

Central New England Region

C-3 Program Report to the Region

Program Overview

The C-3 is both a big step and, for many, the natural “last step” in a Pony Club rating progression. This is the first rating taken by candidates outside their home club. It’s the rating level that the USPC hopes and believes every member should be able to achieve.

CNER has had a solid C-3 program for the past several years, characterized by strong instruction in the fundamentals of the standards. Our goals this year were to:

- continue to offer excellent instruction and assistance to candidates and to their families as they prepared for this rating;
- to improve communications with club leaders, bringing them more fully into the process of supporting their candidates;
- to provide more options, in terms of both dates and locations, to the candidates for the preps, being as sensitive as possible to the multiple scheduling pressures most young people in this age group face;
- to pay particular attention to some of the “soft side” elements of the program – easing the transition away from club and parent-lead preparations to a growing sense of personal ownership and responsibility for the learning process and helping form bonds of friendship and support among the participants; and
- to make the process as joyous and as non-stressful/fearful as possible.

Features of this year’s program were aimed at achieving these goals:

- A “standards clinic” was added to the introductory meeting, so that candidates and their parents (and club leaders and instructors, if they chose to attend) could develop a better “eye” for the skill required at this level. Four riders, representing a C-1, C-2, C-3, and B level of riding, did a series of flat work exercises under the guidance and commentary of Nancy Grout, head of the national C-3 committee.
- Recent C-3 candidates were tapped to provide tips and coaching throughout the year. Beginning with a series of written suggestions and the offer of on-going coaching and counsel, to serving as camp counselors and assistant instructors at the prep camps, the involvement of these “veterans” was aimed at demystifying and humanizing the process.
- Two prep camps were offered in an attempt to give each candidate a better opportunity to find a date that would work with his or her schedule. Both camps were held at Kingsbury Hill, beginning on Friday evening and continuing through Sunday afternoon. In addition, to accommodate schedules, two candidates were allowed to design their own prep program, approved by the RS, rather than attend the required camp.
- In perhaps one of the more controversial choices, parents were asked not to sleep over at the prep camps with their children. This was a carefully considered, if somewhat unpopular decision with some, aimed at creating more space for the candidates to form new relationships with each other and with the upper level “camp counselors” present at this key transitional point in their Pony Club careers.
- Instructors for the program were chosen in part based on their ability to establish a good, supportive rapport with this age group. The goal was always to make the sessions as upbeat and enjoyable as possible. Although many candidates were given lots to work on, none appeared to leave any of the sessions feeling demoralized or unsupported.
- Borrowing a page from the upper level preps, candidates and their club leaders were provided with written commentary outlining areas requiring additional work expressed in the candidate’s own words, following the prep camps. I communicated directly with DCs

and parents of candidates that appeared to require additional help or guidance and connected them with private instruction options, as necessary.

- In addition to the sessions on how to teach effectively that have been part of the program in the past, two new regional clinics were added: a cross country clinic held at Ledyard Farm and a final unmounted session, held just the week before the rating, designed to role play through a “mock” version of rating, answer any and all last minute questions and concerns, and provide a final opportunity for group bonding. This session was held at the home of one of the candidates and featured an opportunity to swim and have fun, as well as a delicious dinner.
- The clubs were asked to host clinics on horse management topics as part of the unmounted prep process. This was aimed at giving the candidates more choices re locations and times, as well as to draw the clubs more closely into the C-3 prep process. Two clubs hosted clinics and a third willingly offered to do so.
- Due to the small number of interested participants, the July rating was canceled. Candidates and their parents were offered a choice of rating location options for August; by overwhelming preference, a low-key home-based option was selected, based in part on the assumption that there would be only 6 participants (others later joined in, bringing the final number to a 11 – tight for the facility, but workable).
- The rating itself was fueled with lots of good food and much good humor.
- Feedback on the program from candidates and their families was very positive.

