

A year ago, Equestrian Connect was launched in California. However, in the past year they have expanded dramatically and now offer their services to over 450 shows in Zones 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, and select shows in Canada. Equestrian

Connect has grown an average of 200 users per month, and there are now over 4,000 horses in the system.

"In California, we have had a much more personal marketing appeal, since we are able to go to the shows and talk to trainers and show managers," explains founder Barbara Phillips. "In other geographies, we aren't as personally present, and we are thrilled to see the positive reception the service has been getting. The horse show managers have also been very welcoming, and many are actively encouraging their exhibitors to use the service by putting our logo and link on their websites."



Simone and Barbara

With the high demands on the infrastructure of the system, founders Simone Otus Coxe and Barbara Phillips were careful to control their growth to other areas of the country to ensure continuing high quality service. They have optimized the code and enhanced the hosting environment to improve performance and create a better experience and the ability to continue expanding to the remaining zones. With four layers of security, user information is stored safely on the system, and it now allows storing the social security number as an option.

"It makes doing entries so much easier," says trainer Heidi Misrahy. "All the information is right there, so you don't have to look it up. Using Equestrian Connect saves me at least an hour a show on filling out entry forms, and there are much better things I could be doing with that time. They also send reminders when entries are due, and that's nice."

This service not only benefits the exhibitors and those filling forms in on their behalf, but it also benefits show management. They receive legible, complete forms. The forms used by Equestrian Connect are the actual show forms, not computer generated approximations.



Equestrian Connect Founder Simone Otus Coxe

"This service is a win-win for the riders, trainers, owners and show secretaries," says Lisa Engel of Horse Shows in the Sun (HITS). "Equestrian Connect has simplified this once tedious process of completing entry forms and by doing so, allows all of us to be more productive. For the competitors, they don't have to worry about their name being mispronounced or their prize money returned undelivered because we couldn't read their handwriting. For the show

secretaries, they save time in deciphering illegible forms."

New users may use Equestrian Connect for 90 days on a free trial, and then a subscription charge of \$39.99 per year or \$8 on a per-use basis applies. For more information or to sign up, visit <u>www.equestrianconnect.com</u> or like them on <u>Facebook</u>.

LEG Up News is now on <u>Facebook</u>! Like our page to get news and updates, and watch for give-aways and contests available only to our fans.



LEG Up News provides public relations and marketing services to the equestrian sport, especially show jumping and dressage. LEG Up News features stories about events, riders, associations, and key competitions that have national and international championships. For more information or to obtain photos, please contact LEG UP News at <u>marnyelanger@gmail.com</u>. Please contact us for additional stories from this and other shows, as well as additional quotes.

Contact: Marnye Langer | marnyelanger@gmail.com | 818.563.3250 ext. 6

LEG Up News | 480 W. Riverside Drive, Suite 1 | Burbank, CA 91506