The New Horseman

PROVIDING EQUESTRIANS WITH QUALITY, FAMILY-ORIENTED AMATEUR EVENTS, EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR ALL EQUINE BREEDS AND DISCIPLINES.

A publication of the California State Horsemen's Association Inc. October 2026

STATE OFFICERS
President Laura Shultz
First VP Rita Cassiba
CFO Linda Quattlebaum
Northern VP Sue Edwards
Central VP
Southern VP Carri Gunn

Inside this issue:

President's Message
CSHA News
Judges
Gymkhana
Charitable Trust
Obstacle Challenge
Parade
Trail Trials
Regions

Editor: Suzanne Cornelius
NEW ADDRESS:
CSHANews@gmail.com

October 2026 Edition

Next deadline:
October 15, 2026

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At the invitation of Sabrina Cantu (Region 18 chair), I attended the Royalty Program's Year-End dinner and awards. It was an amazing evening. The support in attendance from local organizations, business, family and friends was apparent. I am grateful that I received the invitation and that I was able to attend.



Laura Shultz *Photo by Ashley Kelly*

September 19th, I attended the Trail TrialsState Championship Event, at Stone Cellar. Trail Trials celebrates their 30th anniversary this year.

October 10-17, I will be at the Gymkhana State Championships, in Watsonville CA.

Oct 17 & 18 i will attend the State Obstacle Challenge Championship Show, held at Running I Ranch, in Dunnigan, CA

This year in order to support the Programs, the many volunteers and the competitors I made a commitment to attend as many of the Program State Championship events as I could. Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend the Horsemastership or English Western State Championships.

I am always amazed and filled with gratitude at what the CSHA Members, volunteers and the competitors accomplish each year. Seeing all of the accomplishments, seeing the CSHA Programs grow and the Regions' support in adding and continuing all of the CSHA programs, is the backbone of CSHA's success.

A heartfelt thank you for this year's accomplishments and here's to seeing the successes continue next year.

Laura



Fall already? Here come the jack-o-lanterns!'

Heads up!

News briefs from CSHA

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

UPDATED EMMP REQUIREMENTS EFFECTIVE 1/1/2026.
EMMP changes regarding the $14 drug fee and requirement to register events

I would like to thank Maria Hines and Victor Pedroza for reaching out and speaking with Christine (CDFA – EMMP) to clarify the new information.

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Equine Medication Monitoring Program (EMMP) has been working with equine industry stakeholders over the past couple of years in an effort to protect and promote grass roots equine events in California. To this end, an assembly bill has been introduced and passed to increase the exemption limits for shows to register their events with EMMP. As of January 1, 2026, an event will be considered exempt from EMMP regulations (and collecting the $14 drug testing fee) if the class or event entry fee is fifteen dollars ($15) or less, and either no other fees are charged or all other fees combined do not exceed sixty dollars ($60). Fees charged may include ground fees, stall fees, or any other fees composed of money, goods, or services assessed to permit competitors to enter the event. So, if your event charges $15 or less per class and other fees do not exceed $60, then you do not have to register your event with EMMP and you do not have to collect the $14 drug testing fee.

To clarify, the $14 testing fee is not currently changing, only the exemptions listed above for equine events. The other event exemptions (a sale of solely racehorses, competitions under the jurisdiction of the California Horse Racing Board, and rodeo-related competitions when held apart from a horse show) still apply.

The EMMP website (https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/animal_health/EMMP/) is currently being updated and the brochures on our website will also be updated in the new year. If you have any questions, please reach out to emmp@cdfa.ca.gov.

There is an updated brochure on the CDFA Website titled: EMMP Event Registration and Guidelines

Laura Shultz



Heads up!

Mark your calendar!

- **November 5 to 8, CSHA Annual Convention in Redding.**



The Sundial Bridge in Redding, CA | Photo Credit: Nolan Erickson

CSHA NEWS: JUDGES



Alice Lawellin *Photo by Ashley Kelly*

The judges commission is ***still*** actively looking for people who wish to become a CSHA judge in any of our disciplines. To learn more, call Alice (209) 629-7244 or (209) 858-2638 and start exploring the possibilities.

