



The Central New England Scoop



Issue: March 2007 Volume15

The Newsletter of the Central New England Region, USPC, Inc.
cne.ponyclub.org

COMING UP

- April 1 **Quiz Rally** Curtis Middle School
Sudbury MA
- April 7 **CNE Council Meeting 10:00**
Nashoba Tubing Park Westford MA

UL UPDATE

Happily spring is just around the corner! The UL program will be switching gears from unmounted meetings to camps, clinics and testings.

Applications for the Memorial Day Weekend camp at New Gait Manor are due by April 1st. We have just a couple from our region so far. Please send them in to reserve a spot. You can find the form on the CNE website. The camp is open to all C3s, Bs, and HAs - anyone prepping for B ratings and up. This camp will have the most opportunities for practice for the HA/H skills.

If you are planning on testing this year your applications should be sent to Betsey by April 1st. She needs to sign them and send on to the national office.

Catherine Williams & Aliza Edwards
UL Coordinators

NOTES FROM THE HMO

Happy Spring!

After a long hiatus from the CNE Scoop, I'm baaaa-aaack! It's about time, eh? ☺

It's been quite a long winter and I'm shaking off those Pony Club cobwebs in preparation for the upcoming rally season. It looks like another long one starting with Quiz Rally in April and ending with the Non-Qualifying Eventing Rally in October. I'm sure that this rally season will be just as

successful and educational as the ones before due to the wealth of exceptionally knowledgeable and dedicated instructors, volunteers, parents and Pony Clubbers in this region!

Old News:

Tack and Turnout Raffle - We will be having a belated tack and turnout raffle for the 2006 rally season. Details to come. *** DC's --- Please remember to have at least one raffle prize per club to donate.

Standards Clinic/HM Intro – On March 3rd, we utilized the beautiful facilities at Scarlett Hill Farm in Groton, MA for our regional D Standards Clinic. We were also able to introduce Horse Management at Rallies and discuss rally equipment, procedures and general expectations with several new members and D-level pony clubbers. A big thanks to Audrey Cooney, Leigh Davis and Louise Hara for their excellent input and teaching as well as bringing the rally kit and attire.

New News:

NEW HORSE MANAGEMENT HANDBOOK AND RULES FOR RALLIES 2007

CAUTION!!! --- DO NOT PANIC! I REPEAT: DO NOT PANIC!!

"In with the good air, out with the bad air. In with the good air, out with the bad air."

The USPC HM Committee has put out a new "Horse Management Handbook and Rules for Rallies" for 2007. It is available for download at www.ponyclub.org under publications → rulebooks → Horse Management, or for purchase by ordering it from the USPC Bookstore. They have already put out a HM Newsletter for 2007 so be sure to download that as well. It revises some items in the rulebook, already.

There are no earth-shattering, ultra-revolutionary changes to the existing rules that have been in place since the 2002 Handbook publication. The main emphasis of this new publication and directive is to stress the educational aspect of Pony Club competition which I think is usually prevalent at CNE rallies already. The purpose was to document clearly what the expectations are for Pony Clubbers, Horse Management Judges, Parents and Officials for rallies. With this clarification also comes outlined expectations of C3 and up competitors who may now be exempt from some standard procedures with a new "Non-Traditional Judging" model if the CHMJ chooses to implement such (more explanation later).

There ARE some scattered rule changes or interesting points which I will try to highlight below:

Governing Documents

- Governing Documents - Only need the Part 1 of the HM Handbook for requireds not the entire handbook. You also need the latest HM Newsletter which is also available online.

Regardless of Rating

- Regardless of rating – Denotes that ALL PC'ers must be responsible for their mount and safe at all times no matter the rating. This was always expected, as it is common sense, but is officially part of the rules now.

Competitor Behavior

- Attendance at Briefings – Only one competitor from each team MUST attend each briefing. However, ALL competitors are responsible for knowing the information disseminated at every briefing no matter if they are there or not. (Communications skills development, perhaps? ☺ Life skills! Life skills!)

Arrival on Rally Grounds

- Arrival on Rally Grounds – Needs of the mount take precedence over all other things when arriving at a rally. Competitor must wear their pinny or identification THROUGHOUT the rally. Again, this was always expected, but is defined clearly now.

Assistance

- Communication devices - Pagers, mobile phones, PDA's, smart phones, laptops with internet capabilities enabled are not allowed. Laptop use for homework/movies etc. is subject to the discretion of the CHMJ. Competitors should discuss with the CHMJ individually to discuss the matter to avoid confusion during the rally.
- **Hint - PC'ers: LEAVE YOUR MOBILE PHONES, PDA'S, and SMARTPHONES AT**

HOME OR WITH YOUR PARENTS. Sometimes the temptation is too great to resist! Enough said.

