

Issue Three 2010

SPORTALOOSA

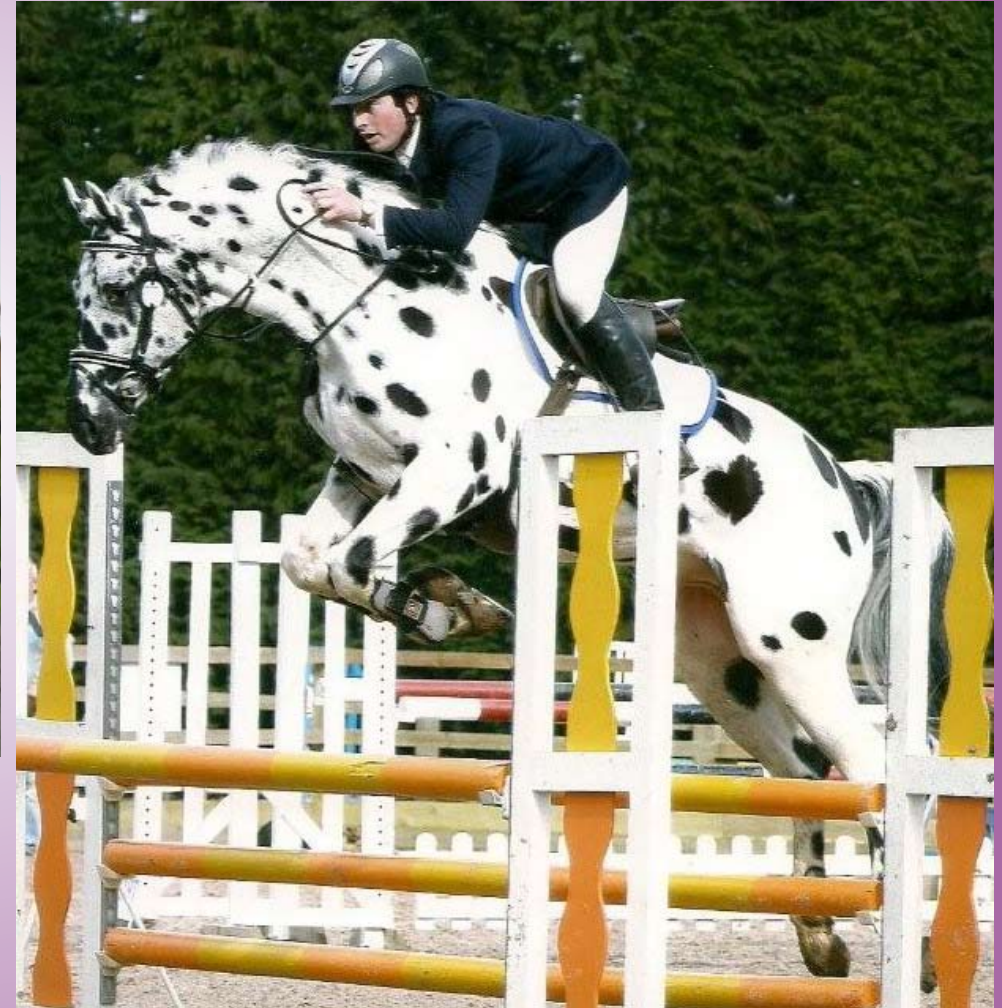
Quarterly

Palousa San Sebastian

WORLD CLASS DRESSAGE & JUMPING PEDIGREE, FULL BLACK LEOPARD SPOTTED STALLION

San Remo (Wolkentanz) x Palousa Caprice (Gribaldi)

Champion British Sportshorse Grading 2009



Location UK

Contact Elsa Strandberg

Email start@globalnet.co.uk Phone +44 7 7330 98831

www.dressagestuds.com



HARRY HOTSPUR

Sire Earl (Hanovarian, Germany by Escudo I) Standing at the Celle State Stud in Germany, Earl was ranked first in his performance test in 2002.
Dam Cayuse Few Moon (National Supreme Champion - Australian Appaloosa National Show)



Photos taken during the 2010 Sportaloosa video trip



Stud fee \$2,500 (AUD)

For all breeding details, contact Ben (belambi@bigpond.com) or Leane Williams (outrageoushorses@bigpond.com)

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Mighty Wind Song

Cayuse Fewsion
Cayuse Few Moon
Pablos Legend

Now at stud in Bobinawarra, Victoria - Contact Sue Bond - Phone +61 3 5727 3449

www.sportaloosa.com/DoubleCross





Make yours a Sportaloosa

Breeding selection time is upon us once more and once again, we are proud and privileged to present you with the best quality line up of spotted stallions available in Australia and New Zealand, including several available for the first time.

With so many super quality Sportaloosa stallions around, we'd like to ask you to please change your outcrossing plans and this year, make yours a Sportaloosa. Please support our quality, coloured stallions by sending your best mare to them or, if they're too far away, breed to one by transported semen.

We've even made it incredibly easy for you to make the ideal choice for your mare by filming 24 stallions for the Sportaloosa Stallion DVD. It's better than being there as each stallion puts in a great performance for our camera, showing off his best angles and paces and it's extremely cheap to buy.

The full stallion showcase is at www.sportaloosa.com/stallions.shtml and our register of Sportaloosa stallions available by transported semen is at www.sportaloosa.com/semens.shtml. You're very welcome to contact any Sportaloosa stallion owner with questions and we're here to help with advice and recommendations... just make yours a Sportaloosa this year!

We have a great read for you in this magazine with articles on breeding, foaling, training as well as all the latest Sportaloosa news and success. Our members have been outdoing themselves lately, with Debra Bawden's CA Entourage taking out the inaugural video foal futurity, Cayuse A Grand Illusion being crowned our second high achiever, Yallawa Timeless Dream, Harry Hotspur, Cayuse Skip O'Lena, Kerrinna Kats Frosty Moon and Cayuse A Grand Illusion filling many of the top spots at the Queensland State Appaloosa Show and much more.

Competition for points and awards is hotting up and you have to be in to win... make sure you send your completed points forms in for every event you attend.

Until next time
Petra and Samantha

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Mighty Illuminating

Mighty Luminous (imp) x Momentarily Zipped

Stunning 14.3hh athlete
Multi-supreme champion in hand

First season available to outside
mares (limited book)



Photos by Sportaloosa International

Standing at Dunrobin Sport Horses

Waipara, New Zealand

Fiona Harris 03 314 6003

waipara.sleepers@snap.net.nz

Nnamtrah Appaloosas/Sportaloosas

Nnamtrah Prince's Tattoo

Kaywana Prince Halfway x Pasadena Spotlight



Stud fee \$500 LFG



2010 QLD State Champion
Suitability For Dressage,
Reserve Champion Led Hack

Yallawa Timeless Dream

The Test Of Time (USA) x Bar Vee Montoyas Dream



Stud fee \$800 LFG for his
debut season only



\$1,000
Sportaloosa video futurity

Ron and Kerry Hartmann • Tamworth, NSW • Phone 02 67670370 • Email tongo@mysoul.com.au

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video on our web site

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NZ's ultimate working bred Appaloosa comes of age...

ENRICHED

Imp in
utero

Ric O'Lena (dec) x Cayuse Mighty Enchanting



Photo at 3 years by
Sportaloosa International



First gorgeous foals have speed,
ability, looks and sweet, gentle
natures... don't miss breeding to
Enriched, there aren't many like
him around!

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Email - sheenamartin@xtra.co.nz

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2010 \$1,000 video futurity

The cream of the 2009 Sportaloosa foal crop in Australasia has been judged by Queensland state dressage coach Carlos de Cleermaecker in the \$1,000 Sportaloosa International foal futurity.

17 foals competed for the top spot and we are delighted to announce the winners.

- 1st - CA Entourage - Something Jazzy x First Audition (TB)
- 2nd - Cayuse Walkin N'Talkin - Cayuse A Grand Illusion x Cayuse Pep Talk
- 3rd - Cayuse Edward X - Xhogun Middlesom (Knabstrupper) x Cayuse Moonwalker
- 4th - CayuseTime Lord - Cayuse Fewsion x Ric's Hornet
- 5th - Cayuse Debatable - Cayuse Chatta Lena x The Cuttin Edge
- 6th - Cayuse River Of Gold - Riverside (Hanoverian) x Cayuse Few Moon

De Cleermaecker was impressed by the line up of quality foals presented to him for assessment in the inaugural Sportaloosa foal futurity, saying he saw an excellent future for the Sportaloosa breed in performance events.

All entrants were assessed on their frame, movement and potential as riding horses. "All placegetters had a very good build and I see an excellent future for these in under saddle work and competition. I also thought they had very pleasing colours and see an excellent future for the Sportaloosa breed in performance."

The award for the best made video also went to CA Entourage, video by Debra and Tanya Bawden.

Congratulations and thank you to all entrants for an exceptional effort presenting top quality spotted foals.

The Sportaloosa video futurity will run again in 2011 and we look forward to seeing you back then.



HIGH ACHIEVER *Cayuse A Grand Illusion*

ridden by Samantha McAuliffe



Congratulations to our second high achiever for 2010 - our sponsor has awarded our most prestigious prize to the stallion Cayuse A Grand Illusion.

A Grand Illusion won Combined Training and Open Prelim dressage (72%) and Novice 2C and placed third in Elementary 3B (60%) at Gunnadah Agricultural Show in May. The show had its biggest entries in 10 years and it was his rider's first outing after having her knee operated on!

