

KHJA News

The Newsletter of the Kentucky Hunter Jumper Association



**Meet KHJA's
Regional
Emerging
Athletes**

**Horses and
Higher
Education**

**Scholarship
Opportunities!**

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A Note from the KHJA President, Ashley Watts

Welcome to 2021! This year is proving to be much better than 2020 and I am thankful we can finally see each other's smiling faces again at horse shows!

As the president of KHJA, I must say, we have some awesome board members and our committees are already doing great things.

We would love to involve our regular members should anyone be interested in serving on a committee without being on the Board. We would like to hear from you!

Your input is very important to us. A survey is going to be emailed out to get your thoughts, opinions and ideas on rules, prizes and shows. Please take the time to fill it out should you

have productive input or information that can help us improve your experience showing and participating as a KHJA member.

The Fall Classic is going to be better than ever this year. We have some fun events

planned, including a stick horse race and an ice cream social.

We also have some amazing sponsors this year and you can still help support the show by sponsoring a class, division or more!

I do hope that you will look carefully through this edition of *KHJA News* as it contains lots of very important

information, deadlines and updates.

Happy showing!



Photo: Shawn McMillen Photography

Cover photo of River Cann and Caerindoll's Picture Perfect provided by Shawn McMillen Photography.

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Congratulations to Avery Ehrhardt and Hannah Votel, KHJA's Regional Emerging Athletes!

The KHJA would like to congratulate Avery Ehrhardt and Hannah Votel for being invited to participate in the 2021 USHJA Regional Emerging Athletes Program.

The Lindsay Maxwell Charitable Fund/USHJA Emerging Athletes Program was created to provide opportunities for young riders to advance their horsemanship education and riding skills.

To apply for the program, Avery and Hannah provided letters of recommendation, successfully completed online quizzes and sent in video submissions of themselves riding.

Sadly, due to unforeseen circumstances, Avery was unable to attend this year's program, but Hannah spent five days in June at the University of Findlay in Ohio working with top clinicians, including Candice King, Jim Wofford, Jeff Cook, Julie Winkel, Cynthia Hankins and Joe Fargis

Hannah participated in mounted flatwork, gymnastic exercises and coursework. She also took part in intensive stable management sessions with experts, including Nanci Snyder, Colleen Reed, Anne Thornbury, Julia Hogan and Tracy Forman.

Let's learn more about these talented young riders!



Avery and Killian



Avery and Mona

Avery Ehrhardt is from Villa Hills, KY, where she attended Beechwood High School, graduating in 2021 with a 4.0 GPA. Avery is part of the Findaway Farm family and trains with Trena Kerr.

Avery can best be described as kind and respectful to all; in fact, she was awarded the Beechwood Tiger Award because of these qualities. Avery always brings a sense of teamwork and kindness to her barn family, and she is often found cheering on her friends and teammates.

Avery will attend the University of Kentucky in the fall and she was awarded the Parent Teacher Student Association Scholarship and UK's Provost Scholarship. Avery was a member of the National Honor Society, served on Homecoming

Court and was Prom Queen.

Avery interned at the Park Hills Animal Hospital where her hard work turned the opportunity into a paying job. Avery also played soccer and won multiple awards. In her "spare time" she also ran the family stable.

Hannah Votel just finished 7th grade and she was very excited to have been accepted into the regional EAP.

Hannah has never been afraid of hard work. She has earned first honors, second honors and the Presidential Award for her academics.

She loves her horses and ponies, and she also enjoys playing the piano and the violin. She was a Girl Scout for five years and performed countless service

projects in her community.

Hannah moved up from ground poles and cross rails at Windfall Farms to short stirrup and 11-and-under equitation at WEC Wilmington, Aiken, Tryon and Blowing Rock.

When she aged out of the short stirrup division, she moved on to children's pony hunters on her pony, God's Angel and to intermediate children's jumpers on Top Gun.

Last fall, she began riding Hathaway Hill's Leonardo RGS and spent the winter at WEC Ocala preparing and working toward competing in the children's jumpers and children's equitation.

Hannah has always set high goals for herself and she works hard to make those goals a reality.



Hannah and Leonardo RGS

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Horses and Higher Ed

You don't have to put your equine enthusiasm on the back burner while you pursue a college degree.

