

UNH Hosts Spring Horse Trials May 6-7

By [Sharon Keeler](#)
UNH News Bureau

DURHAM, N.H. -- The University of New Hampshire Spring Horse Trials will be held Saturday and Sunday, May 6-7, in Durham. More than 100 competitors of all ages and abilities will compete at the novice, training and preliminary levels. Among them are UNH students enrolled in the instructor's or advanced horsemanship class who compete on university-owned horses.

The UNH Horse Trials are run by students participating in the horsemanship program, under the direction of Professor Janet Briggs. Each student is assigned a specific job in one of the three phases of the event. Prior to the trials, students work on such jobs as finding sponsors, gaining publicity, organizing the dressage phase, building cross country fences, setting up a stadium course and coordinating stabling arrangements. In addition, students work the two days of the trials in a variety of positions to assure that everything runs smoothly and efficiently. Approximately 80 students are responsible for this nationally recognized event.

The UNH Horse Trials have been recognized by the United States Combined Training Association and the American Horse Show Association for the past 27 years. The first trials were created and organized by Briggs, who is still involved with the UNH equine program and oversees the event each semester

The trials will be held at the UNH Light Horse Center on Mast Road. Competition begins at 8 a.m. each day and will run through the afternoon. There is plenty of parking and refreshments will be available. Admission is free.

For more information, contact Elizabeth Merrill at 603-868-7811 or Professor Janet Briggs at 862-1174.

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