

Our primary mission at TCPS has been to create saddles that are designed, engineered and constructed to promote the best possible use of a horse's back. For the past 25 years, we have been working to produce a bio-mechanically improved saddle; one that relates more specifically to the needs of the horse's back in dynamic motion. In addition to achieving this goal, we have stumbled upon a new and fascinating phenomena; the ability of our saddle tree to emit an electromagnetic field that benefits a horse's physiology; reducing back pain, improving relaxation, hydration, recovery and performance. This has led to the development of the Thera-tree which we introduced at last years show. As the correct use of a horse's back is so central to our mission, this test will explore and perhaps expand your knowledge of this subject.

This Spring we featured a horse named Bella who had been recently diagnosed with Kissing Spine, an all too frequently diagnosed condition among competition horses.

Review all 3 posts about Bella on our Facebook page. Using them as a reference along with your own knowledge and observations, answer the following questions:

Question 1.

Describe the many ways horses tell us they have a sore back. Include behaviors on the ground and while being ridden.

Question 2.

Describe Kissing Spine. Describe how back pain from a saddle might cause this condition.

Question 3

Describe the mechanics of a horse moving well.

Question 4

Give your best explanation of the role the Thera-tree had in treating Bella's condition and how being ridden in SmartRide Rx technology contributed to the results.

25 points each

Please return written exams via email to Tara Deckel at tdeckel@icloud.com by 12:00 PM Friday, August 23rd.