

May 12, 2020

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UPHA Bonnie Blue National Horse Show Rescheduled for June 17-20 at Virginia Horse Center, Lexington, Virginia

The Virginia Horse Center (VHC) is pleased to announce that the UPHA Bonnie Blue National Horse Show, previously scheduled for May 7-9, will take place on June 17-20.

Bonnie Blue will be held barring any changes mandated by the Commonwealth. The Shenandoah Classic Horse Show and Bonnie Blue Horse Show will return to their normal dates in 2021 and promise to be bigger and better than ever!

Excitement is building with exhibitors who are ready to show. This year's Bonnie Blue Horse Show will be USEF rated show for Saddlebreds, Hackneys, Morgans, and Saddle Seat Equitation.

Lexington hotels will be clean, open, and ready for business, as will the restaurants you have enjoyed in the past, though practices will have been revised to meet state guidelines.

For additional information on the Bonnie Blue Horse Show, please contact Show Manager, Kent Moeller directly at (804)363-3085. Or Chairman, RH Bennett at (502)664-0870.

The VHC has created a stringent set of protocols based on standards set by the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF), which provides in great detail COVID-19 related requirements for sanctioned horse shows in the United States.

These protocols and rules will be modified as needed in the event the Governor's office mandates any additional requirements for this kind of agricultural event. The rules and regulations outlined are stringent and detailed, but some of the actions that will be taken are particularly notable. Among these are a prohibition of spectators. Also, the number of participants permitted to be associated with a particular horse, or group of horses from a farm or training facility, will be restricted.

In our ongoing concern for public safety during this pandemic, all local, state, and federal guidelines for COVID safety and protection of participants will be followed and social distancing will be mandated. We will be taking additional precautions that will include the separation of persons in boxes and bench seating to conform with CDC social distancing guidelines.

Recognizing the fluid response during Covid-19, the VHC is prepared to make all necessary adjustments as required for the safety and wellbeing of all participants. We will update all platforms immediately with any changes impacting this competition and future competitions.

The VHC is pleased to have completed renovations to the coliseum with new "Big Ass" fans and a new LED lighting system. The first barn has been also been completely renovated with stall mats, new aluminum stall fronts, LED lighting, new interior ceiling, dressing room and bathrooms. A special new Memorial Court has been built in between the first and third barns. The VHC is very proud of these improvements and is grateful for the donors who made it possible.

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The Virginia Horse Center Foundation is a 501 (c) 3 organization that provides a world-class facility hosting regional, national, and international equestrian events in Lexington, Virginia.

The Virginia Horse Center is a unique, bucolic landmark that honors and celebrates the timeless, special bond between mankind and the horse through safe, fair, and spirited equestrian competition.

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