



TESCTC

EVENTER

Official Newsletter of the T.E.S. Combined Training Club

Two Years and 600 Lessons Later . . .

When contemplating whether or not to do time in Los Angeles for my graduate degree in physical therapy at USC, I wondered how I could possibly afford school and living expenses as well as support my chestnut significant other, Banner. I had taught many clinics near my home in Watsonville, but no one knew me as a rider in Southern California. I did, however, have one contact to try. Patricia Kinnaman, who knew me more as a young rug rat than a rider, generously assured me I could work at her riding school.

Since then, like a comic book character, I've led two lives--by day, a humble graduate student learning the basics of physical therapy, and by night, a super hero--TES-Woman! Faster than a hand gallop! Able to leap small oxers in a single bound (with or without a horse)! Able to catch dropped dressage whips with her bare teeth!

Aside from providing for my gallant Pony Boy Wonder, the past two years have given me many wonderful memories. The sport of eventing, which I love, has blossomed into a significant component of the T.E.S. program. I take great pride in knowing that the students I taught now ride with competence and have learned to figure out many of their own problems. I take pride in seeing full eventing classes preparing present and future horse trial competitors. I'm also pleased to see a group of dedicated individuals working together in a well-established combined training club, educating and encouraging prospective eventers. (That's what they claim, but most evidence suggests that they get together to snarf cookies and party into the wee hours.)

Two years and 600 lessons later . . . it's time to say good-bye. My graduation from USC is the close of a very complex chapter in my life, but I'm glad to have met the people I now call my friends and students. Throughout the summer, I'll be swinging through Los Angeles to do research at USC and begging you to be my volunteer subjects. I want to say farewell with the strict understanding that I expect to see you folks at upcoming events and shows throughout California. Up, forward and away!

Anne Howard
Training Director

New Training Director Announced

We are happy to announce that Leslie Morse, owner of Van Dahn International, has joined the Club as Training Director. She will be team teaching (with Kathy Matthes) the Intermediate Eventing classes at T.E.S. (Saturday at 1:00 and Sunday at 1:30). Leslie will also be providing cross-country schooling clinics at Moorpark on a regular basis and will be our trainer for show prep and at events.

Leslie, a native of Southern California, has studied dressage with Olympic dressage veteran Hilda Gurney, as well as Laurie Falvo, Mikki Alvarado, Jacki Lindberg, Robert Dover, Del Greenwal, Michael Poulin and Gabriela Grillo, and attended clinics with Franz Rockovansky, the former chief rider at the Spanish Riding School. She studied eventing back East with champion Three-Day eventer Bruce Davidson and competed at preliminary and intermediate events.

We wish to extend a warm welcome to Leslie and look forward to working with her as she helps us to achieve our eventing goals.

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New Programs

TESCTC Event Grooms Corps Certificate Program

Preparing for a Horse Trial requires a great deal of thought and organization. The Event groom is a vital part of the team and is responsible for both horse and rider. Grooms need to plan all of the regular routines (feeding, grooming, mucking, and exercise) around the ride times as well as non-regular duties like braiding, wrapping legs, taking temperatures, cleaning tack, applying linaments and presenting the rider with an immaculately groomed, correctly tacked horse in time to warm-up for each phase.

Since the Club's aim is to provide training in all aspects of eventing, and because our competing members need well-trained grooms, we will be offering a training and certificate program for Event Grooms. Certified Club members will be admitted into the TESCTC Event Grooms Corp.

There are three phases to the program: training, testing and a final practicum. All candidates must be Club members before they are accepted into the program; however, candidates may test out of courses taken before membership.

