

Why River Bend Pony Club?

We have over 40 years of experience in the United States Pony Clubs.

Safety and education of the horse and rider is our primary focus through our robust lesson program. Our members achieve and often surpass their equestrian goals while fostering a love and knowledge of horses well into adulthood.

Many of our alumni have enjoyed national and international level competition.

For more information please visit us at:

www.riverbend.ponyclub.org

Typical Calendar of Events:

We offer year round ground schools (unmounted) and meetings.

Jan–Feb

Weekly ground schools
Quiz Rally

March

River Bend Combined Test at Frying Pan Park, Herndon, VA
Occasional mounted lessons

April–July

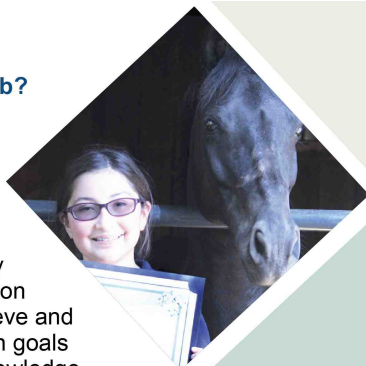
Spring lessons
Rallies

September–November

Fall lessons
Rallies
Fun Run/Walk

November– December

Occasional mounted lessons
Holiday Party



EVENTING

DRESSAGE

HUNTERS

GAMES



JUMPERS

River Bend Pony Club

Come Join Us!

Our mission...

River Bend Pony Club is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. As a Pony Club, we seek to become well rounded, team oriented, and safety conscious horse enthusiasts. We encourage members to be involved in other horse activities to support this goal, including but not limited to, driving, endurance and competitive trail riding, foxhunting, mounted games, reining, and vaulting.

River Bend Pony Club is a
Virginia Region Club,
Affiliated with the
United States Pony Clubs.



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What is Pony Club?

Pony Club is one of the leading junior equestrian organizations in the world with representation in 30 countries! Pony Club provides opportunities for instruction and competition in English riding and horse management for children and young adults up to 25 years of age. For adults, there is a "Horsemasters" program available for members who are interested in the knowledge, fun and activities that Pony Club offers. The term "pony" refers to any mount whether horse or pony. We are a Virginia Regional Club affiliated with the United States Pony Clubs (USPC).

Programs/lessons are offered in:

- ◆ Dressage
- ◆ Eventing
- ◆ Show Jumping
- ◆ Mounted Games
- ◆ Tetrathlon
- ◆ Hunt Seat Equitation
- ◆ Foxhunting
- ◆ Polocrosse and Western riding

Many competitive riders who rank at the National, International, and Olympic levels are or have been Pony Club graduates.

What do you do at a meeting?

River Bend Pony Club provides lessons throughout the year for all levels of riding from the beginner to the more experienced equestrian. Our primary focus is on horse and rider safety. Members learn about various equine subjects such as nutrition, farrier, and veterinary care at our "unmounted" meetings. Members continue to learn about other areas of horse management during our mounted lessons, rallies and clinics throughout the year. Our more experienced Pony Club members join in helping instruct and mentor younger members.

Where and when do you meet?

Meetings occur on the weekends with mounted lessons during the Spring and Fall at venues such as Frying Pan Park in Herndon, Laurel Hill Park in Lorton, or Turner Farm Park in Great Falls. Ground schools or unmounted meetings are usually held at a member's home or at a local barn.



Learn
New
Skills

Team
Participation

Make
Friends

Compete
for fun

What competitions would I do as a member?

We place our members on teams with either our club or other local clubs when attending various rallies. The Virginia Region offers rallies in the following areas:

- ◆ Quiz (a knowledge based "unmounted" rally)
- ◆ Horseless ("unmounted" as the name suggests)
- ◆ Dressage
- ◆ Games
- ◆ Show Jumping
- ◆ Polocrosse
- ◆ Eventing
- ◆ Tetrathlon

Additionally, the USPC holds National championships every year for Pony Club members 12 and older.

How much does it cost?

National, Regional, and local dues are required each year to be a Pony Club member. Regional and National dues are approximately \$150. RBPC dues are \$125. Each year we conduct an annual fundraiser, (a Combined Test) at the beginning of March, which helps offset lesson fees. Rally fees are additional.

How much participation of parents (or sponsors) is required?

RBPC is a volunteer organization whereby members and parents participate and share in the fun. Typically, parents and members are present during meetings. Members and their families' help is essential for the club to be a success. Pony club rallies also require many volunteers; there are even tasks for those who aren't familiar with horses!

Where do most of RBPC members live?

We have members residing in many areas across Northern Virginia. Some of us keep our horses at home while others board at local barns.

Do I have to own my own horse or pony to be a member?

If you would like to be a "mounted" member you will need access to a horse or pony and perhaps a trailer for lessons and competitions. However, there are many opportunities for our "unmounted" members. Unmounted members are able to participate in all ground schools, audit riding lessons and participate in most rallies. Many Pony Club unmounted members eventually will become mounted members.