We're blessed to have so many nationally approved, top C-3 clinicians and examiners in our area, including Nancy Grout, Betsey Reeves, Liz Doering, Sarah Adams, Wendy Grant and Karen Marcotte, and so fortunate that they give so generously of their time. We also have a number of up-and-coming approved examiners, including Chris Keim and Molly Dolben, both of whom were part of this year's team of examiners and attended the national training session for C-3 examiners on our region's behalf this fall. Special thanks go all our wonderful clinicians, and particularly to Sarah Adams and Sue Winslade, who jumped in at the very last minute when one of our planned clinicians became ill, and to Suzi Gornall who filled two slots on fairly short notice.

Very special thanks to Audrey Zwicker who took two weekends off from her “real” job and donated the time to the kids and the region as our cook at the prep camps. Leonora Giguere, Jackie Jacobs and Belinda Barbas responded enthusiastically to my call for club-sponsored clinics. Ted Barnard served as the Independent Observer for the rating and Louisa McKown hosted the examiners. The Popes, who opened their home and pool to our group (and fed us so well), Jane Karol at Bear Spot Farm who gladly hosted the standards clinic, and Lisa Campbell and all the wonderful folks at Kingsbury Hill, were key to the warmth and success of this year's program. Thanks to all!

Participants

In 2003, the Region began with 33 presumed C-2 members; some of these subsequently decided not to rejoin Pony Club for the year. Of those who did, 17 attended the Kick-Off meeting in January to obtain additional information on the C-3 program; 2 more requested information after the meeting. All 19 expressed strong interest in participating actively in the program in 2003.

Of those 19, 11 ended up attending one or both of the Prep Camps held in May. Two others did not attend the camps, but developed a custom prep program that was approved by the RS, and were therefore eligible to continue with the rating. Two members of White Mountain Region also participated in the CNER camps.

In August, 9 from CNER participated in the rating. Of those 8 passed. In addition, two members of White Mountain Region attended this rating, one of whom passed and the other of whom is re-doing a portion of the rating this weekend.

Those passing the C-3 rating from CNER this year were: Leigh Davis, Nashoba Valley; Kate Erickson, Old North Bridge; Megan Howe, Groton; Meg Lynch, Old North Bridge; Charlene Paolini, Groton; Courtney Pope, Old North Bridge; Katie Shafer, Old North Bridge; and Ryan Sullivan, Rockingham.

Thus:

33 were theoretically possible (although some did not in the end re-join Pony Club for 2003)

19 began the C-3 program by attending the kick-off meeting

13 completed the mandatory preps, and thus were eligible to rate

9 rated

8 passed (89% pass rate)

<u>Program Components</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Kick-Off Meeting	Jan. 18	Nancy Grout as clinician Mini Standards clinic/demonstration Prep notebook, with "tips," resources, and extensive information required for the rating At Bear Spot Farm, Concord
Regional Clinic on UnMounted Instruction	Jan. 19 & Feb. 9	Betsey Reeves as clinician
Club-Sponsored Clinics: Conformation	Feb. 9	Dr. Brian Parrott as clinician (sponsored by ONB)
Limbs & Hooves	Feb. 15	Horse Science, Inc. (sponsored by Worcestershire)
Teeth and Dentistry	(not held due to scheduling conflicts)	Sarah Contois (sponsored by Overlook)
Prep Camps	May 16 – 18 May 30 – June 1	Ann Clafin, Nancy Grout, and Suzi Gornall as clinicians Betsey Reeves, Sue Winslade, and Sarah Adams as clinicians Plus upper level members as assistant instructors and counselors at each Both at Kingsbury Hill
Cross Country Prep	July 3	Suzi Gornall at Ledyard Farms
UnMounted Review	August 6	Wendy Grant as clinician at the Popes' Final "walk through"/mock rating Group bonding (swim and dinner)
Rating	August 16-17	Karen Marcotte, Liz Doering, Chris Kiem, and Molly Dolben as examiners At Black Brook in Carlisle, MA

Fees and Finances

The costs to the candidates for participating in this year's program totaled \$480, as follows:

Prep Camp (2 nights, 2 ½ days of instruction, meals, stabling, shavings)	\$200
Limb Clinic	\$ 10
Cross Country Clinic (including facility fee)	\$ 50
UnMounted Review Session (including dinner)	\$ 20
Rating (2 days, breakfast and lunch for candidate and parents, stabling if desired)	\$200

These costs were probably slightly less than the overall cost of last year's program for most participants, since most of last year's candidates had to pay for hotels and meals for both the camp and the August rating, in addition to the basic fees.

