

Canadian Pony Club



ANNUAL REPORT 2024

[Abstract](#)

2024 Annual Report of the Canadian Pony Club



CANADIAN PONY CLUB

Annual Report 2024

2024

Loyalty

Character

Sportsmanship

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1 GENERAL

1.1 Aims and Objectives of Pony Club

To encourage young people to ride, and to learn to enjoy all kinds of sports connected with horses and riding. To provide instruction in riding and horsemanship, and to instill in members the proper care of their animals. To promote the highest ideals of sportsmanship, citizenship and loyalty, thereby cultivating strength of character and self-discipline.

1.2 Mission Statement

To develop competent and knowledgeable young horse persons who combine enjoyment, responsibility, sportsmanship and good citizenship with the pursuit of various equestrian activities.

1.3 Motto

Loyalty, Character, Sportsmanship

1.4 National Board

In 2024 the Canadian Pony club started operating under a structure that calls for 9 independent directors elected to manage the organization. Directors will be sought out based on their skill sets in areas that would be beneficial to the organization, such as finance, marketing, legal and technology.

During the AGM in April 2024 the members (our Regions), elected 9 new directors.

Board of Directors and officers 2024

National Chair - Naomi Girling

National Vice Chair - Danielle Williams

National Finance Chair - Ian Maclean

National Secretary - Alissa Cue

National Treasurer - Elaine Webster

National Director - Sarah Read

National Director - Kersti Kass

National Director - Gillian Adamson

National Director - Teryn McBain

National Director - Gwen Barnes

1.5 Honourary members

Honourary Life Directors:

Virginia Buchannan-Smith

Jacky Cooper

Val Crowe

Pam Dillingham †

Margo Gaglione

Barabara Kemp †

Joan Kendall

Brigadier Clarence McKee †

Adele Rockwell †



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Examiners Emeritus:

1992 Barbara Kemp †
1992 Trixie Montgomery
1993 Jean Simpson
1993 Dawn Ruthven †

2000 Sandra Silcox †
2000 June MacGillivray †
2000 Doris Jacobi
2000 Yvonne Pink †

2000 Minna Renz
2009 Millie Pratt
2022 Pam Arthur
2023 Dorothy Kirby
2023 Val Crowe

National Chair's awards

1999 Phil Crowe †
1999 Val Crowe
2000 Crawford Dales †
2000 Barbara Grimm †
2001 Alanna Palmer

2002 Carolyn Crewe
2003 Margo Gaglione
2004 John Moehring
2004 Ken Craig
2005 Gwen Barnes

2006 Del Zelmer
2007 Mike Macbeth
2008 Liz Inglis †
2009 Karol Shipley
2009 Cheryl Leask
2014 Kent Gudmundson

Honourary Life Members:

Wendy Agate
Sandy Agatiello
Don Armitage
Virginia Buchannan-Smith
Nancy Codlin †
Phil Crowe †
Val Crowe
Crawford Dales †
Betty Donaldson †
Maisie Durward
Georgia Gale-Kidd
Deirdre George †
Barbara Grimm †
Mary Henry
Bob Inglis
Liz Inglis †
Doris Jacobi
Barabara Kemp †

Joan Kendall
Dorothy Kirby
Guy Koopmans
Basil Kuglin
Carol MacDonald
Heather MacDonald
Mary McDonald †
Elizabeth v. Mann †
Maylea Manning †
Brigadier Clarence McKee †
Gayle McPherson
Gordon Munro
Nonie Mulcaster †
Mary Lew Murray †
Maura Muspratt
Jeanne Owens
Anne Peace
Colin Peace †

Captain Mark Phillips
John Phillips †
Carol Porteus
Millie Pratt
Moir Remmen
Adele Rockwell †
Lenora Shiels †
Sandra Silcox †
Bob Simmons
Robert Smith
Diane Spencer
Jill Stephenson
Harold Thompson
Col R.S. Timmis †
Heather Touchie-Blakely
Susan Wensink
Lezah Williamson

† deceased



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2 NATIONAL NEWS

2024 was a special year for the Canadian Pony Club, as we were proud to celebrate our 90th anniversary.

This was a great time to reflect on some of the history of our organization.