The following courses are required:

HLS 100	Horsemanship (Tack) Class
HLS 200	Extended Tack & Equipment
HLS 201	Extended Grooming
HLS 307	Grooming for Eventing
HLS 308a	Lab Session: Braiding
HLS 308b	Lab Session: Wrapping
HLS 308c	Lab Session: Grooming
HLS 308d	Lab Session: Show Care
HLS 308e	Lab Session: Tack Care
HLS 308f	Lab Session: Stable Management
HLS 308g	Lab Session: Medical Care
HLS 308g	Lab Session: Shipping

Grooming for Eventing is required before the lab sessions can be scheduled. The lab sessions are 1/2 hour, hands-on, private or semi-private lessons with designated Grooming Corps instructors. Group lessons may also be offered if a significant number of candidates require certification before an upcoming Horse Trial.

Candidates must pass all the courses and be tested on the material; however, experienced candidates may test out of each course. If required courses are not offered through the Horsemastership program each semester, the Club will try to offer the courses within each certification period.

After the candidate has been tested and passed all courses, he/she must complete a supervised practicum (on-the-job training) at an actual Horse Trial. If this phase is successfully completed, candidates are admitted into the TESCTC Event Grooms Corps. Event grooms can charge a fee for services, and there is a Year-End Award for Best Event Groom!

If you are interested in this program, talk to Melinda Hallmark or Kathy Matthes. The Grooming Corps Checklist form has been included in your 1992 membership package.



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The T.E.S. Combined Training Club provides lectures and clinics on all aspects of eventing (from grooming to competition strategies), field trips to local events, scholarships, year-end awards, and show preparation.

1992 membership dues are \$25.00 for Active Senior Members, \$20.00 for Active Junior Members, and \$15.00 for Supporting Members.

Membership applications are available at the T.E.S. School office. For more information, please contact Melinda Hallmark or Kathy Matthes at (818) 569-3666.

Board Members

Patricia Kinnaman, Exec. Director
Kathy Matthes, Director
Leslie Morse, Training Director
Melinda Hallmark, Secretary
Michelle Macdonald, Chair, Educ.
Lynne Toby, Chair, Fundraising
Haleh Jahanbakhsh, PR
Steve Toby, Chair, Video Services

Show Results

Area VI Novice Championships at Ram Tap (11/91)

Reserve Champion -- Anne Howard, Pioneer
1st Place Team -- Anne Howard and David James

T.E.S. Dressage & CT Schooling Show (12/1/91)

Melinda Hallmark, Cedar Jack
Training Level, Test 1 -- 3rd
Musical Free Style -- 1st
Novice CT -- 1st

Nancy Sternfeld, Chip
Green as Grass CT -- H.C. only
Pre-Novice CT -- 1st

Meadows of Moorpark Horse Trial (12/15/91)

Peter Dukes, Kip (BN) -- no place
Melinda Hallmark, Cedar Jack (BN) -- 3rd
Mike Michelsen, Elan (BN) -- Elim. at X-C
Dallas Snyder, Arizona (BN) -- Elim at drsg
Nancy Sternfeld, Chip (BN) -- 4th

T.E.S. Dressage & CT Schooling Show (1/19/92)

Michelle Macdonald -- Green as Grass CT -- 1st

Ram Tap Horse Trial (2/15/92)

Melinda Hallmark, Cedar Jack (N) -- Elim. stad.
Nancy Sternfeld, Chip (N) -- Elim. at drsg.

T.E.S. English & Western Schooling Show (2/23/92)

Ian Connor, Elan
English Equitation (Adult) -- 3rd
English Pleasure (Adult) -- 4th

Matthew Hallmark, Frosty
English Equitation Walk/Trot -- 3rd
English Pleasure Walk/Trot -- 5th

Meadows of Moorpark Horse Trial (3/27/92)

David James, Dezedarius -- 6th, Op. Time Awrd

Flintridge Horse Trial (3/20/92)

David James, Dezedarius (N) -- 7th

Paddock Dressage Show (4/15/92)

David James, Dezedarius
Training Level, Test 3 -- 1st
Training Level, Test 4, 3rd

L.A. Spring Dressage Show, LAEC (4/24/92)

David James, Dezedarius
Training Level, Test 3 (2 days) -- both 1st
Training Level, Test 4 (2 days) -- both 2nd

T.E.S. Hunter Schooling Show (4/26/92)