BY SARAH E. COLEMAN

Heading off to college can be scary, whether you choose to go thousands of miles or just an hour or two away. Everything seems like it's changing, but one thing doesn't have to change: Your ability to spend time in the saddle!

Riding in College

There are loads of opportunities to ride in college, even if you don't bring your horse! Though taking lessons at a local barn is great, riding on a school team can be even more fun. Just as important as riding is the ability to meet like-minded horse lovers—some of whom are destined to become your best college buddies.

College is the time to try some different things and stretch your boundaries – and the same is true for your riding. Though you may have competed in hunter/jumper competition your whole life, why not give another discipline a try? Riding dressage, western or saddle seat is sure to enhance your abilities and offer new insights into connecting with horses.

Options to explore to keep riding in college include:

The Intercollegiate Dressage Association (IDA)

Designed to be an affordable and fun way for students to make dressage part of their college experience, riders compete both individually and in teams of four at Introductory, Lower Training, Upper Training and First Level. Riders need not own their own horse.

The Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA)

The most popular team riding opportunity for collegiate riders is the IHSA. This organization currently hosts over 400 member colleges and universities throughout the United States and Canada, with more than 10,000 hunt seat and western riders. Because there are eight levels of hunt seat riding (Walk-Trot through Open) and six levels of western riding (Beginner through Open/Reining), there truly is something for everyone, whether you're a seasoned show-ring competitor or you just want to give riding a try.

The Intercollegiate Saddle Seat Riding Association (ISSRA)

The Intercollegiate Saddle Seat Riding Association (ISSRA) provides beginners through experienced saddle seat riders with the opportunity to learn to ride or continue their saddle-seat riding experience while in college. Owning a horse is not necessary.

The National Collegiate Equestrian Association (NCEA)

Competing in the NCEA is every rider's dream: you get a scholarship to ride in college! The mission of the NCEA is to provide student-athletes the opportunity to compete in a collegiate national championship event. Unlike the majority of riding programs across the country, the 24 NCEA programs are supported by

the school's athletic department and riders receive the same treatment as other collegiate athletes. In NCEA competition, riders ride in head-to-head competition instead of competing against multiple other schools

Intercollegiate Eventing Team

The United States Eventing Association's Intercollegiate Eventing Program is just a few years old. Riders compete their own horses as individuals at regular horse trials, but let the show secretary know they are riding as part of a team. From there, the scores from each team member are combined and then matched against other teams' scores. A stand-alone Championship takes place each year, offering Beginner Novice through Intermediate.

Study Up on Riding Options

To find out more about the riding options in college, visit:

Intercollegiate Dressage Association

www.teamdressage.com

Intercollegiate Horse Show Association

www.ihsa-inc.com

Intercollegiate Saddle Seat Riding Association

www.intercollegiatesaddleseatriding.com

National Collegiate Equestrian Association

<http://www.collegiateequestrian.com>

KHJA Medal Finals Set for September



Photo: Lesley Ward

The KHJA Medal Finals will again take place at the KHJA Fall Classic, which will be held Sept.17-19 at the Kentucky Horse Park.

As in previous years, sections for different fence heights will be offered (2', 2'6", 3', 3'3, and 3'6"). An overall champion will be selected from the first- and second-place winners of each division.

The qualifying period for this year's class is August 1, 2020 to July 31, 2021. Qualification guidelines are printed in the KHJA Rule Book and Member Directory, which is available on the KHJA website, **KHJA.org**.

If you have a question about qualifying, please direct them to Mark Llewellyn at **mllewellyn@ker.com**.

About the Journey

By Trena Kerr • Findaway Farm • May 2021

Horses are magnificent, intelligent, powerful creatures that could easily deny us the chance to climb on their backs. Our connections with our horses are worthy of appreciation, each and every ride. Take the time to enjoy the ride.

Riding is most definitely a goal-oriented sport, no matter what discipline of riding we do. We start in our earliest lesson by setting goals. First we learn to steer, then we trot, and right away our goal becomes jumping! By the time we start to show, we instinctively want to win that elusive blue ribbon.

As a trainer, instructor and coach, I have played an active role in setting goals for riders young and old. I help riders meet their goals before they even know what their goals are.

I have witnessed the first three trot steps on a lunge line, all the way through to national championships for some.

I have helped set and attain a laundry list of equestrian goals from walk/trot ponies to horses, short stirrup riders to the junior jumpers, foxhunters advancing from hilltopping to first flight, even students winning equestrian scholarships for college.