Pony Club started in the UK in 1929 and the first Canadian Branch, the Eglinton Hunt Club in Toronto, was founded in 1934. Colonel Timmis and Brigadier McKee decided to bring the idea of Pony Club to Canada from the UK. Colonel Timmis became the DC of the first branch in Canada – the Eglinton branch in Ontario. Over 200 children became a member with this branch at a fee of 75 cents.

The Pony Club movement spread across Canada from the Maritimes to BC. Many branches came and went. In 2010, after its 75th anniversary the Eglinton Branch was unfortunately disbanded. At the moment Saskatoon is our oldest branch still in existence (1946), followed by Toronto and North York (1949).

The first ever member to achieve an A level in Canada was Mrs. Adele Rockwell in 1935. She kept Pony Club in Canada alive during the hard years of WWII; She was the DC to the Eglinton Branch from 1939 to 1949. Adele is an Honorary Life Member of the Canadian Pony Club in recognition of her accomplishments and many years of service to the organization.

In 1972 'the Canadian Pony Club' became incorporated as a Charitable Amateur Athletic Association. The objectives of the corporation were to educate those *under 21 years* of age in the art of horsemanship.

It was hard for members to achieve an A level before they turned 21, and in 2003 Affiliate members were introduced, to allow those that were between 21 and 25 years old to finish their testing. In 2008



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the CPC introduced a SM stream for those that would like to pursue the non-riding levels through Pony Club. This was in 2010 followed by the introduction of Flat & Jumping streams, to accommodate those that might not have a suitable horse for upper-level jumping.

In 2010 the CPC introduced the concept of Centres. Those that don't own a horse or pony can ride at a barn that is allowed to administer the pony club program to its members.

In 2014 the objectives were officially changed to state 'under 25 years of age' and members could stay Active Members until they turned 25. In 2015 CPC added the Horsemaster category, so there is no more upper age limit to becoming a Pony Club member.

Safety has always been an important consideration in Pony Club. The use of helmet (or hard hats) has always been strongly encouraged through Pony Club. In 1991 the use of certified helmets became mandatory for all CPC events.

The use of safety vests on cross country was introduced in the 2001 Rally Rules. At that time, it was only a recommendation. In 2009 Safety vests became mandatory for XC. Since 2023 the CPC has adopted safe sport policies to create positive and ethical sporting environments for all our members.

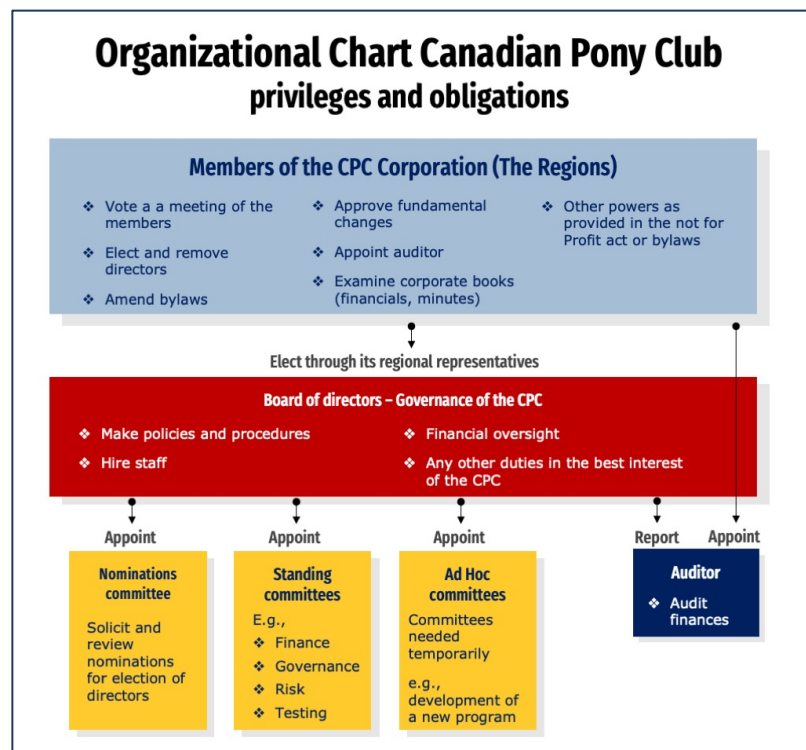
2.1 Governance changes

The Canadian Pony Club has adopted new bylaws that changes the way the organization is managed.

