

# HAK NEWSLETTER

HORSE ASSOCIATION OF KENYA

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## THE CHAIRMAN'S ROUND-UP

So far my tenure as Chairman has been a bit more exciting than I expected. Much of this is really positive, as we are moving fast to catch up in many areas including Constitution, Rules and working hard on a web site which will be a very good communication tool. Things have improved, but we are still suffering with too few in our Association working too hard to benefit the whole membership.

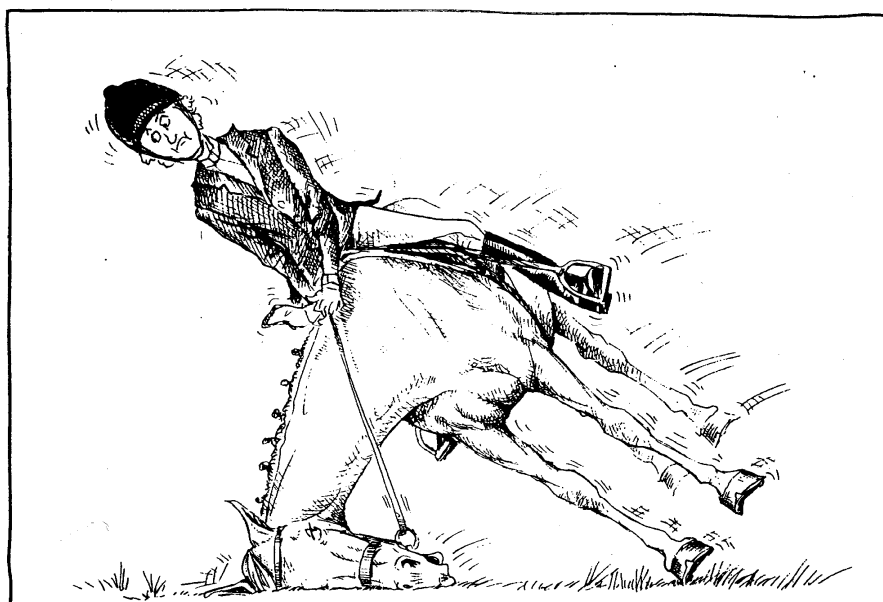
### WE NEED SOME MORE VOLUNTEERS.

Look in the Judge's boxes and Office - same faces. Look on the Committees - many of the same workers. Lucky for us, those who work - work really hard on our behalf. Unsung heroes are many, not the least of whom is Avice Belletti who has put in hundreds (well make that thousands) of hours making this Newsletter interesting, fun to read and full of information.

The other side of the coin is the sad fact that there are still too many who complain but not constructively. A lot of the complaints I get are of a purely personal nature and this is not reasonable. There are those who have nothing nice to say but are not prepared to help improve things. One serious problem of our modern lives is that time is now such a short commodity. Many have to travel a lot and all are very busy. This is a surprise to no one BUT I ask you, all the members, to take some time to think a bit. What do you want the HAK to provide for you and what are you prepared to do, to make it happen??

In the words of John F. Kennedy **"If you are not part of the solution, you are part of the problem"**.

We are all passionate about our horses whether for competition or not. This passion needs to be nurtured so **PLEASE** - let's be positive, helpful and cheerful and all enjoy the friends, sport, companionship and horses that we love so much.



"Leaning on the inside rein" (refers to Dressage Page 8)

## HOTYS 2006 LIVES UP TO EXPECTATIONS

*Reported by Fahya Karimbux*

The 57<sup>th</sup> Horse of the Year Show promised to be an exciting and fun-filled event, with a generously sponsored billboard on Ngong Road, a new look programme, good entries and a well planned finale and it didn't disappoint.

A sunny Thursday morning set the scene for the events to come, along with well irrigated arenas (a job well done by Owen and his team). HOTYS '06 was away, starting with dressage and the showing classes. There was good competition in the hack and hunter classes, which probably didn't make our visiting UK judge, Mrs. Rachel Bown's task any easier. At the end of the hacks classes Mrs. Viljoen's beautiful Summer Breeze was declared the champion with Daisy Bulloch's The Fiddler in reserve. Tristan Voorspuy's Hotspur, ridden by Ali Morrisby, took the judge's eye to claim the champion hunter title and continued his winning streak by taking the Good-year sponsored Grand Champion under Saddle, with Debbie Boyd-Moss's Sheila in reserve. (See the full list of champions following this article).

We again welcomed back course builder Kris Van Gelder, who provided excellent courses throughout the show, starting with the A/B power and speed, showcasing some of our top show jumping talent, which was won by none other than Judy Limb on Ugly Bug. The JC power and speed that followed was hotly contested and all the young speed merchants rode well and had their mothers' guts doing somersaults! First place went to Merry/Speedylegs and Lynda Christy. The Cable Stitch brought the day's events to a close with the top place going to McGeorge and The Fiddler.

Day 2 proved to be very hectic. The champion riding horse title went to Debbie's Sheila with Mary Binks' Walvis Bay, ridden by Sarah Trent in reserve. The afternoon classes brought out all the D and C

graders showing their skills in the power and speed, top place being claimed by Superstar and Siobhan Walmsley for the young riders and Susie Nann on Killarney for the adults. All the young riders had it cut out for them as the power and speed was followed immediately by the Young Rider Championship, sponsored by Marco Polo. Nine rather hot and sweaty young riders took to the challenge and all rode very well, despite being tired. Even my ride, Al Nori decided that she was now too tired to break the sound barrier and settled instead for a double clear to win the championship, with Jemma Boyd-Moss aboard Gale Warning becoming reserve champions.

The third day started with the junior showing class, while the working hunter course played host to the adults and young rider. The champion pony went to Imogen Voorspuy's Ra-zeena with Tashi Maseland's Simeon in reserve. The dressage brigade continued to keep their judges busy and the show jumping continued apace with the Courageous Championship, sponsored by Ultimate Security, going again to Judy with Ugly Bug, followed by Justine Bengough and Hob Nob taking the Digital sponsored Rosy Savage Memorial Class. The Proud Command had everyone's attention and despite being rather tired, each rider guided their steed round the course very well, with Gifted Warrior doing an exceptional job riding away in first place. Whilst Kris Van Gelder built course after course, Rachel Bown was judging all the in-hand classes in the 'blazin' sun. All the horses were beautifully presented with Judy Limb's Planter's Punch emerging as Champion. After a hard day's work nearly everyone was to be found at Jamhuri Park's very own watering hole -

t h e b a r !

