

# THJA NEWS

ISSUE #4



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Cover photo by Isabel Hatton



## A letter from the president

Dear fellow THJA Members,

If you're like me, the Holidays are a time to reflect with gratitude on the year and to look forward to the next year with excitement and optimism. This year, I'm particularly reflective as I look at the end of my term as your President. It has been an eventful two years! We've made a lot of changes, added new divisions, launched our Education program, and launched the magazine you're reading right now.

There are more good things to come in 2020! For instance, we will be recognizing the Opportunity Divisions and expanding our Equitation awards. We're also launching a Merit Scholarship program in 2020 as an expanded offering under our Education program (details coming soon). All are steps in the right direction and benefits to our membership. I hope



you will agree.

I hope that 2019 was a great year for you, your families, and your four-legged partners. Here's to an even better 2020 Show Year!

All my best,

Suzanne Warmack



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# Planning for the 2020 competition year

Ellen Eakin — Equest File

As 2019 comes to a close we will celebrate the holidays and then start planning for 2020. A time for housekeeping and organization. Every year as we start the new year and lay out our New Years' Resolutions we undoubtedly are thinking about our goals with our horses and our upcoming competition year.

We are in a new era of barn management due to the amazing technology available to us today. Many of the organization systems we used in the past to manage our horse barns are becoming obsolete with the advent of computers, smart phones and tablets.

One of the New Years' Resolutions many of us will make for 2020 is better record keeping for our horses and barns.

In spite of the best intentions, very few of us are able to remember everything involved in taking care of our horses on a daily basis. Having a system of record keeping that allows you to make quick notations and keep adequate records of all pertinent information related to the health, care, and keeping of your horse will enable you to stay on top of things, whether it's remembering the timing of deworming treatments or when your horse had its last tetanus booster.

Below are the types of information that horse barn owners must keep track of.

- Contact information for veterinarians, equine hospitals, farriers, trainers or anyone else involved with your horse

- Appointments with your veterinarian
- Baseline vital signs
- Vaccinations
- Parasite Control
- Dental Examinations
- Farrier work
- Medical incidents
- Blood work
- Medications
- Diagnostic images provided by your veterinarian
- Joint injections
- Breeding records
- Competition and training events
- Feeding schedules, daily rations and supplements
- Behavioral episodes such as sudden bouts of head tossing, etc.
- Pedigree information
- Registration numbers
- Insurance documents
- Lease agreements

Now that we have computers, smart phones and tablets we can keep that information with us all the time. No longer the records in the office in the house while you are in the barn or at a horse show.

New horse barn software packages that are available now offer the ability to build a horse profile in the package. All the above listed important horse data can be entered in the software, shared with other barn employees and the owners of the horses. Documents such as lease

agreements, coggins, performance records, can all be uploaded in the software so you have those documents with you at all times. The documents are shareable and can be emailed or texted to other concerned people.

Additionally, when your horse has an accident or illness the details of the incident can be input into the software including the symptoms, diagnosis, treatment plans and resolution of the illness. Radiographs and vet clinic discharge instructions can be uploaded and shared if necessary. With this technology, when you are away at horse show you will have access to illness or injury details should the symptoms reoccur.

Further, sales or training videos can be uploaded and shared with prospective buyers or to the horse owners to show the progress of the horse that they have in training with you.

Many of the software programs offer printable reports. For example, what tasks were done the previous week or what healthcare services are due.

Organizing your horses and barns with this new technology of barn management, while seeming overwhelming at first will be a huge time saver for you in the long run. Just imagine, when not having to go find the notebooks or files every time you need a horse's registration number or want to know when the last time the hocks were injected.

## Opportunities Abound in 2020

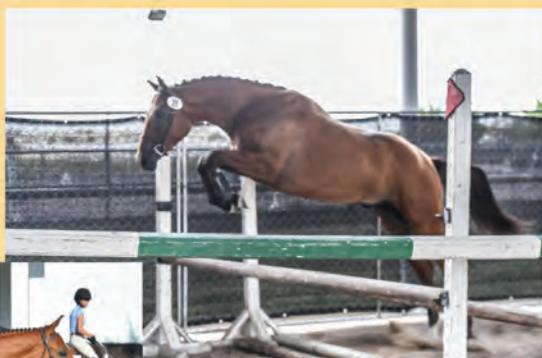
Starting December 1, 2019, Opportunity Division riders will be eligible for THJA recognition awards. These awards will be presented at the end of the 2020 show year. Time and place will be announced later in the year.

