

INIGATE

THE IN'S & OUT'S OF OUR COMPETITIVE COMMUNITY

Sharing the
Fun & Success
of Young Riders



This issue is **BIG**



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FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear OHJA Members and Friends,

As the leaves start to change color and a crisp breeze fills the air, we look ahead to our beautiful fall horse show season with excitement and anticipation. It has been an incredible year of growth, camaraderie, and achievements within our equestrian community, and I am excited to share some updates and insights with you.

First and foremost, I want to express my gratitude to our dedicated members, trainers, riders, and volunteers who make the OHJA the vibrant and thriving organization it is. Your passion for the sport and commitment to its excellence is truly inspiring.

The 2023 show season has been a remarkable success, with numerous outstanding performances and unforgettable moments. I want to commend all of our riders for their hard work, determination, and sportsmanship. From the OHJA Nations Cup Program that we ran in Ottawa in July to our Derby and Grand Prix Bonus Program for Professionals and Junior/Amateurs, we have experienced some wonderful success this season. As we turn our sights to the fall, we are excited to offer some incredible programs and awards again this year at the Eastern Canadian Championships.

Photo by:
Mackenzie Clark



We are thrilled to welcome back the banquet on Friday, November 24th at the Symes in Toronto after a 3-year hiatus. We have a very special evening planned to recognize and profile this year's many member accomplishments. There will be something for everyone. Tickets are on sale now and will go quickly so please make sure you get yours soon.

In addition to our competitive achievements, the OHJA has been working diligently to enhance our community's member experience. We recognize that the points management program has been bumpy this season and we are committed to improving the experience for next year. I want to personally thank our members for their understanding and patience as we continue to navigate these technical challenges.

Looking ahead, we are excited for the remainder of the year and beyond. None of this would be possible without the incredible support of our sponsors, officials, and volunteers. Your contributions are invaluable and allow us to continue promoting the sport we love.

As we reflect on the year gone by and anticipate the challenges and joys that lie ahead, let us remember the core values of sportsmanship, respect, and camaraderie that make our association so special. Together, we can continue to build a vibrant and inclusive community that celebrates the beauty and tradition of our special sport.

Wishing you all a safe, successful, and enjoyable fall season filled with memorable rides and cherished moments with your equine partners.

Warm regards,

Victoria McDonald
OHJA President

Fall 2023

Remembering Moffat Dunlap

The OHJA extends its deepest condolences to the friends and family of Moffat Dunlap on his recent passing. Moffat was an integral part of the Canadian Equestrian community. He was a member of the Canadian Equestrian Team (CET) for 20 years winning a bronze medal at the 1967 Pan American Games and Team Gold at the 1970 World Championships.

In addition, to his commitment to competition, he served on a number of boards throughout his equestrian career including Jumping Team Chairman of the CET at the 1984 Olympics, Canadian Pony Club Director, Canadian Horse Council, Canadian Horse Show Association and Horse Show Chairman and President of the Royal Winter Fair.

We thank him for his contribution and dedication for our sport. He will be missed.

BALANCING Horses & School

Academic options for aspiring young riders

By Heather McCann-Cuddy



We all know how difficult it can be to balance the demands of a busy academic schedule and athletic goals. This can be even more challenging given the nature of hunter/jumper sports and the long hours of riding, training, and driving to and from the barn. How can aspiring young equestrians devote enough time to succeed at both? Through an investigation of programs currently offered in Ontario schools and discussions with school administrators, teachers and guidance counsellors you can determine the best fit for your young rider's academic and equestrian developmental needs.

Emma Mooney and Dragon
Photo by: Heather McCann-Cuddy

5

ways to balance
school & riding.

Ontario's Elite Athlete Program

Ontario has a specialized Elite Athlete Program that is available to students at specific public and private schools. To qualify for this program, athletes must provide documentation of a training schedule of at least 12-15 hours per week during the school day. Students must also compete at a provincial, national, or international level and must provide a letter of verification by an Equine Canada certified coach. Students may attend either a morning program (to accommodate afternoon riding) or an afternoon program (to accommodate morning riding). Their academic courses are organized by the school to accommodate school absences due to training and competition needs. However, only a few schools offer this specialized, multi-sport program in each region, and can be difficult to access if the student is not local to the school. Most school boards select applicants based on athletic merit above and beyond the basic provincial competitive requirements while the Toronto District School Board selects applicants by lottery.

Many private schools also offer the Ontario Elite Athlete Program to students with a wide range of accommodations. With the same criteria as public schools, private schools help students balance the demands of horse showing and academic needs with flexibility. This may require students to negotiate school assignments to submit work in advance of horse shows or after them. Counsellors work with students to develop time management skills so students can meet academic course requirements while training and competing at horse shows.

Communicate with Teachers, Guidance Counsellors, and Riding Coaches

All aspiring top equestrians need to balance their academic and riding goals. If your young equestrian knows they will be away Fridays, during the Royal Winter Fair or competing in the United States during

the winter, share these schedules with teachers and administrators and ask to complete work in advance. Student athletes should demonstrate a willingness to manage their course requirements, learning needs, and assessments proactively by outlining their academic and athletic plans at the beginning of the year with clearly defined goals. Most students will require the support of teachers to help understand course content or subject specific skills so establish these important partnerships early in the school year. Likewise, talk to your riding coach and outline your goals to collaborate and partner with your child's teachers. Sam Walker, named Equestrian of the Year by Equestrian Canada in 2018 and also Junior Equestrian of the Year in 2018 and 2019 (equestrian.ca, 01 Jan 2019) successfully managed his academic and athletic goals by completing online classes through the ILC (see below) in conjunction with the support of public school teachers. Sam credits his teachers who helped him prepare for Florida horse shows and school absences by providing advance packages of schoolwork, to be completed in conjunction with the ILC program with the support of tutors.

Ontario Curriculum Online Learning Programs

Ontario provides the TVO ILC which is an online learning program that offers the Ontario High School curriculum completely online. It offers 144 flexible high school courses from grades 9-12 so students can earn secondary school diplomas. Without set classes, students can study whenever and wherever they want and have up to 10 months to complete their courses. Some private schools like Holy Trinity School in Richmond Hill and Blyth Academy, with a variety of GTA locations, offer fully online Ontario curriculum school courses. It is significant to note that as we've seen with Covid, online learning works well for some students but not all, with a focus on individual academic learning rather than collaboration, social emotional or interpersonal leadership development. One on one online teaching support can vary from program to program. This may benefit individually motivated learners but can prove a challenge to those who learn best with in-person instruction or peer interaction. Online learning is a careful decision to be

made with consultation of school administrators and teachers, in the best interests of students and families.

Summer School Credits and 5 Year Plans

Given the 110 hourly school requirements per year per credit for Ontario Secondary school courses and the need to take time away from school, some students may be best served with greater flexibility for school completion. They can reduce their winter course load with additional summer courses to accommodate riding during the day or competitions in the United States through the winter. Students taking advanced academic courses such as AP or the academically rigorous International Baccalaureate may wish to extend their high school years with a 5th year to allow for absences while meeting the high academic requirements of these specific programs.

No matter which option you choose, know that your child's equestrian goals can be matched with their academic needs. Knowing your child's learning and extracurricular goals is the first step to planning their high school courses and credits. Partnering with their school, teachers and riding coaches will help you to determine the best programs and options for your aspiring successful young equestrian.



