



THE UNITED STATES PONY CLUBS, INC. PRESS RELEASE

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Pony Club Festival 2017 Hailed a Success

July 31, 2017 (Lexington, KY) – The United States Pony Clubs Inc. Festival 2017 wrapped up after eight days of competition and education on July 24th. USPC Festival is a triennial event hosted at the picturesque Kentucky Horse Park. The first part of the week is dedicated to the national championships team competition while the second part of the week hosts clinics, demonstrations, and presentations aimed at offering education in all aspects of riding and care of horses. USPC Festival 2017 gathered over 1,050 members competing in eight disciplines.

Quiz - 316 competitors

Eventing - 198 competitors

Show Jumping - 248 competitors

Dressage & Western Dressage - 115 competitors

Mounted Games - 103 competitors

Tetrathlon - 57 competitors

Polocrosse - 14 competitors

The educational portion of Festival featured over 500 members learning from more than 60 equine experts made up of Olympians and Pony Club Graduates such as Allison Brock, Stephen Bradley, and Linda Allen. Attendees of all ages and levels participated in mounted and unmounted sessions gaining equine knowledge and skills. A thrill for many was the Monday morning mock foxhunt lead by Iroquois Hunt Club Hunt Joint-Master, Lilla Mason.

“USPC Festival is the pinnacle event for Pony Club members; the teamwork, sportsmanship, and fun at Festival gives the attendees memories for a lifetime. Many members travel across the country to ride at the iconic Kentucky Horse Park where many of their equine idols have competed.” Said USPC Executive Director, Teresa Woods. “Pony Club is grateful to all the volunteers, parents and sponsors who made USPC Festival 2017 a great event. We couldn’t do it without their hard work and support.”

About Pony Club - The United States Pony Clubs, Inc. (Pony Club) was founded in 1954 as a nonprofit national youth organization to teach riding and horsemanship through a formal educational program. There are approximately 9,000 Pony Club members in over 600 clubs and

riding centers throughout the country. Many of the nation's top equestrians, including several of our Olympic team members, business professionals, career military officers, have roots in Pony Club. Youth members range in age from as young as 4 through age 25. Pony Club also offers educational opportunities to a growing number of adults through Horsemasters membership. ponyclub.org