

Conference Unleashed 2020

Spook No More: The Spell of Startbuttons

Eva Bertilsson, Emelie Johnson-Vegh, and Peggy Hogan

The term startbutton behavior came to life through Emelie, Eva, and Peggy's now-classic "Animals In Control" lecture at Clicker Expo, conceptualizing a training strategy where the learner gets to direct the pace and progress of a procedure. In this session, the trio is back to provide you with a deeper insight into what startbutton behaviors are all about. They will share their viewpoints on the subject and help you develop procedures that maximize the value of this fascinating communication tool.

Pumpkin, Vampire, Zombie. Pumpkin, Vampire, Zombie: Patterns Are Powerful!

Leslie McDevitt, MLA, CDBC, CPDT-KA, TAGteach Level 2

This is the essential introduction to the why and how of Leslie's Pattern Games, which are described in her latest book, *Control Unleashed 3: Reactive to Relaxed*. Whether you're new to the awesome power of the CU Pattern Games or it's time for a refresher, this is the place to be. Learn how to use these simple, highly effective counter conditioning games to teach dogs to: walk calmly past spooky things, work for you off-leash near spooky things, and focus and do complex tasks like agility near all the spooky things. Teach your dog they have the power to integrate stuff that could worry or distract them into a safe, reliable pattern that they can control!

Bewitching Your Horse with Pony Pattern Games

Jen Digate CBCC-KA, CCUI, MaryKay Hasseman KPA CTP, CCUI & Leslie McDevitt

What do these three situations have in common?

Leading a newly tamed mustang out of their pen and into the wider world for the first time without stress or conflict?

Bringing a nervous horse into an indoor arena for a training session or a lesson and being able to help them relax and be ready to learn?

Cultivating focus and energy in your horse both on the ground and under saddle without any aversive?

All of these scenarios are made possible with Control Unleashed® pattern games. Well known in both behavior and sport circles in the dog world, CU has made the leap to bewitch equines as well. In this presentation, Jen Digate, a dog behavior consultant and horse trainer synthesizes her understanding of pattern games from canines and systematically takes you through the species-specific application for horses. Drawing on her unique background of a commitment to ABA principles, dog sports skills training, positive reinforcement horse training, mustang taming, and academic art form riding, Jen will show you how and when to use the different CU pattern games with your horse. She will leave you with an understanding of each game as it applies to horses, horse appropriate modifications, and criteria for which game to choose to support your horse/create motivation, as well as a rough progression.

In addition, MaryKay Hasseman explains how she uses the 1-2-3 Game for riding and groundwork, and to help relax a horse, focus a horse's attention on the right thing, deeply connect the relationship, condition and make a horse more fit, develop foundation skills for dressage and any riding discipline, improve balance for safety and performance, and teach rider balance and position.

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The Magic of a Horse That Listens

MaryKay Hasseman, USDF Bronze Medalist, KPA CTP, CCUI, TAGteach Level 2

Control Unleashed® games are bringing a growing level of behavioral support and empowered thinking to the world of horses.

With cutting-edge details in this presentation, MaryKay explains how to choose the best CU games for riding. Set the right games in motion to ride and experience the magic of a horse that listens.

Want to know what game to use when you first get on? How about when your horse goes too slow or too fast? What if they spook? Which game will get the best results? MaryKay provides the nuts and bolts of how to make that decision when we're sitting on our horse's back. This presentation explores how CU for horses when doing groundwork differs from CU for horses when riding. Thinking differently about what's going on when you ride matters with CU games. It can make a huge difference in whether you experience a magical feel-good connection, whatever your level of riding.

Included in this exploration is a CU game with an exercise that develops your horse's muscles to keep him sound and healthy for any discipline of riding.

I CU Need Some Support: Helping Horses Relax & Stay Focused on their Learning

Jen Digate, CBCC-KA, CCUI

Join Jen to learn how to use Control Unleashed® pattern games within the context of your ride or groundwork session to keep your horse focused, relaxed, and engaged. Learn what games to use when and how to move easily between your skill/discipline and helping your horse regulate emotionally.