Riders who are THJA MEMBERS and who compete in the Walk/Trot or Cross Rail Divisions are eligible. In order to receive an award a Walk/Trot contestant must win five (5) or

more blue ribbons in a Walk/Trot Poles Class. An exhibitor in the cross rail division must win five (5) or more blue ribbons over cross rails to receive an award. In order to count towards these awards, classes must have three (3) or more entries whether it be an Equitation, Horsemanship, or Hunter Division. All other USEF Opportunity Rules apply.



# Shine



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# Awards Banquet

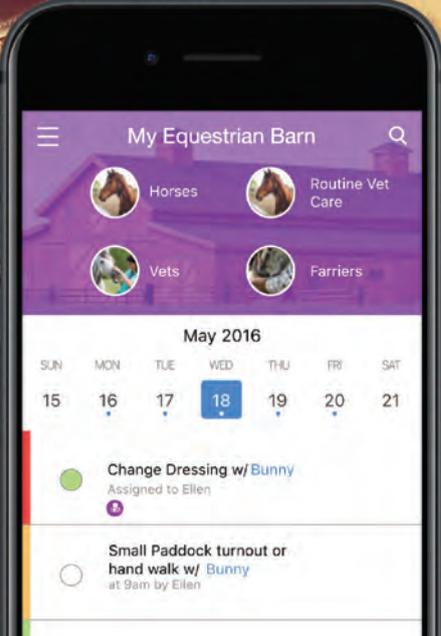
The 2019 Awards Banquet will be held at the newly renovated Omni Hotel –just three miles from the Galleria– on Saturday, January 11, 2020. The banquet is set to begin at 6pm with a cocktail hour, music, the famous MirMir photobooth (you may recognize it if you are a fan of the Kardashians) and a silent auction in the foyer over-looking the hotel’s private lake.

Followed by the cocktail hour, there will be a seated dinner and, of course, the awards presentation. We will have a DJ for those who wish to dance the night away! If you wish to keep the party going after the banquet wraps up at 11 p.m., check out La Reserve Whiskey Lounge right next to the ballroom, or if you are more into night-clubs head downstairs to the Black Swan!

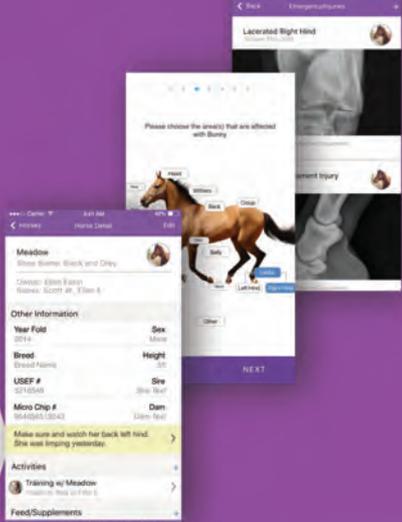




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# Arena Geometry/Geography

by Kathy Davidson

What's your definition of the word "DRESSAGE"? Horse People usually have a pretty strong, but widely varied, response to the word. What picture/feelings does it create in your mind? Strength and elegance, or yank and crank? Fancy stepping, or boring circles? Or maybe it's like trying to figure out a set of IKEA instructions? And what in the world does it have to do with Hunter/Jumper/Equitation riding?!?

FOR ME, (and I will be repeating this phrase often..) there are two main ways that riders, teachers/trainers in the H/J/Eq world benefit from knowledge of this other discipline: 1) Accuracy (in steering and pace), and 2) Arena Geometry/Geography.

I put DRESSAGE in two categories: "Dressage" (upper case D), and "dressage" (lower case d).

At its most simple, dressage is a French word that means "training". The systematic training of a horse, on the flat, with no jumping is dressage. In other words, if you walk, trot, canter, turn, stop, "go faster" and "go slower", You DO dressage! Beyond that, dressage is also an athletic conditioning and suppling program (like Yoga, Pilates, or Martial Arts for the horse's body), which simultaneously improving communication and response time to/from the horse... this creates Accuracy of steering/pace. Jumping riders need accurate steering to safely get around a course of jumps at a regular and appropriate speed. Lack of accuracy can mess up a takeoff distance, pull a rail, or sometimes cause a complete drive-by of the jump! Exercises which develop the partnership to accurately steer and rate your horse's stride for over-fences rounds is dressage.

