



newsletter

The Federation of Riding for the Disabled International • La Federation Internationale d'Equitation Therapeutique

September 2004

Secretariat

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Greetings to all F.R.D.I. members and anyone interested in therapeutic riding internationally.

OFFICE CHANGES:

As members are aware, we are required to vacate the Office during the period of the Royal Melbourne Show. This year that period will be from September 7 – 29. This is an inconvenience for us at the Office but should not affect your ability to communicate with us. The usual telephone / fax and e-mail connections will be maintained and the P.O. Box will be cleared regularly. There may be a delay for those requiring merchandise or photocopying. We thank you for your patience during this period. We are actively seeking new premises so that this annual disruption need not occur. Members will be advised of any changes.

NEW EDITOR FOR THE JOURNAL!

We are very pleased to report that Dr Beth Macauley Ph.D., CCC-SLP has accepted the position as editor of the Scientific and Educational Journal of Therapeutic Riding, effective immediately. Beth is Assistant Professor, Dept. of Communicative Disorders, University of Alabama, USA and will be well known to many of our American members. Beth will be meeting (via telephone) with the other members of the Journal Committee shortly so that they can proceed with the publication of the 2004 Journal by the end of this year. Those wishing to submit research papers for consideration should do so using the procedure published in the Journal under "Call for Papers and Guidelines for Authors" and forward it to the editor via e-mail: bmacaule@bama.ua.edu We are most grateful for the commitment shown by the outgoing editor, Dr Olive Webb, and look forward to maintaining a high standard of publication.

EXECUTIVE BOARD:

The Executive Board will meet in Brazil during the week of October 9 – 15. In addition to the regular Board meeting the Executive will meet with the members of the Brazilian committee responsible for the organisation of the 2006 International Congress, to visit venues and review planning for the Congress. Anyone wishing to make contact with FRDI during that period should use the following email address: nepearce@hotmail.com

PHOTOGRAPHS and CALENDAR:

Thank you to all those members who have already responded to the earlier request for photographs which reflect the diversity of programs, culture and nationalities which are provided by FRDI members. Our aim was to publish an FRDI calendar which highlighted the diverse international nature of our programs, and also to publicise coming conferences, seminars, workshops etc.-with sufficient copies for each member and additional copies which could be sold as a fundraising tool. We have been negotiating with a potential sponsor for the printing and distribution of the calendar. Unfortunately we have just received notification that our potential sponsor is unable to proceed with sponsorship at this time. This is disappointing, but will not deter us from seeking another sponsor. Do continue to send photographs as, in addition to the calendar project, we are keen to build up a resource of pictures which can be used for publicity, and for display at our Congresses. Anyone with information regarding a possible sponsor for the calendar should contact Norma Pearce at the Office.

NOTE: Copy for December Newsletter should be at the Office by **Tuesday 30 November**, 2004. If possible send by e-mail. Photographs, drawings, logos etc are welcome.

International Equestrian Passport

For some time now there has been discussion about the need for therapeutic riding qualifications to be added to International Passports. Many enquiries have been received at the Office seeking information about the process for this addition to be achieved. The procedure for having therapeutic riding instructor qualifications added to an International Passport is as follows:

"Those trainers who already have an International Passport may have their therapeutic instructor qualifications added to it. This will be done in the country where the original passport was issued, by presenting the therapeutic coaching certificate. The passport will state the country where the examination took place, the date of the examination and the instructor level.

If the therapeutic instructor qualification is recorded at the time of the first passport issue there will be no additional cost. If it is added at a later date there may be a cost of up to 10 Euros."

There are jobs offered in various parts of the world and FRDI is most anxious to ensure that instructors who apply for these jobs are properly qualified in both "able-bodied" and "therapeutic" areas.



Athens 2004

Paralympic Games

...17-28 September...

We have all been excited and impressed by the Olympic Games held in Athens recently. Within the membership of FRDI excitement is also building, as athletes with a disability prepare to compete in the Paralympic Games in Athens. This international event has grown in stature and highlights the achievement of so many. This year approximately 4000 athletes from 145 countries will travel to Greece to show the world what they are capable of achieving – representing their country in 19 Paralympic sports.