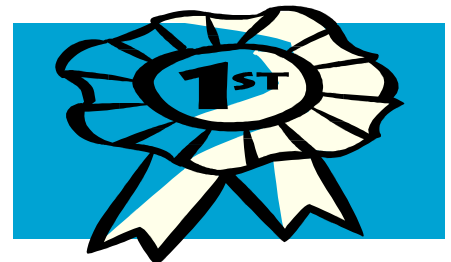
A slight hitch in the programme saw the open elementary dressage being moved to first thing Sunday morning. I was among the lucky few, which meant the only place I was going on Saturday night was

Club Kitanda! It was a lovely morning and the tests were well ridden with first place going to Susie Nann and Maborosi.

Sunday still had more champions to be crowned, starting with the Land Rover D and C Grade speed championships. The ecstatic crowd led by Shella Karimbux, Owen Walmsley and Sarah Trent had exceptional energy that morning and could be heard down at the stables cheering the riders on. Top place went to Judy Limb, this time aboard Planter's Punch for the D grade and Justine Bengough riding Hob Nob for the Cs. Arena 2 hosted the leading rein classes, the winner being Georgina Boyd-Moss aboard Thunder Cloud and not her mum as a newspaper reported. Lynda and Merrylegs continued their winning streak by winning the JC championship.

The dressage was still going strong with both Mary Binks and Ali Morrisby riding the advanced elementary down at the Rosy Savage arena. Kris provided another top course for the Karen Blixen sponsored grade D and C championships. Again, the class had a good standard of riding, with the second round catching the many clears from the first but provided us with our winner, Judy again on Planter's Punch. Siobhan and I shared the young riders' honours.

Finally, to the Championship of Kenya, sponsored by Standard Chartered. It was certainly an exciting class to watch; the crowd "oohed" and "aahhed" as each rider came in and did their thing. Judy pulled out all the stops and showed us all how it's done with not one but two double clears on each of her rides; she nominated Gifted Warrior as the champion and Ugly Bug as the reserve. Well done Judy!



Everyone was really excited by the excitement just before the prize-giving and with good reason. Santa arrived in a horse drawn carriage bearing sweets for all the kids. Soon everyone was looking in one direction – UP! Trying to spot the four daring skydivers (one of whom was

dressage judge Eric Boullay) among the clouds, who then made spectacular landings in the main arena. The acrobats twisted and turned in ways I didn't think were humanly possible, while a couple of kids tried to emulate them in the bouncy castles with not much success. And soon

it was time to give out the prizes, smile for the cameras and say our thanks to all the sponsors, the volunteers, without whose help there could be no show, and the biggest **THANK YOU** of all to **Gary Cattermole** and his team. **Roll on HOTYS 2007.**

**THE TOP AWARDS** (*With thanks once again to Janet Mills*)

**CHAMPION:**

- In Hand
- Childs Pony
- Working Pony
- Hack
- Riding Horse
- Hunter
- Working Hunter

**GRAND CHAMPION UNDER**

**SADDLE**

- Juv. Equitation
- YR Jumping
- D Grade
  
- D Grade Speed
- C Grade & C Speed
- Proud Command
  
- B Grade
- Courageous

**CHAMPIONSHIP of KENYA**

**VICTOR LUDORUMS:**

- Juvenile Overall )
- Juvenile Jumping)
  
- YR Overall
  
- Adult Overall
  
- Adult Jumping
  
- Dressage

**CHAMPION**

- Planters Punch – J. Limb
- Razeena – I Voorspuy
- Sandpit – L. Flowers
- Summer Breeze – C.Viljoen
- Sheila – D. Boyd-Moss
- Hotspur – T. Voorspuy
- Hotspur – T. Voorspuy

**Hotspur – T. Voorspuy**

- L. Davey
- Al Nori – F. Karimbux
- Planters Punch – J. Limb )
- )
- )
- )
- )
- )
- Albertini – A. Abercromby-Dick
- Hob Nob – J. Bengough
- Gifted Warrior – J. Limb )
- )
- Gifted Warrior – J. Limb
- Ugly Bug – J. Limb

**Gifted Warrior – J. Limb**

- Razeena – I. Voorspuy
  
- Al Nori – F. Karimbux
  
- Hotspur – T. Voorspuy
  
- Gifted Warrior – J. Limb
  
- Slightly Dangerous – F. Karimbux

**RESERVE**

- Pendragon – A. Manor
- Simeon – T. Maseland
- Storm – S. Mousley
- The Fiddler – D. Bullock
- Walvis Bay – S. Trent
- Pickwick – A. Manor
- Sheila – D. Boyd-Moss

**Sheila – D. Boyd-Moss**

- L. Christy
- Gale Warning – G. Boyd-Moss
- Milly – C, Voorspuy
- Hi Falutin – G.Finch-Newey
- Mugeni – A. Mills
- Fife – L. Luckhurst
- En Avant – K. Mousley
- Planters Punch – J. Limb
- Killarney – S. Nann
- Idomeneo – A. Morrisby
- Killarney – S. Nann
- Rum Baba – S. Hays
- Splash Mountain – A. Abercromby-Dick

**Ugly Bug – J. Limb**

- Merrylegs – L. Christy
  
- Fidelio – S. Walmsley
  
- Gifted Warrior – J. Limb
  
- Ugly Bug – J. Limb
  
- Maborosi – S. Nann

## HAK 2007 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The HAK Annual General Meeting will be held  
on 2<sup>nd</sup> June at Jamhuri Park at 12 noon.

There will be a barbecue lunch and a chance to watch the FEI Group IX Gauntlet and training classes held that day.

Our still relatively new National Chairman Mary Binks will be delivering her report on her first year at the helm and putting forward her agenda for the future evolution of the Association and her hopes for our future.

The AGM is a bit later this year for two reasons. Firstly, it will enable us to have full Accounts for the year 2006 ready in time. Important also will be a vote to accept our NEW Constitution. Unlike our proposed National one, this is a document that we hope will be a foundation on which we can build our rules and can last with little change for years – After all, the American Constitution has only had 23 amendments in 200 years.. We have taken much high classed advice on our new constitution and the Executive hopes that it will meet with the full approval of the membership.

These will be available from 25<sup>th</sup> May so that all our members can peruse them thoroughly.

Of course there will be elections, including for National Vice Chairman, for Hon. Treasurer and for various spaces on the Technical and Administration Committees. The HAK NEEDS YOUR HELP to run our Association and make it an association run by the members for the members. **PLEASE** consider putting your name forward.

Annual awards will be presented with some adjustments to the scoring and categories, which should be exciting.

