Always a Good Ride ~ Featured Facility

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USDF Gold/Silver/Bronze Medalist Trainer Barbro Ask-Upmark has brought this innovative tool to the United States. Through her business, Always A Good Ride, LLC., Barbro imports and distributes the Riding Simulators throughout the country. The newest model, "The Dressage Horse", is the latest craze to hit the US. Just imagine the interactive technology where "virtual" dressage tests of all levels can be practiced with immediate feedback from the computer and/or big screen tv!

The Riding Simulator's technology provides an alternative to traditional riding lessons, and can be used to help a both novice and experienced riders improve their skills. Just as a live horse will do, The Simulator reacts to the rider's legs, seat and hands. However, when a novice rider is too heavy on the hands because they haven't quite learned proper balance, they will not affect the Riding Simulator as it affects a lesson horse. Or when a rider is just learning to canter, the Riding Simulator will pick up the canter as long as the rider uses the correct leg aid, thus teaching proper cues to the rider without the risk of trying this on a live horse for the first time.

The Riding Simulator is used in a functional "riding room," complete with big screen TV for visualizing the dressage court, mirrors to view

the rider's position from multiple angles, and of course, the advantage of weatherproof, comfortable temperatures! Again for novices, the Instructor can actually touch the Rider during the lesson, in order to make corrections to seat, legs or hands…try doing that with a conventional lesson on a moving horse! Once a beginner feels comfortable on the Riding Simulator, they naturally find it easier and have the confidence to step up and ride a real horse. Using the Riding Simulator also speeds up the process of learning for beginners, giving them "a leg up" toward progressing in their riding abilities.

For experienced riders, the Riding Simulator offers the ultimate opportunity to refine riding skills, seat, or timing. Riders can experience top level FEI Dressage movements on the Riding Simulator as they practice. Then when they transition to riding a live horse, they already know what the movements are supposed to feel like, plus how to ride the movements and how to use the proper cues for the movements. The Riding Simulator is a fantastic tool for the competitive rider. It allows the rider to focus 100 percent on improving their own position, posture and timing without thinking about training the horse, or without having to worry about the horse's reaction.

Always A Good Ride, LLC. is based in Malibu, California and offers lessons and clinics using the Riding Simulator, named "Luke." Lessons, clinics, and events are available in Malibu, San Diego and Sacramento. One of the best applications for this technology is for Trainers. Trainers are invited to book a day for their students with the Riding Simulator in Malibu – what a fun field trip for the barn! Clinics can

be arranged for larger group sessions at select locations – please contact Barbro for more information. Trainers and facility owners may also purchase or lease a Riding Simulator – this is a great option to expand a riding school or lesson program without the maintenance of adding costly lesson horses. Always A Good Ride is the dealer for these advanced instructional tools, and they offer both sales and long term leasing for The Riding Simulators.

Just when you think technology can't get any better…take a ride on the Dressage Simulator and get interactive feedback, build confidence or practice FEI movements on cue! Please visit the website at alwaysagoodride.com, or email: info@alwaysagoodride.com, or call Barbro Ask-Upmark at 831-596-4999. Here's wishing you…always a good ride!