Of course for FRDI members our focus will be on the Paralympic Equestrian teams. We congratulate all those who have been chosen to represent their country, knowing the many hours of work and commitment it has taken to get to this point. We want to recognise the riders, their horses and the generous owners, their coaches & chefs d'equipe and all those involved in the major logistics involved in transporting the riders and horses to Athens and the on-going care necessary during the Games.

We send our good wishes to all the teams going to Athens. We shall all be watching your progress with interest.

Check the website to keep informed of progress: www.paralympic.org



RDA-Samsung NEWS

Volunteers

Ever since RDA-Samsung was founded and to this very day, the volunteers have donated a great deal of time to the program.

In the beginning we only had 24 Volunteers. However, within 3 years, the numbers increased to 176 and the total number of hours the volunteers donated went up to 1,268 hours.

They make the trip to the stable every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday to meet with the clients, and for some, it takes a couple of hours to get to entrance of the stable by train, bus and then another fifteen minutes to the stables itself under the hot smarting sun and sizzling asphalt.

In the indoor arena, as the clients and the horses sweat, the volunteers are soaked as well especially on hot days without a trace of a breeze. During the winter, they help to raise the temperature around the area, though the summer, especially this past summer which was extraordinarily humid and hot, they are exhausted by the heat that has engulfed them.

The volunteers are all of different background, age and gender, but all those differences can't seem to keep them apart. They cooperate and communicate to create a perfect team all the time.

Their love toward the disabled and the love for the horses keeps the volunteers with us despite the strenuous nature of the work.

The volunteers' commitment and devotion to the program is what makes RDA-Samsung so strong and, all are certain that their caring spirit will bring about an enormous change in the spirit of volunteering in Korea.

Note: Volunteers are an essential part of the team involved in therapeutic riding worldwide. We salute all our volunteers – for their dedication, on-going commitment and the willingness to give of their time and energy to ensure the success of our programs. Ed.



A Samsung Volunteer



A Samsung Volunteer



Talking Point

"Terminology in Use in the Field of Therapeutic Riding"



We have received an article from Mr Lelio de Castro Cirillo, President of ANDE-BRASIL – a Full Member of FRDI, regarding terminology used in the field of therapeutic riding. We look forward to receiving additional articles and comments from members.

Why Equotherapy?

This article is the personal view of the responsible person for the introduction of EQUOTHERAPY in Brazil and also founder of the National Association of Equotherapy – ANDE-BRASIL and one of the mentors of the Brazilian doctrine.

1. The Word Equotherapy

We could have adopted the translation of one of many words used in other countries to characterize the therapies with horses and on horses. However, the words and expressions adopted by other countries are points of discussions in congresses. We believe that an international consensus about a single word or expression is almost impossible to be reached and that characterizes all the activities that can be developed with a horse and on the horse.

The word EQUOTHERAPY is a combination of words making up a "brand". Today it features in Brazilian dictionaries and it is registered at the National Institute of Industrial Property (INPI) of Ministry of Development, Industry and Commerce of Brazil, with the Certificate of Brand Registration number 819392529 of July, 26, 1999.

The objectives to create a single word that embraced all the practices and programs done with horses, in the areas of Health, Education, Social and Sports were:

- A strategic view of who, in Brazil, would use the word Equotherapy, totally unknown until then, would be in accordance to the principles and fundamental rules that guide such practice, what would make easier the recognition of the therapeutic and educational method by the responsible organs of Brazil, as it has really happened;
- To pay tribute to our mother tongue - Latin – adopting the radical EQUO derived from EQUUS;
- To pay tribute to the father of western medicine - the Greek Hypocrites de Loo (458 to 377 BC) that in his book "Of the

Diets" advised the equestrian practice and made many medical indications - we have adopted THERAPY derived from the Greek THERAPEIA, part of medicine that deals with the application of technical and scientific knowledge in the field of rehabilitation and education.

2. Equotherapy as a Therapeutic Method

The Federal Council of Medicine (Conselho Federal de Medicina), the department which organizes and manages health in Brazil, has approved in session April, 09, 1997, Equotherapy as a therapeutic method.

The Division of Special Teaching of the Federal District Secretary of Education, based on researches and years of agreement with ANDE-BRASIL, recognizes Equotherapy as an educational method that favors literacy, socialization and global development of the learner with special educational needs.

