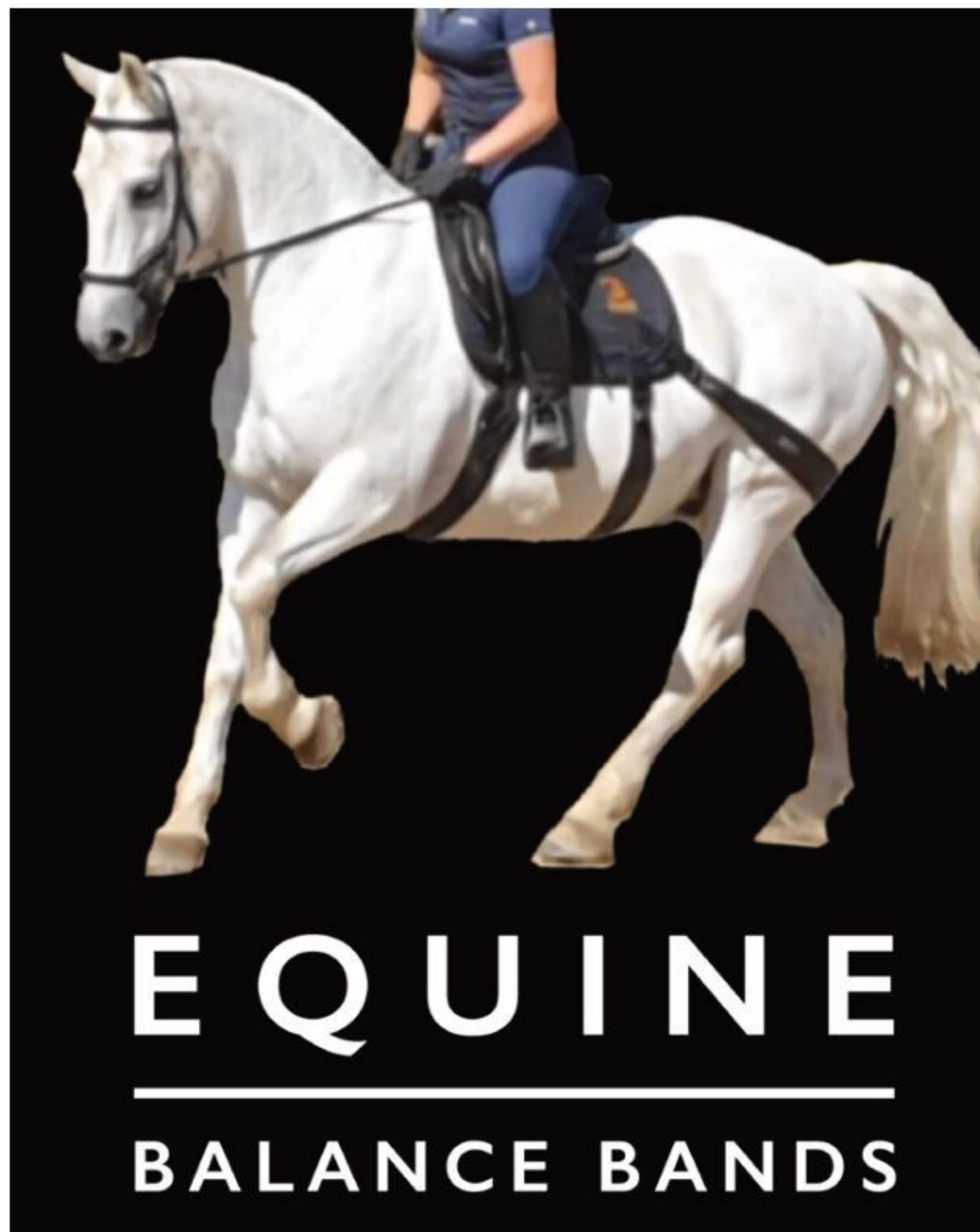
Supplements

As the name implies, supplements are the added extras that can be provided in addition to the mainstays of your horse’s diet. They often provide unique and specific benefits, sometimes making it tempting to add many different types at once. Although this practice can be appealing, it’s important to read labels carefully to ensure there isn’t too much overlap in what you are feeding and supplementing as this could cause overages or imbalances that are not always healthy.

If you have any questions or would like bespoke feeding advice for your horse or pony, the best place to start is by speaking to your feed brands Helpline team, a registered nutritionist, or your vet to seek their professional advice and support.

For more information on Dodson & Horrell and its range of horse feeds visit www.dodsonandhorrell.com where you can also get personalised feeding advice from the friendly Nutritional Helpline via LiveChat, email HelplineEnquiries@dodsonandhorrell.com or by calling 01270 782223.

Equine Balance Bands



Saddle Pad System for Core Conditioning in Horses

Resistance band training increases body position awareness and encourages the development of key muscle groups that support the spine in the ridden horse.

The Equine Balance Bands System comprises of 2 unique latex-free resistance bands, specifically developed for equine use. They are fitted around the horse's hindquarters and abdomen and attach to a specially designed saddle pad, shaped to alleviate pressure points.

Use of the bands during training helps to activate the core muscles which stabilise the spinal column and promotes development of the top line musculature.

How it works - Developing Proprioceptive Awareness

During movement the bands exert a continuous stimulus on the body, which is recognised by receptor cells in the

skin. This induces a sensory response by the nervous system and encourages the horse to engage the 'rounding' muscles of the body as opposed to the extensor chain of muscles that are responsible for hollowing of the frame.

