



**PROUDLY PRESENTS THE
THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL
HILLTOPPERS
HORSE SHOW**

8:00 AM Saturday May 30, 2026

VHSA, BHSVA Associate Show
PLEASE PRE-ENTER AT RING RADAR

Judge: Mr. Jacob Harris, Chilhowie, VA



**Brookhill Farm, Charlottesville VA
2067 Scottsville Rd, Charlottesville, VA 22902**

Show Manager: Stephen S. Bickers (434-906-8378)

8:00 AM Start

1. Blue/Red Warm Up (runs all day)
2. Schooling Hunter over fences
3. Schooling Hunter over fences
4. Schooling Hunter under saddle
5. Green Hunter over fences
6. Green Hunter over fences
7. Green Hunter under saddle
8. \$150 Working Hunter over fences
9. \$200 Working Hunter over fences Stake Class (Handy Hunter)
10. \$150 Working Hunter under saddle
11. Thoroughbred Hunter over fences
12. Thoroughbred Hunter over fences
13. Thoroughbred Hunter under saddle
14. VHSA/BHSA Equitation on the flat (14 and under)
15. VHSA/BHSA Equitation on the flat (15-17)
16. VHSA/BHSA Equitation on the flat (Adult)
17. VHSA/BHSA Children's Equitation (Black Cat Farm)
18. VHSA/BHSA Adult Equitation
19. Children's/Adult Hunter over fences
20. Children's/Adult Hunter over fences
21. Children's/Adult Hunter under saddle

SCHOOLING BREAK

22. Leadline (As close to 1:00 as possible)
23. VHSA/BHSA Pony Equitation (Black Cat Farm)
24. \$150 Pony Hunter over fences
25. \$200 Pony Hunter over fences Stake Class (Handy Hunter)
26. \$150 Pony Hunter under saddle
27. Adult Horse Pleasure – Walk, Trot
28. Adult Horse Pleasure – Go As You Please
29. Adult Horse Pleasure - Walk, Trot, Canter
30. Junior Horse Pleasure – Walk, Trot
31. Junior Horse Pleasure – Go As You Please
32. Junior Horse Pleasure - Walk, Trot, Canter
33. Pony Pleasure - Walk, Trot
34. Pony Pleasure - Go As You Please
35. Pony Pleasure - Walk, Trot, Canter
36. Low Hunter over fences
37. Low Hunter over fences
38. Low Hunter under saddle
39. Limit Rider Hunter
40. Limit Rider Hunter
41. Limit Rider Hunter under saddle

SCHOOLING BREAK

42. Short/Long Stirrup Equitation – Walk, Trot
43. Short/Long Stirrup Equitation – Walk, Trot, Canter
44. Short/Long Stirrup Equitation over fences
45. Short Stirrup Hunter
46. Short Stirrup Hunter
47. Short Stirrup Hunter under saddle

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE HILLTOPPERS HORSE SHOW

The first Hilltoppers Horse Show was held on a hot Sunday at the old Farmington Hunt Club show grounds in April of 1977. Next year marks the 50 year anniversary of the first show. At the time it was organized by the Hilltoppers 4-H Club.

Robin Wood was the President. Until 1980 the show served as a fundraiser, allowing all the 4-H kids to attend a week long camp first at Camp Albemarle, and later at the Girl Scout camp near Sugar Hollow.

The first Challenge Trophy at the show was donated for an equitation over fences class. The Black Cat Farm Challenge trophy was donated by Keith Hightower, the 4-H leader and was first won in 1978 by Temple Fennell. It is still in competition today, never having been won a third time by any rider.

In its second incarnation Hilltoppers moved to Stony Point for a 16-year run from 1988 until 2003.

In 2010 we started running the Horse Show to benefit the Farmington Hunt Club, and following a stint at Hidden Fox Farm, the Horse Show is hopefully at its final location here at Brookhill Farm. My philosophy has always been that horse shows should be fun and affordable, and hopefully we have met those standards in the 48 years since the first show. 37th Annual this year because I don't count the years we were on hiatus. Let's see if I have it in me to make it to 50.....