Our third quarter competition is open now and we need your results! If you're out in open competition, the next high achiever could be you... make sure you send in points forms for every competition.

NOT A SPORTALOOSA MEMBER YET?

Don't wait any longer!

- ▶ Low life membership fee
- ▶ Great value subscriptions
- ▶ Quarterly e-magazine
- ▶ Annual awards
- ▶ *Let's Ride* programme
- ▶ Medallions for lifetime Sportaloosa achievement

No matter what you do with your spotted athlete, there's a place for you at Sportaloosa International.

Visit www.sportaloosa.com to join now



Lewisville Appaloosas

Home of Cayuse Confession
Cayuse Fewsion (dec) x Tiny Drift (QH)

Warren & Ann Lewis
Woodend, Victoria

Phone: (03) 5427 1681
Fax: (03) 5427 1856

Now presenting LV Lane Frost
Skip's Supreme (imp USA/exp NZ) x Cayuse A Little Confewsed



Multi-champion colt at halter
Photo at 18 months old by Ev Lagoon

National, State and Futurity Champion
R.O.M. Reining
R.O.M. Trail
R.O.M. General Performance

Photo at 19 years old, taken during the
2010 Sportaloosa video trip

www.lewisvilleappaloosas.com



CAYUSE MIGHTY OUTRAGEOUS

Multi National and State Appaloosa Champion Halter and Performance.
Bronze medallion in halter & Hunter Under Saddle and Registers of Merit in Hacking & Bridle
Path Hack. Silver Medallion in dressage.



At stud in South East Queensland, Australia
Contact OUTRAGEOUS PERFORMANCE HORSES - Tom and Leane Williams
Phone+ 61 7 5426 8825 or 0423 317 826 Email outrageoushorses@bigpond.com

www.sportaloosa.com/outrageoushorses

\$1,000

Sportaloosa video futurity

The Sportaloosa Stallion DVD – on sale now

Sportaloosa International is incredibly proud to present you with the 2010 Sportaloosa Stallion Showcase on DVD.

24 of the best quality spotted stallions in Australia and New Zealand (12 in each country) put in spectacular performances in front of a top quality video camera to bring you nearly an hour's worth of viewing.

It provides an up-close and personal look at each stallion at liberty in wide open spaces to give you the best possible view of the stallion's movement, athletic ability, frame and personality.

The Australian stallion showcase includes

- Cayuse A Grand Illusion - Manilla, NSW
- Cayuse Blizzard-O-Lena - Tamworth, NSW
- Cayuse Bradford - Bendigo, Victoria
- Cayuse Chatta Lena - Manilla, NSW
- Cayuse Confewision - Woodend, Victoria
- Cayuse Mighty Outrageous - Prenzlau, Queensland
- Harry Hotspur - Crowley Vale, Queensland
- Lori's Flashpoint Af Lyn - Manilla, NSW
- Nnamtrah Prince's Tattoo - Tamworth, NSW
- Oregon Park Aristokat - Horsham, Victoria
- Ultimate Affair - Woodend, Victoria
- Yallawa Timeless Dream - Tamworth, NSW

The New Zealand stallion showcase includes

- Double A Arika Pii Hui - Amberley, Canterbury
- Enriched - Wairoa, Hawkes Bay
- GAB's Whata Kracka - Whangarei, Northland
- Leatherfoot Shalako Moon - Scargill Valley, Canterbury
- Mararoa River Breeze - Whangarei, Northland
- McDreamy - Whakatane, Bay of Plenty
- Mighty Illuminating - Waipara, Canterbury
- Mighty Luminous - Wellsford, Auckland
- Skip's Supreme - Wellsford, Auckland
- Tequila Jet Set - Taupo
- Tequila On Ice - Taupo
- The Ultimate Dream - Whakatane, Bay of Plenty

Web versions of each stallions' video are available to view on Sportaloosa TV at www.sportaloosa.com but take it from us, you haven't seen them properly until you've watched them on a big screen!

The DVD is a tiny price so please don't hesitate to buy one (or many) copies.

In Australia - **\$12 AUD each** - no extra for postage

In New Zealand - **\$15 NZD each** - no extra for postage

To buy, visit www.sportaloosa.com/dvd.shtml or mail a cheque made out to Sportaloosa International and your delivery address to

Australia
Samantha McAuliffe
PO Box 101
Manilla (near Tamworth)
NSW 2346

New Zealand
Petra Davidson
1165 Whangaripo Valley Road
RD2 Wellsford 0972



LEATHERFOOT SHALAKO MOON

Joker's Fire 'n' Ice x Trinity Dixie Delight



Jennifer Baker & Roger Taylor
Leatherfoot Appaloosa & Miniature Horse Stud
Scargill Valley - 03 314 7048 - leatherfoot@xtra.co.nz

Leatherfoot Spotted Hawk
by Leatherfoot Shalako Moon



www.leatherfootappaloosas.webs.com

Handling Foals

On large studs foals are often only briefly handled for worming, vaccination and maybe a hoof trim. They are usually left and weaned all together around 4 to 6 months. As big strong foals they need care in restraint and correct handling to become quiet, sensible weanlings.

Some people imprint their foals which is catching and handling all over in their first twenty four hours of life, then maybe not seriously touched for some time. This method has become quite controversial, as findings now prove some mares even reject their foals as the human intervention at the critical time of the mare bonding with her new born quietly alone prevents the proper maternal bonding and the mare leaves the foal. Another negative with this method is if not done right the foal can become difficult to handle later.

It is much wiser to begin handling the foal when it is well bonded with mum and quite normal and healthy. Remember, when bringing up your foal that it also must learn to be a horse. Don't overhandle it so it becomes disrespectful to humans, which will reflect in its behaviour later on in life. Never allow your foal to bite or kick at you, you need to act like another 'horse' then and give it a smack and send back to mum.

Catching the young foal

It is best to initially catch your foal in a confined safe area; a small yard or stable. It is easier with two people. One leads the mare and foal into the stable and manoeuvres her so the foal is along side the wall then the other person squeezes up to the foal and grasps it around the chest and rump as if you were going to lift it up. You need to be fairly strong as the foal will struggle at first. Be very, very careful and be prepared to let go and have another go as if the foal rears too high and goes over backwards they can be badly hurt by hitting their heads.

Also be aware of the mare. Most accept this sort of human intervention but an overprotective mare can be dangerous to the handlers especially if the foal whinnies with fear when first caught. With an overprotective mare wait until at least three weeks then she is not so worried about her foal.

Once the foal accepts being restrained and settles, rub all over gently with your hands in a circular motion, scratching gently the top of neck and tail. Never pat

the foal at this stage as this will frighten it. Then release the foal and let it follow mum and turn out again. Repeat this process for a couple of days. You can now run your hands down its legs and gently pick up its hooves.

Make the lessons very short as the foal can't cope with too much at this age; if you overdo it the foal might get bad tempered and try to kick or bite or become very sulky.



You can introduce a soft foal size halter now when you can easily restrain the foal. Gently slip over head, it shouldn't be tight around the jaw and sit about halfway between eyes and nostrils. First time you put it on just rub the foal for a reward and remove again and let go with mare again. Never, never leave a halter on a foal as they can easily get caught up on fence posts resulting in serious

injuries and even death from strangulation. Also the foal can get entangled in a halter with its long legs when lying down or scratching its head. So, please keep your foal safe by removing the halter whenever you're not there to see what's happening.

Leading the foal

When you can easily catch and rub down your foal you can give it some leading lessons. Once again be very careful when pulling on the lead rope as some foals fight this pressure and you don't want it rearing over backwards and hurting itself. Be very quick to release your pressure so the foal is relaxed and it can learn.

Stand a few feet in front and to the side of the foal. Angle your body away from the foal so it understands you are asking it to move towards you and put gentle pressure on the rope. As soon as the foal takes one step towards you, immediately release the pressure and rub the foal. For the first couple of attempts, you should release the pressure at any movement in your direction so the foal understands. Repeat on the other side, using only enough force in the pull so it turns towards you, never use force and yank it savagely towards you.

Most foals learn quickly to give their heads to you. You can stand beside it now with the lead rope low and gently push its hindquarters away from you, then pull a step towards you with its head. It will soon lead beside you like this. When the foal is happy with this inside, have your helper lead the mare out with the foal following whilst you hold onto the lead rope. Most foals follow mum reasonably well though some might jump around when they feel the restraint so be prepared to go with them and be careful not to be too strong with your pressure.

When you are going to take the halter off outside back in their paddock first put the rope around the foals neck so it doesn't learn that as soon as you take off the halter it can zoom away. Always put the rope around the foal's neck first catching too once it has learnt to give to that pressure, as then you can safely restrain it before the halter goes on.

When the foal leads beside the mare well, learning to stop and start from your signal of a cluck and pull to go and you have good control.

The next stage in leading is to do it independently of mum, although she should still be in sight close by. Use a soft rope to put a loop over the foal's rump hold-

ing in your right hand. Give the foal the signal to walk off and if it doesn't pulling on the rump rope will make it move forward. You can encourage the foal to walk beside you which is safer in case it bounds forward and lands on top of you! Just walk it away and back to mum, give it a good rub and then let go again.

Tying up

All horses should be able to be tied up and stand quietly as part of life and without pulling or fussing. A foal a couple of months old that leads well, away and to its mother can be taught to tie up beside her now.