Brooklyn Fraser-Loew and Stoneleigh
Photo by: Heather McPherson



Aarya & Brownlands Last Call
Photo by: Laurel Jarvis

My recruitment process started in my senior year of high school. I was very late to start and this had its disadvantages for sure but was certainly not impossible. I started by reaching out to almost every school and introducing myself as a rider and a student and voiced my interest in their programs. I included highlights of my riding and academics as well as pictures and videos. As time went on, I had a few phone calls and kept sending videos and results after every or every other show.

AVEREY

By now I had a rough idea of which schools I was interested in. I planned to a couple of unofficial visits with coaches to come meet them and see the school and barn. This was so beneficial to me and my end choice. Fresno State was the last school I visited and was by far my favourite school, team, and environment. The girls and coaches were so welcoming and encouraging. Offers are only made on official visits (not unofficial visits) and this is when I received my offer. I took a few days to talk with my family be sure of my decision before committing. I can't wait to be in Fresno this fall. Throughout this process, taking every opportunity to ride any horse and to use videos was very important. Coaches want riders with the ability to make every and any horse work. Its not all about good show results with one horse.

NATALIA

Hello, my name is Natalia DeHaas Saley and I will be attending Delaware State University this fall for pre-veterinary sciences. I knew Delaware was the right school for me after completing my visit. It was very apparent that the team was a close knit family and the coaches were always looking out for their riders. The coaches were interested in me not only because of my results but also my experience riding all types of horses. I've spent many years training and showing young horses, and my experience and horsemanship from growing up under my mom Becky DeHaas were both considered assets to the teams. I'm excited to have the unique experience of riding on a team, getting more experience riding many horses, and getting to experience the different American universities during away meets.

We are both very thankful for the OHJA and the experiences they have provided us with to help us in our recruitment process. We look forward to coming home in the summers to continue to compete on the OHJA circuit. A big part of being successfully recruited to be on a NCEA team is knowing someone who has already gone through the process. If anyone is interested in riding on a team or have any questions, please reach out to us!



Natalia & Cassio Rouge
Photo by: Ringside Media

By Avere-May Pritchard & Natalia DeHaas Saley

RECRUITED

INSIGHT

into how the U.S. Collegiate recruitment process works



The NCEA is the governing body for all NCAA equestrian teams. The league involves both English (fences and flat) and western (horsemanship and reining) riding. The schools where NCEA teams are found include:

- Auburn University
- Baylor University
- Delaware State University
- Fresno State University
- University of Georgia
- Oklahoma State University
- Southern Methodist University
- University of South Carolina
- Texas Christian University
- Texas A & M University
- UC Davis
- UT Martin
- Berry College
- Brown University
- College of Charleston
- Dartmouth College
- Long Island University
- University of Minnesota Crookston
- University of Lynchburg
- Sacred Heart University
- Seton Hill University
- Stone Hill University
- South Dakota State University
- Sweet Briar College
- University of the South
- Cornell University

With that being said, not all of these teams are division 1. The NCEA has a range from division 1-division 3 teams. Because of this, scholarships also vary. Some of these schools are also single discipline which means they only have an English rider roster and will only compete in the English discipline. Single and dual discipline teams are part of different leagues.



If you are in hope of receiving a scholarship the division 1 schools are the ones who would typically offer the biggest scholarships. Division 2 schools offer smaller scholarships and division 3 schools do not offer athletic scholarships. The recruitment process starts with reaching out to the coaches of NCEA teams you are interested in. The contact information for the coaches can be found on each team's website. You would first want to introduce yourself and give general information about you. You will also want to include highlights, videos, and results of your riding career, as well as your academic accomplishments such as your GPA, awards, and goals. This first step should be taken in grade 10 or 11 however we personally reached out in grade 12. Reaching out late did have its disadvantages when it came to our recruitment process because we were behind our age group and a lot of the roster spots were already filled. After this it is important to keep messaging the coaches videos and updates on your riding and results. From this, you will go on unofficial visits to schools and get to meet the coaches face to face which is crucial to see which team and school you are most interested in.

The scholarships are athletic scholarships and are not determined nor affect which program you are

planning to take. Some schools also offer academic scholarships, rewarded to students with high grades, on top of an athletic scholarship.

Each team has their own team of horses that are shared amongst everyone on the team. Some schools do offer you the opportunity to bring a horse, however it is not to be a personal horse but instead a horse for the team as a whole.

This differs from school to school. In terms of riding, teams typically practice 3 times a week with some additional practices to prepare for meets. Being on the team also requires you to train about 3 times a week in the gym as well.

Competitions involve two teams going head to head. Each section (fences, flat, horsemanship, and reining) have five riders compete from each team. A random draw takes place in regard to which horse is being used and which opposing rider you will be placed against. The two riders going against each other ride the same horse through the same patterns and the one who receives the higher score from the judges wins the point for their team. Fences courses are over jumps at a maximum height of 3'6". Flat patterns are comparable to a dressage test.

Generation Next:

Spotlight on Young Riders to Watch



Photo by: Andrew Ryback

Addison McQuaker

Horses:

Golden Ticket & Heldenlaan Z

Coaches:

Christi & Mac McQuaker

2023 Accomplishments: Circuit Champion in the Younger Small Juniors at WEC Ocala. Winner of the \$15,000 Jr/Am Derby out of 60 competitors. 2nd place finish in Wellington in the International Ring in the Small Junior Hunter Stake class. Qualified for Devon in 2023 with top placings over fences. Junior Hunter Finals - Traverse City - finished 4th overall in the Younger Small Junior division, Kentucky BlueGrass Festival - Reserve Champion Small Junior Hunter, Ontario - Multiple Champion and Reserve Champion finishes in 5 shows

Future Goals: Golden Ticket (Snoopy) and I have one big goal this year - the RAWF. Being Champion at the Royal is a long time goal of mine. Next year we want to qualify for and attend Derby Finals in Kentucky as well as return to Devon and Junior Hunter Finals. I have just started doing the equitations with and next year would like to qualify for, and attend the Canadian and American Equitation Finals. Finding a jumper for next year is also an important goal!



Photo by: Shawn McMillen

Cameron Cuddy

Pony:

Temper of Tony

Coach:

Sabrina Ivankovic

2023 Achievements: #1 Jumper Pony in Canada, Leading OHJA Pony Jumper, Co-Champion USEF Pony Jumper Championships at Pony Finals, USEF Jumper Pony Championship Style Equitation Winner, Multiple Pony Jumper championships in Ontario.

Future Goals: To compete at the Royal Winter Fair and internationally at WEF, NAYC, Young Riders and in Europe. Cameron is also looking forward to an equestrian/academic exchange program in France this March break.

2023 Achievements: 2023 special class wins/ results/ rankings: Charlotte competes in Canada and also full time in the USA on her medium pony Wishlea Star Song. She's currently ranked first overall in the medium pony national rankings in the USA. Charlotte qualified for and competed at The Devon Horse Show finishing with two ribbons over fences and receiving scores of 86 and 84. She has qualified for The Pennsylvania National Horse Show (Harrisburg) and the Washington International Horse Show (WIHS) as well as the WIHS Pony Equitation Finals. She finished 4th overall in WIHS Equitation points. She finished 7th overall at the USEF Pony Medal Finals out of 180 riders, ribboned 11th over fences at Pony Finals, and finished 4th overall at the USHJA Pony Derby Finals.

