

Avon Pony Club Annual Report

The past year in comparison to many others has been a busy one for all. There seems to be such a variety of things going on that it has been hard to choose for many as to what they want to attend. We started our year with lectures and lessons from early January until late April, which is our legging up time, getting not only the horses in shape but the riders as well.

We held four training shows and two EC shows during the 2005 year, all very successful and thanks to all that participated. The annual March break & summer camps were held each being a huge success as we had lectures and riding instruction taking place during the day, a huge thanks to Meg, Laura & Sarah G. After summer camp was held we entered our testing period where we had a number of kids tested and all went very well. We had so many riders for testing this year that a second testing session was held in late August. We also attended the C Rally at CNHP, Salmon River and D Rally at Hobby Horse this year, which was a great time, all the kids enjoying it very much.

Michelle Hood, Tara Hood, Daniel Mason and Tricia Sanford competed on the C team, while Jessie Sanford, Erin McDermott, Kayleigh Smith and Laura Bond competed on the D team for Avon. A huge thanks to the helpers and chaperones that attended these rallies with our riders.

As many of you know we also hosted the D Challenge and had a great turnout. The day went very well and I believe all the kids walked away with ribbons and something special to remember the event by. We also hosted two Jen Hamilton clinics, which like every year in the past were exceptional. We thank Jen for taking time out of her busy schedule to put these clinics on for the clubs.

Each year we have our annual branch meeting and one thing in particular that was mentioned was the volunteers who make an extra special contribution in respect to their time. We want to thank those individuals who make the club what it is. Also, at our meeting this year a new executive of 8 members was voted in as we have had such an increase in club membership we stand at a total of over 40 riders at levels from E to riders testing for their level B.

On another special note many of you know Chris Sanford is our outgoing DC and has done an incredible job for the last three years! So, on behalf of the incoming executive, parents and kids we want to say thanks for your hard work, dedication and commitment as DC. You have given so much to the kids of Avon Pony Club. Bravo Zulu! Job well done.

In closing, I would like to mention a big welcome to Jill Redden, as she has become part of the Avon family of instructors. We look forward to the upcoming year at Avon.

Valerie A. McDermott, DC