



The
BIGGEST
Horse Show of Them All

ROLEX KENTUCKY THREE-DAY EVENT

As far as prestigious horse shows go, the RK3DE (Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event) features the absolute best riders in the world, right up there with the Olympics and the World Equestrian Games. As the only Four-Star event in the

Western Hemisphere, the importance of the RK3DE cannot be underestimated, especially with the Eventing World Championships being contested at the World Equestrian Games in September. Top eventers will be looking to Rolex to prepare for the Worlds.

And in anticipation of the WEG, for the first time ever, the Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event Presented by Land Rover will include a team challenge when it returns to the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, Kentucky from April 24–27, 2014.

The Dubarry of Ireland Nations Team Challenge will award \$20,000 in prize money, while helping national teams prepare for the team competition at the 2014 World Equestrian Games.

“Since we attract so many international competitors it makes sense to host a team competition, and with the Eventing World Championships being contested at next year’s World Equestrian Games, this is a great year to get it started,” said Darren Ripley, President of Equestrian Events, and Inc. (EEI), producer of the Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event.

Teams will consist of either three or four entries. For countries with more than four competitors entered in the event, teams will be selected by each country’s *chef d’équipe*. If there are fewer than three individuals from a country, teams may be formed by combining entries from two countries that have not already created

a team. For example, a Canadian rider cannot be added to a team of two New Zealand riders if there is already a team of Canadian riders. However, an individual Australian rider can be added to the team of two New Zealand riders to form a New Zealand/Australian team.

The winning team will be the team with the fewest penalties after adding together the final scores of the three highest placed individuals on the team. For the purpose of the final team ranking only, a team member who fails to complete the competition will be given a score of 1,000 penalties. Rosettes will be given to the top three teams and prize money will be awarded to the owners.

“Rolex Kentucky,” as the nation’s premier Three-Day Event is commonly known, is one of the world’s most prestigious equestrian competitions and features the world’s best horses and riders



Spectators can experience the action on the cross country up close!

varying for their share of \$250,000 in prize money as well as a shot at the \$350,000 Rolex Grand Slam of Eventing which is awarded to any rider who wins the Rolex Kentucky, Mitsubishi Motors Badminton and Land Rover Burghley Four Star Events in succession.

Darren Ripley, President of Equestrian Events, Inc. (EEI), producer of the Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event, said, “April’s event will play a large role in determining who will make the U.S. team for the

The horse inspections are a great way to see these magnificent competitors up close and personal.



You will need an additional “grandstand ticket” to view the show jumping and dressage.



The famous picnic table jump at Rolex Kentucky.

Eventing World Championships at next summer's World Equestrian Games. Interest is sure to be at an all-time high and we recommend that all our fans go on line and order their tickets as soon as they become available!"

Several ringside hospitality packages offering a custom world-class experience are available. Featuring prime locations and hospitality amenities, these packages include the "Patron Plus" and "Patron Club" options, both of which include admission to the Kentucky Horse Park, the International Trade Fair and all four days of competition. Also included are closed-circuit televisions, dressage and stadium jumping commentary, a keepsake pin, and an official event program.

Advance sale ticket packages include four-day, three-day (Fri-Sat-Sun) and single-day general admissions, as well as group sales and reserved grandstand seating. All general admission tickets include parking, admission to the Kentucky Horse Park and International Trade Fair. Reserved grandstand seating is sold separately from admission.

For more information, or to purchase tickets to the 2014 Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event Presented by Land Rover, please visit the Rolex Kentucky website at www.RK3DE.org.

USEFUL TIPS FOR FIRST TIMERS to the Rolex Kentucky 3-Day Event

If you haven't already planned your Rolex adventure for 2014, the time is now! Hotels near the Kentucky Horse Park are filling fast and lots are already booked! Try to stay in Georgetown, Kentucky during Rolex and other events at the Kentucky Horse Park since it is so close and provides easy access to the park.

Getting There

If you are flying into Rolex, you have your choice of two approximately close airports—Louisville, or Cincinnati, which

is considered "Northern" Kentucky. Most of the major carriers fly into either one. Flights on Rolex Kentucky weekend are going to be priced higher, so book early; and consider an early morning Monday return, as everyone wants the evening flight out on Sunday.

From the Cincinnati airport, it's just over an hour and a pretty straight shot south on good roads, for the most part. If you are traveling with friends, you'll need a car to get back and forth from your hotel to the horse park anyhow, so the rental car costs can be shared among your group.



Spectators line the cross-country course.

If you're a first-timer, pack your GPS unit (or make sure you've got a GPS app on your phone), and your phone charger. They don't provide very good maps in the rental places, but the good news is most of the folks were WEG-schooled and can give you directions to anything horse related.

