

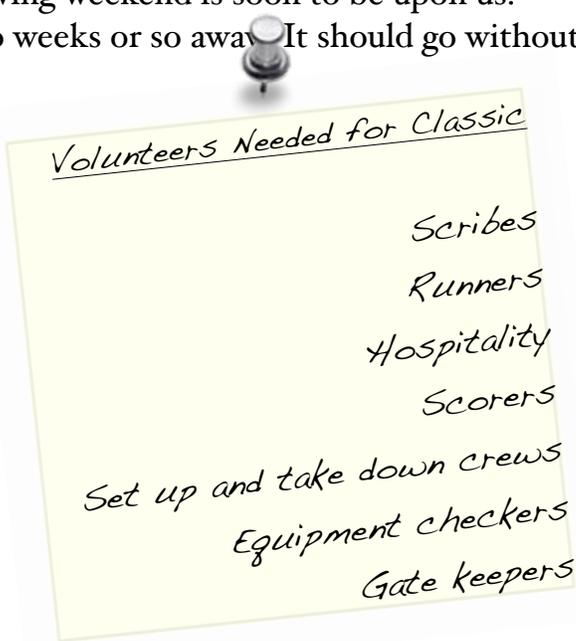
The Reader

CenterLine Dressage is a Group Member Organization of USDF. CLD members are automatically members of the United States Dressage Federation.

VOLUNTEERS STILL NEEDED FOR CLD CLASSIC

The club's premier showing weekend is soon to be upon us. August 22-23 is only two weeks or so away. It should go without saying that producing events of this caliber and scale takes many manhours, 99% of which are volunteered. The shows' success relies upon YOU!

If you can spare a couple of hours throughout the weekend, the jobs will be easily covered. PLEASE, contact Mary Lou Flowers at: mary-lou-flowers@insightbb.com.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(For more info on all events please see the CLD online calendar.)

August 22 & 23

CLD Classic I & II
 @ IL State Fairgrounds
 USDF/USEF Approved
 Judges: Kay Meredith & Michael Kierkegaard
 Secretary: Jeanne Craver,
mowarda@aol.com

September 2

AK Fall Dressage Closing Date
 Contact: Jeannie Craver
mowarda@aol.com

September 5 - 7

Gerhard Politz Clinic
 @ StarWest
 Contact: Alice Martin
starwestonline.net/clinics

September 18 - 21

USDF Region 2 Championships
 @ Paxton Farms, OH

OLYMPIC GAMES

NBC Universal will be airing 3,600 hours of coverage of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games, including the equestrian events, which will be taking place in Hong Kong. This total amount of coverage will be more than the hours of coverage for all the Olympic Games since 1960 Rome combined. All Broadcasts will also be in HD. We have attempted to locate equestrian TV coverage at the games. We are inserting a disclaimer, however – you must

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confirm for yourselves that the listed event will be televised on the date listed. We found too many schedules, none of which matched. So, below is the latest we have found, courtesy of www.NBColympics.com.

Date	Program	Time (EST)	Channel
Monday, August 11, 2008	Eventing Cross-Country	5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.	OXYGEN
Tuesday, August 12, 2008	Eventing Show Jump - Final	5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.	OXYGEN
Wednesday, August 13, 2008	Team Dressage	5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.	OXYGEN
Thursday, August 14, 2008	Team Dressage	5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.	OXYGEN
Friday, August 15, 2008	Show Jumping	5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.	OXYGEN
Saturday, August 16, 2008	Dressage Individual	5:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.	MSNBC
Sunday, August 17, 2008	Show Jumping	11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.	NBC
Monday, August 18, 2008	Show Jumping Final	5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.	OXYGEN
Tuesday, August 19, 2008	Dressage Individual Final	6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.	OXYGEN
Thursday, August 21, 2008	Show Jumping Individ. Final	10:00 a.m.-1:00 a.m.	NBC



http://www.usef.org/teamusa/home.aspx
http://www.equisearch.com/equiwire_news/olympics2008
http://chronofhorse.com

HAZE, HUMIDITY AND HORSES

BY KEITH BRADSHER, NY TIMES

The New York Times

HONG KONG — Many horse enthusiasts try to beat the summer heat by going for a ride at dawn or sunset, but the Olympic equestrian events here from next Saturday to Aug. 21 will take this to an extreme.

The events will start as early as 6:30 in the morning and end by late morning, or begin as late as 10:45 at night. The goal is to make sure that horses and riders are not exposed to the midday heat and humidity of Hong Kong, one of the most tropical places to host an Olympic event.

Hong Kong is slightly farther south than Havana and is nearly surrounded by the tropical waters of the South China Sea. That makes it humid, with considerably higher humidity on summer afternoons than hot and sticky Atlanta, the site of the 1996 Olympics and previously the toughest climate faced by Olympic equestrian teams.

