



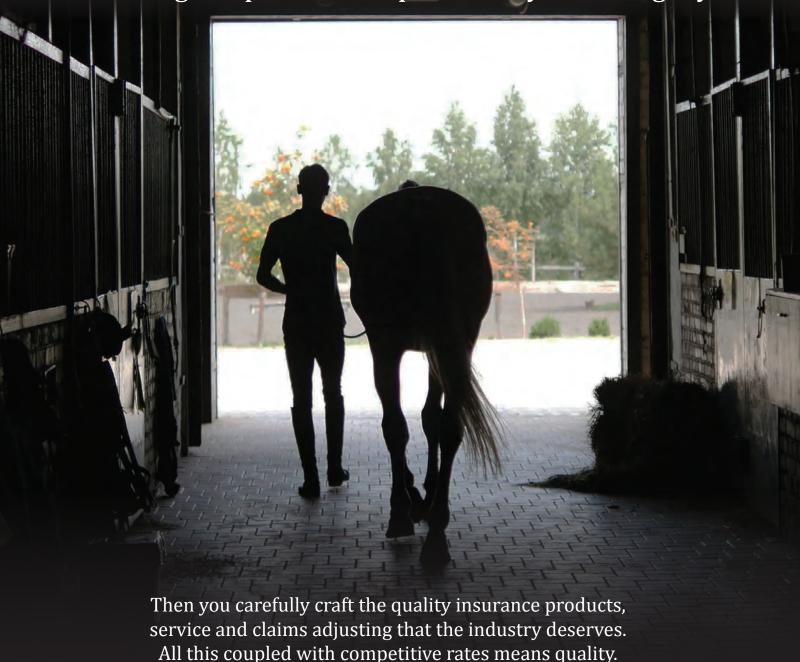
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A letter from the president

Dear fellow THJA Members,

I've been struggling with where to begin in this "new normal." I intended to have this issue out months ago, but here we are. Better late than not at all!

Like you, I miss the old normal, but I'll abide by social distancing as everything gradually re-opens and remain hopeful that we will all get through this together.

We are lucky that so much of what we do is outside in the fresh air

Despite the hard stop we had in March, I want to reiterate that your THJA is moving forward with recognizing the Opportunity Divisions and Equitation awards for 2020. We have also expanded our Education program to include Merit Scholarships. Details are available under Latest Updates on THJA. org. Education grant requests and Scholarship applications can be found under the "forms" tab. I hope



you'll take advantage of the grants and other programs we're offering. We've carefully developed these program for you.

Until next time, stay safe and enjoy being outside with your horses as much as possible!

Suzanne Warmack

Equestrian Portraits by Kristie Nichols

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Equine Bodywork

What is it?

By Amber Dawn



It takes a village to get your equine athlete to the show ring. Your horse has a trainer, veterinarian, farrier and groom. They are fed a controlled, well balanced diet on a schedule. You and your team have carefully thought out every hour of your show partners day. The whole plan revolves around having your horse in peak mental and physical condition.

You arrive at the showgrounds and look down a neighboring barn aisle and see something new. A horse in the aisle with strange looking hoses laid over their back. In another stall you see someone kneading away at a horse's shoulder muscles. You look out in the parking

lot towards the 18-Wheeler with a large photo of a horse in a salt water spa on the side. While walking past a grooming stall you spy infra-red lighting installed above the horse's back. What is going on?!

You have just bore witness to a few types of equine bodywork. Merriamwebster defines bodywork as "therapeutic touching or manipulation of the body by using specialized techniques." For the purpose of this article we will refine Merriam-webster's definition so that equine bodywork is "therapeutic touching or manipulation of a healthy horse body using non-invasive techniques." Keep in mind only your veterinarian may treat and diagnose medical conditions. Equine Bodyworkers are part of your healthy horse team and if there is a medical issue present must work under the supervision of vour vet.

