# Pennsylvania Cutting Horse Association APRIL 2020

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## A WORD FROM OUR SECRETARY

I hope you are all having a good stay-cation, and am sure our animals are loving having us home more!

The COVID-19 outbreak has certainly been an interruption to our lives. While it has complicated many things, I am hopeful that we are all able to concentrate a little more on the truly valuable aspects of life - our loved ones. Whether they are two- or fourlegged, our loved ones need us.

While there is a possibility that COVID-19 will affect our animals, as yet that is not the case. We do not need to fear getting this virus from our pets or farm animals! And the CDC also assure us that our animals are not transmitting it to us. While there is a rare possibility that this disease will become zoonotic, it is not known to be at this time. See Page 5 for more information on how to remain safe around our animals, and how to keep them safe if we get sick.

Our May show has been rescheduled to Aug 8-9th. And the May 23-24 show in Lewisburg has been rescheduled to June 6-7th. We are currently planning on having our June show, but this could change at any time as the COVID 19 situation continues and in accordance with NCHA and State guidelines. We will keep you posted on our website and Facebook page as this situation develops.

Joanne Thayer



### **2020 SHOW SCHEDULE**

Date	Location	Regional	РСНА
June 6-7	JMJ Farm Lewisburg WV	Yes	
June 13-14	Bloomsburg, PA	Yes	Yes
June 20-21	OPEN		
June 27-28	Doswell, Va	Yes	Yes
July 11-12	Elkins, WV	Yes	
July 18-19	Garwood Arena Columbiana OH		
July 25-26	Dream Park, PA	Yes	Yes
August 7-9	Shelbeyville, KY		
August 8-9	Bloomsburg, PA	Yes	Yes
August 10-11	Louisville, KY		
Sept 12-13	Bloomsburg, PA	Yes	Yes
Sept 19-20	OPEN		
Sept 29-Oct 3	CONGRESS Columbus OH		
October 10-11	JMJ Farm Lewsiburg WV	Yes	
Oct 24-25	Dream Park, PA	Yes	Yes
Nov 4-5	North American Louisville KY		
Nov 6-8	Shelbyville, KY		

#### **2019 / 2020 CLINICS & RETREATS**

#### BARB SCHULTE & SANDY COLLIER

Women's Riding & Wholeness Retreat April 30 - May 4 Granby, Colorado Barbra with Julie Goodnight

High Performance Clinic September 29 - October 1 Brasada Ranch, Powell Butte, Or

Women's Combo Retreat/Skill Building/Trail Riding Thursday - Sunda November 12 - 15 Red Cliffs Lodge, Moab, Utah.

#### **BEST HORSE PRACTICES SUMMIT**

October 17-18 Lexington, Kentucky



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Teaching a horse to stop brings out all kinds of problems, not because the horse wants to be bad, usually it's our lack of timing, and balancing on the reins that causes their resistance.

#### Troubleshooting.

Common problems in basic stopping, and how to fix them:

• Not trying to stop at all:

Use the doubling and/or circling maneuvers. Getting pulled around and/ or circling will start to feel like a lot of work to your horse, so he'll learn that simply stopping is easier. Once his feet stop moving, release all aids and sit while you praise him.



SANDY COLLIER

• Stopping reluctantly:

Get a bit more assertive with your hands as you're backing him a step or two once he does stop. Then sit quietly for a while and scratch his neck.

BeUnstoppable TROUBLE-SHOOTING THE "WHO

• Stopping on his front end (he'll feel as if he's propping on his front end and you'll feel like you just got "dashboarded" in a car).

Shift his center of gravity back by sitting back yourself and picking up your reins chest height, (don't pull down toward your hips) and holding them steady while you bump with your legs in neutral position until your horse picks up his shoulders and backs up off the bit. It will feel as though his shoulders have lifted up into the area under the front of the saddle and his back has rounded. Then, the next time you ask for the stop, make sure you're driving him with your legs to keep his hind end engaged as he stops and then backs up off the bit. Also, be sure you give him a chance to stop before you pull, and let him rest when he does.

• Stopping crooked (by leaning or dropping a shoulder).

You'll probably notice that your horse leans to his left side (because of that natural asymmetry of horses) and/or towards the magnet of the barn or the out gate. This causes him to kick his hip out to the right when stopping.

First, don't ask for the stop if your horse is moving crookedly—go around again and use your reins and legs to straighten him out, then ask. If, despite your best effort, he still stops crooked, back him for a few steps on the straight line you were originally on, then turn him 180 degrees away from the barn or whatever was the magnet.

For example, if he's leaning left then you're correcting him to the right, bring your right rein back towards your right outside belt loop and let your left hand come toward that same belt loop, only stopping at his neck (without crossing over it), as you push him with your left leg at the cinch and roll him back to the right. This will help you get his shoulder realigned, so he keeps them both picked up.

Hope these ideas help!





These times we are living in can be uncertain and worrisome, so we want to keep you up to date on the health and care for your pets amidst the COVID-19 outbreak. We have emailed out some information from the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, which is summarized on page two of this newsletter.

The following information is from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), one of the major operating components of the Department of Health and Human Services.