The humidity is a particular challenge because horses, like humans, keep cool as their perspiration evaporates. The evaporation, particularly crucial for the arduous cross-country ride over jumps, happens more slowly on steamy days.

“The horses are much more able to manage conditions of hot and dry than hot and humid,” said Dr. Leo Jeffcott, the senior international veterinarian for the Hong Kong events and a veterinary adviser to every Summer Games since the Seoul Olympics in 1988 in South Korea.

The Hong Kong Jockey Club, which manages the city’s racetracks and donated the Olympic facilities, starts its racing season in early September and occasionally has trouble with heat. Each season, the club runs about 700 races, with about four or five horses showing unsteadiness or other heat-related difficulties, said Dr. Chris Riggs, the club’s top veterinarian and veterinary services manager for the Olympics.

Once every season or two, a horse collapses from the heat, he said. But the horses are quickly revived and do not develop long-term health problems from the collapse.

To cope with the climate, Olympic organizers and the 42 national equestrian teams competing are taking a lot of precautions.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(For more info on all events please see the CLD online calendar.)

September 20

Al Khamisa Fall Dressage
@ StarWest
Judge: Janet Curtis
Manager: Debbie Mackie
[prizelist online]

September 21

Janet Curtis Clinic
@ StarWest
Contact: Alice Martin
alice.martin@mac.com
starwestonline.net/clinics

October 15

Colonel Christian Carde Clinic
@ StarWest
Contact: Alice Martin
alice.martin@mac.com
starwestonline.net/carde

December 3 - 7

USDF Annual Convention
@ Denver, CO
www.usdf.org

December 5 - 7

USDF National Symposium
@ Denver, CO
www.usdf.org

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Enlarged golf carts have been fitted with portable generators, hoses and bathtub-size red plastic tanks full of cold water, ready to be driven straight to overheated horses in need of a quick dousing.

Rows of powerful fans fitted with water valves have been set up to spray the horses before and after they compete. And the stables not only have air-conditioning, but also fans that blow curtains of cold air across the entrances to keep the hot air outside.

Horses suffer much less from heat if they spend each night in a cool place, said Dr. Jill Beech, a professor of veterinary medicine at the University of Pennsylvania.

The United States team is taking additional precautions. It has devices designed to spray a horse with cold water and wipe the water off, as well as special blankets that can be filled with cold water, said James Wolf, the team manager.

Many American riders and their mounts have trained in Florida and learned to compete in hot, humid conditions, he added.

Officials from Beijing, a city at the same latitude as Philadelphia, lobbied successfully in 2001 to hold the 2008 Olympics. They did not plan to hold any events in Hong Kong, which Britain returned to Chinese rule in 1997.

But China was forced to move all six equestrian events after international veterinary groups declined three years ago to certify Beijing as free of equine diseases. If the equestrian events were held in Beijing, the horses would be forced to endure lengthy quarantines upon leaving China.

Hong Kong has the necessary certification, as well as lavish, state-of-the-art facilities. The Hong Kong Jockey Club has a legal monopoly on gambling, and it spends whatever money it needs to run horse races and other events, donating the rest to charity.

As a result, the Olympic horses will have immediate access to one of the world's top equine hospitals and one of the world's handful of equine drug-testing laboratories. "Without a doubt, these are the best facilities we've been given to run the Olympics," Jeffcott said.

The Olympics have been held closer to the equator. In 1968 the host was Mexico City, which is at an altitude of almost 7,400 feet and quite dry.

The two sites for the Hong Kong events — one for cross-country riding and the other for dressage and show jumping — are close to sea level. Although mornings and evenings are somewhat cooler and less humid than midday, the difference is smaller than in American cities like Atlanta, Jeffcott said.

The temperatures hit 97 on Monday afternoon when a typhoon was passing to the north, but another problem caught more attention. The air pollution was the worst ever recorded in Hong Kong. The city is bedeviled by ever-worsening smog from thousands of new factories within a 50-mile radius in

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mainland China.

An unusual surge in ground-level ozone pollution was particularly responsible for last Monday's high pollution readings. Researchers elsewhere have been able to document some effects in horses from exposure to high levels of ground-level ozone.

"If you increase the level of ozone, you will get some changes in the lungs," Jeffcott said, adding that he had tracked Monday's pollution spike closely. "If it went on the way it was going, we'd obviously be concerned."

On Tuesday the typhoon pulled away and fresh breezes dispersed the pollution. But these horses are extremely fit and unlikely to sustain lasting harm from temporary exposure to high levels of pollution, Jeffcott said.

Over the course of a year, Beijing typically has about one-third more tiny pollution particles in the air than Hong Kong, said Alexis Lau, an atmospheric scientist at Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. Each city has more than double the particle levels allowed by United States regulations.

Beijing does not release data on ground-level ozone, and there is no reliable way to estimate whether Hong Kong or Beijing has more of this pollutant, Lau said.

