

# SPRINGBANK PONY CLUB

April 2023

News & Events

Issue #4



Happy Easter!

Wishing members, their families, and the SPC extended family a happy Easter. Hoping it brings lots of sweet treats and a bit of a break before things really get busy.

## Winter Program

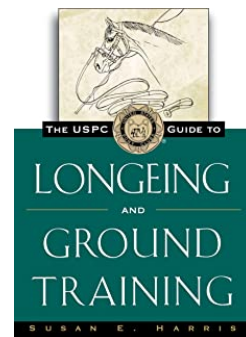
### Winter Program Sessions Dates

Saturday, April 1  
Saturday, April 15 (Regional Event)  
Sunday, April 16  
Sunday, April 30

Testing Phase One: Written Exams  
May date TBD



We will be covering Part II of our Lungeing class this month. For more information about how to lunge check out the follow book from the U.S. Pony Club, available on Amazon. The book has excellent information and diagrams. More details to follow about the class.



# Sandra Oxtoby Riding Sessions April 14 and 15

Sandra Oxtoby and Equus Physio riding sessions are designed to assess and treat an individual's imbalances and asymmetries in the saddle, in order to work towards optimal performance. The riding sessions are designed to be approachable for any discipline or riding level. Sessions may include the use of tensions bands to help riders gain better awareness of their balance while riding.

Sandra Oxtoby is a NCCP certified Competition coach in English riding. She is also a Gran Prix dressage rider, who has competed internationally and was long listed for the 2015 Pan American games. Her accomplishments include competing at the highest level at the World Championship of Western Dressage, coming home with a reserve World Championship and Top 5 title. Sandra has combined her love of riding with a career as a physio therapist. One of her special interests is the biomechanical interaction of rider and horse and is an advocate for physio for animals. She sits on the board of International Association of Physical Therapists in Animal Practice and is an FEI permitted therapist.

Please sign up at Sign Up Genius at the following  
link <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044AADA928A0FB6-sandra>

Please note there is a \$95 fee for a riding session

Payment may be made by cheque to the Springbank Pony Club or  
[springbankponyclubpayments@gmail.com](mailto:springbankponyclubpayments@gmail.com). Payment must be received prior to April 12.

We are so excited to have Sandra and her team with us for these riding sessions!

## Fundraising

### Spring Campaign Duo Burgers & Blossoms

We will be launching our spring fundraiser this month.

Families and Friends will have two campaigns to choose from.

Growing Smiles and DeVry Greenhouses have created beautiful arrangements and assortments. Choose from flowers, strawberries, herbs, succulents and veggies.



And just in time for BBQ season a chance to “Fill Your Freezer”. We are partnering with TeamFund.ca to bring local meats, sausages, cheese boxes, pies and more!

**Watch for details in the coming weeks.**

Fundraisers help the club provide activities for members free or at subsidized fees. Funds also go towards summer camp to help keep costs low for members.

Thank you so much for your support!



## Summer Camp 2023



**Sunday, Aug 6\*\* – Friday, Aug 11**

Prentice Creek  
Equestrian Centre

Rocky Mountain House, AB

\*\*Arrive after 5:00 pm

### Important Upcoming Dates for Camp

Wednesday, March 1	Camp Registration Packages sent out
April or May	Vet Visit for Coggins Testing
Monday, May 1	Camp Registration Forms Due
Monday, June 26	Families Meeting at Home Property
Friday, June 30	Balance of Camp Fees Due

For information about the Servus Calgary Marathon opportunity please contact Colleen at [heineken@telusplanet.net](mailto:heineken@telusplanet.net). Thank you to Colleen for organizing the 2023 Springbank Team.

Thank you to Coreena and Natasha for all their work organizing summer camp! And to Carrie Dickinson for helping coordinate horse trailering!

## SPC Badge Program - April

### History and Literature

#### Objectives

Members may choose a topic from the following suggestions and research it in history and literature. They may produce a presentation that will be shared with all members.



#### Project:

This is an open-ended badge with wide scope for creativity. Some suggested topics are:

- Horses in War
- Historical development of any of the older breeds of horses
- Carriages and the horses that drew them
- History of side saddle riding
- Horses in myths or legends
- Horses in religion

The presentation can be sent to Dana at [Dana@infinitydynamics.ca](mailto:Dana@infinitydynamics.ca) in pdf format. It will be combined with all others and then sent out to all members to learn from and enjoy.

