

SWVADA Clinic August 13 and 14, 2022  
Biomechanics of Riding Clinic with Jessica Bortner-Harris  
Supported by a grant from the Virginia Dressage Association  
Alphin-Stuart Livestock Arena, Virginia Tech Campus, Blacksburg, VA

Priority will be given to SWVADA members at \$35.00/45 minute session,  
Auditing is free for members ([SWVADA.org](http://SWVADA.org) for membership and entry form)  
Non-members \$75/45 minute session, auditing \$25

Jessica focuses on biomechanics of riding to bring out the best in each horse and rider team. She guides the rider through postural and positional corrections to help horse and rider flow as a team. She uses PR Equiformance Posture Slings and other tools in addition to her skilled eye to bring harmony and balance to each horse and rider pair.

*“To be a good horseman, we must analyze all aspects of our horses’ lives. Each tiny detail is important. Be aware. Be vigilant. Be proactive.”*

*Jessica Bortner-Harris*

Jessica grew up in York, PA and has been on the back of a horse since 6 months of age, thanks to her aunts. At the age of 8, she started taking formal balanced seat lessons in both English and Western from Rutledge Horse & Cattle Co. in Spring Grove, PA. She competed in a lot of local open shows throughout her school years. In 1999, she rescued Mr. Lincoln, a 7 year old TB off the track, to be her first event horse. It took years to retrain the very nervous boy, but contrary to what many said, Abe ended up eventing successfully through Training at recognized events and even qualified for the AEC’s at Novice!

In 2003, Jessica started at Wilson College in pursuit of her BS in Equestrian Studies. While at Wilson, she started their first Eventing Team, which is still going strong. She also graduated with honors and she was also awarded the Equestrienne Award, which is given to one or two graduating seniors that excels in both riding and teaching. In 2005, Jessica bought Win the War, aka Bug, from Charles Town Racetrack. Jessica and Bug have a very special bond, and she has done all of his training from his restart all of the way through the CCI\*\*\* level. They qualified for the Land Rover Kentucky Three Day (formerly Rolex) CCI\*\*\*\* in 2016, but unfortunately, Jessica was injured that year before they could go. In 2017, Jessica made the difficult decision to retire Bug from the upper levels, in order to keep him sound and have a long life with a job. He is currently showing Taylor Hollern, one of Jessica’s students, the ropes of Training level and Prelim level, with the goal of doing a CCI\* in the next year.

Now that Bug is retired from upper level competition, Jessica is focused on rebuilding her own string of horses and bringing along her growing group of students, Team JBH Eventing.

- **RECENT RESULTS**

- Jessica Bortner-Harris is a strong advocate for her passion and dedication to Eventing. Her USEA record can be [viewed here](#).
- To learn more about the support and sponsors behind the hard working team at JBH Eventing, please [visit here](#).