



DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

LATE SUMMER NEWSLETTER

August, 7, 2020

South Carolina summers are long, however this summer in particular seems to be even longer. Maybe it is the desire that the change of season will also provide new hope in healing our world, or perhaps it is just the longing to enjoy the outdoors and the crisp days of low humidity that September faithfully brings each Fall.

The health and economic crisis that began in early spring continues to deal significant blows to both individual and community sense of well being. Despite the uncertainty, there is a silver lining, especially for those of us who are lucky enough to have enjoyed extended time with family and pets. This Dog Days of Summer Newsletter pays particular homage to man's best friend. Many of us have truly found relief by spending more time with our favorite animals by our sides.

The cancellation of the Aiken Charity Horse Shows this past May created a financial burden, not only for the Aiken Horse Park Foundation but also to those in the equestrian industry who count on events such as ours for their livelihoods. These cancellations have forced us to tighten our belts and adjust our budget for the remainder of the year and 2021 as well. Having said that, we are thrilled to be able to add several quality events to our calendar this year and we continue to make plans for the long-term sustainability of Bruce's Field.

More than ever we believe that Bruce's Field will play a key role in Aiken's future and it will continue to play an important role in fostering the health and well being of equestrian competition locally and nationally.

Our friends at the Aiken Steeplechase Association advise that despite the unfortunate cancellation of this past March's signature event, and their Fall Meet, they remain committed and excited about their future move immediately following their Spring Meet in 2021. Clearing and excavating of their new property is ongoing.

The Steeplechase move provides plenty of exciting new options for us! We plan to expand our events calendar and upgrade our current facility. The prospect of taking advantage of the full 66 acres is an enormous opportunity for us. Our plan promises to create long-term benefits including multi-use access both to discerning equestrians and community organizations, but will only come to fruition through the benevolent support of our competitors, local leaders, corporations, and old friends of Bruce. We look forward to sharing more details with everyone very soon.



AIKEN FALL FESTIVALS
September 2-6 & September 9-13, 2020
USEF AA, Level 3

EQUUS Events' Fall Festivals are right around the corner, have you made your stall reservations? We can't wait to welcome JP and Megan Godard and their Equus Events Team back this September and expect another sold out event at Bruce's Field. For all your show information please contact Equus Events Inc. directly at 803.643.5698 or email info@equusevents.com or visit their website: equusevents.com



[Prize List](#)

[Stall Reservation Form](#)

[Entry Form](#)

SPLITROCK JUMPING TOUR

AIKEN INTERNATIONAL CSI₂*
NOVEMBER 4 - 8, 2020



We are so excited to be partnering with Derek Braun and his team at the Split Rock Jumping Tour to bring Aiken's very first FEI Show Jumping competition.

Split Rock shows are so highly regarded and are a perfect fit to build on our desire to provide an intimate and welcoming competition experience; providing hospitality, putting the exhibitor first, and giving back to our community. This year's show will feature:

\$100,000 FEI Grand-Prix
\$37,000 1.45 Restylane Welcome
\$10,000 1.40 Speed
\$20,000 Restylane National Prix
\$5,000 1.35 Winning Round
\$2,500 1.25 Mini Prix

Now in its sixth year, Split Rock has been revolutionizing the way the sport of show jumping is presented in the U.S. and has been creating a truly "unparalleled show jumping experience" for competitors, sponsors and spectators alike. Competing in the SRJT is unlike any other American horse show experience. SRJT competitions offer top prize money, extravagant awards, special entry packages, and numerous first-class amenities not typically found at any other horse show.

We are thrilled about adding the new Aiken International CSI2* to our 2020 Tour. Aiken is such a traditional horse community, it deserves a really special event and that is what we plan to give them. The horse show world loves everything about Aiken—the Horse Park, its restaurants and hotels, and it is such a convenient location for exhibitors to get to right from the National Horse Show in Lexington or from Tryon or on their way down to Florida.

Derek Braun, Founder and CEO, Split Rock Jumping Tour

The Aiken International CSI2* will host a variety of national and international level show jumping classes ranging in height from .85m to 1.45m with divisions for young horses, children/adult, junior/amateur and top professionals.

Split Rock Jumping Tour offers customizable sponsorship levels in order to create a tailor-made sponsor experience. To further discuss sponsorship and hospitality opportunities for any of the Split Rock Jumping Tour events, please contact Meg Krueger at meg@splitrockjumpingtour.com

For all the latest information, including **Entries**, **Stabling**, **Press** and more, please visit Split Rock's website:

splitrockjumpingtour.com



AIKEN FALL CLASSIC
NOVEMBER 12 - 15,
2020
USEF A, LEVEL 3

FEATURING ZONE 4
FINALS
classiccompany.com
(exciting details to follow)



Aiken is indeed a unique community. Steeped in equestrian history, the horse is a revered treasure to a town that features stop light buttons conveniently set at the height of riders, 21,000 acres of preserved forestland with 70 miles of riding trails complete with jumps, and stables in most back yards. There are stately homes, and quaint cottages intermingled throughout the historic district. The fall is a splendid time to spend in Aiken, as the heat of the summer has passed but the warmth of the ground continues to radiate. Horses are

everywhere, as polo is in full swing, local foxhunts are cubbing, and the training track welcomes back thoroughbreds from northern race tracks.

We hope you will consider making plans to spend both weeks of our November shows with us this year and see for yourself why Aiken remains an idyllic town for all lovers of equestrian sports. [Aiken International](#) and [Aiken Fall Classic](#)



OFFICIAL HOST HOTEL

Aiken's Marriott properties welcome guests of the Aiken Horse Park Foundation. Ideally situated between the Whiskey Road corridor and historic downtown Aiken, and each less than two miles away from Bruce's Field, Aiken's Marriott properties are an ideal choice for guests of the AHPF. Fairfield provides daily breakfast, complimentary wifi and parking, an indoor pool, and outstanding service – at an exceptional value. TownePlace Suites is Aiken's only extended stay property, offering luxurious suites with full kitchens. Pet-friendly suites are available with a \$100 pet cleaning fee. TownePlace Suites' amenities--including an outdoor pool, patio with grill, complimentary guest laundry, wifi, parking, daily housekeeping and breakfast--are sure to make you feel right at home.

RESERVATIONS

Fairfield[®]
BY MARRIOTT
TOWNEPLACE
SUITES[®]
BY MARRIOTT



ACCOMMODATION OPTIONS ABOUND!

If you are looking for luxury accommodations, Aiken provides many options: **The Willcox Hotel** was recently voted one of the best hotels in the south by *Conde Nast Traveler*. It has a fabulous restaurant and well appointed spa.

The Carriage House Inn, a luxuriously restored historic inn catering to Equine enthusiasts, couples in search of romance, corporate travelers and tourists exploring our charming town.

The newest game in town is **419 HAYNE LUXURY SUITES** luxurious accommodations featuring unique art, cozy furnishings and top of the line decor hand picked by one of Aiken's local interior designers.

THE JUMPER **THE HUNTER** **THE MULLIGAN** **THE SANDBAGGER**



SUMMER 2020 HIGHLIGHTS

AIKEN SUMMER CLASSICS
JUNE - 2020



NORTH CAROLINA HUNTER JUMPER ANNUAL SHOW JUNE -2020



DRESSAGE IN THE SPRING JULY - 2020



STAY UP TO DATE, CHECK OUR CALENDAR For
AHPF 2020 CALENDAR



A CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Promoting Aiken's equestrian way of life and encouraging the community's civic, educational, and charitable endeavors

Aiken Horse Park Foundation | 931 Powderhouse Road, PO Box 1951, Aiken, SC 29802

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