

Shillelagh & District Hunt Branch of the

District Commissioner

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www.shillelaghponyclub.com

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Spring Newsletter

March 2009

REMINDER!!! **MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS** **Now overdue!**

If you have not already done so, please return your membership renewal forms as soon as possible to our treasurer, **Maree Ryan, Davies Hill, Clonmore, Hacketstown, Co. Carlow**. Fees are €90 for first member from each family and €70 for second and subsequent members of the same family. **You may not compete in any Pony Club activity unless you are a fully paid up member, and only renewed members will receive the next newsletter. NB: YOU MUST RETURN A SIGNED RENEWAL FORM FOR EACH MEMBER - A CHEQUE ON IT'S OWN IS NOT SUFFICIENT (form available on website)**

CAMPS

Senior Camp
Monday 6th July to Saturday 11th July

Junior Camp*
Monday 13th to Friday 17th July

Following on from the success of last years camps, we have planned a separate camp for younger members. ***However**, Junior Camp will be subject to numbers. If we have 90 or less attending Senior camp they won't be split. More information will be available later. To help with planning these, please renew your membership now if you intend going to camp, as the next newsletter will only be sent out to current members.

If you have any questions please contact Jackie.

SHILLELAGH HUNT BRANCH ~ HUNTER TRIALS

Monday 13th April, 2009

TINAHELY RIDING CLUB GROUNDS, COOLBOY (weather permitting)

STARTING AT 10:30AM sharp

Classes are as follows:

Senior Individuals and Senior Teams of Three – under 23 on 1/1/09

Intermediate Individuals and Intermediate Pairs – under 18 on 1/1/09

Junior Pairs and Junior Individuals – under 15 on 1/1/09

Under 12 Pairs and Individuals – under 12 on 1/1/09

Starter Stakes – This is over a very small course for beginners to Hunter Trials.

If anyone feels they are not able for their age group and would like to compete in a more junior class, they may do so and just not be eligible for a prize.

Remember you need the following for Hunter Trials: Skull Cap as standard on current Tack Sheet (No peaked caps allowed), Body Protector (Level 3 compulsory), Medical Armband (with photo) **AND MEMBERSHIP CARD FOR 2009**, Long sleeved shirt, Stock (self tying) and Number Bib.

Medical Armbands and Number Bibs will be available to buy on the day.

Please check your tack in advance as there will be a strict tack inspection.

Contact Jackie if you need more information.

JUMPAGE

Dressage with a difference! Come and join us and see there's more to dressage than riding a test. This will be run over a course of jumps where you will learn basic dressage techniques which will help with jumping, particularly making the most of a course against the clock. Sorrell Klatzko will take you through your paces and give you hints and tips to improve your all round riding with minimum use of the D word. Open to all riders within the pony club. From 12 noon on Sunday 15th March, times allocated as groups are matched for ability, with two further dates 7th and 14th April to follow.

Venue to be confirmed.

Cost: €20 each

Book in with Rachel Wood 087-6391436

TOP INTERNATIONAL EVENT RIDER TO GIVE TALK!

Murphy's Hotel, Tinahely
Wednesday 8th April - 7:30 p.m.
Cost: €7.50

Jane O'Flynn, one of Ireland's top International Event Riders, is going to come and give us a talk. She will give lots of advice about preparing for Horse Trials and looking after your pony and will be able to answer your questions. There will also be a quiz and prizes. This is a must for members of all levels who will be taking part in Horse Trials this year or who just want to learn better pony care. Parents also welcome to come and learn. Contact **Polly** with any enquiries.



