



VOL. 1 ISSUE 1 · JULY 2023

THE QUARTERLY COLLECTION

AZWEC QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

WELCOME TO OUR NEWSLETTER

BY KASEY REEDER - EDITOR

Welcome to our new Newsletter for Members of the Arizona Working Equitation Club. We are excited to be able to improve communication to our members and have a vehicle to help keep everyone informed.

We welcome any suggestions for items you would like included and invite submissions of written articles to include in future editions. If you would like to introduce your horse and yourself to everyone, please submit written article and photo(s).

All submissions should be sent to kasey@reflectivehorsemanship.com

For information on becoming a sponsor and advertising in this newsletter, contact Kasey.

Stay up to date with AZWEC information by joining Facebook group: Arizona Working Equitation Club or going to our website www.azwec.org (website will be available mid-July).

This issue:

Welcome

President's Ponderings

Welcome New Members

Leader Board

Exciting News

Dressage Tips

Upcoming Events

The Editor's Corner

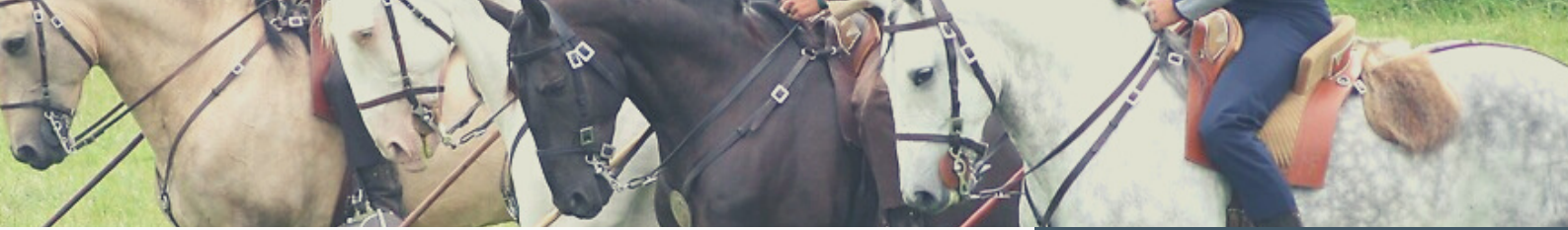
Partnership Spotlight

Know Your Obstacles

Warm Up Arena Etiquette

Did You Know?

Final Thoughts



President's Ponderings

JOY CHADSLEY

Greetings!

Welcome to the first AZWEC Newsletter and I hope this message finds all of our club members well.

It is both my honor and privilege to serve at the Arizona working equitation president for 2023. I wish to convey my sincere thanks to all the past AZWEC Presidents, Especially Amy Star, and gratitude to all the members for making this club so vibrant.

This has been a steady amount of work since I was nominated President on January 2023. We are looking at new ways to improve the Arizona Working Equitation Club. I am committed to working hard for the club and I look forward to hearing from you with suggestions and ideas.

I am grateful to have an experienced and committed team of administrators to serve with me this AZWEC year. We look forward to afresh with new perspectives and projects to engage all of our members and do great things for the club.

See you all soon,

Sincerely,

Joy

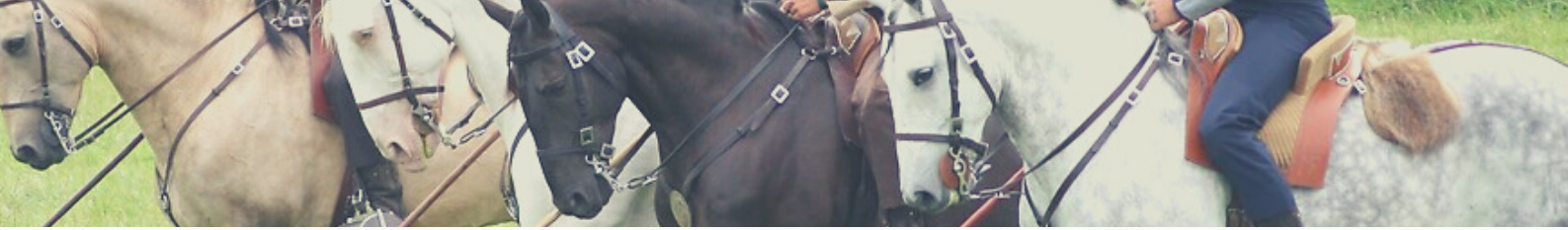


There is one principle that should never be abandoned, namely, that the rider must learn to control themselves before they can control their horse.

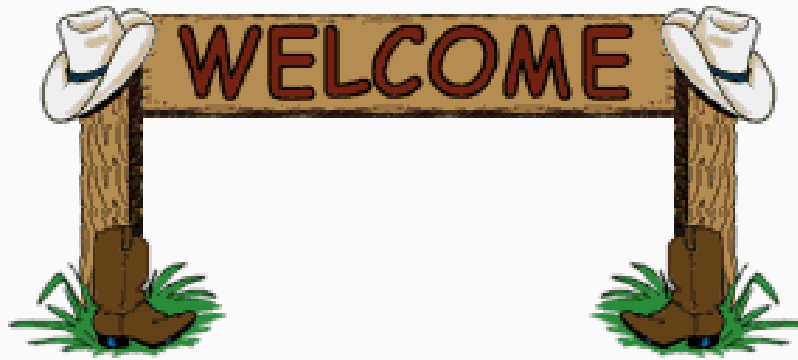
This is the basic, most important principle to be preserved in equitation.

ALOIS PODHAJSKY





Welcome New Club Members



Welcome New Members who have just joined AZWEC:

Kathy Born
Isabella L. Cantwell
Emily Dunn
John Reich
Michelle Mastrangelo

Kristine Stanton
Tylann Stedman
Elaine Taute
Kathleen Wiest
Christina Zielinski



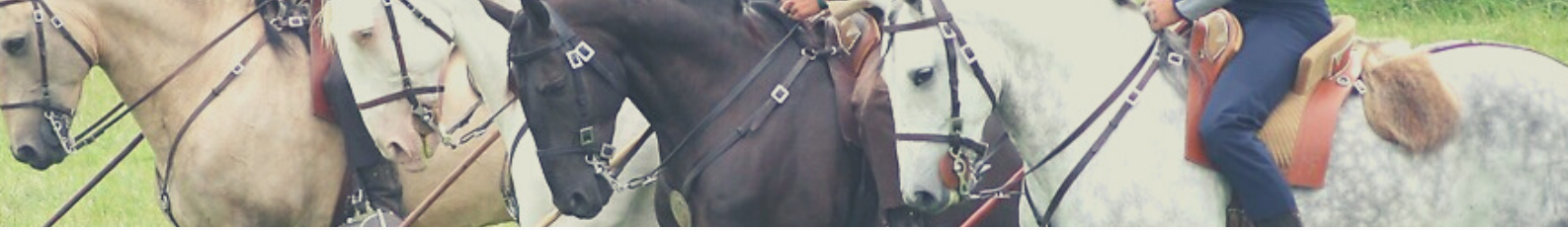
Cohesive Horsemanship
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Working Equitation
Trail Competitions

Tessa Nicolet
Level 2 Cowboy Dressage Clinician
2020 Open Reserve Champion L1 and L3
Working Equitation

www.CohesiveHorsemanship.com

Cohesive Horsemanship
Trust - Confidence - Respect



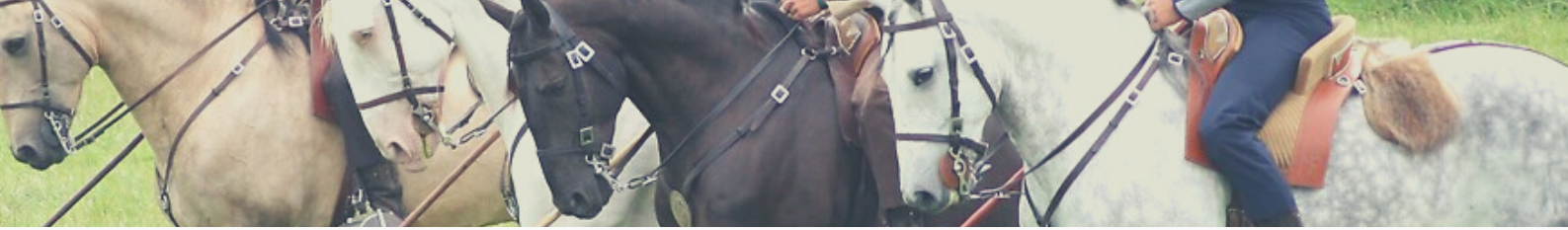
AZWEC Year End Points

CURRENT LEADERS IN AZWEC YEAR END POINTS ARE:

