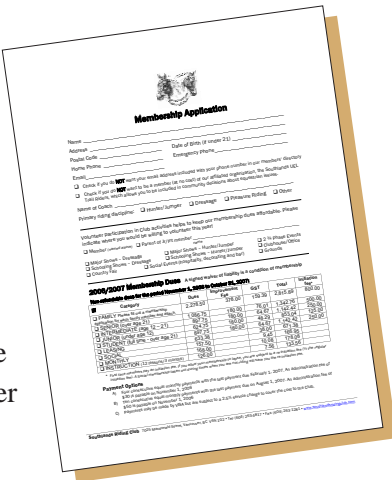




Membership Update for 2006-07

The Club's membership year ends on October 31, which means your dues are due at the end of this month. You'll be receiving your membership renewal form in the mail shortly (if you haven't already), and you will want to take note of some changes:

Membership Dues: The Board of Directors has approved a small increase in dues, to partially offset increases in operating costs. The Club has been able to avoid increasing dues for the past five years, but with the cost of living index rising on average by three percent annually, this has led to a gradual erosion in the Club's ability to keep up with the cost of providing the same level of service. The Club has faced significant increases over the past five years in property taxes, as well as experiencing the trickle-down effect of increased gas prices (which tends to be reflected in the cost of everything that requires delivery). Although our shows help to subsidise the cost of membership by contributing to the Club's operating budget, membership dues provide by far the biggest percentage of SRC's revenue. The good news – the 4% increase approved by the Board works out to an additional \$3.62 per month on a Senior membership, \$2.99 per month on an Intermediate or Student membership, and \$2.08 per month on a Junior membership.



Email Address: In response to requests by members, we are adding email addresses to the phone list published in the Winter Horscope. If you would like your email address to be used for Office communications only, please check off the box on the membership renewal form to indicate that you do not want your email address to be included on the phone list.

WHAT'S GOING ON

- 13** Bonny Bonnelo returns to Southlands for a **Dressage Clinic** on October 13 and 14 in the Indoor Arena. Spectators are welcome, free of charge.
- 15** **Dressage Percent Day** season gets under way! Following the first % Day on October 15, they are scheduled to take place on the first Sunday of each month from November to April. Entry forms are now available at the Clubhouse and on the SRC website.
- 29** Get your costume on and come to the **Halloween Playday** on Sunday, Oct 29.

Note that SRC rules stipulate that the Club membership list is for the private use of members only and may not be copied or used for any other purpose.

Riding Discipline: Please check the box indicating your primary riding discipline, so that we can make sure that the Club's shows, clinics and events remain in sync with the interests of our members.

Volunteer Interests: Another way in which we keep dues (and entry fees at our shows) as affordable as they are is to encourage everyone to volunteer in some way throughout the year. We're encouraging parents of Junior and Intermediate members to get involved as well. Letting us know where you're willing to help out will make life easier for our event organizers (who are often volunteers themselves), and cut down on unnecessary phone calls.

COMPLIMENTS & COMPLAINTS

A new feature of the Bulletin where you can find out what people have been saying at and about the Club!

Received at the Office: Thanks! You were all awesome! The hay pile was an inspiration! The Horse Entertainment was the best yet! And arranging for a llama to be born minutes after its mum arrived was a high point for a lot of thrilled early attendees. Congratulations!

Many, many compliments have been circulating about the wonderful job done by our Country Fair and Hoe Down party organizers, volunteers and participants. Despite the less than ideal weather conditions, the Fair was surprisingly well attended and raised a respectable \$20,000, some of which will go toward finishing off our current site improvements (the cross country course and second lunge ring).

Noted by one of our members: "Don't forget to adjust the lights as the days get shorter – every year we end up riding in the dark for half an hour while they catch up."

What are we doing about the lights? Those on manual timers (the lights on the McCleery Golf Course side of the property, and the Indoor) have been adjusted, and will be monitored weekly by Zoltan. All other outdoor lights on the property, including the Covered arena, are activated by photo cells – when it's dark (or even gloomy during the day), they will turn on automatically.