Once we get a new constitution, there will have to be a lot of adjustment to the Rule Book and the intention is to

make it much simpler and user-friendly and provide competitions that encourage our riders but also allow them to compete at levels where they are comfortable. The Meeting will be asked to approve that the first of these new rules will be allowed to come in on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2007, instead of waiting for 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2008.

Resolutions will be accepted and discussed – **HERE IS YOUR CHANCE** to voice complaints, see old friends and have a jolly good lunch. **DON'T MISS IT.**

## FINAL RESULTS AND REPORT FEI WORLD CHALLENGES 2006.

At long last all the results are in for the 2006 Challenges. It is possible to see the results as they come in, by going to the FEI Website: [www.horseport.org](http://www.horseport.org). Look under Development and then WDC or WJC and go to results. All the details are available there.

**DRESSAGE:** There were 52 countries this year divided into 11 groups. Our Group of 6 nations was - in order of results in the Team scores (and the number of riders who took part): Namibia (7), Zimbabwe (27), Zambia (12), Botswana (16), Kenya (19 – our biggest entry to date) and Swaziland (14). This year the team result, had to be taken from at least 3 of the four tests judged and we must make a stronger showing in the Advanced Test to improve there if we want to place higher in the team competition.

**Prix St. Georges:** won by Timolene Walraven of ZIM with 59.38%. We didn't have a rider.

**Advanced:** Won by Bridget O'Neill from BOT with 62.43%. Ali Morrisby on Lounge Lizard was 10<sup>th</sup> of the 14 competitors with 52.71%.

**Novice:** Won by Silke Kubirska of NAM

with 65.75. Ann Abercromby-Dick on Albertini was 4<sup>th</sup> with 61.11%, Harriet Mattock and Quite So 5<sup>th</sup> with 60.93 and Jenneke Hoogendoorn on Prince of Africa was 11<sup>th</sup> with 60%. 57 took part.

**Children's Test:** 24 riders took part and the winner was from Namibia with 67.20%. Linda Christy was 9<sup>th</sup> on Ivan with 60.60% and Jessica Milne (Boomerang) was 12<sup>th</sup> with 59.60%

**SHOW JUMPING Category A:** 35 teams took part this year and 380 Riders! Our Africa Group of 17 finishers, was won by Amelia Campbell-Horne from ZIM, with Karen Mousley and City Smasher second (what a pity that there is no final). Karen was 36<sup>th</sup> in the world (ie in the top 10%!). Judy Limb and Ugly Bug were 5<sup>th</sup> in Africa and 61<sup>st</sup> in the world and Rum Baba and Sharon Hays were 15<sup>th</sup> in Africa but 269<sup>th</sup> in the world. Africa Team wise, we were second behind Namibia which had 16 penalties to our 28. Zimbabwe had 29. Only those nations had a team to finish. In the world we finished 24<sup>th</sup> as a team. Just to make us feel a bit better, one poor rider from China Taipei managed to finish but had 108 penalties and their team had 93 penalties!! Only 50 riders managed the necessary 4 clears.

**SHOW JUMPING Category B:** 32 teams took part with 278 riders in all finishing (36 in Africa). Mugeni and Anita Mills were 9<sup>th</sup> in Africa and 64<sup>th</sup> in the world, Owen Walmsley and Dum Rumba were 17<sup>th</sup> in Africa and 137<sup>th</sup> in the world. En Avant and Karen Mousley were 141 in the world and 19<sup>th</sup> of the 36 in Africa. In the team competition, Guatemala won the world team. We were 23<sup>rd</sup> in the world. In Africa Namibia (8<sup>th</sup> world) won, ZIM was second (9<sup>th</sup> world) Zambia was 3<sup>rd</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> in the world and we were 4<sup>th</sup> in Africa.

All in all they were great fun competitions although the Category B format did not suit everyone. And many did not like it. Next year there will be more information and we can all practice a bit more. The two new Dressage Judges, Else Mouw and Maria Collander will be back again with us on 23<sup>rd</sup> October. The Show Jumping is scheduled for August 23 – 26<sup>th</sup>.

Kenya did not have bad results but certainly, there is room for improvement in 2007.



(Sue Alleyne's delving cont'd from previous page)

**THE SENORITA PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP** awarded at ASK Nairobi for novice riding horse is named after Senorita owned and ridden by Bidy Davis (Bailey). Senorita a 15.2hh mare born in 1959 by Triguero out of Golden Order came off the race track from Molly Hodge. She was Grade C in 1964 and Grade B in 1967 winning 14 championships. She also won hack championships being a really true hack, won in hand championships, working hunter classes, polo pony classes and played regularly, hunter classes, open eventer, dressage and combined training classes. In fact a brilliant all rounder who although hot was bomb proof and was frequently used for novice riders. In 1969 at a Mombasa show she was blinded by a photographer when taking off over a jump at dusk and broke her leg above the knee. She was brought back by the ASK in their lorry and taken to Kabete Vet Labs where the leg was operated on and set and eventually mended although the foot was damaged. Dr V J Varma was present during the operation as a young student. Senorita then had three foals, one of which was owned and ridden by Mrs Mary Robley.

**THE BROCADE CUP** awarded at HOTYS for novice hunter is named after Brocade who was a really honest bay 15.2hh mare born in 1954 by Thistlebrig out of Stirrup Cup owned by the 64 Army Transport Troop KAR and ridden by Brig. Gen Goodwin whose wife Anthea started and donated a cup for the Anthea Goodwin competitions at Pony Club inter-branch. Brocade was then owned and ridden by John Turnbull, Adeline Highton and then Mr and Mrs Ray Morrell. Ray showed her and remembers being carted round the ring three times in a hunter class when asked to gallop! She was strong but behaved well when being shown. She was show jumped by Vicky Needham Clark and Roland Minns and Gen. Goodwin hunted her. She was C grade in 1960, B grade in 1964 and then went back to C grade in 1974. She had three foals two of which she had when with the Morrells. Wayside Inn by Wayfarer, Vin d'or y Verre Dore and Marcella by Moby Dick. The last two raced, Marcella being a very good race

horse and the Morells daughter Nicola jumped and showed Vin d'or. Brocade sadly broke her leg when in the field. She was also called Noggins and Ray Morrell gave a Noggins Tankard for working hunter.

