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Dressage at Devon: What's New in 2012

Devon, PA (June 28, 2012) – The Dressage at Devon Horse Show has ushered in the fall since 1975 and planning and preparations are in high gear for the 2012 premier North American equestrian event. While the show will maintain its tradition of a world-class dressage competition combined with the world's largest open-breed show outside of Europe, changes provide new opportunities. Young horses can now receive more recognition and people can increase their knowledge about horses and dressage. This year Dressage at Devon is channeling funds generated from the show into equine education and offering additional seminars.

The Devon Horse Show grounds continue to make improvements to footing and drainage. The schooling ring has undergone a complete reconstruction, which now brings all Devon rings to world-class levels. The schooling arena, approximately the size of a football field, was excavated in order to install a half-mile of drainage pipe, surrounded by 3,500 tons of drainage rock. This was topped off with all-weather footing, providing increased safety and ride-ability. While most riders were thrilled with the new footing in the Dixon Oval last year, improvements there continue by increasing the drainage basin that collects run off from high northwest corner of the property.

New opportunities to shine are now open to 3-year olds. The new 3-year-old Sport Horse Prospect Championship combines scores from the 3-year-old in-hand breed class with Materiale classes where the horse is shown under saddle, providing a more complete assessment of a horse's potential.

New at the breed show will be Iberian horses. "Among the fantastic breeds that always grace the Dixon Oval, this year will also feature the Iberian breed. Of Spanish descent, these fabled equines of the middle ages, Iberians are included in the baroque category. They are strong and agile and possess rare qualities that make them uniquely well-suited for classical dressage," said Melanie Sloyer, Chair of the Breed Show.

A renewed dedication to equine education will be an underlying theme of this year's show. "Education has always been the backbone of Dressage at Devon. We're very excited to be able to contribute to this effort on a stronger financial level. Our programs will cover a broad range, from amateurs to professionals, and children to adults," said president and CEO, Lori Kaminski.

Dressage at Devon 2012 is already lining up educational programs for equestrians and spectators including "Emergency - What to do before the vet comes" as well as several USEF training sessions for judges.

Dressage at Devon takes place from September 25-September 30, 2012 at the Devon Horse Show Grounds, located on US Route 30, in Devon, PA. Reserved seating for Dressage at Devon is available at <http://www.DressageatDevon.org> and general admission tickets will be during the show for \$10 each.

About Dressage at Devon

Dressage at Devon (www.dressageatdevon.org) has been the premier North American Equestrian event since its founding by the Delaware Valley Combined Training Association in 1975, and became a separate organization in 2006. It combines world class dressage competition and the world's largest open breed show with the international Fall Festival show and special activities for the entire family. The six-day event attracts hundreds of horses from around the world and thousands of spectators. Dressage at Devon is a 501(c) (3) PA non-profit organization, benefitting equine education.