You also can fly into Bluegrass Airport at Lexington, but it's a small airport for private jets without many commercial flights. They do have Delta and US Airways flights and if you are coming from cities like Atlanta, New York, or Chicago you might be able to find a flight here. It's definitely closer to the horse park, just on the other side of Lexington, but we've never been able to find an affordable flight into this airport around Rolex.

The Louisville Airport (SDF) has the added advantage of having a large number of hotels near the airport. If you get in really late, just stay there overnight and drive to Lexington in the morning. It's about 78 miles, vs. 85 or so from Cincinnati.

Tickets

Make sure that you purchase a general admission ticket for each day you plan on attending and a grandstand ticket for dressage and show jumping. You will need it in addition to the general admission ticket (which only gives you access to the Park) if you want to watch the dressage and show jumping.

Hospitality packages that include VIP parking, hospitality tents, and other amenities are available for additional fees ranging from \$675.00/person to \$1875.00/person. In addition to the RK3DE, the Kentucky Reining Cup World Championship Freestyle Reining



The Kentucky Reining Cup World Championship Freestyle Reining will be held on Saturday evening, April 26th.

will again be held on Saturday evening, April 26th and a CRI 3* Team Challenge is scheduled for Friday evening.

If you pre-ordered tickets for Rolex Kentucky, they began shipping on February 1, 2014.

Shopping

Pick up an official event program while you are there, it is packed with information about the riders, horses, event, vendors, and maps.

Check out the Three Day Event Shop and the Trade Fair as soon as you get to the KHP. If there is something you can't live without in the Three Day Event Shop, buy it when you get there because they tend to

sell out of certain things and then have big sales on Sunday for the remaining items.

Make sure you check out all the vendors in the Trade Fair (covered arena) and sponsor tents along the way. There are great sales at Rolex and you can find almost anything that you need (or don't need, but really, really, really want). Many companies will have sponsored riders at their display during scheduled times and it is a great way to get an autograph, picture with them, or just wish them luck. Keep your eyes peeled, you never know who you will see wandering about in the Trade Fair and Midways.

Competition Information

Schedules, official order of go, and official standings are available at the Secretary's Tent and there is generally a large "leaderboard" across from the Secretary's Tent.

Also at the secretary's tent, find out when organized course walks are taking place. There are several on Thursday and Friday. Unlike at some European events, course walks at Rolex Kentucky are free and no sign up is necessary. They last about two hours. A very popular walk is with eventing legend Jimmy Wofford, which normally takes place on Friday after dressage.

For a complete schedule of events, ticket and visitor info, please visit www.rk3de.org



The Sponsor's Village at the RK3DE

The History of ROLEX KENTUCKY THREE-DAY EVENT

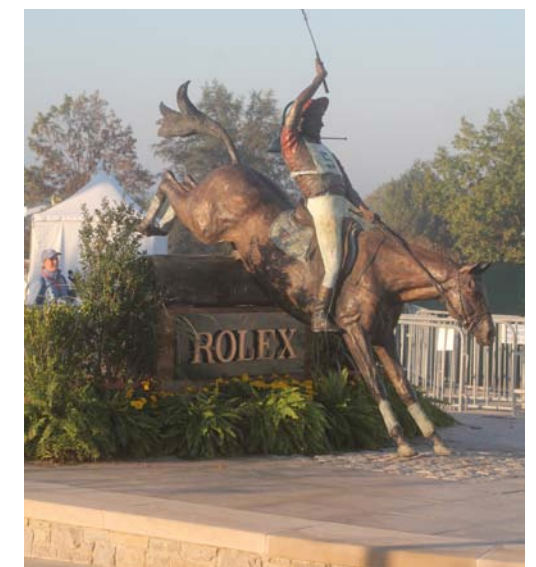


ROLEX

In 1974, Bruce Davidson and the United States Equestrian Team won individual and team gold at the World Championships held in Burghley, England. This gave the United States the right to hold the next World Championships four years later, in 1978. The Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, Kentucky was due to open around the same time, and plans were made to hold the World Championships there.

Equestrian Events, Inc. (EEI) was formed as a nonprofit organization to help plan the competition and raise public awareness. The first horse trials at the Kentucky Horse Park were held in 1976. In 1977, the National Pony Club Rally and the North American Junior Three-Day Event Championships were also held there.

