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April 2014

VRPC News

In This Issue...

[Wise Words From
Moose Man...](#)

[Training for SJ Rally](#)

[Champs Grand Prix
Award](#)

[Games & Polocrosse
Fun Day](#)

[Champs Forms &
Gold Book](#)

[Summer Camp with
Casanova-Warrenton
PC](#)

Quick Links

[VRPC Website](#)
[USPC Website](#)
[VRPC Calendar](#)



New 2014 Horse Management Handbook

The new [2014 Horse Management Handbook](#) is now available! This version of the HM Handbook takes effect May 1st.

Greetings from the RS

April Showers bring May flowers...what does late March snow bring? I'm so done with winter! I'm ready to skip spring and go right to summer!

As you know, the Virginia and Capital Regions are co-hosting the 2015 USPC Annual Meeting & Equine Symposium in January at the Crystal City Hyatt. I'm working with Cheryl Clark, the Capital Region RS, to identify committee chairs and committees to complete the tasks required to execute "A Monumental Experience" at the Annual Meeting! [Click here to see the promo video.](#) If you are interested in participating in the planning, please let me know! Many hands are required to get this job done!

I'm very pleased to announce that Mrs. Good and LHPC have agreed to Chair the Auction Committee, soliciting donations for the silent and live auctions. I'm sure they will be reaching out to all of us for input and donations. This is the primary source of income for the regions from the Annual Meeting. As soon as we finalize the chair positions for the remaining committees, I will let you know who is doing what. Wayne Quarles at the USPC National Office is finalizing the budget, and then things will really get rolling! I will continue to update you on our meeting planning process via this newsletter ~ stay tuned!

Thank you to all those that volunteered for the Morven Park HT this last weekend in March. Your support goes a long way to help reduce costs for using Morven for our Dressage Rally!

After a wonderful Quiz Rally in February, I'm sure we are all looking forward to the Horseless Rally and Show Jumping Clinic the first weekend in April. These events are a wonderful way to jump into the Rally season! Horseless Rally is perfect for new families to understand the requirements for rallies, and Show Jumping Clinic will give a "reality" check for what divisions members should register in for Show Jumping Rally!

I am really looking forward to those May flowers, and our Show Jumping and Dressage Rallies!

Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers that make our clubs so strong and active! I really appreciate all you do!

Wise Words From Moose Man...
One Day vs. Two Day Rallies by Brian Smith

For more info on rule changes, check out the [HM Summary Webinar](#).

2014 VRPC Calendar

The 2014 VRPC Calendar is available on the [VRPC Website](#).

Note that dates are subject to change. Please check back often for updates.

April 2014 Calendar

Sat April 5
Horseless Rally @ Glenwood Park Middleburg, VA

Sat April 5
Show Jumping Clinic @ Turner Farm Great Falls, VA

Sat April 12
Deep Run Hunt PC Horse Trials @ Manakin-Sabot VA

Sat & Sun April 26 & 27
Loudoun Hunt PC Horse Trials @ Morven Park Leesburg, VA

May 2014 Calendar

Fri, Sat & Sun May 2, 3 & 4
H-B Certification @ Morningside Farm The Plains, VA

Sat & Sun May 10 & 11
Show Jumping Rally @ Deep Run Hunt Club

This information will probably be most useful to the members that have not attended an overnight rally. Note: this is all based on the current rulebook.

The new [2014 Horse Management Handbook](#) is now posted to the USPC website in the Rulebooks section. It is effective May 1st. I think everything here is still accurate.

There is not a whole lot of difference between a one day and a two day rally. Anything over one day is the same, whether it is a two day rally or champs. There is a little more equipment, slightly different procedures, but mostly just more endurance required.



Equipment

Water bucket(s). For a one day rally, you only need one water bucket. For overnight rallies, you need two. Anytime you are giving electrolytes you must have two buckets, and the electrolyte bucket must be labeled as such. See HM 13b.

Top off buckets are only required for overnight rallies. Put them out at night and store them away first thing in the morning. You may use the top off water to fill the regular buckets. See HM 13c.

