



SOUTHLANDS RIDING CLUB FEBRUARY BULLETIN 2006

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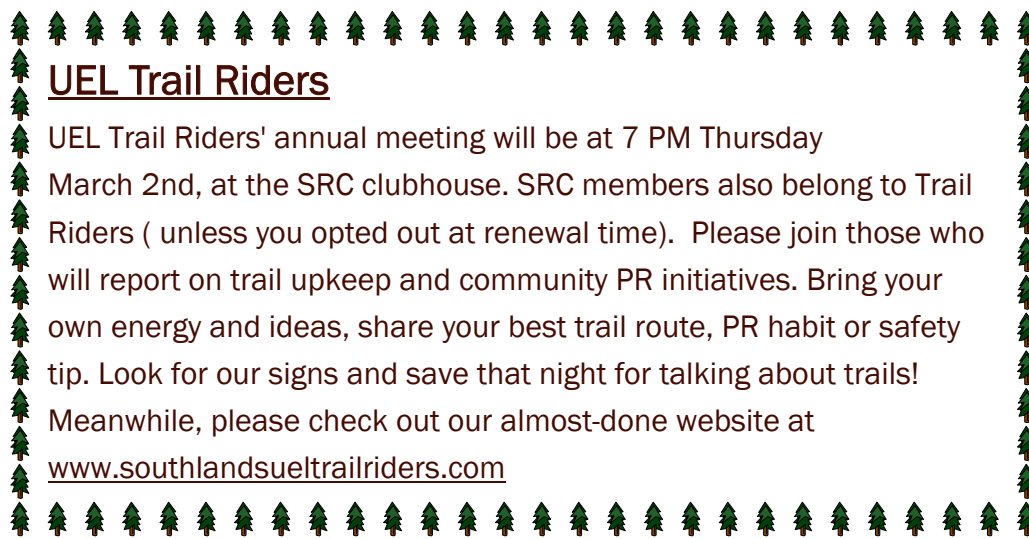
"Good courses make good horses. The flow of the track, the footing the horses will come in contact with, the standard of the questions asked for each level and the quality and sighting of the obstacles on the course all contribute to a successful horse trial. In my construction method I use log joinery and timber-framing techniques to create safe and aesthetically pleasing jumps for horses and riders."
- Steve Buckman
see page 4 for more!

BCHJA UPDATE



SRC has put forth a proposed contract to enter a straight Facilities Rental Agreement with BCHJA to have SRC serve as the venue for their BCHJA Fall Final for

the 2006 and 2007 season. We expect a decision to be made at their February Board meeting. Once we receive a response we will inform our members of their decision.



UEL Trail Riders

UEL Trail Riders' annual meeting will be at 7 PM Thursday March 2nd, at the SRC clubhouse. SRC members also belong to Trail Riders (unless you opted out at renewal time). Please join those who will report on trail upkeep and community PR initiatives. Bring your own energy and ideas, share your best trail route, PR habit or safety tip. Look for our signs and save that night for talking about trails! Meanwhile, please check out our almost-done website at www.southlandsueltrailriders.com

GROUNDS REPORT



From the Farmers Almanac, the predicted weather for February 2006 is as follows:

Feb 1st-3rd: Fair, **4th-7th:** Fair, then unsettled, **8th-11th:** Clearing, **12th-15th:** Stormy, **16th-19th:** Clearing and chilly, **20th-23rd:** Rain or snow, **24th-28th:** Milder temperatures and stormy weather.

As I am sure everyone will agree, this has been a very difficult season to contend with providing good footing throughout the facility. What we have been working on to solve these challenges is as follows. Zoltan has taken the lunge ring on as a project to improve the footing, the fencing

Grounds cont'd



and the entry gate. I hope you will all enjoy the improvements.

We had anticipated soggy weather, and therefore allocated and spent over \$10,000.00 on contracted labour to overhaul our main Big ring's drainage this past spring with the hope that we would be able to use it throughout this season. Recently, upon having a crew come in to do the routine annual work to suck the lines, we have discovered that unfortunately the big ring's drainage is not working the way we had expected. Discovering this, we are now in the process of having to figure out the next steps to rectify this concern. The direction the grounds committee has taken is to get an overall site plan for drainage so that we can figure out how to prioritize our projects with relation to footing, as without proper drainage, we won't have proper footing no matter what material is used. We are currently waiting for some quotes to come in. SRC would like to minimize the amount of "band aid fixes" we do to our site, and start looking for

more long term solutions. While initially it might take us a little longer to have the work completed, we are confident that once it is done, it will have greater longevity than a quick fix, and be more economical in the long run.

Non drainage/footing work we have done over the last month has been the redesign and building of indoor arena dividers, the rebuild of the holding pen at the top of the clubhouse parking lot, the completion of the electrical huts for our upgrades, notice boards that will be erected by each ring, and the continuing building of jump equipment in preparation for our 2006 show season. We thank all of our members for their support and patience while we work on achieving long term results to improve our Club. Also a big thank you to everyone who made having our second covered arena possible, whether through assessment, donation, volunteering or other means. Its presence is appreciated by many.

RULE OF THE MONTH

These rules were published not too long ago, however further reminding seems to be required. There seems to be numerous jumping elves that move the jumps after our instructors have set which as you can see by rule number 2 is not in compliance. Thank you for your consideration. We have also recently modified our website so that the rules have their own page now, versus before it was merely a link.

