Introducing the inaugural horse racing photography workshop at Santa Anita Park in Arcadia, CA.

During the course of the workshop, students will begin with the basics, learning how to strategize and scout images. Participants will shoot morning workouts, set up remotes and photograph afternoon racing. Students will be exposed to existing racing images through daily classroom instruction and will learn to understand the forethought that went into creating them. Coursework will also cover ethics, rules, customs and safety regarding racing photography. Safety of the horse is always the primary concern.

Additionally, there will be multiple live editing and critique sessions where attendees will display their pictures and, as a group, work through the entire post production process.

Students will learn from Eclipse Sportswire’s Alex Evers and Scott Serio. Eclipse Sportswire is the official photographer for the Breeders’ Cup World Championships and routinely has images published throughout the industry and mainstream media.

Publications include Sports Illustrated, The Wall Street Journal and the New York Times. Evers has received an honorable mention for the last two years in the Eclipse Awards Media Division for Photography. Serio received an honorable mention in 2016 and won the Eclipse Award for an image of American Pharoah in 2015. You can find their work and the work of their fellow team members on Instagram:

@a_evers - https://www.instagram.com/a_evers/
@scottseriophotos - https://www.instagram.com/scottseriophotos/
@eclipsesportswire - https://www.instagram.com/eclipsesportswire/

OVERVIEW

- Wednesday, March 28 - Friday, March 30, 2018
- Start time: 6:00 a.m. until mid to late afternoon each day
- Tuition for the three-day workshop is $500
- Travel arrangements are the responsibility of the attendee
- The workshop will take place at Santa Anita Park, with the exception of check-in. Classroom portion will be located in the Baldwin Terrace Conference Room at the East end of the grandstand.
- Camera equipment, laptops, etc. must be provided by the participant
- Must be 18 years of age or older to participate
WORKSHOP OUTLINE AND SYLLABUS

Tuesday, March 27th – Registration Evening (Optional)
Attendees will check-in at 7pm at BJ’s Restaurant & Brewhouse at 400 E. Huntington Drive in Arcadia, CA.
Attendees will:

- Meet instructors & other students
- Sign course paperwork, temporary credential and waivers
- Receive workshop materials, basic rules and final instructions for first morning of shooting

Wednesday, March 28th
Sunrise is at 6:45am
Meet at Clocker’s Corner at 6:00am - Yes, things happen early in the horseracing world.
Participants will again be advised of the rules regarding shooting. The horse’s safety is of utmost importance.

Participants will be allowed to photograph along the apron of the track until the 7:45am harrowing break under the direct supervision of the instructors. This will help establish a baseline for the instructors to understand each photographer’s skill level and thought process for making images.

After a short break, participants will head to the classroom for instruction. Classroom is located in the grandstand near Clockers’ Corner.
Topic for the first session will include:

- Horse safety, ethics
- Working with other photographers
- Working with track photographers
- Review basics of photography
- Basic settings used to make various images

Morning session will conclude with a lunch break. Lunch will not be provided but there are several local options including Debby’s Backside Café in the stable area. Great food! – bring cash. There are also multiple eateries at the adjacent Westfield Santa Anita Mall next door.

The afternoon classroom instruction will include a live editing critique session where various student images from the morning will be used as examples for editing. This editing and workflow process will segue into the variety of action and feature images that are made at a racetrack.

Day one will end with a slideshow from the instructors about their favorite photos and the planning and thought process behind them.

Thursday, March 29th
We will repeat the morning workout process of taking photos, arriving at 6:00am. Photographers will have the freedom to find different angles from the apron, but smaller groups will also look at the barn area, paddock and walking path for prospective photographs. These are sensitive areas where horses have less experience seeing photographers. Students must be under direct supervision if they are off the track apron.
Students will continue making photographs until the 8:00am harrowing break.

Classroom instruction will again cover action and feature photography, but focus on setting up and execute remotely triggered photographs. The morning session will end at approximately 11:00am to allow sufficient time for lunch and a return to the racetrack to photograph part of the afternoon’s racing card.

Upon returning, the class will be divided in half. One group will work with Alex Evers in setting up remote cameras on the inside rail area of the track. The other group will be with Scott Serio as they understand photographing a race from the turn for home, mid-stretch, at the finish line or just past the finish line. They will go over the pros and cons of each location and how to create each image.

Mid-card, the full group will return to the classroom for another live editing and critique session for the morning and afternoon images.

Day 2 will end with another slideshow from an instructor.

**Friday, March 30th**

Morning workouts will be optional for students, but those who attend will get to look at photographing morning workouts from a different angle. They will explore elevated images from the Press Box area or work with an instructor with a mirrorless camera to see what different images can be made when horses aren’t disturbed by the sound of a shutter. Students should also be challenging themselves to make better images than they made on Day 1.

Again, students will return to the classroom at 8:00am. They will receive more instruction about feature and scenic photography at the track. Lunch break will be closer to 10:30am.

Students will again shoot the races, setting up remotes and learning to photograph everything from the saddling area, to the walking ring to the racing surface.

When returning to the classroom, students will select their best six images from the week for a portfolio from the workshop. Based on the submitted portfolios, the instructors will select two winners, one with the Best Portfolio and one with the Most Improved Portfolio.

The student selected as having the Best Portfolio will have the opportunity to continue their education as a horseracing photographer on Santa Anita Derby Day with the Eclipse Sportswire team as an assistant photographer. (Should the student not be local, they can make arrangements with Eclipse Sportswire to photograph another major stakes closer to where they live.)

The student selected as having the Most Improved Portfolio will also have the opportunity to continue their education as a horseracing photographer on Kentucky Derby Day with the Eclipse Sportswire team as an assistant photographer. (Should the student not be local, they can make arrangements with Eclipse Sportswire to photograph another major stakes closer to where they live.)

(All expenses related to additional learning opportunities are the responsibility of the student)