3. Areas of application of Equotherapy

It is known that each individual with deficiencies or special needs has its "profile", which makes him or her different. This fact enlightens the need of formulating personal "EQUOTHERAPY PROGRAMS" which take into consideration the requirements for that person, in that specific phase of his/her evolutionary process.

Equotherapy is used by means of SPECIFIC PROGRAMS, organized according to the needs and potentialities of the future "Equotherapy practicing" - in Equotherapy we do not consider the person a patient or a student, but a practicing, due to he / she interacts in Equotherapeutic practice - and according to the purpose of the program and the goals to be reached with two aims:

- The first with medical intentions, with therapeutic techniques making use of the kinetic-therapeutic movements of the horse, aiming physical and mental rehabilitation;
- The second, aiming educational and social goals with the use of psychopedagogical techniques, using the horse in the riding techniques and in the activities with the horse as a pedagogic instrument, looking forward to the education or re-education and social integration.

Therefore, the areas of application of Equotherapy are:

- rehabilitation to people with mental or physical deficiency;
- education to people with special educational needs and others;
- Social, to people with evolutionary or behavioral disturbances.

4. The service and the Interdisciplinary Team

The service in Equotherapy is preceded by a diagnosis, of a medical indication and evaluation of professionals in the fields of Health, Education and Riding, with the purpose to plan the individualized equotherapeutic service.

The doctor shall make a clinical evaluation, in case the patient (future practicing) has not been evaluated by his/her own doctor, with the purpose of fully, partially or not indicating equotherapeutic practice.

The doctor shall give support to the team concerning all clinical aspects, since the permission to equotherapeutic practice to the possible discharge of the patient. Although, there is no need of a full time presence of the doctor.

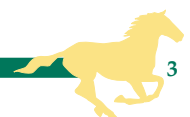
The interdisciplinary team, whenever possible, will be the widest, made by professionals from the fields of Health, Education and Riding, experts in the rehabilitation of people with special needs, such as: Riding Instructor, Physical Therapist, Occupational Therapist, Psychologist, Phonologist, Physical Education Teacher, Psychomotricist, Psychopedagogist, Social Assistant....

The composition of the interdisciplinary team should consider the "EQUOTHERAPY PROGRAM" to be executed, the purpose of the program and the goals to be reached by it.

The minimum composition should be of three professionals, one for each area: Health, Education and Riding. All the professionals who integrate the interdisciplinary team should be regularly qualified to their practices and also qualified in Equotherapy, at least having attended the Basic Course in Equotherapy, recognized and approved by ANDE-BRASIL.

5. The Equotherapy Programs

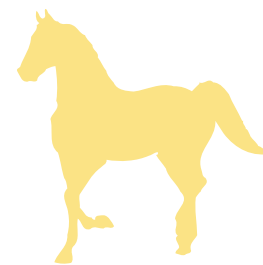
As said before, the programs in Equotherapy are personalized, taking into





Talking Point

"Terminology in Use in the Field of Therapeutic Riding" *Continued*



consideration the needs and potentialities of the future practicing, the purpose of the program, and the goals to be reached by it. Therefore, there are several programs that can be organized.

The Basic Programs of Equotherapy known worldwide are Hypotherapy, Education / Re-education, Pre-sportive, and Sportive.

6. The word Hypotherapy

It deserves some considerations, that is, in all countries, even those that use the word Hypotherapy (ippoterapia, hipoterapie and hipoterapy and the expressions therapeutic riding, riding for disabled, reeducation by means of a horse) recommend the basic programs described above.

In Brazil we use a single word to reach all possible programs to be done by means of a horse, with techniques of riding and riding activities with application of technical-scientific knowledge in the fields of therapy and education.

The radical "Hypo", from Greek, older than Latin, in Portuguese presents two meanings, one related to the horse, hypology, and another in medicine with the meaning of lack, low, inferior position, hypothermia, hypoglycemia etc. The second meaning, under advice of some doctors, has reinforced the idea of not using the radical HYPO in the key word to the therapeutic and educational method. However, we also use it strategically, as most other countries do, the name Hypotherapy just to characterize the program essentially of physical and mental rehabilitation, and it is also used for educational / re-education programs and pre-sportive ones.

In the Hypotherapy program, the practicing do not have physical or mental conditions to keep him/herself on the horse, therefore, he/she do not practice riding, there is the need of assistance to give him/her some confidence and safety and so he/she benefits from the three-dimensional and multi-directional movements of the horse walk. The horse is a Kinetic-therapeutic instrument.

