

JAY DUKE

Equestrian

Clinics & Course Design



Niceview Sporthorses Riders See Big Changes After Jay Duke Clinic

How did one eventer feel about her Jay Duke clinic experience? "Ecstatic" was the word she used!

Canadian Equestrian Team veteran and renowned clinician Jay Duke recently conducted a clinic with 16 riders at Niceview Sporthorses in Bozeman, Montana. Niceview Sporthorses specializes in three-day eventing under the direction of trainer Melissa Thorson and she booked Jay to help its riders polish their stadium jumping skills. Clinic participants included riders from varying levels from 2'6" to 3'6" and focused on overall style, effectiveness, and success of both the horses and the riders.



Jay Duke (left) with Niceview Sporthorses trainer Melissa Thorson (center) and clinic organizer and participant Tara Munroe (right). *Photo courtesy of Tara Munroe*

In Review



"Our riders were ecstatic and that's the only word I can use to describe our experience. We feel like this was the best clinic we have ever attended because the quality of training, educational components, and the tips and tools we gained from Jay produced a visible change in many of the riders and horses.

As eventers, we feel education is important in every discipline, but stadium jumping is what makes you or breaks you because it comes last and you can be hanging by a rail, which is why we like to find the top clinicians in each discipline of eventing to ride with. Jay breaks down everything into bite-sized pieces that everyone can absorb and accomplish."

~ Clinic participant Tara Munroe



"I have ridden in clinics with a lot of upper level eventers and show jumpers, but what I appreciated most about Jay was that he wanted to get to know the horses individually and really figure out what would work well for each specific horse.

I rode four very different horses that were all at various levels. Specifically, my prelim horse is very difficult and sensitive and I have been struggling to get him rideable for stadium jumping. Within 10 minutes, Jay changed a couple things with my equipment as well as a little change with my position and the horse was completely different. I just returned from an event and he has never gone better. Jay wants both you and your horse to be better."

~ Niceview Sporthorses trainer Melissa Thorson

Upcoming Spring Clinics with Jay Duke:

- Bromont, Quebec ~ April 14-15
- Rosenol Performance Horses in Prince George, British Columbia ~ April 21-22
- Big Sky, Montana ~ April 26-29
- Peaceful Bay Stables, in Kalispell, Montana ~ May 12-13
- Rosenol Performance Horses in Prince George, British Columbia ~ June 2-3
- Klondike Victory Farm in Red Deer, Alberta ~ June 9-10
- Ace Equestrian Center in Regina, Saskatchewan ~ June 15-17
- Vertical Limit Stable in Saugerties, NY - June 23-24



Now accepting summer clinic bookings!

Jay has extensive first-hand knowledge of the show jumping discipline and is available for clinics throughout North America. A range of packages are available with single to four-day sessions, which feature training that draws on three decades of experience and includes a sampling of Jay's extensive library of flat, gymnastic, and jumping exercises.

[More Information on Booking your Jay Duke Clinic](#)

Have you heard about Jay Duke Equestrian's Virtual Lesson Subscription Program?

It's the next best thing to a Jay Duke clinic!

Subscribers to Jay Duke Equestrian's Virtual Lesson service receive access to his extensive library of exercises and tips to make the most of any lesson experience at varying levels. Subscriptions vary from à la carte options to weekly deliveries throughout a full year. Mobile-friendly lesson plans are delivered weekly via e-mail and ready to travel straight to the ring with you.

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CIRCLE OF DEATH PART 1
Difficulty: Intermediate

Materials:
8 standards, 12-15 rails, No fill.

Key Points:
Horse:
-Suppleness
-Land the correct lead
-Use both leads
-Strengthen hind end
-Square front end turn
Rider:
-Flex
-Centering track of the horse
-Using track to adjust distance
-Transitions
-Opening eyes

LESSONS
Jump height - variable
Start this exercise with jumps only. Once they are jumps, recommend using ground lines. Use either 1 or 2 rails for the fence built shorter horses should have 2 rails. This exercise can be used in any size arena. It is effective if there is a minimum of 4 rail ends to a maximum of 6 rail ends between each jump.

Lesson #1
For work points only. Use the circle at the walk, trot, or canter. Emphasize the shape of the horse's body with a slight inside flexion.

Lesson #2
At the canter, have the horse take the same number of circles between each fence. There are 3 good options for this, one count will be slightly on the inside track, the other count will be slightly on the outside track, both are ideal!

Lesson #3
Once you have established the rhythm ride from lesson #2, alternate the count between each jump. This makes the rider use pace and track to be successful.

For lessons 2 and 3: go around the circle a minimum of 4 times per turn. If there is an error, do not pull up or circle. This lesson requires the rider to think forward about the next jump instead of the one behind them.

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A portion of all proceeds are donated to JustWorld International and Uryadi's Village.



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