Engaging the core muscles such as the ileopsoas group (muscles that help flex the hip and haunches), and the abdominal muscles helps the back, pelvis and hind limb to achieve optimum function so that the horse can develop body strength, suppleness and stability.

The abdominal band encourages the horse to engage the abdominal musculature which is particularly beneficial for horses with an inverted/hollow posture. The hind quarter band encourages greater awareness of limb placement during movement which is particularly beneficial in cases of poor engagement or asymmetrical movement.

Our Background Story

I am Christine Patterson, a retired Sports and Exercise Fitness Coach and my daughter Laura Patterson is a BHS Equestrian Coach and Sports Massage



Therapist in Ireland, Laura also holds a Bachelor of Business in Equine Degree. Together we developed the product to help ex racehorses make the transition from racing to riding horses in order that they could be successfully rehomed and go on to have a happy and sound second career.

Many of these horses had good temperaments and athletic ability but struggled with engagement, found it difficult to work over the back or were inclined to hold themselves in a tense or hollow outline. By incorporating the bands into a structured and progressive core conditioning program it seemed to help the horses to settle and figure out what was required of them.

People began to notice the difference and enquire about the system. I think that using the bands also makes the handler more aware of how the horse uses his whole body, which is a positive step away from some of the more restrictive and commonly deployed training practices in equestrianism.

The Importance of Preparing the Horse for Work Under Saddle

Core stability can be referred to the ability to recruit the deep muscles that connect the pelvic limbs and spine to produce quality and controlled movement. Increased core stability enhances the ability of the soft tissues to protect the spine from injury or re-injury.

In human fitness and therapy practise it is well recognised that if the core is weak then the other body parts may come under strain or suffer from over use. With the horse we can apply the same principles, plus there is an increased responsibility to condition and prepare the horse for its role in carrying the weight of the rider and developing balance in movement under saddle.

In addition, the modern lifestyle of both horse and rider can present challenges with regards to health and fitness. The domestic horse is subject to the confines of human intervention and routine. He is less active than a horse reared in a natural environment and reduced physical activity can lead to poor muscle tone and reduced functional soft tissue support.

People are more conscious these days about animal welfare and well-being and are keen to take proactive measures to maintain the health and soundness of their animals. Remember that the horse evolved over hundreds of thousands of years into a free roaming, foraging, prey animal and it is only in more recent history that his existence became dependant upon his relationship with mankind and his usefulness under saddle.

An understanding of his natural inherent characteristics can help us to manage his lifestyle and training options in a



considerate way and to make changes that compliment or improve his current condition.

3 Key areas for Consideration in Overcoming Inherent Weakness and Why Some Horses Require Extra Help

The Natural Balance of the Horse

Horses naturally carry a greater proportion of weight (approximately 60%) through the front limbs. The natural tendency of the horse is to weight the forehead meaning greater stress on the fore limbs and joints. Conformation and previous training experience may affect the extent to which the horse relies upon his forehead for balance.

Training the horse to transfer excess weight from the forelegs to the hind quarters begins by encouraging each of the hind limbs to step further under the horse's centre of gravity. This is not entirely straight forward as the horses hindquarters are wider than his shoulders. This combined with his inherent handedness (or preference to

engage one side of the body over the other), can cause the horse to lean in, fall out or move crooked.

Understanding this and training for optimum balance and limb placement improves stride symmetry. By increasing awareness of how the hind limb functions and is positioned the horse becomes better able to support his own weight plus that of the rider in movement. Because the largest of the horse's muscles are located in the hind quarters we can positively influence muscle tone and function in this area, helping the horse to fully develop his athletic potential. .

The Effect of Weight on the Back

The shape of the spine upon which the rider sits and from which the horse's considerable gut is suspended should be given consideration. The orientation of the thoraco-lumbar curve is usually straight or slightly dorsally convex, however with the increased weight of a saddle and rider this orientation can become inverted (ventrally convex).

This is a weaker shape for supporting weight and continued exertion can lead to pain and soft tissue degeneration. Variables which may pre dispose the horse to adopt a hollow posture include age, genetics, previous training, saddle fit and the presence or lack of supporting musculature.

With regard to the role that the core muscles play in supporting the spinal column, the bow and string theory gives us a simple to understand analogy to explain how positive tension of the string (core muscles) can help the back to 'come up'.

The Increased Force that acts on the Body in Motion

If the horse is neither trained nor conditioned to carry the load appropriately, the musculoskeletal system will be subject to extra stress. Adopting an inappropriate balance may cause discomfort and show as resistance, bad behaviour or eventual lameness. This means that the more demanding the work load the greater the stress and potentially the stronger the horses objection!

Preparatory Training for Success, Soundness and Longevity

Preparatory training can help the horse to build the supporting musculature which will enable the horse to better adjust his balance whilst carrying a rider. Considerate and regular exercise that uses a range of stretching and suppling techniques to activate and engage the core can be incorporated into the work schedule with the aim of developing the top line, increasing proprioceptive awareness and strengthening the musculoskeletal system.

The result is a happier horse, better able to adjust to the demands placed upon him.

This often shows as:

Improved performance

Increased tolerance to exercise

Development of the top line muscles

Preservation of soundness.

Find out More

If you are interested in learning more about Equine Balance Bands and are interested in participating in our upcoming Core Conditioning Program

Follow Equine Balance Bands on Facebook and Like our page to receive updates. More information about the system, free eBook, and training articles can be found online at

www.equinebalancebands.com



Badminton TV

Badminton Horse Trials is launching its own livestream service, Badminton TV, in an accessible package that will ensure viewers don't miss a moment of the action, wherever they are in the world.