7. Considerations about the Sportive Program

The Sportive Program, used in other countries, has been strategically left to another occasion until that, in Brazil, there is another institution to conduct the sportive practice to people with mental or physical deficiencies.

The mission to implement and consolidate Equotherapy in Brazil was hard, considering physical, mental and educational rehabilitation. To use rules and technical-scientific principles to prepare human resources to this new therapy and, the most difficult, to dispel the myth of the dangers to ride horses and to create a new mentality in the areas of Health and Education, to create the mentality of Interdisciplinarity, avoiding individual work, and to make Equotherapy recognized as a Therapeutic and Educational Method by the Federal Council of Medicine (Conselho Federal de Medicina), as well as respected by society and specially by the practicing and families.

8. Equotherapy and its contribution to the Sportive Practice

After 13 (thirteen) years of implementation and institutionalization of Equotherapy and the objectives been reached, the initiatives to organize riding competitions to disabled people have started.

In Brazil there were the associations of Paralympics and Special Olympics; however these associations do not focused on riding competitions.

The Paralympic Games are organized at the same time as the Olympic Games and it is focused on people with physical deficiencies. In 2004, at the Athens Olympic Games, there will be the participation of a Brazilian rider from Brasília, who will represent us very well, as he was an excellent classic rider before his accident.

Kennedy Foundation conducts the Special Olympic Games to people with mental deficiencies and here in Brazil it has not regularized its practice yet.

The National Association of Sport to Disabled People together with the Brazilian Association of Sports in Wheelchairs have organized and are already serving the riding competitions named Special Riding, which will possibly be a Special Equotherapy Program or even the fourth program called Sportive.

9. Considerations about riding as a Therapy

Riding is the art of riding a horse, train it and prepare it to several activities in which it can be used and such riding is based in a well-known doctrine all over the world.

Every kind of sport enables its practicing some physical activity, skill, robustness and moral qualities.

Riding develops these qualities harmoniously and also the balance, motor coordination, agility; it gives a sense of physical strength and increases self-confidence. It also increases the will, the decision, the initiative and the resolution of the practicing. The training of the horse develops in the rider his/her calm, self-control, he/she become more tenacious and determined.

For all that has been said, riding, besides being a healthy sportive activity, can be an important instrument of education and constitution of the character of young, since it is applied in a didactic-pedagogical way and by a qualified instructor.

Riding practised by a disabled person with no medical restriction searches a playful effect, that is, pleasure and sport as stimulators of therapeutic effects: improve life quality, health, social interaction, well-being, self-esteem and his/her body in an equo-therapeutic conception.

Some countries with great tradition in riding to disabled people with light pathologies have classes given by specialized riding instructors, who named the activity of therapeutic riding.

As this practice is being enlarged by means of experiences, researches and international conferences, the use of the horse has been enlarged as a kinetic-therapeutic instrument, including more serious pathologies and also the mental disabled people.

Although the expression "therapeutic riding" is used, in the practice there are four basic programs (hypotherapy, education, pre-sportive and sportive) that use a multi-professional team with an interdisciplinary execution.

10. Conclusion

The debate of conceptual issues, as discussed, involves studies and deep reflections and it is not only a matter of semantics.

One has to be aware of the fact that all activities, since the simplest to those that involve high degrees of complexity, should be included in a doctrine, structured in fundamentals according to the same approach, which gives them unit and identity. ANDE-BRASIL is always attentive to the evolution, to the new experiences and researches of equotherapy and, after 15 (fifteen) years of its institutionalization, it is checking its doctrine.

NEWS from *around the World*

A WINDOW ON *Israel & Italy*

Israel



Israel National Therapeutic Riding Association (INTRA)

Anita Shkedi and Susana von Dietze-Polack are long standing associate members of FRDI and well known to many of you. A report of their work with INTRA makes interesting reading.

INTRA is located in Neurim on the shores of the Mediterranean, north of Tel Aviv.

INTRA had developed a uniquely successful therapeutic approach that significantly helps mentally and physically challenged adults, children survivors of terror and injured soldiers.

INTRA's student riders, Arab and Israeli, Jew and Non Jew, come from all walks of life. They range in age from 2 to 70.

