



Foxhunting – Not Just a Quiz Category

Foxhunting is the foundation of Pony Club. Through Pony Club, youth learn sound horse management and riding skills which aide members as they are introduced to following hounds across varied terrain. Encouraging youth to participate in foxhunting begins with education. Education includes foxhunting's history, protocols, and understanding etiquette is more than just a nicety but essential to continued foxhunting and safety of all.

Join Foxhunting Committee members to learn how you can make foxhunting a relevant part of your program. We will share foxhunting education success stories from around the coun-

Presenters:

Aliina Keers, Aliina is the current chair of the USPC Foxhunting Committee and a graduate C-3 Traditional, Life Member, and Chief Horse Management Judge. She grew up drag-hunting with Woodbrook Hunt Club (WA), and earned her colors as a teenager before being selected as a member of the USPC foxhunting exchange team to England in 2013. She went on to hunt in Ireland before returning home. After this life-changing experience and with assistance from the Masters of Foxhounds Association (MFHA), Aliina understood foxhunting was a viable career path, and continued volunteering at hunts as an amateur whipper-in and kennel help until the inevitable happened: she quit her office job and joined hunt service. In 2015, she started as kennelman for Norfolk Hunt (MA). She completed the MFHA's Professional Development Program in 2017, and in the same year, she joined Iroquois Hunt Club (KY) as professional whipper-in before becoming kennel huntsman in 2019. She currently lives in Lexington, KY.

Alexandra Weiss, Alex is a member of the USPC Foxhunting Committee, a Bridlespur Pony Club graduate C, and Founder, Life Member, and Foxhunting Chair of Live Oak Hounds Pony Club. She is a member of Live Oak Hounds Hunt and holds her Bridlespur Basset colors. Alex's educational, professional, and volunteer paths follow her passion for the outdoors, equestrian pursuits, and dog sports. She worked thirty-four years with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection assisting city, county, state, and federal agencies, as well as nonprofits, in developing appropriate outdoor recreational facilities. Her work as the Florida Recreational Trails Program Administrator has been nationally recognized. In addition to her current club-level duties, Alex coordinated many Sunshine Region's Quiz Rallies, is a member of the Wakulla County Parks Advisory Committee, and is an active volunteer with the Friends of Wakulla Springs State Park. Encouraging youth to participate in the great sport of foxhunting, while understanding its role in land conservation and Pony Club, is now Alex's primary focus.