Dressage refers to the specific presentation and progressive training required for success in the horse show sport of Dressage, which is available at many levels, all the way up to the Olympics. Competition Dressage is judged on performing a pre-set pattern called a Test. Tests are a series of movements to/from a set of LETTERS

spaced at measured intervals along the edge of the arena, and even a few "invisible" letters that are right in the middle of the arena. Dressage arenas are a regulation size of either 20x40 meters, or 20x60 meters, and the letters, (while their original meaning may be lost), are exactly the same all over the WORLD.

For me, Letter-to-Letter riding is the most practical skill dressage offers H/J/Eq riders. The Letters become focal points. Riders learn to steer to-and-from these focal points, which sets up an "eyes first" system and is the foundation for safe, effective, accurate riding (and jumping!). H/J/Eq arenas are all different sizes, but focal points can be created with many kinds of identifying markers: a fence post, support column, tree outside the arena, parked car in the distance, even a flower pot! As riding advances, Jumps become the focal points, and two jumps set to be jumped on the same track become a LINE.

In competition Dressage, transitions of (and within) gaits are performed AT the Letter. This requires detailed preparation for both horse and rider, developing communication and partnership skills. While H/J/Eq competitions aren't as concerned with on-the-spot accuracy, transitions are still expected to be smooth, prompt, and invisible. That's where dressage can truly benefit all H/J/Eq training and lesson programs.

Arena Geometry/Geography is the other big aspect of Dressage that really compliments H/J/Eq riding/teaching/training. A clear vocabulary for where to go in the arena helps in lessons, horse shows, and daily training programs. You may be very familiar with these terms already.

On The Rail Long Side/Short End Corners Center Line Middle Diagonal Quarter Line Circles

"On the Rail". A phrase uttered repeatedly by instructors everywhere which means the outermost perimeter of the arena, or "next to the fence". Being On the Rail means taking advantage of the greatest amount of space IN the arena. A bigger arena means bigger



turns. Bigger turns mean better balance. Small turns are hard! And can disrupt balance and alter pace. Staying On the Rail is the very first steering a beginner rider learns.

Long Sides and Short Ends and Corners Most arenas are Rectangles. Rectangles have (2) Long Sides connected to (2) Short Ends by (4) Corners, (not curves!). Corners are VERY important in dressage and jumping! Cut-off corners create an oval track which shrinks the size of the arena, and can cause problems finding the jumps. Corners are a riders' first and forever steering challenge. Corners create more time/space for the rider to organize for the next turn/track/jump.

The Center Line divides the arena in half lengthwise, (from letters C-A / A-C). This is a fun/challenging track, and is an opportunity to practice steering in a straight line without benefit of being On the Rail. Riders use a strong focal point to develop their ability to steer the horse in a true straight line without a fence to help. Changing direction up (or down) the Center Line is also a great training exercise for both memory and symmetry.

The Middle crosses directly over the Center Line, dividing the arena in half shortwise, (from letters E-B/ B-E.... I call this the "BE Line".) This is another great place to practice changes of direction. It is an obvious left or right

choice, and challenges the rider with less time and space (than the Center Line) to communicate instructions to the horse.

**The Diagonal .** Diagonal means a criss-cross line, from corner-to-opposite-corner. "Across the Diagonal" is the largest, and most gradual way to change direction, and is a building block of many jumping courses. Long diagonal tracks cross the ring to/ from the actual corner (Letters F-H/H-F, or K-M/M-K). Short diagonal tracks cross from corner to middle/ middle to corner.

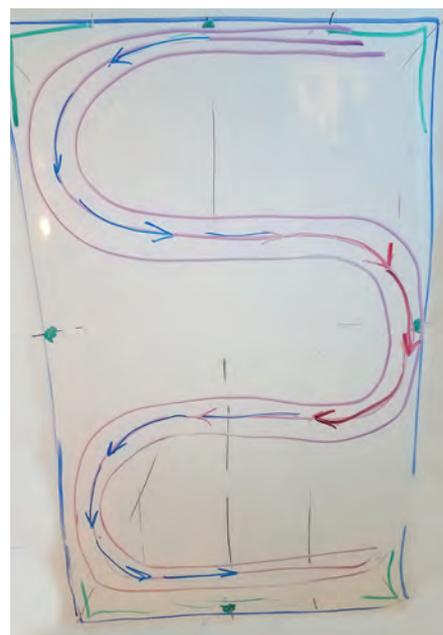
**Quarter Line** The Quarter Line runs parallel to the long side of the arena. The Center Line makes half of the arena, the Quarter Line is HALF of half, and is another opportunity to practice a long, straight track without being On The Rail. When ground poles and other jumping exercises are set up on The Quarter Line, riders learn to look ahead to plan their turns, and to hold a straight line from one end of the ring to the other.