Students receive individualized, hands on training from a team of dedicated and highly skilled staff. Within weeks most students show dramatic improvement in their ability to do things for them to interact with other people and to face the challenges of their disability.

Under the supervision of an expert team of instructors, Anita and Giora Shkedi, and Susanne Von Dietze-Polack; INTRA in conjunction with the Nat Holman School of Coaches remains the only training school for Therapeutic Riding Instructors in Israel. There are other training schemes, but they do not offer an instructor diploma.

Over the past 3 years the course has been seriously upgraded. There is now a 10 day residential riding course as part of the entry examination, and a final exam which contains a riding test and new methodology research paper. The examiners for the course come from Germany giving the course international recognition. The course has approximately 85 applicants a year and takes 35.

From the year 2005 the course will be extended to 2 years, with students having to qualify at (A) level, Israel for riding before they can qualify as an instructor. For further details please contact intra@012.net.il

During the past months I was asked by the Ministry of Education to give suggested rules and regulations for therapeutic riding for school children. After several meetings I am pleased to say that most of my suggestions have been accepted and that the rules will come into being from the beginning of next year. I hope that this will have an impact on safety, the conditions of centers, staffing horses and the quality of the lesson.

During the coming year Susanne and I want to set up an advanced training course, and a further hippo therapy course. Please look out for more details.

Anita Shkedi, MEd, HV, SRN, RSCN, Obs.
Therapeutic Riding Instructor



Therapeutic Riding Centre of Israel

The Israel Equestrian Federation and the Therapeutic Riding Center of Israel (T.R.C.I.) are Full Members of FRDI.

T.R.C.I. is located in Tel Mond and makes this report on their activities.

Therapeutic riding in Israel is becoming more and more known and accepted, in all

sectors of the community, governmental and public organizations, such as the National Health Insurance, Ministry of Defence, Private Institutions, Hospitals and Foundations. Therapeutic riding in Israel is setting new goals, standards and research, in order to continue this effective practice improving a person's well-being. There is a great demand for therapeutic riding programs that guide youth at risk. The awareness of physical health among the population in the special education sector has risen the last two years.

The National Sports Institute "Wingate" is successfully continuing to produce two

certificate instructors courses, one international course developed and organized by Mrs. A. Shkedi and one national recognized course.

This year our country is sending a Paralympic dressage team for the third time – this year to the Paralympics in Athens. The National trainer Dror Ben Shaul has been the main drive to develop competitive riding for the disabled. The riders compete during the season at regular National dressage competitions, integrated with the able bodied competitors and in some cases a special class for the disabled is prepared.

Continued over page



Israel continued

At the FRDI conference in Budapest Mrs. F. Wortman and Mrs. M. Tal presented an interesting lecture, about the value of the integration cranial sacral therapy and therapeutic horse back riding.

At the International congress of Animals and Society in Gent Belgium this year, Mrs. R. Fish and Mrs. M. Tal participated actively in the way lecturing and workshops, touching several aspects of animalassisted therapy, practicing with the assistance of dogs and horses. Under the theory of Bobath and Berne we emphasized the importance of the combination both models.

The University of Tel Aviv, under management of Professor. J. Terkel, head of the department of "animals and society", collects professional material and writings about AAT, AAC, AAL and Equine Assisted Therapy, in order to set up a national library. A Forum of professional people studying or working in this branch meet several times a year to share information and learn from each others experience.

At the National Equestrian Institute in Kanot under the management of Mr. J. Saraph, Mrs. S. von Dietze-Pollack judged the final exams of the instructors' course and at Haddassa Neurim, she has been teaching the new students of the international Therapeutic Riding Course starting this fall.

The TRCI Tel Mond was founded in 1986 as a non profit organization. It is the only center in Israel which works solely for the disabled. The center offers various forms of riding therapy with a variety of disabilities and disorders. At the TRCI Tel Mond large groups of special education students attend riding sessions, remedial vaulting and as a newcomer this year carriage driving, within the time frame of their regular educational school system.

The TRCI Tel Mond is also representing Special Olympics Israel, the representation includes information, public relation and marketing tactics to create peoples awareness about equestrian sport for the mentally challenged. Our centre also organizes riding competitions and social gatherings.

