

info@vybrant.co.za

www.vybrant.co.za

Welcome to all our new Members! We are growing fast!
Want to see Previous Newsletters? All on our website!

Thank you to everyone who has renewed their membership for 2018!

We are pleased to be able to retain 2017 membership prices for you!
Adult Competitive: R150 Junior/Pony Rider/Children R50,
Recreational R50. Officials (dressage judges) free.

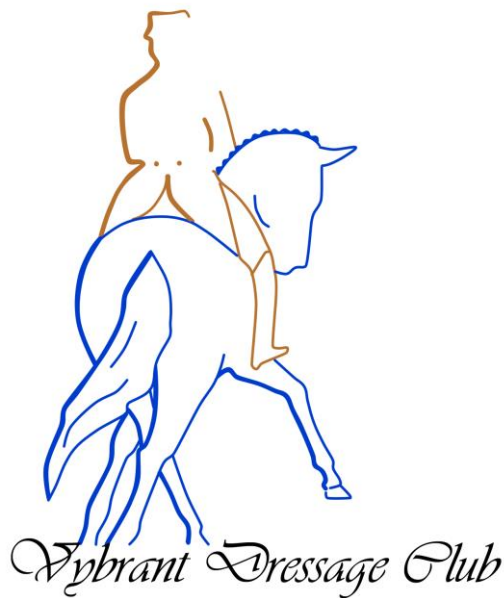
TO RENEW, simply send an email to info@vybrant.co.za, enclosing your proof of payment., with your surname as reference. Please make sure your full name is on your email.

**Our new banking details: Vybrant Dressage Club ;
Standard Bank, Fourways Crossing**

Branch Code: 009953; Account Number: 063 046 539
Please use your SURNAME and/or MEMBERSHIP NO as reference

FRIENDS OF YOURS WANTING TO JOIN?

Go to our website, www.vybrant.co.za, click on Membership, fill in your details and follow the prompts.



Niall Quirk's January 2018 Clinics a huge success



As usual, enthusiastic feedback from Niall's lessons:

"Niall has the ability to unlock not only the potential of the horse but the potential in the rider as well."

"It is so great to have an international coach of Niall's calibre who comes here on a regular basis and provides continuity."

"My horse felt so supple and over the back after Niall's lessons."

"Niall's commitment to making us better is always inspirational"

Thank you to Manor D'Or, Ronelle Gilbert, and London Lane Stud, Susan and John Berry, for hosting Niall's clinics in Johannesburg.

Niall taught in Johannesburg, Cape Town, KZN and Potchefstroom.

Vybrant Dressage Club will be bringing out Niall again in April this year. Exact dates to follow!



At Manor D'Or

Niall with Vybrant member, Arina Petit and her imported stallion, Monet, working at FEI Medium Tour level.



At London Lane Stud

Niall with H & R Dressage's Compton House Status Quo and Vybrant member, Robyn Andrews

We need to hear from our Vybrant Members!

To all 'Vybrant' Athletes/ Riders!



We want to plan how we can add value to you in 2018 and for this we need your input.

Below are some of our ideas. What do you think? Give us your opinion. Please add more!

- Development and interest of children
- Development of Juniors and Young Riders (overseas there are 16 yr olds riding Grand Prix!)
- We have been told there is a need for a little seminar for those 'new' at dressage, going to their first show. Correct dress for you and horse, arena warm up protocol, riding in the competition arena etc. Most of this in Rule Book but so rarely do new riders, even instructors, know where to find it!
- What do you think about the dressage tests? Should we have a group of riders looking at the dressage tests? (Eg, Elementary 6 rides between 6.5 and 7 mins – too long!)
- What about boot camps for prelim/novice riders? Video tests, have full analysis and criticism. Video again next day and watch again.
- Ride and Go (we'd rather call this Judge and Feedback), in other words, test is judged, rider is given immediate feedback from judge in arena as to how to get 'better marks' and mini lesson on this (10 mins or so).

Send us your comments and new ideas to
Simone Howarth, Vybrant Athletes Representative
Email: sim.howarth@gmail.com
Please copy judy@vybrant.co.za

To all 'Vybrant' Judges!



Continuing judges' education is so important. We want to plan how we can add value to you at all levels in 2018.

Below are some of our ideas. What do you think? Give us your opinion. Please add more!

- We do understand that one of the key challenges in judges education is assisting those judges in smaller provinces, who do not have sufficient numbers of competitors especially in the higher grades to gain experience. Also there is the cost of travelling to Johannesburg to gain that experience. We are working on a web based training solution where Vybrant members can 'log in' to a predetermined seminar time and interactive communication can take place. Please be patient. This might take a while!
- When there is a 'big show' in Johannesburg, we'd like to get together with all of you in an informal setting, to facilitate communication and growth amongst us all (obviously supplemented by a few glasses of wine!) Good idea??
- Where do you personally feel that you would like assistance in growing as a judge (please state the current grade you are in your reply).
- Video sessions (where one has the facility to 'rewind and watch again') are always popular. Do you still agree with this? We are working on doing various videos on different movements, e.g. one on the shoulder in/travers/half pass/ walk pirouettes/ extended/collected walk etc.

Send us your comments and new ideas to
Caroline Potts: Vybrant Officials Representative
Email: caropotts@gmail.com
Please copy judy@vybrant.co.za

Your Newsletter : Your Club : We always welcome new ideas!

MEMBERS NEWS!

What Vybrant Members have been up to in February 2018

Please keep us updated with your competition results and any other exciting news (and enclose photographs!).