Use a strong halter and rope and preferably use a rolled up hessian bag around the foal's neck to spread the pressure in case it pulls. I like to use a post covered in rubber tyres to tie up any horse as then if the pull and leap forward they can't hurt themselves and get caught up.

The mare must be with the foal. Tie with a quick release knot above the height of the foal's wither with some slack. Most foals stand quietly with mum but sooner or later it'll want to walk off and then find it can't, he could pull back quite hard.



Foals usually soon realise if they step forward will relieve the pressure. Some foals will pull back a few times but soon learn it's easier to just stand there. Be careful when you first go to untie the foal as it might want to pull back again; keep your fingers out of any knots. Only tie for short times; ten minutes is heaps for a youngster. Always remember to keep all lessons very short as with a youngster it can't cope with lots at a time.

Hoof care

With these short lessons your foal should happily pick up its feet if it needs to be trimmed. Most foals running in large paddocks will keep their hooves pretty much in good shape and won't need any attention. Only if there is an obvious deviation should there be any corrective trimming.

Have someone hold the foal for its first trimming and don't tie up as will tend to pull back. It will soon stand quietly in the stable to have its feet trimmed. A qualified farrier should only be used if the foal has a problem and needs proper correction.

Vaccination

Tetanus and strangles are the most common vaccinations. On big studs with high volumes of mares, many are also vaccinated for the Herpes virus that cause abortions.

Mares can be vaccinated about a month before foaling to ensure antibodies in their milk for the foal. Foals are usually vaccinated for tetanus around the three to four months. They are given two shots about six weeks apart then a booster in a year. Strangles can also be included in the vaccine now with a third injection in a month after the initial two. Although strangles vaccine doesn't give complete immunity it helps cut down the likelihood of infection, especially if the foal is travelling to and from a stud for the mare to be bred again.

Worming

In small areas it is very important to keep up a good worming programme for the youngster. Threadworms are even passed in the mare's milk and can cause scours in the foal. The mare will have to be wormed also so these can be kept to a minimum.

Red worms were once the biggest killers of foals as they pick them up as young

as six weeks when they start to pick at grass.

Luckily most of the ivermectin wormers are safe to use on your foal as early as six to eight weeks, just be sure to give the correct dose. In small paddocks it is a good idea to remove all manure daily, rotate paddocks and have a low stocking rate where possible to lessen the risk of reinfestation. Your vet can do a faecal worm count to see what is needed.

Remember not to over handle your young foal. Most well bred horses with good temperaments nearly handle themselves as they quickly become friendly with people around.

It's nice to observe them being horses with the mare, you learn lots about your foal by watching what it does out in the paddock especially if a few are growing up together.

I believe most of the handling should be done when the foal is weaned at around six months then it's a one on one with you to develop that lifelong good bond with its human family. Weaning is the next important stage in the young horse's life.



McDreamy

TC Colidas Ghost x Wot Dreams R Maid
Of (national supreme champion mare)



Dual registered Appaloosa & Sportaloosa stallion Not available to outside mares in 2010
flyinghorsestud@hotmail.com - 07 304 9882 - Whakatane, New Zealand

www.flyinghorsestud.webs.com

Cayuse

Blizzard-O-Lena

Ric O'Lena x Cayuse Skip N On Ice by Skip's Supreme



Ice's pedigree is full of names to brag about and he is a looker to boot. Being a Palomino fewspot, we expect Ice will produce loads of colour including dilutes in a full range of coat patterns. Blessed with a stunningly thick, wavy mane & tail, Ice really looks like a fairytale horse when all scrubbed up.

He's quick on his feet and can turn on a dime. Ice is now freshly broken and is showing promise for numerous sports including reining, cutting and campdrafting. Ice has a kind, gentle nature and a relaxed, sensible disposition. He is handled by the whole family and is an absolute pleasure to own. Standing at stud for his first season in 2010.

Shoshoni Appaloosas - Tamworth, NSW

Jason & Natalie Wilkinson 02 676 42331

www.shoshoniappaloosas.webs.com

DOUBLE A ARIKI PII HUI



Born in 2003, this brown blanketed stallion stands 16hh and has an exceptional temperament.

Southbound McCue	Colidas Jet Set	Colida Lad	Colida
			Lowry Girl
		Hazel Hancock	Hancocks Pepper
			Bo Mitze
Sunrise Southern Cross	Sunrise Personality		Dominos Speckled Prince
			Sheila F
	Wiley's Mt Baker Flicka	Morgans Jaguar	
		Bonnie Ann R	
Ara Awa Delta Ace	Sunspots Goin To Be An Ace	Plaudit Flash Fox	Plaudit Silver Fox
			Saguaro Quick Step
	Deck O Lisa	Deck Bar	
		Tacos Moana Lisa	
	Ara Awa Apuski Dusky	Plaudit Silver Fox	Hollywood Plaudit
			Jacobs Sunset Princess
Miss Hancock		Hancocks Pepper	
		Sunkiss	

Double A Appaloosas

David & Lynne Adkins Amberley, New Zealand Phone 03 314 8412 Mobile 0274 325 889 Email dadkins@scorch.co.nz

www.doubleaappaloosas.co.nz

Sportaloosa news & successes

Spot the Sportaloosas at the Queensland State Appaloosa Show!

Suitability For Dressage 2 years and under
1st Yallawa Timeless Dream
5th Cayuse Skip O'Lena
7th Kerrina Kats Frosty Moon

Suitability For Dressage 3 years and over
1st Harry Hotspur
2nd Cayuse A Grand Illusion

Prelim Restricted
1st Harry Hotspur

Novice Open
1st Cayuse A Grand Illusion

Elementary Open
Cayuse A Grand Illusion

Led Hack 2 year and Under
2nd Yallawa Timeless Dream
4th Cayuse Skip O'Lena
7th Kerrina Kats Frosty Moon

Led Hack 3 years and Over
1st Cayuse A Grand Illusion
4th Harry Hotspur

Open Hack
2nd Cayuse A Grand Illusion
3rd Cayuse Harry Hotspur

Colt/Stallion Hunter In Hand
1st Cayuse A Grand Illusion
2nd Kerrina Kats Frosty Moon
3rd Cayuse Harry Hotspur
4th Yallawa Timeless Dream



Yallawa Timeless Dream



Harry Hotspur - Agile Photographics



Kerrinna Kats Frosty Moon



Amateur Owner Hunter In Hand
6th Kerrina Kats Frosty Moon

2009 Colt
4th Kerrina Kats Frosty Moon

Yearling Hunter In Hand
4th Cayuse Skip O'Lena

2008 Colt
1st Cayuse Skip O'Lena

2 Year Old Hunter In Hand
4th Yallawa Timeless Dream

2007 Colt
2nd Yallawa Timeless Dream

Yearling Led Trail
1st Cayuse Skip O'Lena

2004 & Over Stallion
2nd Cayuse A Grand Illusion



4 generation pedigrees

Having trouble finding all those names?
Does your Sportaloosa pedigree look like Swiss Cheese?
I may be able to help!

I have
ApHC journals 1948 to present
AAA studbooks to 2008
AAA National results 1973-present
AAA journal issue 1 to present
Australian Western Horseman stallion directories
Personal photos from 1973-present

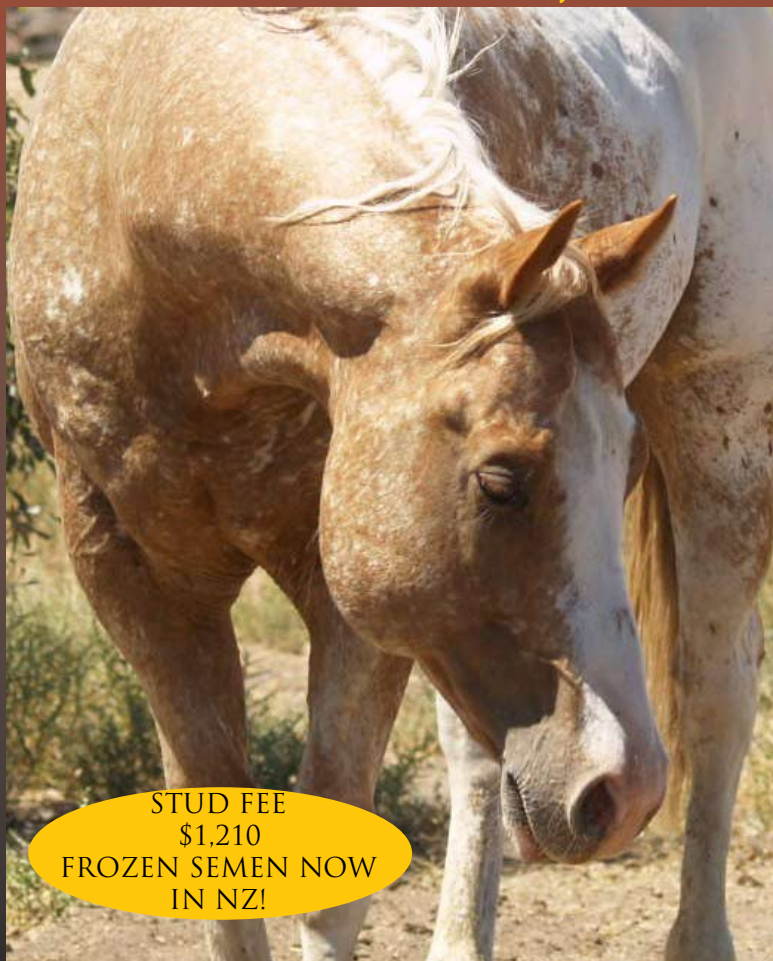
For just \$10 I'll research and print your Sportaloosa 4 generation pedigree complete for registration application and return it to you via post or email.