In addition to the costs to the candidates, the clubs contributed toward the instructional clinics. There was no charge to the participants for the conformation clinic.

The program overall came close to breaking even.

C-3 Examiners

Molly Dolben and Chris Keim attended the national seminar for C-3 examiners this fall at our region's request and returned with the following input:

From Chris:

1. The goal of USPC is to have all of its members achieve a C3 rating. This rating should be reasonably within the reach of all of USPC's members. It is important to remember that there are many different styles of riding that can all meet the C3 standard-- a child does not have to be riding in training level events to be a C3.
2. There will be a revised standard effective next year, and it is important that all candidates study it carefully. There have been some important changes made, most notably the description of 'appropriate horse'. This is an issue that arises frequently. Candidates need not be riding a Young Rider horse or schoolmaster. Horses brought to the testing must be able to complete the flat, longeing, and jumping phases at heights indicated at the appropriate levels (a course at 3'3"). The mount must also be available for change of riders for the C-3 level. This means that horses which would require riding skills beyond the C3 level in the case of a switch **MAY BE EXCUSED FROM THE TESTING AT THE PIP'S DISCRETION**. It is the candidate's **OBLIGATION** to bring a horse for the switch that is suitable for the C3 level.
3. Preps are key to successful testings. Candidates need to be open minded when they attend preps and use the resources available to them to assess their personal strengths and weaknesses. At no point during a prep should a clinician say "yes you are ready" or "no you are not ready", but rather focus on how that candidate's skills relate to the description set forth in the standard.
4. There are many benefits and opportunities that open up to PCers once they have achieved a C3 rating, including National Youth Congress, exchanges and scholarships. We should be encouraging our C2s to continue on to C3 by pointing out the "perks", and by continuing to make the C3 program a positive experience, even if the testing attempt is unsuccessful.

From Molly:

[It's] suggested that we hold 2 separate ratings close to each other that limit the amount of candidates to 6-8 per date. I think that most examiners can agree on feeling a little disconnected from each other and the candidates when the HM is separated from the riding. Unfortunately, it is the only fair way to handle it with that many kids rating.

Next Year's Program

We have been asked by White Mountain Region whether we would like to combine our program with theirs – sharing responsibility for preps and ratings. The WMR C-3 Coordinator for 2004 is Lynne Steele (603-673-6086; sunbriar1@aol.com). She has already reserved space for a C-3 rating at New Gate Manor in Weare, NH for the weekend of August 6-8. (She is also planning to hold a B rating at this facility on August 20-22.)

In addition, we have tentatively reserved the facility at Kingsbury Hill for three weekends in late May and June for use, if desired by the region, for C-3 and upper level camps. Lisa Campbell says she'd be delighted to have us back. The dates available are the weekends of May 22-23, May 29-30, June 5-6 (the Adult Camp begins the evening of the 6th), June 12-13 (the Adult Camp ends on the 11th, so arrival on Friday might be a bit tight), or June 19-20.

In Closing . . .

It was a pleasure and an honor to work with our region's wonderful C-2's this past year.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Erickson
2003 C-3 Coordinator

November 2003

Championship Coordinator's Report

Lisa Brem and Jackie Jacobs

Overall this was a busy year for Championships. Highlights were the outstanding job that Betty Staten and her games team did in Virginia and the excellent showing by our Senior C and D quiz teams. We are proud of all our members that we sent to both national competitions this summer for representing our region so well.

Here's a recap:

Quiz:

We sent one Senior C team to Western Championships

Jillian Legere-Captain (Squamscott)
Elizabeth Fitzgerald (Rockingham)
Kate Erickson (ONB)
Katy Agule (ONB)

The Senior C Quiz Team finished as Reserve Champions (second place)! They all did a terrific job and had a great time making friends from around the country.

Jillian and Kate both qualified for consideration for the U.S. National team that will compete in Canada at an international quiz competition this fall. Jillian was 6th among all the individual Senior C's nationwide and Kate was 10th.

