

The Stonybrook Scoop!



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www.stonybrooksaddleclub.com
Find us on Facebook also!



First Member Meeting: March 3rd, 2017. 6:30pm @ Kings on 286 in Plum

2016 Board of Directors

President, DeAnn Sloan: 570-490-5273

Vice President, Katie Katkowski: 412-979-9899

Treasurer, Christine Cafazzo: 412-953-0051

Corresponding Secretary, Nicole Cammuso: 412-607-3831

Recording Secretary, Mackenzie Arent: 412-334-2551

Board Member, Beth Regan: 412-328-5181

Board Member, Tess Lohr: 412-526-6049

Board Member, Amy Shurina: 724-713-7591

Board Member, Becky Guenther: 724-472-2458

Board Member, Glenn Plouchard: 412-298-1641

Alternate Board, Alicia Johnston: 724-316-9117

BIG year, BIG changes, BIG awards, & BIG fun!

Welcome to another year at Stonybrook Saddle Club!! I am looking forward to continuing the progress from last year. We have a number of exciting events planned this year; we will be continuing our buckle series and judged pleasure trail rides, but we are revamping our shows and points system. Instead of an open or schooling show, we will be offering a western clinic and show day and we will have two fun and games shows, which combine our fun shows and the gaming portion of our open shows. We hope that this will encourage participation and will allow people to try something new. To kick off the year, we will be sponsoring two worthy events. The first, on March 4th, is Racing for Veterans, a barrel race that benefits veterans with PTSD. If you want any more information about the event, please feel free to contact me. The second event is the Westmoreland County 4-H Tack Swap on March 25th. The tack swap will be at the Westmoreland County Fairgrounds and we will have two tables if there is anything you would like to sell. There are a number of big changes coming this year. Please read the newsletter, come to meetings, and GET INVOLVED if you want to be part of it all.

Events Planned and Notable Changes

Western Show & Clinic Combo- We are planning a day that would be a short morning clinic on ranch riding & pleasure (probably from 9-12), followed by a short showbill full of all western classes (beginning at 1pm), including ranch riding, ranch pleasure, western pleasure, halter, grooming and showmanship, and trail. We are still discussing this with clinicians and getting dates together. I will send the final information in an additional email when everything is finalized.

Fun & Games Show- A combination of the fun show, with gaming classes added! Later start time in the mornings this year.

The Stonybrook Obstacle Showdown- Formerly the Extreme Cowboy Race. The SOS will continue as a 4 event buckles series, with fresh obstacles and some award changes for the 2017 year.

Judged Pleasure Trail Rides- We will be continuing our usual Spring and Fall JPTRs at Northmoreland and Deere Lakes Parks. The awards are getting an overhaul, and we will be adding Overall Top 5 recognition.

Event Dates:

Racing For Veterans:	March 4 th at Simmons Equestrian Center (We are sponsoring, not hosting)
Tack Swap at Westmoreland Fair Grounds	March 25 th (We are sponsoring, not hosting)
Western Show/Clinic Combo:	TBA
Rabies & Microchip Clinic:	May 7 th
JPTR at Northmoreland:	May 21 st (PENDING PERMIT APPROVAL, NOT OFFICIAL)
Stonybrook Obstacle Showdown #1:	June 4 th
Stonybrook Obstacle Showdown #2:	July 16 th
Fun & Games Show #1:	July 30 th
Stonybrook Obstacle Showdown #3:	August 20 th
Stonybrook Obstacle Showdown #4:	September 17 th
JPTR at Deere Lakes:	October 15 th (PENDING PERMIT APPROVAL, NOT OFFICIAL)
Fun & Games Show #2:	October 22 nd

We also still plan to host **Obstacles Practices** and **Barrel Practices** throughout summer, but those will not be on the main schedule (as they are planned as we find time and good weather). When those are planned, they will be emailed and posted on Facebook!

New Point System for Members

The new point system streamlines year end awards, encourages riders to compete in all of our events, and creates a fun, competitive atmosphere amongst our members as they strive to be the “2017 Versatility Champion” in their division.

How the points work:

Points earned from each event follow the rider through the year, giving them an end-of-the-year total. There will be nine (9) total events riders can earn points at for the 2017 year.

1. Spring JPTR
2. Fall JPTR
3. Stonybrook Obstacle Showdown (SOS) #1
4. SOS #2
5. SOS #3
6. SOS #4
7. Fun & Games Show #1
8. Fun & Games Show #2
9. Western Show

How points are calculated:

- For events 1-6, we will use their total score earned for each event.
- For events 7 and 8, some classes will be worth 1 pt., and others will be worth 5pts. The 5pt classes are the classes divided into age divisions. Every 1 pt. class completed by rider will earn that rider 1pt. In the 5pt classes, riders have an opportunity to earn 5pts for coming in 1st, 4pts for coming in 2nd, 3pts for coming in 3rd, and 2pts for coming in 4th. Riders in 5th place and below will earn 1pt for completion.
- Event #9 will be scored the same as above for events 7 & 8, with the exception that it is a TRIPLE POINT event. So each rider's total amount of points for that event will be tripled. This is done for two main reasons. 1). It is a short event and most classes are broken down into age divisions, leaving riders with a maximum of 6 classes available to enter. 2). It encourages members to participate and earn points, and not dismiss it for being a low point event.

