

Jump Steward Course, Barbados February 17-18th

Sandhya and myself attended the shortened Jump Steward course in Barbados.

The course was led by a level 2 Jump Steward that was very committed and eager to give us as much knowledge as possible in this short time to prepare us for National stewardship. A normal Steward Course would go over three full days.

Content;

Basic of stewarding; welfare of horse; vet assistance; stable security; warm up and schooling; tack control; approach, behaviour and conflict management, fences and practical tools in the arena; FEI update

Objective:

Teach the same principles, theory, understanding of rules, values, fairness and equality, complicity with the animal and respect for the environment and the horse.

FEI Jumping rules states that all international competitions should be Stewarded. The FEI World Challenge competition does not comply with this at the moment but there is an urge for at least having a National Steward at the competitions to teach our riders international rules and look after the welfare of the horse.

There is unfortunately a lot of cheating in the show jumping world including medication, training techniques, preparation of tack., malnutrition etc etc..

The role of the FEI Steward is to

Help; Prevent; Intervene ...

Being involved in all from stable close off, safety, watch, veterinary assistance for horse inspection and vet check, monitoring warm up area (controlling fences used and heights), tack control, riders equipment, behaviour of rider, yellow card etc..

The course was a real eye opener and discussions for how better implementing this within the CEA and the FEI Challenge competitions have already started. Barbados also hopes to be able to arrange the full level 1 international Steward Course in the near future.

The final day ended with a practical session at Di Clarkes stable and all participants receiving their certificates as National Stewards.

For the upcoming FEI WJC I will see what should and can be implemented.

Thanks TTEA for contributing to this course!

Katarina