**Circles.** Dressage is judged on symmetrically performed figures, and

even though H/J/Eq is not, making a horse go precisely where you want, while maintaining pace and balance can vastly improve skills needed for jumping patterns. An Entry Circle allows horse and rider time to prepare/ establish the required rhythm/pace, and give Judge opportunity to assess horse's movement on the flat. Most courses also have an Ending Circle to bring the horse back down to a walk before leaving the arena.

**Ring Figures** Figure 8 either Diagonal Figure 8, or Figure 8 through the Middle is a continuous, connected change of direction from one end of the arena to the other. Serpentine are continuous, connected, multiple changes of direction. The most common are the 3 Loop Serpentine (odd-number loops keep same original direction at other end of arena), and 4 Loop Serpentine (even-number loops create change of original direction at other end).

**Courses** Courses are built out of basic elements of Arena Geometry/Geography. Jumps are set on Outside Lines, Diagonal Lines, Quarter Lines, Center Line.



Accurate turns connect lines and single jumps into a cohesive Course. Elements can be mixed/matched to create a wide variety of patterns on same course.

Dressage and dressage offer H/J/Eq Riders, Teachers, and Trainers many benefits... and you have probably been using them all along. :-)

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# Longeing

## Reasons to longe a horse

1. Training a young horse
2. Retraining a spoiled horse
3. Exercising a horse that can't be ridden due to an injury, prolonged inactivity due to bad weather, too young to ride, etc.
4. Training riders
5. Advanced work in hand such as a piaffe

## Equipment/Tack:

6. One horse
7. 1 longe line preferably with a loop or rubber stop at the end. It should be about 30 feet long.
8. 1 set of side reins preferably with an elastic insert or circular rubber inserts.
9. A saddle or surcingle with a saddle pad under it.
10. A bridle with an eggbutt or full cheek snaffle, or a longeing cavesson. The bit should be fairly thick, single jointed or a French link with cheek pieces and keepers.
11. It's best if the reins are not attached to the bridle, but if they are, they should never be placed under the stirrups or fixed to the saddle in any way. They should be either twisted twice round the horse's neck, or having been placed over the neck, one rein should be twisted around the other under the neck and the throat strap put through the resulting loop.
12. Longe whip – the type is a personal choice but it shouldn't be too heavy and about 8 feet long with a lash at the end.
13. Chain, if extra control is necessary, may be placed from one side of the bit, across the nose or under the jaw, to the other side of the bit
14. Bell boots, galloping boots, wraps, etc. as needed
15. Gloves – these will keep you from getting a rope burn on your hands if the horse decides to try to run away from you.

## Longeing area:

It's best if you have an arena with a gate that can be closed. You don't want to spend hours chasing your horse – that is not longeing. Be sure the footing isn't too deep or too hard. Also, it's ideal if there is no one jumping or having a lesson in the arena. Horses like to imitate each other and if one is doing quiet flat work and the other is bucking, you know who is going to imitate whom.

## Getting ready and technique:

1. Put the appropriate tack/equipment on the horse.
  - a. Boots or polo wraps should always be used all around to help prevent nicks and act as supports for the tendons which are under considerable strain when working in a circle.

- b. Be sure the side reins aren't too short. They should be long enough to allow the horse to raise his nose slightly above the vertical (about 8-12 inches) and "bump" into the side rein thereby, helping him to automatically drop his head into the correct position. They should not be so short that they make him carry his head behind the vertical.

- c. Put a saddle pad under the surcingle.

- d. Attach the longe line to the bit.

- e. Organize the longe line into loops in your hand – do not let them rest on the ground because you may trip on them or be pulled off your feet.

- f. When not being actively used, the whip should be tucked under your arm with the handle facing forward.

- g. After entering the arena, close the gate, especially if the horse is green or high.

- h. Step back a few paces and ask the horse to walk.

1. Many times, it's best to start longeing a horse in a corner of the arena. The corner provides you with 2 sides which help to guide the horse in a circle and keep him from "swinging his butt" away from you.

2. Propel horse forward by wiggling or popping the whip behind his hind feet and saying "walk". If he turns and faces you, reposition yourself to his side and repeat the procedure. If he keeps turning, position him parallel to the side of the enclosure so he can't turn to face you and, then, repeat the procedure. Sometimes you may need to have someone help you by leading the horse forward into a circle. This is especially helpful if the horse is not used to being longed.