SCHOOLING SHOWS - LEVEL 1 - AA DIVISION



Randy Gasset (Nobre do Summerwind)	35
Charlene Goulden (Domino)	30
Beth High (Nitro Star)	28
Sharon Noake (Nighthawk)	24
Ginger Franz (Josie Can Do)	19
Marcella Kline-Green (Dash N King Slide)	18
Sandra Kassum (Mr. Mahogany King)	18
Carol Evans (Misty Valley Gryphon).	15
Melissa Bravenec (Smart Little Laila).	16
Lin Johnson (Scarlette)	16
Christina Zielinski (Sunrise Smokey Bear).	11
Wendy Kirkpatrick (Kisses)	10
Sharon Petrone (Pretty Nifty Whiz).	10
Kristin Chiaravalle (Bolero)	9
Susan Wick (NF Dew It Right).	9
Katie Swanson (Hot T Holly)	9
Monica Kopf (Bluegrass)	8
Marni Lauck (Annie)	8
Christye Flanagan (Panda)	7
Rose Carter (Cash's Brenda June)	7
Julie Field (Jesse)	6
Ron Valeggia (Dennis)	5
Susan Crane (Fuego)	5
Daniel Sudilousky (SF Katniss)	2
Daniel Sudilousky (SF Billy's Holiday).	1



AZWEC Year End Points

SCHOOLING SHOWS - LEVEL 1 - JUNIOR DIVISION

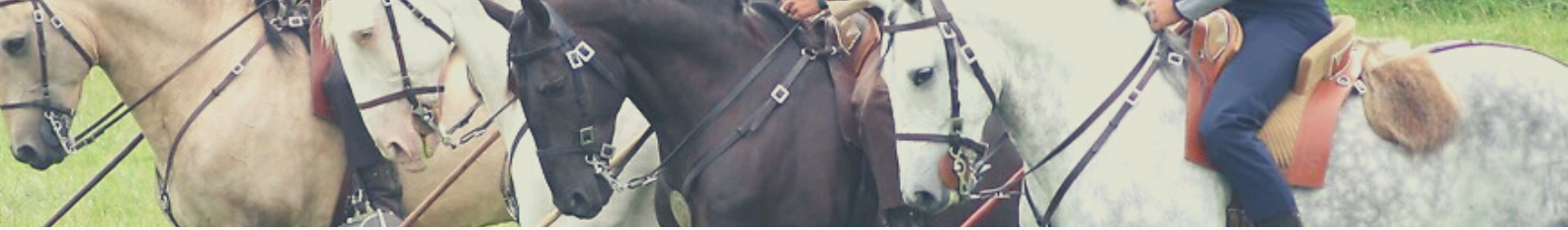
Taj Simeone (Waji)	30
Paige Jensund (The Colenels Wild Child)	18
Emily Dunn (Ay Reaghans Phoenix)	17
Stella Quinn (Topsy)	10
Lydia Grey (Miss Explanation Mark)	10
Karsyn Terry (Scout)	8
Isabella Cantwell (Dakotas Sunset)	6
Aleena Flowers (Baron Vantage)	5



SCHOOLING SHOWS - LEVEL 1 - OPEN DIVISION

Megan Bennett (Ay Reaghann)	8
Zuzana Runge (Goodinviteatmidnight)	8
Megan Martin (Akamia TCB)	8
Teresa Bain (Katniss)	7
Dawn Barrett (Curly Creek)	6
Teresa Bain (Valentino)	5
Andrea Brown (NM Sunflower)	8
Terry Borton (Sidcerelys Graciela)	4





AZWEC Year End Points

SCHOOLING SHOWS - LEVEL 2 - AA DIVISION

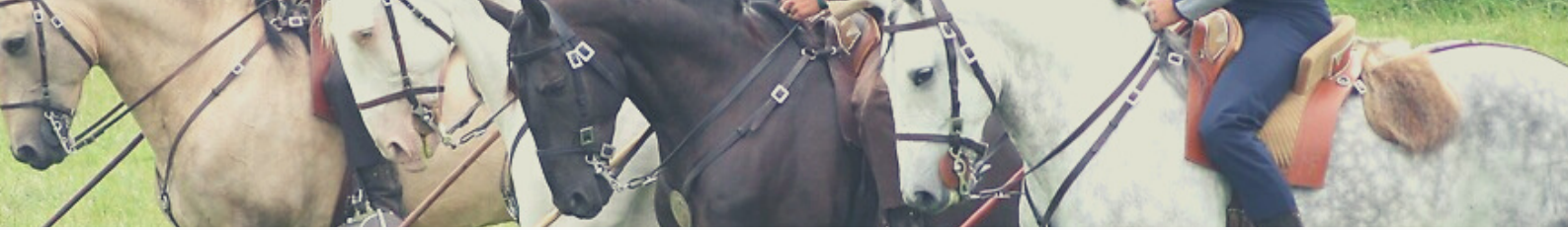
Robin Lindsey (Charisma Too)	33
Michele Sharp (Hollybriar Grayshadow)	29
Linda McKenzie (SAQ Smart Chickee)	20
Melissa Bravenec (Smart Little Laila)	19
Yvonne Rydren-Reeves (Ruby)	19
Kimberly Storm (Mickey O' Hanlian)	18
Caroline Dunning (Faith)	18
Randy Gassett (Nobre do Summerwind)	16
John Reich (Kitty In Command)	15
Martina Matheson (Big Sexy)	11
Lori Shipione - Tiger	6
Shannon Gillette (El Majistrado JAR)	6
Melody Smith (Cruz)	5
Anne Callahan (Hugo)	4



SCHOOLING SHOWS - LEVEL 2 - JR DIVISION

Emma Keith (Fidalgo do Summerwind)	10
Olivia Young	10





AZWEC Year End Points

SCHOOLING SHOWS - LEVEL 2 - OPEN DIVISION

Karen Anderson (Reinvest Gettin Rich)	25
Lorlee Wuertz (Canadian Cream aka CC)	17
Karen Kartchner - Masi	10
Gail Sandidge (Ishi Out Runnin My Spots)	10
Olivier Fahrni - Mr. Hollywood	9
Connie Petri	8
Elizabeth Sims (Flying Oaks Valentim Beijo)	7



SCHOOLING SHOWS - LEVEL 3 - AA DIVISION

Randy Gassett (Sunrise Smokey Bear)	54
Susan Hapak (Stoney Freckles Boy)	38
Michael Green (Boulder Creek Mocha Mint)	19
Megan Bennett (Jelly Bean)	17



SCHOOLING SHOWS - LEVEL 3 - OPEN DIVISION

Terese Bain (Syndicate)	50
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SCHOOLING SHOWS - LEVEL 4 - AA DIVISION

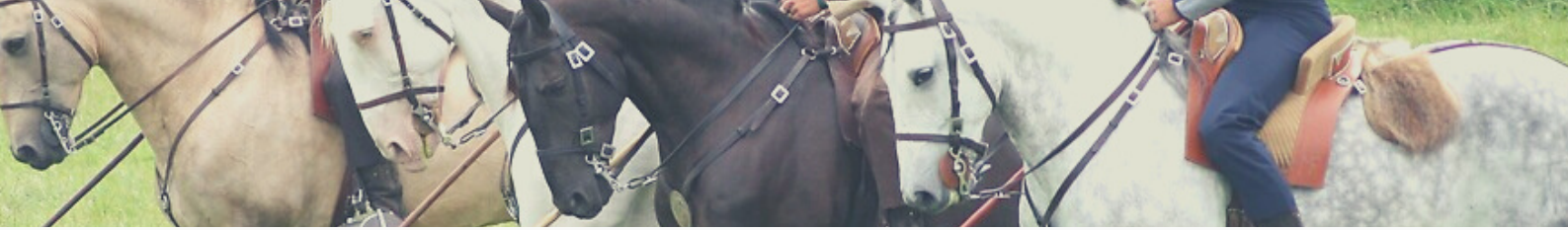
Kristy Taylor (Fury)	20
Carol Eldred (Smart Plain Gal)	10
Shannon Gillette (Lil' Rockstar)	10