Ev Lagoon
KOOLKARS@bigpond.com

YALLAWA APPALOOSAS

SHOW • WORK • PLEASURE

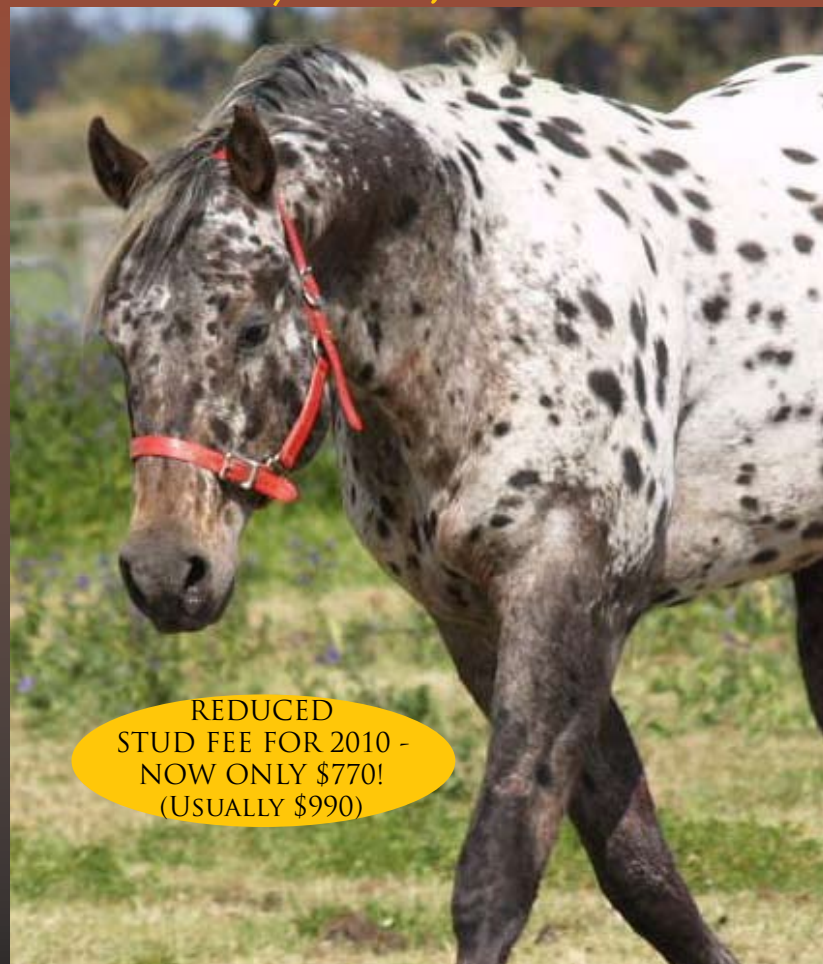
The Test of Time (imp)



STUD FEE
\$1,210
FROZEN SEMEN NOW
IN NZ!

Frozen semen available in Australia AND New Zealand!

Bar Vee Mytee Spectacular



REDUCED
STUD FEE FOR 2010 -
NOW ONLY \$770!
(USUALLY \$990)

Frozen semen available Australia only



Contact Tammy Basham
Phone + 61 3 588 71335

www.yallawa-appaloosas.com

Deniliquin, NSW
yallawa@dragnet.com.au

Sportaloosa news & successes

Young Sportaloosas had great success at the Murray Loddon Regional Appaloosa Club Show in May 2010.

Lewisville did it again, with Champion Appaloosa stallion/colt taken out by LV Lane Frost, with Ann Lewis.

Reserve champion went to the elegant colt Kerrinna Kats Frosty Moon with Karen Fischer. He's now off to his new owner in QLD - all the best with him.

Kerrinna Sie My Affair and Karen Fischer came home from the South Australian Appaloosa Championships with: Champion 2 yr old filly. Reserve Champion in the 2 yr old halter classic. Reserve Champion in the Amateur mare or filly. Reserve Champion in most colourful at halter. Reserve Champion in the 2 yr old trail. and 3rd in ridden hack over 15hh, 2 yr old hunter under saddle, 2 yr old western pleasure classic, 4th in the 2 yr old western pleasure, and 7th in hunter in hand. Phew!

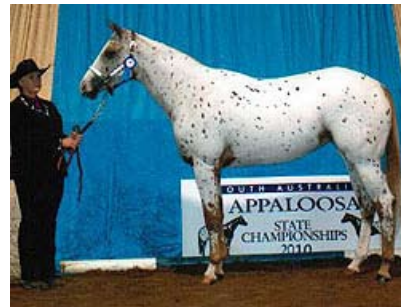
Oregon Park Sophie Stekat was announced the winner of the 2009/10 High point Appaloosa at halter at the recent Pioneer County Quarter Horse Association high point dinner.

Sophie is trained and shown by Karen Fischer and leased off Ev Lagoon.

Congratulations Karen and Ev - a wonderful achievement.



LV Lane Frost, photo courtesy Ev Lagoon



Kerrinna Sie My Affair, photo by Ev Lagoon



Oregon Park Sophie Stekat, photo by Ev Lagoon

Welcome to new members Registered stud prefixes

Jenny Baker
Tracey Bill
Peter Metcalf
Lindy Villanueva
Robin Humphries
Lisa Warren
Joanna Donaldson
Kerry Andrews
Rebecca Morsink
Nigel Braggins
Marian Noonan
Kerry Morgan
Elsa Strandberg
Sandy Beardmore

Ascot - John D Noble
AP - AP Performance Horses
Arawood - Arawood Appaloosas
Avenlee - Heather Lee & Joachim Blatchly
BL - Max Schofer
Blacklaw - Jon Firmin
Blackwatch - Lisa Bell
CA - Debra Bawden
Cayuse - Cayuse Appaloosas
Centennial - John & Robyn Twaddle
Clearview - Sheila Dandy
DayDream - Dave Gundry & Dianne Udy
DC - Double Cross Sportaloosas
Double A - David & Lynne Adkins
Double S - Pat Simpson
Frog Rock - Kirily Rimmer
GAB Horses - Allison Alderton
JCJ - D & S Lindley
Kerrinna - Karen Fischer
LV - Lewisville Appaloosas: Warren & Ann Lewis
Mc - Flying Horse Stud
Mighty - Sparkling Acres Appaloosas
NN - Nikki Robertson
Nnamtrah - Ron & Kerry Hartmann
OPH - Outrageous Performance Horses
Oregon Park - Ev Lagoon
Savannah - Valmai Jones
SD - Sandy Beardmore
Shawin - Shawin Appaloosas
Shoshoni - Jason & Natalie Wilkinson
Rocking M Stud - Amanda McHugh
Urban - Nancy Shallcrass
Wallowa - Jessica Mitchell
Yallowa - Tammy Basham
Yukon Farm - Janet Carter

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Hunter in Hand Article by Carol Rushby



Cayuse Mighty Outrageous and Leane Williams

Hunter In Hand is a relatively new event on the Western scene but has been around in the USA Appaloosa circuit for a while and it is an event that is escalating in popularity.

First introduced into Australia from the US in the late nineties by the Appaloosa Association, the event has since been taken up by the Paints and following continual lobbying from certain members is now in the AQHA as well and it is doing much to repudiate the myth (brought about by the 'broken backed' pleasure lope that was in vogue for so many years) that Western horses cant move out.

The class requirements are strictly 'English' and quite conservative. Handler's dress is restricted to a long or short sleeved collared shirt in conservative colours (vest and or gloves may be worn), dress pants (no jeans) and joggors or paddock boots. The horse may be banded or plaited English style. The only accepted headgear for all horses 2 years and over is a plain leather English bridle and cavesson noseband, with no silver or coloured browbands. Bits can only be Egg-butt, D-ring, O-ring or full-cheeked snaffles. Weanlings and yearlings may be shown in a plain leather halter (no silver) with a leather lead attached and no chains are permitted over the nose or thru the mouth.

Although the horse is led, not ridden in this event, it is actually regarded as a performance event and is listed in the performance section of the Honour Rolls etc.

The class is judged 60% on movement, 30% conformation and 10% temperament and the judges are looking for a typically 'English' movement – a free flowing walk and a trot that is reaching and 'forward'. These horses are expected to really move out and it is quite common for one (very fit) handler to work out several horses in any one class, with the owner/exhibitor only taking over for the final inspection and placings.

Horses are 'worked out' individually on a triangle pattern; the first, inside, triangle measures 30' x 30' x 30' feet, (9 x 9 x 9 metres). The horse is stood up 'open style'. This means "not necessarily square, preferred with all legs visible from either side' for inspection at point 'A' of the triangles; all four legs must be visible to the judge from either side of the horse.

The horse is then led at a walk clockwise around the inside triangle. When the starting point is reached the horse continues on at a trot around the large triangle, which is 70 x 70 x 70 feet (20 x 20 x 20 metres).

