

# XC Maintenance & Updates

## May 2019

Photo Credit: Kristin Dokoza

**Dear Members,**

**We are getting ready for an exciting summer and would like you to know where we are at the cross-country course and related maintenance. The following is a summary of the update e-mails sent to our members. For a preliminary Cross-Country Schedule, please see the end of this document. We look forward to seeing you at The Horse Park!**

### **As of 5/9/2019**

The Horse Park staff has been hard at work on the cross-country courses for Introductory – Preliminary in-between events. In fact, we asked for and received approval for an extra weekend of schooling before closing the course.

We have been using our new equipment (“agrivator”), which helps break up the hard ground underneath the surface while still preserving the top of the ground. The idea behind this is to lessen the amount of dust that inevitably occurs from rototilling the ground which has been done for many years.

While the agrivator is doing a great job, we know that a slower process is better -which takes time.... And time is something we don't have right now. Therefore, we've started a hybrid system of part dragging – part agrivating.

Today (Thursday), we have focused our resources on the south half of the cross-country course to further work the footing. This includes watering, agrivating and dragging the tracks.

Tomorrow (Friday), we will do the same process to the north half of the cross-country course and start with the lower levels and work our way up to Preliminary.

While we'd love to say we will meet our goal of having all jumps & tracks ready for Introductory – Preliminary levels, we expect the south section of the courses to have more consistent footing and the north section to have more variable footing. We will keep working it until Friday evening but for this weekend, you'll need to be more thoughtful on the north section on if you wish to school it. Depending on how far along we get tomorrow, we may cone off sections that we feel are not ready to be utilized.

In addition, all three water complexes will be filled with adequate water levels.

Please be aware that we have been doing everything in our power to bring the courses back from a wet winter/hot spring and get the footing optimal for schooling so you can enjoy and practice for your upcoming events. We recognize and value the importance of this.



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### **As of 5/9/2019 - Continued**

The cross-country courses will close at dusk this Sunday, May 12th to prepare for The Spring Event at Woodside Horse Trials.

Thank you for your cooperation, understanding and support.

Horse Park Management

### **As of 5/2/2019**

The Horse Park is currently working through spring conditions which is usual after a wet winter. In addition, we have been utilizing a new piece of equipment and are working through a period of adjustment. There is extensive maintenance scheduled for next week, and our plan is to have the entire Cross-Country course open for Introductory thru Preliminary May 11th - 12th.

The south section of the courses currently have variable conditions. You are welcome to come out and school; but keep that in mind and use caution. We have filled both of the water complexes on the south end. We thank you for your continued support.

### **As of 4/19/2019**

We are so happy to share that The Horse Park is wrapping up the initial maintenance on the south section of the Cross-Country course for the following levels: Intro, Beg. Novice, Novice, Training & Preliminary.

The following details how many jumps are available for each level to school:

- Introductory - 4 jumps
- Beginner Novice - 9 jumps
- Novice - 9 jumps
- Training - 9 jumps
- Preliminary - 9 jumps

Please note, this year we've been using a different piece of equipment (it's called an AGRI-vator) to work the tracks; therefore, on the surface there is still a light layer of grass! While we do not feel that studs are required, you are more than welcome to plan on using those if you wish.

In addition, there is sufficient water in both south water complexes & we've been doing continual upkeep to keep weeds under control for all open tracks for Intro thru Preliminary!



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### As of 4/19/2019 - Continued

The North section of the Cross-Country Course remains CLOSED while we mow, work the tracks and get those weeds under control.

Due to this being the first grooming of the year, keep in mind that there will still be a few wet spots, so please exercise caution.

\*Reminder that all Intermediate & Advanced obstacles remain CLOSED.

## 2019 Cross-Country Schedule

*Subject to change. Updates will be posted to the website on the first page and/or in the calendar or facility use sections. This schedule was last updated 5/2/2019.*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Status</b>
May 6 - 10	Maintenance Scheduled - use caution on South Section. North Section still closed at this time.
May 12	<b>CLOSES</b> at dusk
May 27	<b>OPENS</b> at dawn
July 23	<b>CLOSES</b> at dusk
August 12	<b>OPENS</b> at dawn
September 17	<b>CLOSES</b> at dusk
October 7	<b>OPENS</b> at dawn
Winter Closure	TBD - Based on weather and soil conditions