Most prominent is the change from a representative board (composed of representatives from each region) to a skills-based board of directors.

With this move to a skills-based board, directors can be sought out to have a background in a particular professional field such as finance, marketing, law or insurance.

The new structure also brings a clear distinction between the members of the organization - in this case the regions, and its directors.





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The directors are elected by the members to look after their interests. A separation of both roles provides a better system of checks and balances.

During the 2024 AGM the members have elected 9 directors, 3 of which are elected for a one-year term, 3 directors elected for a two-year term and 3 directors for a three-year term. This allows us to have three new directors each year, making sure we introduce new perspectives into the board without losing the experience of sitting directors.

To make sure the National organization does not lose valuable insights the regions can offer and share amongst each other, a new committee is erected: the Regional Operations Committee. This committee is comprised of regional representatives and meets quarterly to share and discuss concerns and ideas within the individual regions.

2.2 Regional incorporation

As part of the restructuring process, our regions are also incorporating. In 2024 eight regions become incorporated.

The incorporation of the regions has several benefits. It acknowledges the region as a legal entity and as such its directors are better protected from liability and it gives more access to possible provincial grants.

The organization is still working towards providing the regions with uniform regional policies as a next step in the restructuring process.

2.3 National store

In 2024 the volume of sales was further down compared to the previous year. On average the store handles 90 orders annually, with a sales volume in 2024 of \$9,600.

We introduced two new badges into the badges program: a beginner badge focussed on safe riding apparel and a badge for the increasingly popular discipline of working equitation.





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2.4 National Committees

Committee members and discipline chairs were elected during the November board meeting.

Discipline chairs

Chair of DISCIPLINES - Sarah Read

QUIZ Chair - Shannon Buck

DRESSAGE Chair - Sherry Jackson

RALLY Chair - Jacqui Dennis

SHOW JUMPING Chair - Jodi Baxter

EDUCATION Chair – Susi Ciencala

PPG Chair – Carrie Kendall

TESTING Chair - Gwen Barnes

TETRATHLON Chair - Pam Piddocke

Working committee members

EXECUTIVE - Naomi Girling, Marcia Reid, Sherry Jackson and Alissa Cue

FINANCE – Naomi Girling, Ian Maclean, Elaine Webster

GOVERNANCE - Ian Maclean, Pam Piddocke, Kim Leffley

RISK MANAGEMENT - Danielle Williams, Pam Piddocke, Sarah Read, Alissa Cue

CENTRES - Theresa Rondeau Vuk, Christy Cachia-Zerygiewicz, Annette Buis.

COACHES AND OFFICIALS - Theresa Rondeau Vuk, Sarah Read, Valerie Paton, Kathy Marston, Rebecca Brown, Erin Roach

ADVISORY - Brett Filson, Pam Piddocke, Kim Leffley

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT - Kathryn Palmer, Erin Roach, Heather Touchie-Blakely, Susan Lorden

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT OFFICER - Kathryn Palmer

SOCIAL MEDIA CONTENT – Nicole Templeton

3 CANADIAN PONY CLUB MEMBERSHIP

By the end of 2024 the Canadian Pony Club had 1714 members, divided over 1476 active (youth) members and 238 horse master members.

After a significantly low membership in 2021 due to the pandemic, more active members returned to Pony Club in 2022 and 2023. However, for 2024 we see another decline in memberships, both in the active members and Horsemasters categories.

Horsemasters make up 14% of our total membership.