Future riding goals: Her immediate future riding goals are to ribbon at Capital Challenge, Harrisburg and Washington and to re-qualify for Devon in 2024. And competing with her two other ponies at The Royal.



Photo by: Kind Media

Charlotte Morassutti

Ponies:

Wishlea Star Song, Capiche, & Howie Do It

Coaches:

Francesca and Lois Mulligan



Photo by: Nicole Schultz

Livia Martin

Horses:
Cordai & Cascadela

Coaches:
Yann Candele (Canadian coach) &
Ryann Sassmannshausen (US coach)

2023 Achievements: Won Medium Junior Classic WEF, 4th in Chicago's Lamplight Equestrian National Grand Prix, Represented Canada at the North American Youth championships and was top ranked Canadian in the Pre Juniors and eighth overall at NAYC, Champion at Major league in the High JR/AO, Reserve Champion at Major league in the Medium JR/AO, Qualified for 2023 McClay Finals.

Future Goals: To medal again in the North America Youth Championships

To be competitive in the U25 Division and to represent Canada in the Nations Cup and the Olympic Games.



Photo by: Laurel Jarvis

Laura Nosworthy

Ponies:
Blue Heels & Glenhaven Small Talk

Coaches:
Sandi Ballard, Samantha Nosworthy,
Emily Elek, & Bob Crandall

2023 Achievements: Champion Medium pony MLSJ 5* with Blue Heels and 32nd out of 115 in Regular Small Ponies at Pony Finals.

Future Goals: I want to be good at jumping 1.10m's by improving on my equitation. If I can work hard and have good luck, I hope I can go to the Olympics.



Photo by: Spowart/Holm Equestrian Photography

Keira Smith

Horses:
Cidento, Capitano, It's Starpower

Coaches:
Mark Hayes, Jennifer Smith

2023 Achievements: Winning the CET Mini Medal twice, Junior Hunter Medal win, Jump Canada win, Junior Hunter Champion, 5th in Jump Canada Regional Medal Finals, Ranked 1st Nationally in Jump Canada medal, also competing in the CET and OHJA a couple of times with good results.

Future Goals: Looking forward to competing at the RAWF in the Juniors this year. I would like to compete on the FEI NAYC team. Next year I want to be a competitor at RAWF in the CET, 1.20m jumpers and the Jump Canada medal. Some day I would love to represent Canada at the Olympics.



Photo by: Andrew Ryback

Olivia Blaber

Horse:
Mauna Lani

Coach:
Kelley Robinson, Cimarron Show Stables

2023 Achievements: This season, Mau and I represented Team Canada at North American Youth Championships (NAYC) and had top placings in Grand Prix and U25 competition. Highlights included 3rd place finishes in the Open Welcome and Grand Prix of the same show week, at Angelstone Tournaments and 6th place out of 69 riders in the FEI 2* Opener at Major League Show Jumping, in Ottawa.

Future Goals: I hope to be able to continue to ride competitively during my university years and gain more FEI experience in Canada and at NAYC.



Photo by: Ben Radvanvi

Taylor Wood

Horses:

JoyRide & New York's Joy

Coaches:

Amy & Ian Millar

2023

Achievements: Top results in the Medium Junior (1.30m-1.35m) division and the 1.30m at the Winter Equestrian Festival. Wins in a 2* 1.20m, 1.25m and 1.30m at Spruce Meadows. OHJA 1.20m Nations cup team winner at Wesley Clover Parks. Champion in the Low Junior division (1.20m-1.25m) division at the Great Lakes Equestrian Festival. Champion in the 1.30m Jr/Am division at MLSJ Ottawa. 3rd in the Marble Hill U25 Bonus, Reserve Champion in the 1.40m Jr/Am division at Wesley Clover Parks, NAYC fourth place finish in the pre-junior (1.30m-1.35) division.

Future Goals: I want to continue learning and growing in the sport by continuing to represent Canada at the North American Youth Championships as well as jumping in my first Grand Prix. Long term goals are to be a part of the Canadian senior Nations Cup team, my dream ultimately being to represent my country at the Olympics one day!



Photo by: Ben Radvanvi

Mathilde Candele

Horses:

Ulior de Hombourg, Disco de Pleville, Clear des Terdix, Cyann d'Ivraie

Coach:

Yann Cendele

2023 Achievements: (Disco de Pleville) Jumped first grand prix with Disco in June 2023 and finished 2nd. Jumped \$50,000 RBC Grand Prix at Wesley Clover Parks and finished 3rd. NAYC Individual Speed Challenge – 1st Place (Clear des Terdrix) Leading 1.30m Jr/Am division this year.(Cyann d'Ivraie) 1.30m JrAm Classic at Angelstone Labour Day Classic – 1st Place \$5,000 1.25m Angelstone Labour Day Classic – 1st Place

Future riding goals: Mathilde aims to compete at the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair, Junior Young Riders, Jump 2* Grand Prix U25 and compete in the Olympics for Canada.

2023 Achievements: 2nd in the Jump Canada regional finals, multiple Jump Canada wins, multiple tri colours on my own and some catch rides, 2nd and high point large in the OHJA pony power finals, lots of wins in the 1.20s. 2nd in the junior hunters currently top 5 in the 1.20 currently, top 10 in the larges.

Future Goals: My future goals would be to continue to get better and improve my horsemanship along with competing at big venues in the States such as junior hunter finals and be on the young riders team next year.



Photo by: Laurel Jarvis

Ava Campbell

Pony/horses:

Blueside, Cellini, Cinda Alda Z.

Coaches:

Looking Back Farm, Sandi & David Ballard

Back to School

By Sabrina Ivankovic

Coaching Young Riders



Sabrina coaching student Cameron Cuddy
Photo by: Heather McCann-Cuddy

What is your coaching background and how did you come to coach children?

I rode hunters and jumpers but began my professional career working with Sergio Campos in Longwood Florida. It was through Sergio that I was able to expand my contacts in the show world and learn from some of the best like Rodrigo Pessoa and Brianne Goutal. When I returned to Canada, I again learned from the best with Ryan and Randy Roy at Hunter's Glen Farm. They taught me how to prepare hunters for the ring and most importantly, teach adult amateurs, gaining their trust to bring out the best in riders and their horses. I discovered that even the most experienced adult amateur riders need an outside eye to help improve their riding and build confidence. Some adult amateur riders approach show season with specific competitive goals while others focus on developing skills. It was very rewarding to coach

so many riders to success from the Children's hunter divisions to the 3'6 Amateur Owners. After making the transition to Stoney Fields with the Mulligan's I came to coach children ages 4-16. I developed my own style to connect with children at different ages and stages. I figured out that I was kind of a big kid myself and was able to connect with children by focusing on why we all love the sport. Children just really love to ride. They bring so much light to every lesson. The key to teaching children is to remember ourselves at their age. Then we can encourage them to develop their skills while having fun which is the most important part of the sport.

What are the differences between coaching adults and coaching children?

