

TIMELINE FOR LENDON'S YOUTH DRESSAGE FESTIVAL

NOW

1. Art contest – check out www.dressage4kids.com for the rules for the art contest for the cover of the program.
Start planning artwork
2. Check that coat, breeches, show boots etc. are in good repair, clean, and still fit. Put together show bag: hairnets, bandaids, sewing kit, safety pins, sunscreen, aspirin, makeup, etc. Make sure your helmet is ASTM/SEI approved. They are required for the show.
3. Check all stitching on saddle, billets, stirrup leathers, and bridle. Make sure holes for buckles aren't stretched out
4. Plan medical schedule for horse: Coggins test, worming schedule, teeth care, vaccinations, and blood work (for some horses)
5. Decide on level to compete at and probable tests.
6. Memorize tests. You cannot school your horses effectively without knowing the test movements and the order they come in. Your horse should be comfortable now with the movements so he is a star performing them in the arena.
7. Design and choreograph freestyle if you plan to try out for the Freestyle Competition.
8. While it's still cold get a partner and work on music and choreography for the Horseless Pas de Deux. If you get a non-riding friend to participate, maybe she will help you as a groom at the show 😊
9. Buy books for written test

MARCH

1. Start reading books for written test.
2. Decide qualifying shows. Make note of when entries open. For many shows you must have entries in near the opening date or you will be put on a waiting list
3. Shoeing schedule. Make sure that your horse won't need to be shod right before the Festival.
4. Does tack need serious cleaning? You cannot have soft supple leather with one cleaning. It is easy (in the Turn Out Inspection) to tell if the leather is well cared for regularly.
5. Read Youth Dressage Festival Prizelist for rules, qualification requirements, etc.

APRIL

1. Check trailer and hitch on pulling vehicle.
2. Check that you have memorized tests correctly.
3. Start studying books for written test

JUNE

1. Get ads, if you plan to use ads to help pay for your entries – see website. Make sure that you will qualify for the show
2. Put together your team for the team competition
3. Video freestyle.
4. Make checklist of everything you need
5. Study for written test some more

June 15

1. Send in artwork
2. Study for written test

June 30

1. Send in Entries – make sure you include:
 - copy of Coggins test
 - dinner reservations
 - name of those you want to stable with
 - all required signatures
 - check
 - name of team and team members
 - sign up for roving trainer
2. Make notes in prize list of sections to study for written test

JULY

1. Plan on team outfits
2. Plan on tackroom decorations for the Tackroom Contest
3. Make hotel reservations
4. Send in video for Freestyle
5. Review reading material for written test

July 1

1. Last day to send in artwork for program cover
2. Last day to send in ads.

AUGUST

1. Really study for written test.
2. Order bedding
3. Memorize tests again
4. Check all clothing, tack, equipment is safe and still in good repair.

August 4

1. Last day to send in entries
2. Take out prizelist and memorize rules for written test.
3. Double check all stitching, buckles, elastics for safety.

SEPTEMBER

1. Write thank you notes to show and sponsor of any awards you won.
2. Give program to all sponsors you solicited with their ads noted.
3. Make big thank you to your parents, trainer, owner of horse, and anyone else who helped you be successful enough to get to the show.
4. Think about your goals for next year.

Don't forget to thank your horse!