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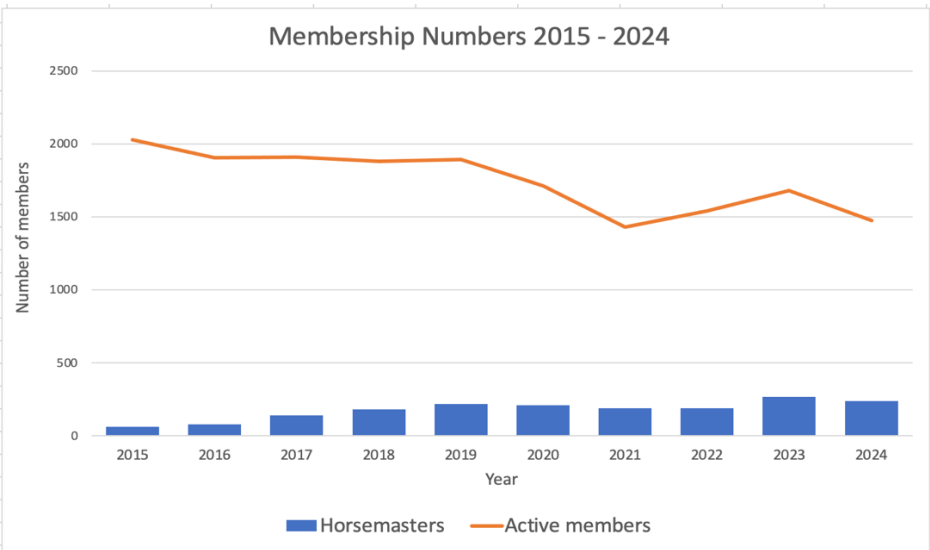
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Overall, Canadian Pony Club sees a steady annual 3% decline in active membership numbers since 2000.





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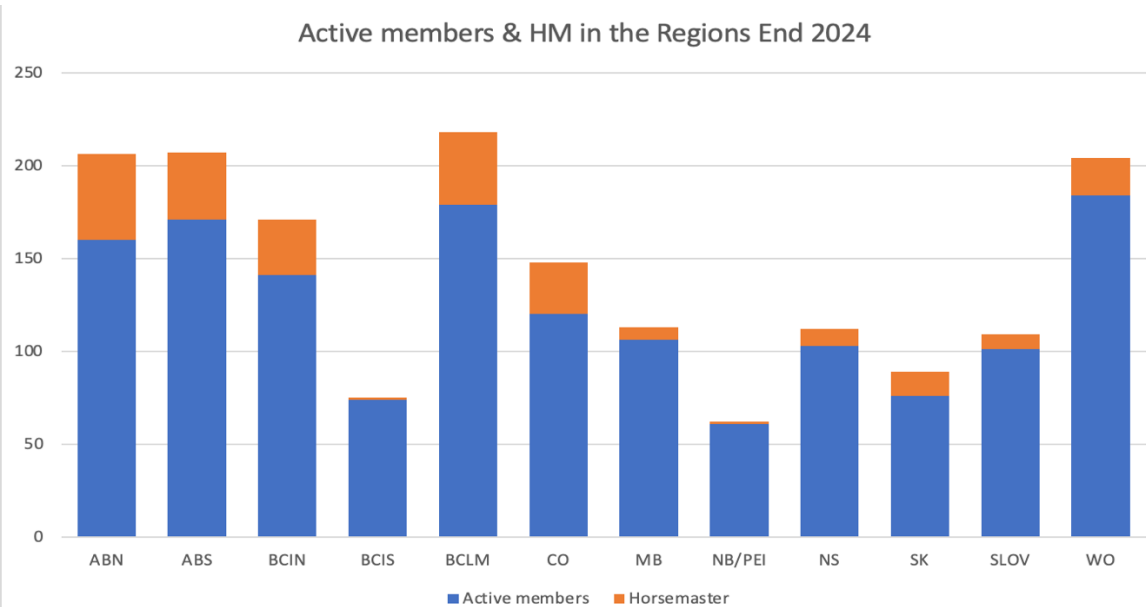
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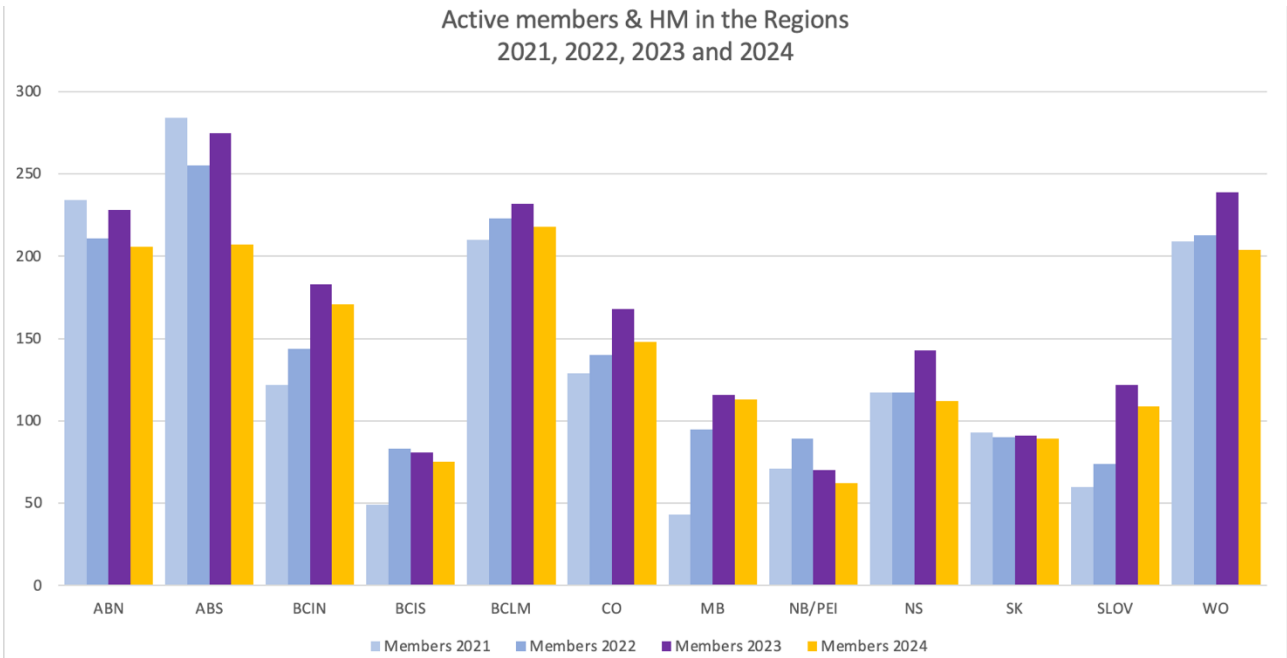
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3.1 Regions