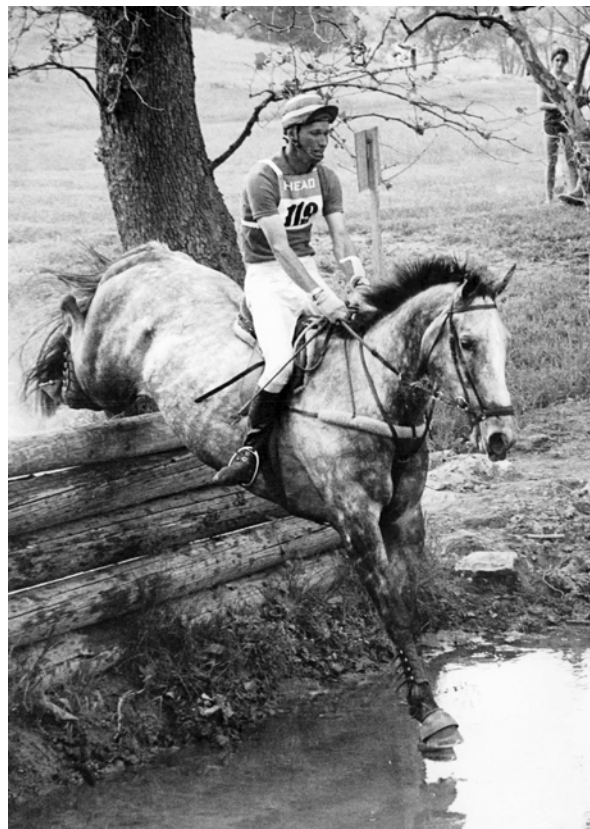
The 1978 event had more than 170,000 spectators and added more than \$4 million to the local economy. The event was broadcast worldwide, as well as nationally on CBS. The success of the World Championships helped to convince the EEU to continue the event annually. Today, the event is broadcast worldwide in 18 languages.



The iconic statue of Bruce Davidson on Eagle Lion at the Kentucky Horse Park. Bruce was the US Eventing Association's Rider of the Year first in 1975 and then for 14 consecutive years, 1982–1995.

BURGHLEY BADMINTON KENTUCKY





Might Tango was found by Robert Tindle as a mount for Bruce Davidson. The gelding had raced as a two-year-old in California before he began his eventing career. As a relatively inexperienced eventing horse, Might Tango took Davidson to a win at the 1978 World Championships in Lexington, earning the individual gold medal and team bronze at the young age of seven.

Might Tango lived to the age of 24, and is now buried at Davidson's Chesterland Farm in Unionville, PA.

and from 1985-1981. An Advanced-level CCI was held from 1980-1999 up to the *** level, with Advanced Horse Trials (non-CCI) also held from 1992-1996. The CCI**** was begun in 1998, and has been held annually since. Since 2000, the CCI**** is the only competition held during this time and is the only four-star event in the Western Hemisphere.

Rolex Kentucky had also hoped to continue the classic format, despite the other major events around the world switching to the short format. Originally, the plan was to alternate years, offering the short format in even-numbered years as preparation for the Olympic games or the World Championship, while running the classic

format in odd-numbered years. However, in 2006 it was announced that, due to lack of funds and interest from upper level riders, the event would only offer the short format. Therefore, all competition run before 2005 (excluding the 2004 Modified division) was run "classic format," and the 2006 event onward would be run in the "short format."

The CCI**** competition was first suggested in 1994 by Denny Emerson, who believed The United States had enough competitors at this high level to warrant the development of a four star. Previously, American riders trained in England when they were preparing for international competition, as the country had the only two annual CCI**** at that time: Badminton and Burghley. The USET began making plans in 1996, and held the country's first and the world's third annual four-star competition at the Kentucky Horse Park in 1998.

Although the event began as an advanced three-day, and later included open intermediate and preliminary competitions, today it only holds the highest level: the CCI****. Intermediate-level competition was held in 1979

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Kimberly Severson and Winsome Adante have won three Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event Championships, the most by any horse and rider in the history of the event. Photo by Evalyn Bemis.



Winsome Adante, aka "Dan," is the most decorated horse in the history of the sport of Eventing.



The winningest rider at the Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event is Kimberly Severson, born August 22, 1973 in Tucson, Arizona. She is a highly successful international equestrian who took several years of dressage lessons before training in eventing, beginning with a background in Pony Club.

Kimberly's well-known mount is the English Thoroughbred gelding Winsome Adante (aka "Dan") owned by Linda Wachtmeister and Plain Dealing Farm. The pair won the Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event three times, a feat that has been unmatched to this day. Dan was retired in a ceremony at Rolex in 2008.

Kimberly currently lives in Keene, Virginia.

Bruce Davidson has competed at the prestigious Badminton CCI**** seven times and in 1995 he rode Eagle Lion to become the first American to win the event.