

2005 Nova Scotia Regional Pony Club Annual Report

2005 was a very active year in the NS Pony Club. We had 10 clubs and 222 members. Our Regional Board of Directors met five times over the winter and fall. Three representatives attended the Testing & Education meetings in Toronto: Johanne Head – Testing, Teresa Speelman – Education and Sarah Henry – Examiners. Our National Director, Judy Allen attended the CPC AGM and SAM.

We were pleased to have Mrs. Mary Henry recognized as an Honourary Life member of the Canadian Pony Club. An article on Mrs. H and her involvement in Pony Club was written in 2000 by Ian Scrimger, a C2 member of the Avon Pony Club. This article was published in Atlantic Horse & Pony Magazine and can be seen on our NS Pony Club website. At the Nova Scotia Equestrian Federation AGM Mrs. H was recognized as Coach of the Year and at this same event Margie Johnson was recognized for 10 years of volunteer service to the Horse Industry. Margie was recognized, not only for her many years and positions she has held in Pony Club but also for her years as a 4H Light Horse Leader and her help in the Central Nova Horse & Pony Association.

We held one regional fundraiser this summer. Tickets were sold through Sport NS. We also thank Apple Saddlery for their donation of hats for regional events.

Members on the Go!

- ☺ Nicole MacHattie from the West Valley PC was chosen to represent Canada (and us!) at the Interpacific Exchange. This event, hosted by Canadian Pony Club, included a Horse Trial Event in Ontario and a Show Jumping Event at Spruce Meadows. The IPE is a wonderful opportunity to meet PC members from other countries and an experience that I am sure will not be forgotten.
- ☺ Erin Sloan, Laura Sloan, Ana Murray & Stephanie Bonin, (Tantramar PC) and Tiffany & Nikita Blaauwendraat, and Kelsy Jones (Opportunity PC) earned the right to represent NS at the National Tetrathlon Championships in Cochrane, Alberta. Debbie Sloan went as chaperone. It was a wonderful week of competition, including many ribbons and personal bests.
- ☺ Caitlyn Swinkels (Fairwind PC), Kate Mattocks & Crystal Weatherbee (Colchester PC), and Merrilee Yuill (Opportunity PC) earned the right to represent Nova Scotia at the National PC Quiz in Ottawa on Thanksgiving weekend. Kathy Mattocks went along as chaperone. The team had a good time and returned with a very nice picture from their visit to the RCMP stables.

Nova Scotia Region would like to thank the regions and CPC involved in hosting these events. Along with providing a challenging competition these events bring members together and enables them to meet new people and see another part of the country.

Activities:

Rally: A Rally committee was formed in the fall of 2004 and worked over the winter 2005 to come up with NS Regional Rally Guidelines. These were completed and used at rallies in 2005. This is a “work in progress” and will be changed and added to as they are used. Plans for 2006 include expanding the guides to divide them into a D and ABC Rally Guide.

Rally Clinic – A D Rally clinic was held in July at Hobby Horse. Riders were able to train over the cross country course and practice their dressage test.

D Rally – A one day D Rally, hosted by Annapolis PC and Debbie Best was held at Hobby Horse with 6 teams from across the province competing.

ABC Rally – A two day rally was held at Central Nova Horse & Pony Association grounds in Truro in July. Gay Hansen chaired the Rally committee and received lots of help from many clubs. Competitors and Chaperones stayed at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College. Rally started with teams moving in on Monday, setting up tack rooms, formal horse inspections and walking the cross country course. On Tuesday riders competed in Dressage in the morning and cross country in the

afternoon. On Wednesday morning the Stadium Jumping and Captains/Helpers events were held. A Mounted Awards Ceremony was followed by lunch and packing up.

Quiz: In March Fairwind PC hosted a very successful B/C quiz. Eight C teams competed along with one B member. This quiz was a qualifier for National Quiz and those trying out for the team wrote an extra test that day. In April Colchester PC hosted a Novice/D level Quiz. with 17 D teams and 2 Novice teams competing. Seventy-seven Pony Club members and many volunteers made for a full and successful day. NS Region also sent a team to National Quiz.

Tetrathlon: Tantramar PC hosted a run, swim and shoot clinic in May and the Regional Tetrathlon Championships in June. From June 28 to July 1 Tantramar held a Tetrathlon camp inviting all interested in this exciting and challenging activity. NS Region sent seven members to the National Tetrathlon Championships.

PPG: A clinic on conditioning and caring for PPG ponies was held in May and a riding clinic was held in June. The PPG Cup Championships were held in August, hosted by the Opportunity PC. Jackie Allen introduced PPG and TREC to a number of clubs

Dressage: Evangeline PC was host to the Dressage is Fun Show in June. Approximately 35 riders competed in individual tests and freestyles.

D Challenge : This activity , open to Novice, D and D1 riders was hosted by Avon PC in October. Team do a dressage test, jumping course (ground poles & cross rails) and an equitation class.

Testing & Education: Most clubs held D & C testing this year. Region held an ABC Pretest clinic. AB Testing was held in the summer at Alex Beaton's. In May a workshop was held for Examiners, DC's and Test reps.

Communication: Margie Johnson, our communications rep. published three newsletters this year along with keeping the website updated. Margie also encouraged clubs to work on their websites and to submit results of competitions. The new NS Rules & Regs were put on the website along with the new NS Regional Rally Guidelines. Margie keeps the Virtual Trophy case updated and posts notices and entry forms that are sent to her. All of this through National and the very much appreciated help of Crawford Dales.

Youth Rep. Kate Mattocks, our regional youth rep. held a meeting for Branch Youth reps. in March. The youth reps. created a mission statement: "Our goal as the Youth Representatives of the Nova Scotia Pony Club is to represent the thoughts and ideas of the members of the region. We aim to act as a link between the members and the regional Committee."

Kate has created a Youth Page on the NS Pony Club website and organized a Communication seminar which, after being postponed because of weather unfortunately did not occur because of an email problem. We would like to thank Kate for all her efforts on behalf of the members. This is Kate's last year as Youth Rep. and she has now moved to Montreal to go to University. We wish her all the best.

Branches:

Branches were active this year holding lectures, lessons, stable tours, clinics, camps, fundraising, testing and badge work. Eastern Shore Pony Club was given a wonderful opportunity in helping man the Kubota Cup Booth at the Maritime Fall Fair, resulting in a donation to the club. Visit our website to see annual branch reports.

Carollyn Crewe, Regional Chair