Some riders' goals are lofty, like competing in the Olympics or winning the Maclay. While other riders' goals are simple, like taking a baby to its first

horse show or maybe just remembering the course on any given day! And let's face it, there are some days when getting ON is a serious goal.

The big dreams take years—even decades—to achieve, but the small steps and goals occur every day. Jumping in a straight line for example, executing the flying lead change or a perfect sitting trot.

Learning diagonals, using double reins and properly lunging a horse are legitimate day-to-day goals.

Every accomplishment with our horse is a win, no matter how seemingly insignificant. Don't take these moments for granted.

It's far too easy to get tunnel vision and lose sight of the every day when focusing on bigger goals. After all, it's about the journey, not the destination—right?

Pretty soon we will be showing at the KHJA Medal Finals (or Zone finals or Washington or the Olympics) and we will look back to realize: We have been winning the whole time.

We've all got some incredible stories to tell about our equestrian journey. We have been to some amazing places and met some great people and horses along the way. Every step we take to meet the larger goal is a win. Enjoy the ride!



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www.lakesidearena.org





Hunter / Jumper Shows

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January 23 - 24	June 26 - 27
February 13 - 14	September 4 - 5
March 6 - 7	November 6 - 7
April 10 - 11	December 4 - 5

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KHJA NEWS Advertising Rates

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 1/2 page: \$105
 Full page: \$225
 Back cover: \$280

Non-Member Rates

Business card: \$50
 1/4 page: \$75
 1/2 page: \$125
 Full page: \$275
 Back cover: \$300

To advertise in the KHJA News, please contact **Jen Kraemer** at **859-414-4154** or email **jenstuart@aol.com**.



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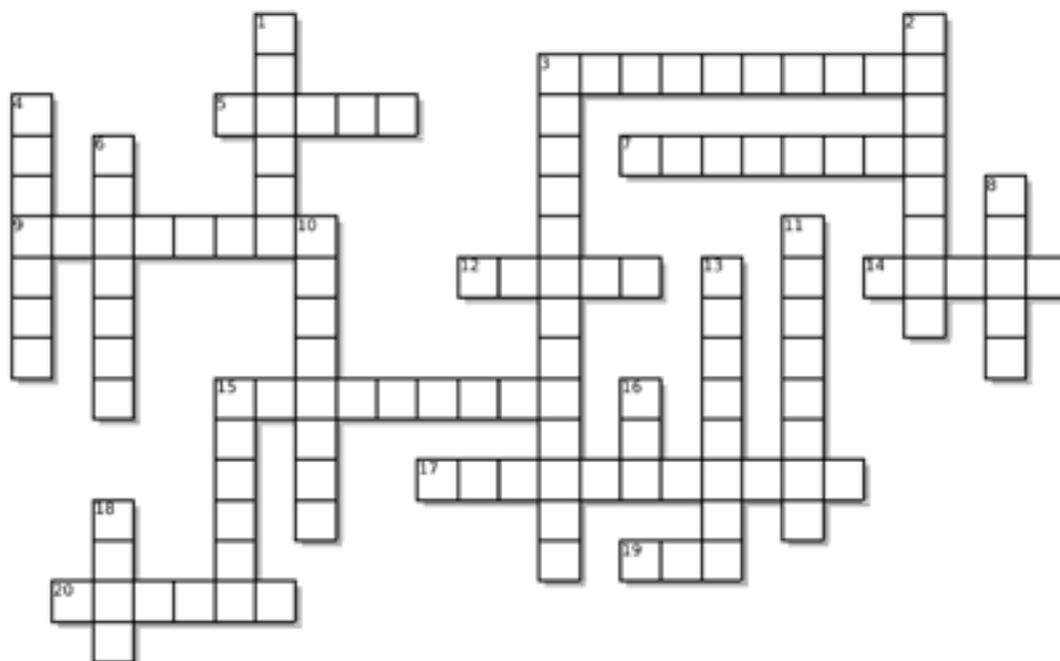
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Across

- 3 A two-strap piece of equipment; running or standing
- 5 Pieces of the saddle that protect much of the rider's leg while riding; extends from the seat
- 7 Part of the bridle that circles the horse's head between the eyes and nostrils
- 9 Long straps that hold the stirrups
- 12 Narrow leather straps used to guide the horse
- 14 Secured to the rider's boot heel; and artificial aid
- 15 Grooming tool usually made of rubber and oval with teeth for deep dirt removal
- 17 Part of the bridle that fastens at the junction of the head and neck
- 19 A piece of fleece or quilted cotton placed between the saddle and horse to improve saddle fit, prevent rubs, or protect saddle
- 20 Front of the saddle, ahead of the seat