3. Always stay "behind the horses' eye" by standing across from his hindquarters so that you will always be "pushing" from the rear. Use verbal commands with each change of gait. Change the accentuation of the syllables for each command.

4. Don't longe the horse too long in one direction. Let him settle in a gait, moving freely and comfortably before changing to another gait. Vary the gaits.

5. When using a whip, sometimes you may have to "pop" it behind the rear of the horse. Don't fling it around in the air.

6. Use a distinct verbal command for each gait. For example, for the walk, you may want to draw out the word such as "waaaalk", but, for the trot, you may want to raise the tone of the last syllable such as "trOT". It's easier for the horse to understand the commands and to respond to them quicker if they can discern a difference in tone for each gait.

There are many books and articles on longeing and each has some different techniques. What I have given you are suggestions from these resources in addition to things I have learned over the years. As with everything in riding, adaptations need to be made for each horse and rider.



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# High Point Hunter Award Standings

Horse Name	THJA Number	Cumalitive Top 5 pts	Division	Owner
COOLIO 28	5498475	1769.5	GPH	Julia Young
PENELOPE OPL	5416327	1387.3	CH15	Oakhaven Partners, Ltd
REDDINGTON	5391356	1340.2	MAH	Jennifer Devening
SYMBOLIC	5354244	1311.4	LHHI	Bella Kay
CASSADOR	5310087	1259	AOH36H	Ashley Hixon
MORTON'S SASSY KAT	5395876	1235.8	MPH	Colleen Brombach

# High Point Jumper Award Standings

Horse Name	THJA Number	Cumalitive Top 5 pts	Division	Owner
MTM CLARITY	5591441	262	CJL	Avery Griffin
LUSAKA 3	5411799	250	AJL	Catherine Berry
TAKE NOTUS	5209580	250	CJH	Tobi Miller
PICTURE THIS	5267025	241	AJL	Annette Diaz
MTM MRS. YOWZA	5537737	234	AJH	Alexandra Gonzalez
ATOMIC	5349240	222	CJH	Maxim Investments

2020 is right around the corner. It is time to renew your THJA membership for you and your four-legged friend. Go online to [THJA.org](https://www.thja.org) and sign up!

# 2020 THJA Recognized Horse Show Dates

## **Dec. 12-15, 2019 Texas Winter Frost Fire USEF & THJA "A" (Katy, TX)**

Contact: Val Garza, 2501 S. Mason Rd. #100 Katy, TX 77450 (210)  
870-4584 Mgmt.: Great Southwest Equestrian Center, LP

## **Jan. 17-19, 2020 Blue Ribbon Winter Festival USEF & THJA "A" (Waco, TX)**

Contact: Patrick Rodes, 785 W. Jeter Rd. Argyle, TX 76226,  
(940) 367-1217 Mgmt.: Southbound Show Mgmt., Inc.

## **Jan. 23-26, 2020 Winter Warm-Up USEF & THJA**

"A" (Waco, TX) Contact: Patrick Rodes  
Same as above Mgmt.: Southbound Show Mgmt., Inc.

## **Jan. 29-Feb. 2, 2020 Texas Winter Series I USEF "AA" THJA "A" (Katy, TX)**

Contact: Val Garza  
Same as above Mgmt.: Great Southwest Equestrian Center, LP

## **Feb. 5-9, 2020 Texas Winter Series II USEF "AA" THJA "A" (Katy, TX)**

Contact: Val Garza  
Same as above Mgmt.: Great Southwest Equestrian Center, LP

## **Feb. 12-16, 2020 Texas Winter Series III USEF "AA" THJA "A" (Katy, TX)**

Contact: Val Garza  
Same as above Mgmt.: Great Southwest Equestrian Center, LP

## **Feb. 19-23, 2020 Texas Winter Series IV USEF "AA" THJA "A" (Katy, TX)**

Contact: Val Garza  
Same as above Mgmt.: Great Southwest Equestrian Center, LP

## **Feb. 27-Mar. 1, 2020 Texas Rose Spring Kickoff USEF & THJA "A" (Tyler, TX)**

Contact: Kathy Brunson, 14078 State Hwy. 110 N. Tyler, TX 75704  
(903) 882-8696 Mgmt.: Texas Rose Horse Park, LLC