JUDGES PAST TO PRESENT

- 1978 - J. Forester Taylor
- 1979 - Gail Petty
- 1980 - Paul Cronin
- 1981 - Emily Wilson
- 1988 - Marnie Johnson
- 1989 - Melinda Lanier
- 1990 - Leslie Brown
- 1991 - Judy Spitzer
- 1992 - Wendy Barquin
- 1993 - Robin Mellen
- 1994 - Ashley Dettor
- 1995 - Robin Wood
- 1996 - Eric Dirks
- 1997 - Kelly Douglas
- 1998 - Sandy Gerald
- 1999 - Kathy Danielson
- 2000 - Meg Rhodes
- 2001 - Ariadne Paxton
- 2002 - Hunter Walker
- 2003 - Sarah Brinks
- 2010 - Krista Hodgkin
- 2011 - Tamara Adcock-Wenning
- 2012 - Katrina Weinig
- 2013 - Mary Tinsley
- 2014 - Gordon Reistrup
- 2015 - Keedie Leonard
- 2016 - Emily Guyer
- 2017 - Mark Wonderly
- 2018 - Davera Ackenbom
- 2019 - Betty Oare
- 2021 - Glenn Moody
- 2022 - Ashley Holsinger
- 2023 - Sarah Irvine
- 2024 - Mimi Wroten
- 2025 - Justine Betzler

PRIZES AND AWARDS

NEW THIS YEAR: The Hilltoppers Horse Show will count towards the Year End Brookhill Farm Horse Show Series, to be awarded in October.

AGAIN THIS YEAR:

Introducing the Blue/Red Warm up. Each horse entered in the warm up will be awarded a "red ribbon" for trips that score a 70 and above. A "blue ribbon" will be awarded for scores of 80 and above. No actual ribbons will be handed out but all "red ribbon" winners will be entered in a random drawing for a **\$50** prize and all "blue ribbon" winners will be entered in a drawing for a **\$100** prize.

\$1000 in prize money. Sponsored by Bearwood Show Services.

\$200 prize money for the Leading Hunter Rider and also for the Grand Hunter Champion. These will be the horse and rider who accumulate the most points in classes 2-13. Sponsored by Bearwood Show Services.

Dress sheets will be awarded to the Working Hunter Champion and the Grand Pony Hunter Champion. Sponsored by Bearwood Show Services.

Lucky Duck table will be back. Each Champion and Reserve Champion will have a choice of fun, and varied prizes.

\$100 dinner gift certificates will be awarded to the Leading Trainer and Leading Amateur Rider winners.

The Muffin Barnes Trophy is for the Leading Trainer. This is the trainer of the High Point Rider from the Equitation classes.

The Stephanie Guerlain Trophy is for the Leading Amateur rider. This will be the amateur rider accumulating the most points on one or more horses in classes 2-21 (equitation classes not to count). To be eligible the amateur must show in the Children's/Adult Hunter section.

PLEASE PRE-ENTER!!!

Entries can be made at ringradar.com

All horses will pay a \$15 office fee. **\$20 office fee if not pre-entered.**

Entries are \$20 a class with the exception of the Blue/Red Warm which will be \$25.

No entry will be allowed to pick up their numbers without showing a current Coggins test.

An open check is needed before numbers will be issued to exhibitors.

\$50 charge for any returned checks.

Weather permitting, schooling will be available the Friday before the show from Noon until 5 o'clock. \$25 per horse payable to BHF.

PARKING Please be considerate and follow parking signs. Park in a logical manner so there is room for everyone.