We sent four D teams to Virginia

Senior D Teams:

Stephanie Giguere- Captain (Worcestershire)
Chelsea Grybko (Swift River)
Ashley Parsons (Worcestershire)
Loryn Walker (Worcestershire)

3rd overall

Corey Quigley-Captain (Overlook)
Brooke Taylor (Overlook)
Alexandra Chipman (Overlook)
Cassandra Lawson (Wentworth)

12th overall

Junior D teams:

Sarah Ebner-Captain (Rockingham)
Audrey Cooney (Nashoba)
Becky Renner (Worcestershire)
Janice Galejs (ONB)

7th overall

Kerry Young-Captain (Groton)
Ari Murphy (ONB)
Olivia Movafaghi (Groton)
Jennifer Realmuto (Groton)

20th overall

Games

We had one team of juniors attend:

Michelle Realmuto-Captain (Groton)
Samantha Lutz (Groton)
Melanie Staten (Rockingham)
Megan Barbas (Overlook)
Callie Rockwell (Rockingham)

4th overall, 1st in HM, qualified for Prince Philip Cup

Averi Zaccone (Rockingham) competed with White Mountain on the Frosted Flakes senior Games team. They finished 13th overall, 4th in HM.

Dressage

We had one training level team:

Elizabeth Fitzgerald (Rockingham)
Jocelyn Coe (Wentworth)
Kate Erickson (ONB)
Lauren Ochs (Squamscott)
Amira Kabara (Squamscott) HM

7th overall, 14th in HM

Stephanie Lecours (Groton) and Nicole Noonan (Squamscott) (HM) competed on a scramble 1st level team that finished 6th overall and 6th in HM.

Preps

Quiz. Jackie Jacobs organized a quiz in the barn prep with Betsey Reeves.

Groton Pony Club hosted many D preps.

Games: Betty Staten prepped the games teams through out the spring and summer.

Dressage: Tammy Erickson and Jackie Jacobs organized dressage preps with Sue Winslade

At the Eastern Championships, several parents helped to make the experience memorable: Thanks to Valerie and Terry Murphy for hosting and stocking the CNER hospitality tent. Thanks to the Steve and Iris Realmuto for hosting the welcome BBQ.

Learnings

For next year, the idea of a region wide prep camp will probably not work due to the change in dates for Championships to mid July.

We suggest that the Championship coordinator organize one region wide HM prep (as we have done in the past) where tshirts, pins, and other items and info can be disbursed. The rest of the preps should probably be handled by a parent volunteer within the discipline. The Championships coordinator should also delegate a “paperwork point person” for each discipline who can run down the paper work.

Start planning early ... if DCs are aware of qualification requirements and paperwork needs before the rallies, it makes gathering the info needed to submit teams much easier. Qualification requirements: This year although we tried to stick to the top 20% rule, reality intervened and teams were made up of some who were under this limit. The region and RS need to decide if sending a full team supercedes the “top finishers at rally” rule. Again, if DCs are aware of members who want to qualify early in the year and encourage them to begin prepping well before the regional rally, the chances will be better to get full teams of the most qualified and committed members to represent us this year in Kentucky.

2003 Central New England Region – Annual HMO Report

Regional Horse Management Clinic

April 12, 2003

- held at Indian Ridge Farm in Ipswich, MA
- Hosted by Pentucket Pony Club
- Organized by Lara Hubner, Karen Marcotte, Kate Day
- Consisted of Parent/Instructor/PC'er – DC – HMJudges sections
- Parent/Instructor/PC'er section was implemented by having each club select a topic and present it in station-type format. Clubs were quite creative with presentations that ranged from skits, to demonstrations and hands-on stations.
- DC section was presented by Sue Rollins(member of National HM Committee and National Chief) regarding how to integrate HM teaching and preparation into the club.
- HMJudges section presented by Karen Marcotte (National Chief, HMO) included an introduction to HM judging, focus, goals, expectations and the HM rulebook.
- over 80 attendees

Regional Rallies for 2003 - Staffing

Games Rally (qualifying) – June 1, 2003 – Topsfield Fairgrounds

Mentor Chief – Karen Marcotte

Provisional Chief – Richard Bensinger

Assistant HMJ's – Kirstin Menella, Judi O'Neil, Amy Goodhue, Lara Hubner

Dressage Rally (qualifying) – June 27-29 – University of New Hampshire

Chief – MaryLou Moulton

Assistant HMJ's – Betsey Reeves, Betty Staten, Kirstin Menella, Wendy Johnson
Cheryl Fitzgerald, Deb Titus

