

Norfolk Hunt Club

HOSTS THREE SHOWS DURING MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

SUBMITTED BY D.A. HAYDEN

The Norfolk Hunt Club has planned a Memorial Day weekend jam packed with fun for equestrians from multiple disciplines. The 101st Norfolk Hunt Horse Show, the first-ever Norfolk Hunt Derby Cross and the Norfolk Hunt Field Hunter Show will take place throughout the weekend, at the spectacular Norfolk Hunt Steeplechase course in Medfield, Mass. Hunters, jumpers, eventers and foxhunters all have the opportunity to participate. Proceeds from the events go toward preserving and protecting land and trail systems in the Charles River watershed area.

Norfolk Hunt event information and liability forms are available at www.norfolkhunt.com.

Norfolk Hunt Horse Show

On Saturday, May 28 and Sunday, May 29, hunter and jumper riders of all levels can compete in the 101st annual Norfolk Hunt Horse Show. The show, which began in 1910, was originally designed as a forum for Hunt members to compete their field hunters against other Hunt members, friends and family. Today, the two-day unrated show draws riders from barns throughout the local community and greater New England. This year's show is being chaired by Norfolk Hunt Club members who are familiar faces in the show world, trainer Cormac Kennedy and his wife Catherine Kennedy, of Mor Linn Farm in Walpole, Mass.

The Norfolk Hunt Horse Show's children's classes are a perennial favorite—every rider is a winner, with every child receiving a prize. A leadline class for young riders provides an experience to remember for a lifetime, as well as a fun introduction to the show ring.

As well, the Norfolk Hunt Horse Show offers exciting jumping classes for hunters and jumpers alike. Prize money and perpetual trophies are awarded to both riders and trainers.

For more information, contact Catherine Kennedy at 617-817-2702 or fosterkennedy@gmail.com.

Norfolk Hunt Derby Cross

Sunday, May 29 marks the first-ever Norfolk Hunt Club Derby Cross, which will take place on the lower field at the Steeplechase Course. The event is designed to showcase the speed and accuracy of show jumping, combined with the bravery and endurance of cross-country, in a spectator-friendly atmosphere.

The Derby Cross courses are designed by USEA Technical Delegate Jim Gornall of Uxbridge, Mass., and accommodate riders of varying levels.

Courses are run on natural terrain and incorporate existing fox hunting fences, including coops, aikens, brush, stone-walls, post and rails, banks, logs, and ditches, with stadium fences, portable cross-country obstacles and combinations typically encountered by eventers in the cross-country phase of a horse trial.

Divisions include Elementary (up to 2'), Beginner Novice (up to 2'7") and Novice (up to 2'11"). The number of elements will vary in each division. Classes include juniors (up to 18 years), adults, seniors (50+ years) and special classes for super seniors (65+ years). Always a favorite, classes for teams of two or three horses/riders are also included.

Erica Foley, a Norfolk Hunt Club member and eventer, is chairing the Derby Cross and has planned a late morning start (11:00 a.m.) and a relaxed atmosphere to round out the makings for a great day. "The Norfolk Hunt Derby Cross is designed to be a fun, low-key, confidence-building event," said Erica. "After completing the Derby Cross, we hope many of our competitors will come back on Monday and compete in the Field Hunter Show, having proven both horse and rider can successfully navigate an inviting cross-country course."

Derby Cross competitors are required to wear collared polo shirts, safety vests, breeches, boots, and safety helmets. Teams are encouraged to coordinate clothing and turnout to gain additional points.

For more information, contact Erica Foley at 508-380-5181, or ehnf@msn.com.

Norfolk Hunt Field Hunter Show

Memorial Day weekend concludes with the Norfolk Hunt Field Hunter Show on Monday, May 30. This year's show will return to its traditional format, which has been enjoyed by riders for decades. Norfolk Hunt Club member and trainer Charlotte McEnroe, of Charlotte McEnroe Show Stables, is chairing the show and has incorporated

new classes for children and families.

Charlotte is known for training juniors and adults and has a special talent for "maintaining an air of calm" when her clients compete at horse shows. To that end, she is scheduling children's classes at the beginning of the show, so their parents can compete later in the day. As well, Charlotte is bringing back a tradition

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Kenya Sanders riding Girly Girl at the 2010 Norfolk Hunt Horse Show.

SANDY SANDERS



Norfolk Huntsman John Elliott and Whipper-In Bill Miller parade the hounds at the 2010 Norfolk Hunt Horse Show.

KATHIE DAVENPORT



Norfolk member Briton Sanders riding Eli at the 2010 Norfolk Hunt Field Hunter Show.