Stall Set-Up

- Securing materials – No where does it say that you must use bailing twine, nor did it say it in the previous handbook. If you do use bailing twine, however, it must be of the natural fiber/hemp type. Nylon (usually colored) twine is NOT allowed. This section also addresses bungies, snaps, zip ties, and screw eyes.
- Stall Card – Common sense: You want everyone to know about your mount when it is stabled or tied in case of emergency. Therefore, it must be there as soon as your mount is stabled or tied. No "mystery ponies" are allowed! ☺

Mounts

- Halter Identification – The mount's halter must have one or more of the following on it at ALL TIMES: Rider Name, Rider Number, Barn Name/Number, Stall Number. Common sense would suggest that the item that is the most consistent is the "Rider Name" and would be the easiest to apply, but any of those is acceptable.
- Bandaging – C2 and lower rated members must have their bandages checked by a HMJ. C3 and above are responsible for the correctness their own bandaging. This does mean, however, that if the bandaging done is NOT acceptable that the C3 and up members can be cited for infractions, if deemed necessary.
- Braiding - Braiding is governed by the discipline rulebooks and is permitted at all levels and by all disciplines except for Games. Pails and buckets of any kind are NOT ACCEPTABLE items to stand on to braid. Step stools, mounting blocks and milk crates are, however. If you're going to braid, bring a stepstool/etc.
- Stall Guards – CHMJ must OK use if the stalls already have doors. If the stalls do not, grates or ONE (revised in the HM Newsletter) or more stall guards at the proper height can be used.

Work in the Barn Area

- Cleaning Stalls – Again, always expected but more clearly written. This applies to BOTH stall and tie areas.

Feeds and Feeding

- Feed and Hay – Concentrates are to be measured by weight. Hay does not need to be. BOTH must be clearly labeled. See Part 2 Amplified Instructions for specifics of how to prepare and label your feed for a rally. Note it ALL info that should be on the mount's feed. Especially note the Hay labeling and storing requirements.
- Nutraceuticals/Supplements/Salt – Note that salt is required, period, at overnight rallies in either form. Note also how these must be noted on the various charts and labels.
- Water – The only item of note is that if for some reason you are using a muck bucket for water, that you must notify and discuss reasons with the CHMJ prior to use.
- Feed storage – NO BUNGIES.
- Overnight Rallies – Mounts must be fed when the barns open. They must be fed before the barns close. Deviations from this must be discussed with the CHMJ.

Tack Rooms

- Tack Room Set-Up – Tack rooms may not be trailered to the rally grounds already set up.
- Decorations & Accessories – This lists the acceptable items that can be used at rallies.
- Tack Room Equipment Labeling – READ. Common sense applies and these rules are quite amicable to labeling your items ONCE for the entire rally season. This even applies to team equipment. Also note labeling requirements on the required equipment sheets for further detail. Labeling is something that should be done BEFORE arrival to the rally. Even if you are going to label with a competitor #, you can do this beforehand. For items that are hard to label (rub rag) it's obvious that the solution is to write the competitor name in permanent marker, or embroider or sew their name into the rag.

Recommendation if you want to label by competitor #: Purchase a roll of white, plastic braiding tape at the beginning of the rally season. Cut off small squares or strips and apply before arrival at the rally to all items requiring labeling (brushes, saddle/bridle racks, buckets, etc.) This tape comes off of items easily when the rally is over. Is easily written on with a

“Sharpie” marker and does not leave paper label residue over various rally equipment.

Recommendation if you want to label by name: “Sharpie” markers are also good to write competitor names on items or club/team names on items so that they stay on for the duration of the rally season. If your club uses club buckets, perhaps you might not want to write directly on them and tape might be better. Your own personal buckets for that mount are a perfect candidate for the competitor name to be written clearly on the front of the bucket so that the labeling issue is taken care of for the rest of the season.

Labeling is one of the most frustrating issues for HMJ's to judge and I'm sure as well as PC'ers to deal with. If you think about it though, most horse owners label their belongings anyway to ensure that any stray items are returned safely. This has always been the motivation for labeling in Pony Club. This rulebook makes it much more clear and flexible on how you go about this.

Required Equipment

- Required Equipment List – Read your lists and the amplification to the rules. It gives explanation and expectations. Going over the required list should be done before going to every rally as a checklist. This can often be done in a short team-organization meeting prior to the rally.

