

IDEAS ON WHAT TO BRING - D4K YOUTH FESTIVAL AT SAUGERTIES, NY – AUGUST 7-9, 2015

When you go to a show for several days it is really helpful to have some idea of the type of stabling, watering systems, ventilation, and even if there are stall doors. Obviously it will make a difference to your 'packing' list if you can find out in advance what would make sense to bring with you. So here are some tips about the excellent stabling at this show.

- **STALLS** These are quite large – at least 12' x 12' or more.
 - The base is very hard soil, so you need plenty of bedding
 - This means you will need **6 bags of shavings** as a **base**
 - Remember to bring enough shavings to top up the bedding for 3 days
 - There are doors, but a stall guard is also useful to prevent escape
- The **BARNs are METAL** framework construction - Not wood!
 - This means that screw-eyes will NOT work – no wood to use!
 - Research hooks that can **hang** on the stall sides instead – both outside and inside. *Useful for water and feed buckets inside the stall and for hanging bridles, headcollars, or tools outside.*
 - Non-plastic hay string should be used to hang buckets etc.
 - Plastic ties could also be helpful for fans.
- 3. **FANS** – it can get quite hot so a fan for the stall(s) is a good idea
 - **BOX FANS ONLY** please – these are the safest for putting on the Stall fronts or higher up on the corner of the stalls (even better if secure).
 - An **EXTENSION CORD** (at least 12') is essential as the plugs are only on every OTHER stall.
 - **DUCT TAPE** is good to bring to keep the extension cord from dangling - Must be safely 'taped' back out of the way.
- 4. **HAYNETS** – can be useful if tied correctly so not hanging near floor when empty
 - Use **SMALL MESH HAYNETS** or use **HAY BAGS** as these are safer
 - These have to be hung from the top pipe in the stall – so you need either hay string (non plastic type) or rubber ties to hang safely.
 - Consider using hooks that would fit onto the pipes instead, but use Duct tape to make sure they are secure – see pictures
- 5. **BRING A STEP STOOL**
 - It will be needed to reach the top pipes for hanging haynets
 - For fixing the extension cords used for the fans.
- 6. **HOSE** – Always on the list for away shows!
 - Add an extra bucket in case of leaks and to top-up waters – the Flexible Hose is a useful one to have – stores easily

7. **TACK STALL** suggested – especially for teams or groups
 - Much easier to store extra hay and shavings, the feed, all the tack, the mucking tools, grooming kit and other necessities for the horse
 - Also store equipment for the rider – clothes, food, & somewhere to sit
 - You can also enter the **tack stall competition** – fun to do and it includes **all** the members of a team

8. Remember a **STALL CARD** and TAPE it to the stall door (metal so no thumbtacks)
 - Put your cell phone number so you can be contacted in any emergency
 - Obviously the name of your horse or pony and other important details
 - Where you are staying so you can be reached if necessary

9. **CHECK YOUR HORSE OFTEN – HORSES COME FIRST AT DAK!**
 - Vital to monitor your horse regularly to ensure he can do his best for you
 - Fresh water – two full buckets all the time are best
 - Hay available all day – especially if he is used to being turned out
 - Check vital signs –Temperature, Pulse & Respiration,
 - Check for heat in legs, and normal eating/drinking and manure
 - BE OBSERVANT to notice any change in his behavior
 - Consider hand GRAZING or renting a turn-out paddock for ponies or horses that are normally on grass for many hours – helps their digestion to keep to the same type of food as much as possible

10. **BE TIDY**
 - Keep all your equipment, tack, chairs, etc. tidy and organized outside the stall
 - Try keep your hay and shavings in your trailer or tack stall – otherwise stacked neatly outside the stall
 - Consider using ‘bridle hooks’ to hang tack etc. on the outside of the stall
 - **Make sure there is room in the aisle for horses to pass easily**

11. **CLEAN THE STALL OFTEN – pick up throughout the day**
 - Saves on shavings if you pick up regularly - also keeps your horse cleaner
 - Bring the tools you will need to muck out the stall properly
 - Make sure you empty the manure into the correct dumpster
 - Rake or sweep outside your stall regularly to keep it tidy

12. **BEFORE YOU LEAVE**
 - **REMEMBER TO CLEAN THE STALL of ALL SHAVINGS BEFORE LEAVING**
 - Put the unwanted manure in the proper place!
 - Leave the area clean and tidy for the next person.
 - CHECK that you have packed EVERYTHING before leaving!

**REMEMBER TO THANK THE PEOPLE RUNNING OR HELPING
AT THE SHOW!**