Down

- 1 Placed on the head and used as a way to lead or tie the horse
- 2 Snapped to the halter, it's used to lead the horse from place to place
- 3 Set of two or three steps that allows for easy mounting
- 4 Parts of a saddle used to attach the girth
- 6 Simple bit made with rings and a mouthpiece; no leverage
- 8 Attaches to both sides of the saddle tightly to keep the saddle in place
- 10 A rider's feet are placed in these
- 11 Designed to dislodge dirt and stones from hooves
- 13 A piece of the bridle that lies against the forehead
- 15 Back of the saddle, behind the seat
- 16 Carried in the horse's mouth when ridden
- 18 An artificial aid composed of a handle, shaft, and a short leather loop on the end

Answers on page 19

Fall Classic Medal Finals Events, September 17-19th

Mark your calendars for the KHJA Fall Classic & Medal Finals September 17-19th to join in on the exciting events we have planned outside of the show ring.

Who Let the Dogs Out: The Annual Dog Show is Back!

Let your four-legged friends shine with some fun competition. We will have agility, obedience, best trick, prettiest, cosmetically challenged and maybe some other surprise events.

KHJA Junior Stick Horse Challenge

We will be selling kits to make your very own pool-noodle stick horse. We will have creativity classes, as well as over fences!

Ice Cream Social Provided by KHJA

Who screams for ice cream, we all scream for ice cream! Come join us for complimentary ice cream and time with friends.



Photo: Lesley Ward





KHJA FALL CLASSIC SPONSORSHIP

Class and Division Sponsors

\$100 Class Sponsor

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\$1,500 Mini Prix sponsors

\$3,000 Hunter Derby Sponsor

Show Ring Sponsors

\$2,000 Murphy Ring Sponsors

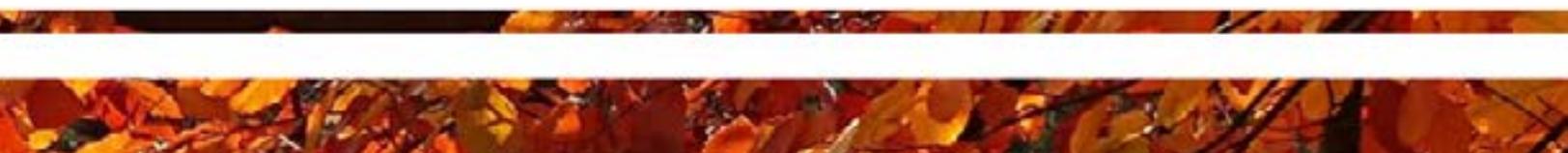
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\$7,500 Day Sponsor (3 available)



Class Sponsor- name attached to the class in the prize list and listed on thank you page

Division Sponsor- name attached to the division, 3x8 banner in the Ring & listing on thank you page

Specialty Award- 4x8 banner & 1/4 Page thank you in prize list

Championship & Mini Prix- 4x8 banner, announcement during the day, along with presentation of award, 1/4 page thank you in the prize list, name on the class in prize list

Show Ring Sponsorship- 4x8 banner, announcements on all days, 1/4 page thank you in the prize list

Hunter Derby Sponsorship- 4x8 banner, presentation of award, 1/2 page thank you, announcements through the day, name on the class in prize list

Show Day & Breakfast Sponsor- 4x8 banner in all 3 rings, full page thank you in the prize list

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Clarifying a Few Sticking-Points in the Rules

MARK LLEWELLYN, POINT SECRETARY

The dog days of summer are upon us. Not only does this time of year signify the height of show season for many KHJA members, it also marks the half-way point of the show year.

Hundreds of KHJA members and their horses have been accruing points for year-end awards over the last several months. I hope all of you are achieving your goals this year.

As the second half of the show season begins, I wanted to remind all of the members of a few rules that often trip up even some of our most experienced members.

- In order to be eligible for year-end awards, the horse or pony must be recorded with KHJA (hunters, jumpers, hunter breeding), the owner of record must be a member of KHJA, and all riders or handlers must be members of KHJA, including professionals.