New Items for the required list

- Equine First Aid Kit – Epsom Salts
- Utility Kit – Duct Tape
- Grooming Kit – Wet wipes are now allowed instead of the 2 sponges. Sponges must still be marked Dock and Face. They've also finally taken out the optional “mane/tail comb”. Curry comb is designated as “capable of cleaning brushes”. Grooma-type brushes of any sort STILL DO NOT effectively clean brushes. Be sure to have a curry comb that does.

Jog Out

- The general rules for attire and presentation are discussed:
 - NO jeans or short shorts (common sense!).
 - If you have to ask “Is this too short?” then it's probably too close to take the chance.
 - Presentation of mount is also discussed and the reasons are well discussed in the amplification.

Saddlery and Bitting

- USPC follows USEF rules concerning saddlery and bitting.
- Exceptions to the USEF rules are shown in a tabular format.

Helmets

- Helmet Requirements – This section gives a detailed explanation on helmets, fitting, use and acceptable helmet types. Improperly fitting helmet procedures are also discussed. It is EXPECTED that each Pony Clubber will come to the rally with a helmet that fits properly. Period. If it deemed to not fit properly, this is a SAFETY issue. Safety comes first. Parents and PC'ers should take into consideration how they might wear their hair while competing and determine BEFOREHAND that this is acceptable and the helmet fits correctly.

Attire

- Required Attire – Pony Club pins are to be worn at ALL times, mounted and unmounted, unless forbidden by discipline rulebook.
- Unmounted Attire – NO short shorts!
- Mounted Attire
 - Hairnets are no longer mandatory. Hair must still be “neat and workmanlike” however. Will most still wear hair nets? Probably. (There’s a reason why they exist! ☺) Do male riders necessarily want to be forced to wear them? Probably not, and my thought is that this is the impetus for this rule change. Maybe: longer hairstyles today = show the adaptability of PC.
 - The new rulebook does an excellent job of detailing D level, formal and informal attire requirements. Take a look.
 - Half chaps – D’s can wear suede. C’s and up cannot. It must be a smooth leather half chap that MATCHES the boots worn underneath.
- Waiving of Jackets – This has gotten a bit more complicated.
 - The heat index will dictate if jackets are to be removed for warm up and riding phases.
 - If the coats are mandated to be waived, i.e. the heat index is in the danger zone, then competitors must take the jackets but have the choice to put their jackets on to enter the competition arena. This means COMPETITORS are responsible for determining if this will be detrimental to their performance and well-being. Parents, DC’s and coaches should discuss this situation with competitors

beforehand to make sure our PC'ers stay on top of their game and healthy!

- If a rider intends to put the jacket back on to enter the competition arena, they may leave neckwear and helmet covers on.
- If the heat index is outside of the danger zone, the president of the ground jury may allow competitors to remove jackets, neckwear and helmet covers.
- If jackets are waived, D’s choose if they want to wear jackets to turnout, C’s MUST wear them to turnout inspection.
- If jackets are waived, competitors must wear a collared, sleeved shirt. The color is at the discretion of the competitor but light colored shirts are recommended because they are cooler than dark colors.

Turnout Inspection and Safety Check

- Safety Checks are Required – C3 and up members may discuss with the CHMJ if they feel they need to change their turnout time. This might be because they need more time to warm up. This flexibility is to enable the rider to prepare their mount sufficiently during warm-up. It is not to give more time for the competitor to get ready, unless extreme extenuating circumstances deem it necessary.

Turn Back

- No significant changes except that if the CHMJ decides to use the “non-traditional judging model” then C3’s and above may be told that they do not have to be checked for an “official” turnback. Again, it is expected that the mount, tack and rider boots will be taken care of. If it is found that this is not the case, infractions may be assigned.
- PC'ers are encouraged to listen and ask about the specifics about turnbacks for each rally they attend at the initial briefing. CHMJ’s procedures vary greatly from person to person and rally situation.
- The handbook has a great table that shows what is usually expected at those pesky turnbacks!

Veterinary Care and Equine Medication

- Regumate – Procedures are outlined in Appendix G. Regumate is a hormonal supplement that may be hazardous to the humans that handle it and to other equines in the vicinity if they come in contact with it. Strict procedures help protect all involved in the administering of this product.
- Vet Letter – Specific requirements are outlined and an example Vet Letter Form is given in the Appendix F of the handbook.

