

# Novice Notes

Improving Horsemanship  
and Your Show Experience



## Novice Notes – News & Good Info for All

Welcome to the premiere issue of *Novice Notes*, a newsletter for riders, trainers, parents and everyone else supporting the Palm Beach County Horse Show Association (PBCHA) through their love of horses.

*Novice Notes* intends to foster the growth and importance of horsemanship and to be more than just good riders. The newsletter will also help parents and newcomers to the sport by creating awareness on relevant issues which they may not know. *The Parent's Place* will be a regular feature to ask questions, get answers and share insight as their rider's journey goes from leadline, short-stirrup and beyond.

Feature topics will include information on feeding, good foot health, properly fitted tack, pre-show preparation, home-spun ideas to make barn life easier, product comments or anything pertaining to the sport, your horse's well-being and your show experience.

The show management is committed to making riding & showing a great experience for everyone. A list of board members and contact information can be found at [www.pbcha.org](http://www.pbcha.org). Good luck to everyone and thanks in advance for your support.

## The Parent's Place

First, an immeasurable thanks to the parents who make the sacrifices and commitments that enable their children to horseshow. We wouldn't be here without you.

Your proverbial plate is already full; and we are asking you to add one more very important item to it. Please be sure to get a copy of the PBCHA rules, available at [www.PBCHA.org](http://www.PBCHA.org), sit down and read them, make notes and discuss them with your trainer. Doing this will enhance your game plan for any year-end awards, focus your calendar, show budget and greatly reduce animosity, finger pointing and discussions that go something like "...how come she gets a year-end prize and I don't. My child won more points than she did." The show management is always available for questions and willing to help.

## Looking for Artistic Talent!

Looking for talented people to submit ideas for the newsletter's banner. Dimensions are 8" wide and 1.5/8" tall. It must include the PBCHA logo and the words: Improving Horsemanship and Your Show Experience. The image must reproduce well in either black and white or color. Entries can be submitted to the editor before Sept. 1, 2010.

The **winner will receive \$50** and the image becomes property of the PBCHA.

## Effective, Natural Fly Spray

A long-lasting, all natural fly spray that really works is on the market. Dr. Eileen Gesoff, DVM uses Ectomethrin H2O on her horses. "For the ones who are just turned out, I spray twice a week. The others I'll spray again if I give them a bath after I ride." The spray is made by Meridian Animal Health. For more information log on [www.meridiananimalhealth.com](http://www.meridiananimalhealth.com)



**All natural, long-lasting fly spray**

## No Foot...No Horse

"No foot, no horse" means: if your horse's feet do not properly support his weight and natural movement, you increase the odds of lameness and potentially permanent soft tissue or hoof damage. Farrier Lindsay Holland says, "A lot of farriers take away too much foot, which makes the sole flat. The hoof wall and sole should be concave, not touching the ground. This way it absorbs shock as nature intended." Another important concern, Holland says, "If their toes get too long, the heels get closer to the ground and put undo stress on the tendons in the back of their legs." Ask your trainer or farrier to explain your horse's foot conformation, how it affects movement and what you can do to enhance foot health and reduce potential lameness. Holland



emphasizes, "A regular shoeing or trim schedule year-round, should be your top priority for good foot health."

**All foot needs are not the same for every horse**

**Novice Notes** is for everyone associated with the Palm Beach County Horseman's Association. Its Goal is to provide information, techniques and ideas to promote good horsemanship. Contact the editor with comments or potential improvements.

Editor: Laura Danowski  
laura@heads-upmedia.net  
561-889-2344

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## From the Horse's Mouth

Uh-oh. You're skipping to my stall with that blue-ribbon twinkle in your eye. It's still dark out, where's the sun? Oh yea, yesterday I was

curried, lathered and polished until I reflected light – we must be getting ready for another show season. Don't get me wrong, I'm all for a field trip to a new place so I can see my friends. However, I would like to share some things with you that will make me a more willing participant and in turn, improve your experience at the show. Items on my list include: preparation, clean & properly fitted tack, a good set of shoes or great barefoot trim, trailer safety and your driving skills, how we handle things at the show and a general concern for my well-being. Ok, I'm in the trailer, what are we waiting for?

### Celebrity Horse or Pony

Submit a photo of your horse or pony with its name, the owner's name & stable name if appropriate. Each month a winner will be selected as the spokes-horse or -pony. Photos must be \*.jpg & **NOT** include people.

### Last Minute News...

Send us your news like a new horse purchase or lease, retirement, goodbyes to a favorite mount, foal births, clinics, a new trainer at your barn, etc.

• **The 2010 Hunter Derby has a new sponsor:**  
**Robert P. Boswell, DVM**

• **New Class: \$250 Handy Hunter, sponsored by**  
**Laura Danowski & All Tied-Up Braiding**

If you want to send classified listings or a picture of something for sale, this will cost \$5.00 per issue and will be treated on a first come, first serve basis and as long as there's room in the newsletter. Send your items to the editor.