#### **RISK TO PETS**

Based on the limited information available to date, the risk of animals spreading COVID-19 to people is considered to be low. A small number of pets have been reported to be infected with the virus that causes COVID-19, mostly after contact with people with COVID-19. Further studies are needed to understand if and how different animals could be affected by COVID-19.

#### IF YOUR PET GET SICK AFTER CONTACT WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS COVID-19

If your pet gets sick after contact with a person with COVID-19, do not take your pet to the veterinary clinic yourself. Call your veterinarian and let them know the pet was around a person with COVID-19.

#### HOW TO PROTECT YOUR ANIMALS IF YOU ARE SICK

If you are sick with COVID-19 (either suspected or confirmed), you should restrict contact with pets and other animals, just like you would around other people. Although there have not been reports of pets or other animals becoming sick with COVID-19, it is still recommended that people sick with COVID-19 limit contact with animals until more information is known about the virus. This can help ensure both you and your animals stay healthy.

When possible, have another member of your household care for your animals while you are sick. Avoid contact with your pet including, petting, snuggling, being kissed or licked, and sharing food. If you must care for your pet or be around animals while you are sick, wash your hands before and after you interact with them.

#### HOW TO STAY HEALTHY AROUND ANIMALS

In the United States, there is no evidence to suggest that any animals, including pets, livestock, or wildlife, might be a source of COVID-19 infection at this time. However, because all animals can carry germs that can make people sick, it's always a good idea to practice healthy habits around pets and other animals.

- Wash your hands after handling animals, their food, waste, or supplies.
- Practice good pet hygiene and clean up after pets properly.
- Take pets to the veterinarian regularly and talk to your veterinarian if you have questions about your pet's health.

For more information, visit CDC's <u>Healthy Pets, Healthy</u> <u>People website</u>.

#### **KEY POINTS ABOUT CORONUVIRUSES**

- There is currently no evidence that companion animals, including pets, can spread COVID-19.
- Coronaviruses are a large family of viruses. Some cause illness in people and others cause illness in certain types of animals.
- It is rare for coronaviruses that infect animals to modify enough to become zoonotic (able to infect people).
- There is currently no evidence to suggest that imported animals or imported animal products pose a risk for spreading the 2019 novel coronavirus in the United States.
- We do not know the exact source of the current outbreak of coronavirus disease



### SPRING CLEANING YOUR BARN? Here are 4 Things You Must Do

Act now to protect your horse's health and safety today and in the future.

#### UPDATED: APR 14, 2020 ORIGINAL: APR 30, 2019

If you dread organizing closets and mopping behind the refrigerator this spring, you're not alone. Most of us would rather spend our time and energy cleaning the barn instead. For horse people, spring-cleaning is about more than tidying up the tack room, though. As you tackle the job this year, don't overlook these important tasks:

- Empty and sweep the hayloft or shed. Your hay supplies are likely at their lowest of the year right now, which means it's a good time to tend to that space. Remove the remaining bales and sweep the floor thoroughly. Look for signs of rodents. If you find any, devise a plan to evict them. Also check for wet spots on the floor, which probably indicate a roof leak that could lead to moldy bales. Remove cobwebs and bird's nests, then put back the hay, making sure you stack it near the door so the oldest will be used first after a new load is delivered.
- Declutter the aisle. A passageway filled with tack trunks, rakes and other items is an accident
  waiting to happen. Designate a new space, in a low-traffic area, to store stall-cleaning tools.
  Then, move as many tack trunks and containers as possible to a room or stall set aside for that
  purpose. If blankets and sheets are regularly tossed on the ground, invest in blanket racks.
  Ideally, the aisle will be free of everything but the occasional horse.
- Scrub troughs, tubs and buckets. Scrubbing troughs and tubs isn't a once-a-year job, but winter cold can keep you from doing as thorough a job as you would like. Spring is a good time to attack them with a stiff brush and elbow grease. If you need a bit more "oomph," sprinkle the surface with baking soda as you work. It's abrasive enough to remove grime but won't leave a chemical residue if your rinsing is less than perfect. While you're at it, ensure that any automatic waterers are in good working order with no signs of leakage or corrosion.
- Inspect the stalls. Strip the bedding from your stalls, and give every inch of the space a close look. Start at the floor level and work your way up, looking for frayed or curling mats, rotting wood, protruding nails, mangled salt-block holders and the like. If you can't fix a problem on the spot, keep your horse in another space until you can repair the damage or replace the item entirely.



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## Horse&Rider MIND THOSE TANKS/BUCKETS

*Our horses, like ourselves, stay healthy by drinking fresh water. Take time to clean your tanks daily!* HORSERIDER APR 11, 2020

During this time we're taking extra precautions and self-quarantining to keep others in our community healthy. We want to offer daily tips that'll help you pass the time during your self quarantine and even give you a jump start to your spring cleaning.

As temperatures warm, be sure to check your horses' water daily, cleaning buckets, troughs, and basins as needed to keep the water clear. Vinegar and baking soda are safe and excellent cleaners; a handful of hay or straw—or a longhandled brush for tanks—makes the job easier. The hotter the weather, the faster algae will build up. If algae growth is a persistent problem, a diluted-bleach rinse will help curb it. Clean water encourages your horses to drink—a health benefit—plus discourages disease-carrying mosquitos from laying eggs in the water.







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