Hunt Seat Equitation (OP)
David James, Dezedarius -- 2nd
Gina Cunningham, Picture Perfect -- no place
Steve Toby, Oliver -- no place
English Pleasure (OP)
David James, Dezedarius -- no place
Warm-up Hunters (OP)
Gina Cunningham, Picture Perfect -- 5th
Melinda Hallmark, Cedar Jack -- no place
Green Hunters (OP)
Gina Cunningham, Picture Perfect -- 5th
Working Hunters (OP)
Janet Klein, Conejo -- 6th
Gina Cunningham, Picture Perfect -- no place
Melinda Hallmark, Cedar Jack -- no place
Training Jumpers (OP)
Melinda Hallmark, Cedar Jack -- 2nd
David James, Dezedarius -- 3rd
Open Jumpers (OP)
David James, Dezedarius -- 3rd
Hunt Seat Equitation (Beg/School)
Carol Skinner, Missouri -- 6th
English Pleasure (Beg/School)
Carol Skinner, Missouri -- 6th
Crossrails (Novice/School)
Ian Connor, Elan -- 2nd
Carol Skinner, Missouri -- no place
Hunt Seat Equitation (Int/School)
Nicole Schmeckpeper, Tess -- 6th
English Pleasure (Int/School)
Nicole Schmeckpeper, Tess -- 2nd
Equitation Over Fences (Int/School)
Nicole Schmeckpeper, Stanley -- 3rd
Hunt Seat Equitation (Int/School)
Richard Terpilowski, Michigan -- 6th
English Pleasure (Int/School)
Richard Terpilowski, Michigan -- 1st
Equitation Over Fences (Int School)
Lynne Toby, Elan -- 4th
Richard Terpilowski, Arizona -- 5th
T.E.S. Medal (Int/School)
Nicole Schmeckpeper, Stanley -- 6th

Meadows of Moorpark Horse Trial (5/15/92)

Junior Beginner Novice
Kirsten Sawyer, Kip -- tied for 2nd (3rd)
Nicole Spurge, Bento -- 2nd
Amy Niezelski, Teddy -- 4th
Gina Cunningham, Picture Perfect -- no place

Junior Novice
Nicole Spurge, Nelson -- Elim. at X-C

Senior Novice
Leslie Morse, Patrick -- 2nd
David James, Dezedarius -- 4th
Janet Klein, Conejo -- no place
Leslie Morse, Frederick -- Elim. at stadium

Year-End Awards

by Haleh Jahanbakhsh

The first Annual Awards Banquet was held on January 11, 1992 at Chadney's Restaurant in Burbank. Members and their guests arrived between 6:00 and 6:30 p.m., clad in various degrees of evening wear, from sporty to elegant--quite a change from the usual green-slimed riding apparel and helmet hair! About seventy-five percent of the members attended the gala event as well as Club Executive Director, Patricia Kinnaman, Leslie Morse, Julie La Touf, Andrew Temkin and Sherri Doyle-Murphy, T.E.S. Director.

Anne Howard and Melinda Hallmark did a great job of pulling together the evening's events. A major attraction was the "Wall of Fame" photo extravaganza of the Club members who had competed in the December 1991 Moorpark Horse Trial, as well as other memorable photos, with very witty captions. Anne Howard, our sports commentator for the evening, narrated a video collage of Club competitors' rides at the Moorpark Horse Trial, with humorous inserts of riders from advanced Three-Day Events. It was very entertaining, but it also instilled hope in the hearts of members who have not yet competed.

Lynne Toby, Fundraising Committee Chair, sold the last of the year-end raffle tickets before dinner. After the three-course meal, Steve Toby circulated the ticket bin among the guests, who drew the winning tickets. Thanks to the efforts of Lynne Toby, members and friends of the Club, the raffle was a great success and raised \$419.00!

After dinner, the Club Director, Kathy Matthes, started the awards ceremony with an inspiring speech. She noted the Club's accomplishments during the past year and commended the members on their determination and courage to achieve their goals. Her theme, *carpe diem*, encouraged us all to strive for excellence in our riding and in our daily lives.

