



THE UNITED STATES PONY CLUBS, INC. PRESS RELEASE
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Field of Four Teams Ready to Compete in the 2017 Prince Philip Cup Games at Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event

April 17, 2017 (Lexington, KY) - The United States Pony Clubs, Inc. will once again hold the Prince Philip Cup Mounted Games competition at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, Kentucky. The 2017 Prince Philip Cup Games will mark the competition's 17th consecutive year it will be hosted during the Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event. The event will feature four teams from across the country. The tentative competition schedule is:

Friday, April 28

- 12:30 p.m. Celebrity Challenge Round, Walnut Ring (*Rolex competitors and, well-known Pony Club graduates will be joining the teams for this special exhibition.*)
- 1:00 p.m. Prince Philip Cup Games Round 1, Walnut Ring

Saturday, April 29

- 8:30 a.m. Prince Philip Cup Games Round 2, followed by Awards, Rolex Stadium

Sunday, April 30

- 11:30 a.m. Presentation of Awards, Rolex Stadium

Mounted Games is a series of relay races on horseback, where the riders must perform different skills while riding at speed. These riders perform skills that require them to use hand-eye coordination, strength and speed - all while working as a team to complete each relay. Some games require them to dismount and pick an object off of the ground and then vault back on to the pony. Other games require weaving through poles or running alongside the pony. The goal of mounted games is to provide and teach games that will enhance riding skills, physical coordination, and self-confidence. To qualify for the Prince Philip Cup Games competition, each team must have achieved top honors at the USPC Championships the previous summer. The teams competing this year are:

CAROLINA/MIDSOUTH/SOUTH REGIONS – DEMOLITION

- Jessena Defler riding Sparrow
Mary Ledford riding Hayes
Sarah Beckwith riding Maverick
Henley Younts riding Two Bits

MIDWEST REGION – IT’S A GAME THING

Brooklynn Porter riding Fozi
Anna Lundberg riding Mr. Determined
Makinley Neill riding Gonzo
Ryan Raucher riding Zack
Sean Raucher riding Hershey

SUNSHINE REGION - BUTTERFINGERS

Joan Marchand riding Keyso
Laci Eiseman riding Karat
Zina Grechniw riding Marquis
Natalie Tanski riding Sprocket
Kali Walker riding Holly

MIDSOUTH – TURN N BURN

Kaia Baker riding Suzy Q
Hannah Centers riding Dunny
Anabelle Friend riding Cookies & Cream
Ashley Rankin riding Pinocchio
Maggie Williams riding SNF Odliel

The competition was originally sponsored by HRH Prince Philip, due to his interest in supporting equestrian competition for youth that did not necessarily require a fancy or expensive mount. The original competition was an exhibition held at the National Horse Show, then later moved to the Washington International Horse Show. In 2000, EEI, the organizing group of the Rolex Kentucky Three-Day Event, offered to host the Prince Philip Cup competition as a competition/exhibition during the Rolex Three Day Event.

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 offers educational opportunities to a growing number of adults through Horsemasters membership. Ponyclub.org