SCHOOLING SHOWS - LEVEL 4 - OPEN DIVISION

Roger Dunning (Noble)	18
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AZWEC Year End Points

RATED SHOWS - LEVEL 1 - AA DIVISION

Lin Johnson (Making a Living)	10
Lisa Rasley (Zolas Got Class)	9
Ginger Franz (Josie Can Do)	8
Terry Borton (Sidcerelys Graciela)	8
Susan Wick (NF Dew It Right)	7
Christina Zielinski	7
David Berry (Jak Mr Red McCue)	6



RATED SHOWS - LEVEL 1 - JR DIVISION

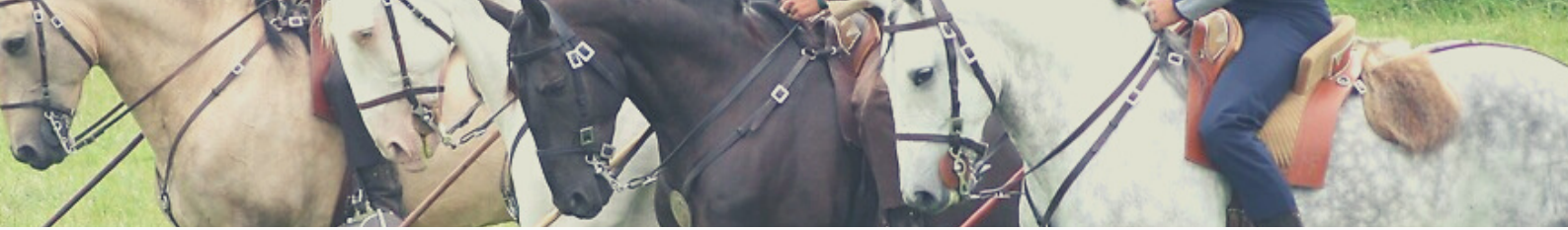
Tylann Stedman ()	10
Rowen Conser (Polly)	9
Kaylee Overman (Rebellious Diana)	8



RATED SHOWS - LEVEL 1 - OPEN DIVISION

Zuzana Runge (Goodinviteatmidnight)	10
Megan Martin (Akamia TCB)	10
Elizabeth Sims (Topsy)	10
Karen Kartchner (Miss Silky Olena)	9
Michelle Mastrangelo (Larks Impressive Dana)	8
Jadyn Flint (Platinum Impressive)	7





AZWEC Year End Points

RATED SHOWS - LEVEL 2 - AA DIVISION

Robin Lindsey (Charisma Too)	25
Caroline Dunning (Faith)	17
Randy Gassett (Nobre do Summerwind)	16
Linda Mckenzie (SAQ Smart Chickee)	10
Candace Berry (Kalil Fifty Shades of Irish)	10
Kimberly Storm (Mickey O'Hanlian)	9
Daniel Sudilousky (SF Katniss)	8
Dani Williams (Tehya Sasa)	8
Melissa Bravenec (Smart Little Laila)	8
Marguerite Tan (George)	5
Shannon Gillette (El Majistrado JAR)	4



RATED SHOWS - LEVEL 2 - JR DIVISION

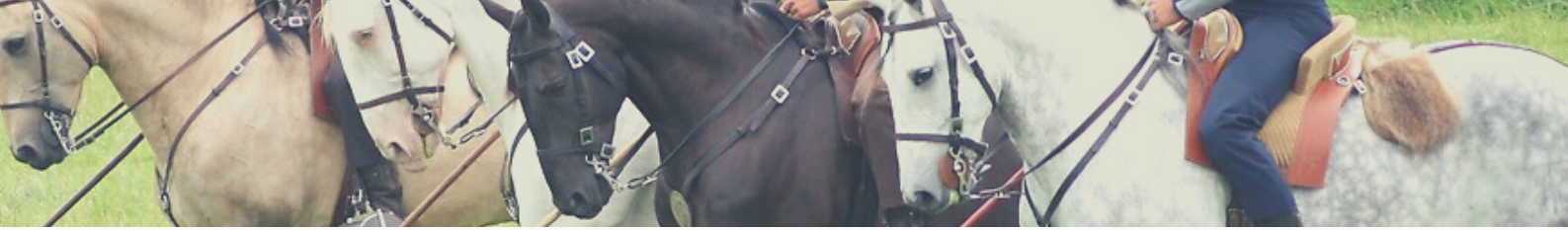
Emma Keith (Fidalgo do Summerwind)	20
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RATED SHOWS - LEVEL 2 - OPEN DIVISION

Karen Anderson (Reinvest Gettin Rich)	27
Dawn Barrett (Curly Creek)	10
Marion Weisskopff (ARK Royal Bonanza)	10
Karen Kartchner (Dawnsong Silver Ma: Si)	9
Marion Weisskopff (DWR Flash in the San)	9
Elizabeth Sims (Jedi Knight do Summerwind)	8





AZWEC Year End Points

RATED SHOWS - LEVEL 3 - AA DIVISION

Susan Hapak (Stoney Freckles Boy)	27
Randy Gasset (Sunrise Smokey Bear)	18
Kimberly Storm (Mickey O'Hanilian)	18
Michael Green (Boulder Creek Mocha Mint)	15
Julie Swanson (Tuff's Lil Ginger Snap)	10



RATED SHOWS - LEVEL 3 - JR DIVISION

Kaylee Overman (Lady Cricket)	10
Indra Lanners (Skip Raggedy Ann)	9



RATED SHOWS - LEVEL 3 - OPEN DIVISION

Teresa Bain (Syndicate)	20
Hannah Wurgler (La Femme Nikita)	10



RATED SHOWS - LEVEL 4 - AA DIVISION

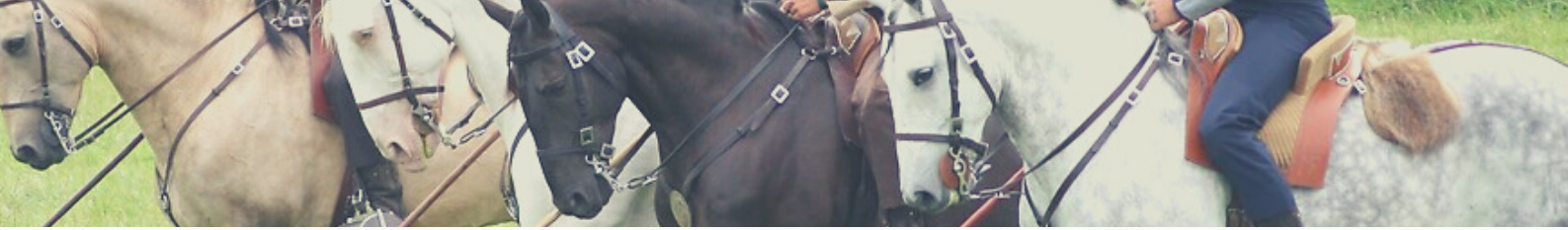
Marcy Blacker (Aul Amira)	10
Shannon Gillette (Lil' Rockstar)	10



RATED SHOWS - LEVEL 4 - OPEN DIVISION

Teresa Bain (Syndicate)	20
Roger Dunning (Noble)	18
Tessa Nicolet (RG Blu Ridge Mountain)	9
David Devoe (Lucien)	7





AZWEC Year End Points

RATED SHOWS - LEVEL 5 - AA DIVISION

Tania Radda (Imperio Do Castanheiro) 10



RATED SHOWS - LEVEL 6 - OPEN DIVISION

Summer Star (Homem Brilhante ASM Star) 10



RATED SHOWS - LEVEL 7 - OPEN DIVISION

Miguel Undabarrena (Gunipre) 20

Amy Star (Homem Brilhante ASM Star) 10



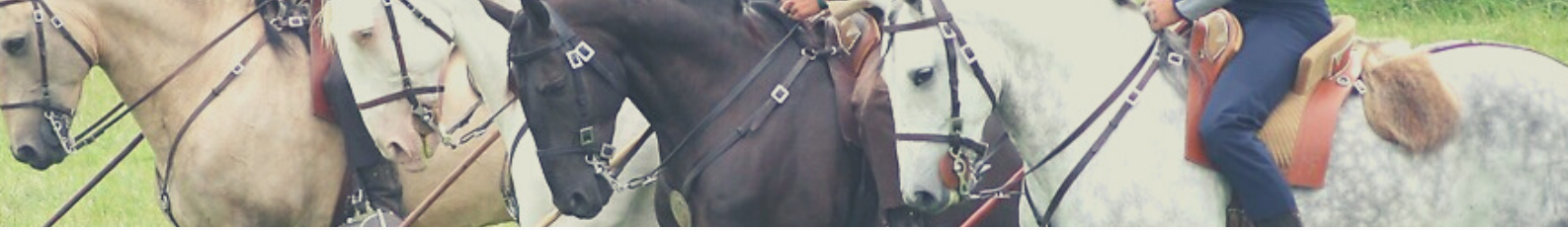
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English and Western Riding Lessons available
for both Children and Adults,
with Judy Mackenzie, British Horse Society Certified Instructor

