

# SPRINGBANK PONY CLUB

May 2023

News & Events

Issue #5



Welcome Spring & Thank You Moms!

This month has a day set aside to say thanks to all the Moms, and Grandmas in our lives! As we are about to enter another fun filled and busy season, we want to thank you for all you do!

## Regional Quiz April 15

### Congratulations to our Quiz Winners!!

Cady, Everly, Grady and Zoe represented the Springbank Pony Club as a team at the recent Regional Quiz event.



The girls won the Bridle race with an amazing time of 2.13.22! Individual placements in their divisions: Grady placed 2<sup>nd</sup>, Everly placed 3<sup>rd</sup>, Zoe placed 4<sup>th</sup> and Cad placed 5<sup>th</sup>. And they all won a lot of great prizes!

They had a lot of fun at the event and met lots of kids from other pony clubs. They are excited to do it all again next year! Well-done ladies!

# Winter Program

## Winter Program Wrap Up

A huge thank you goes out to Lois for another successful Winter Program series! We are so grateful to have Lois' continued guidance!

We are also very fortunate this year to have had Jane Martin and Shannon Daly helping out instructing many of the sessions. Great to have these instructors sharing their incredible wealth of knowledge.



And hats off to Sarah Haynes for carrying out the program for the Level E members. She did a wonderful job starting these kids off.

## 2023 Testing Program

For those members who would like to participate in testing this year we will be starting with written exams this month. Remember testing is NOT a requirement of pony club but it is a good way for members to assess their progress and challenge the levels in their riding and Stable Management knowledge thru the eyes of an examiner.

It's also important for the members to understand that this is not the same as a show. At a show, like a jumper show, you are not being evaluated or marked on your ability or how you handle or deliver your horse to a jump, it is merely a timed event (fastest time with least faults wins). At testing you are being evaluated on your riding skills as well as your ability to handle all sorts of situations that might arise. Remember to always take into consideration your horse. You may be riding at a "C" level but if your horse is green or hasn't jumped or done cross-country he may need some work at the lower levels before he is ready for C level.

### **Saturday, May 6**

In Person Study & Test Writing Practice (Drop In)  
Lauder Ranch  
Noon – 4:00

### **Sunday, May 14**

D, D1 & D2 Written Tests  
(C & C1 if you can't make May 21 date)  
Lauder Ranch  
1:00 – 4:00

### **Sunday, May 21**

C & C1 Written Tests  
(D, D1 & D2 if you can't make May 14 date)  
Lauder Ranch  
1:00 – 4:00

# Fundraising



## Spring Campaign Duo Burgers & Blossoms

We have kicked off our spring fundraiser!

Get great flower arrangements, start an herb or veggie garden or grow your own strawberries. Lots of beautiful selections with Growing Smiles and DeVry Greenhouses!

Direct Growing Smiles Link:

<https://springbankponyclub.growingsmilesfundraising.com>

Or "Fill Your Freezer" with Teamfund! Stock up for BBQ season. Or get great meals for those busy school days. Lots of options including steaks, Spolumbos products, tasty bacon, cheese, and even perogies! And Chicken Empanadas that are gluten-free, nut-free and dairy-free! Local producers, local kitchens, healthy ingredients. Check out all the options!

Direct Fill Your Freezer Link:

<https://springbankponyclub.myteamfund.ca>

These campaigns are open to all SPC families and their extended families, friends, neighbours, co-workers, etc. Pas on the links!

**ORDER DEADLINE (both campaigns):** May 17

**Pick up Date (both campaigns):** May 31

**Pick Up Location:** 175 West Springs Place SW (Colleen's House – all orders)

On behalf of the youth of the Springbank Pony Club, we express our gratitude and thank you in advance 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

May (Date TBD)	Vet Visit for Coggins Testing
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 coordinating all the logistics for horse trailering!

## SPC Badge Program - May

### Fitness for You and Your Horse

#### Objectives:

Members should know the basics of bringing different types of horses into work and the reasons why a progressive conditioning program is important in conjunction with a feeding program. They should understand the concepts on long, slow training and interval training, the differences and advantages of both. They should also understand the importance of rider fitness and be able to develop a program to improve their own level of fitness.



## Project:

### Conditioning:

Choose one of the following scenarios and write up a short conditioning program, including feeding schedule:

- Three-year-old who has never been ridden before.
- Broodmare coming back into work after a foal.
- Sixteen-year-old gelding, only done light trail riding for the last three years.
- Middle-aged, fat pony who has been turned out for five years, coming back into work.

Members could undertake these projects themselves after a clinic or discussion on conditioning and feeding.

### Rider Fitness:

Members should develop a fitness program suitable for their level of competition or riding. Members should attend an education session or clinic with a physical education instructor or coach who is knowledgeable about exercise programs. In conjunction with their coach, they can develop their own fitness plan.

The final project can be sent to Dana at [Dana@infinitydynamics.ca](mailto:Dana@infinitydynamics.ca) in pdf format.

## Master Class

### Christopher Bartle

In a November 2021 article, The Horse Magazine stated that he is, “arguably the best equestrian coach in the world”. The ultimate coach.