**THE SHORT MEASURE TANKARD** awarded at Easter Show for novice hunter is named after Short Measure a 16.1 1/2hh chestnut gelding who came off the race course, owned by Mr John Harris the Master of the Tanton hounds and regularly ridden to hounds. He was a lovely ride and John showed him and won many hunter classes, usually vying for first place with Rhodrigo. John's daughter Vicky Needham Clark show jumped him but he was not a very brave horse. Vicky also competed very successfully on her horse Tantonella and at one ASK Nairobi show the Harris family won every class they entered for with their various horses. Short Measure was then owned and hunted by Mr John Barnard who regularly rode with the Limuru hounds and was Chairman of Kabete Pony Club. **THIS CUP IS MISSING - HAS ANYBODY GOT IT?**

## THE FEI SHOW JUMPING JUDGES' SEMINAR

We flew into Johannesburg in a raging storm, with the plane not only going up and down but also seesawing from side to side rather alarmingly! We had to change course and circle for a while before being allowed to land. Then David and Maggie, Clare and I were picked up by a couple of jolly drivers and driven to the Cotswold Inn to join Lou Faulkner, who had flown down earlier in the day, whilst Mary drove herself to Bryce McCall's.

Accommodation was good, with David and Maggie being ensconced in the honeymoon suite - open plan bedroom and living room with bath (as well as television), and a loo with a view of a trampoline, clothes line and beautiful garden - in the main house, and us in a cottage at the other end of the garden.

The course began the next day at THS in Kyalami, with David, Clare and Mary going to the course Designers' seminar, and Lou, Maggie and I joining all the other budding, and some already flowering, judges in a large room of which one wall was completely glass, thereby magnifying the sun each afternoon. After a brief introduction on the first day we were suddenly thrown into a written test - panic in the ranks! However, all was not lost and I think everyone managed to complete the paper without too many problems before we were served a lunch of lasagne. The rest of the day was spent in accustoming ourselves with the many and varied things that can happen whilst judging, accompanied at times by wafts of lasagne emanating from the kitchen, whilst the afternoon grew hotter on out side of the glass wall! Fortunately the fans did not break down as they did three years ago.

The following day saw a continuation of explanations from Sven Holmberg, questions and answers, now going into the legal aspect, which got quite confusing, and the organizational side of things. There was also a demonstration of a vet check..... fortunately, or maybe unfortunately for the vet... the one horse that was supposed to be lame had walked it off and appeared before us as sound as a bell! Back to the classroom for more swotting. There was a couple of fully fledged South African judges sitting just in front of us who insisted on turning everything in the direction of what happens in South Africa, I think they fancied Sven like mad, which became slightly boring for the rest of us, so I amused myself by reading the laundry label through the see-through shirt of one of them. The Kenya contingent actually got a fit of the giggles.

*Cont'd from previous page*

That evening a barbeque was scheduled, but the rain came pouring down, accompanied by some spectacular lightning, so the meat was cooked on the covered balcony and we ate inside the 'class room'.

We had asked the taxi drivers to pick us up at around 9 that evening, but they were nowhere to be seen. Maggie spent quite a bit of time on her mobile trying to contact them, and we started walking. Eventually the taxis did arrive, with slightly pathetic excuses, and drove us back to the guest house.

Sunday was the day for course inspection. The Course Designers had built a course on the previous afternoon and had created some deliberate mistakes that we had to identify. We had to go round in threes, so we Kenyans stuck together and were really quite smug when we identified every mistake on the course! Then it was back to the classroom for the final exam. This was not quite such a bowl of cherries, and there was a lot of flicking through rule books and heavy sighs to be heard. There wasn't even a legible laundry label visible in Sandy's see-through shirt to entertain me! Once it was all over everyone breathed a collective sigh of relief as they handed in their papers, and Sven began to go through some of the answers of the Candidate International Judges' test. Lou had a bit of a disagreement with him over one, and Maggie and I were thankful that he did not go through the exam we had taken!

Mary and Clare were flying back to Nairobi early the following morning, so we smuggled Mary into our cottage for the night so that she could drive Clare and herself to the airport at around 6am. We were nearly rumbled when the landlord came round for a chat, but luckily Mary was in the shower at the time!

Now we have to sit and wait for

the results ..... and if three years ago is anything to go by, it will be a LONG wait.

**Liz Thoenes**

### The Jen Hamilton Clinic, November 2006

Having never done a Jen Hamilton clinic and having not competed for over a year, I couldn't wait.

I found Jen a very good understanding teacher who looked at the horses and people on board and sorted them all out without any fuss.

The first day was the wettest I have ridden in for a very long time! The ground was under water and boy did it bucket down, with no let up at all. We all had on our "wet weather" gear, which had come out of the back of the cupboard; the only thing missing was windscreen wipers for my glasses!! The horses and riders coped amazingly well. Jen put us through our paces, warming up the horses (& ourselves) and then we started jumping on a continuous circle over a small bounce then over a wide, small, parallel, and finally down her grids. Shoulders back was the most used sentence I think Jen had to say to all of us! After an hour we were all "drowned rats".

The second and third days were drier and again the ground held. Jen warmed us up, making sure we did it correctly, cantering between poles on the ground at different speeds and afterwards put us through her grids and got us to jump amazing angled lines which we need to practice for our speed competitions and jump offs.

Jen is an amazing person and left us with a lot of homework to do and lots of interesting ideas to try out.

Please come back, soon.

**Clare Llewelyn**

### New Residual Points for Downgrading

As of 1<sup>st</sup> January, Residual Grading Points for horses and ponies which have been down graded have been changed. Without publishing the whole chart here, in essence, the system is as follows. The new residual points in the new down grade, will be such that a win

(or enough places to get the same points as a win) in the new grade will put a horse or pony back in the grade it was in before it was downgraded. This will have no effect whatsoever on horses which do not do well in the new lower grade but will mean that horses that down grade and immediately do well, will not be taking rosettes etc. from horses that deserve them. Of course as usual, if a horse goes back up and the rider is not yet confident, there is always the provision of Hors Concours available. A full copy with all the points is available in the HAK Office and will be sent by a separate email to members.

### FEI WORLD JUMPING CHALLENGE 2007

To all interested Competitors and Trainer/  
Coaches

#### CHALLENGE COURSE PLANS

These are now available on the FEI website [www.horsesport.org](http://www.horsesport.org) under Development>WJC>Documents>Courseplans 2007.

The FEI has responded to comments and criticisms from many countries as follows:

"We would like to take this opportunity to give all of you some information on what to expect for this year's competition. Our goal is to align the Challenge to the Levels 1 and 2 of the FEI Coaching System, which you may already be familiar with. This implies that the course plans for Category B are inspired by the Level 1 Course for Coaches and the Category A, which remains a more classical approach to show jumping competitions, is based on the Level 2 Course for Coaches.