Working Equitation Classes and Clinics, Kids Camps, Horse Club,
Jumping, Partnership on the Ground

Group and Private Lessons

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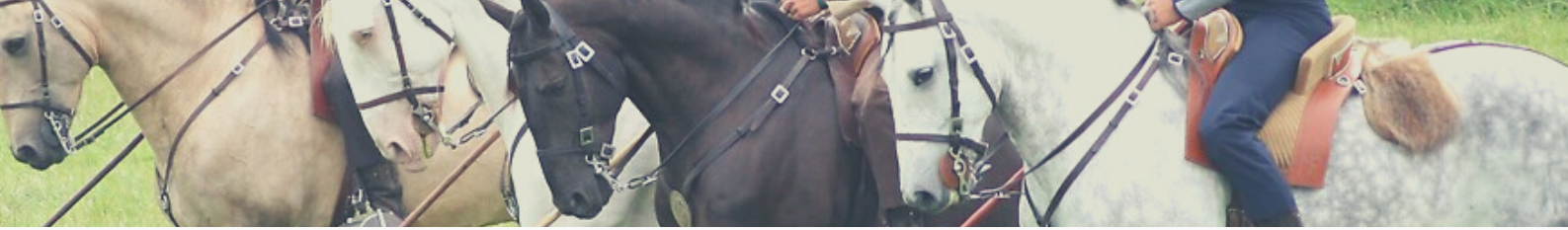
Exciting News for AZWEC Member Summer Star

Summer Star and her horse Homem Brilhante have recently qualified to compete at the WAVE Young Riders Championship in Ponte de Lima Portugal in July 4-8, 2023. She earned her qualifying scores at Level 6 in the AZWEC Rim Rider Show at Patterson Ranch on May 7th, with a 66% and a 71%. She is the only youth rider to have qualified to attend the Championship from the USA.

Summer Star and Amy Star will be traveling to Portugal on June 24. Summer will be leasing a horse to ride in the Championship competition and will spend June 26 through July 3 learning how to ride this new horse, and getting top coaching and riding instruction from Pedro Torres. Pedros Torres has won the WE World Championship numerous times, and trained many top horses. Summer is really excited about this learning opportunity.

Summer Star is a 19 year old from Tucson, AZ and a founding member of AZWEC. Summer has volunteered for AZWEC helping at shows and being a talented demonstration rider at clinics and exhibitions. Summer is currently attending Pima Community College, and studying engineering, and maintaining a 4.0 GPA. Summer also has a keen interest in fitness and powerlifting. For fun Summer likes to skateboard, listen to music and create art.



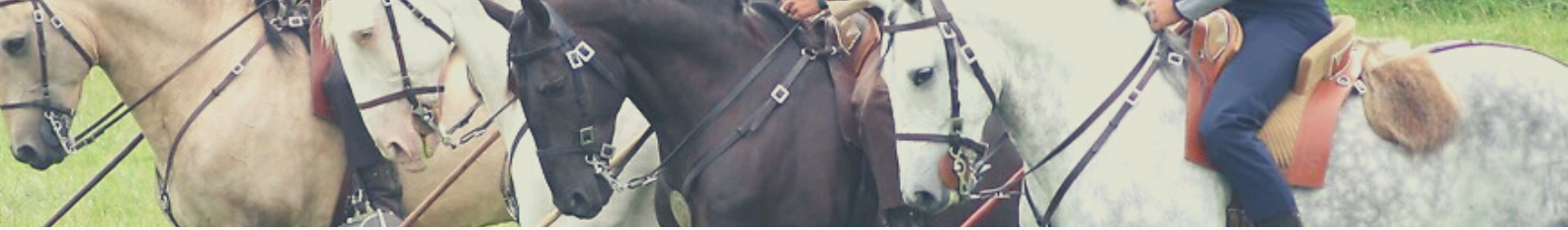


Exciting News for AZWEC Member Summer Star

She began her show career with IALHA and has expanded her horizons and now competes in USDF Dressage, Western Dressage and Working Equitation. Her first horse was a pony named Happy, then she had a Paso Fino mare named Peaches for trail riding. Summer's first show horse was a chestnut mare named Xila, then she moved on to her buckskin mare Reina who she rode through Level 4. When she moved up to Level 5 she began riding Belle and then eventually Humbug. Summer says she loves the technical challenges in WE as well as the strategy.

Summer invites all AZWEC members to follow her on FB and see how her adventure in Portugal unfolds.<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100092355246557>





Dressage Tips

HOW TO RIDE A GOOD CENTER LINE

Tip 1 – Be accurate

The center line runs from ‘A’ to ‘C’, not several feet to either side!

Many riders throw silly marks away, simply by not riding the center line accurately.

A good tip is to look at where the judge is sitting before you turn onto the center line. Sometimes the judge might not be exactly at ‘C’, which can happen if they are using a car that was pre-parked for them or they are sitting in a cramped judge’s box with less than perfect seating arrangements.

Always line yourself up directly with the judge and ride straight towards them. This will ensure that you appear accurate, regardless of whether the judge is precisely at ‘C’ or is actually a little to one side of it.

When riding tests for online video dressage classes, always make sure that your videographer is positioned directly at ‘C’, as this is where the judge will assume your test has been filmed from.



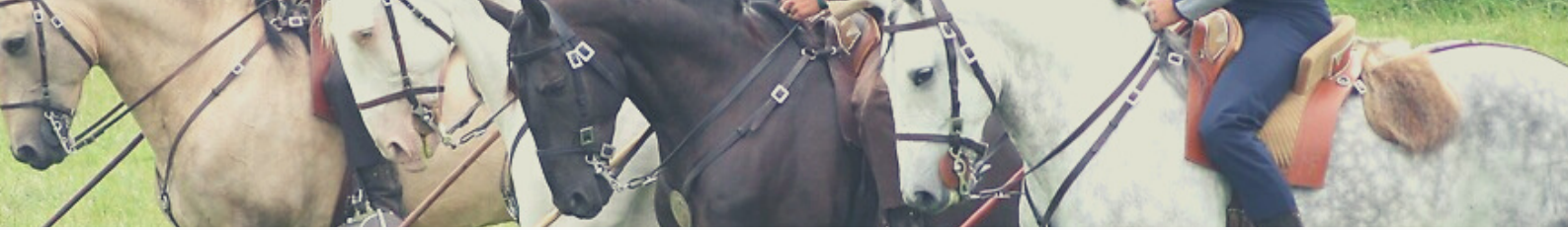
Tip 2 – Prepare your horse

Poor preparation is another cause of center line failure.

Make sure that you look where you are going so that you can give your horse plenty of notice about the upcoming turn via a balancing half-halt.

At the beginning of the test, you can often enter from outside the arena, meaning that you can allow yourself plenty of time and space to turn. This is particularly useful if you’re riding a youngster or a horse that is still developing his balance.

If your horse is easier to keep straight on one rein than the other, always enter the arena on his ‘good’ rein to give you a greater chance of keeping straight on the center line.



Dressage Tips



Tip 3 – Keeping straight

Your horse will stay straighter if he is working nicely forward; horses that are dawdling behind their riders' leg are far more likely to wander up the center line or drift to one side of it.

Make sure that your horse is working from both your legs into both reins equally. It can be helpful to envisage that your horse is working along a tunnel created by your leg and rein.

A common fault seen by judges at all levels is a crooked halt. This usually happens because the horse is out of balance or runs against the rider's hand as the halt is ridden.

At the lower levels, a couple of steps of walk are permitted before the halt is established, so take advantage of this to balance your horse before you make the halt transition.