BCLM, ABS, ABN and WOR continue to be our largest Regions. BCIS, NBPEI and SK form our smallest Regions. ABN has the largest number of Horsemasters, followed by BCLM and ABS.



All regions are seeing a decline in membership numbers.



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3.2 Branches

Our Branches form the grassroots within our organization. Branches are operated by individual volunteer boards and they organize a variety educational events, competition and testing for the Pony Club members that have joined these individual Branches.

In 2024 the Canadian Pony Club boasted 102 branches in 12 Regions.

We welcomed 5 new branches in 2024:

- Saugeen Valley in Western Ontario
- Shuswap Lake in BC Interior North
- South Shore in Western Ontario
- Yukon in BC Interior North
- Buffalo Ridge in Alberta North

Welcome to our organization and we wish you much success in the years to come!

3.3 Centres



There are 7 Centres active with the Canadian Pony Club. They account for 103 active members and 8 horsemasters. This makes up 6.5% of the total membership in Canadian Pony Club.

In some Regions the Centre memberships take up a larger proportion.

In MB 38% of the members are connected through a riding Centre, in WOR this percentage is 18%.

Not all Regions have Centre members, only half of the Regions have Centres, and they seem to be more prevalent in the eastern part of Canada. Our centres are located in COR, MB, NBPEI, SK and WOR.

We appreciate the support from these facility owners and are happy they value the Canadian Pony Club as a program that will support the development of their clients in the equine field.



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4 NATIONAL EVENTS

In 2024 the following National competitions were hosted:

- National Dressage in WOR
- National Quiz in NS
- National Rally in SK

For more information on events and results, visit our website: <https://www.canadianponyclub.org/activities-events/sports/overview>

4.1 Rally 2024

The Canadian Pony Club National Rally competition was hosted by the Saskatchewan Region, July 17 to 21, 2024 in Debden, SK.

Unfortunately, the rides had to be cancelled due to poor air quality / wildfire smoke. Team members did an awesome job looking after all horses.



Thank you so much to the Saskatchewan region and its many volunteers to host this event!

4.2 Dressage 2024

National dressage was hosted by the Western Ontario Region on August 12-15, 2024, at the Agricultural Event Centre - Ancaster Fairgrounds in Hamilton, Ontario.



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Our riders, grooms and volunteers did an excellent job. Congratulations to all on a wonderful event!



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4.3 National Quiz 2024

Quiz is an unmounted competition and tests the competitors' knowledge on all things 'horsey'. This annual competition that generally attracts the most participants in any of the CPC national competitions.

