

For Immediate Release

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Top-Ranked Davidson Rides Two At Galway Downs International Three-Day Event

Temecula, Calif., Oct. 24, 2013 – Buck Davidson, the No. 1-ranked event rider in the United States, will be riding two horses in the Galway Downs International Three-Day Event on Oct. 31-Nov. 3, hoping to win the CCI3*. He'll be shipping Absolute Liberty and The Apprentice from his base in Riegelsville, Pa.

Davidson made the cross-country journey to the Galway Downs CCI3* in 2011 and 2012, enticed by the ease of the trip. His horses will load on a plane in Baltimore and fly nonstop to Ontario, Calif., slightly more than an hour north of Galway Downs. "So it's really not much harder than going to any other three-day event on the East Coast," said Davidson. "They leave home in the morning, and I can ride them at the event that afternoon."

Equine Insurance of California, Land Rover, Professional's Choice, *California Horse Trader* and the PRO Tour are the Presenting Sponsors of the Galway Downs International Three-Day Event.

The East Coast contingent consists of more than just Davidson's horses, though. Alison Springer, of Marshall, Va., is bringing Copycat Chloe; Kristin Schmolze of Califon, N.J., is bringing Ballylaffin Bracken; and Caitlin Silliman of Paoli, Pa., is bringing Remington XXV.

Leading the California contingent will be Jolie Wentworth on GoodKnight, the pair that finished second in the 2011 Galway Downs CCI3* and fourth in 2012, and Gina Miles, the 2008 Olympic silver medalist, on Chanel. Lauren Billys, who represents Puerto Rico but lives in Visalia, Calif., should mount a strong challenge on Ballingowan Ginger. They won the Galway Downs CCI2* in 2012 and finished second in the CIC3* at the Woodside International Horse Trials earlier this month.

Galway Downs will also be welcoming home native Californian Liz Halliday-Sharp, who has lived in England for the last 15 years while competing in motor racing and in eventing. Halliday-Sharp, 35, grew up just minutes away in Fallbrook and rode in the first Galway Downs International Three-Day Event in 1999, but this year she'll be riding in the CCI3*.

The Galway Downs International Three-Day Event gets underway on Thursday, Oct. 31, with the first horse inspection at 11:00 a.m. There the ground jury of Gil Rolton of Australia, Angela Tucker of Great Britain and Wayne Quarles of the United States will insure that all of the 149 horses are ready to start.

The Training Level Three-Day Event will kick off the actual competition with dressage on Thursday afternoon, running 49 horses in two divisions in two rings. Also on Thursday and Friday, Galway Downs will also be hosting, for the first time, the West Coast Championships for the USEA Young Event Horse and Future Event Horse series.

The CCI3*, CCI2* and CCC1* horses will perform their dressage tests throughout the day on Friday, while the Training Level Three-Day Event horses will tackle the cross-country course in the afternoon.

Saturday is cross-country day for the CCI horses. The 52 horses in the CCI1* will take center stage in the morning, followed by the CCI2*, and then the CCI3* will provide the cross-country climax. But the day won't be over yet, because the Training Level Three-Day Event competitors will conclude their event with show jumping in the Main Arena as the sun starts to set.

Then, on Sunday, the three CCI divisions will take over the Main Arena for show jumping, starting with the CCI1* and finishing with the CCI3*.

Each day will feature music and food, and on Saturday fans can move through three oasis sites that will each feature popular local gourmet food trucks and musicians.

"I promise that it's going to be an amazing weekend," said organizer Robert Kellerhouse. "Where else can you see some of our country's best horses and riders compete, listen to great local music

and eat great local food – all at the same place. And you can even drive a Land Rover over their fantastic test track while you're here!"

Saturday night will feature the musical headline act, Faultline, performing from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. Faultline, a five-member, Southern California-based party band, says their music has only one purpose: to keep the dance floor full of people. They combine rhythm and blues, Motown, disco and more to create a memorable live-music experience.

The Gold Medal Sponsors are: Devoucoux, Ian Stark Equestrian Center, MD Barn Master and Sunsprite Warmbloods.

The Silver Medal Sponsors are: Charles Owen, Embassy Suites Hotel, Holiday Inn Express, Majyk Equipe, SmartPak Equine and Temecula Creek Inn.

The Bronze Medal Sponsors are: American Medical Response, American Horse Trials Foundation, Auburn Labs Advanced Protection Formula, Big Horse Feeds, Cavalor, *The Chronicle of the Horse*, CWD, Finish Line, Freedom RV Rentals, Geranium Street Equestrian, Point Two Air Jackets, Riding Magazines Inc., Ride On Video, San Luis Rey Equine Hospital, Triple Crown Nutrition and Voltaire Design.

Eventingtrainingonline.com is a Friend sponsor.

General admission for the Galway Downs International Three-Day Event is \$10 per day in advance, \$15 at the gate, with children under 12 free when accompanied by a paying adult.

Patron's passes – which include seating in the ringside tent, lunch and a full selection of beverages – are available for \$55 per day on Thursday, Friday and Sunday and \$75 for Saturday, in advance.

For all advance ticket reservations, go to www.galwaydowns.com

For more information on the Galway Downs International Three-Day Event, visit www.galwaydowns.com or call 951-303-0405. To learn more about eventing, visit the U.S. Eventing Association's website (www.useventing.com).