

dressage tests suitable for that level. The arenas will be mowed with the center line clearly defined. Access to the dressage warm up area, which passes the dressage arenas themselves, can be reached within 5 minutes on foot from the furthest part of the lorry park. Feedback from ERA riders reported that: "Nice big field with plenty of space (and) flat". One competitor wrote stating, "You did absolute wonders with the ground, especially doing the dressage warm up – an area usually overlooked but where we do the most work on our horses".



Show jumping: Dave Brockett designs the show jumping in a large, flat, permanent grass area. The tracks will be up to height and of medium technicality. The warm up area is also a large flat permanent grass area adjacent to the arena itself. The jumps will be dressed with flowers. If conditions necessitate it, the arena and warm-up area will be aerovated. Access to the show jumping warm up area can be reached within 6 minutes on foot from the furthest part of the lorry park. ERA feedback was: "good ground, slightly downhill which allowed questions to be asked with related fences" and "big and spacious, ground had been worked on". "Reasonable test but not over difficult and flowed nicely" This phase is at the center of everything so there is quite a buzz.



Cross Country: Eric Winter designs the cross country courses that run over undulating grassland with some small woodland elements on well-draining permanent pasture. The fences are solidly built, up to height and mainly permanent. There are ditches, steps, arrowheads, corners and a water complex, all with good ground lines, creating flowing and attackable courses. Alternatives are available at some of the more difficult fences. There are four permanent cross country practice fences, two of which are available for each day of competition. The event is only run once a year so that the best ground conditions are assured with rolling, aerovating and sheep grazing taking place throughout the year. The undulating nature of the ground does require horses to be fit and a good rhythm will need to be established as the courses make full use of the terrain. All the fences will be dressed with flowers and trees. If conditions necessitate it, the courses will be aerovated. Access to the



cross country warm up area can be reached within 6 minutes on foot from the furthest part of the lorry park. A seating area for spectators is provided in the middle of the cross country courses making excellent viewing. Once again ERA feedback reported: "fantastic conditions in this weather (very dry), nice up to height, strong course, with lovely water complex" and "upper end for level and undulating, beautiful fences and rode nicely".



Cross Country Alterations for 2011: Eric Winter, together with course-builder Andrew Hunter, have made some changes to all three tracks, including adding some new fences. These include:

- a replacement of the Novice chair.
- a change of course for the Pony's at the end of the course as well as an alteration at the step-down and the water.
- a replacement fence for the Intermediate class under the pylon and a new layout for the pheasant feeders.
- a small alteration to the hay cart for the advanced competitors as well as a new location for the carrot stands.

The overall focus will remain on producing flowing, distinctive, but challenging courses.



To Whom is the Event Aimed?: It is targeted at competitors who are looking for top quality event offering a challenging competition, good value for money and a friendly atmosphere. Both horse and rider should have established a good partnership as both show jumping and cross country tracks encourage bold, attacking riding. Aimed at riders of fit, bold horses who relish a challenge, the cross country courses are suited for those who are progressing well in their respective classes or considering a three-day or international run. The ERA riders felt that "it was considered suitable for a horse and rider regularly competing at this level or an improving horse or rider looking to move up a level". The addition of a section in all classes performing one the FEI International dressage tests, would be useful for combinations aiming for CIC or CCI competitions. The advanced course would



make a suitable pre-Bramham outing.

Logistics:

- **Ballot:** 237 horse rider combinations were balloted in 2011 across all classes, so ballot stickers need to be used. One of the Eventing Magazine's 2010 contributors wrote; "this is a great event and the only downside is the struggle to get enough horses entered".
- **British Eventing Car Park:** Members of British Eventing have their own car park which is adjacent to the lorry park for easy access. There is no charge for any vehicle whose occupant(s) are members of British Eventing.
- **Lorry Park:** This is situated in a slightly sloping field and is entered from a public road. There is a one way system in operation so all the lorries face towards the exit which passes through the farmyard before reaching a public road on the outskirts of the village.
- **Public Car Park:** This is located surrounding the show jumping arena. The purchase of a programme at £10 per car, irrespective of the number of occupants, will gain visitors access to the event.
- **Secretary & Scores:** This is located at the Show Jumping Arena and can be reached within 6 minutes on foot from the furthest part of the lorry park.
- **Trade Stands:** Hot and cold food and drink, saddlers and some clothing stands will be on-hand for both days in the Show Jumping area. A dog agility and obedience enclosure for canine visitors including demonstrations will also be on offer this year. A visitor commented last year "I was pleased with the size of the trade stands - not too much but sufficient for a little browsing - and nice things available".



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