Ben O'Sullivan is now widely regarded as the 'King of Hunter In Hand' and can be seen exhibiting horses in this class at many Appaloosa, Paint and AQHA shows. So, he was the logical choice when it was decided to do an interview on HIH training and showing techniques.

Ben hails from Gatton in South East Queensland and has been showing 'Western' horses in 'English' events for a number of years...winner of 47 Appaloosa National and state titles in Hunter in Hand alone, with 34 different horses.

I recently conducted an interview with Ben to get his 'take' on Hunter In Hand and some ideas on his training methods for the event.

Q: Ben, why have you become such an advocate for the event? Did you like it from the start or has it 'grown' on you?

A: Basically because I am not a fan of halter, simply because, despite the claims that halter is all about conformation, you can't win halter with a fit, working horse. So HIH is a chance for our horses, which are eventing, dressaging and hunting, to be judged "in hand" and not penalised for their fitness. I am also a great fan of simplicity in what is worn by the handler and horse.

The plain bridle/halter and the plainer wear for the handler gives it a more competitive level playing field. In my opinion nothing should detract from the sheer beauty of the horse (and most particularly NOT the handler's clothes or halter, no matter how much silver!!) So I keep it simple. I have always been a fan of this class.

Q: Do you feel it is a class that is suitable for all ages and types of horses or are some better suited than others?

A: I find that the more rangy conformed type suit it better, simply because they tend to move freer and looser from the shoulder and hock, which increases the size.... NOT the SPEED of the stride!

Age is an interesting one. As we all know, the older we get the harder it is to keep OURSELVES in halter condition, it's the same with a horse, but normally they do keep their movement and fill the other requirements of this class. Older horses can most certainly still remain competitive.

Q: Do you regard Hunter In Hand as a 'training for the future' type of class (like Led Trail and Lungeline), or an event that stands alone?

A: Interesting question. Both. Certainly though training for the future because I had never seen, until I came to Australia, someone turn a horse in trot anticlockwise with them leading (i.e. towards themselves). But that is how halter is shown here?!!

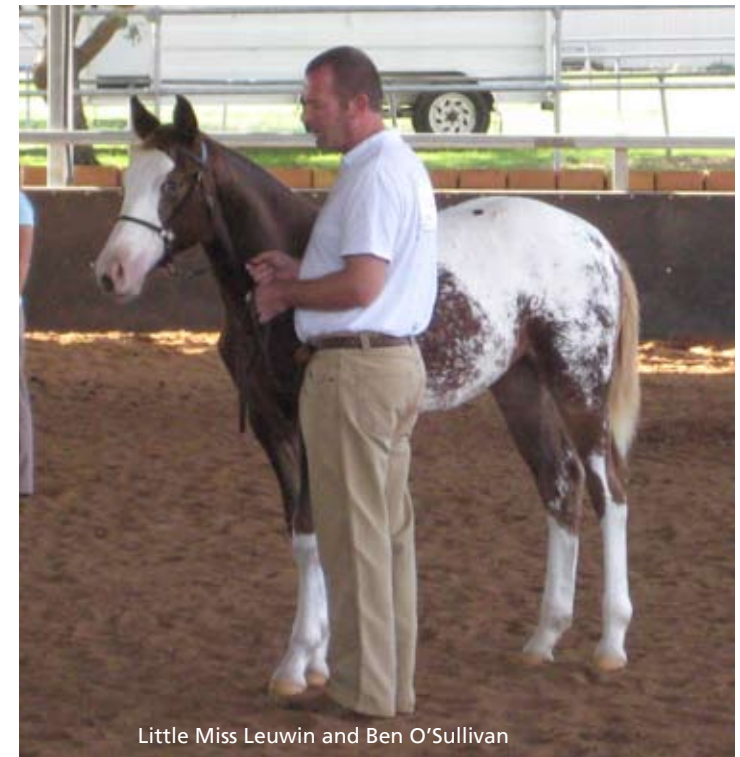
A cardinal rule with English type horses is that they are always turned away from you i.e. clockwise, with you on the left. This way

a) There is NO interference with the freedom of their movement.

b) I want the judge to always look at the horse (not me between the judge and the horse!!) It amazes me how many yearlings and two year olds that I HIH for clients, that have never trotted in hand to the right!!!

Q: How do you ensure that the fact that they have to stand and move differently for this event as apposed to halter classes doesn't confuse horses?

A: I actually allow the horse to stand naturally. If he squares in front, I don't mind because he is comfortable. All the judges do tend to walk around the horse anyway, so they do have the opportunity to view all the legs



Little Miss Leuwin and Ben O'Sullivan

Q: Do you train always on the 'triangles' or teach them to move on straight lines first?

A: Personally, I like to use straight lines, and then just practice turning away in trot. I never use a triangle at home (In the same way, I never practice a dressage test at home. Anticipation from the horse is the rider's worst enemy !)

Q: Do you feel that it is OK to train weanlings for this event or do you prefer to wait until they are older?

A: Yes. I would encourage everyone to train weanlings for this event. I am happy to acknowledge that the Appaloosa and Paint associations have finally introduced a futurity for hunter in hand! In my humble opinion, any class that has 32 entries says something about its popularity!

I believe that it is very complimentary to early halter training. The horse needs to be versatile. If you want to halter a horse then certainly teach it to jog, but it should always be able to trot out. But remember if it is planned to be ridden, then it's all about obedience and correct training really.

Q: How do you A: encourage the horses to really move out at the trot and B: stop them from getting over-exuberant and breaking into a canter?

A: I find that if you move with your legs with the horse's front leg sequence, i.e. your left with horse's left and gradually lengthen your stride, and then the horse will follow, rather than you trying to follow the horse! The over exuberance is unfortunately quite often man made, either because they are suddenly pulled in the mouth by the bit because the handler is trying to regain a feeling of control, or, basically the handler has not realised the horses limit of his natural gait.

Q: What are the benefits of HIH training?

A: Easier to sell to the English market. If a horse can trot out in hand, it makes it easier for many of my non-riding clients/owners to show their stallions and

their progeny to prospective clients when they are at home. It's all about showing the horse's natural abilities and conformation in hand.

Q: Are there any adverse reasons why horses should not be trained in this event?

A: the only one that I have come across, is people only realising at the last minute that they need to bridle their youngsters for this, resulting in severe misunderstandings in the ring. It's a performance class so last minute preparation will not gain a good result!



Cayuse A Grand Illusion and Ben O'Sullivan



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Learning artificial insemination... at home

In 2008, the team at Sparkling Acres Appaloosas (Petra and Appaloosa stallion Mighty Luminous) tackled the Equine Stud Solutions' phantom training course. At the completion of our training we had a stallion who knew what the breeding phantom was for and a handler who knew how to collect and prepare semen for transport.

A year later, Keith Atkinson and Jessie Jones from Equine Stud Solutions' mobile breeding unit, assisted by Kyle Atkinson, had two tasks at Sparkling Acres. The first was to get the stud's new import Skip's Supreme working happily on the phantom and the second was to teach Petra how to inseminate mares.

The ability to collect semen and inseminate on site can have enormous benefits for stud owners. It can reduce the risk of injury to stallions as well as the stress that live covers can sometimes place on stallions, mares and handlers.

One of the stud's mares was helpfully in season so was volunteered as the candidate for insemination. She coped patiently with the demo, followed by Petra's first attempt at getting everything in the right place and in the right order while the stallion Skip watched from his paddock.

Anatomy lesson complete and procedure established, Skip was brought in for his part of the task. He'd previously been collected using a mare, which isn't an option with only one handler and initially, he couldn't understand why he'd jump on a phantom when there was a perfectly good mare around. However, with encouragement from the mare (not

to be handled by the faint of heart), he was on the phantom and quickly got to grips with what he needed to do.

With one collection under our belt, we inseminated it into our mare and called it a day.

The following morning, Skip was hanging over the gate from the moment he saw activity. We did another practice insemination then brought him in for his first collection. This time, we kept his mare in sight but he had absolutely no hesitation at jumping on the phantom and our collection was complete in no time. We assessed it under a microscope, found there were plenty of motile (active) sperm for the second collection of the season and began to chill it, prepared to inseminate whichever was the better of the morning or afternoon collections.

We'd established a clear routine for Skip so when he came in for this third collection, he knew exactly where to go, what to do and possibly even more importantly, when he had finished and should walk quietly back to his stall. The semen collection was more than good enough, with the best yet to come, and was promptly inseminated.

Our mare was brought into the crush, with her tail bandaged and her vulva was carefully cleaned. With the arm-length sterile glove on, Petra checked that the mare's cervix was still open to ensure she was still in season. It was, but considerably tighter than the previous day, so it was clear she was at the end of her cycle.

The insemination process is fairly straightforward.



That is NOT a mare...



Skip considering his options



And he's convinced

A long, soft-tipped AI pipette is carefully inserted into the cervix, which is a good arm's length inside of the mare. A plunger containing the semen is quickly fitted to the end of the pipette and the semen is inseminated. The cervix is briefly massaged to ensure the semen is as far inside the cervix as possible and the job is done. The mare is then removed from the crush and allowed to go free.

In the 2009 breeding season, the advantages of learning and training at home were very obvious as the Sparkling Acres team managed to collect from both their Appaloosa stallions and sent semen around the country at very short notice, with excellent results.

Equine Stud Solutions is based in the Hawke's Bay of New Zealand. Its principal

Keith Atkinson has run one of NZ's most successful performance horse studs - JK Holsteiner - with horses exported throughout the world.

