



Finances and Showing

Holly Grayton

[Back to Articles...](#)

I often hear people saying that they have a limited budget for showing etc and then I see they are headed to the summer series for a week or a week at an away show that will use up all of their annual budget! This to me is like going to the roulette table and putting all your money on black you've at best got a 50/50 shot at this working how you want it to.

Yes we all want to show at prestigious venues and travel, but should we blow the whole stack on one shot?

There are better ways to spend your money and get great dollar for value.

One idea is to show locally for a while. Spruce Meadows offers great season opener shows in May for not very expensive where you can get a lot of experience and practice. You can do a lot of these shows in a year without going through your entire budget so fast and increasing your probability of success next year or even later this year.

I spent some time asking professionals what the key to success in this sport was? Overwhelmingly they all said get show miles and a ton of ring experience. I do this on a budget and I show at every small show I can so I maximize my exposure for the least amount spent.

I believe Spruce Meadows summer series and Spruce Meadows Masters are the pinnacle of the sport as a whole not just locally but internationally and to think that we can just show up and wing it is improbable and likely a waste of your show dollars until you are ready to go out and get a prize!

Set yourself up for success as best you can always and to me this means more shows for less money. Then when you are ready to show with the big guys you have many miles under your belt.