"We have taken into consideration the comments made regarding the Category B and have tried to implement them as best as possible without deviating from our goal. Therefore, most gymnastic lines will be concentrated at the beginning of the courses and the height of the cross poles will be increased. You should also expect some canter poles, which will replace the 'trot lines', in order to avoid breaking the rhythm of the horses throughout the course.

"We hope this information will give everyone an idea of what to expect and we wish you good luck and good competitions for the year 2007."

**Dates for Gauntlet are 2/3 June, WJC 23 – 26 August.**

**WATCH THIS SPACE for tips on the courses and what to practice!**

## DRESSAGE UPDATE

The delayed finals of the 2006 HAK Dressage Championship took place at Jamhuri Park on 3-4 February with visiting South African judge, Liz Day, arriving before giving her popular clinics to add lustre to the occasion, and local judge Patricia Killian as the second judge.

It had rained two days before so the ground was not too hard. We had 13 riders and 16 horses riding preliminary tests 2, 3 and 4, novice B 2, 3 and 4 and novice A 2, 3 and 4 and one juvenile rider. Unfortunately there was not a second juvenile competitor so his score did not count.

It was a very pleasant one-and-a-half days and the riders enjoyed it very much

## LIZ DAY PUTS HORSES – AND RIDERS – THROUGH THEIR PACES

We were once again delighted to see the return of Liz Day, who arrived in time to judge the Dressage Championships on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, at Jamhuri Park, before holding two three day training clinics at Dieke's sand arena.

Her last visit was for the FEI Dressage Championship, which was held during the ASK show and proved to be just a little too exciting in the midst of inquisitive camels, Boran bulls, parachutists and brass bands, all hugely helpful for impulsion, of course.... But rather too distracting for anything else! Hence this time, Liz requested that the clinics should be held in the calm of Dieke's arena.

As before, the focus of her teaching was to stress the importance of the basic training scale, concentrating primarily on achieving Rhythm before one can move on to suppleness, contact, impulsion, straightness, and collection.

## THE RESULTS:

### Preliminary

1 <sup>st</sup>	T.Meyers	Backplay	64.15%
2 <sup>nd</sup>	D.Boyd-Moss	Mir Azar	56.54%
3 <sup>rd</sup>	C.Sonnichsen	Sierra Magic	56.3%

### Novice B

1 <sup>st</sup>	A.Slabbaert	Fire Finch	62.95%
2 <sup>nd</sup>	A. du Toit	Golden Charm	59.4%
3 <sup>rd</sup>	D.Boyd-Moss	Tiger Tiger	58.39%

### Novice A

1 <sup>st</sup>	D. Boyd-Moss	Sheila	63.45%
2 <sup>nd</sup>	S. Nann	Mabarosi	63.40%
3 <sup>rd</sup>	A. Delorie	Chitanika	57.85%



A lot of the work concentrated on helping the horse to balance himself by working on maintaining a strong contact on the outside rein and inside leg, whilst allowing very little or no contact on the inside rein. This effectively preventing them from leaning on the inside rein for support and hence encouraging the horse to balance himself.

It took a while for some horses to fathom this out but once they did, the results were dramatic!

Frequent transitions were encouraged in order to strengthen the hindquarters, and of course those dreaded 10m circles, always to the shouts of 'more inside leg. MORE inside leg'!!!

I think I was not alone in realizing that one's own individual interpretation of when your horse is sufficiently 'forward going' lay way behind that of Liz's! Pushing the horse into that forward going rhythm that Liz desired

was grueling to say the least! As each of us staggered up the steps of Dieke's viewing box after their sessions, croaking for water, we realized all too well that this sort of work required a level of fitness that I for one have definitely not yet achieved! Something to work on though!

Suffice to say that once again, the results that she helped us to achieve with our horses were extremely rewarding and will inspire us to work on those exercises until her next visit.

I know we all thoroughly enjoyed the sessions and greatly appreciate her taking the time to come back here again despite her busy schedule.

We look forward to her next visit and in the meantime... I am off to brush the dust off that 'Get Fit Quick' booklet...

Ann Simpkin

## TRAINING WEEKENDS AND WHAT THEY ARE HOPING TO ACHIEVE

### *Judy Limb explains.*

Last year we started running Show Jumping training days on a regular basis and these days were very well supported and enjoyed by all. For 2007 we have extended these training days into training weekends with show jumping taking place on the Saturday and Dressage taking place on the Sunday. These training weekends are aiming to achieve a higher standard of riding and competition at our bigger shows by:

1. Encouraging new riders to take part in shows, and the training weekends provide the ideal opportunity for new riders to get involved without being too overwhelmed by going straight into bigger shows.
2. We are also hoping that riders will try and jump their horses over bigger courses at these training days to get a feel for "the next stage", and in turn hopefully this will result in there being more horses and riders in the higher grades at our main shows.

These weekends also allow for horses to jump lower than their usual height so if they have had a problem at a previous show with jumping bigger jumps they can use the training day to gain their confidence back again, or if a horse that usually jumps in a higher grade has been off for some time this is an ideal way to bring them back into show fitness.

We are looking at re-structuring our current show jumping heights so that every level goes up by 10cm. We are using these proposed new heights in our training days to see how horses and riders cope with them before making a final decision on whether to implement them or not. Just for comparison c. Metric with Imperial rounded:

60cm	1' 11"	1m 3' 3"
70cm	2' 3"	1.10m 3' 7"
80cm	2' 7"	1.20m 3' 11"
90cm	3' 0"	1.30m 4' 3"

With the Dressage we are aiming to improve the standard of riding at all levels by giving riders a chance to ride more tests and to try riding at the next level without too much pressure.

Again this is an ideal introduction for both the novice rider and the novice horse to the "show world" and the more experienced are given a chance to fix problems and gain experience.

The first training days for Show jumping and Dressage were run in early February from .60 – 1.10m and were a great success with lots of clear rounds jumped. The dressage day which followed was also good, but not very many tests were good enough for qualification for championships.

We hope that you will all continue to support these training weekends and make the most of them as they are there to benefit everybody.

### ON A "RELATED" but NOT RELATED NOTE (excuse the pun)...

#### MICKEY PELLING STEPS DOWN AS HON TREASURER.

It is with great regret that the Executive Committee has had to accept the resignation of Mickey Pelling as Hon. Treasurer.

