

AT THE INGATE

Horse Shows in the Park, llc Newsletter—

IT'S FINALS TIME!!!

In this issue:

- Championship show info
- 2026 Show Dates—now all at Grand Oaks
- Halloween show fun photos
- Annual Awards Banquet Info
- Parking Protocols
- Calling for Judges
- Winter GO Boarders, here they come!
- Villages Hotel Options Abound!
- How to order Hay for delivery at the show
- Brng the ribbons for Ribbon Buy Back!
- And more!!!



Next HSITP show is November 14-16 at The Grand Oaks Resort, just south of Ocala...enter at Horseshowsinthepark.com

THIS IS A DOUBLE POINTED SHOW FOR YEAR END AWARD.

Be sure and check the updated point standings at horseshowsinthepark.com to see where you or your riders are in the year end rankings by division! This show has Championship classes for those riders wishing to compete for huge ribbons and beautiful awards associated with most of the divisions at the horse show. If during 2025 you have competed in an HSITP Equitation or a Hunter or Jumper class and placed, you're eligible to compete in the HSITP Championship class associated with your placement in that division. And, if you haven't shown with us yet in 2025 there are classes on Friday that can qualify you!

The Nutt Memorial Hunter Derby starts us off Friday at 4 pm with fence heights 2' & higher, (warm ups will be allowed) and is a qualifier for the two Championship Hunter Under Saddle classes that follow it. The Equitation on the Flat Warm up Class Friday night is also a wildcard qualifier for the Friday night Eq on the Flat Championships by age group, and we will place it through 10th!

On Saturday there are Equitation Championship Medal Classes for all levels, as well as Jumper Championships. Keep in mind you'll be riding your Championship Medal or Classic last, so you can always qualify by placing prior to it.

On Sunday there are Horse of the Year Hunter Championships at all levels as well as more Jumper Championships. Prizes and awards will be displayed in the show office so be sure and stop by to take a look! Make sure not to wait til Sunday to pick everything up, but do so during each how day. The ribbons are beautiful and the prizes amazing as only HSITP can do...



IMPORTANT! Please make your adds and scratches in the horse show office by 6 pm the night before each show day. The Championship classes are non refundable but we do have to have at least 3 to run them, so be sure and enter at least the night before. We run the class sheets and judges cards right after 6pm the evening before competition so late night adds and scratches mean you won't be on them and may be missed.

Our show photographer Kristen A Photography will be present throughout the show for award photos. Please know that you must be present at the arena Friday evening to receive and ride for your awards/photos. Our announcer Courtney Webb will be seated with the judge and plans on making the evening fun!!

The Championship Placings will count toward year end award ie; the Nutt Memorial Derby Friday night can count toward either your points in the Grand Oaks Derby or the Deborah Clifton Hunter Challenge, and the Championship Eq or Hunter under Saddle classes will go toward one of your hunter or equitation divisions. The Saturday and Sunday Championship classes points will go to whatever Eq Medal, Hunter Classic or Jumper Classic you've been competing in all year.

Pre-entry deadline extended til Wed Nov 12 for discounted entry fees, we have stalls available and all are permanent... we always accept post entries up to and including show days...**but pre entries are appreciated.** For those who want to trailer in, shady ship in parking is available in the old Tent Paddock under the tree line (back in please) and Ship in parking also is available next to the Nupafeed Jumper ring, close to all the arenas. **Please do not park in the vendor paddock across from the Covered Arena.**

REMINDER! There is no minimum participation requirement this year for Year End Award. We'll be awarding Grand—6th place at the Annual Awards Gala on Sat Dec 6 at Grand Oaks/5:30 pm. Check the Standings page at horseshowsinthepark.com to see where you're at! Next year we show in just one location—Grand Oaks and will be actively campaigning soon for divisional sponsors..remember—we do not charge an annual membership fee!! Want to sponsor? Text 321-693-5551



WANT TO BE ON THE MAILING LIST FOR THESE HSITP NEWSLETTERS - TEXT YOUR NAME, BARN, AND EMAIL ADDRESS TO 321-693-5551 or email us at wittyshowsec@earthlink.net

We will also post them on Social Media to our 8000+ local friends.

Contact the show now to find out how your business can become a sponsor and gain amazing visibility with the right customers...our wonderful riders and families!!

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INBOUND!! THE CANADIANS ARE COMING!!!

As anyone who has shown with HSITP at Grand Oaks knows, the January through middle of March timeframe is a busy time at Grand Oaks with trailers of Canadian and Northern riders/drivers coming south to winter at Grand Oaks. They aren't sneezing at the tariffs and have already started to arrive!!! This means our stabling may be limited to 100 stalls during Jan/Feb but if temporary stabling is needed, we'll bring them in and set up close to the arenas. This coming year we'll be showing only at Grand Oaks, so have booked a few more dates, including the three winter months Jan-March. To accommodate our riders, we may also waive ship in fees, arrange for nearby (1 mile away w/100 stalls) stabling with RV hookups and limit tack stalls to ensure everyone who wants to show can do so.