Show Jumping (non-qualifying) – Sept. 21st, 2003 – Marlborough Eq. Center

Chief – Felicia Monahan

Assistant HMJ's – Kirstin Menella, Kim Monahan, Deb Titus, Louisa McKown,
Judi O'Neil

D Rally – Oct. 5th, 2003 – Groton Fairgrounds

Chief – Lara Hubner

Assistant HMJ's – Katie Biery, Stephanie LeCours, Ryan Sullivan, Liz Fitzgerald
Charlene Paolini, Michelle Realmuto

Eventing Rally (non-qualifying) – Oct 12th, 2003 – Hilltop Equestrian Center

Chief – Lara Hubner

Assistant HMJ's – Kirstin Menella, Nicole Wolfe, Judi O'Neil, Cheryl Fitzgerald,
Deb Titus, Wendy Johnson, Louisa McKown

Regional HM Judging Fee Schedule:

Chief \$150 (plus mileage) per day

Full Assistant \$50 per day

Assistant still in PC \$20 per day

Parent of competitor - volunteer contribution

USPC Championships – July 30-Aug 3 – Lexington, VA

Regional officials attending as HMJs:

Chief – Sr. & Advanced Games – Karen Marcotte

Assistants – Sr. & Advanced Games – Amy Goodhue, Lara Hubner

HM results for Regional teams:

Dressage Training Level – 14th in Horse Management

Dressage First Level – 6th in Horse Management

Junior Games – 1st in Horse Management

Senior Games – 4th in Horse Management

**CENTRAL NEW ENGLAND
REPORT OF THE JR. BOARD ADVISOR
November 2003**

The Jr Board is maturing into a great group of CNE members.

The election of officers in August testifies to the fact that officers going off to college needed to step down and election of a new slate of current and active members needed to happen for the growth of the board.

During this past year, the Jr. Board policies were changed to amend the voting policy to two votes per club with the Jr.B members that have been on the board the longest as the voting members of the club., and the other policy change was that the treasurers will meet with the CNE treasurer a minimum of once a year.

Fundraising and scholarship are the two main goals of the board, with the Poster Contest and the Thank You Dinner topping off the spirit of the region for the clubs and the volunteers of the CNE region . The fundraising events with food booths at the Quiz Rally (and a Raffle), Standards Clinic (canceled) and Horse Management Clinics, gaining \$930.00.

The Poster Contest at Quiz Rally and the Thank You Dinner were also a great success with great posters and lots of the CNE organizers and DCs having a great social time with games and poems and dinner. One Scholarship (\$250) was given to a member to go to the Inter Pacific Exchange in Australia. All in all the board ended the year with \$2,795.00 in their funds.

Now with great enthusiasm the Jr Board is planning the first Fun Moment for themselves, and they are going to attend the USPC 50th Anniversary Jubilee. The goals of fundraising, scholarships, poster contest and Thank You dinner combine all the great talents of the Jr Board with leadership and fun to the CNE region which they all love.

Esther Short
Junior Board Advisor
November 2003

RIC Report, CNER

Much of the job of RIC, this year, has been to be available as a resource for ideas and to provide assistance where needed, to the clubs and to the work of our region, and our children. Aside from the work done for Megaroom at Quiz, I have concentrated my efforts supporting both the children and coordinators in the upper level program this past year.

It has been a privilege to be able to watch the growth of many of our fine young adults and to help in the enormous amount of work that is required in coordinating the programs that make it possible for them to participate.

In October and November we collected names and addresses of all C-2s and up to facilitate work for upper level coordinators. It takes a while for the information to flow from us in November to the national office and then filter back to us. Collecting the data earlier allowed us to start the programs sooner and to understand the numbers of children that would be involved in the programs. It also gave us a chance to understand the individual needs of the upper level participants whose schedules are often very hectic, juggling school, jobs, college, college admissions, family, riding and other priorities.

