

Andalusians and Lusitanos Stars of Surf and Sun Show

By Barbara Price

Del Mar – The International Andalusian and Lusitano Horse Association's (IALHA) Surf & Sun Show, the third of the season hosted by IALHA's California Show Committee, was held June 21–22 at the Del Mar Horse Park in Del Mar.

New to the Surf & Sun this year, Friesian classes were included in the show. The International Friesian Show Horse Association (IFSHA) approved and sanctioned this show for their high-point program. The combination of so many stunning Andalusians and the majestic jet-black Friesians made for a spectacular weekend and attracted a larger number of spectators than usual for the June show.

Despite a record-setting heat wave, highly unusual for the beautiful seaside locale, nearly 70 horses and riders took part in the show. In addition to regular competition, the show offers IALHA members the opportunity to qualify horses for the association's West Coast Regional and National competitions held later this year.

"The Surf & Sun Show and the Del Mar Horse Park venue is one of my favorite shows," says Andalusian trainer Warren Mather of Simi Valley. Mather, who brought nine horses to the show, took home top honors for Andalusian Champion Stallion with Cuervo ADF for owner Al Martinez and Andalusian Champion Mare & Grand Champion Halter with Metalica RAR for owner Alvaro Ramirez.

The Andalusian English Pleasure Hunt Seat Championship was won by Tim Keeling riding Prusio. Leslie Charleson took the Andalusian Country English Pleasure Championship on her horse Romero CL., and Susann Regalmuto and Candescence won the half-Andalusian English Pleasure Championship. The Andalusian Western Pleasure Championship went to Glenn Wilson and Xarpei V.O.



Photo: Rick Osteen Photography

Metalica RAR, a 5-year-old Andalusian mare owned by Alvaro Ramirez of Los Angeles, took home top honors for both Andalusian Champion Mare and Grand Champion Andalusian Halter at the International Andalusian & Lusitano Horse Association's Surf & Sun Show held June 21-22 in Del Mar. Pictured left to right: Moe Gutierrez (ring steward); Raul, Robert and Alvaro Ramirez; Sue Burkman (judge); Warren Mather (trainer); Metalica RAR

In the Andalusian Junior Exhibitor division, Victoria Price riding Caraquita RS won both the 17 & Under English Pleasure Hunt Seat and the Hunt Seat Equitation classes. Lauren Mercer and Camano took first place in the 17 & Under Western Pleasure class. Kristin Wooley riding Brillante de la Parra took home the blue ribbon for the 14–17 Western Pleasure class.

Friesian Champion In Hand honors went to Dante, owned by Friesian Quest, LLC.

Seelchen Feibush captured both the Friesian Dressage Suitability Championship with Walter v.d. Badwei and the Friesian Dressage Hack Championship with Ulkje van de Bekzied. Rembrandt F.Q. won the Friesian Saddle Seat Championship and was also named Reserve Champion Friesian in Hand.

Crusader, owned by Dana Zalesny and shown by Tom Sofra, won the Friesian Carriage Pleasure Driving Championship, and Valerie Daidah exhibited her wonderful pair of Friesians,

Jelte and Tsjibbe.

Pegasus, owned by Friesian Quest, LLC, won the \$100 Friesian Liberty Class with his handlers Sandra Williams and Kristen Andersen.

Six-year-old Haley Attig earned a blue ribbon for Friesian Walk/Trot Leadline aboard D'Artagnan, owned by Robyn Bodecker.

Visit www.horsheshowtime.com for complete show results.

The next IALHA West Coast show, Viva Del Mar, will be held August 9–10 at the Del Mar Horse Park. Andalusians and Friesians will show together again. The Del Mar Horse Park will also host a qualifying open dressage show August 9–10.

New Rules for Import of Entertainment Horses

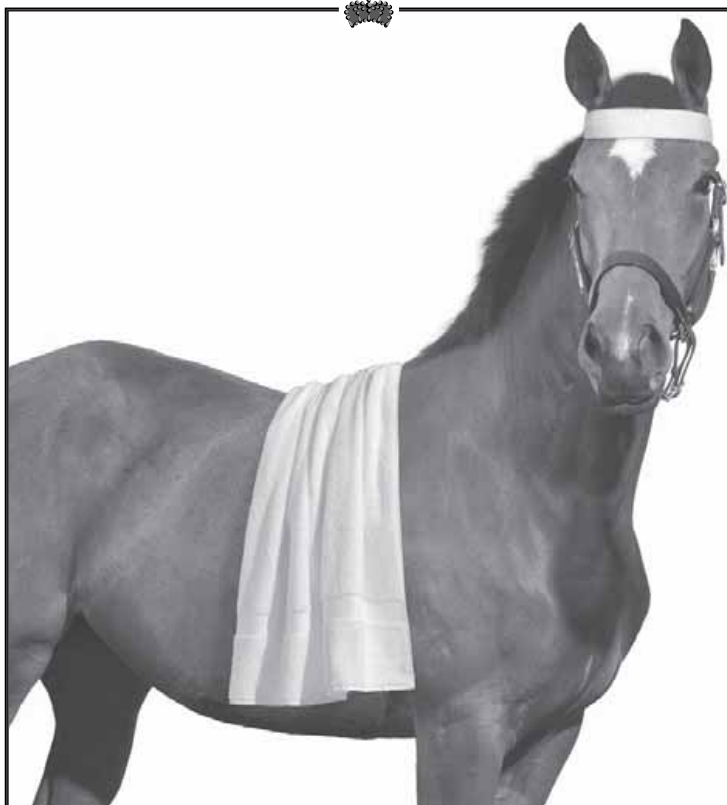
Washington, DC – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has amended its import rules to allow noncompetitive entertainment horses to be temporarily brought into the U.S. from countries affected with the venereal disease, Contagious Equine Metritis. The final rule, titled Temporary Importation of Horses: Noncompetitive Entertainment Horses From Countries Affected with Contagious Equine Metritis, went into effect July 7.

Noncompetitive entertainment horses are those that participate in performances or exhibitions, such as circus horses, the Lippizan Horses of Austria and the performance stallions in Cavalia. It does not affect horses entered into competitions, such as races or shows.

The final rules allow these non-competitive entertainment horses to enter the U.S. without having to be test bred under a special permit that is longer than the 90-day permit for competitive horses. The new rules impose additional requirements for the importation of these horses, including information that must be provided to apply for a permit and the plans and itineraries for housing, transit and performances while in the U.S. The permits, if approved, will last for one year, and the importer can apply to renew the permit.

The rules require that these noncompetitive entertainment horses be imported and maintained in the U.S. through a trust-fund agreement executed by the horse's owner or importer. This would ensure that the government is reimbursed for the services it provides, such as administrative costs and costs for a USDA representative to monitor the horses. The agreement is also intended to ensure that the importer will be able to fully uphold the requirements specified for these horses over extended periods of time.

"The American Horse Council has been working on this issue for some time and is pleased that the final rule has been published and will soon go into effect," said Kerry Thompson, AHC director of Health and Regulatory Affairs. "It will provide appropriate requirements to allow the importation of these unique entertainment horses, while maintaining the safeguards currently in place for the U.S. horse population."



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