

FIND OUT MORE

Take a closer look at Potomac Pony Club! For general information about United States Pony Clubs, visit the national website at  www.ponyclub.org. To experience Pony Club, "Potomac Style", come visit our club at an upcoming meeting or attend one of our activities. Contact our membership coordinator, to find out how.

Potomac Pony Club

Contact us by email:
info@potomac.ponyclub.org
Contact our membership chair:
Laura Molsky, 301-540-6751

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COSTS

Annual membership cost for members (including National, Regional, and Local dues) are paid to the local Club for the period January 1 through December 31. Members pay National and local dues, (approximately \$133 in 2003) each membership year. Additional costs depend on the participation level of the child, but for example would include lessons costs, and Rally Fees (depends on Rally, but ranges for example from \$15 for the Quiz Rally to \$??? For a multiple day Show Jumping Rally.

PONY CLUB IS FOR FAMILIES

Parents play an important role in Pony Club and are encouraged to volunteer their time and talents. There many areas in which parents are required to participate. Parents attend a monthly meeting and share in one of many roles within the Club circle, such as Club leader, chaperone, jump judge, or assist in activity events and fund-raisers. It's a great way for non-riding parents to gain an understanding of what their kids are doing.

DO I HAVE TO OWN A HORSE?

It is not necessary for a child to own a horse or pony, but they must have access to one to participate in mounted events. Arrangements for obtaining a suitable mount must be made on an individual basis.

CLUB GROUNDS

In 2003, our club began leasing land in Boyds, Maryland, named "Ruben Field", after local businessman Michael Ruben, who made the lease possible. Our long term goals include using our grounds to host club activities. Our first trail ride is shown in the cover photo.



Potomac Pony Club



WHAT IS PONY CLUB?

Pony Club is one of the leading junior equestrian organizations in the world, represented throughout 30 countries! The United States has over 600 individual Clubs spread throughout 48 states and the Virgin Islands, with more than 12,000 members.

INSTRUCTION & COMPETITION

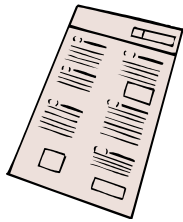
Pony Club provides opportunities for instruction and competition in English riding, horse sports and horse management for children and young adults up to 21 years of age. *The term "pony" reflects the age of the members, rather than the size of the mount.* Horses and ponies of many different breeds, shapes, and sizes are seen in Pony Club activities.

RATINGS

If you love horses you'll want to learn to look after them properly. Your child joins Pony Club as an unrated member and progresses through three divisions of ratings—D, C, and A/B.

Members move forward at their own pace, and since they begin to ride at different ages, will be in mixed

age groups according to skill levels. The USPC Pony Club manuals clearly define the riding and knowledge expectations to



A comprehensive educational program in riding that teaches leadership and responsibility

achieve each level. From beginner lessons to the demanding A level test, our club nurtures members and helps them achieve their goals by arranging "prep" days and establishing mentor relationships with other (higher rated) Pony Club members.



RALLIES

Pony Club Rallies give members the opportunity to compete with other Pony Club members in a variety of equestrian disciplines and sports. Most Rallies are one day events, and focus on a specific discipline or sport.

For example a Rally may include one or all aspects of Eventing (an Olympic Discipline which combines Dressage, Stadium Jumping and Cross Country Jumping), Games, or Polocrosse. All Rallies include a stable management competition which focuses on the unmounted aspects of riding.

Rallies are organized for teams and individuals and club members can participate as riders, and as non-riders in team leadership roles. Rallies are generally held from May through October.

About our Club

Potomac was founded in ### And is one of ## clubs in the Capital Region. Most of our club members live in Western

Montgomery or Frederick County, including the towns of Boyds, Barnesville, Clarksburg, Dickerson, Darnestown, Germantown, Gaithersburg, Comus, & Poolesville.

CLUB ACTIVITIES

- Organized group lessons
- Organize "prep" days to help prepare members for ratings
- Regular (usually monthly) "unmounted meetings" where we come together as a club to attend area events of interest, or learn about feeding, shoeing, veterinary care, and other areas of horse management. Under adult supervision, the more experienced Pony Club members instruct and assist younger members.
- Local club "fun rallies" for all ability levels— such as "Dressage Day" and "Show Jumping Day"
- Trail rides
- Rides with the Potomac Junior Hunt
- We send teams to many rallies including:

Games (organized relays and games on Ponies)

Polocrosse

D1/D2 Fun Day (Eventing)

Dressage

Show Jumping

Quiz Rally (an unmounted horse management knowledge competition)