Jumping

- 1) Jumping courses must adhere to Equine Canada guidelines.
- 2) Jumping courses may be set only by SRC Instructors, unless specifically approved by the Manager.
- 3) Riders may raise or lower the height of jumps but may not move fences.
- 4) Anyone who raises the height of a jump to higher than 3'6" must return it a height of no more than 3'6" before leaving the ring.
- 5) Riders jumping must ensure that a jumping line is free from other riders before using the line, and must call "fence" or "heads up" or otherwise indicate and intention to jump a fence or line when other riders are in the vicinity.
- 6) A rider who knocks down a fence must reset it.
- 7) A rider who breaks a jump component must report it promptly to the Manager, except that if the breakage occurs during a lesson, it is the SRC Instructor's responsibility to report it.
- 8) Riders 15 years of age and younger must be supervised by an SRC Instructor or other responsible adult when jumping on Club premises.



Notices & Petitions

As our staff spend a considerable amount of time removing these from around the facility, we thought a rule reminder about that: "Petitions, notices and other materials may be distributed or posted in the clubhouse or on the grounds only with permission of the Manager." Please assist us in keeping non SRC news advertised outside of SRC.

SRC EVENT CALENDAR

February 3rd, 4th
Bonny Bonello clinic

February 5th
Dressage % Day

February 11th
Pub at the Club 4pm-8pm

February 12th
Valentine's Playday

February 18th, 19th
Lindy Townley Clinic

February 25th
Hunter Winter Series

February 26th
Jumper Day

March 5th
Dressage % Day

March 11th
Pub at the Club 4pm-8pm

March 12th
St. Patrick's Playday

March 18th, 19th
Dawn Ruthven Clinic

March 25th
Hunter Winter Series

March 26th
Jumper Day

April 2nd
Dressage % Day

April 9th
PPG Spring Playday

April 22nd
Hunter Winter Series

April 23rd
Jumper Day

May 5th-7th
SRC Spring Dressage Show

May 28th
Dogwood Dressage Series

June 25th
Dogwood Dressage Series

June 30th - July 2nd
Amherst Dressage Show

July 13th-16th
Southlands Summer Classic

July 23rd
Dogwood Dressage Series

August 5th-7th
Pacific Regional and BC
Dressage Championships

September 24th
Country Fair

DURING COMPETITION SEASON AT SRC...



Last year the issue about SRC grounds/ring availability to membership during competition was widely debated. Decisions were made based on safety, stewards direction, EC rules and

evolution. For this years show season, we are going to provide a compromise. Our plan is to have the Carnarvon ring available to non-competing members throughout the entire show. We will cordon off this area so that it is not part of the show grounds. This will allow our steward to recognize that the horses and riders in the

Carnarvon ring are not subject to EC rules/drug testing, etc. The rest of the facility will be used for competition. This is the plan to be implemented at all shows, dressage and hunter/jumper. We look forward to seeing if this concession provides satisfactory results for all.

SOUTHLANDS FOUNDATION 2006

The Directors of Southlands Foundation have opened a bank account, made 3 deposits and had their first meeting. Educating themselves, setting up the Foundation and communicating with interested stakeholders, such as club members and neighbours will be the major focus of their volunteer work for 2006

They would like to acknowledge and thank the first 3 donors to the Foundation:

- Stephanie Agg who made the first donation of \$1000 at the December AGM, Thank you so much for your generosity and leadership.
- Jane Remocker, who made a small gift to cover initial expenses

Southlands Riding Club who gave a very generous gift of \$5,000. This was the net profit from Country Fair 2005.

Over the next few months the Directors will begin to answer your questions about the Foundation and how it will benefit you and your horse. Watch this spot and the next Bulletin.

Jane Remocker, President,

Sarah Simpson, Treasurer

Jane Macdonald, Secretary.

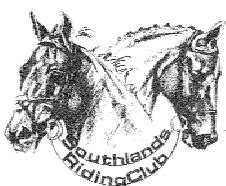
The challenge of scheduling

One of the ever present challenges that we deal with at SRC is scheduling. Scheduling of instruction space, ring times, clinics, schooling shows, jump setting, grounds work, meetings, dressage vs. hunter jumper disciplines, staff, and much, much more seems to be an ongoing uphill battle. With a reduced amount of rings available to us this winter, the pressure on everyone, members, instructors, board members and staff is much greater.

In recognizing that this is a members' club, we have established a policy that **no lessons will**

be held at SRC on Sundays during events.

We are hoping that the implementation of this policy will contribute to better traffic control, more available ring space as well as assist us in making the rings safer environments in which to ride. We appreciate everyone's patience while we alter systems in an attempt to improve the current systems in place. As everyone involved from the board to the office staff are riders too, we appreciate and empathize with our members frustrations, as we too experience many of the same concerns. Spring will be whole heartedly welcomed by us!



MASTER SITE PLAN

Steve Buckman who is currently building our cross country jumps is close to completion. Another reason to look forward to the dryer weather will be that we can place his creations in the cross country course. He has very creatively incorporated our SRC logo, Summer Classic Logo and Vancouver Pony Club's logo into some of the elements. We have had some wonderful donations come in response to the publication that went out reviewing the plans for the cross country course. For a refresher on the entire overview, visit our website at www.southlandsridingclub.com and click on the master site plan toggle. For more information about Steve, visit his website at :

<http://www.surrey.quik.com/sbuckman/index.html>