Hello Horse Club Leaders!

CSHA would like to share information across our state to enhance and protect equine interests. If your club is a member of CSHA, your members are indirect members of CSHA and are entitled to the CSHA newsletter. We can email the newsletter to them or provide your club a link for your own club communication. Drop a line to CSHANews@gmail.com and let's make it happen! Thank you!



Heads up!

News briefs from CSHA

EQUUS Foundation offers $65,000 in equine scholarships

College students preparing for careers in the horse industry have a chance to tap into $65,000 in scholarship funding this year.

The EQUUS Foundation is accepting applications for its 2026 scholarship program, which is open to eligible junior- and senior-level undergraduate students and graduate students pursuing equine studies.

Applications are due Oct. 15.

HORSE LOVER'S MATH
understanding math through horses

Check this out – a website that offers math practice disguised in real articles about horses. Read how it works here. Which leads to this:

Study Shows Horse-riding Can Improve Children's Cognitive Ability

Research published in Frontiers in Public Health describes how the effects of horseback riding improves learning in children. The study shows that the effects of vibrations produced by horses during horse-riding lead to the activation of the sympathetic nervous system, which improves learning in children. Read a brief article in ScienceDaily here.





CSHA NEWS: GYMKHANA

COMING IN OCTOBER!

The Best of the Best Converge in Watsonville

In October the best horses and amateur riders from the north, south and central Areas of California make the trek to Watsonville for the CSHA Gymkhana State Championship Show (SCS). This competition showcases the CSHA *crème de le crème* in Gymkhana. The horses and their riders make the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds their home during the three days of intense competition.

The SCS is not an open show. Combinations must qualify by competing in the shows held in the Regions from January 1st to September 15th. During the regular season our Region Gymkhana Chairmen promote our program and this show by volunteering their time and dedication to their Region's program. Without these local competitions riders would not be able to qualify to compete at the SCS and the chance by named Division State Champion. Each Champion wins a custom fitted 7 Saddle, a buckle and a banner. Reserve Champions are awarded a buckle and custom breast collar. The top10 in each Division are awarded a custom buckle.

Special thanks to everyone who volunteers their time to cover the many duties this show requires. And of course, a VERY SPECIAL thank you to all of the competitors…without you there would be no show.



THE CALIFORNIA STATE HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE TRUST



Supporting the youth of CSHA is top priority for the CSHA Charitable Trust. The Trust depends on CSHA members to fund the various scholarships that CSHA promotes in many of our programs. As educational costs have increased, the Trust has worked with CSHA programs to raise the amounts of scholarships awarded in the past few years to keep them useful and beneficial. The result has seen more riders apply for, and use their scholarship awards. This also means that more money is going out and we need your support to continue to grow and help more of our young riders.

What is the Trust: The CSHA Charitable Trust was established in 1969 by the CSHA Board of Directors as a separate charitable tax-exempt entity to award and distribute scholarship funds. The Trust is comprised of three volunteer Trustees who oversee the funds.

The way the Trust works: The Trust is notified by CSHA State Chairs of riders that have met the requirements of the scholarship fund in their discipline. The Trust holds funds in that riders name until the rider needs them for their educational purposes. The Trust, when notified by the rider, verifies the request before sending the funds directly to the school in the riders name. The Trust funds are invested in the market to continually generate funds, but donations are needed to keep up with demand.

PLEASE CONSIDER A DONATION USING THE FORM ON THE NEXT PAGE

THE CALIFORNIA STATE HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE TRUST

DONATION FORM

CSHA Programs are encouraging young Californians to participate in equestrian activities throughout the State. The CSHA Charitable Trust promotes the health, welfare, happiness, development and education of young people in California who are interested in horse activities and for the purpose of promoting research and education regarding the health, development and general welfare of horses.