No feed or feed chart is required for a one day rally. For a one day rally, you will bring hay and a hay net or bag for your critter to munch on. Hay nets/bags may be cloth or nylon and DO NOT need to have a breakaway capability.

For an overnight, you may prefer to feed on the ground as it is generally healthier for the mount. For an overnight rally, you will need feed (grain and any supplements you feed) and a feed chart. See HM 13a for requirements for the feed chart.

You cannot tie with a flat nylon lead, so that is probably best left home for a trailer tie rally.

Stall guards. If used, see HM 11b.

Procedures

Turnout/Safety check. For all rallies you have one and only one Turnout Inspection. Prior to mounting you must always have a safety check. Turnout Inspection includes a safety check.

Except for girth tightening or stirrup adjustment, if you make any adjustments to tack (e.g. add, remove, loosen anything) you need to get another safety check. So, you always get a Turnout Inspection first and then you will get a safety check(s) on successive days or anytime you adjust tack as above.

For safety check, the mount is not expected to be "turnout clean", but there should be no excessive staining, and no shavings under the belly or in the mane/tail. Tack should be "turnback clean".

There are no official Turnbacks after the last phase of a one day rally, or the last day of a multi-day rally. We do "unofficial turnbacks" for

Manakin-Sabot, VA

Sat & Sun
May 24 & 25

Dressage Rally @
Morven Park
Equestrian Center
Leesburg, VA

Sat May 31

Cross Country
Clinic @
Gordonsdale XC
Schooling Course
Berryville, VA

June 2014 Calendar

Sat June 7

Multi Region
Polocrosse Rally @
Potomac Polo Field
Boyd's, MD

Sat & Sun
June 14 & 15

Eventing Rally @
Glenwood Park
Middleburg, VA

Sat June 28

D-3 Eventing Rally @
Windsor Lodge Farm
Flint Hill, VA

Sun June 29

Champs Prep Picnic
Location TBD

Camp Barn Managers Needed

Casanova-
Warrenton PC is
looking for two
Barn Managers
during summer
camp June 30 - July
3. Paid positions
for C-1's or above &
at least 15 years
old. For more info,
check out website

[Casanova-
Warrenton
Summer Camp](#)

those. I call that "turnbacks by wandering around". We walk around the stable area eyeballing horses, but do not do a horse by horse turnback. See HM 15c.

Deliveries. Have all deliveries made first thing in the morning. This includes coolers preferably with lunches. If lunches are not dropped off in the morning, arrange a meeting time in the neutral zone to deliver lunches.

Barns. No one except HM may be in the barn area after barns close until barn opening time in the morning. Do not enter the barns, or start feeding, mucking, etc until barn opening time. Parents are only allowed in the barns (generally) until the initial briefing and then not again until the last day when announced or after awards.

For multi day rallies, at least one competitor must be present very shortly after barn opening time to feed the mounts. See HM 13e.

Inspections & Briefings. Depending on the discipline, there may be additional horse inspections (jog for soundness checks).

Sometimes additional competitor briefings may happen for multi day rallies. These may be "Captains briefings". The chief will discuss what went well up to that point or things that need attention, or procedures coming up.

Horses. Hand walk older/stiffer mounts or mounts that are used to being turned out. Being stuck in a stall can stiffen them up, so take them out and hand graze them as much as you can.

Medications for your mount. A vet note or prescription form is required. Make sure you are familiar with HM 14.

You may need to lunge. If so, make sure you bring all required equipment and someone suitable to do the lungeing. See HM 10g.

Braids must come out prior to turnback, but can be put back in after. See HM 10d.

Important note: There is no such thing as "Champs standards". The standards are the standards and they are the same for one day rallies, overnight rallies, and champs.

Endurance

The stress of a multi-day rally can be significant. Over night rallies take more out of you. ESPECIALLY Champs. And especially it is hot. Nerves can fray. Work extra hard at getting along and helping each other out and looking out for each other. Watch for signs of heat issues and tell HM if you think anyone is suffering from the heat. If you are having "team dynamics" issues, do not be afraid to discuss it with HM.

