

MPC Portage Camp 2008 Report
19 April 2008

Camp preparations are moving along very well. PPC has met 3 times as the camp committee and I believe we have everything in place.

Instructors have changed slightly and are now Cornelia McLeod, Lorraine Wilson and Kerry Moore. The Dressage instructor is Susanna Danyliuk and will be scheduled for Wednesday/Thursday. We do not yet have anyone confirmed for Stable Management.

The manure removal is an ongoing issue as we are trying to put something other than the BFI bins in place. We'll ask that those riding in the grass rings, clean up after each lesson with the final lesson of the day dumping the muck buckets. The sand ring will be harrowed at the lunch break and after the last lesson each day.

All instructors will be housed in the campground this year.

I missed putting the information regarding the Darlene Craig Scholarship on the camp forms. This scholarship will apply to the Portage Camp and all campers are encouraged to bring an essay, poem or drawing depicting the essence of Pony Club: sportsmanship, citizenship, and loyalty. The names of all campers who participate will be put in a draw and the winner will have the \$150.00 camp fee re-imbursed.

Volunteers are needed to run the Silent Auction.

Each branch is responsible to pay \$15.00 towards stall check prizes and \$30.00 towards snacks and lunches for the instructors. PPC will do the purchasing of the prizes and prepare and serve the snacks and lunches each day. These cheques should be made out the Portage Pony Club.

Each branch at camp is asked to provide a person or persons able to help with Clean Up on Saturday afternoon, in particular packing the jump trailer.

Lessons will likely start at 8 am and be in 1.5 hour blocks with 15 minute snack breaks for the instructors and a 1 hour lunch break. So the camp day will look something like:

8 to 9:30 - lessons
9:30 to 9:45 – Instructor snack break
9:45 to 11:15 – lessons
11:15 to 12:15 – lunch
12:15 to 1:45 – lessons
1:45 to 2 – Instructor snack break
2 to 3:30 – lessons

This gives the younger campers an earlier end to the day and thus more time to tend to their horses before supper.

Stable management topics include: warm up/cool down
Bandaging/braiding
How to prepare for testing

We are hoping to run the sm groups through on the Friday of camp week.

Clinic schedule:

Monday – Parelli demo with Heather Davey
Tuesday – free night (cheap night at the movie theatre)
Wednesday – Kur demo with Susanna Danyliuk
Thursday – Pool Party
Friday – Show Jumping

We have secured a volunteer for Camp Photographer, so the plan is to have photos taken in the riding groups to give to each camper at the end of the week.

The craft activity will also be scheduled by riding group and we may need to ask for volunteers to help with this. We'll designate a branch each day.

A Tack Swap will again be offered. Items will not be allowed out unless a deposit is left or a cheque left to cover the cost of the item or items taken. Only the main door of the office will be open and all items will need to be registered in the book provided. All sales will be recorded and the money kept separate from the canteen. If an item is removed from the swap by the owner, this will need to be recorded as well. We want everyone to feel that the articles left at the swap are secure. Vickie Wilson may send some items with Lorraine as she will not be able to set up her Tack Trunk at camp this year.

If you have a favorite spot to camp, remember to specify the site on the camp form and we'll do our best to put you there. Again, if you have air conditioning and use electrical appliances, please consider camping in the main campground. We've asked on the camp form to give the date you intend on moving your camper in and out. This is to give the Portage Fair Board as much information as possible as they do receive a number of reservations and don't want to have anyone feel rushed out of their campsite.

Anyone who is a nurse or has a valid First Aid course, if you willing and/or able to help out at camp, please let us know who you are. Your name would be posted on the Safety/Emergency contact board. Thanks!

Early registration deadline is 30 April!

Any questions or comments, please contact Barb Bradley, MPC Portage Camp 2008 Chair at either 252-3448 or bjbrtb@mts.net. Thanks!