Anne Howard, Training Director, presented the Year-End Awards to the following members:

Peter Dukes -- Excellence in Dressage (Open Division)
Debi McNair -- Excellence in Dressage (School Horse Division)
Melinda Hallmark -- High Point Award (Open Division)
Mike Michelsen -- High Point Award (School Horse Division)

The Special Category Awards were presented to:

Nancy Sternfeld -- Shooting Star Award
Nicole Schmeckpeper -- Hopeful Award
Dallas Snyder -- Most Creative Use of Arena Fence During Dressage
Matthew Hallmark -- Grubby Fingers and Elbow Grease Award
Steve & Lynne Toby -- Always There to Help and Support Award
Carol Skinner -- Pull Together Award

Patricia Kinnaman gave a short tribute to Kathy Matthes for her vision and contributions to T.E.S. over the past years and presented her with a T.E.S. Special Service Award. Sherri Doyle-Murphy presented awards to Melinda Hallmark and Anne Howard for their help in establishing the Club.

The annual voting-in of officers for 1992 took place after the awards ceremony. All of the current officers were voted back into office. Haleh Jahanbakhsh was nominated and elected Chair of the PR/Newsletter Committee.

Our first Annual Awards Banquet was an enjoyable evening and affirmed what we have accomplished and what we will accomplish in 1992!

FYI

New Equipment Donations

Patricia Kinnaman announced at the last Club meeting that she would purchase a new video camera to be shared jointly by the TESCTC and the newly-formed Western Club for use in show video services.

Leslie Morse announced that Van Dahn International would donate five cross-country safety vests and ten helmet covers in Club covers. We appreciate this vote of confidence in the Club's past and future accomplishments!

Tack Store Discounts

Club members receive a 10% discount on all purchases at the Paddock Riding Shop, Victory Saddle and Dominion Saddlery. Just show your Club membership card to receive your discount at Victory and Paddock; Dominion requires their own discount card, which was included in your 1992 membership package. If you did not receive a Dominion card, please contact Kathy Matthes.

Welcome New Members!

Active Senior Members

Sandy Friedman
David James
Janet Klein
Lynda Larsen

Richard Terpilowski
Ellen Woodbury

Active Junior Members

Gina Cunningham

Supporting Members

Dick Conner

Committee Reports

Fundraising Committee

The Fundraising Committee had a very successful first year. We experimented with several ideas and raised a total of \$835.92. Our most profitable ventures were the paper recycling project (\$246.70), the year-end raffle (\$419.00) and the show video service (\$98.00). We raised \$72.22 from bake sales, but they have been discontinued for the present time.

This year we will be focusing our energies on the recycling and show video projects. So do your share to save the planet and help the Club by saving white ledger and computer paper. It's very easy. 500 pounds of paper = \$25.00. Paper = \$\$! Call Lynne Toby for details and collection.

We also need volunteers for the show video service. We want to provide a video taping service at all T.E.S. Dressage and Combined Training Schooling Shows, and perhaps at other T.E.S. schooling shows as well. We need at least two volunteers--one to tape and one to collect money. Anyone can operate a video camera, and I know everyone knows how to collect money. The next show will be on June 7th, so we will need someone to work the table and the camera. We would like enough volunteers to be able to work in shifts, so two people don't have to work all day. Remember, volunteer hours are required for scholarship eligibility, so let us know what you can do.

The year-end raffle was very successful. Our thanks to all who donated prizes and sold tickets. Prizes were donated by members, T.E.S. and Van Dahn International as well as the Paddock Shop, DaMoors Feed and Tack, and Victory Saddle. We look forward to the next raffle, which will coincide with the Annual Awards Banquet.

Thanks again to all who made 1991 a great first year! We look for-

ward to expanding our eventing activities and scholarships. Keep up the good work!