Direct all questions to Stephen Bickers. Home phone 434-361-9420
Cell/text 434-906-8378

RULES – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

- This show is a VHSA and BHSA Associate Horse Show.
- Pre-entry fee \$20 per class except for Class 1, Blue/Red Warm up which is \$25. No penalty for pre-entries that do not show. Pre-entries must be received by 5 PM, Friday, May 29th. 2026.
- \$15 Office Fee will be charged for each horse. **\$20 office fee for any horses entered the day of the show as opposed to pre entry.**
- One warm up per horse allowed without approval from management.
- Schooling fee \$35 for any horse which schools but does not show.
- CURRENT NEGATIVE COGGINS REQUIRED
- Open schooling until 7:30 A.M. and before Class 23 (Pony Equitation). There will be a 10 minute Short Stirrup Schooling session before Class 42.
- Lunch will be available on the grounds.
- All riders must wear ASTM approved headgear at all times when mounted.
- Neither FHC nor the landowners will be responsible for accident, injury, or loss of property on the show grounds.
- No dogs allowed on the show grounds.
- Ponies may be ridden by adults in the Schooling Hunter and Low Hunter divisions.

DIVISIONS DESCRIPTIONS

(V denotes VHSA, B denotes BHSA)

SCHOOLING HUNTER – Open to all horses and ponies. Fences 2'6" or 3', rider's choice. **(B)**

GREEN HUNTER – Open to horses only, in their first or second year of showing over fences at 2'6" and above. Fences 2'6" or 3', rider's choice. **(V,B)**

WORKING HUNTER – Open to horses only. Fences 3'- 3'3", or 3'3" -3'6", rider's choice. **(V,B)**

VHSA/BHSA EQUITATION ON THE FLAT - Open to Junior and Amateur Adult riders. Will be combined if fewer than 3 entries in each class.

VHSA/BHSA ASSOCIATE EQUITATION - Fences 2'6" Children's and Adults. Ponies will jump their appropriate heights. At judge's discretion may include a flat phase. Riders do not have to be members to show in these classes. Black Cat Farm Trophy will not be awarded in a combined class if a Child is not the winner.

CHILDREN'S/ADULT AMATEUR HUNTER – Open to horses only. Fences 2'6" or 3', rider's choice. Will be split if at least 4 entries in each section. **(V,B)**

THOROUGHBRED HUNTER - Open to horses registered with, or eligible to be registered with the Jockey Club. Fences 2'6" or 3', rider's choice. **(V,B)**

LEADLINE – Open to riders 7 & under. May not enter any class that requires a trot. To be judged 50% on rider and 50% on suitability of mount. **(B)**

SHORT STIRRUP HUNTER: Open to riders 12 and under. Cross-entry of both Horse/Pony and rider not allowed in any VHSA recognized division with the exception of Equitation on the flat and Pleasure per VHSA rules. Fences 18". **(V)**

SHORT/LONG STIRRUP EQUITATION: Short- 12 and under. Long- 13 and up. Fences 18". May not cross enter into any classes that have fences higher than 18". **(B)**

HORSE PLEASURE – Open to all. Will be combined if entries warrant. **(V,B)**

PONY PLEASURE – Open to all ponies ridden by juniors. **(V,B)**

LOW HUNTER – Open to all horses and ponies. Simple courses. Fences 2' or 2'3". **(B)**

PONY HUNTER – Open to ponies ridden by juniors. Fences 2' for Small Ponies, 2'3" for Medium Ponies and 2'6" for Large Ponies. **(V,B)**

LIMIT RIDER HUNTER – Open to horses and ponies ridden by Juniors or Adult/Amateurs who are not entered in any classes jumping 2'6" or higher. Fences 2' or 2'3". May be combined with Low Hunter if there are not enough entries. **(B)**

SPONSORS

We are humbled and appreciative for the support the Horse Show has received over the years. Thanks to the following sponsors for 2026. Without you, none of this would be possible.