## **Mar. 5-8, 2020 Texas Rose Spring Kick-Off II USEF & THJA "A" (Tyler, TX)**

Contact: Kathy Brunson, 14078 State Hwy. 110 N. Tyler, TX 75704  
(903) 882-8696 Mgmt.: Texas Rose Horse Park, LLC

## **Mar. 18-22, 2020 Pin Oak Charity Horse Show I USEF "AA" THJA "A" (Katy, TX)**

Contact: Val Garza, 2501 S. Mason Rd. #100 Katy, TX 77450 (210)  
870-4584 Mgmt.: Great Southwest Equestrian Center, LP

## **Mar. 25-29, 2020 Pin Oak Charity Horse Show II USEF "AA" THJA "A" (Katy, TX)**

Contact: Val Garza, Same as above Mgmt.: Great Southwest Equestrian Center, LP

## **Mar. 31-April 4, 2020 Pin Oak Charity Horse Show III USEF "AA" THJA "A" (Katy, TX)**

Contact: Val Garza, Same as above Mgmt.: Great Southwest Equestrian Center, LP

## **Apr. 16-19, 2020 Texas Rose Spring Festival USEF & THJA "A" (Tyler, TX)**

Contact: Kathy Brunson, Same as above Mgmt.: Texas Rose Horse Park, LLC

## **Apr. 22-26, 2020 Texas Shoot-Out USEF "AA" THJA "A" (Tyler, TX)**

Contact: Patrick Rodes, 785 W. Jeter Rd. Argyle, TX 76226  
(940) 367-1217 Mgmt.: Southbound Show Mgmt., Inc.

## **April 30-May 3, 2020 GSEC Round-Up USEF & THJA "A" (Katy, TX)**

Contact: Val Garza, Same as above Mgmt.: Great Southwest Equestrian Center, LP

## **May 7-10, 2020 Fiesta Classic USEF & THJA "A" (Katy, TX)**

Contact: Val Garza, Same as above Mgmt.: Great Southwest Equestrian Center, LP

## **May 13-17, 2020 Show Jumping Classic USEF "AA" THJA "A" (Ft. Worth, TX)**

Contact: Patrick Rodes, 785 W. Jeter Rd. Argyle, TX 76226  
(940) 367-1217 Mgmt.: Southbound Show Mgmt., Inc.

## **May 20-24, 2020 Southwest Classic USEF "AA" THJA "A" (Fort Worth, TX)**

Contact: Patrick Rodes, Same as above Mgmt.: Southbound Show Mgmt., Inc.

## **Jun. 10-14, 2020 Blue Ribbon Summer Festival I USEF & THJA "A" (Waco, TX.)**

Contact: David Morse, 3307 Old Barn Ct. Granbury, TX 76048 (469)  
223-3283 Mgmt.: David A. Morse DBA Blue Ribbon Shows

## **Jun. 17-21, 2020 Blue Ribbon Summer Festival II USEF "AA" THJA "A" (Waco, TX.)**

Contact: David Morse, Same as above Mgmt.:  
David A. Morse DBA Blue Ribbon Shows

## **Sep. 2-6, 2020 Texas Rose Sport Horse Cup USEF & THJA "A" (Tyler, TX)**

Contact: Kathy Brunson, 14078 State Hwy 110 N. Tyler, TX 75704  
(903) 882-8696 Mgmt.: Texas Rose Horse Park, LLC

## **Sep. 9-13, 2020 Texas Rose Classic USEF & THJA "A" (Tyler, TX)**

Contact: Kathy Brunson Same as above Mgmt.: Texas Rose Horse Park, LLC

## **Sep. 16-20, 2020 Southwest Showdown USEF & THJA "A" (Katy, TX)**

Contact: Patrick Rodes, 785 W. Jeter Rd. Argyle, TX 76226  
(940) 369-1217 Mgmt.: Southbound Show Mgmt., Inc.

## **Sep. 24-27, 2020 Great Southwest Fall Classic USEF & THJA "A" (Katy, TX)**

Contact: Val Garza, 2501 S. Mason Rd. #100 Katy, TX 77450 (210)  
870-4584 Mgmt.: Great Southwest Equestrian Center, LP

## **Oct. 8-11, 2020 Fall Fun USEF & THJA "A" (Tyler, TX)**

Contact: Patrick Rodes, Same as above Mgmt.: Southbound Show Mgmt., Inc.