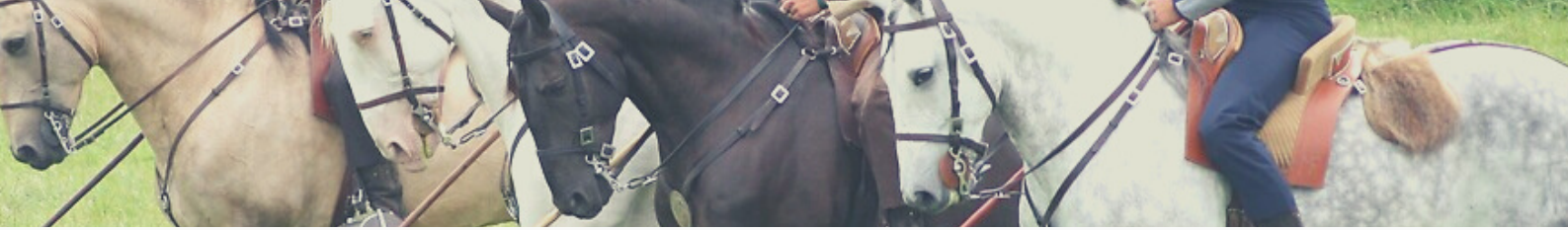
Again, preparation is very important. Give your horse a clear half-halt to get his attention before you ride the transition, and keep both legs on to keep him straight.

Ease your hand forwards as you ride the halt to prevent the horse from running into a 'brick wall', which will cause him to swing his quarters to one side.

If you are struggling to keep the halt straight on the center line, it can be helpful to place two poles parallel to one another and a couple of meters apart at 'X', and then ride the halt between them.

This can help to correct a deliberate evasion on the horse's part, but do remember that you won't have poles to help you in a test so it's important not to become too reliant on them.

Extract from: How To Dressage - www.howtodressage.com



Upcoming Events

2023 AZWEC LICENSED SHOWS

July 15-16 AZWEC Rated Show
Coconino County Fairgrounds,
Flagstaff, AZ
Joy Chadsey
joy7@aol.com

Sept 2-3 Working Equitation Show
Patterson Ranch, Payson, AZ

Sept 9-10 Working Equitation Show
Chino Valley Equestrian Center
Chino Valley, AZ
Tessa Nicolet 928.951.4699
cohesivehorsemanship@gmail.com

Sept 30/Oct 1 AZWEC Rim Riders Show
Patterson Ranch, Payson, AZ
Tessa Nicolet 928.951.4699
cohesivehorsemanship@gmail.com

Oct 14-15 AZWEC
Four Star Ranch
Chino Valley, AZ

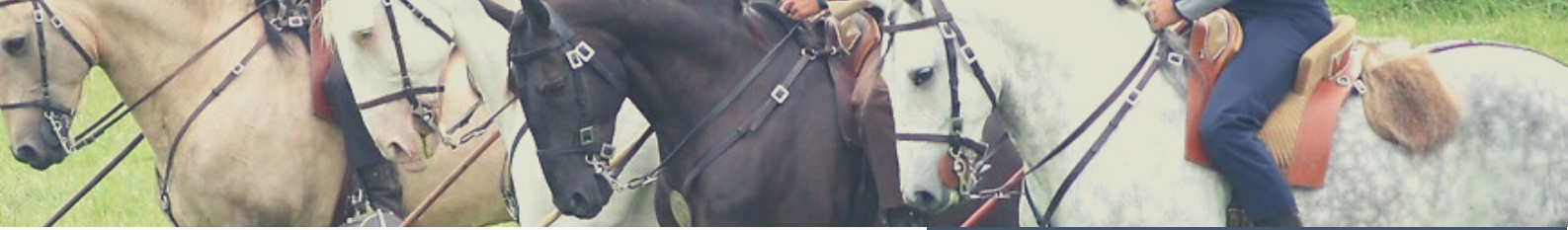
Oct 21-22 WDAA
WE at American Ranch
Prescott, AZ

Oct 28-29 AZWEC Rim Riders Show
Payson, AZ
Tessa Nicolet 928.951.4699
cohesivehorsemanship@gmail.com

Nov 4-5 AZWEC Show
Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds
Sonoita, AZ

Nov 25-26 TBD
Joy Chadsey
joy7@aol.com

Dec 2-3 AZWEC Final Show
Location TBA



Upcoming Events

2023 AZWEC SCHOOLING SHOWS

July 2 AZWEC Schooling Show

Patterson Ranch

Payson, AZ

Judge Megan Bennett

July 2 Turquoise Schooling Show

Patterson Ranch

Payson, AZ

Judy MacKenzie, 303.358.6118

judymmackenzie@gmail.com

Oct 8 AZWEC Schooling Show

Orme School, Mayer AZ

Oct 13-15 Fall Working Equitation Camp
and Schooling Show

Susan Hapak 520.840.1215

hshapak@yahoo.com

Nov 11-12 AZWEC Schooling Show

Brownsville, Tonto Basin

*Cattle Trial Included

Nov 11-12 AZWEC Sunset in

Goodyear Schooling Show

Goodyear, AZ

Megan Bennett 602.565.1514

megan@sunsetranch.us

Dec 10 AZWEC Schooling Show

Chaparosa Ranch

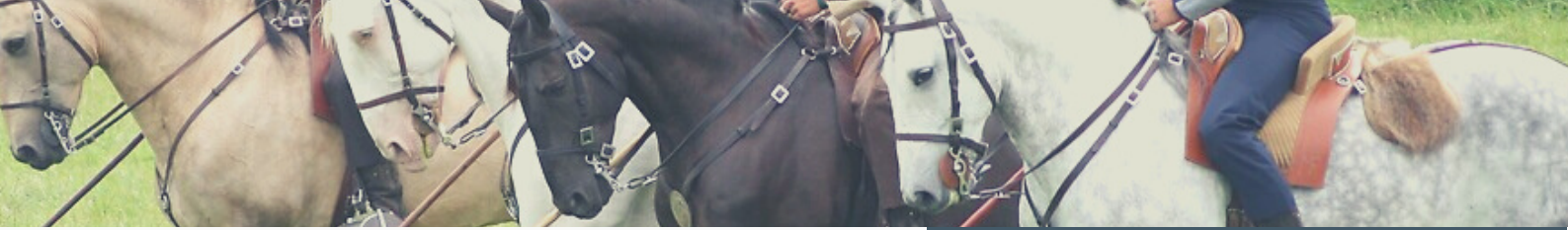
Rio Verde, AZ

Never give up on
a dream just
because of the
time it will take
to accomplish it.

The time will
pass anyway.

EARL NIGHTINGALE





Upcoming Events

2023 WORKING EQUITATION CLINICS

July 1 Patterson Training

Judy MacKenzie, 303.358.6118

judymmackenzie@gmail.com

July 8 Cohesive Horsemanship

Paulden, AZ

Tessa Nicolet 928.951.4699

cohesivehorsemanship@gmail.com

July 9 Cohesive Horsemanship

Flagstaff, AZ

Tessa Nicolet 928.951.4699

cohesivehorsemanship@gmail.com

July 14 Fort Tuthill

Flagstaff, AZ

Judy MacKenzie

August 12 Cohesive Horsemanship

Paulden, AZ

Tessa Nicolet 928.951.4699

cohesivehorsemanship@gmail.com

August 13 Cohesive Horsemanship

Flagstaff, AZ

Tessa Nicolet 928.951.4699

cohesivehorsemanship@gmail.com

Sept 2-3 Patterson Ranch

Payson, Az

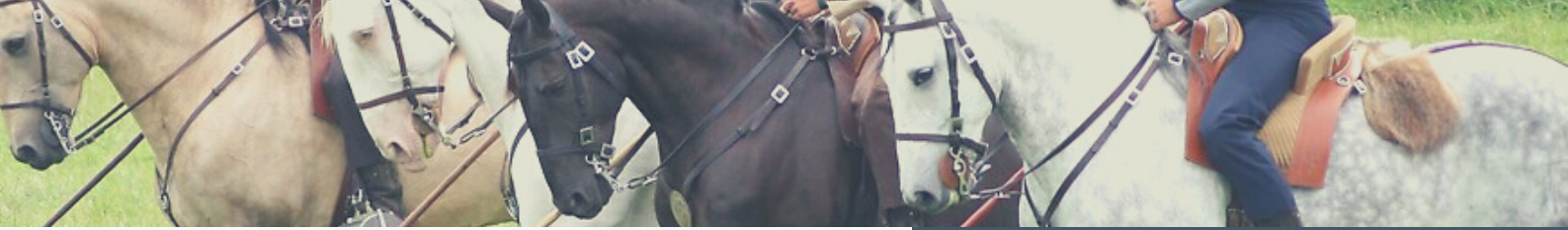
Amy & Summer Star

“Horsemanship is
the art of
mastering our own
movements,
thoughts, emotions
and behavior.