Lynne Toby, Chair, Fundraising
Steve Toby, Chair, Video Services

PR Committee

The PR Committee was newly formed in January 1992 and has already been working hard to create professional quality materials for our members and for potential sponsors. We have re-designed the membership cards, created our first *Membership Handbook*, and produced our spring 1992 newsletter. (Special thanks to Kathy Matthes for her writing, editing and desktop publishing donations and Printech for generously donating the printing of the above items!) We are also working on a brochure and other promotional materials to help recruit sponsors, awards and scholarship donors, and new and supporting members. Our next project is a booklet for the Event Groom Corps Certificate program -- *The TESCTC Event Groom's Survival Guide*.

If you have any suggestions or ideas, or if you are able to help with any of the PR functions or projects, please contact me.

Haleh Jahanbakhsh, Chair,
PR/Newsletter Committee

Education Committee

The Education Committee is dedicated to providing the best educational activities and training for our members, with the end goal of enabling members to compete in horse trials. A year ago, the majority of our members knew that eventing was three different phases, but they did not have practical experience, they had not seen an actual event, and they

did not know the importance of rules, grooming and show strategies. A year later, 10 members have competed in horse trials, 12 have competed in combined tests, 20 have shown in dressage and jumping shows in preparation for eventing, 5 members have attended the Moorpark Eventing Camp, and many have fence judged, scribed, stewarded, groomed, spectated or supported other members at local and not-so-local events! At a recent Club meeting, we impressed Patricia Kinnaman with how hard we had worked to learn about eventing and its rules during our 20-questions game!

We now have three standard, introductory clinics on eventing topics in the T.E.S. Horsemastership Curriculum: Introduction to Eventing, Eventing Competition I, and Grooming for Eventing lecture and lab sessions as well as Dressage Competition I, which includes show strategies for CT dressage. These lectures are offered three times a year in the spring, summer and fall quarters of the Horsemastership Lecture Series. We hope to add other permanent topics to the curriculum this fall, such as Conditioning for Eventing and Eventing Competition II (a more intense study of rules and show strategies). In addition to the Lecture Series, we have provided field trips to events, cross-country schooling days at Moorpark, more trail lessons and have added two Intermediate Eventing classes. This summer we hope to begin the Event Grooms Corps Certificate Program.

As more members compete and our educational needs change, we hope to receive more input from you on what clinics you would like to see offered. We also need a consistent body of Education Committee members who want to help direct and organize the Club's educational activities. Please contact me for details.

Michelle Macdonald, Chair
Education Committee

A New Approach to an Old Problem

"Heels DOWN!"
"Stretch tall! Taller!"
"Sit back and RELAX!"

Who hasn't heard these phrases in at least one lesson in one's personal riding history? There is so much dogma and rhetoric in the equestrian world that much of what we hear we tend to accept blindly. After all, it's been said for many years, therefore, it can't be wrong, right? Well, much of it demands a closer inspection.

As I've written before, I believe that keeping an open, but critical, mind is imperative to becoming a responsible rider or trainer. My latest major educational venture (of the equestrian type) has been to learn more about a system of riding and teaching espoused by Mary Wanless, author of *The Natural Rider* and *Ride with Your Mind: Master Class*. After initial skepticism, I've become an avid devotee of this new approach to riding.

Mary Wanless is an English woman who tried to complete the British Riding Instructor's program. Although she had ridden many years and tried as hard as she could to do what she was told, her riding never mimicked the appearance or effectiveness of those talented riders she saw competing internationally. She studied with international instructors, sweating blood to do exactly as they told her, but her riding went nowhere. Her instructors suggested that she try another sport.

She finally quit riding. The best in the world had not been able to do much to improve her basic style, and she had been completely fed up with the frustrations. She had, indeed, done what she was told to do in her countless hours of instruction--why wouldn't it work for her?

Mary is not a common woman in intelligence or fortitude. She holds

an advanced degree in Physics and is well-read in the area of neurolinguistics and biomechanics. She set out to find out what the skilled riders, the "natural riders," did with their bodies that she either couldn't do or hadn't been taught to do.