JK Holsteiner has bred by chilled and frozen semen long before it become fashionable so Keith is an ideal person to be instructing stallion owners on AI and handling stallions when collecting. We highly recommend him in all respects.

Find out more at www.equinestudsolutions.co.nz.

For a list of Sportaloosa stallions available by transported semen, visit www.sportaloosa.com/semen.shtml



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Foal development

Weeks since conception	Length	Weight	Development
4	3.2cm	Minute	Internal organs present.
8	9.5cm	Minute	Limbs are distinct. Sex is recognisable.
12	12.5cm	0.12 - 0.17kg	Hooves are forming. Ends of cannon bones are ossifying.
16	20-22cm	0.9kg	Traces of hair around lips.
20	20-22cm	1.8 - 2.2kg	Traces of hair above the eyes and on tip of tail. External sexual organs have formed.
24	56cm	5.4 - 5.9kg	Hair is becoming more apparent.
28	58-63cm	13.2 - 15.4kg	Some mane hair is starting to grow.
32	68-73cm	16.3 - 19kg	Hair is starting to grow along spine
36	76-84cm	23.1 - 25.8	Some hair is all over body. Very premature, but might be able to survive if born today.
40	86-94cm	29 - 33.5kg	Coat has grown.



New owner thrilled with the Sportaloosa breed

Jo Donaldson, a new member from Gunnedah NSW is thrilled to have been introduced to the Sportaloosa breed. A dedicated dressage enthusiast, she has had some bad luck with her last two horses but now is in love with the spectacular leopard gelding Avenlee Starbuck (new EFA registered name Cadbury!)

At her first outing at the Upper Hunter Dressage Championships after a week getting to know him she placed fifth and scored 62 in her Prep test. Not bad when you consider over 30 entries and some of the big names in the dressage world competing.

Hopefully we'll be hearing a lot more from this enthusiastic team in the future.



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Thinking of giving up?

Too old, too sore, not enough money?

I'm too sore...

One of the most common comments I hear is "I have scoliosis", or "I have one leg shorter than the other". "I could never ride straight."

It's normally the first thing that comes out of the rider (or parent's) mouth. Yet, at the same time the REALLY disabled people hardly notice, or mention, their disability!

A long time ago I noticed one thing about the Paralympians I teach - none of them "are" their illness or disability. They concentrate on their sport, not on their illness, their pills, their bandaging or treatments. They focus on their job of riding and creating lovely horses!

Often riders, and parents, talk to me about what they, or their child, CANT do, not what they CAN do. And, again it's normally the very MILD cases of disability. The Grade 1 RDA (the most disabled such as completely blind or in wheelchairs) just "get on with the job" and show me what they CAN do!

Sports psychology at its best (& worst)...

I call it "talking DOWN" language. I'm too tired, it's raining, it's too muddy, it's too hot, I'm getting too old.

One thing I learned from my Dad was to always "talk it UP". And, that's what sports psychology is all about. Getting rid of negative language and thinking.

Sports psychology is often about telling ourselves "little white lies":

- "I AM going to make the Olympic team" (when you just don't know how you can).
- "I WILL have the money" (when you're deep in debt).
- "I WILL get the horse" (when "fluffy the pony" the 36 year old semi-retiree is the only horse lumbering around the paddock).

Honestly, one of the major keys to my own success is "talking it up". When I was deep in debt I would say "I'm going to the UK to train". When I didn't have the time I would say "I'm going to do this course". When I didn't have the energy I would say "I'm going to train this horse for the Nationals"AND IT WORKED!!!

And...I'm speaking from experience...I have lupus, fibromyalgia and assorted heart problems. I've been in hospital more times than I've counted with heart issues, neurological issues and just plain sick! I've broken bones coming off, in between and under horses, torn tendons, knocked unconscious, and that was just in dressage *smile*! That didn't count my polocrosse, breaking & training days!

Susan Seipel, dear friend, (photo right) works tirelessly on her seat and posture. With both legs in that position, she has enormous hurdles to overcome, and she has NEVER complained to me, hardly even explained her disability...she just gets on with the job. She talks it up!

Marita Hird has been a friend for probably now 10 years, Paralympic Medallist, National Champion and Australian Team Representative, and a great sense of humour to boot. It wasn't until months after I met her that she mentioned she was RDA! She talks everything up!



Ingrid Bayly, another friend for many years now, I never hear complaining, and my darling Claire Butler, current Junior RDA Queensland State Dressage Champion I had to beg and plead for her to even consider riding RDA, such was her determination to ride in normal competition. Such was the way that Claire, and her Mum Janet both "talk it up"!

This doesn't even mention the myriad of other champions and beginner RDA riders I work with in all the other states, and countries, around the world, and again they just aren't their illness...and again, they all "talk it up!"

I don't have the money...

One of the best excuses I hear over and over again is "I don't have enough money."

Having no money never stopped any of my champions raise the money they needed (see success stories). NONE of them had the money to go to Nationals, go to Europe, buy the horses they needed. NONE of them...yet they're all out there representing their country!

That never stopped me running raffles, running duck races, asking for donations, asking for rides on horses, organising clinics for the top trainers to come to my area and get my lesson in return for free, asking truck companies to donate rides for horses to competitions.

When I didn't have a horse, I asked horse owners who didn't do too much with their horses if I could take them out to competitions for them, getting them more famous and more valuable, and every owner always said yes.

"I don't have enough money" is a total crock. It's very bad "talk it down" language. There is ALWAYS a way around it. I started with NOTHING. It never stopped me. Why is it stopping you?

I'm too old...

Next time the excuse is "I'm too old"...think again.

My mother, Gwen Kelly, rode in the Spirit of Pharlap show at age 75 years, with stiffness, rheumatism, and terrible pain that she never even talked about. She recently passed away and with her "talk it up" attitude was well at lunchtime, and in heaven by dinner. She's riding up there still.

I ride at age...um...with all my health issues.

Mr. Roycroft rode at the Olympics EVENTING at I think aged 65 years (correct me if I'm wrong there).

And, the Queen of England still rides....and she is now over 80! So again, just another excuse.

If you can get your left foot in the stirrup, you're not too old! If you're saying you're too old, you're using negative language again and need to change it!

I want to...but I'm lazy

It's nearly impossible to train, ride and enjoy your riding on your own.

One of the things I did was put a little advertisement in the local paper "horse to share", and I got the most amazing young girl, now in Grade 11 at school, who comes out a couple of times a week and on weekends, and here quite a lot during school holidays.

This MAKES me get off my lazy butt and work the horses. I have no choice then.

It's the same as being in a swim team, training as a team. If you don't show up you're letting the team down. If you train on your own, you're not letting anyone down because no-one knows.

I was once told by the Head Rider from the Royal School in Spain "Colleen don't be so vain that you think other people can't ride your horse as well as you can". He was totally right. In fact, often they ride better. The young girl that works with me is younger, fitter, stronger, and because she rides under my supervision, she rides EXACTLY how the rule book says, and doesn't use my "little cheats" that I shouldn't be using anyway!

It's brilliant...it worked to completely fix me and get me out there again.

I'm just far too busy...

Let me ask you some questions: have you EVER watched television? There's at least an hour there!

Do you ever take the long way home in your car wasting time? Do you spend evenings on the email, or chat rooms, or surfing the net for rubbish?

Then this is just yet another excuse. Turn off the television (there's 1 hour), get off the chat rooms, (that's goodness knows how many hours), halve the length of your emails (I'd like to do this one myself!), and there's your riding time.

Those of you who know me know me in the distant past know that I got up at 3:00am, was dressed and



out the door at 3:15, at the farm at 3:45 on the horse just after 4:00am in the total dark in a pad-dock, learning to pick up a polocrosse ball by the headlights of the car!. On the 6:19am Greyhound bus from Surfers Paradise to Brisbane (some 90km) worked all day, back out at the farm to feed up, and back up again at 3:15am and playing polocrosse each and every weekend of the season.

Those of you who knew me years later know that I worked at the University, with MASSIVE amounts of overtime, while I studied part-time off-campus at the same time, cleaned 12 stables and rode one horse every morning, cleaned animal houses for more money both Sat and Sun mornings before my riding lessons, was married, and still managed to read nearly every horse riding book ever written at the same time!

Those of you who know me now know that I get up, straight to the computer to answer your hundreds of emails a day, straight out to the horses, back to the computer, organise clinics all over the world, still studying, speaking at every major horse event in the world, run a farm of 7 horses, write articles, record DVD's and CD's. I'm writing both a book and a novel at the same time, and even manage to cuddle my darling Nick when he comes home and still play with Patch the Wonderdog!

It's not that you're too busy, it's that you're doing other things. A psychologist or counsellor, or time management consultant can really help you with this.

My horse is too dangerous, old, lazy...

As I said the Queen of England still rides - however - she rides a very well chosen, well educated horse.

One thing I might grant you is you might need to change horses, and as I say on all my DVD's and CD's if your horse scares you...get it trained...or get rid of it! Sell it to a home who enjoys a "spunky monkey".

This is a dangerous sport! Get a horse that's a good breed such as the quarter horses, paints, cold bloods, appaloosas etc that are the known "golden retrievers" of the horse world, and one that is nicely trained, and you can enjoy your riding into your later years.

Get help...

