



**STONYBROOK SADDLE CLUB, INC
OBSTACLE SHOWDOWN**

DATES: June 4th, July 16th, August 20th, and September 17th
Walk-through with Judges is at 9:30 AM
Competition begins at 10:15 AM

Facility Address: 3656 Clements Road
Plum, PA 15239

Pricing:

- **Series Entry Fee:** One-time fee of \$25 per horse/rider combo. \$10 to enter each additional horse.
- **Event Fee:** Stonybrook members, \$30 per event per horse; non-members, \$40 per event per horse.
- **Grounds Fee:** \$5 per horse for non-members (grounds fee waived for members)
Grounds fee will be waived for entries postmarked by May 20, 2017.

Competition Divisions:

Series and Event Award Divisions

Pee Wee	Riders below the age of 11
Youth	Riders ages 12 through 17
Senior	Riders ages 18 through 39
Masters	Riders ages 40 through 59
Executive	Riders 60 and above

Additional awards given to the top horse in the following categories at each event (but these are not part of the series):

Green Horse	Horses aged 6 and under
Vintage Horse	Horses aged 20 and over

Prizes and Awards:

- **Overall Series Winner:** Buckle
- **Overall Series Division Winners:** Headstall, wither strap, and spur straps
- **Overall Series Division Runner Ups:** Headstall
- **Per Event:** Ribbons awarded 1st through 5th in each division
- **Per Event:** **Top Green Horse Award** and **Top Vintage Horse Award**

Rules:

- Helmets are required for ages 17 and under
- Open to any discipline of riding and breed(s) of horse
- Entry fees are non-refundable unless class is cancelled
- Riders may not consume alcohol before or during event
- Equines must be sound and in good condition as determined by the judge(s). All sick, lame, and unmanageable horses will be disqualified at the discretion of the judges, ringmaster, or show committee. Unmanageable may be defined as a horse running into the gate during the event, running away causing the rider to be bucked off, fall, or dismount. Rider will be disqualified.

- Horses being ridden between the show ring and the trailer area must be kept at a walk. Running of horses is only permitted in the ring and in designated areas. Riders not following this rule will be instructed to dismount and walk their horse or to leave the grounds for the day.
- Nobody under the age of 18 is permitted to bring, ride, or handle a stallion.
- Series participants must ride the same horse throughout the entire series. If you wish to compete on more than one horse, you may choose to “buy in” on additional horses. See above for details.
- Judges’ word is final.
- Must compete at three events to qualify for series awards. If you compete at all four events, your lowest score will be dropped, and your top three scores will be used to determine series standings. Must enter the series at the event you wish to start counting toward series points. Points will not be retroactively added from previous events (for example, if you don’t buy into the series until the second event, your scores from the first event will not count in determining series standings).
- Abusive and unsportsmanlike conduct will not be tolerated and you will be asked to leave the show grounds.
- Stonybrook Saddle Club, Inc. is not and will not be liable for injury, damage, or loss to exhibitors, horses, property, or spectators. Stonybrook maintains the right to refuse participation to any horse due to illness, injury, unsoundness, or uncontrollability.
- All dogs must be kept on a leash at all times.
- Spectators are not permitted in the paddock area.
- The holding area is only for current horses waiting to go into the arena, horses on deck, and horses in the hole.
- No horses are permitted to stand in the alleyway during a class.

Tack and Attire:

- All riders must wear a shirt with sleeves (t-shirt), long pants, and boots at all times while on a horse in the arena.
- Helmets are required for riders ages 17 and under.
- Tack must be safe and in good working condition. If the judge(s) determines a tack item unsafe or inhumane, the exhibitor has 10 minutes to correct the problem.
- Horses should be ridden on a loose rein. Unnecessary or exaggerated contact on the horse’s mouth or pole will result in a penalty.
- Junior riders may only wear bumper spurs; no rowel spurs of any kind will be permitted.
- Training aids will result in a 5-point deduction penalty.

Judging:

- The obstacle showdown race is a timed event and each horse/rider combo will have its overall time translated into points arranged by 30-second increments. The point awarding is as follows:

10	Fastest time
9	30 seconds within the fastest time
8	Exhibitors within the next 30 seconds
7	Exhibitors within the next 30 seconds
6	Exhibitors within the next 30 seconds
5	Exhibitors within the next 30 seconds
4	Exhibitors within the next 30 seconds
3	Exhibitors within the next 30 seconds
2	Exhibitors within the next 30 seconds
1	Exhibitors there after
Points are awarded based on the fastest time and 4.5 minutes thereafter. If the timer is broken, the rider will receive a score of 0.	

- The horse/rider combo will also be judged on how the team completes each obstacle. The judge(s) will award performance points on a scale of 0-10 based on the horse's attitude, the rider's horsemanship, and the team's overall performance. Each event will consist of a total of 10 obstacles. There will be a 30 sec time limit at each obstacle, at which time the judges will let the rider know s/he can move onto the next obstacle if s/he has not done so already.

10	Obstacle completed willingly with a higher degree of difficulty and extreme finesse
9	Obstacle completed willingly with a higher degree of difficulty
8	Obstacle completed willingly with finesse
7	Obstacle completed smoothly and willingly
6	Obstacle completed as expected
5	Obstacle completed with slight deviation or hesitation
4	Obstacle completed with hesitation, rough but done
3	Attempt made, uncooperative horse, 1 refusal
2	Attempt made, uncooperative horse, 2 refusals
1	Attempt made, uncooperative horse, 3 refusals
0	Not Attempted

- **In the event of a tie in any division, the fastest time will win.**
- **There will be 2 judges at each event. Judges will be knowledgeable horsemen, and will not be members of Stonybrook Saddle Club. Additionally, members of Stonybrook Saddle Club who compete in these events will not be handling the scores.**
- **Judges will use ¼ point increments to apply awards and/or penalties to obstacle scores as needed. They will use their discretion on applying awards/penalties. Below are the general judging criteria:**
 - Horse should proceed at rider's cue without hesitation.
 - Any form of spooking, disobedience, stepping away, or refusal will incur a penalty.
 - Horse may regard obstacle for a moment, but prolonged hesitation will incur a penalty.
 - Rider should have a centered and balanced seat, straight posture, and eyes forward. Heels, hips, and shoulders all in alignment. Heels down.
 - Rider should have soft hands.
 - Subtle/refined cues will score higher than obvious cues or harsh use of bits/spurs.
 - A calm, patient, willing horse will score higher than nervousness or rushing.
 - A good attitude of the horse is most desirable, including no excessive swishing of the tail, pinning ears, pawing, kicking, or bucking.
 - Maintain cadence with all forward and backward movement. Points will be deducted if cadence is broken.
 - Unless otherwise specified, always stay centered when crossing over or through obstacles (jumps, logs, vines, etc.).
 - No point deductions for grabbing mane while going uphill or over a jump.