**SILVER SPONSOR – SARAH BODIN MD & QUALITY OF LIFE
PHYSICIAN WEIGHT MANAGEMENT- BLUE/RED WARM UP**

DR. JULIA C. IEZZONI– SCHOOLING HUNTER DIVISION

LOCKE AND DAVE OGENS– GREEN HUNTER DIVISION

MR. AND MRS. MAGRUDER DENT, III – WORKING HUNTER DIVISION

DR. AND MRS. HAL YOUNG – CHILDREN'S/ADULT HUNTER DIVISION

XXVI RACING LLC. – THOROUGHBRED HUNTER DIVISION

**MADELINE, HANNAH, GUS AND LIAM HARP – SHORT STIRRUP HUNTER
DIVISION**

B J KOROL – PONY PLEASURE DIVISION

ANN HORNER – JUNIOR HORSE PLEASURE DIVISION

BELVOIR FARM AND LIZ CARTER – ADULT HORSE PLEASURE DIVISION

PELL DELL FARM AND ANGIE PELL – LOW HUNTER DIVISION

KIM AND DON SKELLY- PONY HUNTER DIVISION

TARA E. MURRAY – SHORT STIRRUP EQUITATION DIVISION

PRISCILLA FRIEDBERG – LIMIT RIDER HUNTER DIVISION

REBECCA BARLOW – EQUITATION ON THE FLAT (14 AND UNDER)

REBECCA BARLOW – EQUITATION ON THE FLAT (15-17)

DALE DEALTREY AND HOWARD MILLER --EQUITATION ON THE FLAT (ADULT)

STEWART SUMMERS RITTENBERRY – VHSA CHILDREN'S EQUITATION

MARY BUFORD HITZ – VHSA ADULT EQUITATION

MARY BUFORD HITZ – VHSA PONY EQUITATION

MR AND MRS BOK SUMMERS – LEADLINE

MRS SAM WELLS – BEST CHILD RIDER

PELL DELL FARM AND ANGIE PELL – LEADING HUNTER RIDER

MARY BUFORD HITZ - LEADING TRAINER AWARD

REBECCA BARLOW – GRAND CHAMPION HUNTER

\$100 DINNER GIFT CERTIFICATES

JAMES MCKINLEY – STEPHANIE GUERLAIN MEMORIAL TROPHY (Leading Amateur Rider)

SALLY AND BOB POWERS – MUFFIN BARNES MEMORIAL TROPHY (Leading Trainer – Equitation)

HILLTOPPERS HORSE SHOW PARADE OF TROPHIES

CAPTAIN BUTLER CHALLENGE TROPHY – Schooling Hunter Champion

POLARIS FARM CHALLENGE TROPHY – Green Hunter Champion

FALDERAL CHALLENGE TROPHY – Working Hunter Champion

PICASSO PERPETUAL TROPHY – Thoroughbred Hunter Champion

HILLTOPPERS CHALLENGE TROPHY – Grand Champion Hunter

MEDAL OF HONOR CHALLENGE TROPHY – Leading Hunter Rider

MUFFIN BARNES MEMORIAL PERPETUAL TROPHY – Awarded to the Trainer of the High Score Equitation Rider

SMOKEY PERPETUAL TROPHY – Short Stirrup Hunter Champion

BLACK CAT FARM CHALLENGE TROPHY -Winner of the VHSA Children's Equitation class.

KESTRAL MEMORIAL CHALLENGE TROPHY – Grand Champion Pleasure

KID AGAIN CHALLENGE TROPHY – Grand Champion Pony Hunter

SWISS DIAMOND CHALLENGE TROPHY -Best Child Rider

SASHA BERNATH MEMORIAL CHALLENGE TROPHY – Best trip in the Pony Hunter Stake classes.

STEPHANIE GUERLAIN MEMORIAL TROPHY – Awarded to the Leading Amateur Rider in morning hunter classes

COME JOIN US AND MAKE SOME MEMORIES!

Hilltoppers Horse Show
c/o Stephen Bickers
122 Gasp Ln
Faber, VA 22938