

EVALUATION OF COURSES

Name of Event: Plantation Field International

F.E.I Divisions offered: Saturday: CIC 2 STAR, CIC 3 STAR Sunday: CIC 1 STAR

Size of arena in feet: Large and a very different shape. I don't have exact measurements due to the roundness of this ring. The arena plan on paper I have is a basic oval with approx. dimensions but the arena is almost curved all the way around.

Grass or all weather: All weather. Black sand/wax rubber mix

Any Gradient: Yes. A continual grade from the top left corner towards the in-gate.

Were there any permanent, or semi-permanent, items in the arena, like cross-country jumps, trees, etc Yes, 2 Sponsor cars for decoration.

Is there any other information about the arena layout that I may need to know of?

What were the weather conditions on the day?

2 Star and 3 Star went on Saturday. Weather was hot for this time of year in PA Sunny and mid 80's and humid. The 1 Star went on Sunday. Not as warm but still humid. Around 80 with clouds.

Do you think this had any effect on the results: No.

Either mark the distances, in feet, of all the lines up to 10 strides, on the plan, or list them here:

Were there any other circumstances that affected the day (i.e. lack of help, insufficient material, etc.) ?

Material was excellent. Brody Robertson show jumps. Jump crew were volunteers and did an awesome job all weekend. The Set up crew on Friday night were super and a big help.

Give a brief description of any changes you would make if you had to build the same track again: I liked the tracks. It is a challenging arena to build in because of the shape. When laying it out on Friday night, it took some time to get it laid out until I was happy with it. Because of the shape of the ring and it being very large I needed to make sure the layout was good before building.

Are there any other comments that you would like to offer about your courses:

The divisions were very large. I think the courses had good flow and were big but fair. I did end up changing the time allowed at all three levels a little. In the two star that went first we ended up adding one second to the time allowed after the first three horses. In the three star we had two measurements of the course and took the shorter distance for the time allowed of 73 seconds. After the first three horses went all going in 78 seconds (and they were three top horses and riders) we decided to make the time allowed 78 seconds which in the end seemed right on. I wanted the time to be on the tighter side but fair. In the one star I added 2 seconds to the time allowed also.

I think that with the large size and very different shape of the arena this had a part in the actual track of the horses and riders. Also, I do have roll backs in my courses and the horses speed is not maintained on those turns, also watching the track the first three riders take was very important. When I look at the overall double clears I was happy with the percentage. The larger divisions really give you a solid idea of how my course was at each level.