Mickey did a great job keeping our accounts (and accountants) straight and our coffers full. She really has helped us to make a more transparent and sensible way of keeping our accounts and made sure that our nest egg is growing nicely. Unfortunately Mickey has gone back to work as well as now being a busy mum. She felt she just didn't have the time she wanted to give the HAK to do the job properly. From the bottom of our hearts we thank her for doing such a great job and helping us so much and wish her lots of luck for the future and hope to see lots of her

inside and outside the HAK arena.

### FITTER THAN YOU THINK?

How fast do horses lose fitness is a debatable point, according to scientific opinion expressed in a recent article in HORSE & HOUND, reporting on an interview with Dr Davin Marlin, a sports scientist to the British Equestrian Federation. The studies related specifically to racing but are applicable to all disciplines. In a Japanese study, horses were trained for six months, and then spent ten weeks out of training in a field. Measurements of their oxygen capacity before and after showed they retained their aerobic capacity.

Dr Marlin told HORSE AND HOUND: "You can get a horse physically fit – though not necessarily from the skills point of view – in about 16 weeks. Once you've got them there you don't need to keep training; if you do you're imposing more wear and tear – something that riders in all disciplines must be aware of".

Another question Dr Marlin was asked referred to the effort it takes for a horse to jump. He related a Dutch study involving horses jumping a 700m course of 12 fences, comparing heart rates among jumpers and non-jumpers covering the same course, shod that heart rates rose considerably, indicating that jumping required about 20 per cent more effort.

"You might say that is not surprise that jumping is harder work than cantering on the flat" acknowledged the doctor. "But now we know how much harder, at least at this level – until now we have known how much effort it takes a horse to walk, trot and canter, but not how much it took to jump.

"Research often provides as many questions as it does answers. The skill is in working out what the implications of the research are and applying them".

## PONY CLUB CORNER

### Reflections on the year ahead

It seems strange not to have had the Dagoretti Show yet, but we have had the postponed Nairobi Pony Club Christmas Show, which turned into the Valentine Show. This was held at Three Dee Dairy and proved to be highly successful over the two days of competition. On the cross country day the really small people had their cross country at the Stone Wigg's home over a great little course of fifteen jumps! I did feel a bit sorry for those parents whose children were on leading rein, but all seemed to enjoy themselves and it was lovely to see so many 'up and comings' on an array of old and new ponies.

This year has some exciting challenges in store for Pony Club members. First of all there will be the visiting Zambian Pony Club team coming to ride against two teams from here at the Easter Show, and then we hope to be holding the Children's FEI Show Jumping Challenge, possibly over Silverdale.

As with the FEI Show Jumping Challenge for adults, you will be competing against other countries, but on our own turf! For this riders need to be aged 12-14 (they must still be 14 at the end of the year), and will be re-

quired to jump four rounds (two per day) at 1 metre, so please let me know if you would be interested in this as, obviously, we need sufficient numbers to hold the competition. You may think you are not capable of jumping 1 metre, but I assure you, after watching some of the jumping at Three Dee Dairy and the Training Day, plenty of you are! I think this would be a tremendous boost to our juvenile jumping.

Back to the Easter Show..... I hope we shall be supporting the same charity as we did last year, a children's home, and we are planning on holding a raffle to this end. Please don't let me down this year ..... let's have you volunteering to sell raffle tickets. After all, it IS your show and it would be nice to think that you will do your bit in helping our chosen charity; it's not that difficult!

Another wish is that more tests will be taken this year. We seemed to have a real slump in test taking last year, so let's hope that that was the 'lull before the storm' and lots of you will be clamouring to take your tests this year! Nag your chairman!!!!

I hope this is going to be a successful year for Pony Club, and that you will all come on in leaps and bounds!

***Liz Thoenes, Chairman, Pony Clubs of Kenya***

## VALENTINE PONY SHOW

*A report by Liz Thoenes*

The newly renamed Valentine Show at Three Dee Dairy was great fun for all ages. Saturday was cross country day and the cross country courses ranged from 1'6" on lead rein to 2'9" and almost everyone managed to get round the great courses built by Rosie Calder. Merrylegs and Tumbleweed seemed to think that the aim was to get around the course in the shortest time possible. Poor Tiva had some navigation problems on both her cross country courses, and Buckshot was very unwilling to jump any cross-country fences, but both Tiva and Katie still ended up smiling. Aja had a bit of a tumble, but managed to compete again on Sunday. I hope her ankle is better now.

The winners of the cross country were:

- 1'6" (with assistance) Capuccetta – Kira Evans
- 1'6" (without assistance) Apache – Harry Griffiths
- 2'3" follow my leader – Adagio and Tamarind
- 2'3" Amonra – N. Coates
- 2'6" North Star – Josh West
- 2'9" Merrylegs – Lynda Christy

Sunday was show jumping and games. Sam Stonewigg and many helpers managed to create very colourful and exciting games and jumpkhana for the younger riders, and everyone went home with sweets and/or rosettes. Some of this younger group very bravely came and joined in in the 'big' arena, so maybe we'll see them at other shows very soon.

The classes in the main arena were great fun, with many pairs classes, and classes that we don't often see at other shows. Thank you to Clare and Douglas for building such great courses. Most of us managed to figure out the rules of the snooker stakes, although I doubt if we will have remembered by next year! Bethany had a few navigation problems on the show jumping, so both she and Tiva received a special consolation prize for this.

*Cont'd from previous page*

The two knock out classes were very exciting, and the spectators seemed to really enjoy them, but the highlight for me was the two fence challenge. Hottentot and Tineesh both managed to jump 1.0m in the smaller class taking joint first place, and Rastaman and Mainstream achieved 1.20m in the bigger class for joint first place.

The friendly judges kindly invited some children to come and learn to scribe, which was a great opportunity for them. Perhaps these are our future judges.

The day finished with a stunning fancy dress class, all based on the Valentine theme. I have never seen so many love hearts! This was won by the Stonewigg & Taylor group as the King & Queen of Hearts with a Princess and two Knights with the most amazing costumes, but what a difficult decision for the judges to have to make. All in all, it was a fantastic show and a wonderful venue, and I look forward to next year's.