Children are so open minded to learning. Kids are like sponges and really latch on to everything you explain to them. I teach children exactly how I would like to be taught myself. I always create a positive learning environment with constructive criticism, so I teach both adults and children with the same positive outlook and the same curriculum. The most valuable key to teaching children is to help boost their confidence and self-esteem. The key to this is breaking down steps to riding and practicing small step lessons with lots of positive repetition and encouragement knowing that every child has their own path to improving. Sometimes this involves candy! I try to set both adults and children up for success no matter what and keep everything in a super positive manner. I've learned to tailor my teaching to meet the styles of my clients.

You have coached children of all ages. What are your teaching strategies to teach your youngest leadline or short stirrup riders?

This is actually the best part for me to teach since as a coach, I'm creating the foundation of skills and a love of the sport. Early learning has to be safe, fun and build confidence. The youngest rider I ever taught was 4 years old and teaching her how to canter was fantastic. As a coach, I know when young students are ready to take that next step whether it's competing in leadline, walk trot or crossrails. Young kids let you know when you have that window, you just have to look for it. There's a line; you can't hold them back and

be afraid of them falling but also need to help them take the next step while keeping them safe. The pony plays a big part in that development so when they are matched up correctly and ready to take that next step, it's time to support them. Preparing young children to compete can have its unique challenges and rewards. Once, I had nine students all competing in the same walk trot division! Sharing in their joy to win their first ribbons, no matter what the colour, is the best gift a coach can have!

“You can't hold them back and be afraid of them falling but also need to help them take the next step while keeping them safe.”

Children have diverse learning needs. How do you differentiate your teaching to meet the needs of each child? How do you bring out the best in each kid?

Every kid is different. There are benefits to working with them individually and in a group setting. One on one I can focus on individual needs while as a group it allows kids to learn by watching each other with peer support. I have one pony jumper kid who I have taught for a long time and I use his competition as motivation. I encourage him to watch and learn from more experienced riders. We watch their rounds and figure out language to help him understand ways to develop his riding further. As a coach, I also help children cope with pre-show nerves and again every kid is different. One will need to stay very focused and watch rounds until they get on and are very methodical while others need to expel extra energy by running around and jumping in the bouncy castle before they ride. As a trainer, you have to be flexible to figure out what works best for each child. At Pony Finals, I helped my client deal with the pressure by encouraging him to chat with new friends. We even

had a fun rap battle prior to going into the ring! In high pressure situations, these types of things help take the temperature down and ultimately help kids perform at their best without unneeded pressure. You try to give kids the best mental preparation without letting them know what they are about to do is huge. I have to stay very calm and collected in these moments and also have to manage parents' emotions so I can have the opportunity to have the child's full



Sabrina coaching student Alisa Gallo

attention. Kids feed off energy and I have learned that they really trust me and look to me in these moments of competition so every move I make is very important, even though I am actually just as nervous as they are because I want them to do well and have a good experience.

I have another student I teach who has an amazing feel and a really nice horse that I got the opportunity of choosing for her and plan to do in the derbies this winter in the US to qualify for junior hunter finals. My method for teaching her is totally different. I ride her horse and know him well so I help her develop technical riding because she's at an age now where she can put it all together. I have taught her since she was 11 and not on easy horses. I have let her ride all my sales horses and was able to push her a little harder than most. It will be very fulfilling to me to help her accomplish her goals knowing I was a huge part of her journey. I love being a mentor for developing young riders in their careers.

You have just started a new business. Where do you see yourself as a coach and your business in the future?

Ivankovic Equestrian is a show and training stable near Schomberg just minutes from Caledon Equestrian Park. Ivankovic Equestrian will focus on developing riders to excel in the hunter, jumper, pony and equitation rings, along with developing sales horses. We are a family-oriented barn for children, young riders and amateurs. There is something special about teaching family members of all ages at our farm and we look forward to coaching the next generation of life long riders.



Sabrina and student Cameron Cuddy at Pony Finals
Photo by: Heather McCann-Cuddy

My First Year SHOWING GOLD

NOLAN BUSCH

It all started January 2022 when my sister decided to quit her riding lessons. My Mom asked if I wanted to finish up my sister's lesson package, and to her surprise, I said yes! I was told that if I stuck it out through the frozen toes and fingers of winter riding lessons, I was officially a horse person! As the weather got warmer and we moved our lessons outside my coach Kirsten Brunner at Beaverwood farm suggested that we try the beginner cross rails division at Teen Ranch June 2022. I learned a ton that summer and realized how much I liked competing. Fast forward one year and I was loading up Beaverwood's Phoenix and heading to Caledon Equestrian Park to compete in my first ever Gold series show.

I will never forget my first gold show. I learned how to walk a course, I experienced the busy warm up



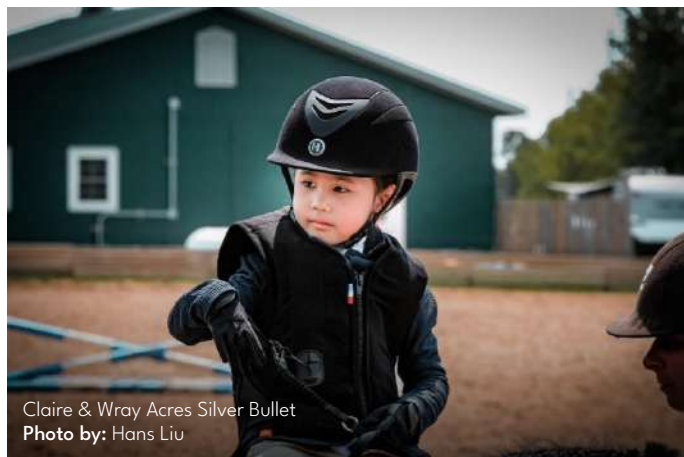
Nolan and
Beaverwoods Phoenix
Photo by: Laurel Jarvis

ring, I won my first Gold series ribbon and never looked back! I had so many mistakes (Mom calls them "learning opportunities") like going off course, knocking a rail...or three, I even crossed the timer twice giving me 4 faults on what would have been one of my best rounds. Once I could compete in the 0.6M division, Coach Kirsten suggested we try adding a few of the 0.75 M classes at the next show. I never thought it would make that big of a difference, but it took me five

0.75 rounds to finally go clear it was so frustrating!

My parents, older brother, older sisters, and Grandma were often there to cheer me on. I couldn't wait to show them what I could do. I competed well and loved the challenge of competing against so many talented riders. One of my goals for this season was to catch, one extraordinary rider in particular who consistently

sets the time to beat. I worked hard to close the time gap between us and improve at each show, but I haven't caught her yet! The most amazing part about this competition is the encouragement we get from all the familiar faces you see from show to show. I will never forget when my "fiercest competitors' " Grandmother hugged me and congratulated me for... almost catching her granddaughter!! I finally won a red ribbon (and a few other colours), experienced the victory gallop and my first Gold series tri-colour ribbon. This Gold series summer has been a crazy ride packed full of so many amazing memories. I can't wait for the next show!



Claire & Wray Acres Silver Bullet
Photo by: Hans Liu

CLAIRE LIU

Claire's favourite memory of this show season was when she enjoyed riding her pony Wray Acres Silver Bullet with friends, winning ribbons in the walk/trot and walk/trot/canter divisions, and wearing pretty show bows.