Some members have expressed concern that this rule differs from other associations in that KHJA requires the rider to be a member. The basis for this is simple: KHJA wishes to reward those individuals who support the organization through their membership dollars.

Lifetime enrollments for horses and lifetime memberships for riders and handlers are available on the membership form.

- The point-keeping software used by KHJA is an incredible

tool, but it is not infallible, and neither is its user (me!). At times, a horse or rider may be listed in the standings without the correct membership “credentials.” This most often occurs when a horse with proper recording is shown but the owner or rider doesn’t have a membership.

The software captures horse names, not people names, when calculating points in hunter and jumper classes. Many of these mistakes are identified through periodic audits that are performed throughout the year, but occasionally an error is carried from one month to the next. All errors are corrected as soon as they are identified.

Just because points appear on the website does not, in any way, mean they are final, and it’s best to think of point standings as a dynamic record, one subject to change.

Points can be revoked at any time during the year if membership rules were not followed at the time of the show.

Owners and riders are asked to check points throughout the year. According to the rule book, members have 30 days after points are posted to the website to make inquiries to me.

- KHJA defines a division as three or more classes. If a show offers two classes, they are treated as individual classes. Participants are eligible for points, assuming each class has at least three entries, but there are no

championship points awarded. This happens most often with equitation classes, as a show may offer only two classes, one over fences class and one flat class.

If three classes are offered and a division is formed, the first class in the division must fill in order for the other classes to count, no matter the number of entries in subsequent classes of the division.

- Two sets of year-end awards are given annually, one to those who compete in what KHJA defines as Regular shows (USEF-rated shows) and one to those who compete in Local shows (unrated shows). If a rider competes in both Regular and Local shows, separate sets of points will be kept and the horse and/or rider will be eligible for two year-end awards.

A thorough outline of how the point system works appears in the KHJA Rule Book.

Rule Change Proposals: Your Input, Please

Each year the KHJA Rule Book outlines the basic rules of the association, including divisions sanctioned by the Association and how year-end points are to be calculated.

Many circumstances crop up throughout a show season that are not precisely addressed in the KHJA Rule Book. In these instances, the USEF Rule Book becomes the official guide to resolution.

The KHJA Rule Book is not a static document. Each year members are asked to submit rule-change proposals to the board of directors. The merits of each proposal are discussed by the board of directors, and those that are passed by the board are then presented to the membership for vote.

- If you have an idea to better the Association, please feel free to submit a rule change.

No suggestion is too trivial. We want your input!

While proposed rule changes are accepted year-round (send to Ashley Watts at khja_president@gmail.com), they are reviewed closer to the end of the year.

Maybe you don't have a rule change, but would like clarification of a rule. Those too can be sent to Ashley Watts at the above email address or to me at mlllewellyn@ker.com.



USHJA Horsemanship Quiz Challenge: Junior & Adult!

Put your horsemanship knowledge to the test for a chance to win great prizes in the USHJA Horsemanship Quiz Challenge. The HQC encourages education and recognizes young equestrians and adults who have exceptional horsemanship knowledge.

How It Works:

Participants take two levels of online horsemanship quizzes, which consist of multiple choice and true/false questions, to be eligible for selection to the HQC Nationals. The HQC Nationals is an in-person competition that includes a written test and a hands-on practicum to put the top-scoring participants to the ultimate test.

What You Need to Know:

- Open to USHJA members who are younger than 21 on December 1 of the

KHJA
KENTUCKY HUNTER JUMPER ASSOCIATION

SCHOLARSHIP 2021

DEADLINE JULY 15, 2021

Applicant must be a current member of KHJA and have been for at least 3 years. Applicant must also be a high school senior entering college in the fall of 2021 or a full-time undergraduate student in the fall of 2021. Applicants who do not have a significant amount of money from outside sources will receive extra consideration for this scholarship.

The scholarship will be awarded at the 2021 KHJA AA horse show August 25-29th.

Visit www.khja.org to download the application and for more details

current competition year

- Must be a USHJA member in good standing above the Outreach level

- Participant must score an 80 percent or higher on the Level One Quiz to take the Level Two Quiz

- Participant must score a 90 percent or higher on the Level Two Quiz to be eligible for selection to the HQC Nationals

Participant must register for and complete the Level One and Level Two Quizzes no later than **September 1** of the current competition year.

