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Winter Horse Trials

Exciting eventing season in Paso Robles begins Feb. 28-March 1.



Feb. 24, 2020: Paso Robles, CA: Pan Am Games team gold medalist Tamra Smith and Mai Baum and 5* pairs Andrea Baxter and Indy 500 and Frankie Thieriot Stutes and Chatwin headline a strong Advanced field when Twin Rivers begins an exciting season of eventing competition this weekend.

Weather for the Winter Horse Trials looks distinctly un-wintery Feb. 28-March 1, as the Baxter family-owned venue on California's Central Coast welcomes 300-plus contenders. Joining the aforementioned pairs running Advanced are newly-anointed members of the USEF's U25 Eventing Program: Maddy Temkin, Kaylawna Smith-Cook and Megan Skyes. The levels through Introductory will see future star horses and riders tackle new challenges.

Twin Rivers' 500 acres are green and tracks designed by new upper level course designer Hugh Lochore are full of new tests. Plus, teasers for what's to come at April's inaugural Spring International CCI4*-L, one of only six competitions at this rigorous level in the United States.

"They are a progressive bunch," says Lochore of the Baxter family. Along with 5* eventer Andrea Baxter, organizer Connie Baxter has extensive eventing experience and Whirlwind Excavating owner Jeff Baxter happily applies his expertise and equipment to bringing Lochore's ideas to life.

"The venue has interesting topography and it's a good canvas to play with," Lochore adds. "It's exciting when you put things on paper, then you have a team that is keen to get the bit between their teeth and make it happen." Lochore designed the Preliminary through Advanced courses; Marc Grandia designed the Intro through Training. Show Jumping course designer Jose Nava has colorful new obstacles to work with in the arena.

The Winter Horse Trials are presented by Auburn Labs, makers of adaptogenic APF Formula for horses, riders and dogs; and Professional's Choice, manufacturers of top-of-the-line sports medicine boots for horses. Supporting Sponsors include Best Western PLUS Black Oak, which offers great exhibitor deals on nearby lodging; and Riding Warehouse, the horse gear and supply company located in nearby San Luis Obispo.

Volunteer opportunities abound and all those helping out will have their name entered in a raffle for generous prizes. These include Twin Rivers entries, stabling and a cross-country schooling certificate; and a Family 4 Pack of tickets to the San Diego Zoo or San Diego Zoo Safari. More hours equals more raffle tickets!

For competition-related inquires, contact Christina Gray of Gray Area Events at christina@grayareaevents.com.

Fast Facts:

Location: 8715 N. River Road, Paso Robles, CA. 93446

Ride Times: Available now at www.twinrivershorsepark.com

Results: www.twinriverranch.com

Show Photographer: Marcus Greene Outdoor Photography

Vendors: Equestrian Habits, Chubby Cov, Whitehorse Tack, Cahoots Catering, Katie's Coffee

Video: Ride On Video

Volunteer: https://www.eventingvolucom/events/1254/signup