



Extreme Cowboy Association Hosts Fun Jackpot Obstacle Course Race

SPRINGFIELD, Mo. -- Whether you're an amateur or professional horse rider, there's one event that welcomed all skill levels from across the Ozarks.

The Fun Jackpot Obstacle Course Race was put on by The Extreme Cowboy Association on Sunday. The race was a timed event for riders to go through obstacles with the chance to win first, second, and third place prizes.

We caught up with some of the participants to find out what it takes to perform these type of tricks.

Elizabeth Brooks, Manager Springfield Riding Club says, "These aren't the kinds of things you'd grab out of your back yard. So this is something you do have to come and work at and practice."

Christi Bennett, a rider says, "It challenges your horse, and you're trying to do backthroughs and roping, and just anything you can think of, they throw it at you."

"You're asking them to do stuff they normally wouldn't do, like they've got a skinny bridge in there that's only 12 inches wide. That's not natural for a horse to put their feet on there."

Brooks says, "I like to tell people that being around horses and learning to ride horses is like learning to operate heavy equipment. There's a lot of safety that needs to be taken care of, and there's a lot of groundwork that goes into learning to be around horses before you actually get on and do some of the things you're going to be seeing out in the arena."

"Everybody tries to help everybody. And like, this is my friend Bobby, and she's just starting out in it, and ya know, she comes to my house and practices. The whole family can do it. That's what's nice about it.", Bennet said.

Horse riders at Sunday's event say it was good preparation for their horses to get ready for the start of racing season at the end of April.