

## Right to Ride Bill passes in subcommittee

H.R. 2966, the Right to Ride bill, was passed by voice vote in the House of Representatives Subcommittee on National Parks, Recreation and Public Lands. The legislation will now be taken up by the full House Resources Committee with another possible hearing in the next few weeks.


H.R. 2966, known as the "Right to Ride Bill," applies to all federal lands managed by the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Forest Service.

Specifically the legislation mandates that the lands should be managed by the federal agencies "to preserve and facilitate the continued use and access of pack and saddle stock animals on such lands, including wilderness areas, national monuments, and other specifically designated areas, where there is a historical tradition of such use."

In addition, the legislation requires that "as a general rule, all trails, routes, and areas used by pack and saddle stock shall remain open and accessible for such use."

"This is a big victory for the horse industry," said Jay Hickey, President of the American Horse Council. "For the first time there is positive movement toward opening lands to horses – not closing them."

To mediate concerns regarding the bill, some changes were made to the original legislation. Language was added that stated that H.R. 2966 did not give priority or precedence over other multiple users. In addition, language was also included which stated that the Secretary of Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture would retain the authority to issue Special Use Permits as well as continue to authorize emergency closures.

In introducing the bill, Representative Radanovich stated that he wanted to preserve the tradition of horses in American culture. "Riding livestock is a great way to explore and experience our federal lands", he said, "and we must preserve our riding heritage. Unfortunately, livestock use is under fire from national environmental fund-raising organizations who seek to restrict access to federal lands." 

## Next Day Jumps leaps into production

Dan Swofford owns and operates Next Day Jumps, a company that manufactures and ships equestrian jumps on demand. Ride! spoke with Dan about this new venture. By Margot Chase

**Dan, How did you get started designing and building jumps?**

In 1985, I found that most jumps available were over-priced or of poor quality. I started building my own just for personal use and for friends. After I had built a couple different models, I took some of my jumps to the Sonoma County Fair and was approached by riders who saw them on display. They were pleased with the quality and cost. This led to creating West Coast Jumps which flourished due to my customers' interest and continued demand. I owned and ran West Coast Jumps until last year.

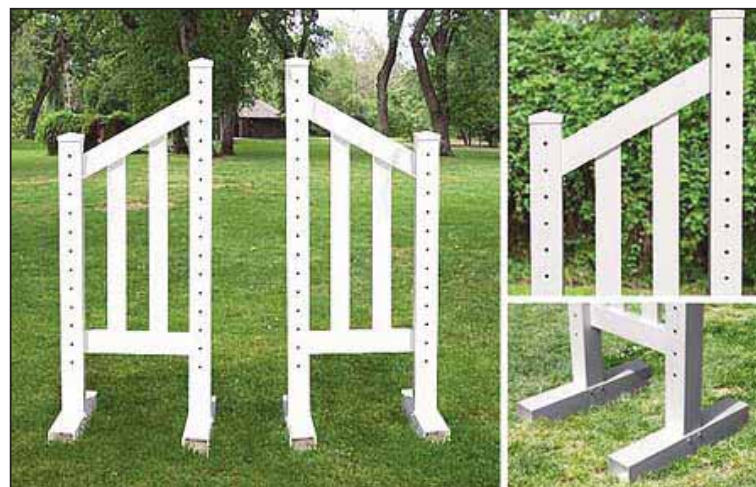


**Pieces fit perfectly, sliding into precut pockets.**

**What made you decide to create a new business and jump?**

Over the last 16 years, I've built courses for show and training, transported jumps across the state and carried them around more arenas than I can count and jumped them from the back of everything from pre-green hunters to Grand Prix mounts. Whenever I found a weakness in a jump design--no matter how small--I went back to the drawing board and revised the blueprints, changing and improving design. I wanted to find a way to distribute these jumps to equestrians all over the county without the huge cost of shipping, so in April of 2004, I launched Next Day Jumps, which ships easy-to assemble jumps to you. Manufacture and distribution of our jumps continues to improve. I decided there was some room for improvement and did some research on a ma-

