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**RED HILLS INTERNATIONAL HORSE TRIALS TO BE A QUALIFYING COMPETITION
FOR THE WORLD EQUESTRIAN GAMES**

***The world-renowned competition celebrates its 20th Anniversary with
significant cross-country course changes***

TALLAHASSEE, FLA. -- Red Hills International Horse Trials will be held March 8-11, 2018, at Elinor Klapp Phipps Park in Tallahassee, Florida. In addition to celebrating its 20th Anniversary, Red Hills will be a major qualifying competition for the World Equestrian Games (WEGs), which are held every two years, alternating with the summer Olympics.

“We are thrilled that our 20th Anniversary coincides with the World Equestrian Games being held in the United States,” says Jane Barron, organizer of Red Hills Horse Trials. “To be the first US qualifying event for the WEGs is a tremendous honor. We are grateful to the riders, national and international eventing associations and the Tallahassee community for their continued support, enabling us to achieve this milestone.”

The World Equestrian Games will be held in Tryon, North Carolina, in September, making it only the second time that the WEGs have been held in the United States. As a qualifying event, Red Hills will attract top competitors from the United States and abroad to prepare for the games.

Course designers Mike Etherington-Smith and David O’Connor have made significant changes to the Red Hills cross-country courses this year. The courses will be run in reverse from previous years, and parts of the tracks have been rerouted to keep the courses fresh, challenging and exciting. A new coffin jump has been added to the lower part of the one-, two-, three-star and advanced courses. Ground enhancements to improve the horses’ footing on the courses have continued as well.

Early registration for competitors is available through January 31. Register online at rhht.org.

Spectator tickets may be purchased online at rhht.org. Single-day passes are \$15 and three-day passes are \$40. There is no charge for children 12 and under. Entry fees are a suggested donation to Red Hills Horse Trials, which is a 501c3 organization.

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Red Hills International Horse Trials is a United States Eventing Association annual event held at Elinor Klapp-Phipps Park in Tallahassee, Florida. Red Hills Horse Trials, Inc. is a 501c3 organization.