



Indiana's Horse Trainer's Challenge provides handlers a place to shine

Our goal for this challenge is to provide trainers from different regions of the state, the opportunity to showcase their skills to horse owners and offer a resource for horse owners seeking a trainer. One of the most important character traits a horse trainer can have is to be able to convey to their clients how to do something. You can be the best horseperson in the world, have the most ability to ride a horse, but it is important you can convey that to clients.

Come and watch all 4 Natural Horsemanship Trainers work their horses at the same time. They will have 2 one hour sessions to work with their horse in their round pen with a 10 minute break in between. Each Trainer will explain to the audience, one at a time, what they are doing and why as they work with their horse.

In this Challenge 4 trainers will have 4 unbroke horses to start, gentle and ride in just a few hours. These horses have never been saddled, bridled, nor ridden, however they are halter broke.

The next day, all 4 Trainers continue their work with their horses in the round pens. Some will choose to leave the round pens and ride their horse in the arena as they prepare their horses for the obstacle course. They will all have two 45 minute sessions to work with their horse, with a 10 minute break in between.

Next, all 4 Trainers will each have 12 minutes to ride their horse thru the obstacle course, one at a time. Trainers can bring their own props.

In this Challenge, trainers compete for prizes as scored by a panel of judges. The overall winner of the challenge will be named and showcased as one of the 2019 HHF & E Clinicians. The judging at this challenge is based 10% on the horse, 60% on the trainer's ability to train the horse and 30% on the trainer's ability to educate the attendees. So the trainer that gets his/her horse to do the most or does a better presentation at the finals won't necessarily win. The winner of the challenge will be the trainer that can achieve the highest success with both the horse & the spectators.

We invite trainers from across Indiana and the neighboring states to step up and show everyone what they can do with their horse. Entry fee: \$350. Please fill out the 2018 Indiana Trainer's Challenge Application! 4 trainers selected. Please note: Applying for the Challenge does not assure you will be chosen to compete. The \$350 fee is refundable if not selected. We generally like to wait for all applications to be submitted before choosing trainers, so you may not be notified of acceptance until mid to late December. However, you are welcome to contact us at hoosierhorsefair.org to ask about the status of your application!

You do not need to be a professional trainer to enter the challenge. We can have a nice mix of both professional and amateur trainers. We do ask that all entrants have enough experience training horses to ensure a positive outcome for both horse and trainer. Competing in the challenge is a perfect way to gain experience for a future career as a professional trainer!

We will post trainer contact information on our website and Facebook page. During the challenge itself, each trainer is given a table on which to display any materials they choose to provide (photos, newspaper articles, videos, testimonials, brochures, etc.). There is plenty of time throughout the challenge for audience members to speak directly with trainers. CONTACT US hoosierhorsefair.org. Winner receives a spot as one of the 2019 headline HHF & E Clinicians and sit on the judging panel for 2019 Trainer's challenge.

Judges for the 2018 Challenge will be announced prior to the event

Indiana Trainer's Challenge Applicant

Trainer Name

Address

Phone number

Describe your riding/ training history, including any competitive history, anyone you have trained with, how long you have been riding or training, etc.

Have you ever competed in other trainer challenges?

Fee: \$350

Rules of the Indiana Trainer's Challenge

Contestants are to bring their own equipment such as halter, saddle, pad, ropes and any props they may need to work with the horse that they have drawn. No abusing the horse. No spurs, tie downs, and no hobbles or leg restraints of any kind. No blindfolding the horse. The horse cannot be tied up to be saddled. No bits allowed except an O ring snaffle bit. The horse can be ridden with a halter, bozell, or bridle.