Country Fair Fact File

Did you know that the Country Fair's success is due to the efforts of **OVER 250 VOLUNTEERS?!** You can read all about the Fair in the Fall Horscope, which will be published in November.

Highlights at a glance:

Visitors in 2006 approx. 3,000
Animals born during fair 1
Silent Auction final bid total \$8,400
Partiers at the Hoe Down 170
Pony rides given 565
\$\$ raised for the Club \$20,000

See you next year!

So Long Telf, Hello Molly!

The Board of Directors has accepted the resignation of Director Telfer Maynard, who is leaving Southlands at the end of the year to pursue a new career in Air Traffic Control (evidently serving on the Board wasn't quite stressful enough!). Telf starts training in Edmonton in January, but in the meantime is spending some time in Europe with Rick, Jennifer and Tik, where Tik is competing. Thanks to Telf for serving on the Board over the past year, as well for as his considerable contribution to Club events.

Molly Henry has been selected as the Junior/Intermediate representative to the Board. Molly will be attending meetings as the "voice" of our Junior and Intermediate members, ensuring that their interests are represented in Board deliberations and decisions. Molly joins Parent Representative Debbie Anderson in this important consultative role. SRC thanks Molly for taking on this commitment!

—October Events—

The **Bonny Bonnelo Clinic** on October 13 and 14 has one spot available, due to a rider having to withdraw. Call the office soon if you're interested in riding in this popular clinic. Spectators are welcome, free of charge.

The first **Dressage Percent Day** of the Winter season will be held on October 15. You still have time to enter, but don't delay (entries close one week before the date of the show, or when the ring is full). Entry forms are available in the Clubhouse lobby and can be downloaded from the SRC website.

Come on down and haunt the Club on October 29 when the annual **Halloween Playday** returns to the Indoor. The event kicks off with a costume class, followed by flat classes, and we'll be bringing out the "spooky stuff" with Clear Round Jumping over a seasonally decorated course. All heights will be available from ground poles up, so bring your horse or pony out for a fun time and treats for every competitor! Check the Clubhouse or the SRC website www.southlandsriddingclub.com for more details.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME CHANGE ON OCTOBER 29! DON'T BE LATE!

A reminder that the Office is now taking registrations for the John Turner and Claudia Cojocar clinics scheduled for November. These are filling steadily, and registrations are on a first come (and paid), first served basis.



Hunter Jumper Winter Events

The Hunter/Jumper Instructors met in September to come up with a program of Winter schooling days that will meet our members' training needs. We're introducing a few changes as a result, and welcome your feedback!

Instead of scheduling schooling days back to back, with Hunters on Saturday and Jumpers on Sunday, they will be one-day events, alternating Hunter and Jumper courses. This change was made in response to members who indicated that they would support both events, but did not necessarily want to come two days in a row.

The Jumper days will continue in last year's format, which was generally well received and supported. 15-minute time blocks can be reserved to be used however you like – please bring your own helper to adjust the height of fences. SRC members and instructors will be given the first opportunity to sign up, with bookings open to non-members a week later. We have reduced the cost this year to \$15 for SRC members.

Renewal Reminder

One more reminder about the policy that has been adopted for the coming year regarding late membership renewals:

Allowing for an initial week's "grace period", late membership renewals received after November 7 will be assessed a surcharge of \$25. Paying dues after December 1 will result in a surcharge of \$50, paying after January 1 will result in a surcharge of \$100, and in order to renew membership after February 1 members will have to pay the full re-initiation fee.

New members may of course join at any time throughout the year; this policy applies to renewals only.

The Club provides several payment options for membership dues: payments can be spread over a series of four or ten post-dated cheques, or payment can be made by VISA. Details of each option are specified on the current membership renewal form

A new addition this year will be a Hunter schooling day in the same format as the Jumper day above, only with a "show quality" hunter course, using our show materials/fillers etc. This event will be in the Covered arena, to allow for "real world" distances, and to allow riders to school under the same conditions they will encounter at the Summer Classic (though hopefully not the weather).