What she discovered was amazing, and some things were nothing short of blasphemous to true believers of traditional dressage dogma. The concepts she developed and her new method of teaching were common sense once they were explained. In fact, they are so obvious that they are embarrassingly simple.

What is this mystery? To sum it up, balance and muscle tone create a causal rider. Causal, not casual! Stu-

Books by Mary Wanless

The Natural Rider: A Right Brain Approach to Riding (New York: Summit Books, 1987), 320 pp., \$19.95

Ride With Your Mind: An Illustrated Masterclass in Right Brain Riding (VT: Trafalgar Square Publishing, 1991), 263 pp., \$24.95

Articles by Mary Wanless

Dressage & CT - 1/92 and 2/92

Practical Horseman - 11/91, 2/92 and 4/92

dents who have ridden with me lately know that it is much more involved than this, but these are the essentials.

Balance is a word that we all inherently understand. After all, we'd fall off the horse without it, right? Mary discusses balance in much finer detail, and through experimentation, teaches her students to find one finite balance point. Once this precise balance is discovered, the difference in minute changes seem like day and night. This balance point is not initially clear to the riders, but as they become more balanced, the horses

picks up on it immediately. They become more responsive and move better!

Tone is a measure of muscle tautness, an inherent quality of the muscle. It's not the term that means a fit muscle, although they are related. Men naturally have higher muscle tone than women. It's a significant fact, because men and women have to use different amounts of physical effort to achieve the same performance out of horse X. One of Mary's findings in examining top dressage and jump riders is that they are NEVER "relaxed" or have "long wet pasta legs" around their horses, as commonly taught and written in dressage books. They all possess very high muscle tone.

Many of the terms students hear in their lessons are inaccurate because they do not explain what the students actually need to do with their bodies to get the right things to happen in the horse. Mary has developed a teaching technique that focuses on each individual student's perception of what is happening to his/her body and then uses the student's words and images to achieve results. She has given the riding world a vocabulary for teaching seat and position as well as accurately describing their effect on the horse. Her method of instruction is phenomenal because it improves teacher-student communication in a way that utilizes right-brain learning.

I am a skeptic at heart, especially when it comes to anything that might affect my horse in a negative fashion. However, I have come farther, in less time with little instruction, than ever before using her techniques.

If you want to improve your seat and position, I recommend that you read her books and articles and take a lesson with someone familiar with Mary's techniques. You'll find new understanding with your horse and a new level of fitness as well!

Horse Trials, in their various forms, present a challenging set of hurdles to clear--pun intended! First, there are three completely different disciplines in which to compete. Second, unless you are extremely fortunate, the Trial will not be held at your home stable, and you are not allowed to school on the Trial grounds for several weeks before the Trial. Third, both you and your horse must travel to and will be sleeping in unfamiliar surroundings. All in all, quite different from a T.E.S. Dressage and Combined Training Schooling Show.

The preparation necessary for a Horse Trial is endless. To start, both horse and rider should be in excellent physical condition. This conditioning goes beyond just learning to jump a course and ride a dressage test. The cross-country phase alone is a long five or six minutes at the canter nestled in the middle of two and one-half days of poor sleep, unfamiliar food, two additional riding performances, moments of stress, moments of boredom, and endless grooming.

Because the Trial is almost always an "away" show, many extra items of tack and clothing must be brought along. The careful rider prepares for a myriad of potential problems. If your reins break, you cannot walk into the tack room and get another pair. If the horse requires special shoes and loses one, the farrier may not have that type available--best to bring extras along. If the horse goes off his feed, you need a thermometer to make sure it is not illness. If you are in the ribbons going into the stadium round and your horse wipes his green lips across your shirt front, it's a good thing you packed that extra shirt.

The joys of an "away" show are also numerous. You and your horse are a team, you have been for months, and this is the time of testing. Even if you are fortunate enough to have a groom with you, you are still responsible for the health and well-being of your horse and every detail must be

checked. During each warm-up, you and your horse discuss the strategy for the upcoming phase and during each cool-down that performance is reviewed and praised.

