



Hinnemann Headlines: Adequan/USDF FEI-Level Trainers Conference Comes to California in February.

The 2018 Adequan®/USDF FEI-Level Trainers Conference will be moving to California, with featured presenter Johann Hinnemann. This conference will be held February 6-7, in the main arena of the new Adequan® West Coast Dressage Festival in Del Mar.

Presenter Johann Hinnemann is recognized worldwide as a trainer and coach, having served as Canada's team trainer and German National Coach, alongside Klaus Balkenhol. His student roster reads like a "Who's Who" of Olympic medalists and various national champions, including Steffen Peters, Coby van Baalen, Marlies van Baalen, Ulla Salzgeber, Heiki Kemmer, and Alexandra Simmons de Ridder.

As was detailed in our August issue, Johann is a big part of the operation at Hinnemann Farm in Riverside County's Murrieta. There, his son Stephan and dressage-trainer daughter-in-law Natalie operate a sales, training and breeding endeavor that includes many horses and ponies bred by Johann in Germany. Johann visited California regularly over the years and has been expected to spend longer stretches of time Stateside starting this year.

USDF President George Williams stated that "while we will miss having a Florida conference in 2018, we are excited to be able to offer one on the West Coast with Johann Hinnemann. Two years ago, when he previously served as presenter, his tremendous expertise and experience was evident as he shared his knowledge with the riders and trainers attending from around the country. We are currently making plans for the return of the trainers conference to Florida in 2019."

Auditor registration for the conference became available November 1. For those interested in

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participating as a demonstration rider, visit the USDF website at www.usdf.org for the application and deadline. For more information on the Adequan®/USDF FEI-Level Trainers Conference, including criteria for attendance, please contact the USDF office at trainersconference@usdf.org, or by phone at 859-971-2277.

Edited press release provided by USDF.

Discover Dressage: New pathway program for emerging athletes.

US Equestrian and the United States Dressage Federation launch the Discover Dressage™ USEF/USDF Emerging Athlete Program. Aimed at providing strategic guidance and educational opportunities to athletes under the age of 25, the USEF/USDF program will provide access to educational opportunities and competition planning for qualified athletes.

Discover Dressage, and their President Kimberly Van Kampen, has stepped forward as title sponsor for the Dressage Emerging Athlete Program for the next four years. With a mission to 'inspire and encourage American youth to discover dressage,' Discover Dressage's partnership with the program is an exciting addition.

The program launched with a High-Intensity Training Session (HITS) in October, in Gladstone, N.J. Following the scheduled Training and Evaluation Sessions led by USEF Dressage Youth Coach George Williams and USEF Dressage Assistant Youth Coach Charlotte Bredahl-Baker, the Discover Dressage USEF/USDF Emerging Athlete Program will select athletes for membership who have the likelihood of developing into a future team athlete.

"I'm excited to see this new program launched," says Williams. "I believe by establishing a clear

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pathway for our young athletes, we can help them to achieve even greater success.”

In order to participate in the Training and Evaluation Sessions, athletes must have competed at a minimum of three qualifying competitions for the USEF Dressage National Championships and FEI North American Junior and Young Rider Championships (NAJYRC) and/or CDI or CDIO-Y/J/P/Ch events over the course of six months. Wild card invitations will also be considered.

Athletes in the U25 division who are not qualified for the USEF Dressage Development Program are also eligible for support and membership to the Discover Dressage USEF/USDF Emerging Athlete Program, as well as Children and Pony riders looking for educational opportunities. The Emerging Athlete Program will also recognize and work with organizations, clubs, or individuals that provide educational events and opportunities to youth dressage athletes through the development of the Discover Dressage USEF/USDF Emerging Athlete Partner Program list.

Additional benefits of program membership include opportunities to participate in training sessions and clinics, select one-on-one coaching, access to USEF human and equine sports science and medicine educational programs, score analysis, assistance in competition age bracket transitions, and possible financial assistance towards agreed upon training and competition targets.

Training and Evaluation Sessions will be conducted several times throughout the year, and athletes can apply online. Find out more about the Discover Dressage USEF/USDF Emerging Athlete Program at www.usef.org.

Press release provided by US Equestrian.