One of our special events at our centre in Tel Mond was the organization of an open day for terror victims and their families. We opened our doors to The "Almagor" foundation, approximately four hundred people enjoyed the activities at our grounds. Some of the activities included, horse-back riding, social activities with the dogs and other games such as jumping on a large air cushion.

At the end of the happy day every one could take a rest, the Mediterranean way, just lying about in the comfortable Bedouin tent, where drinks and pita bread were served.

This is Israel 2004 at a glance from the TRCI Tel Mond. If you would like to know more, you are most welcome to visit our web site: WWW.TRCI.ORG.IL

If you are interested to spend some time with us, we are happy to assist you in any way.

TRCI Tel Mond Israel, FRDI full member and national representative

Maureen Tal - Program Director



Italy



Italian Equestrian Federation (F.I.S.E.) establishes "Department of Therapeutic Riding"

With great pleasure the "Lapo" Association wants to make known that on October 23 2003, the Italian Equestrian Federation (F.I.S.E.) has instituted the "Department of Therapeutic Riding": This act means the official recognition of TR as

one of the F.I.S.E.'s Disciplines, and places the Italian Equestrian Federation in the forefront at international level. It also allows a reorganization and coordination of the various TR activities already present in the Equestrian Centers. The Director of the Department is Mrs. Giovanna Rabbia Piccolo, President of F.I.S.E.'s Regional Committee of Valle D'Aosta and Director of TR Center "A.V.R.E.S.", an associate member of FRDI.

We think that it could be an important step for the future of TR: TR is a complex discipline with its roots in both the sporting tradition i.e. Equestrian Sports, that represent the origin and the

basic technical prerequisite, and in Rehabilitation, that constitutes the specific aim, so TR cannot but be carried on in both these disciplines variously integrated each other.

Contact Details

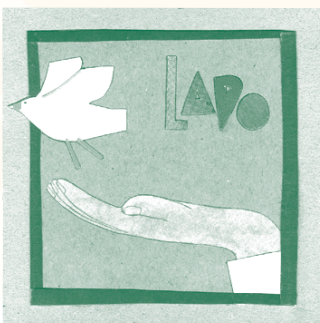
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Italy continued

Italy has three Full Members of FRDI – ANIRE and C.N.R.A.F.A. (based in Milan) and Associazione "LAPO" (based in Florence).

Associazione "LAPO": reports an exciting development in education and the professional recognition of the field of Therapeutic Riding.



"University Master in Therapeutic Riding" - Florence

On February 2004 at the University of Florence the first "UNIVERSITY MASTER IN THERAPEUTIC RIDING", Academic Year 2002-2003, closed (1 year, 550 hours, compulsory attendance, 84 University Credits).

The Master was organized by the University of Florence, Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, Department of Neurological and Psychiatric Sciences, Chair of Child Neuropsychiatry with the collaboration of the "Lapo" Association (this association is a full member of the F.R.D.I. and national member of the Italian Equestrian Federation -F.I.S.E.-). It represents the first experience with a Master's Degree in TR on the world-wide level and a fundamentally important stage in the national recognition of TR insofar as IT CONFERS A LEGALLY RECOGNIZED TITLE, officially utilizable. In fact, upon completion of the Master's Course there is issued by the Rector of the University of Florence and by the Master Director a certificate of "MASTER in THERAPEUTIC RIDING".

The Director of the Master was Prof. Massimo Papini, Director of Chair of Child Neuropsychiatry and of the University Post-Graduate School in Child Neuropsychiatry and Prof.ssa Anna Pasquinelli attended to the organization.

Objectives of the Master:

providing the education and training in neurology, psychiatry, neuropsychology, rehabilitation, re-education and riding necessary to conduct TR, and furnishing the technical / practical skills required for multi-disciplinary integration.

Aim of the Master:

education / training professionals in TR in the specific field of their competences (medicine, social/health care, rehabilitation, education, etc.).

Subject - matter of the Master:

Social / health care, Rehabilitation and Education: Neurology, Psychiatry, Neuropsychology, Orthopedics, Neuro-sensorial Disorders, Rehabilitation.

Therapeutic Riding: Hippotherapy, Remedial / Educational Riding, Vaulting, Sport Riding for the disabled.

Equine Veterinary Science: ethology, anatomy, physiology, pathology, morphology, welfare; analysis of horse's movement in relation with his morphology and the different gaits.