Please send to Judy Vertue: Vybrant Secretary
Email: judy@vybrant.co.za



Patrick Brown, winner of the FEI Prix St Georges with WOW's Yellowwood with judges, Judy Vertue and Eino Vuorinen

WOW! What a weekend! KPC Valentines Show



What a great pleasure to see this happy and talented little "crossbreed" horse, WOW's Yellowwood, a previous Dressage Derby winner, being ridden in his very first Prix St Georges. Said Patrick "I was so proud of him. He tried his heart out. I was very happy with my score, 63.16%." His coach, Karen Keller said "He's really just starting his dressage career now, it really



Patrick Brown, winner of the Prelim Class on Lori Pinnick's Indiana Breeze and wife Jane, placed 2nd on her young thoroughbred WOW's Lighting The Fire, with judge, Neil Henry.

only begins at Prix St Georges. Everything before that is just basic training, so we have a very good grounding going forward. Patrick is such a pleasure to coach – he has a really good spirit and is enjoying the journey “

WOW's Forest Elder, ridden by Jane Brown, competed in the Elementary Medium Class with a lovely score of 66.07% - there were only two places and she would have come third!



John Smith and Wietse Sport won the Advanced Class at Terrouges in January.



Lynne Smith, and Kinvara's Invincible won the Amateur Elementary Classes at the KPC show at the end of January. Pictured here with judges Debbie van Wyk and Susen Human.

Sue Horne, continues her winning streak and won the 'Professional' Elementary Class on Absolutely Fabulous, the Elementary Medium Class on Askari SC, and the Medium Tour Class on Cellerhof Tadoo. We hope to see Cellerhof Tadoo competing in Grand Prix some time later this year!



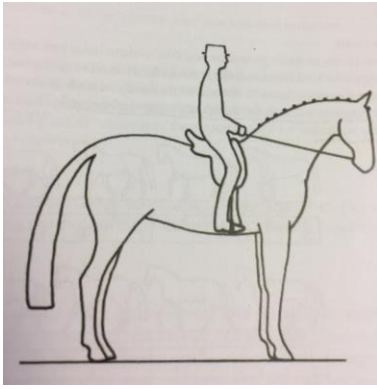
Congratulations to **Cheryl Kempin** who has been promoted from Provincial A Dressage Panel to National Candidate Panel. Cheryl is also a Para Dressage Judge.

Nichola Mohr from Cape Town is in Germany! Sure it is definitely something 'horsey' and exciting.

More news in our March newsletter!

Your Newsletter : Your Club : We always welcome new ideas!

YOUR EDUCATION CORNER : THE HALT



Article 402. The Halt

At the halt, the horse should stand attentive, engaged, motionless, straight and square with the weight evenly distributed over all four legs. The neck should be raised with the poll as the highest point and the nose line slightly in front of the vertical. While remaining “on the bit “and maintaining a light and soft contact with the athlete’s hand, the horse may quietly chew the bit and should be ready to move off at the slightest indication of the athlete. **The halt must be shown for at least 3 seconds.** The halt should be shown throughout the salute.

The halt is obtained by the displacement of the horse’s weight to the hindquarters by a properly increased action of the seat and legs of the athlete, driving the horse towards a softly closed hand, causing an almost instantaneous but not abrupt halt at a previously fixed place. The halt is prepared by a series of half halts (see transitions).

The quality of the paces before and after the halt is an integral part of the assessment.

There are three instances in dressage tests where a horse is required to halt.

1. The halt at the beginning and end of the test, where the athlete has to salute. The directive here is always written **Halt. Immobility. Salute.**
2. The halt with immobility for a specific number of seconds during the test, where the directive will say (for example in DSA Elementary 1) **Halt. Immobility 5 seconds, proceed** etc.....Here the judge will clearly count out the five seconds (many instructors over the years have said to their pupils, “say to yourself, One crocodile, Two crocodile, Three crocodile etc “as this takes about one second to say each one!!!)
3. The halt, with the reinback during the test.

At the recent Valentines Day Show, we had an interesting communication with a competitor in the Medium Class. DSA Medium Test 1 states “Halt. Immobility. Reinback 4 steps, proceed immediately in collected trot.”

DSA Medium Test 3 states “Halt. Reinback 5 steps, proceed immediately in collected trot.”

The judge commented in Medium 3 that the halt showed very little immobility, and should have probably said more correctly ‘halt hardly shown’. The competitor said quite rightly “it doesn’t say immobility” but we have to clearly see the horse in an established halt in order to mark it, which means there is inherently some immobility.

Solution? We need to get some uniformity in the DSA Tests so the Directives for the Halt Reinback include the word Immobility. If one looks at the FEI tests, the Halt Reinback (eg in FEI Intermediate I and in the FEI Grand Prix) clearly state, Halt **Immobility.** Reinback etc

Other stuff about the Halt

When judging at the side at B or E, judges frequently note that the halt is not at X. The fault is generally seen ‘not getting to X’ rather than going ‘beyond X’. The judge at B or E will clearly see whether the horse is standing with the weight evenly distributed over all four legs and if the horse is ‘resting’ a hind leg, the mark will generally be marginal or below. However, this may not be seen by the Judge at C if the horse is absolutely straight and square; therefore the judge at C’s mark would be higher.



VYBRANT JACKETS

Don’t forget to let us know BEFORE THE END OF FEBRUARY if you would like us to order a beautiful soft shell Vybrant Jacket for you . White piping, Velcro adjustable cuffs. Slim fit for ladies. (We do not carry stock, all are ordered specially!) Price R700.

Contact Judy Vertue
judy@vybrant.co.za 083 601 2104.

We have sample sizes for you to try!