Some of the world's newest research into the effects of heavy smog on horses has been done by the Hong Kong Jockey Club. The club has found no correlation between air pollution and horses' times in races, Riggs said.

The Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, the main trade group representing the Hong Kong-based employers of 11 million workers in nearby mainland cities, said that it was not aware of any request from Chinese authorities for factories near Hong Kong to close or cut back production during the Olympics. But in Beijing's environs, many factories have been forced to close.

At each of the past two Summer Games, a horse has been injured and had to be destroyed. There has been periodic talk of eliminating equestrian events from the Olympics, although that has not surfaced recently as a serious threat. The Games coincide this year with controversy over a recent spate of deaths and severe injuries among riders around the world.

Lovers of equestrian events are keeping their fingers crossed for an injury-free Olympics to improve the sport's image. Gina Miles, a member of the United States team, said she had been delighted that torrents of cooling rain fell during a practice event here last summer.

"We're just hoping for that again," she said. "We really need this to be a positive, safe event."

USDF ANNOUNCES DATES FOR TWO 2008 USDF SPORT HORSE SEMINARS

The United States Dressage Federation announced the dates for two USDF Sport Horse Seminars during 2008. The first seminar will be held July 26-27, 2008 in Fulshear, TX, with Hilda Gurney and sponsored by the Houston Dressage Society. The second seminar will be held October 18-19, 2008 in Colora, MD, with Melissa Creswick and sponsored by Hilltop Farm, Inc. Attendees of these seminars can earn up to four USDF University Program credits.

USDF Sport Horse Seminars are two-day programs designed to educate breeders, riders, trainers and potential sport horse owners about the qualities desired in a sport horse and how to rate these qualities. Other topics covered are the basics of preparing horses to be shown in-hand and competition rules and procedures. Additionally, these seminars serve as prerequisites for individuals applying to become USEF-licensed dressage/sport horse breeding judges.

For more information on USDF Sport Horse Seminars visit the USDF website (www.usdf.org) or e-mail: shseminars@usdf.org. Or contact the event organizers directly by visiting the Houston Dressage Society (www.houstondressagesociety.org) or Hilltop Farms (www.hilltopfarminc.com).

USDF “GOES GREEN”

The United States Dressage Federation announced today the start of its “Going Green” Campaign. The campaign was developed to manage costs in a tough economy and support worldwide environmental efforts while continuing to provide the best in member benefits and services.

The first major step in the effort was the launch of the USDF Web site last fall which has allowed USDF to provide extensive information and services to its members online, reducing paper usage, shipping costs, and staff processing time.

To further the campaign and involve all members, USDF has instituted the choice for individuals to opt out of receiving hardcopy membership cards and USDF Directory as both of these can be accessed online. Also, by renewing online for the 2009 membership year, members can not only help save paper, postage, and handling, but will also receive a \$15 gift certificate from Dover Saddlery.

As incentive for local group member organizations (GMOs) to become involved in these efforts, GMOs can opt to become a “Green Club.” By opting out of receiving hardcopy membership cards for members of their club and by submitting their rosters electronically, any “Green Club” will receive a USDF Club Point for each member submitted on their roster. USDF Club Points can be used for purchasing prizes and gifts through USDF’s Lendon F. Gray Bookstore.



Club Officers & Personnel (Full list and mailing addresses online)			
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Vice-President	Eleana Voigt	618/995-2720	vice-pres@centerlinedressage.com
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Secretary	Janet Fitch	217/355-1658	secretary@centerlinedressage.com
Newsletter Editor	Pinky Noll	217/787-7317	reader2@centerlinedressage.com
Awards Chair	Marilyn Weber	618/753-3446	awards_chair@centerlinedressage.com
Web Site	Moiety Design		admin@centerlinedressage.com
At Large Members (Odd Years)	Paula Briney, Marilyn Weber, Martin Kuhn		

CLD Advertising Rates (see detailed info & photo policy online www.centerlinedressage.com/advertising)			
Reader Page Ads	Full Page	\$50 Non-Member	\$25 Member
	Half Page	\$25 Non-Member	\$12.50 Member
	¼ Page or Less	\$12 Non-Member	\$6 Member
Photographs (original preferred) can be included in your ad. They can be black and white or color, but they will be black and white in the printed READER. Page Ads Up for 1 Month			

Reader Classified Ads	50 words or less	\$5 Non-Member	\$3 Member
	Additional 25 words	\$2 Non-Member	\$1 Member

**No Photographs
Classified Ads Up for 1 Month**

Web Advertising	Basic Classified Web Ad included in any Reader Package! See online for more details.
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DEADLINE FOR READER ITEMS



Items for publication or inclusion in the READER should be received by the editor by the 15th of the month. Items for THE READER, activity forms, etc should be sent with a check for the charges, if any, to:

THE READER
c/o Pinky Noll
1190 Williams Blvd.
Springfield, IL. 62704