Riding: Techniques of riding and vaulting; driving; biomechanics of the horse; care of the horse. Organization and rules concerning the Equestrian Sports.

Organization of Master:

1 year, 550 hours, compulsory attendance

a) Theoretical / practical activity

400 hours (1 week of 40 hours a month for 10 months);

Location: Florence, Aosta, Viterbo, Verona (for Vaulting), organized by the Chair of Child Neuropsychiatry of the University of Florence, consisting of:

- theoretical part: lessons, video analysis, seminars, stages;
- practical part (training and practical experience) in the medical / rehabilitation / educational area, of riding and of TR at Riding Centers and TR Centers.

b) Training in Therapeutic Riding

150 hours, at accredited TR Centers.

Theoretical/practical examinations in Neurology, Psychiatry, Neuropsychology, Rehabilitation, TR Rehabilitation, Veterinary, Riding, management and care of the horse will be held.

Final Thesis consisted in a written elaboration and oral discussion provided of an assembly of serial videorecordings relative to the follow up of a subject personally followed during the TR training and of the evaluation of the results regarding the applied "TR Neuromotor Disorders Disorders Assessment Scale" (Pasquinelli et al, 1997* reviewed).

Pre-requisites for admission

a) Curriculum Requirements

- University Degree: in Medicine and Surgery, Motor Sciences, Education, Psychology, Sociology, Veterinary Science.

- University Diploma in one of the following areas: social/health care, rehabilitation and education or equivalent professions

b) Horsemanship Requirements

good riding ability even not on competitive level comparable to a F.I.S.E. License.

The multi-professional nature of the Master's Degree has been dictated by the need to provide not only the education and training in neurology, psychiatry, neuropsychology, rehabilitation, re-education, veterinary science and riding necessary to conduct TR, but also to furnish the technical/practical skills required for the multi-disciplinary integration required for the Team Work characteristic of TR.

Participants

16 (7 from the North of Italy, 8 from the Centre, 1 from the South).

Job Opportunities

After graduating the Master Degree, 13 of the graduated are already working in TR Centers as professionals and 6 of them have opened their own TR Center!

A new "University Master in Therapeutic Riding" is starting during this Academic Year (2003/2004). It lasts 2 years, the participants are 26 and we obtained from the University that it will be conferred the title of: "TR TECHNICAL COORDINATOR". This will be the first official recognition in a "professional TR profile" on the national level, and one of the few on the international level.

Contact Details

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Coming Events 2004/2005...

SEPTEMBER 2004:

13 – 17 September, 2004

Hippotherapy Workshop

Location: El Salvador, Central America
Contact: Heidi Paliz, Fundacion Amen
E-mail: amen@fundacion-amen.org

17 – 28 September, 2004

Athens 2004 Paralympic Games

Location: Attica region of Athens, Greece.
E-mail: info@paralympic.org
Check website for current details: www.paralympic.org

21 – 23 September, 2004

Hippotherapy Workshop

Location: Costa Rica, Honduras, Central America
Contact: Heidi Paliz, Fundacion Amen
E-mail: amen@fundacion-amen.org

27 – 30 September, 2004

Hippotherapy Workshop

Location: Panama City, Central America
Contact: Heidi Paliz, Fundacion Amen
E-mail: amen@fundacion-amen.org

OCTOBER 2004:

4 – 8 October, 2004

"For the Right to Integration into Society of Disabled People"

(laws, Education, Health, Rehabilitation and Recreation)

Location: Panama City, Central America

6 – 9 October, 2004

International Assoc. of Human-Animal Interaction Organisations (IAHAIO) Conference

Location: Glasgow, Scotland
Theme: "People and Animals: A Timeless Relationship"
Pets are Good for People: To find out more about the numerous health, therapeutic and educational benefits of human-animal interaction, try to attend this significant international conference. The event will showcase high profile speakers presenting new research about the benefits of the human-animal relationship.

For further information about attending the conference and to purchase tickets visit www.glasgow2004.com

Tel: 44 7000 627123
Fax: 44 1698 738044
E-mail: organiser@glasgow2004ad.com

7 – 9 October, 2004

National Congress of Hippotherapy in Mexico

Aim: to integrate the group, to exchange knowledge and experiences and to diffuse equinotherapy.

