



Summer horse show round-up.

Summer in Southern California can be hot; sometimes it's so hot it discourages outdoor activities like riding. But IEHJA competitors are tough and the heat did not deter them from participating in the July and August Horse Shows. Riders turned out in large numbers to compete in the Showcase Horse Show Series in Redlands and the Victory and Signature Shows held at the Rancho Mission Viejo Riding Park in San Juan Capistrano. What's a little heat when chasing points in the last few months of the show year?



The Victory Horse Show kicked off the IEHJA summer season with a two-day event held July 8th and 9th. Heat was a factor and riders enjoyed the "jackets optional" judge's ruling while seeking shade under the large oak trees. Horse and riders warmed up "just enough" before each class to get muscles loose but not overheat. Spectators also sought shade where they

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Written by CRM

Thursday, 28 September 2017 22:17

could find it and were happy the food truck had a large supply of water and cool drinks. Competitors and their family and friends were encouraged to buy raffle tickets in hopes of winning a hunter/jumper rider's dream award: a patriotic themed jump set donated by Kelly James.

IEHJA members and trainers were well represented in the Divisional champion and reserve champion categories. Trainer Mercedes Hanson guided her client Abbie Griffith, riding Wouldn't It Be Nice, to Baby Green RS/CH. Rider Devynn Sibley on Sovereign Ruler won CH in the .95 Children's/AA Jumper Division and RS/CH in the .80 Thoroughbred Hunters. Hanah Rohr and Jaeger Meister were triple winners; champion in the .80 Low Children's/AA Jumpers and .80 Thoroughbred Jumpers and RS/CH in the Thoroughbred Hunter Division.

Sunday July 9, was the third in a series of four horse shows at the Showcase Training Stables. Not only were competitors chasing divisional high points but also qualifying points for the Bill Strum \$300 Cross Rail Classic and the So Cal Thoroughbred Rescue Thoroughbred Hunter Division. Competition was fierce coming into the day's events with Sullivan emerging as the points leader in the So Cal Thoroughbred Rescue Thoroughbred Hunter Division followed by Blackjack N Beers and Kindred Spirit. At the end of the Jul 9th show, eleven riders and horse had qualified for the Bill Strum Cross Rail Classic. The three top finishers will be determined in the fourth and final Showcase Show to be held Sunday Sept. 9th.

The always popular IEHJA Medal Classes had Campbell Lear aboard Spells Checkmate winning at 2'6" with Jessica Abbott on Berlin as RS/CH. Jessica and Berlin went on to win at 2'9" with Hunter Franklin and Raphael in the RS/CH spot. The IEHJA Flat Medal champion went to Hunter Franklin while Haley Peterson was RS/CH. Check Me Out with Lonnie Parsons aboard won CH and Kindred Spirit owned and ridden by Anne Lorkowski was RS/CH in the Thoroughbred Under Saddle. That same winning order was repeated in the Thoroughbred Pleasure class.



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Other IEHJA winners include: Walk Trot Lead line CH Katie Bato, RS/CH Owen Gerrard; Cross Rail Ch Aiko Zane and RS/CH Natalie Boyd-Vantilborg; in Baby Green Hunters Jessica Abbot won Ch aboard Blackjack N Beers and RS/CH on Check Me Out.; Sam Tate on Scarlett was CH in the Stirrup Division with Ashley Park winning RS/CH.



The Signature Horse Show held August 5th and 6th was the last of the IEHJA sanctioned summer shows. This show, also sanctioned by GSDHJA and OCHSA, drew a large number of riders and the competition was heated. Jumpers were the big draw with class sizes as large as 14 for .70's, won by Olivia Smyth and Reserve Champion Kristie Kurtze riding Paulina and Rainer respectively. These two riders won the same order of CH and RS/CH in the .60 Jumpers with classes holding as many as 12 competitors. Not to be outdone, the .80 Children's/AA Jumpers had a contingent of 13 riders in the first class followed by 8 riders each in the 1.0 Modified JR/AA Jumpers and the Schooling Jumpers. Winners include CH Hillary La Mottee and RS/CH Jenna Woods in .80's; Lainey Gerber CH and Jessica Wolfe RS/CH in the 1.0 Modified; Cat Iveson was CH in the Schooling Jumpers with a three-way tie for RS/CH between Leslie Buebel, Jane Steiner and Lori Askew.

IEHJA members made their presence felt in the Children's Jumper classes. The championship went to Cassidy Mount riding Sunday Douglass but Devynn Sibley and Gabby Franklin were in a four-way tie for RS/CH with Lainey Gerber. Gabby rode two mounts, Luvi and Raphael to two Reserve spots while Lainey was aboard her horse Armed "n Dangerous and Devynne teamed with Sovereign Ruler. Rounding out the IEHJA winners list was RS/CH Caroline Ong aboard Far Rock Away in the combined Long/Short Stirrup Hunters Twice Around.

Competitors can look forward to the up and coming fall horse shows. The next Victory show is scheduled for October 14-15. October is also the start of the Willowbrook Saddle Series Horse Shows in Desert Hot Springs. October is both cool and beautiful in the desert and Willowbrook is a great place to compete! All points accumulated during these final horse show will count towards the IEHJA Fall Festival Year End Horse Show to be held November 17-19 at the City of Industry Expo Center. Hope to see you at one of these shows and especially the Year End Horse Show.

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