

Alberta South Pony Club NEWSLETTER



ABS Education Conference

March 11-12, 2023 saw more than 30 members of all levels from across the Region attend at Delacour Hall for the annual Education Conference. Members had the opportunity to hear speakers on various topics including farrier, rally, modern pentathlon, lesson planning & teaching, parasites, general horse care and Quiz practice!



SAVE THE DATE

- Sandra Donnelly Clinic @ Millarville Ag Society
March 24 - 26, 2023
- Regional Pony Club Quiz April 15, 2023
- Lunging Prep Clinic @ Creekside Equestrian - May 20

ABS Branch Spotlights

MEDICINE RIVER PONY CLUB

The Medicine River Pony Club has been in operation since 1976. Our club serves Benalto and the surrounding area. This year we have 20 members and 11 of them are new. We operate out of the fine grounds of the Benalto Ag. Society.

We are fortunate that the Ag. supports and sponsors us as a club. We are also blessed to have a wonderful coach Shelby Friesen for the last three years and returning for 2023. Super excited to get the year going with winter theory and all of our new and returning members. It will be a growing year for our club, but we are totally looking forward to another awesome year.

We have some pretty amazing parents and members in MRPC!!

Alysa Macdonald, MRPC D.C.



ABS Branch Spotlights Cont'd

BROOKS PONY CLUB

Brooks Pony Club was formed in the 1980's and has a long and active history in the County of Newell. Based based roughly 150 km east of Calgary, the club draws from a large area, including Brooks, Rolling Hills, Bassano, Rosemary, Cessford, Gem, and Patricia. Members travel up to an hour to attend lessons and club functions. Prior to the 1980's, Pony Club was active in the area, under the Rolling Hills Pony Club banner. This was one of the earliest Pony Clubs in Alberta.

The close knit family of eager pony clubbers ride and play together, and try to engage in the various aspects of the club and regional experiences. The club is most eager to advance in show jumping, with a smattering of other disciplines thrown in for variety. Experience over the years has ranged ranges from entry "E" level to "B2". As we seem to be fairly near to the edge of the known universe, most instruction comes from within the club, with an ever watchful eye to obtaining higher level instruction when we can source it, especially for the older riders. The club is now in a rebuilding stage, as a good number of members have graduated out and entered the adult community of responsibility and further education.

If the eagerness and dedication is any indication, Brooks will continue to grow and shine, and raise yet another generation of competent and loyal Pony Clubbers!

Shirley Pickett, Brooks PC D.C.



ABS Member Spotlight

GEMMA GERLACH - ALBORAK RIDING CENTER

I'm working and training with my horse Candy Jane in Florida for about four months in my year out. Florida is the horse capital of the world and as such simply has more opportunities. There's numerous trainers and horse shows so it gives me experience and choices I wouldn't have elsewhere. I'm currently holding off competitions while I get to know my horse better. I hope to start competing with her just before my return home. We'll start out at novice and hopefully move up to training level. I've learnt so much from working at a 5 star eventing barn. I would definitely return, at this point I'm keeping all my doors open. My advice to anyone who may just even be visiting Florida is to go to a Horse Show and watch the level of competition here. You can learn so much by watching them ride and compete. There's horse shows here every weekend in dressage, showjumping or Horse Trials.