EMERGENCY EQUINE ASSISTANCE FUND	$_____
ENGLISH SCHOLARSHIP FUND	$_____
EQUINE MEDICAL RESEARCH FUND	$_____
GYMKHANA SCHOLARSHIP FUND	$_____
JR. HORSEMASTERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP FUND	$_____
ROYALTY SCHOLARSHIP FUND	$_____
WESTERN SCHOLARSHIP FUND	$_____
TRAIL TRIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND	$_____
U.C. DAVIS VETERINARY SCHOLARSHIP FUND	$_____
APPLY TO EXISTING NEED (as determined by the Trust)	$_____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

CALIFORNIA STATE HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION CHARITABLE TRUST

MAIL TO:

CSHA CHARITABLE TRUST C/O JILL KRAUT
24163 SAINT MORITZ DR. VALENCIA CA 91355

PLEASE ENCLOSE THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK

CSHA Charitable Trust, 24163 SAINT MORITZ DR. VALENCIA CA 91355

Rev July 2026

CSHA NEWS: Obstacle Challenge

Oct 17 & 18 SOCC (State Obstacle Challenge Championship Show)
Running I Ranch, 1700 Alexander Hill Rd, Dunnigan, CA 95937
Contact: Val Vagg
valvagg@yahoo.com (916) 812-4587













CSHA NEWS: PARADE











CSHA was well represented in Newman in September. We had entries in 7 different classes: In Hand (Joanne Hoefer), Junior Novelty Group (Quadrille Queens), Ladies Side Saddle (Charlie Alamo), Plain Western (Rosie Shearing), Senior Novelty (Gary Beck), Silver Mounted Sheriff's Posse (Merced), Working Sheriff's Posse (Alameda).
ALL won first place.

CSHA NEWS: PARADE



DECEMBER 5th
Judge: Alice Lawellin
Manteca Holiday Parade
Manteca Chamber of Commencer c/o Carol
629 East Yosemite Ave Manteca CA 95336 (209) 823-6121
www.manteca.org



DECEMBER 13th
Judge: Alice Lawellin
Columbia Christmas Parade/Back County Horseman
Ms. Barbara Savory and Ms. Deb Lewis (209) 743-3580
11594 Campo Seco Rd Sonora CA 95370



Charlie Alamo

TRAIL TRIALS

The 30th Anniversary State Championship Event was held September 19th-20th at Stone Cellar homestead camp in the El Dorado National Forest. It's the third time we've been blessed to be able to utilize this wonderful facility for SCE, and we look forward to many more events here in the years to come.

It was a fantastic turnout, with 47 competitive riders joining us for a combined 20 obstacles over the two days. There were many technical obstacles worthy of a state championship, with pleasant (if sometimes chilly) weather and beautiful scenery to enjoy throughout the weekend.

When not out on the trail, riders and volunteers alike got the chance to enjoy delicious food, a fun raffle, and lots of cheering each other on during Saturday's MVP nominations (18 in total, a new record) and Sunday's awards. Huge congratulations to phenomenal SCE chair Jenni Garcia, her amazing committee, and all the wonderful volunteers who helped make it another memorable and fun event!

SCE officially wrapped up the competitive 2026 season, with the different regions still to hold their year-end awards gatherings. Congratulations to everyone who competed this year, and huge thanks to all of the volunteers who made each ride a success!

We are already looking ahead to next year; Region 3 has their annual clinic at Running I Ranch in Dunnigan already on the books for October 24th. If you know someone interested in learning about Trail Trials, or want to brush up on your own skills, they would be happy to have you attend their 20th anniversary event!

Happy trails,
Ashley Lincoln
State Chairman









TRAIL TRIALS -UPCOMING EVENTS

California State Horsemen's Association Region 3 presents

Trail Trials Clinic

Saturday, October 24, 2026



10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Running I Ranch, Dunnigan, CA

TRAIL TRIALS
California State Horsemen's Association

The Clinic is Designed for those New to Trail Trials

A CSHA trail trial is approximately a 3-5 hour trail ride with 8-10 judged obstacles along the way. Obstacles should be natural landscape like creek crossings, up & downhills, gates, drags & pulls.