Not the horses.”

MARK RASHID





Upcoming Events

2023 WORKING EQUITATION CLINICS

Sept 8 Four Star Ranch
Chino Valley, AZ
Judy MacKenzie, 303.358.6118
judymmackenzie@gmail.com

Sept 29 Patterson Training
Payson, AZ
Judy MacKenzie, 303.358.6118
judymmackenzie@gmail.com

Oct 7 Orme School
Mayer, AZ
Judy MacKenzie

Oct 21-22 Oak Spring Equestrian Center
Prescott Valley, AZ
Syndy Cunningham
syndycunningham2@gmail.com
928- 830-9329

Oct 27 Patterson Training
Payson, AZ
Judy MacKenzie

Nov 10 Brownsville
Tonto Basin
Judy MacKenzie & Dwayne Pike

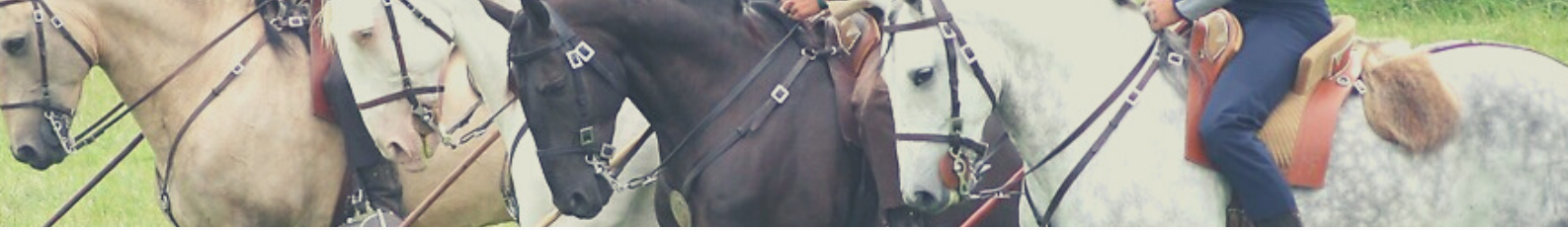
Dec 9 Chaparosa Ranch
Rio Verde, AZ
Judy MacKenzie

“All riding is
made up of the
basics.

Advanced work is
simply putting the
basics into action
simultaneously
and in a perfect
state of flow.”

KASEY REEDER





The Editor's Corner

Back to the Basics for Superior Riding

Pick up any sports magazine and you'll undoubtedly find articles on professional athletes working on their craft, trying to become better than they were the day before.

You can read about top professional tennis players working on their serve or backhand to become more efficient, golfers working on their swing for that extra yard, or swimmers working on their strokes to shave off precious seconds, ALWAYS GOING BACK TO THE BASICS TO IMPROVE THEIR ALREADY ELITE STATUS.

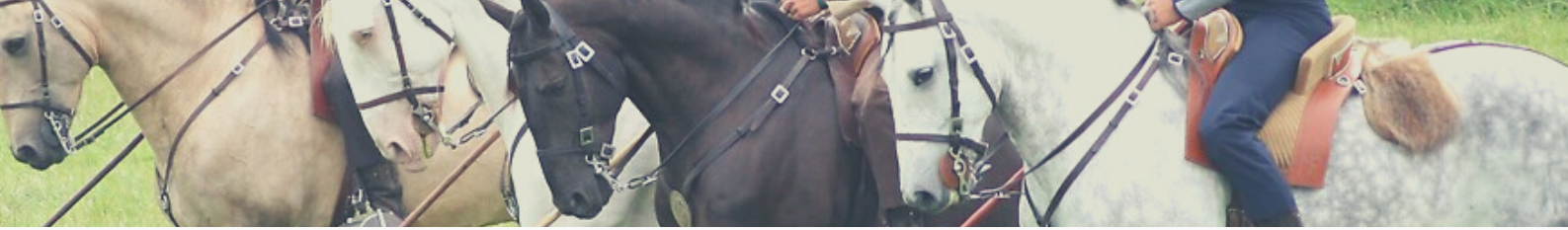
Yet, rarely do you hear about riders working on their skills. When it comes to equestrian sport, you never hear about riders working on their seat; the absolute foundation of great riding. Of course, you hear about their horses coming up to grand prix or working on flying changes and such, but never specifically about the rider's training.

I think that's a shame because in my experience it gives riders reason to think that if they can walk, post in the trot, and canter through a corner, they can ride - no further training needed.

While they may have the ability to 'stay in the tack', the essential skills to a truly independent seat - such as the skill of balance in motion without gripping with the legs or holding on the reins - are missing in most rider's programs.

The truth is, before you can clearly communicate to the horse what shape you want him to take at what gait and in what rhythm, you need to have control over your own body. You cannot simultaneously influence the horse's shape, gait, and cadence unless you are in the right position over his center of gravity to apply the right sequence of aids with the right degree of pressure and the right timing.

To control your body to that extent, you need to have an independent seat.



The Editor's Corner

What exactly is an independent seat?

An independent seat is when a rider can balance and move in rhythm with the horse so that she has the ability to use ALL her aids (seat, legs, hands) independently of each other - hands can do one thing and your legs can do another thing while your pelvis does something else - all the while not compensating anywhere within the body.

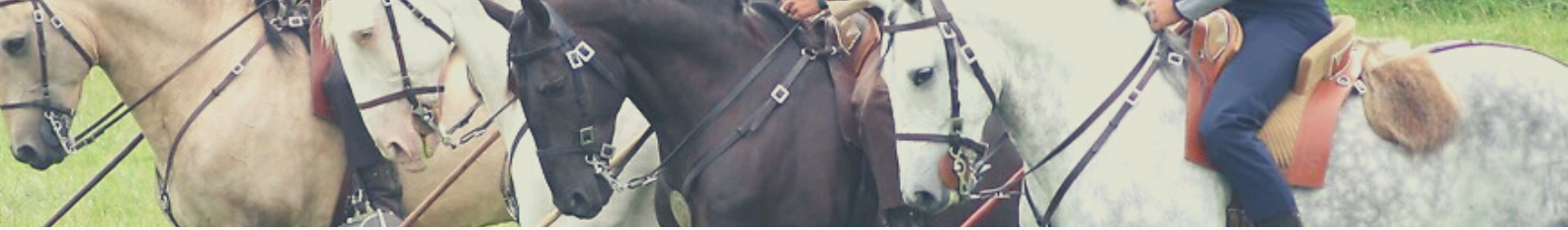
Why is it so important?

First, an independent seat is the foundation and prerequisite for all great riding because without it you will not be able to develop feel or timing. In order to clearly communicate with your horse, you must be able to “feel” what your horse is doing so you can apply or remove pressure in a “timely manner”.

If you do not have an independent use of your seat and limbs, you will unknowingly be putting various pressures on your horse. This makes it difficult for him because he has to learn to ignore some of the pressures you apply (because you are not in balance, you will apply undo pressure by gripping, leaning, stiffening, grabbing, hanging, kicking, etc.) and pay attention to other pressures you are intentionally putting on. Ultimately, this makes the job very confusing for your equine partner.

Second, an independent seat is an important piece in your safety when riding. As you develop this seat you will be better able to stay on, respond, and redirect your horse during tricky or unpredictable situations.

Balance and safety go hand in hand in riding. A balanced rider feels safe and secure, which leads to confidence. Confidence allows you to have more fun with your horse!



The Editor's Corner

Finally, an independent seat ensures the comfort of the horse - he finds it easier to carry you which promotes soundness, longevity, and a willing and happy partner.

Almost all problems a rider may encounter while riding originate from an incorrect seat. An unbalanced seat will result in the horse acting differently by running too fast, being lazy, falling, rearing, bucking or other undesired behaviors.