We want you to have a fun successful rally experience. Make sure you get a good nights sleep and good meals. Drink throughout the day. Don't be afraid to take a nap during down time during the day.

Tips for Training You & Your Horse for Show Jumping Rally

by Karen Nutt & Amy Brown



Show Jumping Rally is a fun competition for almost all levels. However, in order to have a safe and fun rally, Pony Club members need to make sure that they and their pony are well prepared for the level they enter.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT DIVISION

Non-qualifying levels: The lowest levels at the regional rally are the non-qualifying divisions, ranging from 2' to 2'9". These levels are appropriate for strong D-2 and up members who are confident and safe jumping a course of at least eight jumps to include some related distances, bending lines, skinnies, and easy rollback turns. While the jump heights are low, the courses are more difficult than a typical hunter course or beginner novice jumping test. These levels will not have a jump-off or take your own line rounds.

Qualifying levels: The qualifying levels start at 2'6" and are more technical than the non-qualifying divisions, with more difficult turns and combinations.

Intro: 2'6" (no combinations, no jump-off, no take your own line)

Developing Horse & Rider: 2'9" - 3'

Horse 1: 3'-3'6"

Horse 2: 3'3"-3'9"

Horse 3: 3'6"-4'

Horse 4: 3'9"-4'3"

Competitors in qualifying levels will have two additional rounds: the jump-off and "take your own line (TYOL)."

Jump-off: In the jump-off round, riders must go clear (no rails or time) in order to move on to the jump-off, which is a shorter course of jumps in a different order. The goal is to go as fast as is SAFELY possible without knocking down any rails, using inside turns and slightly angling jumps to shave time rather than running the horse off its feet.

TYOL: TYOL is the last round of the rally. In this round, the competitor and his/her coach must create their own course. All oxers are square and can be jumped in either direction, and jumps can be taken in any order. Each jump must be jumped once, but only once. The start and finish line stretches directly across the middle of the ring. The rider must enter the ring and halt and salute on the correct

side of the line to start their course so that the judge knows when to start the timer.

PREPARATION

Fitness: Horse and rider fitness is very important. Horses must be able to jump 5 challenging courses over 2 days without fatigue. Our Virginia Region rally is in mid-May, which might be hot. The horses won't be used to higher temperatures, and if not clipped may be too hairy to cool efficiently. A body or trace clip for a hairy horse, and consistent riding for the month leading up to the rally is a must.

What to work on: Riders in the NQ divisions will need to practice riding related distances, easy rollback turns, and skinnies at home. Attending several local jumper shows and the VRPC show jumping clinic with Dan Kelly on April 5 is also a great idea. Riders hoping to compete in a qualifying division need to be competently and safely schooling 1, 2, and 3 stride combinations, more difficult rollback turns, bending lines, slightly angling jumps, and skinnies. The show jumping clinic is a great idea for these riders as well.

Once you have done your "homework" at home and in lessons, it is important to practice your new skills before the rally in a show environment. Jumper courses are fast-paced and remembering the course takes a lot of concentration- add to that the stress of competition and unfamiliar jumps that might impress your mount, and it will be that much harder to execute a perfect rollback or ride that bending line correctly.

At the local shows, focus on:

- Riding a quiet and correct round.
- Walk your course first with a coach or more experienced Pony Club member, then stick to your plan.
- Focus on maintaining the correct lead, riding accurately around the course, and creating and maintaining a steady, quality canter.
- Riding with confidence, staying balanced around turns, and maintaining rhythm is vital.

In a class where time matters it can be tempting to let your pony rush around the course and leave out strides, but in the end riding like this will result in knocking down rails (or worse!) and won't teach you or your pony the skills that will help you be successful at the rally.

