

Hunter-Jumper Association of Michigan Annual Spring Welcome Shows Move to Waterloo Hunt Club

For Immediate Release

Ann Arbor, MI - November 15, 2007: The Hunter-Jumper Association of Michigan's (HJAM) Board of Directors voted last Monday during their final meeting of the season to move the annual HJAM Welcome series of shows to the Waterloo Hunt Club and also voted to hire Dean Rheinheimer as show manager. HJAM is the official governing body for Michigan's "A" level hunter-jumper show circuit. The Association is organized for the purpose of stimulating the sport of riding and showing in the Hunter and Jumper Divisions; to service, promote, and protect the interests of the Association and the exhibitors; to insure uniform and consistent standards for all Association shows; to encourage the development of exhibitors of all ages by making objective and fair rules for governing competition and to insure impartial and competent judging for all shows; and, to service and promote the best interest of the USEF under which all competitions shall be held. Every year in May HJAM produces three weeks of USEF "A" rated shows that through 2007 have been held at Stoney Ridge Farm in Chelsea. The Board of Directors voted for the move to best serve the membership and the show's growing list of needs.

The Waterloo Hunt Club horse show facility boasts three show rings each with their own separate warm-up; 182 permanent stalls, and permanent show offices, restrooms, and a newly constructed food pavilion. The show grounds also have the capacity to house an additional 192 stalls plus 35 campers. The Club itself was organized in 1941. Land was purchased, hounds acquired, and people trucked horses into the Waterloo Recreational Area to foxhunt regularly. In 1946, the present site at Katz and Glenn Roads in Grass Lake was acquired with buildings suited to be kennels and a clubhouse. The Club's current facility is some 60 acres which includes the clubhouse, horse show grounds, cross country course, kennels, huntsman's house and a 20 stall hunt barn and pastures. Club members meet twice a week from September through April to fox hunt and has about 60 family memberships.

Dean Rheinheimer has a very successful history with Waterloo having been hired since 2001 to manage their annual July summer "A" rated horse show. Rheinheimer also manages and produces Traverse City, Michigan's Horse Shows by the Bay and Dressage by the Bay show series and June Country Heir at the Kentucky Horse Park. "I am honored to be in charge of the transition and I think the move will be very positive for both the Club and the HJAM membership. Waterloo is a great facility," states Rheinheimer. Waterloo will be expanding the show office this year to provide more room for entry participants and will have constructed by May a brand new hospitality pavilion.

The HJAM Welcome Series starts on May 8 and ends on May 25 and offers a wide variety of hunter, jumper, and equitation classes. Feature events include a weekly \$5000 Junior/Amateur Owner Jumper Classic and a weekly exhibitor social. The Show Committee has plans to meet with the new management shortly to discuss schedule adjustments and welcomes suggestions from the membership. Members will also be allowed to request on the entry form what type of stabling they prefer. For more information please call Show Chairman Pat Haines at 734-847-6314, or visit the HJAM website, www.hjam.net.