The National quiz in Nova Scotia saw over 60 participants compete to show of their theoretical knowledge around everything horse related.

Well done everyone! We hope you had a great time.

A special thank you to all volunteers in the Nova Scotia Region that made this event possible.





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CANADIAN PONYCLUB NATIONAL QUIZ

Halifax, October 11-13, 2024

RESULTS

C level Individual

- 1st Annabelle L. (BCLM)
- 2nd Tea A. (ABS)
- 3rd Avery R. (BCLM)
- 4th Rayne J. (ABS)
- 5th Hannah N. (COR)
- 6th Pearce O. (COR)
- 7th Rachael R. (NS)
- 8th Taylor M. (BCIN)
- 9th Noemi L. (COR)
- 10th Annika T. (BCLM)

RESULTS

AB level Individual

- 1st Mackenzie M. (BCLM)
- 2nd Olive R. (BCLM)
- 3rd Kassidy M. (MB)
- 4th Emilia T. (BCLM)
- 5th Makayla G. (NBPEI)
- 6th Branwen A. (BCIS)

RESULTS

HM level C Individual

- 1st Bev M. (MB)
- 2nd Jennifer S. (NS)

HM level AB Individual

- 1st Kaitlyn H. (COR)
- 2nd Kally C. (BCIN)

Congratulations!

5 INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE (PCIA)



Canadian Pony Club is one of the national Pony Clubs worldwide that is part of the Pony Club International Alliance. Other members include the UK, the US, Australia, New Zealand, Hongkong, South Africa and Ireland.

In 2024 the current chair of the PCIA, the US, hosted an in person international meeting in Kentucky, July 16th to July 20th. In attendance were the chairs and CEOs of the Pony Clubs in the UK, US, Canada, Australia and NZ.

During the 4 days of meetings and excursions, several topics were discussed such as pony club values, the role of pony club in land management concerns, pony club business models, social license to operate and horse welfare and international event planning.



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Pony Clubs in the different parts of the world may have some differences in detail, but overall, they are all mainly volunteer driven organizations with a large focus on education rather than competition and a solid program around horse care and barn management.

5.1 PCIA competitions

In 2024 the CPC took part in both in-person and virtual international competitions.

The IMGE (International Mounted Games Exchange) was hosted by Canada. International Quiz was hosted by the US in Kentucky. Dressage was hosted virtually again

IMGE 2024

The International Mounted Games Exchange for 2024 was held right here, November August 29th to September 10th, 2024.

Pony club members from the UK, US, AUS and NZ joined us for a cultural exchange in the beautiful province of Nova Scotia before traveling to Ontario for the competition part of the trip.

The teams had a wonderful time sightseeing and meeting pony clubbers from different parts of the world. This has been a great trip and the participants made memories to last a lifetime.

Thank you to our many volunteers in NS and Ontario and especially Alissa Cue, for making all this possible!





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Canada's team members:

- Kylie Barnes, BCLM
- Avery Roche, BCLM
- Rose Mewhinny, WOR
- Tayah Baxter, WOR
- Adriana Adams, WOR

Thank you to our coach Lezah Williamson and team manager Siobhan O'Connor for your support of the team!

Results:

1 st place	Great Britain	3 rd place	USA / New Zealand mixed team
2 nd place	Australia	4 th place	Canada

PCIA virtual dressage

Canadian Pony Club had a large group participate in the PCIA Virtual Dressage competition. We are so pleased to see such an interest from all over the country!



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Some highlights for Team Canada:

THE RESULTS ARE IN FOR:

**CANADIAN PONYCLUB
INTERNATIONAL VIRTUAL DRESSAGE**

October 2024

Special shout out to the following individual members who made it to the top 10 in their divisions:

1 st	Addisyn Parahoniak (BCLM)	First level test 1
8 th	Caitlyn Carter (ABS)	Prix Caprilli test Y
10 th	Alison Inglis (ABS)	First level test 1
10 th	Katy Sooley (NBPEI)	First level test 1

You can find all rides and full results here:
<https://padlet.com/hkpc/pony-club-international-dressage-show-2024-j2q1wzs3cw7952sb>

Congratulations!