Many forms of recovery assistance and injury prevention are so common you no longer even think about them. However polo wraps and splint boots are used for injury prevention. Standing wraps, icing, cold hosing, poultice and hand walking are used to assist recovery after strenuous activity. Equine massage, PEMF (Pulsed ElectroMagnetic Field), cold salt-water spas, infra-red light and many other

forms of bodywork are becoming more common place as people become more aware of their benefits.

Over the next few articles, I will go into more depth regarding a few types of bodywork available

- PEMF (Pulsed ElectroMagnetic Field) - Pulse Equine, Magna Wave, Bemer
- Massage Masterson Method, Sports, Trigger Point
- · Cold laser, LED, and Infrared

I will be interviewing veterinarians, trainers, horse owners and equine bodyworkers regarding their experiences with each type of bodywork they have tried. If you have questions you would like answered or an experience you'd like to share regarding bodywork please feel free to email Amber at AdeptEquine@gmail.com Through sharing first hand knowledge we all walk away with a larger toolbox to help our horses stay comfortable and competitive.

Disclaimer: This article is not intended to be used as medical advice. The only person that can provide medical advice for your animal is a licensed veterinarian.







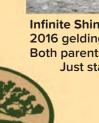
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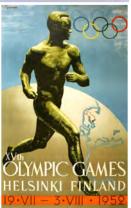
John William Russell OLY "The Colonel"
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February 2, 2020







Olympic Games Helsinki 1952 - L to R: Captain Oscar Cristi, Norman E. Brinker and Major John W. Russell

Olympic Games London 1948

Men's Equestrian Jumping/Individual Team

Olympic Games Helsinki 1952

Men's Equestrian Jumping - bronze medalist

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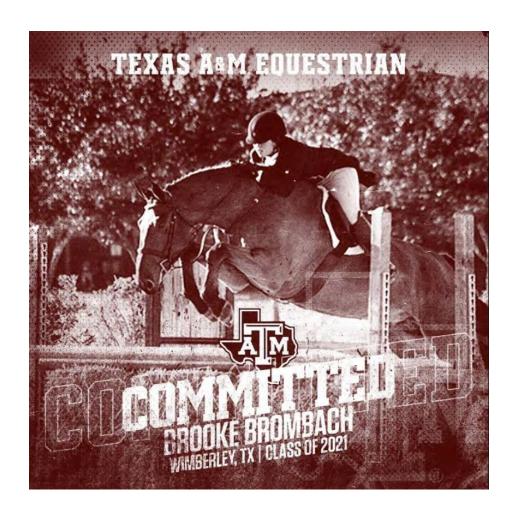
Brooke Brombach commits to Texas A&M on athletic scholarship

As 2019 came to a close, Brooke Brombach was excited to verbally commit to Texas A&M on an equestrian scholarship. She will be moving to College Station in 2021 after she completes her senior season next year. Brooke had been recruited by several top equestrian programs, including Auburn. After her visits to A&M and experiencing the culture and family values, she knew it was the place for her. "The Aggie culture felt like home. It is just like the culture at Silver Fox Farms in Wimberley, where I have trained my whole life. I am very excited about my future at A&M. The people on campus were whom I wanted to spend

time with," said a beaming Brooke.

Trainer and mom, Colleen Brombach said, "I'm thrilled for Brooke and I'm excited that athletes in our sport can receive scholarships to college." It is important for athletes that ride to understand the NCAA division I requirements and what it take to ride competitively in college. Texas A&M has always been one of the schools that impressed me. With their veterinary program, their academics and their equestrian team. I always dreamed of my daughter going to a great university and now, with the scholarship, she will go to one of the best schools in the nation." Colleen can't wait to help more of her students achieve their college dreams.

Brooke is grateful to Head Coach Tana McKay, Hunt Seat Coach Abby O'Mara and the entire equestrian team for such an amazing opportunity. The program has a long history of success winning conference and NCEA national championships. Most recently, Texas A&M is NCEA national champions for 2012 and 2017, and have finished in the top 3 nationally, every year since 2015. Brooke stated, "I'm excited to work with the A&M team to bring more equestrian national championships back to Texas!"