Clinic to Cover...

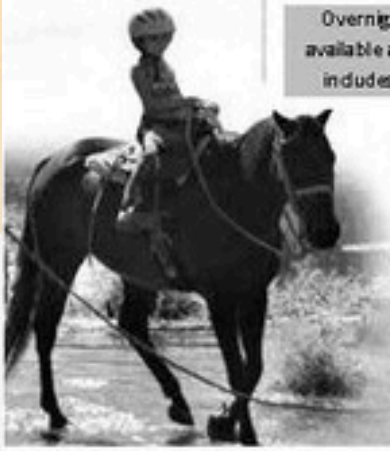
- How obstacles are judged
- How rules apply to obstacles
- How you can improve your obstacle scores
- Scoring you as you negotiate the course
- Improving your performance with your horse as a team
- All your questions!





Clinic is $40

Overnight camping available at $20 per rig includes horse pen



Entry forms & directions available at
www.trailtrials.com
under Calendar of Events

Clinic Pre-entries will receive lunch

For more information on the clinic contact
Diane Medlock (530) 979-1953 or Cindy Ingman (530) 724-4120

If weather and/or ground conditions (parking in a dirt field) are questionable, call the day before.

Trail Trials: Survivor Edition
written for the SCE Event
by Cowboy Poet Judy York
aka: JudgeJudy

We loaded up before the sun,
With coffee, tack and gear,
Then drove three hours into the wild
To prove we have no fear.

Six to eight miles, they told us,
"A pleasant little ride."
They failed to mention choking dust
And bees on every side.

The first event: a maze of flags.
"Just follow them," they said.
I took one left, my horse went right,
We ended up off course instead...

Somewhere completely off the course,
With dignity long gone.
My horse looked back as if to say,
"You sure we should go on?"

Then comes the words we dread the most,
That make our courage fall:
"Now tie for me a bowline knot."
Oh Lord, please not at all!

The rabbit climbs out of the hole,
Or was it 'round the tree?
I've practiced this a hundred times...
Why's everyone watching me?

The judge just waits with clipboard poised,
My horse lets out a sigh.
I've somehow tied my hands together...
But hey, at least I tried.

Then comes the rope. "Now build a pen."
One rope. That's all you get.
We stretch and pull and loop the thing,
And somehow I get trapped in a net.

Then through the water we must go,
A simple little creek.
My horse decides that water means
WE HAVEN'T DRANK ALL WEEK.

He stops to splash, he stops to drink,
He paws and soaks my jeans.
Apparently "cross the water"
Can mean a hundred different things.

Then come the bees. Dear Lord, the bees.
They buzz around our heads.
I slap my neck, I slap my horse,
I wish the things were dead.

The horse takes off, the dust flies up,
My hat goes down the trail.
The judge yells something 'bout control...
I just might have to bail.

By mile eight we're filthy,
There's dirt in places strange.
My horse is tired, I'm half-dead,
But the last obstacle is within range.

We finally reach the trailers,
Our faces streaked with grime.
We swear we're never doing this
Another single time.

Then somebody says, "Next Trail Trials
Is coming up real soon."
We look at one another...
And change our minds by noon.

Because horse folks aren't quite normal,
We've known that all along.
Give us dust and bees and bowline knots,
And somehow we belong.

So raise a glass to Trail Trials,
To every horse and friend,
Who drives for hours into nowhere...
Just to get lost there again.

***

REGION NEWS: Region 6

The Santa Clara County Horsemen's Association was full of pride and purpose in bringing our Horse Exhibit to life at the SCC Fair this year! This was our fourth year in presenting a livestock exhibit. Each day, four horses, ponies and mini donkeys were trailered in for the public to feed, groom, photograph and love with full abandon.

From August 19-August 23rd, people of all ages raced past the opening gate to meet & greet the equines. Whether young or old, overcoming fears or seizing an opportunity to meet a horse for the first time, the special moments created were palpable. In one fan's case, she comes every year, on opening and closing day, just to spend time with her favorite horse - a New Zealand Warmblood named Simon!