SANDY SANDERS

Yankee Walkers: Gaited Horses of New England

ANNOUNCES UPCOMING EVENTS FOR 2011

SUBMITTED BY LOREN STEVENS

Come join the fun with your friends and your gaited horses this year with a variety of activities and events across New England. With spring finally on the way and the snow melting, we are all dusting off our saddles, currying down our shaggy horses, and stepping out on the trails and rails. We look forward to a great year full of entertaining times for you and your gaited horses of many breeds. We are adding programs, shows, trail rides, and clinics all year, so please visit our website at www.yankeewalkers.com. We look forward to seeing you riding the glide on the beautiful New England trails and at the exciting pleasure and dressage horse shows. Please see a listing of gaited events below.

The following is a listing of upcoming events catering to gaited horses for the 2011 show season:

May 15: Join the growing sport of gaited dressage this summer while participating in Oak Rise Farm's Gaited Dressage Series in Goffstown, N.H. The registration closing date for the May 15 show is May 8. For more information, call 603-656-9730 or 603-645-5203, email oakrise@comcast.net, or visit www.oakrisefarm.com.

May 21: Join other Tennessee Walking Horse enthusiasts this year for the Carriage Town Horse Show Pleasure Series with Model, Youth, 2-Gaited and 3-Gaited classes at Bob Lyn Stables in Amesbury, Mass. For more information, contact Felicia Knowles at 603-474-3156 or email fdknow@juno.com.

May 22: Join the BVDCTA this season at Camp Marshall in Spencer, Mass. The BVDCTA will be hosting a dressage show series, which welcomes gaited breeds. For more information, contact Jenn Wallace at jenniferwmw1@yahoo.com.

May 22: MRF Stables will be hosting a gaited dressage series, which will begin on May 22 in Nottingham, N.H. For more information, visit www.mrfdressage.com or call 603-490-8958.

June 12: Carriage Town Horse Show Pleasure Series with Model, Youth, 2-Gaited and 3-Gaited classes at Bob Lyn Stables in Amesbury, Mass. See May 21 description.

June 12: Oak Rise Farm's Gaited Dressage Series in Goffstown, N.H. The registration closing date for the June 12 show is June 5. See May 15 description.

July 10: Oak Rise Farm's Gaited Dressage Series in Goffstown, N.H. The registration closing date for the July 10 show is July 3.

See May 15 description.

July 31: BVDCTA dressage show series, which welcomes gaited breeds (see May 22). For more information, contact Jenn Wallace at jenniferwmw1@yahoo.com.

August 7: Oak Rise Farm's Gaited Dressage Series in Goffstown, N.H. The registration closing date for the August 7 show is July 31. See May 15 description.

August 7: MRF Stables gaited dressage series; join them for their second show of the series on August 7 in Nottingham, N.H. For more information, visit www.mrfdressage.com or call 603-490-8958.


September 4: Carriage Town Horse Show Pleasure Series with Model, Youth, 2-Gaited and 3-Gaited classes at Bob Lyn Stables in Amesbury, Mass. See May 21 description.

September 4: Oak Rise Farm's Gaited Dressage Series in Goffstown, N.H. The registration closing date for the September 4 show is August 28. See May 15 description.

September 4: MRF Stables gaited dressage series; join them for their third and final show of the series on September 4 in Nottingham, N.H. For more information, visit www.mrfdressage.com or call 603-490-8958.

September 9-12: Gaited clinician Larry Whitesell is visiting New England at BelleMar Farm in Douglas, Mass. Private lessons will be available on September 12 for \$80 or for the entire three-day clinic for \$425. For more information, contact Jenn Wallace at jenniferwmw1@yahoo.com.

October 2: BVDCTA dressage show series, which welcomes gaited breeds (see May 22). For more information, contact Jenn Wallace at jenniferwmw1@yahoo.com.

November 10-13: Save the date for Equine Affaire 2011. Come enjoy the fun at the Tennessee Walking Horse breed demonstration at our booth sponsored by Tennessee Walking Horse Breeders Association of America. More information will follow on the Yankee Walkers' website at www.yankeewalkers.com. 



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of creating a special area near the course, where children and their ponies are "collected," to avoid any confusion on the open terrain.

The Field Hunter Show takes place on the lower field of the Steeplechase Course and incorporates flat classes, traditional fox hunting obstacles and other elements experienced in fox hunts, including a "Gone Away," "Hold Hard" and "Lead Over," in which the rider dismounts to lead their horse over a lowered fence. For younger riders, special leadline and cross rail

classes will also be included. Formal hunting attire is required for all competitors.

The tradition of the Norfolk Hunt Field Hunter Show attracts hunters, jumpers and eventers, as well as members of fox hunts throughout the area. Competitors consistently report they love the friendly atmosphere, beautiful setting and strong tradition of fox hunting the show provides. Fifi Schmidt, recognized for judging shows throughout New England, will serve as judge for the show this year.

For more information, contact Charlotte McEnroe, 508-733-6073, or charlottemcroe@yahoo.com. 