C3 and above: "Non-Traditional Judging Model"

One of the most talked about changes with this new rulebook is the C3 and up "non-traditional judging model" that a CHMJ may choose to implement:

It is NOT some sweeping change in the way that C3's and above compete at rallies. It is fundamentally just a stated understanding between the CHMJ, AHMJ's and the C3 and higher rated competitors. Basically, the areas that are affected are Tack and Turnout/Formal Inspections and Turn Backs.

Competitors at this level are and have always been EXPECTED to know the needs of and care for their mounts efficiently and competently. This new model is allowing them to prove this by simply doing what they should and have been doing all along without the need for "official" turn backs. They also are able to have more control over their warm-up schedule and time to ensure the needs of their mount are met fully.

Again, NO NEED TO PANIC. See? ☺

ADVICE:

READ YOUR RULEBOOK.

Read it a few times. Take notes of what is unclear, where you have questions and where you would like more information. Resources to clarify such questions are: DC's, CHMJ's, HMO's (me) and RS/VRS's. If they can't tell you the exact answer, they will know how to find it. Send me an email or give me a call larahubner@yahoo.com or 603.502.1560 and I can help get you the official answer.

HM Clinic

The HM discussion component of the D standards Clinic satisfies the region's HM educational clinic requirement. If there are any clubs/groups out there that would like to have their own educational opportunity, please contact me! We have many willing and able HM resources within the region that can do lectures, demonstrations, clinics and mock rallies.

SOME PRE-RALLY SEASON REMINDERS:

- Check stitching on ALL tack. (esp. stirrup leathers, girths and billets)
- Check expiration dates on all club required equipment items. (esp. antibiotic/ anti-

icrobial/antifungal ointment, triple antibiotic, antiseptic scrub, liniment and alcohol)

- Check fit and condition of show attire. Growth, weight fluctuation and old issues such as forgotten stains or tears may be cause for new attire for 2007.
- Have your trailer serviced to ensure that your mounts have a safe ride.
- Check helmet fit!!!! Haircuts and growth can alter the fit.

HM JUDGES WANTED: CNER 2007 RALLY SEASON

This year we have SEVEN rallies in the season. On top of that, TWO are overnight rallies. For all involved it takes a lot of time, effort and enthusiasm. We need every club's help in recruiting knowledgeable, positive, learning-focused horse people for apprenticing and assisting in Horse Management Judging at each rally. We need your help!

Eventing Qualifier – May 12th and 13th

Games – May 26th (PM only) and May 27th

Show Jumping – June 17th

Qualifying Dressage – June 30th (pm only) thru

July 2nd Tetrathalon – Sept 8th and 9th

D-Rally – September 30th

Non-Qualifying Eventing – Oct TBD

Current Assistants: Please email me or call to let me know which rallies you'd like to do if you haven't already.

Interested Apprentices and PC'ers that are C3+ and age 16+: Please email or call and I'll take down your availability and contact info. Contact myself or your DC if you have questions or would like to know more about apprenticing. We will be having some HMJ educational sessions later this year to help those that would like to help judge at USPC rallies. More info to come.

Please contact me if you have any questions about the rule changes, HM judging or any HM related "myths" you would like clarified: larahubner@yahoo.com or 603.502.1560

Lara Hubner

CNER Horse Management Organizer

<p>DC's please pass this portion of the CNE Scoop on to your members and parents, as well. Encourage them to submit questions and issues they are having with HM at USPC rallies!!!</p>
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C3 PROGRAM REMINDER

April 15th - Deadline for applications for the SNER C3 test at Apple Knoll July 13--15th.

If your child is currently planning to test this year the testing rules have changed yet again and this rating will go back to the regional format. It looks as though NY/UC will also be hosting a rating the weekend before this one, so if we are oversubscribed, that one may be an option, or CNE may still elect to host a rating in the fall. Please let me know if your child is planning to rate and which one would be your preference.

May 25-27th-C3 prep camp at Apple Knoll Farm

We have changed both the location and the weekend this year. Kingsbury Hill had been our camp location for quite a few years, but facility costs have mushroomed this year such that we wanted to consider other venues. Apple Knoll has availability and certainly a much better facility if we once again run into weather issues. We will need to make arrangements at a local hotel for accommodations-- this has worked very well for ONB the past few years as we have run our spring camp there since 2002. Memorial Day weekend has no conflicting USEA schedule and should be less frantic than trying to do it the second weekend in June. So far we have Laurie Chapman- Bosco and hopefully Nancy Grout as clinicians, but will likely need to line up 2 more.