**Victor Ludorum results:**

**Small group**

**Victor Ludorum:**

Thundercloud – Georgia Taylor

**Reserve:** Apache – Harry Griffiths

**Medium group**

**Victor Ludorum:**

Tamarind – Emily Willis

**Reserve:** Coco – Aja Krystall-Parkin

**Big group**

**Victor Ludorum:**

Merrylegs – Lynda Christy

**Reserve:** Mainstream – Lynda Christy



**HOW OTHERS SEE US**

**THE DRESSAGE QUEEN:**

Has her hair in an elegant ponytail and is wearing a visor and gold earrings sporting a breed logo. A \$100 dollar custom sweater (also with breed logo) is worn over \$300 dollar full-seat white breeches and custom Koenigs. Her horse, Leistergeidelsprundheim" ("Fleistergeidel" for short) is a 17.3 hand warmblood who was bred to be a Grand Prix horse. The Germans are still laughing hysterically, as he was bred to be a Grand Prix JUMPER, but since he couldn't get out of his own way, they sold him to an American. His rider fell in love with his lofty gaits, proud carriage, and tremendous athleticism. She admires him mostly while lunging. She lunges him a lot, because she is not actually too keen to get up there and try to sit that trot. When she rides, it's not for long, because (while he looks FINE to everyone else), she can tell that he is not as "through" and "supple" as he should be, SO she gets off to call the

Chiropractor/massage therapist/psychic, all of which is expensive, but he WILL be shown, and shown right after he perfects (fill in the blank). The blank changes often enough that the rider can avoid the stress of being beaten at Prelim. by a Quarter Horse.

**THE EVENTER:**

Is bent over from carrying three saddles, three bridles, three bits, and three unrelated sets of clothing (four, if she is

going to have to do a trot up at a 3-Day). The hunched defensive posture is reinforced by the anticipation of "a long one" a ditch and a wall, and from living in her back protector. Perpetually broke because she pays THREE coaches (a Dressage Queen, a jumper rider, and her eventing guru, none of whom approve of the other) and pay trailers/stabling/living expenses to go 600 miles to events that are spread out over 5 days. She is smugly convinced that Eventers are in fact the only people in the world who CAN ride (since Dressage Queen's don't jump, the H/J crowd is too afraid to go OUT of a ring, and the fox hunters, a related breed, don't have to deal with dressage judges).. The hat cover on her cross-country helmet is secured with a giant rubber band, so she can look like her idol, Phillip. Her horse, who has previously been rejected as a race horse, a steeplechase horse (got ruled off for jumping into the in-field tailgating the crowd), a jumper, a fox hunter, and a polo pony (no bit stops this thing), has two speeds: gallop and "no gallop" (also known as stop 'n' dump). Excels at over jumping into water, doing a head first "tuck and roll" manoeuvre and exiting the complex (catch me if you can!) before his rider slogs out of the pond. Often stops to lick the Crisco off his legs before continuing gaily on to the merciless over jump just ahead. Owner often threatens to sell, but as he has flunked out of every other English-riding discipline, it will have to be a barrel racer.

**LEADING REIN CLASSES**

Concern has been expressed about the safety of very young riders in leading rein classes when their ponies are led by older youngsters who may lack the ability or strength to deal with unexpected disturbances in the showring.

In future "handlers" in leading rein classes will be restricted to persons of 16 years and older.

**EDITOR'S COMMENT**

I wish to record my sincere thanks to our member in Loki-choggio for her help in putting together this newsletter.

Avice

## A HARD CHOICE—WHY GIFTED WARRIOR AND NOT UGLY BUG?

In the 2006 Show Jumping Championship of Kenya held at the Horse of the Year Show, I was lucky enough to have two great horses to ride – Ugly Bug and Gifted Warrior. Ugly Bug won the Championship of Kenya in 2004 and 2005 both years with a double clear. I entered the arena for the 2007 Championships with the aim of Ugly Bug faultlessly winning the title for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row... However... this was Gifted Warrior's first ever Championship of Kenya having only gone B grade in September 2006, and he rose to the occasion and jumped two superb faultless rounds, followed by Ugly Bug jumping two faultless clear rounds. As I was the only rider to jump double clears on both horses I could not jump off against myself and I therefore had to nominate which horse was to win the class. There were two reasons for my choice here:

Firstly, we all know that horses have their ups and their downs, and I have had a lot of bad luck with Gifted Warrior's health over the past few years, and he jumped so beautifully not just in this class but throughout the show and I felt that he truly deserved to win this title. I would have been so sad if something happened to him and he did not get another chance to have his name on the Champion Show Jumper of Kenya trophy.

Secondly, as I finished my final clear round on Ugly Bug and I was leaving the arena, Kris Van Gelder, the overseas course designer, ran up to me to congratulate me and he said "Judy please choose Gifted as the winner of this class as he jumped so amazingly and deserves to win".

So that is why I chose Gifted Warrior over Ugly Bug, but my choice was in no way a reflection on how I had thought Ugly Bug had performed. He jumped his heart out as he always does, and had not touched a pole for the whole show. But he has had the honour of having his name on this trophy twice already and I hope that he will have the opportunity to have

his name on it again, as I hope Gifted Warrior will.

*Judy Limb*

## NEW MEMBERS

**CLAIRE GRESSWELL**

**JAMES CULLEN** (returned!)

**KATE SMIT** (joins sister Nicki & mother Diana)

**LENE OLSEN**

**SUSAN PHILLIPS**

**SYBILLA LEWYSKA**



## NEW REGISTRATIONS

**BABBACOMBE BAY** owned by Harber family

**CAN CAN** owned by Cindy Voor-spu

**DANITA** owned by Nicola Stogdale

**DIVINITY** owned by Inga Dittkrist

**DRAMATIZE** owned by Elizabeth Warner

**HAMISH** owned by James Cullen

**IRISH MIST** owned by Claudette Hall (Tanzania)

**JERICHO** owned by Ali Morrisby

**LEGENDARY LOVER** owned by Claudette Hall (Tanzania)

**TANTRIK** owned by James Cullen

**TUTENKHAMEN** owned by Harber family

**ZAHABU** owned by Diana Smit

## CHANGED OWNERSHIP/LEASES

**CANTATA** now owned by Lulu Barkas

**MAGIC MIST** now owned by Charlotte Taylor

**NELION** now owned by Diana Smit

**PICKWICK** now owned by Anja Du Toit

**THE CARDINAL** now returned to original owner Noel Hays

## RETIRED OUT OF COMPETITION

**LITTLE BILLUM** owned by Wilson-Smith family

**BIRTHDAY** )

**CHUMVI** ) owned by

**RAVIOLI** ) McLellan family

## TO GREENER PASTURES

**BLACK TOWER** owned by Clare Llewelyn

**GOLD CRUSADER** owned by Sam Stone-Wigg

**CHATAWAY** owned by Louise Collette

**MOLLYMAWK** owned by Tiddy



## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### LIGHTNING STRIKES

Poor Angie Terwin (Robley) lost her horse when a bolt of lightning struck it whilst it was grazing in a field in the Jo'burg suburb where she and Andrew now live.