## Master Class

### Baron Hans von Blixen-Finecke

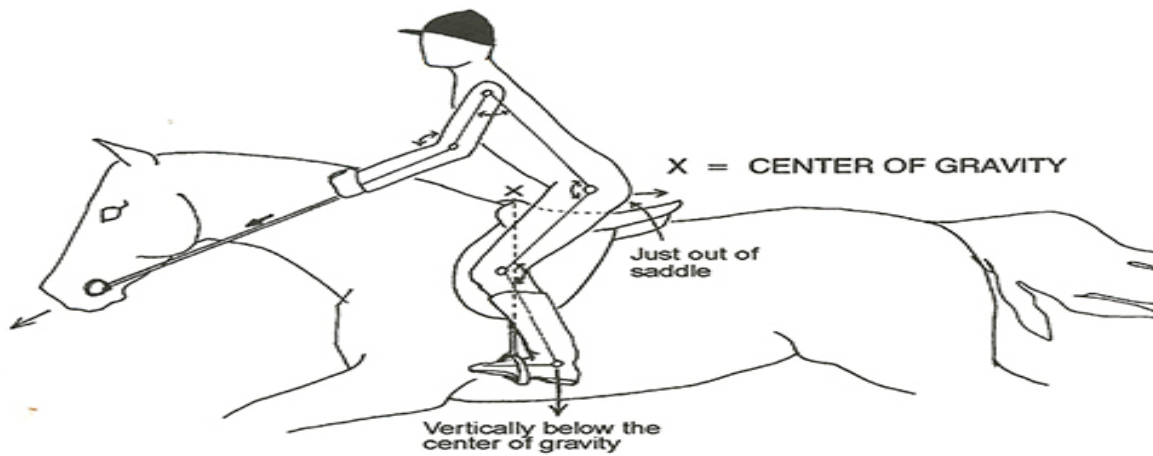
Hans von Blixen-Finecke was a Swedish Army officer and horse rider. He competed in eventing at the 1952 & 1956 Summer Olympics. In 1964 he left the army and moved to England where he established his own Equestrian centre.

In 1975 he began working with Jane and Christopher Bartle (siblings) at the Yorkshire Riding Centre. Hans gained a reputation as trainer and he travelled around the world to give clinics. During his career he wrote two books for both riders and trainers, **The Art of Riding** and **The Art of Training**

He looked to the aesthetic side of equestrian sport as much as the athletic. Hans' credo included, "The training of the horse and rider top act together is based on a mutual respect and understanding and only then can reach the highest levels of beauty, balance, and rhythm."

Hans had a very logical and ordered approach to training and his work followed the classical training scale.





## Riders to Watch

### Colleen Loach

#### Canadian National Team Member



Colleen was born and raised in southern Quebec. She started riding at the age of four and competed in her first horse trial at aged fourteen. She still lives in Quebec and trains in Ocala, Florida in the winter.

Colleen is one of the top three-day eventers in Canada. As a youth she competed at North American Young Rider Championships. Her amazing riding career includes riding in two Olympic games, at the World Equestrian Games and two Pan American Games. She has also participated and won various CCI international events.

One of the horses she is currently riding is an 18.2 Hannoverian Gelding.

Colleen is also involved in the training side of the sport. She offers coaching, clinics and training. As her website describes, she,

“...enjoys competing and developing horses of all ages and skill levels. She takes pride in developing horses and riders to their maximum potential. Colleen has a deep love for the equestrian sport of eventing.”

Check out Colleen’s website for more info on this amazing rider and her horses.

<https://colleenloachequestrian.ca/>

## April Dates At A Glance

Sat, April 1	2:00 – 4:30	Lauder Ranch	SPC Branch Quiz Activities
Fri, April 14 & Sat, April 15	Various Times	Lauder Ranch	Sandra Oxtoby Riding Sessions
Sat, April 15		Delacour	Alberta South Regional Quiz Weekend Delacour Community Hall
Sun, April 16	12:00 - 1:00 & 2:00 – 4:00	Home Property & Lauder Ranch	Winter Program Sessions
Sun, April 30	12:00 - 1:00 & 2:00 – 4:00	Home Property & Lauder Ranch	Winter Program Sessions
Mon, May 1			Camp Registration Forms Due
May			Study Sessions and Testing Opportunity More info in coming weeks