USHJA members who are 21 years of age or older now have the opportunity to test their horsemanship knowledge in the [USHJA Adult Horsemanship Quiz Challenge!](#)

For more information on the HQC, eligibility and requirements, please visit the USHJA website.

The Official HQC Study Guide covers topics that include horse identification, anatomy, nutrition, riding theory and welfare. The Horsemanship Study Guide is available to

everyone interested in expanding his or her equine knowledge.

Please visit the United States Hunter Jumper Association website at www.ushja.org.



The image is a black and white advertisement for the KHJA's LegUp Grant. At the top, it features the text "KHJA's LEGUP GRANT" in a stylized font, with "LEGUP" in large, bold letters and "GRANT" in smaller letters below it. Below the title, it states "DEADLINE NOV 30, 2021" and "QUIZ DUE SEPT 1, 2021". The main body of the text describes the grant's purpose: "This grant is intended to be used exclusively to aid KHJA junior member riders in their personal progression within the sport of riding and competing in the hunters, jumpers or equitation divisions. There are 4 grants to be awarded, 2 for \$1,500 and 2 for \$1,000 to riders aged 10 to 18." It then lists the requirements for applying: "In order to apply for the LegUp grant, you must:" followed by two bullet points: "• Be a member of the KHJA for a minimum of 2 years" and "• Perform a minimum of 6 hours of community service; younger riders can complete this requirement volunteering at their trainer's barn". Finally, it instructs applicants to "Fill out the LegUp application, questionnaire and trainer recommendation and remit to the LegUp committee by November 30, 2021." and notes that "Completion of the USHJA Horsemanship Challenge Quiz, Level 1 minimum" is required.

THIS IS THE MOMENT

When the commitment to be better than yesterday pays off. Working and supporting our equine athletes reach their goals day after day is one of our greatest achievements. We are looking forward to a great season by the side of some of our favorite athletes doing what we do best, fueling champions. Cheers!



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Ask the Equus Expert

(The 3rd Installment by Justin Watts)

Let me be forthcoming about this. Totally my mistake and I own up to it. I had not stopped writing articles for the KHJA Newsletter, but through a clerical error, I have been submitting articles to the Kansas Ham Jamboree Association. And let me tell you, after receiving a rather lengthy and legal-sounding “cease and desist” letter, those Kansans take their Ham Jamboree very seriously.

So without further ado, and in the spirit of competitions resuming after a year-long pandemic hiatus, let us have a little Q&A to help you shake the dust off your tall boots.

This should put to rest all of your anxiety about getting back into the show ring.

Q: What size trailer do I need to haul my horse(s) to a show?

A: The most common mistake in deciding on horse trailer size is to calculate capacity based on number of horses. This, of course, is flawed logic. To properly haul in to a show, you take the number of tack trunks, multiply by the bucket factor (water + feed + cleaning), and account for the miscellaneous totes raised to the exponent of box fans.

Then, add 1 stall just for the wheelbarrow (2 stalls if transporting hay and a muck tub). Therefore, the average horse trainer will need a minimum of a 12-horse trailer. This does not include the horses that you intend to take, so a second trailer is needed just for that, but is optional.

Q: At bigger shows, should I tip the braider?

A: The braider functions on 2 hours of sleep or less. They also stand on rickety and uneven stepladders with several balls of yarn dangling from their hips.



Photo: Lesley Ward

If timed correctly, they can be easily tipped. Alternatively, Instead of rudely pushing them off their ladder, I recommend giving them a few extra dollars to be nice.

Q: How should I decorate my barn's stall area to make it stand out?

A: Some people like the simplistic look of a curtain and drapes embroidered with your barn's name. Others take it a step further and add potted plants and ferns with a bed of mulch. And then the elite few actually put up professional grade masonry around their stall compound.

I've often wondered where the materials are stored in the limited trailer space, and then it dawned on me—the bricks and mortar are actually inside the tack trunks!

I've moved enough tack trunks with an average weight of 320 pounds each while noticing that all of the saddles and bridles were shipped separately. So if the tack trunks aren't used to move the tack, they have to be full of masonry supplies.

Q: What other supplies will I need at the horse show?

A: This is a matter of personal preference as everyone operates differently, but there is one constant that remains unchanged regardless of the

—◆◆—
Boots
—

Blankets
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Hunt Coats
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And so much more
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