The winter months were devoted to planning the program for the upper levels and coordinating the clinic schedule. Simply finding clinicians whose schedules coordinate with our regions needs is a full time occupation. We searched for non- pony club clinics and programs that our children could use as supplements to our programs. These included lectures at Tufts, Rochester, UNH, The Farm and Nevins Farm.

An important innovation was the creation of a feedback system to be used in clinics, specifically for the riders in the preparation for testing. This allowed us to better communicate to the participants where they might concentrate their efforts. It was based on the flow charts and standards, but simplified to fit the needs of the clinic setting. The key component is the self assessment process that is done by the rider in conjunction with the clinician allowing for immediate feedback on next steps.

Preps for championships was a real team effort. Although time and schedules did not allow us to coordinate a total group training session, each participating discipline worked hard to prepare. With the help of the coordinators, we organized one of the Quiz prep sessions where we covered topics such as toxic plants, biting, odd tack, shoes, feeds and feeding principles, foxhunting and sock items. It was a bit of an overload for one day and there were other tables that we never got to. We might expand it to two sessions next year.

Much of my time has been spent in assisting, everything from boiling water to help keep kids warmer on a cold and rainy weekend at Kingsbury Hill, to setup for the camp at Mt. Holyoke. No one can do it alone. It takes the entire pony club organization to make it possible for our children to have the environment that they need and that we want for them. Everyone has worked so hard and I thank all of you.

Louise Hara, November 2003

UPPER LEVEL REPORT, CNER 2003

The Upper Level Program commenced last year with a meeting over the Thanksgiving Weekend, with close to thirty attendees. Louise Hara made the task of locating and contacting the ULs easy by organizing their contact information early in the year. The Thanksgiving meeting was highly interactive, with the foremost riders in our region discussing ambitious plans for what they hoped to see in the region during this year. Betsey Reeves and Jessie Springer were the leaders in speaking to the ULs about the experience of participating in Ponyclub at this level. We will have come full circle when another such forum is held this upcoming Thanksgiving weekend. Several of the college age young adults have already RSVPed that they plan on attending. This is particularly heartening in a time when we have expressed a strong desire to hold onto the talent and interest of these dedicated members, whose lives are pulled by many demands.

Mounted clinics started in January, with our first meeting held in a snow storm which was attended by several of our hardiest candidates. We had unmounted optional meetings on February 17th, March 4th, March 10th, March 19th, and restarted mounted meetings on April 19th.

Memorial Day Weekend – 4 Clinicians, 15 horses and 18 Youngsters (which was the max we could hold at the facility) Clinicians were all Ponyclub National Examiners -- Laurie Chapman Bosco, Sarah Adams, Betsey Reeves, Cathy Frederickson. Many thanks are owed our chief cook, Audrey Zwicker, to the Moms who prepared Friday night dinner, aided with all preparation and jump crew, worked on shuttling kids to and from the indoor when we were deluged with rain, and agreed to sleep in camp bunkbeds in the ‘adult cabin’ so the kids could all bond in their cabin space, and to all the parents who videotaped the ENTIRE clinic (videotapes were then distributed to all the kids). Special thanks to Elizabeth Cole for getting the videotapes reproduced & sent out. Louise Hara was a critical resource in developing concepts and aiding implementation. Louise also developed the B, HA & A feedback forms, which each candidate filled out while discussing with their clinician, and then had signed off as to whether they were ‘on-track’ to meet their goals. This feedback was sent on to DCs and a copy given to the ponyclub member. We also used written feedback forms for the ponyclub members to make suggestions. Although the messages some youngsters received was not to their liking, and rain caused us to scramble with our schedules, the written feedback from the youngsters and parents was overwhelmingly positive. Finally, thanks are owed to the host of the Weekend, Lisa Campbell of Kingsbury Hill, who cheerily allowed us to take over her facility, at a fee that was virtually a donation.