All Canadian results:

Class 1 B USDF training level test 1		
14 th	Kenzie Germain	BCIN
15 th	Safari Jensen	ANR
16 th	Briar Callon	WOR
20 th	Zoe LePage	SLOV

Class 2 A USDF first level test 1		
1 st	Addisyn Parahoniak	BCLM
10 th	Alison Inglis	ABS
10 th	Katy Sooley	NBPEI
22 nd	Hannah North	COR

Class 6 NZPCA Prix Caprilli test Y		
8 th	Caitlyn Carter	ABS
11 th	Sophia Houldsworth	COR
20 th	Melaina Hopp	BCIS
23 rd	Tamara Todd	WOR



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Team results:

Pony Club International Virtual Dressage Show 2024 TEAM RESULTS		CLASS 1B – Training level
1st  UNITED KINGDOM Ella Ringham Philippa Brickell Eleanor Blewitt Lilly Davies	2nd  AUSTRALIA Grace Ryan Alira King Torah Kelly Lucinda Bennett	3rd  CANADA Safari Jensen Brian Callon Zoey Lepage Kenzi Germain

Pony Club International Virtual Dressage Show 2024 TEAM RESULTS		CLASS 2A – First level
1st  UNITED KINGDOM Harriet Boyd Holly Burgess Danielle Ward May Mooney	2nd  NEW ZEALAND Billie Hughes Samantha Jones Georgia Lewis Heidi Kendrick	3rd  CANADA Alison Inglis Katy Sooley Addisyn Parahoniak Hannah North

International Quiz

The PCIA International Quiz was hosted by the United States and this year it was quite a treat as it was an in-person event.

From July 11 to July 18, 2024, four Canadian Pony Club members competed in Kentucky at the international quiz. During this trip they visited many famous breeding barns in the area, visited a fox hunting farm and of course made a visit to the Kentucky racetrack.



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Congratulations
INTERNATIONAL QUIZ TEAM

Team manager: Ingrid Bill

2024 International Quiz Team
Mackenzie MacMorran (Mount Cheam Pony Club - BCLM Region) (*Captain*)
Kathryn Palmer (Cochrane Pony Club - ABS Region)
Melaina Hopp (Comox Valley Pony Club - BCIR)
Emilia Thrift (Burnaby Lake Pony Club - BCLM)

THE PONY CLUB
Quiz
EST 1929

CANADIAN PONY CLUB
Loyalty Character Sportsmanship
1934 2024

The 2024 CPC International Quiz Team will be joining teams from the USA, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom this July in Lexington, Ky.

Teams competed under the USA rules of quiz, which consists of 5 phases.

- Barn phase, a testing the individual participants' equine related skills in a practical setting.
- Stations phase, a team phase testing their problems solving skills.
- Megaroom phase, an individual phase testing the participants' identification skills.
- Written phase, an individual phase testing the knowledge of participants in a range of areas.
- Classroom phase, an individual phase testing the riders' knowledge in a classroom question-based round.



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Congratulations team Canada!

On your results at the International Quiz competition in Lexington, Kentucky
Thank you to the USPC for hosting us
and providing this wonderful experience!



The Canadian National Team finished in second place, behind the UK and just in front of the USA. Australia finished in fourth place, followed by New Zealand in fifth position.



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A big thank you to our chaperone Ingrid Hafke Bill for keeping up with our competitors and making sure they had the best time!

6 2024 ACHIEVEMENTS

6.1 Scholarships and awards

At the following Awards of Excellence Scholarships for 2024 are awarded:

Scholarship #2 - C2 SM level or up

- Makayla Gerroir (Full C2), Evangeline Pony Club, NS

Congratulations to our recipient who exemplifies the Canadian Pony Club motto of Loyalty, Character and Sportsmanship. We wish her much success in her academic pursuits.

6.2 Volunteer recognition

At our 2024 AGM we recognized some of our hardworking volunteers.

A 15-year volunteer appreciation award was awarded to:

- Lois Booy, ABS
- Heather Fanti, SK



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A 25-year volunteer appreciation award was awarded to:

- Sarah Read, MB
- Karen Mclean, MB
- Bev Moore, MB
- Dianna Pella, SK

Thank you to all our volunteers! Without you we cannot provide programming to our members.

Any comments or suggestions? Please send us an email at: info@canadianponyclub.org