SHOW JUMPING TRAINING RALLIES

These will take place on consecutive Friday evenings through May and June, starting on 1st May. Please contact **Brenda Nolan on 053-9426656 or 086 8567226 to put your name down.** More information will be available on the club website Noticeboard

Hunter Trial Championships Saturday 18th April 2009

Lisgarvan House, Ballon, Co. Carlow

Junior Pairs (Under 15 on 1/1/09)

Teams of Three (2 members Under 21 and 1 member may be under 23 on 1/1/09)

Senior Pairs (Minimum 12 years)

If you would like to be considered for selection on a team/pair please give your name to Jackie. You will have to compete in at least one club Hunter Trials first and **you must have your C Test.**

UNMOUNTED/ACHIEVEMENT BADGE RALLIES



Saturday 21st March - Plaiting
Tuesday 7th April - Equine First Aid

Achievement Badges are awarded at these rallies. If you are hoping to do your D, D+ or C Test this year or next, these rallies will be a great help in preparing for them. **Ponies do not attend!** The rallies will take place at Patti Byrnes, near Rathdrum. Please **contact Patti** to book your place and get directions. Tel: **0404 45205**
Time: 2pm – 4pm Cost: €5 per rally.

FUNDRAISER

BAG PACKING AT DUNNES STORES, BRIDGEWATER CENTRE, ARKLOW

Thurs/Fri 12/13th March - 4 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Saturday 14th March - 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.

ADULTS AND CHILDREN NEEDED

We need to maximise this great opportunity to raise much needed funds for our Club.

Text Ruth Callahan NOW on 086 2519374

Give her your availability for the times and dates above so she can organise a rota.

www.shillelaghponyclub.com

Check regularly for extra events, latest news, cancellations, results etc...

The Irish Pony Club have a new website with lots of information for members and parents etc..

www.irishponyclub.ie

Musical Ride

Come along and try it out! Our first session for this year takes place on Saturday 7th March at Butterfly Farm and practice will be held weekly. Ring Rachel Wood on 087 6391436 to confirm time and/or to find out more. Cost: €10

RACE NIGHT

**Friday 27th March 8 p.m.
Murphy's Hotel, Tinahely**

Please come along and support this club fundraiser to help us raise funds for much needed equipment. We have a great evenings entertainment lined up for The Race Night including a few pig races thrown in along with the horse races!! A race card is included with this newsletter so please make every effort to sell 20 horses (or pigs!) per family. If you want to advertise in the programme please contact Rachel Wood or Jill Godsill, adverts start at just €30. There will also be a disco & karaoke afterwards!

Queries: **Rachel Wood on 087- 6391436**
Jill Izatt on 087- 2366603

SHOW JUMPING DERBY

4TH May 2009 - 10am start
Tinahely Riding Club Grounds, Coolboy

Class 1: 50cms - Entry €10 (Lead rein)
Class 2: 70cm
Class 3: 90cm
Class 4: 1m

Entry Fee: €15 (Entries taken on the day)
Round will be timed for classes 2, 3 & 4

Prizes 1st – 5th Place

The event will be held in the all weather arena over a course of approx 19 jumps making this a fun and challenging course! (50cms class will be over a shorter course)

Open to all paid up members of the Irish Pony Club.
More info from **Mary Walsh 087 9093572**

Swimming Training for Minimus/Tetrathlon

Arklow Swimming Pool

Wednesdays 6 to 7 p.m.

Dates: 18th, 25th March, 15th, 22nd, 29th April,
6th, 13th, 20th, 27th May & 3rd June.

Call Helen/Dave on

086-8624729 or 087-2751729

New Members

We welcome Aisling Winterbotham, Doireann Kavanagh, Cait Kavanagh, Frank Kavanagh, Triona Stafford, Cameron Reynolds, Falone Whelan, Ciara O'Toole, Eoin Kavanagh, Orla O'Brien, Clodagh Pierce, Adam Byrne, Cillian Pierce, Fiona Morris Emily Hadden Holly & Zoe Nuzum who are looking forward to many years of fun and learning with the Shillelaghs.

Congratulations!!!

Six of our members have been selected for IPC Mounted Games Teams travelling abroad this year!!

Barry Walsh, Lisa Carton and Conor Callahan are going to Bath & West, **Rebecca Jackson and Joe Jones** are going to Wales, and **Katie Dunphy** is going to Northern Ireland. Well done to all of you !!