Lauren & Jubilee C.
Photo by: Leanne Burke

LAUREN BURKE

This was Lauren's first season showing ever! She has a wonderful coach by the name of Roslynd Bimm, and trains out of Compass Equestrian. Her first Gold show was at Palgrave May 16-20, 2023. Lauren Burke is 10 years old and competed in the cross-rail division on Friday afternoons. The highlight of her ENTIRE season was hearing her name announced over the P.A. system followed by her horses' name "Jubilee C." She didn't realize they did this, and for a 10 year old who has NEVER competed or shown before, she and Jubilee felt like royalty. She had a ton of great additional weeks, but I don't think she will ever forget the "first time".



Heidi with Greyson and daughters Summer and Kylie
Photo by: Spowartholm Photography

HEIDI CHIOVITTI "PONY MOM"

One of my favourite memories showing this year was actually my first time showing in the Crossrail division. I was so nervous and it took so much inner strength to muster up the courage to go into the show ring for the first time. The trips were far from perfect but that didn't matter to me. I did it! I accomplished my first goal! Seeing the pride on my daughters' faces when I dismounted my horse 'Greyson' when they ran up to congratulate me was everything! A memory I will never forget. This started my love for showing. Showing has become a place where I can destress and stay in the present. I can easily get distracted by my worries, to do lists and busy life in general. When it's just me and 'Greyson' alone in the ring the world feels still and everything else melts away and my only focus is the task at hand. Staying in the present moment doing what I love truly is the best feeling ever. I have learnt so much this past 6 months and I owe it all to Francesca and Lois Mulligan of Stoney Fields. They brought me from learning how to trot to most recently showing in the 2.3" schooling class. I will forever be grateful that they took a chance on a Pony Mama and proved to me that its never too late to follow your dreams.

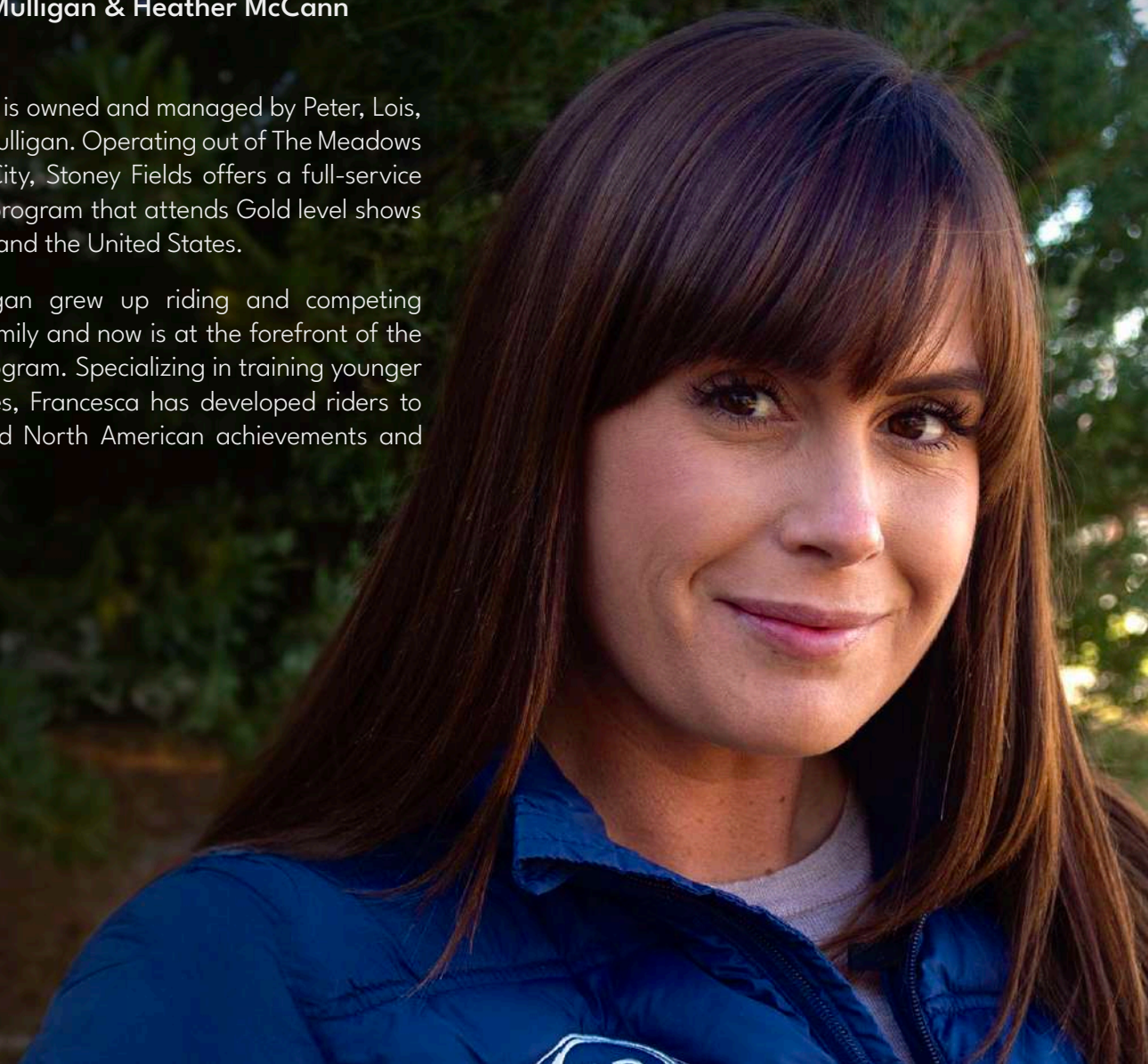
perfect partnership.

Stoney Fields'
Secret to Success

By Francesca Mulligan & Heather McCann

Stoney Fields Inc is owned and managed by Peter, Lois, and Francesca Mulligan. Operating out of The Meadows Equine in King City, Stoney Fields offers a full-service Hunter/Jumper program that attends Gold level shows in both Canada and the United States.

Francesca Mulligan grew up riding and competing alongside her family and now is at the forefront of the Stoney Fields program. Specializing in training younger riders and ponies, Francesca has developed riders to top National and North American achievements and championships.



Stoney Fields has a reputation of developing highly successful pony/rider partnerships. How does Stoney Fields prepare riders for success on the gold circuit?

Firstly, I would say that pony selection is extremely important. We work very hard to carefully select the right mount for our pony riders based on their skill level and goals. It takes time and patience to find the right pony and we are very grateful that our clients trust us to do this for them.

Once the right pony is selected...Practice, practice, and more practice!!

“Developing a great group behind the scenes is ultimately what makes it all go round, and we couldn’t do what we do without any of them.”

Lessons, training and exercises are so important. It is easy to lose the necessity of training and continuous learning amidst a busy show season. We really try to scale our program back to the basics in between shows and put a lot of emphasis on flatwork and ‘the details’.

Select the best leaders and build a strong team. Developing a great group behind the scenes is ultimately what makes it all go round, and we couldn’t do what we do without any of them. We are also very lucky to have a wonderful pony sized professional in house, Leanna Lazzari. Her involvement is crucial in the ponies’ success and our students’ learning and understanding of their mounts. Lastly a strong team of peers and parents give our riders the best support

system to help navigate their way through the ups and downs of horse showing.