Don't only disconnect your computer next time there is a thunderstorm, bring your horses in if they are grazing nearby and as everybody knows, don't stand under a tree!

### BIRTHS

**COULSON**, to Catherine and Philip, a daughter, Sophia Ellen Gabriella, in Nairobi in December 2006. A sister to Benedict and Jolyon and another grandchild for David and Maggie Gray.

**DEVANI/PATEL**, to Bindya and Satyam, a daughter Imara, on 11 January 2007.

### DEATH

**DOWLER, MIKE** in Kikambala in January 2007. A former prominent show jumper and winner of the Milligan Cup (the Championship of Kenya) with Country Girl in 1967. See Sue Alleyne's article on cup names on page

### MOVING UP THE LADDER



### HOTYS

**Razeena** now JC

**Zin Zan** out of Division 1

**Fife** now C Grade

**Nickleby** out of Division 1

**Flight of Angels** out of Preliminary Dressage

**Hotspur** out of Novice B Dressage

**Chitanika** out of Novice B Dressage

**Mabarosi** out of Novice A Dressage

**Desert Song** out of Novice Combined Training

**McGeorge** out of Novice Combined Training

**Simeon** out of Novice Pony

**Razeena** out of Novice Pony

**Sandpit** out of Novice Working Pony

**Storm** out of Novice Working Pony

**Summerbreeze** out of Novice Hack

**Pickwick** out of Novice Hunter

**Hotspur** out of Novice Hunter

**Scorpio** out of Novice Working Hunter

### SANCTUARY

**Hi Falutin** Out of Division 1

**Pole Star** out of Novice B Dressage

**Mugeni** out of Preliminary Dressage

**Battlesong** out of Novice Event

**Tiger Tiger** out of Preliminary Dressage

**Eye of the Tiger** out of Novice Combined Training



**SUBS  
LAST CHANCE**

Members who have not paid their HAK annual subscriptions by 31 March, 2007 will not be allowed to compete unless they re-join the Association, paying the full subscription and joining fee, due for their category. What's more, unpaid members will not receive any more HAK newsletters!

**JUNE 2007  
NEWSLETTER**

Last copy date will be Friday  
18 May 2007.

Send to Avice Belletti  
P O Box 15281 Langata  
00509.

Tel: 891246.

Tel/Fax: 890870

Email: avicebelletti@todays.co.ke

OR LEAVE AT MARCO POLO

**JAMHURI PARK CHARGES FOR 2007**

Following a review of the Jamhuri Park finances, Exec Committee has approved some changes in charges for use of Jamhuri Park facilities to be effective 1<sup>st</sup> March 2007.

**ARENA HIRE:** To remain @ KShs 2200 per day, but ADDITIONAL LEVY for shows @ KShs 50 per entry (i.e. per horse/pony per class), no levy for clinics and purely training shows. This levy will be used ONLY for maintenance and improvement of our arenas.

**STABLES RESERVATION:** To remain at KShs 1000 per year (Stallion stables not to be reserved as need to be available for shows allocation).. NB Stables have recently been re-numbered.

**STABLE USAGE:** Increase to KShs 150 per day/night.

Members may like to know that Karen Riding School has kindly offered to sponsor the Rosy Savage Memorial Arena for 2007 ..... No name change of course. The arena will continue to be called the Rosy Savage Memorial Arena.

D H GRAY

**DRESSAGE TESTS FOR 2007**

VENUE	DATE	TESTS	ORGANISERS AND JUDGES
Gilgil	17-20 May	Tests 1 and 2	D. Kraft
Dagoretti	14-17 June	Test 3	A Slabbaert
Silverdale	13-15 July	Test 4	S.Trent
Nanyuki	26-29 Aug	Test 1	D. Kraft
Nairobi Show	01-07 Oct	Test 2	A. Abercromby-Dick
Sanctuary Farm	08-11 Nov	Test 3	A. du Toit & H. Mattock
Naivasha	(to be confirmed)		
HOTYS	13-16 Dec	Test 4	A. Slabbaert

The organisers of the judges are not responsible for collecting scribes, which is the responsibility of the Show Committee.

**Submitted on behalf of the Dressage Committee  
March, 2007**

## EQUESTRIAN CALENDAR 2007

Dates in bold type are either confirmed or major shows/events which concern our members.

**MARCH****24/25th****One Day Happening/Show Jumping Day****Three Dee Farm****APRIL****13th-15th****Easter Show**  
(Visiting Pony Club Team from Zambia)**Jamhuri Park****20th-22nd****Naivasha Fun Event**  
Kenya Derby Race Meeting**Sanctuary Farm**  
Ngong Race Course**MAY****5th-6th****SJ/Dressage Training Weekend****Jamhuri Park****17th-20th****Gilgil Event****ASTU, Gilgil***25th-27th**North Kenya Polo**Timau**27th**Kenya Oaks Race Meeting**Ngong Race Course***JUNE***1st-3rd**North Kenya Polo**Timau***2nd****FEI Show Jumping Gauntlet****Jamhuri Park****HAK ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING****Jamhuri Park****14th-17th****Dagoretti Horse Show—visiting teams from  
Zambia, Swaziland and Congo****Jamhuri Park***17th**The St Leger Race Meeting**Ngong Race Course**22nd-24th**Nairobi Polo Club**Nairobi**29th-1st July**Polo—Cavalry Cup and Bwana Begg Trophy**Nairobi**6th-8th**Polo—UK Pony Club v Kenya U18 and U16**Nairobi***JULY****13th-15th****Silverdale Show****Jamhuri Park***20th and 22nd**Manyatta Polo**Gilgil**27th and 29th**Polo—Connaught, Cavalry and Bwana Begg Cup**Gilgil***26th-28th****Kabete Happening****Limuru Club****AUGUST****2-5th****Nanyuki Event****Nanyuki Club***16th-19th**Polo—Mugs Mug**Nairobi***23rd-26th****FEI World Jumping Challenge****Jamhuri Park****OCTOBER****1st-7th****Nairobi International Trade Fair****Jamhuri Park****23rd-27th****FEI Dressage Challenge****Nairobi****NOVEMBER****8th-11th****Sanctuary Farm Event****Naivasha***30th-02 Dec**Polo—Manyatta Christmas**Gilgil***DECEMBER***7th-9th**Polo—Manyatta Christmas**Gilgil***13th-16th****HORSE OF THE YEAR SHOW****Jamhuri Park**