MANY LOCAL HOTELS ARE CLOSE BY—ABOUT 4-6 MILES AWAY FROM GRAND OAKS....

check out Expedia and use the Grand Oaks address of 3000 Marion County Road, Weirsdale to see the numerous local national hotel chains just minutes away...plus there are gobs of AirBNB rentals in the Villages, some with free golf carts so you can enjoy those \$3 cocktails on the Town Squares corners and dance the night away!! Check out Lake Sumter Landing for this great opportunity. Jeanne knows. Oh and they also have a Johnny Rockets, a killer movie theater and nightlife out the wazoo. All 6 miles away from the horse show! The Waterfront Inn there at Lake Sumter Landing has hotel rooms large enough to fit your whole barn in. All within walking distance of the \$3 cocktails....



THE ANNUAL AWARDS GALA is Saturday Dec 6 at 5:30 in the Ballroom of Grand Oaks. It's a "Night at the Movies!" and you'll know what this means when you walk in the door to the audio and visual renovations that have taken place around the custom stage setting...we can't wait to show it off! 6 new air conditioning units, multiple giant screens, state of the art

audio and Jeanne is hiring the fellow who knows how it all works, and will be our DJ! The awards will be a bit shorter this year as we've already distributed Canterbury's awards at their last show in September, and this will leave more time for picture taking, dancing and merriment. Grand Oaks guarantees the music will play this year and HSITP is hiring the staff to make sure it does. There will be a special sponsorship sign up table set up for anyone who would like to step up and sponsor a division next year or provide a special Feature Class. Sponsorship will be very reasonable and offer lots of visibility—with this newsletter as an example of a great media/tool to get the word out about your farm or business!! All sponsorships will go directly toward providing the beautiful ribbons and awards you see each year at our shows....and help us keep the entry fees low!



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USEFUL INFO:

Have a question or feedback for the show? Call or text 321-693-5551. You'll reach show management and she always answers the phone, even the spam calls, sighhhhh.

- At the Grand Oaks shows, mandatory night watch is in force at \$5.00 per night by Noble Nightwatch. Nightwatch staff are trained in Large Animal Rescue and one is also an FEI steward! Don't want to arrive at o' dark thirty to feed? Hire Noble Nightwatch, call 727-420-3521
- Want hay delivered to your stall prior to your arrival at Grand Oaks? Text Kacy at 352-409-1398 for type and availability.
- You can reserve an RV spot on Grand Oaks website at thegrandoaks.com
- Rent Golf Carts by noon the Monday before each show by calling or texting Joyce at 352-233-1837

2026 HSITP SHOW DATES: ALL SHOWS ARE AT THE GRAND OAKS RESORT

- January 17-18
- February 21-22
- March 21-22
- April 11-12
- May 9-10 "Mothers Day Gala"
- June 19-21 "Battle of the Barns—Rodeo Days"
- July 18-19 "Hurricane Hunters" (& Jumpers) in the Covered Arena & Triple Crown
- October 3-4
- October 31-Nov 1 "Halloween Frightacular"
- Christmas "Holidays with Horses" Double Pointed Season Finale Dec 5-6 With Championships
- Annual Awards Christmas Gala December 18 or 19 TBD



YEAR END POINT STANDINGS

STANDINGS for Grand Oaks as of Nov 9 are shown on the Standings page at horseshowsinthepark.com

GET YOUR GOLF CART RENTALS IN TO JOYCE BY MONDAY AT NOON BEFORE THE SHOW. 352-233-1837

ALL ADDS/ SCRATCHES MUST BE IN TO THE SHOW OFFICE BY 6PM THE NIGHT BEFORE THE SHOW DAY.

PLEASE CHECK OUT EARLY ON SUNDAY, SKIP THE LINE!



SHOW PARKING SUGGESTIONS...

Please be aware when you're parking your horse trailer and don't block anyone in who may be leaving later in the day or on Sunday. Depending on where you're stabled there are loads of spaces to park against the fencelines so you're just in the right spot...



LOOKING FOR YOUR SHOW RECORD FOR SEMF, OR IHSA?

LOOKING FOR CLASS COUNTS BEFORE/ AFTER OR AT THE SHOW?

Go to our show software provider horse-showtime.com/showselector to find our show and the data we've keyed... (just one of the reasons pre entries are wonderful!) We normally post the class counts by Thursday evening before each show. The software allows you to see each horse/rider combination and what classes they're in, and what ribbons they've received. We pull the info from this software to calculate and load the points into the Excel spreadsheets. Ms. Amanda normally has this done by the Monday after each show. She is truly an Amazon of Pointskeeping...



LEADLINERS!! Our leadline class is currently on Saturday and Sunday at 1pm in the Novice arena. LL1 and LL2 on the schedule—It's as close to 1pm as we can rustle everyone up for, so the family can know when to take the pictures. Look for an expanded Leadline offering in 2026 because Jeanne came back from Middleburg, Virginia this summer with some great ideas!! Leadline is always \$15 with no other fees as long as the horse/pony is registered as showing with another rider.



