

How Empire Celebrates the Kentucky Derby!

Join us after Saturday afternoon's class session for a special celebration as the horses Run for the Roses at this year's Kentucky Derby! The festivities will include:

- Tackroom Treasures Silent Auction
- Stick Horse Race
- Fancy Hat Competition
- Pick-the-Winner Contest
- Wine and cheese party and.....
- Mint Julep Class before the evening session!

Tackroom-Treasures Silent Auction: A great opportunity to do a little spring cleaning of your tackrooms and closets. Donate new/gently used items to the aisle across from the show office and watch the bargains unfold before your eyes! The auction will run Thursday-Saturday and treasures will be available for payment and pick-up after the show on Saturday evening.

Stick Horse Race: Participants will race on provided stick horses around a designed steeple-chase course....one class for kids and one for grooms and trainers! Following the afternoon session.

Fancy Hat Competition: Derby Day is a big chance for ladies and gents to show off their stylish hats. Design and bring a fancy hat to be judged on creativity and class by the Empire Board on the afternoon of the Derby! Fun for everyone!

Pick the Winner Contest: Study up on this year's Derby entries before the Spring Show or read all about them in the main barn. You'll have a chance to pick the winner and a grand prize will be awarded on Saturday after the race!

Wine and Cheese Party: As we do every year, ESAHA will provide lots of goodies during the running of the Derby in the Hospitality Room across from the show office. Stop in and sample a real Mint Julep! (alcohol-free option too!)

Mint Julep Class: As the first classes of the evening schedule, we will run 2 Mint Julep classes celebrating the drink favored by Derby partiers everywhere. One class will be for adults and one for riders under 18. Each rider will be given a glass full of "mint julep" and then the class will be judged at the walk, trot, and canter/lope. The winner will be the rider with the most "julep" left in their glass at the end of the class. Riders from ALL divisions are welcome...admission is \$10 at the gate and the winners will take all!