

BENONI PONY CLUB



NEWSLETTER #46 – APRIL 2010

Hi Pony Clubbers,

Our apologies for not sending out a monthly newsletter for March.

You will all have received an e-mail recently, advising you that Justine Harpin has stepped in on our Committee, and will be fulfilling the role of Acting District Commissioner until September. For those of you who do not know Justine, she was previously DC for Benoni Branch, is currently the DC for Brentwood Park Branch and holds the position of Vice Regional Chair for the Gauteng and Limpopo Region. Some of you may also know her as the “Showjumping judge” at Equestrian International, THEM shows and other events !!

She extends an open invitation to all members/parents to contact her should you have any questions with regards to Pony Club.

PAST EVENTS :

Mounted Fun Rally at Banbury (20th February)

A very good turnout by members and their mounts!

Congratulations to each and every one of you on performing wonderfully entertaining Nursery Rhyme ‘skits’. We hope that you all had great fun!

The rally ended with a fun and novel exercise of learning and putting your ‘Points of the Horse’ into practice.

Visit to the EMPD (6th March)

Thank you to all our members and parents / friends, who turned up in huge numbers to support!!!

The Mounted Police unit and the Dog / K9 Unit put on a fantastic display for us, to see what they do in the community, and how their animals are put through their training.

Some of our members even had the fortunate (unfortunate?) opportunity of being ‘rounded up’ and ‘arrested’ in the display!!!!

Following the display, we were able to take a walk through their beautifully maintained stables and feed the horses carrots and treats.

We trust that you all enjoyed the day, and learned to appreciate their services.

Weakest Link evening Rally (12th March)

Monique and Gideon organised a fun quiz evening (held at StrideAlong stables), with the winning squadron receiving a beautiful Shield donated by Phillip Roberts!

The owner of Horse & Country was extremely generous and donated various gift vouchers for the winners of the evening.

Members got to (try) answering questions related to various horse-related topics!!!

Mounted Instruction Rally (14th March)

We were very grateful, and fortunate, to have top judges meet our members at Kingsdale Equestrian Centre, to give our members instruction in the disciplines of Dressage and Equitation

Mariette van Jaarsveld and Vanessa Deysel provided valuable insight into what is expected from you all at the upcoming Inter-Branch event at the end of May!

Gideon (who was exhausted by the end of the day!), had the task of practicing basics with our 'little' members. Thanks to all concerned, including parents who had to do a little running!

Inspection was held prior to starting this rally – gaining lots of points to add to your Squadron totals!!

The day went smoothly, with no falls or injuries, and we hope that you all took this opportunity to familiarise yourselves with the tests and are now better prepared when you compete.

Rand Easter Show

Thank you to Gideon and Phillip for getting a small group of our members together for a demonstration at this years Rand Easter Show!

The team had to perform at various intervals, for two days at the showgrounds – doing Mounted Games as well as Utility / Working riding displays.

Positive interest was generated from members of the public who were quite taken with the show, and we trust that Pony Club has been put on the map!

Thank you to all those members who made up the team at such short notice. Despite a few hiccups with transport and stabling, our kids showed true Pony Club spirit and held Benoni's name exceptionally high!!!

COMING UP ... :

Unmounted evening Rally (Official Rally)

DATE: Friday, 30th April 2010
TIME: 6 :30pm sharp.
VENUE: StrideAlong Stables (Cloverdene)
DRESS: Jeans and red pony club T-Shirts / Jackets

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Please join us for an evening of instruction in the Rules (and Dress Codes) for the various disciplines!

You will learn the specific rules for competing in Show Jumping, Equitation, Dressage and Showing, as well as the correct turnout of both you and your horse. Each discipline has varying requirements of tack / accessories, and can be quite confusing for a new rider!! This will all assist you in preparation for the InterBranch competition as well.

Tuck shop will be available.

(Please note that dates & venue still need to be confirmed)

Mounted training Rally (Official Rally)

DATE: Saturday, 8th May 2010
TIME: Inspection will start at 1 :30pm – training starts 2 :00pm sharp!
VENUE: Dunblane Equestrian Estate (Bredell)
DRESS: Full Pony Club attire (Inspection). Pony club T-Shirts can be worn after.

Members are requested to be early so that inspection can be done as soon as possible. We would like to be finished before it gets too late!

In keeping with our focus on the Inter-Branch competition, the Committee have arranged for you to get in some Showjumping practice. (Equitation and Dressage was covered at our previous mounted rally.) Qualified instructors will be on hand to assist you. Our 'little' members will also be catered for – doing 'pole on the ground' and 30cm jumps, and also a bit of utility/working riding practice.

Remember that you and your pony need to be turned out correctly for inspection!

Tuck shop will be available.

(Please note that dates & venue still need to be confirmed)

Inter-Branch and Inter-Regional Competition

DATE: 29th and 30th May 2010
VENUE: Equestrian International

Please diarise this important date.

Detailed information and entry forms should be available shortly.

(Remember that you need to have attended at least 50% of Official Rallies held, to enter!)

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GENERAL / OTHER :

Please note that no further testing will be done until the next school holiday in June.

Members interested in doing Pony Club camps – Mande usually holds camps at Medunsa during school holidays. These are not only for B-Test candidates, any level riders are welcome. These camps do carry a fee, and include lessons in riding and stable management. The costs cover all tuition, accommodation and food. If you are interested you are welcome to contact Justine for more information.

Benoni Pony Club stock items have been ordered. If you wish to purchase a Dri-mac, T-shirt, etc... please contact Alison.

Well Done to all of our members who competed in the 2nd leg of the SANEF schools League last month, and we wish you Good Luck for the next leg on 15th & 16th May.

Justine has created a profile for BENONI PONY CLUB on **FACEBOOK !!!**
You are invited to share your views, photos, comments, etc.. on the group wall.

BIRTHDAY WISHES :

The following members celebrated their birthdays recently...

- Rosemary Tanner-Tremaine (24th March)
- Louise De-Waldon Holmes (29th March)
- Talya Harpin (06th April)

On behalf of all of us at Benoni Pony Club, our *BELATED* wishes for a very Happy Birthday, and may you have many more !!

Happy Riding

BENONI BRANCH OF PONY CLUB COMMITTEE

Justine (084 583 6487) jharpin@tis-sa.com
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Nicole (083 280 712 9) nicole.taylor@iburst.co.za
Maggie (083 629 523 9) – accounts maggie@cailim.co.za

Gideon – ostlersinn@polka.co.za
Alison (084 555 310 7)
Sunette Steenkamp

Dates to diarise :

30-04-2010	*Unmounted Rally	StrideAlong	6:30pm
08-05-2010	*Mounted Rally	Dunblane	1:30pm
15/16 May 2010	3 rd Leg of SANEF Schools League		
26/27 May 2010	Public Holidays !		
29/30 th May 2010	Inter-Branch/Regional's	Equestrian Int.	

* Official Rally

CHECK OUT THE GAUTENG PONY CLUB WEBSITE !!!

www.ponyclubgauteng.co.za

.... for Newsletters and Photo's

(and don't forget the new **FACEBOOK profile !)**