Location: Headquarters: Domeq in Texcoco, State of Mexico, Mexico

Contact: Mr Francisco Munoz;
Prof. Blanca Mayol de Munoz

Tel: 52 442 214 3906 (W)
Fax: 52 442 214 3906
E-mail: amet@qromex.org
Website: www.equinoterapia.net/jornados

17 – 31 October, 2004

International Course of the Hungarian Riding for the Disabled Federation

Location: Sarlospuszta, Hungary

17-14 October, 2004

Training for Riders and Riding Examination

Location: Hungary

24-31 October, 2004

Training for Helpers, Psychologists and Trainers

Location: Hungary
Contact: Csilla Barna
Tel: 361 331 0906
Fax: 361 302 4136
E-mail: Barna@GYERMEKMENTO.hu

NOVEMBER 2004:

15 - 20 November, 2004

NARHA Conference and Annual Meeting Kansas City- USA

THEME: "Fountains of Reflection"
Location: Hyatt Regency Crown Center in Kansas City, Missouri, USA

Pre-Conference Workshops, Special Interest Forums & Regional Caucuses, Seminars, NARHA Horse Fair & Awards Banquet - Reception & Annual Meeting make this an event not to be missed. Those who have attended NARHA conferences before will testify to the quality of the presentations and urge you to take advantage of this opportunity.

Contact: NARHA, P.O. Box 33150,
Denver, CO 80233
Tel: 1 800 369 RIDE (7433)
Website: www.narha.org

25-27 November, 2004

Iberian-American Congress of Equotherapy and III Brazilian Congress of Equotherapy

THEME: "Horse: Facilitator of Human Rehabilitation"
Location: Salvador -BA, Brazil. The conference will be organised by ANDE BRASIL

Interested people are invited to present papers to the Congress. They will receive with special satisfaction studies developed on the main theme.

For more information check website: www.equoterapia.org.br

Contact: Ande Brasil
Tel: 55 61 468 7406
Fax: 55 61 468 8486
E-mail: ande@equoterapia.org.br

JANUARY 2005:

6 January – 8 April, 2005

NARHA Approved Instructor Training Course

Location: Old Lyme, Connecticut, USA

6 January – 17 February, 2005

NARHA Approved Instructor Training Course

Location: Old Lyme, Connecticut, USA

Contact for the above courses:

NARHA or Katie Guernsey,
Training & Education Co-ordinator
High Hopes Therapeutic Riding Inc.,
P.O. Box 254, Old Lyme CT 06371

E-mail: kguernsey@highhopestr.org

Another course will be held late august – early October 2005 – details to be announced

MARCH 2005:

March, 2005

I.P.E.C. Classification Course – Sweden

Contact: Charlotte von Arbin -I.R.T. for details
E-mail: von.arbin.charlotte@telia.com

AUGUST 2005:

August, 2005

Courses with Susanne von Dietze-Pollak – Sweden

Contact: Charlotte von Arbin -I.R.T. for details
E-mail: von.arbin.charlotte@telia.com

5 August, 2005

Nordic Meeting of Therapeutic Riding - in Iceland

Contact: Charlotte von Arbin -I.R.T. for details
E-mail: von.arbin.charlotte@telia.com

SEPTEMBER 2005:

6 – 9 September, 2005

RDA JAPAN Event

Theme: "Building a friendly Relationship between Horse and Human"

Organiser: RDA Japan/planning committee
Location: Expo 2005 Aichi (Seto Area, Citizen Participation Zone)

The location is in an area near the central Japan city of Nagoya.

Discussion sessions with guest speakers including FRDI President-Mrs Gundula Hauser, on topics related to riding for the disabled are being planned as well as events related to the human-horse relationship. More details to come.

To be kept informed, contact RDA Japan
E-mail: rdaj@thanks.biglobe.ne.jp

OCTOBER 2005:

14 - 16 October, 2005

CanTRA 25th Anniversary Conference

Canadian Therapeutic Riding Association (CanTRA)

THEME: "Tools to Teach ...to Learn...to Lead"

Location: University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada.

Contact: Ms Lynne O'Brien, Administrator, CanTRA
P.O. Box 24009, Guelph,
Ontario N1E 6V8 Canada

Tel: 1 519 767 0700
Fax: 1 519 763 0304
E-mail: citra@golden.net
Website: www.cantra.ca

Thank you

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