

NOVA SCOTIA REGIONAL PONY CLUB ANNUAL REPORT 2007

In 2007 we had 10 active Branches and 210 members. The Regional Board of Directors met 6 times.

The Nova Scotia Pony Club region has a wonderful new logo at last! It may be viewed and downloaded on our web page. We also had 1000 lapel pins made.

National Meetings and Conferences:

National Testing and Education Conference: In January, our Region was represented in Winnipeg by Testing Chair Johanne Head and testers Alex Beaton and Anne Irwin.

National AGM and SAM: Judy Allen, our National Director attended both meetings and reported on the proceedings at Regional meetings.

Regional Branch Education Conference: In October, nine Nova Scotia branches were represented at this meeting held in Halifax. This conference included both Nova Scotia and NB/PEI delegates and was conducted by John Moehring, Crawford Dales, Val and Phil Crowe from the National Board. Sessions covered such topics as Governance, Insurance and Risk Management, Finances, Membership and Administration. Branch Youth Reps also held meetings and both Active Members, East and West (the National Youth Reps) attended. It was wonderful to have such a good turnout for this conference!

We are pleased to learn that Diana Locke has become the new National Show Jumping Chairperson and that Laura Jacquard has become the new Active Member East. Congratulations to both. It is wonderful to see people from our region involved at the national level.

National Events:

Tetrathlon: Three members represented our region at the National Tetrathlon Championship held in August by the Central Alberta Region in Lacombe, AB. Seniors Tiffany Blaauwendraat and Sara Locke and Junior Michelle Bonin formed a scramble team with another junior member from the NB/PEI Region. Lisette Bonin was the chaperone. Our team finished seventh overall.

Quiz: Four members represented Nova Scotia at National Quiz in Edmonton in October. Team members were Tiegen Bond (Colchester), Rachele Foote (Annapolis), Merilee Yuill (Opportunity) and Caitlin Swinkels (Fairwind) with Susan Foote as chaperone. The team placed fourth out of 16 teams.

PPG: Our region hosted the National Master's Prince Philip Games Championship in August at Coveside Stable in Chester. Four teams attended, including Central Ontario, Alberta North, BC Lower Mainland and Nova Scotia. Members of our team were Damita Hansen (Annapolis), Sarah Isherwood, Kaylin MacInnis, Kayla Landry and Amanda Foster (all from Friendly Breezes).

Show Jumping: Erin Sloan (Tantramar) represented Nova Scotia at the National Show Jumping Championship in Edmonton in June. Erin placed fourth overall riding borrowed horses.

Regional Activities:

DC Educational Workshop: This workshop was organized by Pam Hooper for DCs, ADCs, youth reps and test Reps. This day-long session was held with facilitator, Grant MacDonald, on January 10 at the High School in Windsor. The topic was mediation and dealing with difficult people.

Rally: A two-day ABC-Rally and a one day D-Rally and were held in July at Central Nova Horse and Pony grounds. Three teams (made up of members from 5 different branches) attended D Rally and 5 teams (made up of members from 7 branches) attended ABC Rally.

Regional Tetrathlon: One clinic was held in April in Truro with 16 members attending. The Regional Tetrathlon Championship was not held this year due to scheduling problems. Instead, eight tetrathletes obtained competition scores at the Tetrathlon Camp held in July in Port Elgin NB, by the Tantramar branch.

PPG: April clinics were held with Ontario clinician Lisa Pascal, in Windsor and in Truro. These attracted 23 and 11 members respectively. A Regional Championship was held in Truro with A, B and Masters members competing.

Quiz: A total of three Regional quizzes were held during 2007. In February, Opportunity hosted a Scramble Quiz and 'C' Qualifier in Truro. Fairwind held a 'D' quiz in March in Antigonish and Colchester held a 'C' Qualifier Quiz in Brookfield in April.

Show Jumping: The Regional Championship was held July 14, in Truro. Thirty-three riders competed in 5 levels from 2'3" to 3'9".

D Challenge: This wonderful competition, reserved exclusively for D and D1 level riders was held twice in our region this year. The Colchester branch held the first event in Truro on September 8 with 17 competitors in attendance. The second competition was held by the Avon branch on October 21 in Windsor with 24 competitors attending. The D Challenge is a team competition combining dressage, equitation and show jumping for our youngest riders and most experienced ponies.

Youth Activities: Our Regional Youth Rep, Jessica Swinkels organized the sale of 500 plastic bracelets as a fund raising activity. They were distributed among the branches and sold very fast. The money was to go toward a year-end Youth Day, to be held in November in Truro. Unfortunately this had to be canceled due to low numbers.

Testing and Education: Most branches held D and C testing. A testers clinic for Branch Test Reps, DCs, Testers and Testers-in-training was held in April in Windsor. A B/B2

pretest clinic was held in June with an Ontario tester acting as clinician. Four Bs and an A candidate were successful in achieving their test levels in August.

We held Regional C2 testing for the first time this year. A C2 pretest clinic was held in May and two tests were held, one in June and the second in September (in the Annapolis Valley and Truro, respectively). Five candidates were successful in achieving their C2 test level.

Communication: Margie Johnson, Communications Rep. has published two newsletters. Our newsletters are mailed to all members and are also available on our Regional web page. Another newsletter will be published later this month for a total of three in 2007. Margie, with the help of web master Crawford Dales has kept our regional web page up to date.

Each of our ten branches were active in 2007 with riding lessons, stable management lessons, camps, clinics, testing, badge work and fund raising.

Respectfully submitted,
Gay Hansen,
Chairperson,
Nova Scotia Regional Pony Club
December 6, 2007