All live coverage of the dressage, cross country and show jumping will be produced by the same team that deliver Badminton's BBC coverage ensuring top quality viewing worldwide (via the event website as in previous years) and available for purchase via the Badminton TV page of the website for a discounted annual fee of £14.99; if purchased from 1st April onwards the cost will be £19.99.

British viewers will be able to watch all days live, including the show jumping until the final 10, at which time they will be advised to join the BBC who will be broadcasting their usual Sunday 2 hour highlights programme culminating with live coverage of the top ten show jumping to see who will be crowned the

2022 Badminton winner. Those viewing from overseas will view the competition via Badminton TV throughout. And, even if you are unable to watch it live, you won't miss a beat of the action, as it will be possible to view on demand post-event.

"We know how much our loyal followers all over the world enjoy following every single aspect of the competition, whether spectating on event or at home, so we hope Badminton TV will be a great addition to everyone's enjoyment," said Event Director Jane Tuckwell. "We are excited about this new venture, bought to you by the Badminton TV production team who have provided the BBC coverage for many years and

are looking forward to entertaining a worldwide audience with the highest standards of production."

Timetable:

Thursday, May 5th: CCI5* Dressage

Friday, May 6th: CCI5* Dressage

Saturday, May 7th: CCI5* Cross-Country

Sunday, May 8th: CCI5* Show Jumping

Finale and Prize giving

Please note that if you intend visiting the Badminton Horse Trials this year

ALL tickets must be purchased in advance, there will be no sales on the gate. Tickets can be purchased from

boxoffice@badminton-horse.co.uk

Equine veterinary nursing students clear the hurdle of final exams



A newly established school for equine veterinary nurses is celebrating after its first intake of students achieved a 100% pass rate in their final exams.

Seven students from VetPartners Equine Nursing School completed two years of studies by proving their knowledge in diagnostic imaging, anaesthesia, theatre nursing and clinical and emergency care. They completed a range of practical tasks to impress the examiners.

As a result of their efforts, they have been awarded a City & Guilds Level 3 Diploma in Equine Veterinary Nursing and have become fully qualified equine veterinary nurses who are eligible to register with the RCVS.

VetPartners Equine Nursing School opened its doors in September 2019 and is based at Liphook Equine Hospital in Hampshire. The school was launched to ensure equine nurses receive the best possible training and equip them with the skills and knowledge that will allow them to make the most of their potential.

Students study for the diploma while working at an equine or mixed veterinary practice and visit Liphook Veterinary Hospital on block release for six weeks each academic year, where they benefit from using the hospital's state-of-the-art facilities.

Rosina Lillywhite, Liphook Equine Hospital's head clinic nurse and head of centre at the Equine Nursing School, said she is very proud of the students' achievements.

Rosina said: "VetPartners Equine Nursing School focuses on training students in the very best practice of equine care and our lecturers are all nurses and vets with up-to-date experience of working in modern equine veterinary practice. The fact we have had a 100% pass rate is testament to the high quality of teaching the equine nursing school delivers and the levels of support our veterinary practices have offered the students.

The students have all worked extremely hard to achieve their qualifications and they have had to cope with extra challenges caused by the Covid pandemic, including switching to online learning during lockdowns. I'm so pleased that their dedication and commitment has been rewarded. They are now back at their practices full time, fulfilling their dream of being fully fledged equine nurses and I wish them all the best in their future careers."

A further eight students have started their second year of studies and a new intake of 12 students joined the Equine Nursing School in September, with VetSkill becoming the new awarding body of the two-year diploma.

Applications will be invited in March for the academic year beginning in September. Applicants must already work at an equine veterinary practice, which can be within or outside the VetPartners family, and anyone interested in enrolling or finding out more should contact Rosina at rosina.lillywhite@theLEH.co.uk. More information is available from

www.vetpartnersnursingschool.co.uk

Pictured is Rosina Lillywhite, Liphook Equine Hospital's head clinic nurse.

Add a touch of pink with MOCHARA this Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day is approaching fast, leaving little time to hint to the special someone in your life that you would love to have something from MOCHARA for your romantic gift.

These 'pretty in pink' wardrobe essentials are the perfect solution and needn't be reserved just for Valentine's Day, they will look fabulous any time of year!

The MOCHARA Technical Base Layer top would make the perfect gift as it comes in four fabulous shades of pink; Rose, Burgundy, Berry and Baby Pink, all of which are feminine and flatter skin tones. The Base Layer has been stylishly designed for practicality and comfort. It's an essential item for any sport that is outdoors and physically active, providing warmth, breathability and protection against muscle damage.

MOCHARA Equestrian Technical Base Layer £40 Available in Jet Black, Charcoal, Navy, Slate Grey, Baby Pink, Grape, Burgundy, Rose, Berry, Mauve or Snow White Sizes XXS, XS, S, M, L, XL, XXL

MOCHARA Half Zip Sweatshirt £40 Available in Charcoal Grey, Jet Black, Mocha, White, Lilac, Baby Blue, Baby Pink, Navy, Heather Grey and Plum Sizes XXS, XS, S, M, L, XL, XXL



Stay dry in the saddle with these waterproof winter breeches and over trousers

Mountain Horse Bond Softshell Breeches are stylish women's winter riding breeches made from a water repellent, warm softshell fabric that is also dirt repellent and highly breathable. The Bond Softshell Breeches feature a soft fleece inside for your comfort and warmth and a handy mobile pocket on the right leg.

Packed with Spandex fabric for stretch and to allow for movement as you ride, these warm softshell fleece lined, water resistant breeches will be a welcome addition to your equestrian winter wardrobe this year.