One session with a sports psychologist can do wonders. A couple of lessons with the local cowboy or horse breaker can give you all the confidence you might need. I get emails all the time asking for tips and help, and I do the best I can to personally get back to everyone.

ASK FOR HELP!

You can do this with no money, bad health issues, laziness and poor time management, and no horses...! DID IT...WHY CANT YOU?

Be grateful...

One thing we forget is how rich we REALLY are. Have you compared yourself to the countries where

they have no water and no electricity while we have the luxury of riding?

Young (females especially) often have a poor body image. Well, compared to who? Have you compared yourself to our disabled riders with no arms or no legs?

Be grateful!. If your leg hurts - BE GRATEFUL YOU HAVE ONE!

If your hands hurt, be grateful you're not riding with the reins in your teeth!

Be grateful you have "two feet and a heartbeat" and two good hands to pat the four-legged buddy that calls you his friend.

Gratitude is the very first step to....

Never giving up...

I'm guessing that if you chose to read this article, and if you've chosen to read this all the way to the end, that horses are "in your blood". Don't let these little things be excuses.

Keep going, please, it will work out in the end.

Never never never give up. If we can do it....you can too!

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Sportaloosa FAQ

Q: I want to breed my mare by transported semen this season but I'm an AI novice. What do I need to know?

A: An excellent question. There's a lot of information available about AI but it can be confusing when you have no idea where to start!

AI - Artificial Insemination - is the process of inserting semen into a mare without having a stallion present. Semen may have been collected from the stallion on site and is being inseminated fresh, or it may have been chilled or frozen and transported.

The object of the exercise is to inseminate sperm into the mare soon before she ovulates, ovulation being the time she can fall pregnant. It's a numbers game; sperm can live up to 72 hours and it only takes one to fertilise an egg but obviously the more that are alive and kicking at the time the mare ovulates, the greater the chances that one will do its job.

An important job for you is to work out how many days your mares cycle for (ovulation occurring on the last day) so when your mare comes into season and you want to inseminate her, you'll know when to order the semen for. Monitor your mare for 2-3 cycles in advance of when you'd like to have her bred and take good notes, so you have a good idea of what to expect.

For example, if your mare generally comes into season for 5 days, the ideal time to inseminate her would be late on the third or early on the fourth day. That will mean there's plenty of healthy, active sperm zooming around when she ovulates. Some mares are fairly easy to assess by watching them, others might need to be scanned by a vet to work out what's happening and when.

Keep in very close contact with the stud collecting and sending the semen. They'll thank you for giving them more than enough warning of when you need semen and in fact, if you don't give enough warning, you risk not being able to get semen in time.

Make sure you've completed the breeding contract and paid all due money in advance; most studs will not send semen unless the stud fee is paid in full.

Let them know when your mare first comes into season on the cycle you want to inseminate on so they have plenty of warning. This is extremely important as all studs have different procedures when it comes to collecting semen. Some will need to ensure they have a mare in season to assist with a particular stallion and if they don't have enough notice to be able to achieve this, they won't be able to collect semen for you.

You need to have kept in close contact with your inseminating vet too, so you can book the vet to be ready when the semen arrives.

The stud will collect the semen, check it to make sure there's plenty of live sperm zooming around, mix it with extender, which helps to keep the sperm alive for longer and chill it until it's ready to send. If all goes well, the actual collection takes only a few minutes, the prep work takes about 30 minutes and chilling to the right temperature ideally takes about 3 hours. That means the stud will likely be starting very early in the morning to get everything done and get to the airport or courier in time.

The semen is sent in a special box with a chilly pack to keep it cool. It's typical for it to be sent by air cargo to your nearest airport, where you'll collect it and zoom it to wherever your mare is.

The best place for the semen is inside the mare so your vet should inseminate as soon as possible after it arrives (you just leave the box unopened until the vet's ready). Your vet will probably check it to make sure it's still in good shape then inseminate and you cross your fingers and toes for the right outcome!

Questions to ask of the stud: has the stallion you want to breed to achieved a pregnancy by transported semen before? If not, has his semen been evaluated for quality?

Questions to ask of your vet: have they achieved a pregnancy by AI before? If not, ask after the training they've completed.

For your best chance of success, ensure your mare is in glowing health and well up to weight, though not fat. Ideally, she shouldn't be too old or too young or she may find it difficult to conceive.

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Sportaloosa FAQ

Q: Is it true that a horse homozygous for the LP gene, eg a fewspot or genuine snowcap blanket, will always have a coloured foal?
Suzanne, NSW.

A. A horse that is homozygous for the LP gene will always pass one copy of the LP gene on. Sometimes though the LP characteristics of coat colour, mottled skin, striped hooves and even the white sclera around the eye aren't visible present and the foal comes out very solid coloured with no characteristics present, much to the owner's disappointment.

These born solid foals sometimes take years to develop any of the LP characteristics. Most often the foal will develop some roaning and snowflakes from the yearling year but sometimes nothing shows up until later even much later from the fourth to fifth year!

There is absolutely no way of telling how these solid foals will end up in appearance, some only get a vague sort of roaning, mottling and even the sclera around the eye can develop later. Some on the other hand develop an awesome roaning and even spots in the coat.

So after the initial disappointment of a solid foal, don't give up on it as you might see some surprising changes, take a photo every six months for a history of the changes.



When a DNA test is developed for the LP (appaloosa) gene, we'll be able to see if the solid foal has inherited LP or not. These solid foals are good to breed back to a Sportaloosa to intensify the LP bloodlines.

Q. What are the things you want to see (or not) when evaluating Sporthorse conformation? Robyn, Tennessee.



A. Sporthorse is a term used to describe a type of horse, not just a particular breed. Worldwide they are purpose bred and have similar standards for specific qualities in their conformation, movement and temperament giving them the edge in the disciplines of dressage, jumping, eventing, show and field hunters, endurance and driving. The inclusion of reining as an Olympic discipline also requires a sporthorse of smaller size but similar conformation. Horses used for the western disciplines are not generally described as sporthorses.

Conformation has a direct effect on the horse's abilities and movement. Most sporthorse breeds have similar conformation. One looks for an intelligent broad head with a good eye, a medium to long arched neck, set high on prominent withers with a sloping shoulder and deep heart girth. The Sporthorse must have an uphill build as this helps in riding qualities and especially collection. The back shouldn't be too long, be flat not sloping down into the wither, with strong loins



and powerful hindquarters. It should have long, well muscled thighs and forearms, with short cannon bones, sloping pasterns and strong hard open feet.

Most importantly the hindleg should freely step well under the horse. Movement may vary between disciplines but most sporthorses have an athletic, long stride, good suspension and reach, a swinging back with the hindlegs striding well under the body. Good movement makes it easier to train the horse in the necessary competition movements. A lot of sporthorses of all disciplines have a natural aptitude to jump.

What we don't want to see is a neck too long on the underneath or set too low into the withers, a long weak back, the croup being level or higher than the withers, too straight a hind leg with no stride under the body when moving, short, choppy gaits and small feet. We also don't want a nervous or stubborn nature as a sporthorse needs to be bold and brave especially for jumping and eventing.

The sporthorse must have a sensible, trainable temperament with a willingness to work. The ideal sporthorse is a combination of beauty, substance, athletic ability and a happy willing nature.

Many warmblood breeds have developed specifically as sporthorses especially in dressage and jumping. Thoroughbreds are particularly good at eventing, some are bred for sport and not racing in mind. Thoroughbreds crossed with warmblood and draught breeds are some of the historic foundations of warmblood breeds ie. the Irish sporthorses. Many breeds have representatives that have been successful sporthorses at the highest levels. We are seeing more Sportaloosas fulfilling their role as successful sporthorses now.



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Horsezone are also offering advertisers the chance to win a world class equestrian experience for two to coincide with the website's launch. The competition is open to anyone who places a listing on the website from Friday, 25 June 2010 to Thursday, 19 August 2010. The draw will take place at 12noon on Friday, 20 August 2010.

The World Equestrian Games (WEG) is comprised of the world championships for eight equestrian sports. The Games are held every four years, two years prior to the Olympic Games, and are governed by the FEI. The games commence Saturday, 25 September and conclude on Sunday, 10 October 2010.

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Sportaloosas at Dressage Clinic

A successful dressage clinic was held mid July at Gunnedah NSW, given by the State Coach Carlos De Cleermaeker. His engaging way of teaching produces great results for both horse and rider.

The venue was at Joanna Donaldson's good arena and she was instrumental in originally getting De Cleermaeker to hold regular clinics in the area a couple of years ago. We are very lucky to be able to have an instructor of such high calibre to teach us in rural NSW. Joanna is now a keen new Sportaloosa member and owner.

She has a deep passion for the art of dressage which was sadly put on hold when her first horse developed unsoundness in the hock, then her second one proved unsuitable in temperament. So now she is thoroughly enjoying her new partnership with the Sportaloosa gelding Avenlee Starbuck, bred by Heather Lee, who's EFA name is now Cadbury (those chocolate spots!).

Carlos is very strict to ensure the true basics of contact are developed and established in the horse before it can move onto learning the various movements. With that good even contact the horse will work from behind and use his back properly which is crucial to develop the muscles properly all along the top line. The movement of the horse improves greatly when they begin to use and swing their backs. Mostly when the sitting trot is uncomfortable and hard to sit to is because the back isn't round and the contact uneven, and the horse stiff.