What are some of the key things you look for when finding perfect pony matches for your riders?

A strong resume. Depending on the job we need the pony for of course, but when looking for young riders a resume is very important to me. Seeing experience and results in that teaching role with a variety of young riders is a very telling trait.

A kind nature and good work ethic. These ponies have a tough job and their disposition and willingness to participate is key. Ponies that show up for their kids have a special place in my heart. That doesn’t necessarily mean winning, but the ones that have the ability to build up their riders on the bad days and rise to meet them in the good days... those ponies are special.

A great canter. This doesn’t always mean the under-saddle winner. We are looking for ponies that have an uphill way of going, an easy stride and natural balance. Ponies like this teach young riders about stride control, pace changes, jump selection and so much more!

Describe your team and their roles in developing success.

Our family business has really shifted over the last 15 years. We used to focus on sales and development and now Stoney Fields is very client based.

My Mom, Lois, is the foundation of our teaching program and she does a lot of that as well as most of our administrative duties and helps me

with horse/pony selection. My Dad, Peter, handles most of our higher-level jumpers and he generally has an investment horse of his own on the go. I am responsible for most of the managerial duties within the business when it comes to organizing and scheduling all the moving parts, most client interaction, a lot of pony/horse selection and of course some of the training. There is certainly something to be said for family dynamic within a business, but we

selecting for our clients and we have had a lot of success doing it that way.

Setting attainable goals is so important. I think we work well with our clients in identifying what will work for them. Everyone has their own path and their own definition of success. Some clients are restricted by time, schedule, finances, familial responsibility... the list goes on! It’s important to build a schedule and plan



all have our strengths and use them where needed to make Stoney Fields as successful as possible. As previously mentioned, Leanna Lazzari takes time away from university to keep our horses and ponies well schooled. Leanna has been with us for over 10 years since she started with us as a pony rider herself! Our amazing team of staff at home and on the road are the glue to all the big pieces of our program and we are very proud of all of them!

Describe some of the strengths of the Stoney Fields program.

I think building relationships with fellow professionals that you trust can be a huge asset. We work with a small team of professionals and pony dealers when

around these realities and find success in it.

A good foundation. Starting our riders with the necessary skill set to be successful in the ring. Don’t skip steps, don’t cut corners and put in the work!

Work with horse care professionals that are like minded and at the top of their field. Veterinarians, Farriers, Braiders... find the best!! Thank you Meghan Waller, Brian Mullins and Michelle Davies.

Develop a team of kids that support each other. Our pony program is all ages and they are all so wonderful together. They learn from each other in and out of the ring, they help each other, they mentor each other and they’re all great cheerleaders!!

STORIES



FROM USEF PONY FINALS

KYLE BOLEN

Pony: Beaverwoods Chicklet (Medium Pony)

Trainers: Wayne McLellan & Denis Sweeney



Kyle & Beaverwoods Chicklet
Photo by: Shawn McMillen

Competing in the USEF Pony Finals at the Kentucky Horse Park was an incredible experience. I loved getting the opportunity to model as it's not something we get to do in Canada. I was able to attend a great modeling clinic taught by Bill Schaub, Traci Brooks, Robin Greenwood and Melinda Zalesky; and also got to join in a smaller clinic with Bob Crandall. I learned so much in both clinics. I also loved riding in the huge Rolex arena. My medium pony Beaverwood's Chicklet was amazing and gave me a great first Pony Finals experience. I hope to get the opportunity to go again.

PAIGE BOLEN

Pony: Smooth Moves (Small Pony)

Trainers: Wayne McLellan & Denis Sweeney



Paige & Smooth Moves
Photo by: Shawn McMillen

Riding my small pony Smooth Moves at USEF Pony Finals was probably one of the best experiences of my life! I loved everything about Pony Finals but especially loved the under saddle and jumping portions of the competition. My pony was super and made my first Pony Finals experience a great one. There were so many fun things to do when I wasn't riding such as participating in clinics, jumping kid jumps and free ice cream every day at 1pm! I also really enjoyed spending time with other participants when I wasn't riding or taking care of my pony. I hope to go again next year on my brother's medium pony.

KARSON O'CONNOR

Pony: Woodlands Elf (Medium Pony)

Trainers: Crailin Stables, Will & Jesse Dow



Karson & Woodlands Elf
Photo by: Shawn McMillen

My favourite moment at pony finals was the feeling I had when I finished my first course in the Rolex ring. I was so nervous. I had never shown in a ring like that and because I was almost at the end of the order I got more nervous as the day went on. I remember coming to my last few fences thinking "don't mess this up," it's been a pretty good trip. The moment I finished my last fence the tears just started to pour out. I could hardly see. I was so proud of my pony and proud of myself. It was a feeling I will never forget.

EVIE MCCARTHY

Pony: Woodlands Elf (Medium Pony)

Trainers: Crailin Stables, Will & Jesse Dow



Evie & Nickelodeon
Photo by: Days Like This Photography

Evie's most memorable moment was the model. She said we don't often get to practice them in Canada so was nervous and excited to be a part of that at Pony Finals.

LAUREN GONZALEZ-CHONG

Pony: Tell Me (Large Pony)

Trainers: Stoney Fields Inc, Lois & Francesca Mulligan



Lauren & Tell Me
Photo by: Shawn McMillen

While being at Pony Finals there were many amazing experiences. First off, I couldn't have asked for a better pony to pilot me around my first pony finals, I am so lucky to have such an amazing pony. One of the experiences that stood out for me was how nice, encouraging, and positive everyone was; the competitors, coaches, the people at the in gate, and the judges. No matter where I went people would say "Good luck!" "Have fun!". This made the experience even more fun than it already was because everyone is happy and cheering each other on. We are all there to have fun, try our best, ride in the Rolex ring, and make memories that will last a lifetime!

PENELOPE MORASSUTTI

Pony: I Candy (Small Pony)

Trainers: Stoney Fields Inc., Lois & Francesca Mulligan



Penelope & I Candy
Photo by: Shawn McMillen

My favourite part about Pony Finals was doing the model because it was fun. Another favourite part was foot jumping with my friends. I was proud of my pony Candy because he was great!

BRAELYNN FIFIELD

Pony: No Blushin' (Large Green)

Trainers: Jesse & Will Dow, Crailin Stables



Braelynn Fifield
Photo by: Shawn McMillen

There are so many great experiences at USEF Pony Finals, it's hard to choose just one, but if I had to, my favourite Pony Finals experience of 2023 would be feeling you have while showing there. I mean, it's a show that focuses on just ponies - how much better can that get? From flatting in the Rolex Stadium to your last jump on course, the show is all about the ponies and their riders. I love the experience of showing under a different format, which expands on your skills and tests you as a rider. And I have to say, being part of the victory gallop for the top twenty in your division is pretty cool too. It was a great experience because my dream has always been to finish in the top 20 at Pony Finals and to achieve my goal and finish 13th overall was a fantastic feeling.

ELIOT MCCARTHY

Pony: Bing Bing Kai (Green Medium Pony)

Trainers: Eden Ridge, Ashley Sinke McCarthy & Val Sinke



Eliot & Bing Bing Kai
Photo by: Shawn McMillen

Eliot's most memorable moment was walking down the ramp to the Rolex for her jumping round. She had a lot of faith in her pony to go in there and do his job.