Colour: Black Sizes: Ladies 34 – 46 RRP: £129

Movement Pants from Mountain Horse are over trousers designed to cope with the worst wet and windy weather whether you're in the saddle or on the yard. They are made with a waterproof and windproof fabric that has fully taped seams, a pre-bent knee and durable grip fabric at the seat, lined with soft warm feather touch polyester padding.

Side zippers make them easy to pull on and off, the waist is elastic and adjustable, and elastic straps at the bottom leg are adjustable and removable. Extra detailing like reflective tape at the bottom of the leg, and a reflective logo make these essential for every riders winter wardrobe. Colour: Black Sizes: Unisex XS – XXXL RRP: £129

The Guard Pants from Mountain Horse are made with WPS 5000 fabric which is fully taped, waterproof and windproof. The material is very durable and MH Tech silicone at the seat gives extra grip in the saddle.

On the right leg there's a pocket with a placket for mobile phone with a zipper, the legs are pre-bent for comfort and there's a full zipper all the way to the knee so that they are easy to pull on and off even with your tall boots on. The fabric is reinforced at the lower legs for durability and there's a velcro fastening to adjust bottom width.

A logo at the bottom leg adds extra style. Size: XS – XXL

Colour: Navy RRP: £79

www.mountainhorse.co.uk



Nettex Winter Warriors help your horse win against winter



To help beat winter mud, Nettex is offering horse owners a 10% discount on all products within the Winter Warriors range throughout February.

The ever-popular Nettex Winter Warriors range features nine products, including the tried and trusted Muddy Marvel Seven Day Mud Away and Muddy Marvel Barrier Cream. These vital products put horse owners' minds at ease by assisting in winter hoofcare and mud management.

Winter presents numerous issues to horse owners, and mud can wreak havoc with horses' lower legs and feet. Common seasonal conditions, such as thrush and mud fever, can be difficult and time consuming to overcome for owners, and can be very uncomfortable for your horse. Nettex advises management, with appropriate husbandry and products, which can help in the battle against mud and hoof related conditions. Nettex has developed a range to help horse owners manage this seasonal battle, with products that help to provide a waterproof barrier and aid easy removal of minor scabs as well as those that help to prevent mud from sticking, making grooming time a pleasure!

Equine vet, Fiona Farmer, praises the breadth of the range, "We know some horses are more prone to mud and hoof related conditions. The Winter Warriors range covers all bases of hoofcare and mud control, with products suitable for many different horses, so owners are sure to find an appropriate product for each individual horse and lifestyle."

The full list of the Winter Warriors range is Lavender No-rinse Wash, Equine Veterinary Surgical Scrub, V.I.P® Hoof Builder, Frog Health, and the Muddy Marvel products – De-Scab, Disinfect, Barrier Cream, Seven Day Mud Away and Traditional Pig Oil.

Fiona continues, "I have used a lot of different products over the past decade and I can safely say the Muddy Marvel range is my absolute go-to for removing minor scabs and for helping to keep the lower legs clean in winter. I've lost count of the number of clients I have recommended the products to."

The full Winter Warriors range is stocked in tack shops and country stores nationwide.

www.nettexequine.com

SEIB Search for a Star Championships back at Your Horse Live with five action packed finals



The much anticipated SEIB Insurance Brokers Search for a Star Championships returned to Your Horse Live at Stoneleigh Park on the 12th November 2021 in the main SEIB Arena. This time the popular showing finals kept audiences and competitors entertained all morning with five fantastic classes for amateur riders. Each championship winner was awarded a stunning trophy, sash and rosette. Expert commentary was provided by top show producer, Katie Jerram-Hunnable and her Olympic Eventing husband, Chris Hunnable.

The day kicked off with the first ever Search for a Star part-bred traditional championship which saw four excellent examples come forward. The title went to the 1-year old cob, Branston Pickle, owned by Lee Uttridge and ridden by Rosie Wrest. The pairing from Surrey qualified at Brook Farm and were delighted with their win, Rosie met Lee when she went to the family livery yard near Gatwick. "I started riding Branston nearly six years ago, we started with dressage and then decided to try showing.

www.northernhorsemagazine.co.uk

Lee and I always said if we got just one rosette, we would be happy. I feel very emotional, to have won this championship is just the best feeling."

Lee explained more: "He will do anything for you and is just an amazing horse, he loved being in the ring today. It is fantastic to have a part-bred traditional class like this that we can take part in. Branston will now enjoy a little rest and then he and Rosie will look to do more showing in the new year with the aim of taking part in their first Concours d'Elegance classes."

The SEIB Search for a Star Part Bred Traditional class was judged by Sarah Chapman and Andrea Betteridge. Andrea heads up the Traditional Gypsy Cob Association and said: "We had a lovely class here today with some fantastic animals. It was truly great to see the support from the crowd and to be able to give these part-breds a chance to shine in the ring. It is so important to us to promote the breed and show people what these horses are capable of."



The in-hand championship was next in the ring and did not disappoint. It was judged by Sarah Chapman and Search for a Star first time judge, Jack Moore. All competitors qualified for the championship in a special virtual Search for a Star photo competition during the lockdown period where showing competitions weren't an option. The championship judges were presented with a wide range of breeds and types to select their winner from with people travelling from all corners of the country for the chance to be crowned champion.

