

TRAINING, BOARDING & BUYING

Haley Morrissey brings a new dimension to established San Diego program.

photos: Erpelding Photography

Founded by Mike & Katy Boswell in 1999, Hidden Fox Farm is a family-oriented hunter-jumper barn tucked down in the oak trees of the Crest community in East County, San Diego. Katy has been a fixture of the San Diego horse community for decades, gaining her proverbial spurs working at Blackland Farm with Sally Black, founding the ECHO horse show series, and developing competent horse people who've gone on to success at every level of riding. As a new year gets fully underway, Katy and the team at Hidden Fox Farm are excited to introduce a new Assistant Trainer, Haley Morrissey, a well-rounded equestrian professional with experience in many facets of the horse world.



Haley grew up in Anchorage, AK, riding and competing in hunter/jumper divisions and dressage, and exploring the mountain trails with her mare Bella. She attended college on the

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East Coast, where she studied early childhood education and rode for the IHSA team at St. Andrews University. Haley has helped mentor and teach at children's horse camps, and served as a volunteer in equine assisted therapy. After leaving St. Andrews, Haley worked at an eventing and fox hunting sales farm in Virginia, managing the care and schooling of up to 40 horses, including young and off-the-track Thoroughbreds. She also completed the Legacy of Legends program, studying with disciples of Ray Hunt and Tom Dorrance in Colorado, riding, roping, and starting all types of young horses.



As a member of the Hidden Fox family, Haley looks forward to teaching lessons to riders of any age and working with horses aimed at excelling at shows or becoming a perfect pleasure ride. “I really enjoy every aspect of bringing a horse along,” Haley says, “from desensitization and ground work to schooling over fences. It’s so exciting to see how they learn!” Haley is currently working with her new OTTB, Benjamin, who is looking to enter the show ring for the first time this spring. Longtime client and barn mom Kim Hawley says, “Haley has been such a great addition to our barn. Not only is she an excellent trainer—she’s made remarkable progress with our little Thoroughbred—but she’s also gentle and caring. I couldn’t ask for more than someone who treats my beloved horses like her own.”

Haley’s teaching and riding expertise are also available to riders without their own horses. Of her teaching style, Jennifer Widmer, whose daughters are 10 and 12, says, “Haley is kind and patient with the kids, and also knows how to push and encourage them as needed.” Hidden Fox Farm has a string of saintly lesson horses, from “packer” ponies to more challenging, skill-developing rides. HFF teaches riders ages 5 and up, and, with flexible schedules and lesson packages, can fit a program to any interest level. Riders have the opportunity to participate in seasonal fun shows on the property, go horse camping in the mountains, and enjoy day rides at Fiesta Island and Imperial Beach, as well as enter in GSDHJA shows. Later this summer, Haley will lead half-day camps, for novice, beginner and first-time riders.

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