CLAIRE BIGHAM

Pony: Morton's Catwalk (Medium Green Pony)

Trainers: Eden Ridge, Ashley Sinke McCarthy & Val Sinke



Claire & Morton's Catwalk
Photo by: Shawn McMillen

Claire's memory that sticks out. "Butterflies in my stomach, but being excited at the same time. Walking down the path into the Rolex for the jumping, just being there was enough. I walked into the ring riding my best friend knowing that this was a once in a lifetime experience for us. No matter what happened, this experience would never be forgotten."

BROOKLYN MINNEMA

Pony: Apricity (Small Pony)

Trainers: Eden Ridge, Ashley Sinke McCarthy & Val Sinke



Brooklyn & Apricity
Photo by: Shawn McMillen

My most favorite parts at Pony Finals were showing, playing with my teammates and the scavenger hunt. Going to Pony Finals has always been my dream and it was amazing. All the fun daily activities they had I really liked. Showing in the Rolex Ring was a lot of fun.

TESSA MACLEOD

Pony: Wait 4 It (Medium Pony)

Trainers: Eden Ridge, Ashley Sinke McCarthy & Val Sinke



Tessa & Wait for It

Tessa says her favourite memory was walking down the ramp into the Rolex ring for her over fences because she knew it was such a big deal to be competing in that ring and she felt so accomplished to even get the opportunity.

LAURA NOSWORTHY

Pony: Glenhaven Small Talk (Small Pony)

Trainers: Emily Elek & Bob Crandall



Laura & Glenhaven Small Talk
Photo by: Shawn McMillen

My experience at my first PF was AMAZING! I got to learn new things to improve in my riding and I got to ride the best pony for my first time. Next time I go to Pony Finals I hope to earn a ribbon and make Bob and Emily Elek proud.

CHARLOTTE MORASSUTTI

Ponies: Wishlea Star Song (Medium Pony & USEF Pony Medal) Howie Do It (Small Pony)

Trainers: Stoney Fields Inc., Lois & Francesca Mulligan



Charlotte & Howie Do It
Photo by: Days Shawn McMillen

I was so happy that I got to go to Pony Finals for the second year. Something that I loved doing was riding in the Rolex ring. I loved riding in that ring because my ponies Howie Do It and Wishlea Star Song love showing in big rings. Something I was proud of was getting a better ribbon than last year. Someone I was proud of is my sister because this was her first Pony Finals and she is only 7! I love Pony Finals and I am excited to do it again next year!

CAMERON CUDDY

Pony: Temper of Tony (Jumper Pony)

Trainer: Sabrina Ivankovic



Cameron & Temper of Tony
Photo by: Shawn McMillen

My favourite memory of Pony Finals was competing in the finals and landing the last jump knowing we jumped four clear rounds! Tony and I have never jumped such big 1.15m fences and I'm so proud of him! My other favourite memory was hacking on the Rolex Cross Country field. Pony Finals was an amazing experience!

By Cameron Cuddy

REPRESENT



Cameron & Temper of Tony
Photo by: Shawn McMillen

Pony Finals was a really incredible experience. My name is Cameron Cuddy and I was the first Canadian to be invited to show in the USEF Pony Jumper Championship at Pony Finals in Kentucky with my pony Temper of Tony. This was my first time competing in the United States and in a championship format, both of which were new to me. Instead of Speed or Two Phase rounds, the scores from each day were added together for the last day of finals. Each day the jumps got bigger; from 1.05m on day one to 1.15m on day three.

Day One there was a jog. I trotted Tony in front of the judges and we did it all correctly on our first try. We had a schooling round where I got a bit of a long distance to the last jump and had a rail which made me slightly nervous for the real class. However I tried to not let the same thing happen and I had a clear round in the class that day. The jumps were all just a meter so it wasn't too hard but I knew it was only going to get higher from there on out. There was one airy jump with white rails but we got over it no problem.

On the second day the jumps were 1.10m high and there was one airy jump with a plank that I had to watch out for. They also put a plank as the top rail of another jump to psych you out. It was the same course for the second class but I made sure to not get too confident and ride carefully, so Tony and I had a second clear round. While I was walking the courses, I had to come up with various strategies to overcome the different jumps that might have posed a challenge. This was usually just showing Tony jumps or approaches that could cause an issue.

My coach Sab has really helped me improve my riding by teaching me how to think about the tricks on a course and how to ride the best tracks for my pony. Tony is really amazing. He always brings his A game and is so competitive. He is a very brave and careful pony and never likes to hit a rail. I worried that Tony might be tired from the long trip to Kentucky but he had lots of energy and was as excited as I was to be there. This made me feel very confident for the final day even though the jumps were much higher at 1.15m. There were a couple of really big oxers in that course, only adding to the difficulty. I was so proud of Tony for jumping all of them clear! We had no faults over 3 days and 4 rounds and tied for champion with

the top ranked American. I also won the Jumper Style/Equitation award which made Sab and my family really happy. I definitely felt the pressure to ride well when the announcer told everyone that I was representing Canada and was really proud when I saw people waving Canadian flags when we finished our rounds.



Co-Champions Cameron Cuddy & Reagan Voxman
Photo by: Chronicle of the Horse

C NADA

It was really fun to be able to compete at this very prestigious event and share first place with Reagan Voxman on the podium. I made new friends with Canadian and American kids and had a great time hanging out with them at Pony Finals. It was a real honour to represent Canada and I'd love to compete internationally again and maybe even at the Olympics. I also want to thank Struck Apparel for sponsoring me and the OHJA for providing a travel bursary. Congratulations to all the other Pony Jumper competitors and all the Canadians who showed at Pony Finals.



Tonia Ballantyne & N.E.A.
Photo by: Tonia Ballantyne

These are all things I had no idea about until I became a horse show parent.

“Charlotte has the opportunity to ticket before she shows.”

“Her division will consist of three trips over fences and then the hack.”

“If Charlotte would like to ring ride, be sure to be there nice and early!”

my breath! Forget about regular facial expressions, too. Those are out the window when Charlotte is competing, replaced with all sorts of facial contortions, which can end up looking pretty funny, while I’m also holding my breath. I think the only time I start to resemble myself is when she finishes a trip and I finally breathe a sigh of relief.

Hurdle number two – show results. It’s easy to celebrate when your rider does well and feels confident in the job they and their mount have done, but the real challenge comes when things don’t go as well and they begin to doubt themselves and their abilities. It’s a delicate balance between encouraging them to do their best, but also pushing them when you

hurdles to get over is when the shows stop. It always feels weird when we’re not in the car, on our way to ticket, simply exercise her pony or to ring ride. The “hype” and excitement around show weeks is definitely there and you can feel like something is missing once those weeks are over. I think it’s the months and months of training, and hours put in at the barn that culminate in this show season for your child – a show season that seems like it’s over in the blink of an eye! I’m not sure if Charlotte feels the same way (although she has agreed with me at times), but I know it’s something I miss when we aren’t in the throws of it. I can only hope that we’ve got more show years ahead of us because I love being her number one cheerleader!

It's show time!

By Tonia Ballantyne

Confessions of a Pony Mom!