## **Oct. 15-18, 2020 Monster Mash USEF & THJA "A" (Katy, TX)**

Contact: Val Garza, Same as above Mgmt.: Pauline J. Cook

## **Oct. 22-25, 2020 Texas Rose Oktoberfest USEF & THJA "A" (Tyler, TX)**

Contact: Kathy Brunson, Same as above Mgmt.: Texas Rose Horse Park, LLC

## **Oct. 28-Nov. 1, 2020 Harvest USEF "AA" THJA "A" (Katy, TX)**

Contact: Patrick Rodes, 785 W. Jeter Rd. Argyle, TX 76226  
(940) 369-1217 Mgmt.: Southbound Show Mgmt., Inc.

## **Nov. 4-8, 2020 Great Southwest Autumn Classic USEF "AA" THJA "A" (Katy, TX)**

Contact: Val Garza, 2501 S. Mason Rd. #100 Katy, TX 77450 (210)  
870-4584 Mgmt.: Great Southwest Equestrian Center, LP

## **Nov. 11-15, 2020 Final Chase USEF "AA" THJA "A" (Katy, TX)**

Contact: Val Garza, Same as above Mgmt.: Great Southwest Equestrian Center, LP

# 2020 is around the corner.

It is time to renew your THJA membership for you or your four-legged friend.

Go online to [thja.org](http://thja.org) and sign up!



## Hillcrest Farm

The Keneda and Ratliff Families would like to Congratulate Head Trainer and Barn Owner **Julie Cleveland Beam** for her success in the Jumper Ring in 2019.



# THJA - Frequently Asked Questions



## **Why is my horse not receiving points?**

The horse is not registered with the THJA. If the horse was already registered, it was never transferred to your name. The owner listed with the THJA is not a current member. The owner name listed with the THJA is not the same as the one listed with the USEF. You showed the horse in a division that is not recognized by the THJA. The Rider of the horse is not a current THJA member.

## **Why is my credit card transaction being refused?**

The most common reason is that the billing address is incorrect. Another common reason is that one of the numbers from the card is typed incorrectly. When specifying the height of a horse, it asks for “hands.” What is a “hand”? A hand is 4 inches. Horse heights are specified in the form 13.3 h which is equal to 55 inches. The number after the decimal point is inches.  $13.3 \text{ h} = 4 \times 13 + 3 = 55$  inches. If you listed a horse as 13.4 h (which is incorrect) we would convert it to 14.0 hands. The form asks for the sex of my horse. What should I put down? New owners often select “M” when they think their horse is a male. The three choices are M – mare (female), G – gelding (male), or S – stallion.

## **Why do you ask for my birth date?**

For junior members, divisions are sometimes split by age. Also, you are no longer considered a junior member if you are 18 when the show year begins. Our computer system checks these ages and flags them when the horse show reports your results incorrectly. For adults, there are several age brackets that we need to check when entering results. We do not share age information with anyone. It's only used to make sure your points get put into the proper divisions when they are based upon age.

## **Why am I not receiving prize lists?**

The THJA does not mail prize lists for shows. You must contact the individual horse show managers to get on their mailing list.

## **My year end point standings are wrong. What do I do?**

Year-end points become final on December 15th. Please let us know before then if you think they are incorrect. We cannot make corrections after that date. On the THJA web site, there is an option to have point standings and audits emailed to you after each show. Use this option and there should not be any surprises at year end. **VERY IMPORTANT!!!** When year end standings are published, horses that have not competed in at least 3 shows and placed in their divisions, are eliminated from year end awards. Horses below them are moved up in the standings.

## **I lost my membership card or horse registration, what can I do?**

The THJA web site has an option to request a replacement membership card, horse registration, or name change certificate.

## **What do I do if I lease a horse?**

This can be a very complicated transaction. Call Ann Yaffe at 281-934-3251 or send her an email at annyaffe@fighillfarm.com. She will lead you through the required steps.

## **Do I need to renew my horse registration each year?**

Horses are registered for life. Once registered, we only need to know about name changes or ownership changes for the horse.

## **Why haven't I received a membership roster?**

The THJA membership roster is now available by email request only. It will be updated frequently rather than once a year as done in the past. Click the “Request Member Roster” button and send a request to the email address shown. As soon as we verify your current membership status, a roster will be emailed to you.

## **Why haven't I received a rule book?**

The THJA rule book is available online at the THJA web site. If you need a hard copy, you can print it from there or we will mail you a copy for a small fee.