For additional information, see USPC web site, Show Jumping 2014 Newsletter: [USPC Show Jumping 2014 Newsletter](#) and Show Jumping Rulebook: [USPC Show Jumping Rulebook](#)

USPC Eventing Grand Prix Award At Champs

Are you aware that thanks to our generous sponsors, USPC is able to offer \$5,000 to the winning Preliminary Eventing Team at USPC Championships? This award is only offered during Festival years at the Kentucky Horse Park. This prize offers an incentive to Upper Level members to come to Championships. We wish to make Championships an exciting destination event for all our young preliminary riders. In 2011 all five members of the team won a \$1,000 prize, including the Stable Manager, rewarding their excellence in riding, horsemanship and teamwork. You can see how

they spent their money via the USPC Eventing Discipline web site. <http://www.eventing.ponyclub.org/News.htm>

The Broussard Family Trust made a major contribution to secure this award for this year and on into future years. Additional funds have been raised by a silent auction of many Horse Trials including Woodside Horse Trials, CA; Fair Hill Horse Trials, PA; Cobblestone Horse Trials, New Jersey Horse Trials and Seneca Valley Horse Trials. We especially appreciate the support from USEA recognized Horse Trials organizers. Supporting donations were also received from Pony Clubs and Regions across the country, as well as other individuals. Many thanks to our generous donors!

We hope that sharing the knowledge about this special award will help increase the number of Preliminary Eventing teams at this year's Championships in Kentucky. USPC celebrates its 60th Anniversary this year and runs the Pony Club Championships on the Rolex property, alongside North American Junior & Young Riders Championships (NAJYRC) July 14 - 21, 2014. Hope you can join us!

Games & Polocrosse Fun Day April 12th

by Jennifer Carpenter

Are you Game? Try Games, Polocrosse or both!

Don't let your child miss this opportunity to try two pony club disciplines with friends and the best USPC player clinicians!

Saturday, April 12 at Great Meadow is no horse show; it's true team riding and fun!

Great Meadow is site of the World Equestrian Games Eventing Qualifiers coming up this summer and home of Twilight Polo and VRPC Games Rally.

Your member will learn games and/or polocrosse skills, have fun riding with their peers, and play the game(s) on a real team by days end. All riding abilities welcome, appropriate groups will be formed mounted and unmounted for both morning and afternoon sessions.

Beginners will start unmounted with stick skills, equipment and play briefing, then mount for skills and drills. Mounted Virginia and Old Dominion Region teams including APA Heartland polocrosse club players will practice on Festival Hill in the AM, then all will play out some chukkas in the afternoon.

Fun Day polocrosse clinicians got their start and credit their opportunities for success and international riding experiences to pony club. Nick Balogh is the head coach for Sugarloaf Mt. Polocrosse Club in Maryland and an A grade American Polocrosse Association (APA) player. Brothers Peter and Karl, and fellow member of Potomac Pony Club, Rowan, all play APA and USPC polocrosse including international



opportunities.

Experienced games players and clinician Jackie will teach games and skills both sessions to riders new to games. All champs 2014 games will be offered in multiple lanes for practice.

Whether you want have more fun and time in the saddle than allowed and add years of riding your beloved pony or just want to know the games for quiz success, or attend for fun!

Lunch included with mounted registration.

See the invitation on the VRPC calendar or the flyer distributed to VRPC members google group for all the details or contact cwpcdc@gmail.com to RSVP.

Want more Games?!

Games practices continue throughout the year at Franklin Park, Purcellville and at Great Meadow leading up to VRPC Games Rally & Annual Halloween Costume Parade, November 1, 2014. See the VRPC calendar and the CWPC website for dates and locations and an invitation to learn and participate throughout the year at [Casanova-Warrenton Pony Club Games](#)

Want more Polocrosse?!

Attend polocrosse practices hosted by CWPC or APA Heartland Polocrosse Club twice a month throughout the year. See the VRPC calendar or the CWPC calendar and polocrosse page for dates and locations at

[Casanova-Warrenton Pony Club Polocrosse](#)

Want to play polocrosse competitively, attend clinics and tournaments for all abilities? Attend the Fun Day, ask about joining American Polocrosse Association and check out [American Polocrosse](#).

