



What is Festival?

Festival is a week-long celebration of Pony Club that brings together more than 4000 Pony Club members (and their families) from across the country. Its purpose is to provide a National Championships competition combined with a unique educational learning experience.

The week starts with the USPC National Championships with contestants from all across the country competing in Dressage, Eventing, Mounted Games, Polocrosse, Show Jumping, Tetrathlon and Quiz. The second half of the week is the Education portion and is made of various clinics, workshops, lectures and camps, taught by well-known equestrian stars and professionals in all disciplines, veterinarians and Pony Club examiners.

When and Where does it happen?

USPC Festival happens every third year. For 2007, the dates are July 24-31 and takes place at the historic and beautiful Kentucky Horse Park, home of the USPC National Headquarters. The Kentucky Horse Park is also home to the United States Equestrian Federation (the US governing body for all horse sport) as well as the United States Dressage Federation, American Saddlebred Association and museum, Pyramid Arabian Society, Hackney Horse Society, and many more.

Who can attend?

Those wishing to compete in the Championships portion will qualify to compete in Championships in your home region's Qualifying rallies. Check with you DC or RS for qualifying information or check under forms on the USPC website www.ponyclub.org for "Qualifying Criteria for Championships."

The Festival 2007 Mounted Clinics program will be three (3) full days in length, and open to D-3 members and up who are at least 10 years old. Each participant in the Mounted Clinics program will have five (5) riding blocks, the opportunity for five (5) Unmounted workshops of their choice from our diverse schedule of offerings and a chance to attend the Festival Barn Fair*. Riding groups will be matched both by rating level and by age whenever possible. The age groupings will be 10-13, 14-16 and 17-25.

Pony Club members of any age or rating may register for the Unmounted clinics (however, at least 8 years old is recommended). Participants will have unlimited access to all unmounted workshops, auditing mounted clinics and a chance to attend the Festival

Barn Fair*. We have many exciting plans for the workshop schedule! First Aid, nutrition, lameness, driving, farrier information, breeding and natural horsemanship are just a few of the topics you can choose from. In addition you will be able to audit any of the mounted clinics.

International Exchange Competitors!

This year during Championships, the USPC will be hosting the Inter-Pacific Exchange (IPE) (hosting teams from the US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and Hong Kong) the International Games Exchange (hosting teams from the US, Canada, England and Australia) as well as an International Quiz competition (hosting teams from the US, Canada, England and Ireland). The feature competition of the IPE exchange will be a “Nations Cup” Jumping competition on Friday afternoon. The International Games competition will take place in the indoor arena Friday evening.

Where to Stay?

The Lexington Convention and Visitors Bureau has arranged with many of the local hotels for special Pony Club rates. Check out the list on the USPC website. <http://www.ponyclub.org/pdfs/festivalhotels2007.pdf>

More Information

Watch the website and the monthly *E-News*. We will be featuring many of our judges and clinicians in upcoming issues. <http://www.ponyclub.org/festival.htm>

The “***Gold Book***” with all the final information and forms will be in your Spring USPC News and on the web approximately the 3rd week of March.

Other questions can be directed to Wayne Quarles Activities@ponyclub.org

Hope to see you at Festival!!

**Barn Fair*-A hands-on interactive activity which covers Pony Club curriculum about a wide range of topics from ‘breeds’ to ‘when to call the vet’ 85 26 different exciting stations from A to Z!