

Deb Bakoledis



Deb Bakoledis began riding at age 10 as a horse crazy little girl. She quickly advanced to owning and competing on the A hunter/jumper show circuit at 11 years of age. At 12, she began training a 2 year old off the race track with the help of trainer Janie Weber from Stepping Stone Farm. She competed with him in the Medal/Maclay and USET classes while he was just 4 years old. As a 6 year old they qualified for and competed at the ASPCA Maclay Finals in Madison Square Garden and at the AHSA Medal Finals in Harrisburg, PA. This was with the help of trainer, Carl Dena from M.S. Farms, Inc in Patterson, NY. Again in 1988, they qualified for the ASPCA Maclay Finals at MSG, the AHSA Medal Finals in Harrisburg and the USET finals in Gladstone, NJ. In the highly competitive decade of the 1980's she managed to be among one of the top 30 juniors in the country.

After graduating from the junior ranks, she earned an A.S. in Travel/Tourism Management from Johnson & Wales University and a B.S. in Business Management from the University of Connecticut. Upon graduation, she began working again with Carl Dena. She initially had success as an amateur owner hunter with an investment horse that was purchased as a green, off the track thoroughbred and earned the USEF zone champion award two years in a row prior to selling him as a children's hunter. Upon turning professional, she instructed several junior and adult riders at various levels, and from green horses to more finished horses. Deb then had the opportunity to train and show Carl's young, European hunter and jumper prospects. These horses were shown up and down the east coast from Saratoga, NY to Cape Cod, MA to Ocala, FL to Saugerties, NY. She competed with them in everything from the baby green hunters up to the Level 7 Jumpers and mini-prix with much success. All horses were later sold to top show homes.

Since 2004, she has worked with young, green horses, and previously mishandled horses and has successfully finished them for the show ring. Deb has always enjoyed the process of training horses and seeing the huge progress they can make when you work with them as partners to help them succeed. Also, during this time she has trained students in cross rails to Medal finals and seeks to help her students reach attainable goals. Her focus is on proper riding skills from a strong equitation foundation, as well as a treating your four - legged partner with respect and kindness to foster a winning combination. She is married and has two elementary aged children.