Divisions:

- DIVISIONS:
 - Pee Wee
 - Junior
 - Senior
 - Novice
- Points will follow the rider for the entire year, not the horse and rider combination. Riders will have to declare their division at the beginning of the year and will only be able to earn points towards their declared division.
- Riders can show as many horses at they want at each event, but only their highest score will be used toward their year-end total.
- Riders who wish to show novice horses and non-novice horses, will need to declare 1 division to earn points for the year end awards. This does not stop them from showing multiple horses, however they will not be able to earn points in both their age division and novice division.

Year End Awards:

- ❖ With this new point system, we have completely streamlined the year end awards to 8 total awards!
 - Pee Wee Versatility Champion & Reserve
 - Junior Versatility Champion & Reserve
 - Senior Versatility Champion & Reserve
 - Novice Versatility Champion & Reserve
- ❖ Awards can be nicer! With fewer awards with this division setup, there are less awards to buy. And hopefully with the incentive of encouraging riders to participate in all our events to rack up their points, it will make the club more money, and we can reward our top winners with something nice.
- ❖ Riders can reflect on these awards as a source of accomplishment and pride, knowing it took a lot of hard work and stiff competition!

FAQs:

- ? Some events give riders the opportunity to earn more points than other events. Why aren't they all worth the same amount?
 - Yes, some events have the *potential* to earn riders more points than others. We chose to leave the scoring the way it is, and not make each event worth the same amount of points. Reason being that the level of difficulty and length of time it takes to complete those events, correlates with the higher possible points, making it a fair system.
- ? Do riders with more than one horse have an advantage over riders who only have one horse?
 - No. Points follow the rider. If a rider shows more than one horse at events, only their highest score is used as their points for that event. They cannot earn points on multiple horses at one event.
- ? Do I have to ride the same horse at each event?
 - No. You can ride whatever horse you want, as points follow the rider, not the horse and rider combination.
- ? Can more than one person ride the same horse and still earn points?
 - Yes. Points follow the rider.

- ? Can a person show horses in both their age divisions and novice division?
- Yes, and no. Yes, they can show in both divisions, under our regular guidelines that the horse and rider combo must stay in one division for the entire year. No, they cannot earn points towards the 2 divisions. If they want to show both, they have to choose which 1 of those divisions to earn points for the year.

Committees

On your membership forms, please state what committees you would like to be involved in. Here is a list of committee contacts and a little bit about what they are currently working on. Remember, you do not have to be an officer to be head of a committee. We welcome new faces to take initiative if you feel we need another committee in place!

Show: Mackenzie Arent

Planning shows, getting judges, deciding awards, gathering volunteers to help at events, plan barrel practice nights

Events: Chrissie Cafazzo

Planning the JPTRs, gathering volunteers, deciding awards

Obstacle Building and Planning: Beth Regan

Brainstorming sessions for new and fun obstacles for the JPTRs and SOS events, planning build days, gathering volunteers

Grounds: Glenn Plouchard

Putting together a list of grounds maintenance that needs done before the season starts

Kitchen Committee: Tess Lohr

Finding volunteers for our events at the clubhouse, planning the menu.

Entry Booth Committee: Alicia Johnston

Finding volunteers for our entry booth at events, organizing entry booth, getting entry booth prepped for shows. Alicia also plans the obstacle practice nights!

Fundraising Committee: Katie Katkowski

Planning a rabies and microchip clinic at Delmont Animal Hospital, looking into a t-shirt sale. We are also involved in a sports app as a non-profit and every user that signs up under our account, we earn money (more details below).

Advertising/Marketing: Alicia Johnston

Getting our flyers and events posted on social media. *We are asking all members please print out our showbills and flyers to distribute at local stores they frequent.*

FireFan Sports App

We are going to be on the FireFan App as a non-profit and will be able to earn extra money for the club by having people sign up for the App under Stonybrook! Stay tuned for complete details. If you are interested in learning more right now, contact Chrissie Cafazzo, she is in charge of the App on our behalf.

Memberships

There are many reasons to join Stonybrook this year! Join by the end of April to qualify for a discount! Membership forms are on our website under forms section. Make sure to add your email to the form to stay current on our newsletters!



Stonybrook Saddle Club

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