In July we held a 5 day clinic experience. Louise Hara was there, as always, to ensure that we were ready to roll on day one of this extravaganza. This was an expanded program from past years, which helped the program financially (five days of clinic in lieu of three), with 1-5 clinicians on each of the days. All five clinicians were Ponyclub National Examiners; Betsey Reeves, Laurie Chapman Bosco, Cathy Frederickson, Cherie Gaebel, and Emily Wiley. 22 youngsters signed up to take advantage of this opportunity, and some of our weakest candidates took advantage of the five day option to propel their preparedness forward. Special thanks to youngsters from Groton Ponyclubs & Worcestershire who came out to be taught during the week, and to Judy Pelis and Swift River for hosting dinners for the clinicians. Thanks again to all of the parents who kept an ongoing breakfast & lunch buffet open for the kids and clinicians, provided jump crew, horse holding for bandaging, and were such an integral part of the bonding as these kids prepared for their rating. Once again, ‘on-track’ feedback forms were the basis for full disclosure of candidate’s standing.

July – A Testing One CNE candidate; did not pass. One of the ‘last left standing’ in the jumping portion of the rating, our candidate showed exemplary maturity in a tough situation. Only one candidate at this testing passed. Our candidate was fortunate to have had the loan of two horses for use during the testing, from Betsey and Lelo Reeves.

August 8/9 three of our candidates tested in the NY/UC B rating. All three passed.
Overall pass rate for this testing 6/9.

August HA unmounted preps with Betsey Reeves and Laurie Chapman Bosco, along with extensive individual studying sleepovers. Ongoing mini-sessions with groups of assorted B candidates getting together in more informal groupings to swap horses in mounted clinics & work on unmounted knowledge.

August 15-17 HA testing. Both CNE candidates passed. Overall pass rate 100%.
HA Testing was hosted by CNER. Diane Reed served as our I/O. Swift River was an enormous help during the testing; with Judy Pelis, who provided food for candidates, and Elizabeth & Samantha Pelis & the Grybko family who were volunteers to assist candidates. Meg Dumaine, a graduate A from Jericho and Katherine Short also volunteered to assist candidates, and Rochelle Wilkins from Groton, who rode as a student for the HA candidates rounded out the volunteers. Finally, thanks to the Short Family, of Pegasus Ponyclub, who volunteered their house as a bed and breakfast for the I/O and Examiners, saving the region hundreds of dollars, and giving the examiners five star accommodations....

August 22-23rd B testing in NE Region. Neither CNER candidate passed. Once again, our candidates were a few of the last left standing. Overall pass rate for this testing 1/9.

CNER PREPPING STATS:

20+ out of 30 Ponyclub members involved in some aspect of winter prepping
18 candidates at Memorial Day weekend (14 from CNER)
22 candidates prepping during July Week (approximately ½ from CNER)

TESTING STATS

5 B candidates tested, 3 passed (60% avg = national average)
2 HA candidates tested, 2 passed (100% avg vs. 57% national average)
1 A candidate tested, 0 passed (0% avg vs 26% national average)

OVERALL STATS:

Despite the variety of programs and preps available, with the help of attendance from other regions, and an incredible amount of solid volunteerism, we actually came out somewhat to the positive financially.

Even more important ... 11/11 of our kids who tested came out of this year's ratings whole....feeling as good about themselves, and perhaps better than when they went in...

(100% vs national average???)....Priceless

Respectfully submitted,
Deb Maietta
November 11, 2003



*United States Pony Club
Central New England Region*



*Webmaster Report
2003*

This is the second year that the CNER website has been in operation. The url is <http://cne.ponyclub.org/>. Our website is a window into our very active region.

The latest rally information is always available on the web, whether it is the entry form or the results of the rally. When organizing a rally, you can find such things as an Organizer's checklist, an entry template, and a rally budget/reimbursement form. Directions to the many locations are also available. We've got archives filled with newsletters, minutes, policies, and by-laws as well as a dynamically changing calendar of events.

This year the website was expanded to include such new additions as a Horse Management page, an Upper Level page, and a Jr. Board page. The forms page has been continually updated to map to the ever-changing USPC website.

In addition to a website, we now maintain a regional mailing list called cner@cne.ponyclub.org. Using this list simplifies emailing the regional council and ensures that your email goes to the most current email addresses.

My goal for next year is to catch up on all the pictures that have been collected but not posted. ☹ Space on the website is at a premium so I will have to be creative. We are using all of the 33 megabytes allotted to us.

Respectfully submitted,
Iris Realmuto
Webmaster