



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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AHA's Sport Horse Nationals is Raleigh Bound in 2015

(20-June-14 – AURORA, CO) – The Arabian Horse Association (AHA) is excited to announce the relocation of Sport Horse Nationals to the Gov. James B. Hunt Jr. Horse Complex in Raleigh, NC for the 2015 national show.

In keeping with the policy of AHA, an on-site visit made by AHA's Sport Horse Commission Chair, William Pennington, Sport Horse Commissioner, Gary Hooghkirk, National Event Coordinator, Susan Laessig and AHA's Executive Vice President (EVP), Glenn T. Petty was completed in May. It was then determined that this complex would greatly enable the growth and expansion of this national show.

With the addition of an In-Hand split in the Sport horse In-Hand ring, the need for at least a one-day extension of the show was determined. Adding a day to the show made it necessary for AHA to consider new options and facilities to accommodate Sport Horse Nationals. Additionally, a facility that would agree to an every other year contract was also desired, in order to allow for an east/west coast rotation. Raleigh provided a great venue for these options.

This nationally acclaimed facility and grounds is one of the busiest equine facilities in North Carolina and Virginia, serving many horse disciplines and breeds. With its amenities for horses and exhibitors alike, the complex provides 485 permanent stalls with asphalt aisle ways. A shed barn with 100 stalls on asphalt is also available. Finishing out stalling, Hocker clear span tents will be utilized on specially prepared pads. Ring space for showing and warm-up are plentiful, with convenient bath areas for horses.

Exhibitors can also enjoy convenient camping, showers, restrooms and a cafeteria all located on site. A variety of restaurants and hotels can be found close to the grounds, with the Raleigh International Airport just 10-15 minutes away.

"It is now AHA policy to put out bids for all facilities for all National shows at least one year in advance," says AHA's President, Cynthia Richardson. "After the Raleigh site visit and numerous Go-To Meeting visuals and conference calls, the enthusiasm of the commission was inspiring, as it is their belief that they are doing the best for our exhibitors."

AHA is excited to be working with a facility that wants to meet exhibitors' needs and put on a fabulous horse show. For more information on the Gov. James B. Hunt Jr. Horse Complex, visit www.ncstatefair.org/facilities/hunt.htm.

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