In February, a full Hunter schooling show is planned, complete with judged classes, "show quality" courses, and warmups the night before.

Dates are as follows:

Hunter Schooling Day	December 10
Jumper Schooling Day	January 21
Hunter Schooling Show	February 18
Jumper Schooling Day	March 25

PEDESTRIAN or EQUESTRIAN?

Please help to keep the Club safe by sticking to the "people areas" when you're not on your horse, and by making sure your pedestrian guests – spectators and helpers – do the same. When the field and cross country areas are open, they should be considered to be riding spaces, just like the rings. Safe areas for spectators include anywhere that there are bleachers beside the rings, the berm alongside the Big Ring (where there are bleachers located), the East and West ends of the Dressage and Carnarvon rings (the "short sides"), and the seating area at the South end of the Indoor. Everyone is welcome in the horse-free area around the Clubhouse. While pedestrians are allowed on the Track, they should move to the side and yield to passing horses (sounds obvious, but it doesn't always happen!). Please also make sure that your children are supervised when in these areas, so that everyone can enjoy the Club facilities safely!

**Are you missing anything from your kitchen?
We still have some utensils at the Clubhouse
that were left after the Hoe Down's Chili Cook-
Off. Please come and retrieve your pots and
pans before they disappear ...**

UPCOMING GROUNDS PROJECTS

Currently, the Durante Kreuk Landscape Architectural firm is working on a comprehensive drainage plan for the entire SRC property. This company is an expert in developing drainage systems for our wet river delta situation here in Southlands (it did all the drainage at McCleery Golf Course a few years ago). The plan proposes a main drainage line that runs down the centre of the property, through the wettest part of the cross country course, ending in a sump pump that will drain the property into the Carnarvon Street ditch. The company is now working to design a consolidated plan of drains, elevations, and grading to collect water from all rings, track, and field into this main line. The installation of the main line will be a SRC grounds priority in the upcoming budget year, and the remainder of the proposed drainage system will be designed in such a way that it can be implemented in stages as funds become available and will be flexible enough to accommodate future grounds projects.

Once the main drainage line is in place, we can turn our attention to working on the permanent components of the cross country course that members identified as their number one grounds priority at the April 2005 open house. This year is the final year of the special assessment on membership dues, and all proceeds from

it will go towards cross country improvements. Cross country design expert Steve Buckman (the person who built all our wonderful portable jumps) is currently working on putting together a proposal for constructing a water complex, a devil's dyke, and a bank. Over the next couple of months he will be doing mock-ups and budget figures for several design and location options, which will be reviewed and evaluated by interested instructors and members who sit on the cross-country committee. All SRC members will also have the opportunity to review the proposed permanent jumps before they are built, which will occur next spring at the very earliest.

If you have any questions about these or any other grounds projects, please contact the SRC office.



Ring Use During Weekend Events

Schooling shows and clinics will be taking place throughout the winter months, and are usually scheduled in the Covered or Indoor arenas. When there is an event going on, there will be three jumps available in the other covered space. Lessons can still be booked according to the usual capacity: one jumping lesson **OR** one group flat lesson **OR** two private flat lessons.



Contact Us

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Bulletin

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Deadlines

Fall Horscope: October 30, 2006
November Bulletin: October 21, 2006

Rule Reminder

Q: What Club rule is broken most often?

A: And the winner is ... Rule #31! A rider who knocks down (or dismantles) a fence must reset it.

Close runners-up are:

Rule #29 – Anyone who raises the height of a jump to higher than 3'6" must return it to a height of no more than 3'6" before leaving the ring.

and Rule #42 – No one may sit on arena fences or railings.

If you're curious about what rules you may be breaking, refresh your memory by checking out the rules on the Club website.