



## **THE UNITED STATES PONY CLUBS, INC. PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Pony Club Championships Set to Begin**

**July 23, 2018 (Lexington, KY)** - The United States Pony Clubs, Inc. is heading to Tryon International Equestrian Center (TIEC), July 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> for the USPC Charles Owen 2018 Championships East, presented by Flair, LLC and Airowear.

Each year, USPC holds National Championships in Dressage, Western Dressage, Eventing, Mounted Games, Polocrosse, Quiz, Show Jumping and Tetrathlon. All members competing at Championships qualify through participation in Regional Rallies, where teams of members are selected. Teams are scored not only on their success in the ring or on the field, but also on their Horse Management skills and knowledge.

The event kicks off Thursday evening with the festive Opening Ceremonies bringing together Pony Club competitors, volunteers, friends and family for a celebration. Spectators may attend the Championships at no charge. The traditional TIEC Saturday Night Lights will feature the President's Cup, a competition among the top five senior Games teams from the week's competition. Riders and horses will test their skills in relay games at high speeds, such as dunking an object into a basket at a full gallop, and passing a baton to other team members. Guests may purchase tickets directly from [TIEC](http://TIEC) to watch the evening entertainment in the Legends Club; doors open at 6pm, competition starts at 8pm.

“Pony Club warmly welcomes competitors from across the globe for the 2018 Tetrathlon Exchange and the New Vocations Pony Club Challenge to join us for fun and competition at this year's USPC Charles Owen Championships East, presented by Flair, LLC and Airowear.” said Teresa Woods, Executive Director of United States Pony Clubs, Inc.

Pony Club thanks all the generous sponsors of the Championships. Charles Owen, a long time Pony Club supporter, is the title sponsor for East Championship; Flair, LLC and Airowear are presenting sponsors.

The cornerstone of the Pony Club foundation are education, safety, sportsmanship, stewardship and fun. Members learn teamwork, a sense of responsibility, safety, self-confidence, and leadership, through the riding and care of horses. The Championships bring together hundreds of members, volunteers and families as there are activities for all to see and do during the event. The team environment provides a unique experience that creates life-long bonds and for many is the pinnacle of achievement during their Pony Club career.

To learn more about the USPC Charles Owen 2018 Championships East, presented by Flair, LLC and Airowear, please visit the [Pony Club website](#) or download the USPC event app today.

**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, government leaders and 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](http://ponyclub.org)