The coveted trophy and sash were awarded to Millie Bowles and the 24 year old, Welsh Section B, Cottrell Riverdance. Known as Ronnie at home, Cottrell Riverdance is owned by Millie's mother Selina. The pairing are no strangers to the podium positions having won the Veteran Horse Society veteran supreme overall final where they competed in-hand. A former games pony, Ronnie came to the Bowles' at 18 years old for a quieter life. Millie said: "He decided a life of retirement wasn't

info@northernhorsemagazine.co.uk

for him! He loves being in the ring and really performs when he has the buzz and excitement around him. We have really enjoyed taking part in the Virtual classes and it has been great to come to Your Horse Live in person.”

The SEIB Search for a Star amateur veteran horse championship trophy was presented to Louise Chamberlain and her own 18 year old Mystical Clover from Wiltshire. The pair previously qualified for and competed in the Search for a Star riding club show horse finals at Horse of the Year Show in 2016. Louise and Clover have previously evented together but decided on a change of career when Clover fell out of love with the sport.

“Although I initially bought Clover as an eventer, I decided a change of scene would be good for her, that was when we decided to try showing and haven’t looked back. I am so proud of her, it has been great to be here and just makes all the practice worth it. She seems to really enjoy it in the ring.” Louise works full time as a graphic designer and fits the horses in before and after work. “Work don’t really understand what I do, but they are very supportive! They are going to love hearing about this on Monday.” In-Hand Search for a Star champions, Millie Bowles and Cottrell Riverdance went on to round off an excellent day out with a win in the amateur veteran pony championship.

Now in its third year at Your Horse Live, the SEIB Search for a Star mountain and moorland championship did not disappoint. SEIB Insurance Brokers set up the Search for a Star mountain and moorland championship to create more opportunities for amateur riders at a national championship level. The SEIB arena at Your Horse Live truly provides a real feel for the big occasion for each

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of the Search for a Star finalists and previous competitors have given some lovely feedback from this prestigious event ensuring tough competition for qualifying places this year!

A total of nine ponies came before judges Sarah Chapman and Paul Cook. The trophy was presented to Simone Harrison and her own Welsh Section D, Wishaw Red Admiral. Simone said: “The atmosphere here and in the ring is just amazing, it is great to go into the arena with everyone watching you. Red has always enjoyed turning his hoof to showing, this has given us a boost to go out and campaign more next year, we would like to get to HOYS!”

The SEIB Search for a Star mountain and moorland championship is open to pure-bred mountain and moorland ponies ridden by amateur riders.

The final championship of the morning was the open veteran horse and pony. This was a new and exciting format for the class where competitors were asked to perform a show of their choice in front of four judges. The championship was judged by Sarah Chapman, Jack Moore, Paul Cook and special VIP guest judge, Marcus Capel, CEO of the Pony Club. Judges were asked to score the show in live time with marks being revealed to the audience. It was a fantastic way of

engaging the crowd and received lots of positive feedback from spectators and competitors alike.

Marcus Capel commented: “It was a privilege to join this experienced judging panel for the open veteran championship. There was a great atmosphere and the use of public scoring cards made it very easy for the audience to see what we all thought as individual judges with no conferring, including our differences of opinion! All of the horses were a credit to their owners and riders, looking very fit and active.”

The title went to a pairing that are no stranger to the showing circuit, Abigail Sole and her own 18 year old ex-racehorse, Hero Worship. Abigail and Hero Worship have been firm supporters of the SEIB Racehorse to Riding Horse classes and took second place in the R2R championship at HOYS. Following their win, an emotional Abigail made an announcement: “this has topped off what has been a great season for the both of us. I feel so happy, but also sad as this is our last outing in the show ring, Hero is now going to be retired from showing. I feel like we have left at the top and I cannot ask for more from him. It was a great class and we have really enjoyed taking part in this first one. I really liked the live scoring element.”

SEIB Marketing Manager Nicolina Mackenzie said: "We are thrilled to be back at Your Horse Live with Search for a Star. It gives our finalists a completely unique experience and we have had ever so many positive comments about the wonderful atmosphere here. Each of our Search for a Star Your Horse Live champions have excelled to take these titles!"

Expert advice and support from the very experienced judges is on hand for all competitors at the qualifiers. During the Championship build up there is the renowned Search for a Star training day for all qualified combinations. The Championships provide a learning opportunity for both spectators and competitors as the judges will use microphones to give their thoughts and explain their decisions.

Leading equine Insurance brokers, SEIB Insurance Brokers provide cover for horses, horse boxes, yards and much more.

The company has a long association with the showing world and is renowned for 'putting something back' by supporting equestrian events and activities.

Pictured are;

- 1 Amateur Vet Mystical Clover
- 2 In hand Cottrell Riverdance
- 3 M&M Wishaw Red Admiral
- 4 Part Bred Trad Branston Pickle
- 5 M&M Owfen Mr Softee
- 6 Veteran Amateur pony
- 7 Veteran Amateur reserve
- 8 Open Vet Hero Worship

Images by SMR Photos



SEIB Search for a Star Championships





INTRODUCING A NEW HALLMARK OF BEDDING QUALITY

The British Equestrian Trade Association (BETA) has just introduced what we think is the world's first industry standard accreditation scheme for equine bedding.

From now on, any bedding you see with this BETA NOPS Bedding logo displayed means it has been audited and certified to comply with the highest standards in two crucial respects.

Minimising the NOPS risk

Most importantly, a BETA NOPS Bedding logo tells you that every stage of this bedding's manufacture has been carefully managed to minimise the possibility of contamination by Naturally Occurring Prohibitive Substances – NOPS.

These are performance enhancing substances like caffeine, that might pass into bedding by human cross-contamination from coffee, tea, or chocolate, for example, or naturally occurring stimulants like morphine or cannabinoids which are present in many plants including hemp.