USPC Champs Gold Book Available

by Lisa Woods

USPC has posted the [Goldbook for Championships/Festival 2014](#), and VRPC has posted [many informative links](#) to help you navigate the championships entry process.

New for this year, the [Intent to Compete Form](#) can be filled out online. All forms can also be sent via US mail, or SCANNED (no photos) and emailed to Lisa Woods at lisawoods65@gmail.com. Payment can also be made online, or by check and sent via US mail to Lisa.



Even though we haven't had all of our qualifying rallies, it helps us to know how many might be planning to attend champs, and how many

are interested in hotel rooms, horse transportation etc.

USPC has raised their fees this year after several years of holding them steady, and VRPC has to follow suit to cover costs. The discipline fees include the USPC entry fee, the opening day party, the prep picnic and any coaching fees. Eventing, tetrathlon and show jumping all have coaching fees included in their entry fees.

Discipline fee schedules can be found on our region's website [Championships 2014 Information page](#). Or go to our website at www.vrponyclub.org and click on the Rallies tab.

We are excited to have Karen Nutt and Skyeler Icke Voss coaching our jumping events this year, with Amy Brown assisting. All three are Pony Club Graduate As and have extensive Champs experience.

We have reserved a block of rooms for competitors at the Holiday Inn Express in Georgetown, KY. The cut-off date to reserve in the VRPC block is June 25, 2014. Once your intent form has been received, Lisa will provide the block code which you will need when you make your reservation.

Please contact Lisa Woods with any questions or comments. We are looking forward to another great year at Champs--this time in Lexington, KY!

Lisa Woods
VRPC Champs Coordinator
P. O. Box 291
Philomont, VA 20131
lisawoods65@gmail.com
(703)623-5463

Summer Camp - VRPC Members Invited Registration Now Open

VRPC members are invited to attend Casanova-Warrenton Pony Club 2014 Overnight Summer Camp, Monday, June 30 thru Thursday, July 3, 2014, to be held at Glenwood Park, Middleburg VA.



Campers will work on Standards of Proficiency's (SOPs) in morning mounted and unmounted lesson groups. Gegi Winslett, Pat Leins, and Stacey Donnelly will be instructors. We have applied for a visiting instructor (VI) from USPC again this year. The USPC VI coordinator surely will WOW! us with another outstanding upper level pony club member after our experience with Kathryn from California and Rebecca from Oregon the last few summers.

Campers will choose an afternoon clinic each day. LeighAnn Groux will instruct musical drill team. Michelle Reilly will again be our games

clinician. APA 2014 A grade National Champion #1 player and current Team USA, Evan Vallee will coach polocrosse for both beginners and our intermediate USPC Champs team. Sharpen your show jumping with USPC Living Legend, Georgine Winslett. Tune up your cross country ride with a professional international eventing competitor!

Our certified range instructor dads are eager to coach tetrathlon shooting practice in the evenings. We will cool off at the Middleburg Community pool and enjoy meals together, donated and prepared by our volunteer parents. With 10 boys in our club, our craft coordinator, Erin White, promises useful equine carpentry and other creative projects for everyone with Susan and Lisa hosting the craft station 9AM-1:30PM daily.

Camp reservations will be accepted in the order complete forms (including volunteer commitments) and fees are received. CWPC member camp reservations are due by April 18. Registration opens to non-CWPC members in order received after April 18. Register early whether a CWPC member or not!

Mail hard copies with original signatures, please, to address on the form. Contact Jennifer Carpenter at cwpcdc@gmail.com

Complete information is available at this website
[Casanova-Warrenton Summer Camp](#)

That's all for now!

Sincerely,

Carolyn Lorenzen, RS
The Virginia Region Pony Clubs

Tutoring Tuesdays

Don't miss out ~ USPC is offering wonderful opportunities for members and parents ~ Tutoring Tuesdays! These webinars cover a variety of topics ranging from leadership training, certification preparation, to the experiences of Championships. Please check back often as dates and topics may be modified. By clicking on the titles listed you can find out more information about each topic, in addition to registration information.

[Click here for more information](#)

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