The long list of volunteers needed to host this 5 Day Horse Exhibit shows that a team effort truly makes this possible. The trailer drivers, horse handlers, table staff and carrot holders worked diligently toward success. A huge thank you to our team - they made certain our exhibit had horses and information to share with the public every...single...day!

Attached are some of the photos from the week. We were featured in the San Jose Mercury News and on Telemundo. Loved how our Equine Team came from many different areas: Santa Clara County Horsemen's, Santa Cruz County Horsemen's, Golden Shiloh, Lone Oak, and Bear Creek Stables - such a beautiful community effort. This was the busiest Fair yet, so dividing the work load was absolutely necessary.



This year was especially meaningful because our agricultural legacy and future depend on the relationships we build and the collaborations we foster. Our goal is to grow partnerships that value stables and rural ranch land.

Rachael Parakh
Public Relations Director
Santa Clara County Horsemen's Association

REGION NEWS: Region 6



SANTA CLARA COUNTY
HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
2026 County Fair Horse Exhibit
August 19th—23rd

REGION 6: UPCOMING EVENTS









REGION NEWS: Region 7

Region 7 will be hosting a booth at the Day of the Horse Showdeo to sign up members and REACTIVATE VENTURA COUNTY REGION.



Lisa Baca



CALL TO ACTION!

SEND EMAILS & ATTEND OCTOBER 15 MEETING



Horse lovers move to Ventura County to live close to the Conejo Creek Equestrian Center. This is the ONLY FREE community park for equestrians in the Conejo Creek Recreation and Parks District, (CRPD). The area is shared with a 3 acre dog park and extensive COMMUNITY garden club. Many youth start their careers here and ETI Corral 37 has successfully managed the park for over 50 years.

The annual budget (this year it is $23 million) comes from a 6% Homeowner Property tax in the CRPD district.

On Oct 15th the CRPD Board of Directors will vote to approve 12 pickle ball courts and $100,000 to begin the Environmental Impact Report.

Pickleball, dogs and horses do not go together. There is a dangerous safety concern if pickleball courts are built at the equestrian park. Within a 5 mile radius of the equestrian park, 38 public raquetball courts can be found at other locations.

CSHA Region 7 has supported ETI Corral 37 since the struggle against pickleball began. Information gained from a California Public Records Request shows a 2025-2026 decline and cancellation of pickleball classes. Over the past 3 years, less than $1,100 has been generated from $4.00 pickleball usage fees.

CSHA Members statewide are asked to OPPOSE any pickleball court at the equestrian park and send an email to the Board of Directors listed in the flyer to VOTE NO on THE DIRTY DOZEN pickleball courts!

CALIFORNIA STATE
HORSEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
INCORPORATED

1330 W. Robinhood Dr. Suite D
Stockton, CA 95207
Ph: (209) 227-7110
Fax:(888) 389-0359
E-mail: CSHA@att.net

Website:
californiastatehorsemen.org

What is California State Horsemen's Association, Inc.?
CSHA was founded in 1942 for the purpose of fostering interest in all breeds of horses and forms of horsemanship throughout the state of California.
CSHA has designed a wide range of programs which offer participants opportunities for growth and enjoyment regardless of their type of riding, breed of horse or experience level.
CSHA implements its programs via its 18 geographic regions throughout the State of California. These Regions have elected officers and appointed program chairs who volunteer their time to develop their respective programs and who represent clubs and individuals that participate in various programs offered by the Association. CSHA Mission Statement: "PROVIDING EQUESTRIANS WITH QUALITY, FAMILY-ORIENTED AMATEUR EVENTS, EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR ALL EQUINE BREEDS AND DISCIPLINES."
CSHA is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization.

LOOKING AHEAD

Nov 5-8, 2026
Redding



Join us at our Annual Convention!
November 5-8, 2026

CITY OF REDDING · CALIFORNIA ·



Thank you for supporting California State Horsemen's Association. We look forward to sharing more Association news in the months to come. In the meantime, happy trails to you and yours.