Jackie Jacobs
C3 Coordinator CNE
jjacobsdvm@comcast.net
978-369-2379

D3/C1 CLINICS

The final D3/C1 clinic of the season was held on Sunday March 11th in Wayland MA... The main clinician was Elizabeth Pelis and the topic was "spring cleaning". Although the turnout was disappointing to say the least, those who attended were treated to hands on instruction regarding grooming, braiding, sheath cleaning, conditioning and tack cleaning-all the skills needed to turn out a beautiful pony! Special thanks to Deb Maietta and everyone in Jericho Forest Pony Club for hosting a super clinic. The station clinicians were excellent. And thank you to the Akbar's for providing a beautiful venue.

Wendy Johnson
D3/C1 Coordinator

LOCAL ACTIVITIES

April 8: Green Acres Event Series Two-Phase and Dressage Show. Madbury, NH, Levels - 2-phase: Pre-Elementary - Training level; Dressage: WT - 2nd. Part of our XC course will be open for schooling - see entry for details Call 603-743-6543 www.greenacresstables.com
Entry fee: \$50 Two-phase, \$25 dressage test

April 15: Hilltop Equestrian Center Two Phase and Dressage Schooling Show Somersworth, NH
Dressage: WT - TR4. 2-phase: PE/MBN, BN, N, TR, P
Entry fees: 2 Phase \$60/Dressage \$30; Call Mary Ann Davis, 603-692-6313 chipperd17@comcast.net
www.HilltopEquestrianCenter.com

April 15: Groton Pony Club 2-phase and Dressage Show w/ X-C Schooling Groton MA Starter (12") to Training (3'3") Additional stadium schooling as well
Entry fees: \$50 - USPC Members, \$55 - Non-Members, \$30 - Dressage Only, \$10 - Add'l Jumping Round, \$15 XC Schooling. Call 603-465-3623 groton.ponyclub.org

April 22: Thompson School 2 Phase Schooling Show UNH Durham NH W/T to Prelim, Modified jumping indoors. Entry fee \$65 Call Laurie at 603-862-1019 or check www.UNH.edu/TSAS2ph

May 5: UNH Schooling Jumper Show at UNH Durham NH Jumper show, three classes each at heights from 18" to 3'3" contact Christina Keim, 603-862-1174, ckeim@unh.edu
Entry fee: \$20 / class

May 6: Foss Farm Spring 2-Phase Carlisle MA
Two phase: dressage and stadium, or dressage only, 2-Phase: 18" - Training Classes filled in postmark order beginning March 30th. Entry fee: \$50 combined, \$25 dressage only/test; Closing date: April 27 Contact Lisa Brem, 978-341-0356, lbrem@comcast.net

NEXT DC MEETING

Our next Regional Council Meeting is scheduled for 10:00 on Saturday April 7th at the Nashoba Valley Tubing Park in Westford MA. Immediately following will be a brief 2008 Annual Meeting update. All are welcome to attend.

Tentative Calendar of Events for 2007 **

DATE/TIME	EVENT	HOST	LOCATION
April 1	Quiz Rally	Jordan Stables and Pegasus	Curtis Middle School Sudbury MA
April 7 10:00	CNE Council Meeting	CNE	Nashoba Valley Tubing Park Westford MA
April 7 following Council Meeting	2008 Annual Meeting update	CNE	Nashoba Valley Tubing Park Westford MA
April 15	Deadline for SNER C3 test application		
May 12-13	Qualifying Eventing Rally Paperwork deadline March 17	Nashoba Valley PC	King Oak Farm Spring HT Southampton MA
May 25-27	UL Prep Camp	UL Program	New Gait Manor Weare NH
May 25-27	C3 Prep Camp (HB prep)	C3 Program	Apple Knoll Farm Millis MA
May 26-27	Games Rally	Pentucket and Merrimack River	Topsfield Fairgrounds Topsfield MA
June 17	Show Jumping Rally Qualifier	Swift River	Mt. Holyoke Hadley MA
June 30-July 2	Dressage Rally	Squamscott PC	UNH Durham NH
July 5-8	UL Prep Camp	CNE UL Program	New Gait Manor Weare NH
July 13-15	C3 Testing	CNE & SNER	Apple Knoll Farm Millis MA
July 24-31	Championships & Festival	USPC	Lexington KY
August 3-5	H-HA Testing	CNE	TBA
August 18-19	B and H-B Testing	WMR and CNE	UNH Durham NH
September?	Tetrathlon Rally	ONB	TBA
September 30	D Rally	Groton	Groton Fairgrounds Groton MA
October ?	NQ Eventing Rally	Wentworth	Green Acres Farm Madbury, NH
Jan 22-28 2008	Annual Meeting	USPC & CNE	Boston MA

** Current dates are subject to change, check calendar often