



PRESS RELEASE

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## **Trailblazers salutes ex-racers**

Retrained racehorses' talents for showjumping, combined training and dressage are to be recognised at the SPILLERS® Trailblazers Finals.

Retraining of Racehorses (RoR), British Horseracing's official charity for the welfare of retired racehorses, is offering dressage, show jumping and combined training classes at The SPILLERS® Trailblazers Championship Finals, 2011.

Also this winter, 16 Trailblazers approved show centres (see list below) will be putting on special RoR Dressage Qualifiers which will be incorporated into a Trailblazers preliminary level dressage class. These will act as direct qualifiers to a RoR national final during the 2011 SPILLERS® Trailblazers Championships at Stoneleigh Park.

In addition, there will be an 'open' 75cms showjumping class and an 'open' combined training class featuring a preliminary dressage test and a show jumping round up to 65cms at the Stoneleigh Championships with all RoR registered horses ridden by Trailblazers members being eligible.

RoR's ultimate goal is to achieve a balance between the number of horses leaving racing and the number of enthusiastic and suitable new homes. An important aspect is demonstrating how well former racehorses can adapt to new activities such as Trailblazers competitions.

RoR supports four equine centres at which former racehorses are cared for and retrained. The charity also offers practical advice to anyone considering taking on an ex-racer. Find out more at [www.ror.org.uk](http://www.ror.org.uk)

"We hope that by raising the profile of RoR through working with Trailblazers, more riders will think about taking on a former racehorse when they are looking for a new horse," said Di Arbuthnot of RoR. "This will help more horses to find secure and knowledgeable new homes."

Trailblazers has always encouraged the participation of all breeds of horses and ponies. Within its show jumping, dressage, combined training and showing series, there are competitions for equines of all types, sizes, ages and experience.

“Thoroughbred racehorses have a special place in British equestrianism. We hope the new Trailblazers/RoR classes will prove just how much pleasure they can bring after a career in racing,” said Norman Bargh, chairman of Trailblazers.

The following Trailblazers approved centres are running RoR preliminary level dressage qualifiers incorporated within their Trailblazers First Rounds.

16th January 2011 Golden Cross EC P10  
16th January 2011 Sheepgate EC Prelim  
30th January 2011 Brook Farm TC P1  
5th February 2011 Moorhouse EC P1  
12th February 2011 Moor Farm EC Prelim  
13th February 2011 Milton Keynes EC Prelim  
13th February 2011 Saltburn RS Prelim  
20th February 2011 Swallowfield EC Prelim  
27th February 2011 Trentvalley EC P13  
5th March 2011 Conrhenny EC P7  
5th March 2011 Vale View EC Prelim  
6th March 2011 Hargate Arena Prelim  
12th March 2011 Osbaldeston RC P10  
TBC West Wilts EC Prelim  
TBC Kingsbarn EC Prelim  
TBC BSJA Guernsey Prelim

Trailblazers also runs national dressage, showing, showjumping and combined training series sponsored by South Essex Insurance Brokers (SEIB).

When competing with Trailblazers, there are no annual subscriptions or horse and pony registration fees to pay. The only sum competitors are asked to contribute above each centre's standard class entry fee is £12 when they qualify for and choose to progress to Trailblazers Second Rounds.

To join Trailblazers or to find a list of participating show centres nationwide, visit [www.trailblazerschampionships.com](http://www.trailblazerschampionships.com)

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