These substances can damage your horse or pony's health. They can also ruin a winning performance. Anti-doping tests are now increasingly applied at all levels of competition to make equestrian sport as fair as possible, and even minute quantities of these substances can be detected in these tests. It may not be your fault at all if your horse or pony wins but then fails a test, but you will still be disqualified and possibly fined.

Telling you the truth

In order to achieve BETA NOPS Bedding accreditation, a bedding manufacturer must be able to provide evidence to back up any claim they make about the benefits of their bedding. In other words, when you see the NOPS logo on a bag of bedding, you know that every word you read on the bag or in their promotional material is clear and accurate.

This sets a really important new standard for the whole bedding industry that will help owners evaluate the real benefits of different brands of bedding.



So far there is only one bedding brand that has achieved the new BETA NOPS standard. Bedmax is leading the way in setting the highest standards, so Bedmax and Littlemax shavings now carry the NOPS logo, and so too does their new Strawmax straw pellet bedding, featured in this issue.

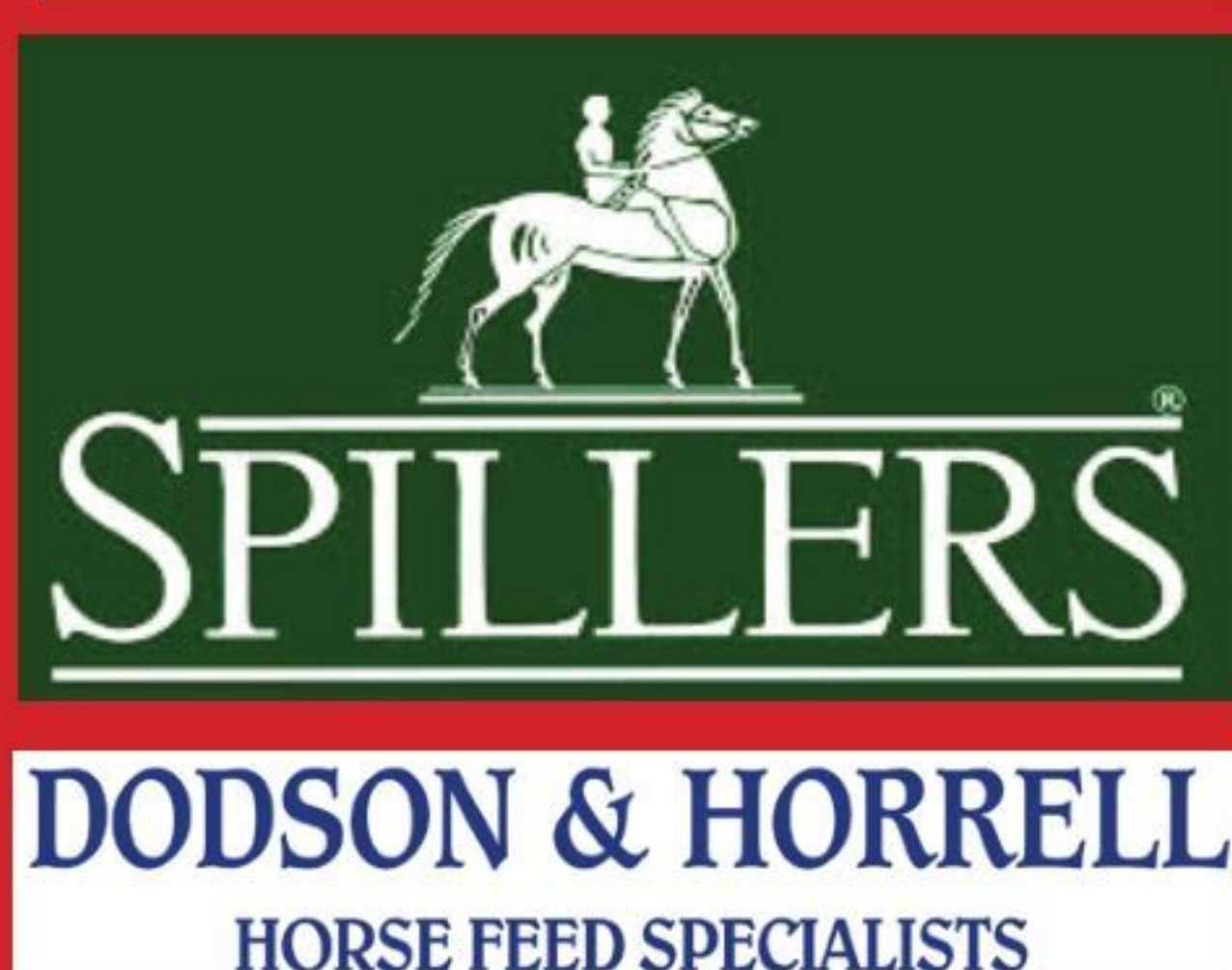
(see page 6 / 7)



BETA created the NOPS accreditation scheme over 10 years ago for equine feeds and supplements. Today, every feed manufacturer has signed up and no conscientious horse or pony owner would dream of using a non-NOPS accredited feed or supplement. Now the same high bar has been set for bedding...

URMSTON TACK AND FEED

DISCOUNT & CLEARANCE WAREHOUSE



**Qualified Hat Fitter
in Store**



Wormers Available



**Qualified SQP on site
for worming advice**

**Rubber
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British Riding Club Area 8

Arena Eventing Team Qualifier



Sarah Burton on Lucror Twentyfour K, Suzannah Englemann on Joker and Claire Englemann on Angus. Again, only three riders managed to complete with zero penalties it was Claire Englemann who finished in first place individually, followed by Suzannah Englemann in second and third went to Rosie Trembath riding Whisper representing Flitchway RC.

