

Think Spring!



Tired of the winter weather? Get your spring plan in place for a successful show season. Here's where to start:

1. **Get your coggins done early.** A coggins is good in state for 1 year and if you're traveling out of state you'll need to have one within 6 months of the show date. Be sure that the coggins reflects the **registered name of your horse** and not his barn name! It's also a great time to get your spring shots done as well. I always set aside President's day as my annual day and my vet even knows to count on that plan.
2. **Get your USEF and USDF memberships in order.** There's no advantage to waiting until later in the season since there's no prorating of costs.
 - a. **Know what you plan to show so you know how much you need to invest.** Remember that non-member fees for both USEF and USDF really add up in a hurry so unless you only plan to do one show or just schooling shows you might as well bite the bullet and sign up now. See the entry checklist from USDF:

<http://www.usdf.org/docs/competitions/handbook/AppendixB-EntryCk.pdf>
 - b. **Opportunity classes do not require memberships in either organization**
 - c. **Recognized classes require USDF GMO or participating member and USEF membership as well as USDF Horse HID number.**
 - d. **Qualifying classes require USDF participating memberships, USDF Lifetime horse registration (not just an HID), USEF membership and USEF annual or lifetime horse registration (not just an HID). This applies to both the rider and the owner.**
 - e. **Make sure your owner is a USEF and USDF member and that the trainer or coach also has a USEF membership and get a copy of their card or their membership number.**
 - f. **Print out your consolidated rider/owner membership information on the USEF website <http://www.eqverification.org/>**
3. **Have your horse trailer safety checked.**

4. Inspect your tack for wear and any needed repairs. Make the repairs now while the weather is nasty.
5. Be sure you have the right attire for the level showing that you plan for the year.
6. Identify your riding goals and the building blocks that you'll need to accomplish to get to your goal.
7. Ride each day with a goal in mind and make a plan.

8. Remember to have fun