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**North American League Adds Two West Coast Semi-Finals**

***Riders Can Earn Double Points Toward NAL Finals at Pennsylvania and Las Vegas National Horse Shows***

Annville, PA—June 5, 2012—The North American League (NAL) is adding two West Coast Semi-Final events to its 2011-2012 season. Both events – the Blenheim Fall Tournament in San Juan Capistrano, CA and the High Prairie Fall Classic in Parker, CO – will offer double points toward qualifying for the NAL's Year-End Finals at the Pennsylvania National Horse Show in Harrisburg and the Las Vegas National Horse Show.

The qualifying period for this year's NAL Finals is September 1, 2011-August 31, 2012. While both Semi-Finals are after the August 31 end of the 2011-2012 qualifying season, the points earned at those events will count towards the 2012 Finals. Those results will not be included in the 2013 season even though they occur in that time period.

The NAL West Coast Finals feature competition in five divisions: Children's Hunter, Adult Hunter, Children's Jumper, Adult Jumper, and Low Junior/Amateur-Owner Jumper, and are held during the Las Vegas National Horse Show at the South Point Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas, NV, November 13-18. The NAL National Finals, October 11-20 at the Pennsylvania National Horse Show in Harrisburg, feature an additional Final for Pony Jumpers.

"Last year we initiated West Coast Finals at Las Vegas and they were very well received," said Annette Longenecker of Ryegate Show Services which administers the North American League. "The addition of these new Semi-Finals will give West Coast riders an extra chance to qualify for NAL Finals in both Harrisburg and Las Vegas. We urge everyone to join the NAL today to ensure that they get full points for all NAL classes in which they ride throughout the year."

Riders need not be members of the NAL to compete in qualifying classes, but only members earn points toward the year-end finals. The annual membership fee is only \$35 and riders are urged to join early to help them qualify for the Finals in Harrisburg and Las Vegas.

"I have no doubt that the addition of these Semi-Finals will be very well received by riders and trainers," said Robert Ridland, President of Blenheim Equisports, producer of the Blenheim Fall Tournament and Las Vegas National. "This is a great way for exhibitors to qualify for the Finals and we thank the NAL for their efforts on behalf of west coast riders."

Those sentiments were echoed by Charlotte Skinner-Robson of Langer Equestrian Group which produces the High Prairie Fall Classic, the culmination of a season-long series of shows at High Prairie Farm in Colorado. "It is difficult for some of our Colorado exhibitors to get to other shows and the chance for double points at the High Prairie Fall Classic will help them qualify for the NAL's Year-End Finals. This is a great move by the NAL and wonderful news for everyone!"

Further information on the NAL, including series specifications, a list of member events and how to join, is available online at [www.ryegate.com](http://www.ryegate.com) or by contacting Ryegate Show Services at 717-867-5643 or [NAL@Ryegate.com](mailto:NAL@Ryegate.com).

*The NAL is sponsored by SmartPak*

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