Working on acquiring and maintaining an independent seat should be the goal of every rider, every ride. Just as professional athletes routinely return to the basics for even the smallest improvement at the top level, we as riders need to work on our foundation to improve communication, thereby, overall performance with our horse.

When you can achieve the independent seat, you can develop the fluid dialogue that leads to harmonious performance.

When you can ride in harmony, there's nothing you can't do with your horse.

REFLECTIVE HORSEMANSHIP™

IMPROVING THE RIDER TO IMPROVE THE HORSE

Establish a collaborative relationship with your horse.

How to achieve the fluid dialogue that leads to a safe & harmonious partnership.

Focus is on:

- How to maintain a balanced and functional position.
- Increased body awareness for better feel.
- Moving in harmony with your horse - following and absorbing the horse's movement.
- Applying coordinated and effective aids.
- Addressing weaknesses and asymmetries with exercises to break old patterns.
- Mental strategies for mind and body connection.

You'll enjoy:

- Bite-sized, logical lessons to set you up for success.
- Developing independent seat, legs and hands.
- Improved biomechanics for better feel and balance.
- Sitting and moving easier in the saddle.
- Connecting consistently with your horse.
- Off horse exercises to improve your riding around the clock.
- Having fun while becoming a more confident rider.

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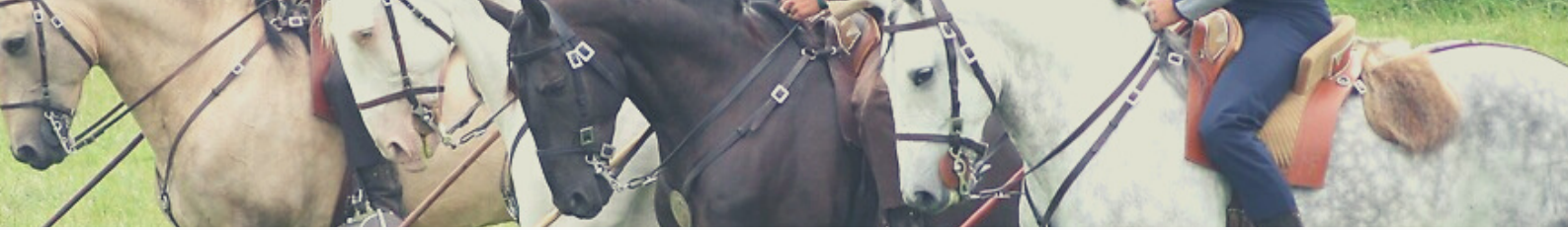
Kasey Reeder, CRI, LMT

602.571.6567

Lessons

Clinics

Workshops

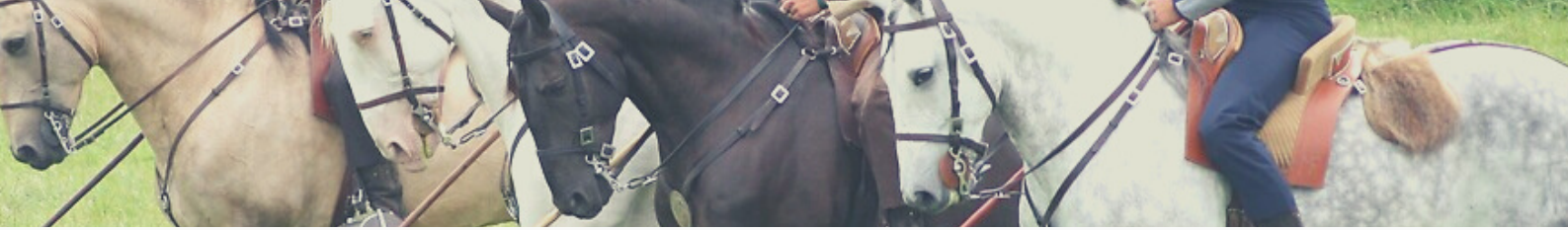


Partnership Spotlight

Amy Star and Homem Brillante

I am from Tucson, AZ and began my horsemanship journey at the age of four with lessons, progressing to my own horse at 10 with a ravenous hunger to learn all I could about horses. The joy of riding and feeling true partnership with my horses has always been a great motivator to learn more. I earned a Bachelors of Equine Science from Colorado State University and competed on the Rodeo and Polo Teams for CSU. Then in 1992, traveled to Europe to train western equitation and reining. While in Europe I was introduced to the Lusitano horse and the Portuguese riding traditions, it was very enlightening and it was my introduction to Working Equitation. Upon returning home to the USA, I went back to school to earn a Masters in Agriculture, with an emphasis on extension education, which provided me with the tools to further my passion for teaching and for horses. I spent 18 years teaching, developing and writing curriculums for youth and adults while employed as a Extension 4-H Agent.

In 2009 I began several collaborations to develop the sport of working equitation in the USA. In 2010, I was the IALHA National Reserve Champion Working Equitation Rider, in 2011, I was the IALHA National Champion Working Equitation Rider, in 2012 I had 3 horses place in the top three, in 2018 I was the Silver Medalist in Brazil at the International Invitational Working Equitation competition, and my team won the Silver Medal in the team competition. In 2022 I was the Level 6 Western Zone Champion and USAWE National Champion level 6 with my self trained stallion Homem Brillhante. I have found working equitation to be very challenging and rewarding as a horseman. I hope to inspire my students to enjoy their own horsemanship journeys. I have been involved in all organizations throughout the development in the sport and still serve on the USAWE National Rules Committee and have held a USAWE "R" Judges Card, a Technical Delegate Card and a WE Canada "M" judges card.

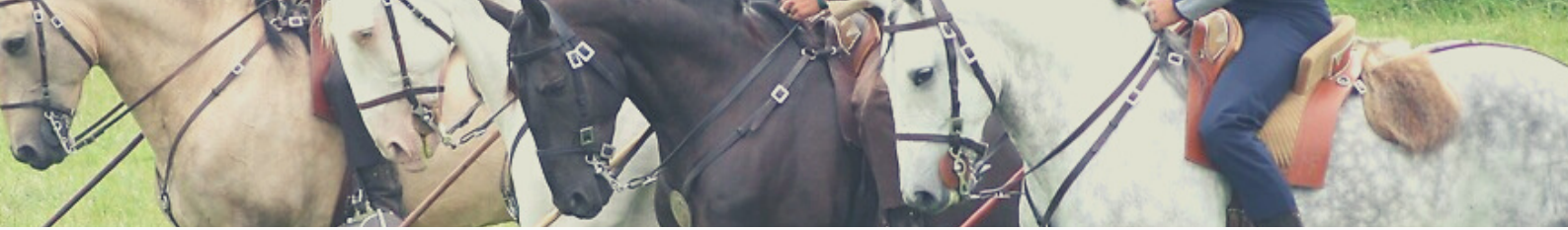


Partnership Spotlight

I have been breeding and raising Lusitano Horses since 1996. My farm is called Coudelaria Estelar, which in Portuguese means Stellar Horse Farm. I'm working on my 5th generation of horses and I am amazed at how the temperaments and tractibility of the horses seems to be inherited as well. Training Lusitano horses is a little bit different than other breeds, because they are so smart and athletic. Competing on horses I have bred and trained is incredibly rewarding.

In 2016 I gathered a group of 12 fellow horsemen in Arizona and launched the Arizona Working Equitation Club. I was the first AZWEC President, and have served as the treasurer and president elect. I have been very blessed by the friends and fellow competitors I have met through this club. We have a great club here in Arizona, I'm honored to be part of it.

