



ABOUT OUR CROSS-COUNTRY COURSE DESIGNER AND COURSE BUILDER

The Jersey Fresh International Three-Day Event takes place among the rolling hills of the Horse Park of New Jersey, a world-class equestrian venue where 185 spectacular acres have been permanently preserved by the State of New Jersey for public, equestrian, and agricultural access and education.

The Park's undulating terrain and diverse natural features present a dynamic drawing board for an inaugural partnership between Cross-Country Course Designer Mark Phillips, in his first year at JFI in 2017, and long-time Course Builder Morgan Rowsell. Together, they are re-thinking and changing up many elements of this most thrilling phase of JFI – presenting a new challenge that is sure to excite and test even the most accomplished riders in the sport of Three-Day Eventing.

Captain Mark Phillips

Following an extensive competitive career in international Eventing and Show Jumping, Mark segued to equally illustrious avocations in coaching and course design. Giving back to the sport that he loves has – over the past several decades – led him to cross-country course design assignments at several of the world's most prestigious Eventing competitions, including European Championships, Pan American Games and the four-star Land Rover Burghley Horse Trials, the latter for a cumulative 23 years. Mark has most recently designed courses for the 2016 American Eventing Championships at North Carolina's Tryon International Equestrian Center that will be upgraded, under his direction, for the 2018 World Equestrian Games.

Captain Phillips (Retired, Queen's Dragoon Guards) was a member of British Three-Day Eventing teams that won Gold Medals at the Olympics, as well as World and European Championships. He was also a four-time champion at the Badminton Horse Trials and one-time winner at Burghley. He served as *Chef d'Equipe* of the United States Eventing Team from 1992-2013 and remains a leading figure in equestrian circles, a columnist for Great Britain's *Horse & Hound* magazine, and a highly respected international advisor and consultant on cross-country course design the world over.

Morgan Rowsell

Morgan is our "resident" course builder and one of JFI's most devoted supporters, having worked tirelessly since the Event's inception in 2002 to develop the courses not only for JFI, but also for two summer horse trials held at the Horse Park. In addition, he is the Cross-Country Course Designer at Florida's Rocking Horse Stables' five annual events, Seneca Valley's (MD) two events and ESDCTA (NJ). Most recently, Morgan has taken on the role of co-organizer of the returning Essex Horse Trials at its new venue in Far Hills, NJ, where he is both building and designing new cross-country courses at four levels of competition. Past projects have included assignments in Ireland and Latin America, and former events at Menfelt, MD, and Radnor, PA.

Throughout his career, Morgan has pursued every opportunity to work alongside and learn from many of the most highly regarded experts in the realm of cross-country course design/build – including former affiliations with Captain Phillips, Derek diGrazia and Mike Etherington-Smith. Morgan’s past experience as a professional arborist and landscaper add a unique nuance to his cross-country perspective – which is further enriched by his life-long exposure to a wide range of equestrian pursuits, including fox hunting, polo, and Eventing – where he competed through the Intermediate level. His New-Jersey based Rowsell Equestrian Design (R.E.D.) also works on private construction projects, including planning and designing equestrian facilities.