**Below: Five foot angle picket wing standard.**



terial called Duralon, a unique blend of polymers that is superior to wood, which can rot and splinter during use. It adds flexibility while maintaining exceptional integrity and strength against breaking under impact. Duralon also offers a tremendous resistance



**Assembly is easy: All you need is a screwdriver or cordless drill.**

to Ultraviolet light, which can degrade other materials over prolonged exposure to the sun, and never needs painting. The pure white color is molded right in the material, and Duralon jumps cannot rot or decay. Duralon is covered by an amazing 20 year warranty. In constructing these jumps, we pay attention to every detail. Just as there are no shortcuts in the training of your horse, we take no shortcuts in designing and building our jumps.

**What kinds of jumps do you offer?**

We have personally designed and tested every jump we sell. The appearance of our jumps is classic, designed with a eye to the roots of the sport. The Picket Gates look as fresh as a New England morning. The Brush Box stuffed with evergreen boughs would be at home in an Irish field. Our classic Wing Standards would grace the Grand Prix courses at Wembley. Riding horses is about style, grace and harmony and our jumps are lovingly built to complement your arena or show. We are also proud to introduce the elite Duralon Classic group of fine horse jumps.

**What are the benefits of unassembled versus pre-assembled parts?**

We are able to precision-cut our jumps and ship them in a less unwieldy form, which cuts down considerably on cost. We're able to pass those savings on to our customers. All Next Day Jumps are shipped, unassembled in boxes. This is necessary to ship economically by UPS. Assembly is simple, easy and fast. All jumps assemble with one tool, a Philips head screwdriver. All holes are pre-drilled and the pieces fit perfectly, sliding into precut pockets. Just tighten

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one screw per hole. A cordless drill really makes assembly a snap. Assembly time with a drill will be from 5-10 minutes depending on the jumps. We are also available if any problems arise.

### What kinds of downloads does your website offer?

Currently we offer a few walk-throughs in PDF format. One shows how easy it is to assemble our Schooling Standard. Another is a tutorial on making your own jump poles out of 4x4" lumber with a circular saw. We sell poles, but we offer this PDF as a service for our customers outside of California, as we don't ship our heavy, wooden poles outside of the state. In the weeks and months to come Next Day Jumps will provide free plans for building wood jumps. Our Duralon is the perfect material to build Standards, Gates, Brush Boxes and Vertical Walls, but wood and

plywood make excellent Banks, and Walls. We plan on offering several plans:

2' 6" Wall Base—this jump has a sloped front and a vertical back and can be jumped either direction.

2' 6" Bank—this is a quarter round jump. The curved bank is made with two layers of 1/4" plywood and it screwed down to a 2 x 2 frame. Paint the bank green and add green outdoor carpeting to the curve. This is an attractive jump.

Blocks—add height to the Wall Base by adding blocks of 3", 6", 12", or 18" heights. These are easy to make out of 1/2" plywood and 2 x 2s.

### What makes NDJ stand apart from other jumps?

When Next Day Jumps was launched, I checked prices of all the other jump manufacturers online, and all prices were too high. Based on volume, Next Day Jumps can produce jumps at higher quality and less expense. Those savings

are passed on to the customers. We use state-of-the-art robotics to produce the strongest longest lasting jumps at absolutely the lowest price.

### What's the best part about your business?

The best part about this venture is that people are happy to buy jumps. For a lot of clients, providing an affordable and easy way to turn their arena to a jumping ground is a dream come true. Next Day Jumps is waiting to help make that dream come true. The people at Next Day Jumps are fanatic

about horses and jumping. We feel that riding over fences is not just a sport but an art. This passion and devotion shows in jumps designed and carefully built using strong, quality materials. We often offer lots of discounts, and have different items on sale on a daily basis. Check

our website for more information, or visit eBay and search for "horse jumps" to find us.

For more information, visit [www.nextdayjumps.com](http://www.nextdayjumps.com) or call (530) 892-2627. You can also email Dan at [dan@nextdayjumps.com](mailto:dan@nextdayjumps.com).



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