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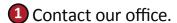


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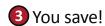
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THJA Member Questionnaire

QUESTIONS:

- 1. What are your thoughts on all the actions being taken on COVID-19 in the equestrian world
- 2. Is your barn currently shut down from COVID-19? If it is what are you doing to stay riding fit? If not, have there been any restrictions in your lessons?
 - 3. What are your plans for the future when all this calms down?

JR MEMBER: OLIVA BRUST

- 1. I fully support the actions being taken. Horse show managements are doing a great job making sure the virus isn't being spread through horse shows and lesson/training barns are also doing great with their riding limitations and barn closings. It sucks not being able to show, but at the end of the day our health and safety is the most important.
 - 2. My barn stopped giving lessons, but horse owners are
- welcome to visit and ride their horses any time from 8am-4pm. I am very fortunate that all my horses live at my house and I can ride them regularly without any risks.
- 3. Sadly, this is my last year as a junior rider, so I will most likely miss out on Pony Finals, Junior Hunter Finals, etc. as I wont be prepared to jump straight into those shows if this all calms down before then. I will try to finish the year as strong as possible and prepare to start the adult life!

THJA MEMBER: ANNAKATE LONG

This is all so bitter sweet. Unfortunately this is what has to be done and it stinks that everything had to be canceled. I feel so terribly sorry for the people where this was there last year competing as a junior. I still have one more year.

2. Yes, my barn is closed but I am grateful enough to live on land

and to have my horse live with me. This allows me to still ride my horse consistently.

3. Once all of this over, hopefully soon, I plan to get back to horse showing as soon as possible and just get back to normal life. I plan to get back to trying to achieve the goals I have set for myself and hope to have a successful rest of the year as a junior rider.

THJA MEMBER: PEYTON RATHBUN

- 1. I believe that they are definitely taking the right precautions to keep us all safe and healthy. Of course, none of us want the horse shows to be cancelled, but it is necessary for everyone's well-being.
 - 2. No, my barn is currently not shut down. Many things have

changed like, time allowed at the barn, number of riders allowed, and lots of sanitizing. Also, there are only 3 lesson times per day and they are all private.

 ${\bf 3.}$ I'm looking forward to horse showing again and going to indoors this year!

THJA MEMBER: MCKAYLA BROMBACH

1. It makes me sad that some of my favorite shows are being canceled. I would be really happy if Pin Oak was rescheduled because it is one of my favorite Texas shows and I was really looking forward to it.

- 2. Kinda sense I am a trainer daughter. I am still able to ride due to the fact that my mom knows where I have been.
- 3. I plan on starting back into the show season ASAP! I'm already going crazy and can't wait to see my friends again!

THJA MEMBER: AVERY ERICKSON

- 1. Although it stinks, I think the actions were necessary in order to ensure the health of equestrians as well as others in our industry.
- 2. Fortunately, my barn (Elmstead Farm) is currently open. In order to decrease the chance of spread there is a limit on how many people are allowed in the ring and in the barn. Parents are also required to stay in their car unless it is necessary for them to watch

their child ride. Hanging around the barn has also been eliminated and everyone is asked to ride and leave in a timely manner.

3. As soon as things calm down, I am for sure going to a horse show as soon as possible! My goals for this year are to compete at the equitation finals as well as Prix de States with my jumper Chacco.

THJA MEMBER: GABRIELLE PETERSON

1. While it is necessary to cancel horse shows to slow the spread, it is unfortunate that it needs to happen. I feel badly for all the people who are training young horses and were counting on giving them show experience these upcoming months, or people who were planning on taking their horses to shows to market and sell them. I also feel badly for all the kids who are in their final junior year. This was their last chance to get points, qualify for specific

shows, and meet certain goals before they age out.

- 2. N/A
- 3. When the quarantine is over and shows start up I plan on soaking up every riding opportunity that I get. I love showing so I can't wait to get back in the ring. This is my final junior year and I hope USEF adjusts their rules on qualifying for shows so that I, and others like myself, can still finish out the year strong.



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