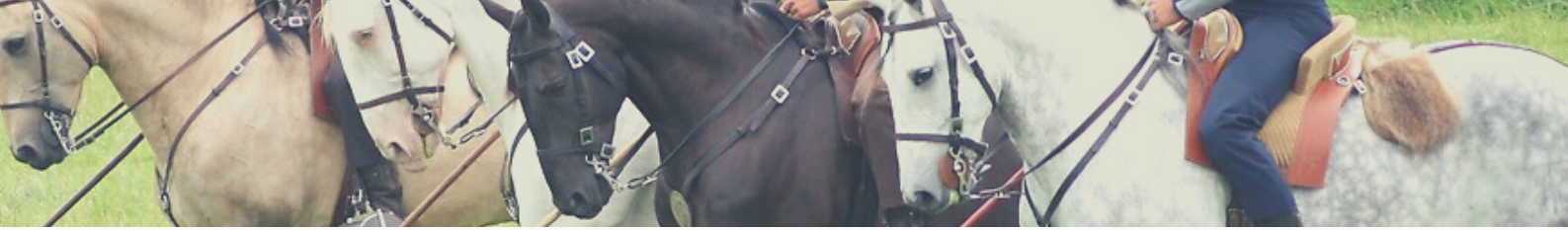




Partnership Spotlight

My primary mount is my Pelino Lusitano Stallion, Homem Brilhante, who stands 15.2 hands and weighs about a 1000 pounds. He was born in 2012 in New York, to an imported sire and dam. I purchased him as a weanling and shipped him to AZ, sight unseen. But I had admired his sire and dam for years and wanted those bloodlines. He has two barn names, "Grits" because of his color, his mild mannered temperament and he is a tough introvert and "Humbug" because he is rather aloof and isn't bothered by much. I started Grits in a hackamore at 4 years old. He quickly moved up the levels, (7 levels in 7 years) and has earned the Level 5 and Level 6 Champion titles in recent years. We are now competing Level 7. Working with Grits has been very rewarding, because he really likes the academic work of dressage. I have to credit him for teaching me much about the art of dressage. He has 26 offspring and we are beginning to see how wonderful they are to ride and train.





Know Your Obstacles

Bridge

a. Description.

The bridge should be made of wood and be solidly constructed to ensure that it is not a danger for the horse or rider. The deck of the bridge must not be slippery. The bridge may be arched or angled in its rise. Recommended dimensions are minimum width: 1.5 m (5 ft); minimum length: 4 m (13 ft); minimum height: 20 cm (8 in.). The bridge may have side rails. If side rails are used, for safety considerations the rails must be constructed such that they can be quickly and easily removed without the use of tools. Side rails should be between 91 cm (3 ft) and 1.2 m (4 ft) in height. Entry/exit markers are required for this obstacle. The markers signify the transition points.

b. Execution.

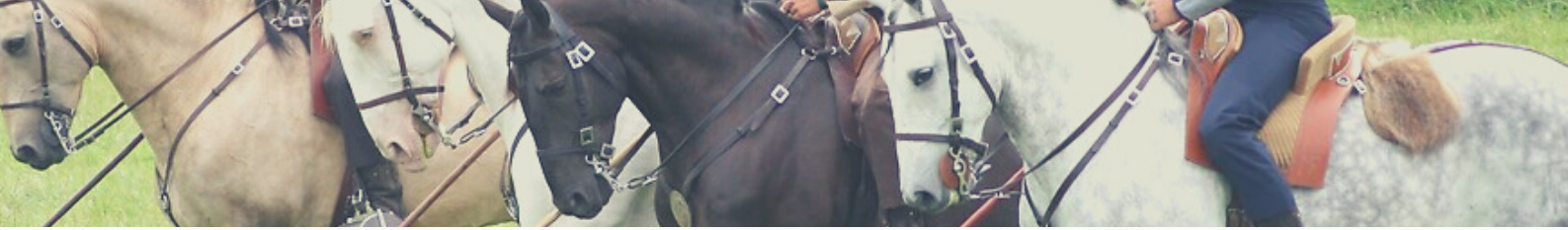
The bridge must be crossed at a walk in the Ease of Handling phase for all levels. The transition to walk must be made before the horse enters the imaginary line between the entry markers; transition to canter (or trot for L2) is only made when the horse has completely passed the imaginary line of the exit markers. The bridge may be crossed in both directions provided that there is one obstacle in between the first and second crossing.

c. Assessment Criteria (EOH).

The Judge will evaluate the transitions to/from the walk; elasticity of contact; the quality, amplitude, and regularity of the walk; the straightness of the horse going over the bridge; and the confidence of the horse and rider while navigating this obstacle. A higher mark will be given if the horse extends the walk and uses the neck. Points will be deducted if a horse shows any awkwardness, hesitation, or irregularity. Stepping off the side of the bridge is a course error.

Serious Mistakes

- Not performing the obstacle at a walk
- Destruction of the obstacle
- Severe resistance or hesitation
- Changes in rhythm
- Difficult transitions



Essential Etiquette in the Warm Up Arena

Please remember:

- When passing other riders going in opposite direction, pass left hand to left hand.
- Overtake on the inside track, allowing space as you pass another horse.
- Call out to other riders if you intend to pass, or you are approaching them over a jump, or a practice obstacle.
- Lunging is only allowed in designated areas.
- Please retrieve your belongings before leaving the arena.
- Coaches only are allowed to be on foot in the warm up arena.

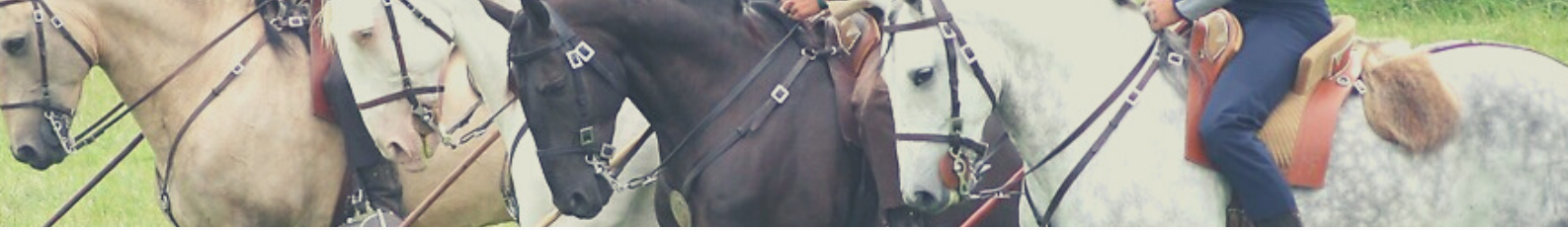


Did You Know?

5 Ways to DQ in Working Equitation:

- Overstepping any of the sides of the arena with 4 legs in Dressage.
- Failure to ride through the course Start/Finish markers in the direction indicated on the course map.
- Knocking down obstacle before performed.
- Passing the rope over the rider's head in the Gate Obstacle.
- Intentional contact with cattle by hands, feet, or any equipment.





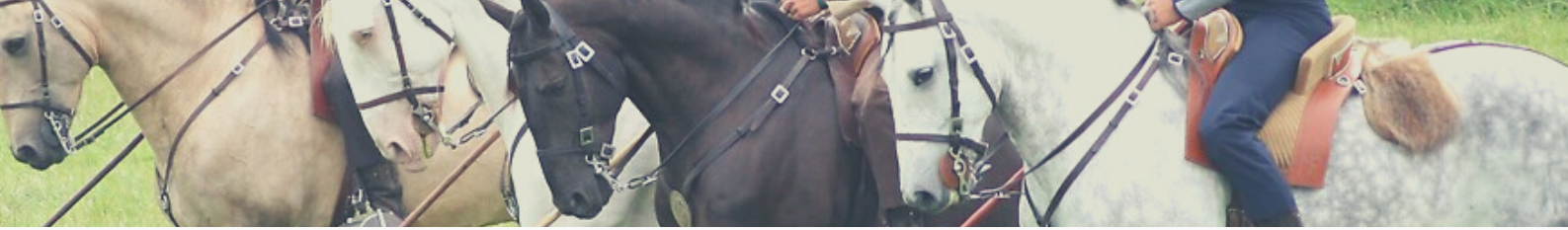
Webinar Training Sessions

The Club aims to educate its Members about a variety of Working Equitation topics via Webinars.

Upcoming Webinars are in the works and will be available starting this fall.

Sign ups and contact information will be posted on our new website: www.azwec.org (website will be available mid-July).





Club Meeting Minutes

Club Meetings take place via Zoom and Members are welcome to attend.

Upcoming Club Meeting: July 27th @ 7pm

Club Meeting Minutes are available on our website: www.azwec.org (starting mid-July)

If you would like an item to be added to the Agenda for a meeting, please contact Club Secretary, Marguerite Tan: margueritetan@gmail.com

And Finally...

The Next Newsletter will be issued in October 2023.

If you would like to be featured with your horse in Partnership Spotlight, please email: kasey@reflectivehorsemanship.com

If you have an article you would like included, please email: kasey@reflectivehorsemanship.com

If you would like to become a Sponsor and have your advertisement included in the newsletter, please contact Kasey Reeder 602 571 6567 or email: kasey@reflectivehorsemanship.com



2023

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