## **Why are the USEF and THJA numbers the same?**

The numbers are the same to help members by not having to remember so many numbers when filling out horse show entries and doing yearly renewals. Remember that the USEF, USHJA, and the THJA are all separate organizations that you must be a member of.

## **Why do I pay a non-member fee?**

Starting with the 2013 horse show year, the THJA will no longer be able to collect a non-member fee due to a rule change by the USEF. If you are charged a THJA non-member fee, bring this to the attention of the horse show office or horse show manager and it will be refunded or taken off your show bill.

## **What is the Horse Show year?**

# THJA - Frequently Asked Questions

*continued*

## How can it affect me?

The horse show year is not the same as the calendar year. The horse show year starts on 12/1 and ends on 11/30 of the following year. The starting date of a horse show determines the year that it falls into. This can cause much confusion during the Thanksgiving and Christmas horse shows. Sometimes the Thanksgiving show is at the end of one year and the Christmas show is the first show of the new year. We have had a number of our members go to both show and forget to register for the new show year. This results in getting points one week and not getting them for the following week. Your age for classification as a junior or adult rider is also determined by the start of the show year. Your age on 12/1 determines your classification for the whole show year. If your birthdate falls on 12/1, you assume the greater age on that date. If you are in a show that is in progress on 11/30, you maintain your lesser age for the show, even if it ends beyond 12/1. Points accumulate from the first show of the show year to the last show of the show year. There are three exceptions to this.

1. USEF Pony Medals qualifications end on 7/1. Any qualifications after that date carry into the next show year.
2. Junior Medalist qualifications end 10/1. Any qualifications after that date carry into the next show year.

## How are Champions & Reserves Calculated?

The typical Hunter division consists of 4 over fences classes and 1 under saddle class. The various placings are assigned points that are used for two different purposes, year end point standings and Champion/Reserve calculations. For the year end awards, the THJA and USEF have point tables that take into account the horse show rating and the number of horses in the classes. The year end award points have nothing to do with the calculation of

Champion & Reserve.

For Champion and Reserve calculations, one table from the USEF rulebook is used and it does not change because of the show rating or number of horses involved. Basically, the table awards 10 points to 1st place, 6 points to 2nd place, 4 points to 3rd place, 2 points to 4th place, 1 point to 5th place and ½ point to 6th place. For each of the over fences classes, these points are totaled for each horse. The horses with the top 4 totals over fences, have their points for the under saddle class added to their over fences total. The result of this calculation is not necessarily intuitive if you have watched a division take place. The horse that wins the under saddle class only benefits from the win if it has done fairly well in the over fences classes. The scores of the top 4 horses with their under saddle points included are now ranked and the top score receives the Champion award and the 2nd highest score is the Reserve Champion. Occasionally the top 2 horses are tied after this calculation so, there are more rules to cover this situation. For the tied horses, you go back to the over fences points and see who had the most points. The horse with the most points over fences is declared Champion and the other horse is the Reserve Champion. If there is still a tie, the judge has the tied horses compete in an additional under saddle class and he determines the Champion and Reserve Champion from that extra class.

Only after Champions and Reserve Champions are determined, can you use the THJA and USEF point tables to see how many points you have earned.

Some jumper divisions count money won toward year end standings. There are no Champions or Reserve Champions calculated for these jumper divisions. Hunter Breeding Divisions only have one class in each division so the 1st place horse and the 2nd place horse become eligible to move to the "Best Young Horse Class" where additional year end points can be earned.

## New THJA HIGH POINT AWARD

- \$14,000 in total prize money!
- \$7,000 high point hunter horse/rider combination to any non-professional THJA member.
- \$7,000 high point jumper horse/rider combination to any non-professional THJA member.

**Details:** Year end award at Banquet – six places will be awarded in both the hunter and jumper section. Open to all children, juniors, adults and amateurs in either the Hunter or Jumper divisions that are currently recognized for points under THJA. Horse and rider must be current THJA members. Points will be counted for the entire year.



# Texas Rose Horse Park 2020 Hunter/Jumper Schedule

**February 28-March 1**

**Texas Rose Spring Kickoff I**

**March 6—8**

**Texas Rose Spring Kickoff II**

**April 16-19**

**Texas Rose Spring Festival**

**September 2—6**

**Texas Rose Sporthorse Cup**

**September 9—13**

**Texas Rose Classic**

**October 22—25**

**Texas Rose Octoberfest**

*\*All shows are USEF National (A)\* Jumper 1/2/3\**

[www.TexasRoseHorsePark.com](http://www.TexasRoseHorsePark.com)



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