The 70cm competition allowed both junior and senior riders to form a mixed team which was won by Flitchway RC members Mollie White on Mr Fred, Claire May on Lough Conn Lad, Claudia Ingham on Lobhur's Dazzler Rover and Poppy McDonald on Halestorm Haribo. The individual competition was won by Lily-Ann Simpson riding Who's to Say a member of Billericay RC, Scarlett Manly from Tendring Hundred RC was second and Luke Hutchins riding Blue Linnet from Saffron Walden RC was third.

The senior 90cm was won by the Falcons team from Saffron Walden members Lisa Howlett rode Knave of Hearts, Isabel Oakley rode Rockiland Bartley, Sarah Hamlett rode Grafique Banta and Suzannah Englemann rode Lissin Rocket. Unfortunately, both junior teams competing were eliminated but Poppy McDonald a member of Flitchway riding club riding Don John won the individual class ahead of Cassidy Sargent riding Found in Kiltormer a member of Tendring Hundred riding club in second and Lilly Wittich riding Uptown Girl VI from Saffron Walden riding club in third. Sarah Hughes won the senior top spot ahead of teammate Suzannah

BRC is made up of different affiliated riding clubs around the UK these riding clubs are then sectioned into areas across the country and each area then hold competitions where they compete against the other clubs within their area for the chance to qualify for British Riding Club National Championships either as a team or individuals.

There are several different disciplines available to compete in and during November 2021 Area 8 which has riding clubs within Essex. held their Arena Eventing Team Qualifier at Codham Park EC for the chance to compete at the championships held on Friday 11th - Sunday 13th March 2022 in Aston Le Walls.

Competing at the event were team from Billericay & District RC, Flitchway RC, Ingatestone & Blackmore RC, three

teams from Saffron Walden & District RC and Tendring Hundred RC. Split into junior and senior competitions the winners of the junior 80cms were Saffron Walden whose members were Isa Smith riding Coco Cabana Sunrise who also took home first place individually, Luke Hutchins on Eliza Doolittle, Lilly Wittich on Liberty Bell II who was third individually and Ruby Wittich on Rosstuohey Loomeen, fifth individually.

The competition on a whole was quite tough with only three of the riders in the junior 80cm gained zero penalties Isa in first, Isobel Hinde riding Craughwell Lucy representing Tendring Hundred RC was second and as previously mentioned Lilly in third.

Saffron Walden RC also won the senior team competition with members Lisa Spence riding Flash Dance,

Englemann in second with third going to Olivia Stafford riding Wexford of Bellhouse representing Billericay riding club.

Spencer Moret from Moret Photography was the official photographer on the day, and we have a selection of images featured of riders taking part. If you missed Spencer on the day and wish to purchase any photograph from the event, please contact him direct as he has plenty more available.

Pictured are:

1 Isa Smith & Coco Cabana Sunrise

2 Luke Hutchins & Eliza Doolittle

3 Ruby Wittich & Rosstuohty Loobeen

4 Lisa Howlett & Knave of Golden Hearts

5 Sarah Henderson & Hanningfield Berie

6 Rosie Trembath & Whisper

7 Mollie White & Mr Fred

8 Claire May & Lough Conn Lad

9 Hannah Walker & Glenhill Lady

10 Lucy Lees & Jim's Boy

11 Claudia Ingham & Lobhur's Dazzler Rover

12 Luke Hutchins & Blue Linnet

13 Lily Wittch & Uptown Girl

14 Meg Adams & Forth Mountain

15 Helen Bucham & Citizen Smith

16 Hannah Williamson & RNH Cludo

17 Kirsty Evans & My Signature

18 Beth Mason & Showtime Afia

19 Poppy McDonald & Halestorm Haribo

20 Dawn Fintch & Whiskers Twilight

Images Moret Photography
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Codham Park Unaffiliated show Jumping



Lots of fun, good competition, tinsel and podium prizes was the name of the game at the Xmas unaffiliated show jumping held at Codham Park EC.

The day was bright and crisp in the winter sunshine keeping riders spirits high the classes started off with the usual cross pole classes, split into sections for riders on the lead, ponies and horses as well as a special prize awarded for the best fancy dress.

Taking top spot in the lead rein class was Orry Callow riding his super duper little Shetland pony Timberland Crystal who were also the winners of the best fancy dress. Lucy Parr riding Brian won the pony section with Hollie Farrant winning the horse section riding Stormy summers Knight.

The Novice 50cm saw a win in the pony section for Freddie Hodges riding KDM

Cosmopolitan ahead of Ellin Gifford on Star Dale Dream in second and Tabby Callow on Freddie third. The Horse winner was Kitty Halket riding Galway Montana with second going to Megan Goodrick on Starfire Jessica and third to Evie Rourke on Free Spirit IX Hollie Farrant took her second win of the day in the horse section and won the best fancy dressed award.

The open 60cm pony section was won by Ellin Gifford ahead of Francesca Hodges on KDM Cosmopolitan in second and Charlotte Self in third riding Sarnu Spirit. The horse section saw a win for Honor Halket riding Shona Spot the Dot with Evie Rourke in second who also won the best fancy dressed award, Ruby Storey on Heathcliffe took third.

Regular competitor at Codham Park Luke Hutchings won the open pony

70cm class riding Eliza Doolittle ahead of Charlie Parr on Holly in second and Megan Biggs on her chestnut pony Handleybarns Lennee in third. The horse section saw a fantastic result for Titan III who was ridden by Lacey Rushden who took first place and Gemma Cotton who was second, third place went to Abigail Brown riding Rigel who also took fourth with her other ride Jack.