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2026 HSITP SHOW DATES:

JANUARY 17-18
"WINTER WARM UP"

FEBRUARY 21-22
"SNOWBIRD SPECTACULAR"

MARCH 21-22
"LUCK O' THE IRISH"

APRIL 11-12
"SPRING IS HERE!"

MAY 9-10
"DERBY DAYS, with Field Hunter Championships"

JUNE 19-21
"BATTLE OF THE BARNES" &
"Rodeo Days Theme"

JULY 18-19
"Hurricane Hunters & Jumpers"

OCTOBER 3-4
"FALL SEASON WARM UP"

OCTOBER 30-NOV 1
"HALLOWEEN FRIGHTACULAR"

DECEMBER 5-6
SEASON FINALE
"HOLIDAYS WITH HORSES"

DEC. 18 OR 19 TBD
ANNUAL AWARDS GALA
AT THE GRAND OAKS

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**HSITP
HALLOWEEN
2025....!!**



ACEA Canterbury rider

HALLOWEEN SHOW WINNERS

**Best Decorated
Barn Area:
Ascending
Heights Stables**

**Best & Spookiest
Trick or Treat
Display: Little
Pond Farms**



GRAND OAKS RESORT



SEND YOUR PHOTOS TO
WITTYSHOWSEC#EARTHLINK.NET

15MG OR LESS PER EMAIL PLEASE

UNITED STATES



HUNTER JUMPER ASSOCIATION

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- Grand Oaks has cottages, villas and RV sites for rental during each show. Some are attached to barns, and others are freestanding. If you know your group may be attending the 2026 show year, get on Joyce's list for the right size cottage now, as often they sell out before each show.
- Fear not if you have missed a cottage on the showgrounds as there are many name brand nicely maintained hotels within 3-6 miles of the showgrounds, at competitive rates and offering the opportunity for you to use those travel rewards!! Don't forget AirBnB's and there are tons of them in the Villages, some with golf carts too!
- The Farrier present at all Grand Oaks shows is Ricky Sredl who lives nearby and can be reached at 352-636-0804

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Confused Parent 101:

"Just what is Jumper Optimum Time? I thought they should just go fast and not knock them down..."

Well....at HSITP we utilize the USEF Optimum Time rules for our 2' and below classes in the Nupafeed Jumper arena... The following is posted on or around page 9 of every program booklet for our shows (we know many don't make it to page 9 so it's important to publish this now and again...) This is also posted on the course board at the jumper arena.

At HSITP, we score and place our Jumpers that jump Ground Poles up to 2', on the basis of "Optimum Time". This is a time that is as a result of cantering the course at an efficient speed of generally 350 meters per minute. Each course is wheeled by hand by an experienced jumper HSITP staff member, and then a stupidly complicated calculation is made to obtain the Optimum Time for that course. Per USEF guidelines, 4 seconds is then deducted from that calculated time.

Times of completion are noted by the judge during the class, and then the class is placed according to the riders who came closest to the optimum time, either higher or lower and taking into consideration any faults incurred due to downed rails.

The Optimum time approach is good for the lower fence height levels and provides an emphasis on getting to each fence accurately and efficiently, at a good even cantering pace. The world will not end if you trot the course. Sometimes in ground poles everyone trots, but the placings are consistently applied using the optimum time. We DON'T believe a "time and faults" approach works at the lower levels because it encourages dangerous, fast riding at the lower levels of rider proficiency. Now and again, our judge Shannon Rodas also provides free early morning ringside clinics prior to starting the jumper day and during the day offers immediate feedback to any rider she may feel it be of value to. We ask that parents or riders not approach the judge during the show day as the calculations can get very hectic and distractions can affect their accuracy. Instead, please don't hesitate to access show management who can interpret and/or arrange for insight from the judge at an appropriate time.



CALLING ALL MARSHALL & STERLING RIDERS... let us know if you'd like to see Marshall Sterling Classics, Jumper Classics and/or Medals offered in 2026...We could provide some lovely logo'd prizes and your points would be tracked nationally on HITS website. In the past, this has been very popular and we've qualified horses and ponies in the top 5 nationally—with a number of them competing in



Reminder—the Ribbon buy-back program is in force at each show!! Trade in your gently treasured HSITP ribbons for \$\$! Even if they have writing on the back now! Please bring them in on Friday or Saturday to the show office. We also buy HSITP trophies!



BABY GREEN CROSSRAILS HUNTER DIVISION ADDED TO THE TRIPLE CROWN ANNEX ARENA...

We've added a W/T Baby Green Hunter division with an Under Saddle and 3 Over Fences in the smaller Annex arena for those horses and ponies who are truly "Pea Green". This division will be added to each show.



HORSE SHOWS IN THE PARK, LLC & HUNT COUNTRY HORSESHOWS is proud to offer the expertise and dedication of their show photographer at all HSITP shows...

KRISTENAPHOTOGRAPHY.com

A horsewoman who knows horses, and dedicated professional with her team offering show photos, candid, portrait settings, barn photos and now...videos upon request of your rounds.

kristenanchorsphoto@gmail.com

<https://www.kristenaphotography.com/horse-shows-in-the-park>