Our Under 10 team, who last year won the Under 10 Mounted Games at the Festival, have been invited to travel to Wales to compete at Easter in the Under 11 competition there. This is a fantastic opportunity for these young members and we wish the best of luck to Mikey, Anna, Niamh, Orla and Amy.

Keep an eye on the website where we will let you know how they got on and hopefully have lots of great photos to share with you.

MOUNTED GAMES TRAINING

Under 10: Mary Walsh trains the Under 10 team (Under 10 on 1st Jan. 09). Ring Mary on 087 9093572 if you are interested in taking part.

Juniors: John Walsh is training the Juniors this year (Under 13 on 1st Jan. 09). Call John on 087 2468907 for information.

Senior Mounted Games (Under 16 on 1st Jan 2009) are trained by John Driver If you would like to play senior games please call John on 087 7790872 for information.

Make sure your ponies are fit and in good condition if you doing Hunter Trials over Easter.

(Not under Pony Club Insurance)

Shillelagh Hunt

HUNTER TRIALS, COOLBOY

Tuesday, March 17th at 11 a.m.

Classes: Open singles/pairs, Novice pairs/
singles and Teams of 3

Enquiries to Michelle Dempsey 0876359883

Club Numnahs and Sweatshirts

Jackie is still trying to track some of these down from last year. They will be needed for the coming season, so will everyone please check that they don't have any hiding at home!!

PONY CLUB HUNTER TRIALS

(Further dates and details are on www.irishponyclub.ie - Dates 2009)

Sunday March 29th - Killinick Pony Club at Killag, Duncormick. 10 a.m. Contact Mr. Larry O'Keefe 087-1217490

Saturday April 4th - Wicklow Branch - Bel Air, Ashford - Usual classes plus starter stakes. See website for more info.

Sunday April 5th - Wexford Pony Club - Cushinstown - 9.30 a.m. - Contact Mrs. Jacinta Reville 087-9176629

Thursday 9th April - Bray Hunt Branch - Monastery, Enniskerry - Contact Mrs. Dorothy Guilford 01 2819572

Saturday April 11th - Island Hunt Pony Club, Glandoran - 10 a.m. - Contact Mrs. Kathleen Denby 087-2353352.

Monday April 13th - Shillelagh Branch - TRC grounds, Coolboy. See page 1 of Newsletter.

Saturday 18th April - IPC HUNTER TRIALS CHAMPS - BALLON

Vaccinations Reminder

Vaccinations must be kept up to date and should be recorded in the pony's passport. Vaccinations will be strictly checked at our Annual Camp so remember NO Vaccinations, NO camp. Don't leave it too late and remember it's for your pony's welfare that vaccinations are given, not just so you can attend camp! If you need advice on this contact our D.C. Jackie.

Horse & Pony Passports

Under EC and Irish Law, you must have a passport for your animal and must carry it with you when you are transporting your horse or pony. If you need to get a passport, you can get it through the Irish Pony Club for €30. The necessary form is available from Polly or can be downloaded from the website. Passports will be checked frequently at Pony Club events upon penalty of elimination and must be brought to Pony Camp. Don't delay, and end up being eliminated or fined. Get one NOW!!

RULE BOOKS 2009

If you are competing this year, you should familiarise yourself with the IPC Rule Books. All available on www.irishponyclub.ie

TACK SHEETS 2009

Please check this years Tack Sheets. All are available on the website.

SHOP

Brid Kavanagh has taken over looking after our branch shop. Contact her on 086-8587623

Sweatshirts €25, Polo shirts €20, Ties €10, Badges €5, Manual of Horsemanship €25, Medical armbands €10, Number bibs €20, or €25 (depending on type!), Caps €5 or free when you buy a sweatshirt, badge and tie!

Pony Club Jackets are available from Naomi, 0404 46699:

Children's Sizes: Age 9/10, Age 11/12, Age 13€40,

Adults: Small, Medium, Large, Xtra Large €50