Luke and Eliza Doolittle had a good day winning the open 90-95cm pony class ahead of another regular competitor at the venue Polly Flin on Lovely Larry and Florence Bryce riding Aigas of Achnacarry in third. Millie Percell won the 0open horse class riding Zazzuro Z with second going to Holly Garret on Boogie on Down and third to Jamie Watts on Find Us.

The official photographer on the day was Spencer Moret and we have a selection of images featured here that depict the day. If you wish to purchase any photograph taken at the event, please contact Spencer direct via his website as he has plenty more available.

Pictured are

1 Orry Callow & Crystal

2 Hollie Farrant & Stormy Summers Knight

3 Kitty Halket & Jasper

4 Tabby Callow & Freddie

5 Evie Rourke & Spirit

6 Honor Halket & Lola

7 Ruby Storey & Heathcliffe

8 Chloe Stafford & Basil

9 Ashleigh Todd & Ice No Slice

10 Nicholas Grice & King Cobra

11 Nancy Millar & Cynheidrefawr Dylan

12 Anna Banham & Bolichera

13 Daniel Natusch & Knockergarry Sally

14 Megan Biggs & Handleybarns
Lennee

15 Arabella Fletcher & Rockyview Zeta

16 Annabel Bardrick & Granville

17 Mya Martin & Gypsey

18 Jamie Watts & Findus

19+20 Podium Highlights

Images by Moret Photography

www.moretphotography.com







Codham Park Dressage

The Christmas Dressage held at Codham Park saw two different tests from Intro to Novice level on the schedule.



The overall winner of Intro B was Camilla Jarvis riding Billy with a percentage of 74.78 the class was spilt into Lead Rein, Horse and Pony with the leading rein won by Arabella Nielson on Archie and the pony section by Victoria Stoughton on Clove Mint. Anne Wolfe was the overall winner of Intro C from the pony section with a percentage of 67.82 taking top spot in the horse section was Penny Webb on Daisy.

Louise Whybird riding Million Dollar Bill won the overall Prelim 12 from the pony section with the horse section winner being Dawn Fitch riding Whiskers Twilight. Prelim 18 saw a win for Nick True riding Cappa Rothmorrissey Moonshine with the highest placed pony being Adelle Jenkins on The Boy of Church Quarter.

Hannah Wolverson won the overall Novice 24 test riding Callister Clover
www.northernhorsemagazine.co.uk



with the pony section won by Laura Percy on Canopbola Cascade. The final test of the day was Novice 28 which was won by Lin Bradbrook scoring 69.16% riding Liberty Taker.

The official photographer on the day was Spencer Moret from Moret Photography and we have a selection of images featured here of riders taking part. If you wish to purchase any image from the event, please contact Spencer direct as he has plenty more available.

Pictured are:

1 Arabella Neilson & Archie

2 Nick True & Cappa Rathmorrissey Moonshine

3 Hannah Wolverson & Callista Clover

4 Dawn Fitch & Whiskers Twilight

5 Maria Welch & Kelcor Khaleesi

6 Kayleigh Robertson & Gwyntbryn Lara Croft

7 Eva Spring & William

8 Maddie Peal & Magnum M

9 Maisie Rowe & Lancelot Lucy

10 Katie Putt & Lugosi JX

11 Isabel Alcon Gardner & Ready Jetset Go

12 Emma Horn & Lois

13 Talia Bowater & Islyn Hafwen

14 Maddy Griffiths & Flash

15 Christelle Melamud & Flash

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3



4







Codham Park Dressage

ARC Equestrian

A gallery of images from the junior under 18yrs show held at ARC Equestrian Simonswood where Bronte Hatton Richie judged both ridden and in hand classes. Three different championships were held over the day a tiny tots ridden, a junior ridden and an in hand where lovely sashes and huge rosettes were award to champions and reserves.

Classes were held outside with the sun shining everyone had a great time with a nice friendly atmosphere. The official photographer on the day was Martin Burrows from MB Photography and we have a selection of images from the day featured here. If you missed Martin on the day and want to purchase a photograph from the event, please contact him direct via his Facebook page as he has plenty more available.

Images by MB Photography







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Bicton College

Unaffiliated Show Jumping & Qualifiers for Cricklands Jumping Championship

Amber Eastley rode Rockyview Ronnie to victory in the 40cm class ahead of her second ride Jammie Dodger who took second place with third going to Ella Davies riding Rocky. Amber and Ronnie clocked up her second win of the day in the 50cm class ahead of Arwen Bowman riding Benjy and Sophie Elliot on Timmy with Ambers second ride Jammie Dodger taking fourth.

Arwen and Benjy won the Junior 10 years and under 60cm Cricklands qualifier class with second place taken by Josh Down riding Biskit and Sophie on Timmy third. Kathryn Morris on Tuscan Tango won the open 60cm class.

Heather Rusden riding Rathsallagh Royale took home first prize in the 70cm qualifying class with Charlie Winter on Oakwood June taking second and Amelia Pengilley on Brynn third. The same three riders repeated the result in the open 75cm class.

There was some good competition in the qualifying 85cm class which was won by Michaela Doyle riding Horgan's Sweet Melody, Kaelyn Cartwright riding Eady was second and Georgie Down on The Willow Tree was third. Michaela went on to win the 95cm qualifying class to end a successful day.

The official photographer on the day was Abbey Clarke Photography and we have a selection of riders taking part featured here. If you wish to purchase any image from the event, please contact Abbey directly as she has plenty more available.

Images by Abbey Clarke Photography
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