Bartle is a British equestrian who has had a very successful career in both Dressage and Eventing. He started his Olympic career at the 1984 games in Los Angeles. Bartle’s mother set up the Yorkshire Riding Centre in 1963, when Christopher was 11 years old. He is currently the Managing Director of the Yorkshire Riding Centre and the Performance Coach to the British Three Day Event Squad. Bartle has trained many of the top eventers in the sport including Julia Krajewski, Nicola Wilson, Oliver Townend and Ingrid Klimke.

Our own Shannon Daly has a deep connection with the Yorkshire Riding Centre and the Bartle family. She has taken riding training there and been an instructor with both Christopher and his sister Jane, beginning in 1987. She returns there for a few months annually.

Both Christopher and his sister, Jane, were initially trained by their mother Nicole Bartle, a dedicated equestrian herself. They were both later trained by Hans von Blixen-Finecke, a double gold medalist at the 1952 Helsinki Olympics in Three Day Eventing. Blixen-Finecke had a similar approach to training as Bartle’s mother, emphasizing the understanding of the biomechanics of horse and rider.

Blixen-Finecke looked to the aesthetic side of equestrian sport as much as the athletic. Hans’ credo included, “The training of the horse and rider act together is based on a



mutual respect and understanding and only then can reach the highest levels of beauty, balance, and rhythm”.

Bartle has adopted this same approach to his riding, training and coaching. As he states he has developed a “strong training philosophy, which has as its base a clear understanding of the partnership between horse and rider”. For Bartle, much of his training philosophy is still largely based on Blixen-Finecke’s methods.

Bartle believes in a coaching method that delivers his message in a simple way. He believes that success is, “only 1mm away”. That if the message is put simply then it implies that things can be easily fixed. “I try to emphasise the positive, and emphasise the simplicity of fixing the problem, rather than it be critical. That’s important. You need to take the athlete on the journey with you”.

Another core value for Bartle is to always be learning and keeping an open mind to different approaches. This approach has been part of what has driven him through his equestrian career. “As long as I have that when I wake up in the morning, that sort of feeling that we could be better then it’s exciting and it’s that challenge that’s exciting.” Many of the basics haven’t changed for Bartle over the years, but for him, he will never stop learning.

## Riders to Watch

### Follow the Olympians on the Road to Paris 2024



#### Canadian Equestrian Teams

The countdown is on for the Paris Olympics next summer. This year athletes will be working hard to qualify for Canadian Teams.

Equine Canada will be working on developing, selecting and training all international Canadian Equestrian Teams in the eight FEI equestrian disciplines:

Dressage	Para-Equestrian
Driving	Reining
Endurance	Vaulting
Eventing	
Jumping	

#### Eventing Team

Riders at the top of the ranks for the Canadian Eventing team are:

Colleen Loach	Dana Cooke
Jessica Phoenix	Karl Slezak*
Rebecca Howard – Chef D’Equipe	

\*Karl Slezak and his 10 year old mare Hot Bobo just won the Lexington 4 Star Land Rover Kentucky Three-Day Event in April. As reported by Equine Canada he and his horse, “started out the competition on a solid dressage score of 29.3”. They cleared cross-country and moved up from seventh to first. The pair then, “ closed out the weekend with a flawless show jumping round to be the only pair in the field of 49 to finish on their dressage score – the lowest score in the history of the event.”

### Show Jumping

... In our own back yard! Spruce Meadows is an FEI sanctioned facility. The September Masters event is one of the international FEI qualifying events for show jumping. This will be a great season for attending and seeing top Canadian and International riders along with their amazing horses. You may even be able to get up close to the riders and their horses at the smaller summer tournaments.

See the Spruce Meadows website for all the tournament dates this spring and summer.



Check out the Equine Canada website to follow our Canadian horses and riders. They have several newsletters you can sign up for to get all the news.

<https://www.equestrian.ca/sport/cet>

## The Eventing World to Watch



**Badminton Horse Trials – England  
May 5 – 8, 2023**

Burghley Horse Trials - England

Luhmuhlen Horse Trials -Germany

Pau 3 Day Event - France  
(Les Étoiles de Pau)

Kentucky Horse Trials – U.S.A.

Maryland 3 Day Event – U.S.A.

Adelaide 3 Day Event - Australia

World Equestrian Games

Online Sources: [Eventing Nation \(eventingnation.com\)](http://eventingnation.com)

[The Chronicle of the Horse \(chronofhorse.com\)](http://chronofhorse.com)



## Upcoming Dates At A Glance

<b>SATURDAY,</b> May 6	12:00 – 4:00	Lauder Ranch	Study Sessions – Practice written tests
Sun, May 14	1:00 – 4:00	Lauder Ranch	Phase I Testing: Written D, D1 & D2
Sun, May 21	1:00 – 4:00	Lauder Ranch	Phase I Testing: Written C & C1
May	Dates & Times TBD	Home Property & Lauder Ranch	Coggins Testing
Sat, June 10	Time TBD	Home Property & Lauder Ranch	Annual Work Bee
Sat, June 17	5:00 – 9:00	Home Property	Simpsons Year End BBQ
Mon, June 26	6:30	Home Property	Family Meeting - Summer Camp