Most of the other competitors are friendly, generous people willing to discuss their horses and their experiences. Friendships are begun and then continued at successive Trials. The riders are also sticklers for the huge set of rules governing the three phases of Horse Trials. If you break one of the rules, be prepared to be called on it--if not by one of the officials, then perhaps by one of the other competitors.

Having your trainer(s) along on the trip is almost a necessity at your first several Trials. Your trainer knows you, knows your horse, and can help you work through your jangled nerves.

Warm-up areas can be scary--you have 10 to 15 riders warming-up in a small area, each one working on his/her own warm-up patterns and techniques. At least the warm-up jumps are flagged for correct jumping direction and this helps a little. However, the "water play" area can be chaos. You have 15 or more riders in a very small area, all trying to splash through the same pond--some more successfully than others; some more calm than others.

The actual performances are the fun part. I am most familiar with the dressage phase, and I am glad it comes first. At Horse Trials, several dressage rings are run simultaneously, and you must be sure to report to the correct ring--they can be quite a distance from each other. The dressage rings at Horse Trials generally have more distractions surrounding them than at a dressage show. Also, they can be located so close the cross-country course that the wide open spaces can be quite exciting and inviting to your horse.

The dressage score is the basis for the final placements. At the Novice and Training levels this is extremely

important because a penalty-free round is readily attainable in the cross-country and stadium phases.

Next comes the cross-country phase. Everyone gets scared at the start; even highly experienced riders with over 10 years of cross-country riding get "jello knees," or so I am told. I know I sure do! If you are not very experienced with riding at speed, the feeling and sound of the wind rushing past your face and ears can be very deceptive--it feels a lot faster than it is. Even if you frequently work at a hand gallop in a large riding ring, it is completely different out on a cross-country course where you have a course to navigate, obstacles to avoid and jump, not to mention a horse that may be a little excited.

Assuming that you and your horse receive no jumping penalties, your only enemy is time. The course designers compute an optimum time using the course length and the required speed (350 meters per minute for Novice Level). The optimum time is then doubled to obtain a maximum time. A rider who exceeds the maximum time is, unfortunately, eliminated.

The last phase is stadium jumping. Again, the course designers compute optimum and maximum times with the same elimination possibility. Also, jumping faults are given for knock downs and refusals.

The horse and rider start out with a dressage score, which is then converted to penalty points. The object is not to add any more penalty points to your score in the cross-country and stadium phases. The horse and rider with the lowest score win!

But more important than top scores and winning is the sense of accomplishment at the end of the weekend. Whether you win first place, come in last, or are eliminated, the work done at home to prepare for the Trial and the courage required to actually compete are feathers in the caps of all the participants.

Calendar

Combined Training		Dressage	
Oct. 4	Paddock CT Schooling Show	June 20-21	CDS Pomona Chapter Dressage
		June 27-28	Orange Co. Fair Summer Dressage
	Horse Trials	July 3-5	Star Spangled Dressage, LAEC
May 29-31	Moorpark Eventing Camp	July 18-19	Dressage in Los Angeles, Malibu
June 26-28	Showpark Summer Horse Trials	Aug. 1-2	CDS San Diego Summer Dressage
Aug 28-30	Showpark Fall Horse Trials	Aug. 14-16	Dressage at the Paddock
Sept. 4-6	Moorpark Eventing Camp	Aug. 20-23	Cool August Nights Breeders Classic
Oct. 2-4	Meadows of Moorpark Horse Trials	Oct. 31-Nov 1	Meadows of Moorpark Dressage
Nov. 6-8	Showpark Winter Horse Trials	Nov. 7-8	Dressage at the Paddock
Nov. 26-29	Ram Tap Fall Horse Trials	Nov. 14	CDS San Diego Fall Dressage
Dec. 12-13	Meadows of Moorpark Horse Trials	Nov. 15	Orange Co. Fair Fall Dressage

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