

BENONI PONY CLUB



NEWSLETTER #49 – JULY 2010

Hi Pony Clubbers,

PAST EVENTS :

Inter-Branch and Inter-Regional Competition

The Annual Pony Club Inter-Branch and Inter-Regional competition was held at Equestrian International on the 29th May, and what a great turnout from Benoni Branch !!

The results were e-mailed to all of you a while ago. Congratulations to everyone of you, and we hope that you all had great fun.

The event ran pretty smoothly, despite the show running till quite late in the afternoon ! One point we would, however, like to highlight on is adhering to class starting times. Some of the classes (especially Equitation), ran late due to competitors arriving late for their respective classes. It is only good manners to ensure that you are waiting at the arena entrance when your class starts – not only as a courtesy to the judge, but also to prevent delays. Each class that starts late, means that every subsequent class after that will be running later also – resulting in a complete mess of time schedules !

Test Camps at Medunsa

Three of our members recently attended a camp with Mande, to receive training and tuition towards their B-Test Proficiency level. Lome, Monique and Gareth came back with very positive comments. We trust that they are now one step closer to being ready for their tests !!

Achievement Badge Testing

Congratulations to those members who passed the ‘Care of the Horses Foot’ and ‘Points of the Horse’ badges, done on the 18th June at Double TT Stables. Your certificates and badges will be handed out at our next rally.

Please take note that the cost per badge for testing is R30. This MUST be brought with you on the day of testing !! Despite constant reminders, we still have members doing testing without payment. Please assist us in adhering to this ruling, or else we will be put in the very unpleasant position of having to deny testing to any members who have not paid up-front. Thank you.

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Other

The Tenpin Bowling evening was called off due to lack of interest from members. We will possibly look at trying this again at a later stage !

COMING UP ... :

Proficiency Testing

Looks like these holidays are proving to be a difficult time to arrange anything at Pony Club!! We had provisionally booked a testing date for Friday 2nd July, but found it was unsuitable as parents were working. We contacted those who showed interest in doing their tests, and tried for the weekend (Sunday, 4th July), but it appears some are away on holiday.

As it looks like there are indeed very keen members, we are busy trying to accommodate them all with another weekend date. Once we have confirmation on a date and venue, confirmed members will be notified immediately. Please note that we DO need confirmation from members who are planning to do their Proficiency Testing, as these are tests which require small groups (each group given a stipulated time). We unfortunately cannot accept members who arrive unannounced, so please make sure that we know you are coming. Thank you for your co-operation in this regard.

Visit to the Highveld Horse Care Unit

DATE: Saturday, 24th July 2010
DRESS : Jeans and red Pony Club T-shirts/Jackets

In our June newsletter we gave a provisional date of 3rd July. Unfortunately many of our members and Committee will be attending a Baby Shower on this date, and so we have had to re-schedule to the 24th July. Please diarise and we hope to see you all there !

(A mini-bus will be available to transport those members who need lifts – limited space available)

Other

Not much response has been received from members interested in doing the (big) Farming badge, SA Flowers & Trees badge, Poisonous Plants badge (also mini badge available). Knots badge, and Stargazing badge. If you would like to do these non-equine related Achievement Badges, please let us know so that we can organise and provide you with dates.

GENERAL :

Well, we can all see that this month has been a slow one for Benoni Pony Club – what with the FIFA World Cup going on and members “chilling” for the holidays.

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Hopefully you are all enjoying the break (which seems to be going by far too quickly?), and getting all the rest you need!! As soon as schools have re-opened and everyone is back in “work” mode, we hope to have more fun rallies lined up for you. This last half of the year will still be a busy one, what with GHS Inter-Regionals and Schools League Finals, etc ... but we will have to fit in our Pony Club activities somewhere in-between!!

As some of you may have heard, Ostler’s Inn will be starting a new venture with Blue Moon Centre in Walkerville. Phillip and Gideon have promised us that they will continue to be a valuable part of Benoni Branch of Pony Club and assist us where they can. We wish them every success and happiness in this new venture and look forward to having them and their riders continue with us for many more years!!

NOTICE :-

Our acting District Commissioner, Justine Harpin, is also the DC of Brentwood Park Pony Club. Due to the fact that this is a relatively new branch – with few members, and the logistics involved with Justine trying to run both branches, it has been decided that Brentwood Park will now be taken under our wing until such time that their membership increases and they can once again go it on their own. We will be forming a fifth Squadron (Brentwood Park) for their members, and they will be joining in all our Pony Club activities. Please introduce yourselves to these new members and make them feel welcome at Benoni Branch.

Current members are :-

Calvin Machattie	Forrest Lovgren	Caydene Opperman
Roxanne Halversen	Kirstey Pye	Shannon Turpin
James Lotter		

(and hopefully a few additional ones who have already shown an interest in joining!)

Welcome to our Branch – we hope you have lots of fun and make new friends within Pony Club!!

BIRTHDAY WISHES :

The following members will be celebrating their birthdays shortly...

- Caitlyn Black (3rd July)
- Chelsea Taylor (4th July)
- Tarryn Gerhard (12th July)
- Morgan Noakes (19th July)

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

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Dont forget our Benoni Pony Club profile on FACEBOOK, and the Gauteng/Limpopo Pony Club Website on www.ponyclubgauteng.co.za

Happy Riding

**BENONI BRANCH OF PONY CLUB
COMMITTEE**

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Dates to diarise :

13-07-2010	Schools re-open!	
17/18 th July	(4 th Leg) Schools League	Equestrian Int.
24-07-2010	Visit to HHCU	t.b.a.

"Mother", said a little boy after coming from a walk. "I've seen a man who makes horses."
"Are you sure?" asked his mother.
"Yes," he replied. "He had a horse nearly finished. When I saw him, he was just nailing on his feet."

My horse is very polite. Whenever we come to a jump he stops and lets me go first!

