



ABOUT THREE-DAY EVENTING

The sport of Eventing is often described as an equestrian triathlon – one event featuring three disciplines, or phases, that display the ultimate bonding of horse and rider. At the highest or international levels, Events are graded, or “starred” – the higher the number of stars, up to four, the more complex and physically demanding each phase.

The Jersey Fresh International Three-Day Event holds both three-star and two-star competitions in which horse and rider pairings must qualify to compete – a feat that can take years of training to achieve. *JFI is one of only a handful of competitions in North America where spectators can see, first-hand, some of the world’s greatest equestrians display their talents – and also see Eventing’s up-and-coming stars vying for their shot at the top.*

The Event opens with each horse being groomed to perfection and “trotted up” by its rider before an inspection panel, who ensure the horse is sound and fit enough to compete (the First Inspection or “Jog”). Having “passed the jog,” each horse and rider combination move on to...

The Dressage Phase, which begins the competition. Dressage tests the gaits, suppleness, and communication and harmony between horse and rider horse through a series of prescribed movements. This elegant and graceful phase takes place in an arena, where judges award both positive and penalty points for each movement. Points are computed to arrive at a penalty score, the lowest score determining the leader going into the...

The Cross-Country Phase, the highlight of Eventing. Horse and rider trust and endurance are tested as they negotiate a jumping course – many miles in length – at high speed over varied terrain and sizeable solid obstacles, as well as water hazards, banks and ditches. Cross-Country is the most exciting display of obedience, jumping ability, bravery and fitness in all equestrian sport. Again, penalty points are incurred for refusals and/or time above the specified time allowed and added to the competitors Dressage score.

A Final Inspection takes place the morning after cross-country to ensure that horses remain sound and fit enough heading into the...

The Show Jumping Phase, the third and final phase of the Event. Horse and rider must complete a course of high obstacles and tight turns in an arena. Unlike cross country jumps, these jumps are portable and can be easily knocked down. After two days of strenuous competition, day three Show Jumping is a true test of horse and rider stamina, agility and precision. Final penalty points are given for rails knocked down, refusals or seconds over the allotted time. The winning horse and rider is determined by combining penalty points from each phase – the lowest score winning the competition.