Every one worked hard getting their horses relaxed and stretching down and round with a soft steady contact. The rein aids being used with feeling, the horses yielding and becoming soft and moving more freely. When the horses go more forward they must carry the weight behind or fall on the forehand, especially in medium paces the weight must be on the hind legs or the horse just runs.

Carlos says the transitions and plenty of them up and down the paces develop the horse's balance. As you do the downward transitions you close the horse's frame and bring his hindleg under the centre of gravity so he engages more and can carry the weight more behind. Then when you feel the engagement and the horse stepping actively into the contact you go directly into trot or canter again making sure you keep the round back and contact right.



The most important thing is to develop this contact so the horse is light and

develops self carriage. Once this happens the horse becomes more comfortable and reactive to the aids. When the horse relaxes and is obedient he can start learning to do the various movements.

The dressage horse's ability to learn is increased and easier when the basics are established correctly and the horse is obedient to the aids. The rider's aids can only be as good as her seat. The correct position of the rider is what makes the aids clear to the horse. If you want a supple horse the rider must also be supple without stiffening or sitting against the rhythm and motion of the horse. You must stay loose and supple with the horse even when you want more energy or contact.

All the aids, including the rider's weight work together, if not working properly the horse can't work in balance. The rider must be clear and very consistent with the aids so the horse knows precisely what you mean and want. When the horse clearly understands what the rider wants he is happier and trusts the rider and tries harder to obey.

The rider must expect something to happen when they apply the aids, for the horse to pay attention, or the rider must use the whip to reinforce the aid so the horse listens to the rider and obeys immediately. As the horse responds the aids become lighter and lighter. The horse must be in front of the leg so that he goes forward from his hindlegs or it's like riding with the brake half on.

After the work outs the horses did a relaxing walk to halt and walk on again whilst maintaining the good contact and active, round form, then stretching down without restriction ending lessons on a good note.

Looking forward to the next time. Hope everyone does their homework!

Jo Donaldson on
Avenlee Starbuck



Carlos De Cleermaeker
on Cayuse A Grand
Illusion





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It's Foaling Time Again

Well now you've waited nearly eleven months and tingling with excitement for your new foal to arrive..will all your breeding plans pan out?

Will the foal be healthy? Will it be coloured? Will it have the conformation and movement you hoped for? But most of all will it be born alive?

Most mares will foal normally without any problems but a few will get into trouble and will need human intervention to prevent death of the foal or mare or both. Therefore you should be aware of what's happening and when your mare is due to foal. Most mares foal at night or very early in the morning when everything is quiet and they won't be disturbed. If they feel insecure or afraid they can delay their foaling. Lots of people find this out when continually watching a mare when due; as soon as you turn your back she'll go down and pop out the foal!

Normal gestation is 335 days, older mares tend to carry foals longer than younger ones and it's been found that mares foaling early often go longer than those due in mid summer. Mares often follow a pattern in their foaling habits so take a note of their gestation length.

As foaling approaches your mare will show various signs that she is getting near and ready. Not all mares will show these signs but if you are aware of some of the near to foaling signs you can be on guard. Of course if things go wrong, immediately get your best vet in to help, it's a good idea to warn them that your mare is foaling to they are prepared in case of trouble. Also most vets have frozen colostrum on hand if it's needed but it's a good idea to check they have some available.

Signs of impending foaling are the size of your mare. Your mare's abdomen will increase in size but beware if it gets too large for the stage of gestation. One sign of your mare getting into trouble is if she starts getting really huge. Your mare will start to 'bag up' or in other words her udder will start to fill often as early as a month before her foal is due. Some mares although won't show anything, especially maiden mares until after foaling.

Some mares start to drip the first milk called colostrum. If she is losing a lot it would be best to collect and freeze it as this first milk is very important as it con

tains all the antibodies the foal needs to protect it. If your mare starts to bag up really early say 6 weeks before her date, this could be because she is about to abort the foal. These premature foals are often born dead, if not they are small and very weak and unfortunately many only live a couple of days. If you're very lucky they can survive but it takes a lot of intensive care. So if she bags up miles too soon please get your vet in.

Some mares also wax up, that is they show a honey coloured waxy substance on the end of the teats. Some mares will wax up a couple of days before foaling while others don't ever show this sign.

Two to three weeks before foaling the mare will relax the muscles in the pelvic area making her look sunken beside and below the tail area and just before foaling the vulva will swell and elongate. In the last weeks before the foaling lots of mares often become cranky and restless, whilst others may become very sleepy and want to be alone.

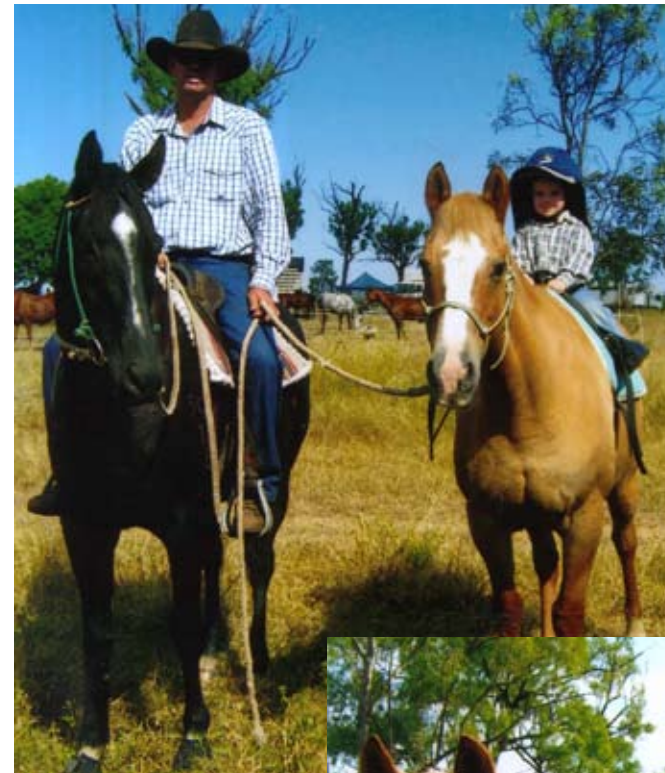
When foaling begins she might even look colicky, switching her tail, stamping her hooves and even kicking her belly and turning in circles.

Today there are lots of alarms in the form of collars put on the mare to let you know when the mare is due to foal, some even have close circuit tv, whilst others get up every few hours to check and some just hope and let nature take its course!



In a paddock breeding situation the stallion often keeps very close to a mare just due to foal for protection.

We hope all goes well and you are a proud owner of a lovely new Sportaloosa foal. Don't forget to send in a good photo of your new foal to we can show the world on the website, plus don't forget to plan your winning video for the foal video futurity judged May 2011.



Pictured here is Will Watts, our youngest member.

Will was spotted recently at the campdraft and horse sports held at Weetalaba, north Queensland.

He's riding his favourite mare Cayuse Mighty Be Kool and had a very successful fun day.



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The Seventies

Courtesy of Maurice Potter

Back in the 70's I caught the get rich craze.

All these stallions from America came to our shores.

I decided on something "Pretty" so I went to a sale and bought a white mare with black spots.

Thanks to the lady selling her, she gave me the "papers" a much loved hand written ex school book

The sire was by an American stallion that dated back to Chief Joseph's best "Bison Chaser" out of a mare that was a direct line to Jack Cortez's stallion; he rode ashore when he discovered the Americas.

His ship dropped anchor and his out board motor boat wouldn't start. Now for the Australian mare side, Bay mare no white markings, few starts at Harold Park Trotting Raceway never placed, but some of her progeny was supposed to have won at Wentworth Park Dog Track via the feed that racing dogs eat.

I was so excited when I got home; most of the village formed a guard of honour when we arrived.

The mare had a Roman nose, short neck, and mane hair like a nail brush, long back (Ideal for Western Saddle) short rump, and tail like a toilet brush after a lot of use, pigeon toes, cow hocks, great in mountain country, very game at rough mustering every day work.

All the kids learnt to ride her and lots of ribbons at pony club. When she wasn't at work she had a few foals, by an imported two-toned stallion and I maintained a few good non-coloured fillies for future breeding in the bucking horse market if that money is the only way to get rich.

P.S I was going to send some money for your newsletter but have already sealed the envelope





SCHEDULE OF FEES

Membership

	NZD	AUD
One-off membership fee, includes registration of a stud prefix and online magazine	\$58	\$50
Annual classifieds subscription to web site - includes listing unlimited horses for sale for 12 months	\$24	\$20
Annual promotion subscription to web site - includes stallion/stud/mare/gelding/foal/trainer promotion and unlimited horses for sale. We welcome promotion of approved outcross stallions as well.	\$70	\$60
Annual Sportaloosa Secret Service subscription - for under 17s only - includes badge and programme just for kids	\$30	\$25

Registration

Studbook One, Two & Solid Studbook

Filly/colt up to 12 months	\$30	\$25
Gelding any age - if already entered in Appaloosa or Knabstrupper registry	\$30 \$24	\$25 \$20
Mare over 12 months - if already entered in Appaloosa or Knabstrupper registry	\$58 \$24	\$50 \$20
Colt over 12 months	\$58	\$50
Stallion classification (over 24 months) - if already entered and classified in Appaloosa or Knabstrupper registry	\$168 \$58	\$150 \$50

Open registry

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Mare over 12 months	\$58	\$50
Gelding any age	\$30	\$25

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