I grew up riding horses, taking lessons, and participating in schooling shows. I even dabbled with Pony Club. All of my experiences as a child growing up “in the barn” have definitely helped me benefit my own daughter with her riding experience and the ability to help her around the barn and at shows. However, I still went into this year of her showing, on the ‘A’ Circuit, with so much more to learn!

Our daughter, Charlotte, began riding at the age of six. I’m not going to lie - my heart melted when she said she wanted to learn how to ride horses. It’s what I grew up doing and fell in love with from an early age. To see my daughter follow in the same footsteps was something I knew I’d hop on board with or should I say, “Get into the saddle with” (knowing that we’d likely never see another vacation... due to time and money!) Even though knowing this was a sport that

we could enjoy together, nothing quite prepares you for the roller coaster of emotions you experience when your own child takes to the ring.

I think that was the first hurdle I had to get over as a horse show parent – the nerves I had for Charlotte when she was competing. We want so much for our children to experience success in the ring, yet we also know it’s important for them to learn from mistakes and continue to grow as young riders. Hiding out, under some trees, has generally been my go to spot when watching her on show days. When she asks me to film some of her trips, I begrudgingly do so to make her happy, even though I would rather be several feet back from the fence, cheering her on quietly. Now, that being said, it does not stop me from counting the strides between jumps or looking for those finicky lead changes, but I always seem to do so while holding

know that is what they need. You want them to enjoy their show experiences, regardless of results, and want them to continue because you know they would not feel the same without life in the show ring. Charlotte’s coaches have been amazing this season, knowing exactly what to say and when to say it. It’s always amazing when your child has coaches who are just like “bonus parents”, there to support and redirect when necessary. Although I’d love to be the one to talk with Charlotte after she’s competed, I learned, a long time ago, that it’s best for the first words to come from her coaches. I’ve learned more to just be there to listen if and when she needs me. Well, that and to spoil her pony with treats after a job well done.

As crazy as life can be during those show weeks, driving back and forth to Palgrave, for example, juggling horses, school and homework, one of the last

Although I often feel like an Uber driver, going back and forth from the barn five to six days a week, supporting my daughter in the sport she loves is a true gift. If the day comes where she would prefer to just pleasure ride and no longer compete, I would be there to support that, too. I’m not sure it would be an easy transition if she ever just walked away from riding altogether, but I know I would cherish all of the “barn time” and show experiences we have had. For right now, joking with one of her coaches about how we should just build an extra room onto the barn (because we are there so often) seems like the perfect spot to be in. Here’s to looking forward to set up day tomorrow, and getting ready for another round of shows to finish off the season... Giddy-up!

By Charlotte Ballantyne

Just have fun!

Showing was never something that I was sure I wanted to do. I love riding horses, spending a lot of my free time at the barn, and enjoying friends I've made there who share the same passion.

I've competed in many schooling shows over the past seven years, but when I was approached with the idea that I could show on the A circuit at Caledon, I was resistant. I did not like the idea of being under that kind of pressure. I think my main fear was disappointing my coaches and my parents. Both my parents and my coaches encouraged me to just give it a go, and see if it was something I enjoyed. They also reminded me to be confident in my abilities, and to think of showing as continued learning and growth.

After being at Skyland Stables for six months, the opportunity to lease my first pony came up. Leasing N.E.A. Starstruck, aka 'Brodie', meant that I would be preparing both of us for the 2023 show season. It took a short adjustment period to get to know one another, but before I knew it, the first show in May was upon us. My nerves were through the roof, but I managed to complete my trips and the hack, earning a 1st and 8th over fences in the Children's Pony division. We have continued to do



Charlotte Ballantyne & N.E.A Starstruck at Angelstone
Photo by: Tonia Ballantyne

well throughout this season and are wrapping things up with our final shows now in September. All of the early morning ring rides, ticketing the week leading up to shows, and other preparation it takes

to be as successful as possible, have led Brodie and I to this point. I've learned so much, Brodie has learned so much, and we've created a bond like no other. Of course, I have made a ton of mistakes, all necessary to further my growth as a rider.

I could not have done any of this without the support of my amazing coaches (who always reminded me to get out there and "Just have fun!"), friends, and of course my family. They have all been so incredibly supportive throughout the whole season, and I cannot thank them enough. I can't forget Brodie who has been the perfect first pony for me! So many great memories have been made that I'll always have with me. When I move forward into next season with a new ride, I can look back at the ribbons Brodie and I have earned this year, and smile knowing that all of the time, effort and love put into them was 100% worth it.

Challenge THE GREAT PONY

The Great Pony Challenge was hosted at the Caledon Equestrian Park on June 30. Open to small, medium and large ponies, 13 Teams and a total of 41 riders competed for the top spot in the Great Pony Challenge and the #rideforzara Trophy.

Top Individual Rider

1st Place with a score of 88 - Charlotte Morassutti & I Candy

2nd Place - Logan McDonell & Sugarbush Showdown

3rd Place - Kyle Bolen & Beaverwoods Chicklet

Top Overall Team Score

- 1st - Mario Villains
- 2nd - Sesame Street
- 3rd - M&M's

Best Team Costume

- 1st - Over The Moon
- 2nd - Mario Cart
- 3rd - Sesame Street

Best Decorated Piñata

Sweet M&M's



Great Pony Challenge Competitors
Photo by: Laurel Jarvis



Charlotte Morassutti & I Candy
Photo by: Laurel Jarvis



Logan McDonell & Sugarbush Sowdown
Photo by: Laurel Jarvis



Kyle Bolen & Beaverwoods Chicklet
Photo by: Laurel Jarvis



Braelyn Fifield & Karson O'Connor
Photo by: Jesse Dow



Charlotte Morassutti & I Candy
Photo by: Laurel Jarvis



Team Over the Moon: Faye Ferguson, Emi Fines, Laura Nosworthy, Braelyn Fifield, Karson O'Connor, Mackenzie Cheng
Photo by: Jesse Dow



Aarya Armogan & Rajah
Photo by: Laurel Jarvis



Penelope Morassutti & Howie Do It
Photo by: Laurel Jarvis



Team Sesame Street: Logan McDonell, Estee Letimonier, Sloan Letimonier, Ava Campbell
Photo by: Laurel Jarvis



Aarya Armogan & Brownlands Last Call
Photo by: Laurel Jarvis



Team Mario Villains: Rose Aline Beland, Aarya Armogan & Charlotte Morassutti
Photo by: Laurel Jarvis

CELEBRATE YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AT THE

OHJA AWARDS BANQUET

November

6:30 P.M. AT THE SYMES, TORONTO
AWARDS - DINNER - DANCE

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT OHJA.CA



\$125 ADULTS
\$75 CHILDREN

BY VICTORIA & MEGHAN MCDONALD

The Banquet with BLING

The Banquet Chair shares her vision of an elegant evening of recognition & fun.



Meghan & California
Photo by: Sportfot

VICTORIA

Thank you for joining us today, Meghan. After 3 years, the highly anticipated OHJA Banquet is returning to the events calendar, and we're excited to hear what is in store for us. To start, could you tell us what makes this year's banquet special?

MEGHAN

It's my pleasure to be leading the planning of this year's banquet especially with it returning after a 3-year hiatus. We are so looking forward to welcoming everyone back together to celebrate the accomplishments of our members and share in an unforgettable evening of great food, fabulous entertainment, camaraderie and sportsmanship. There will be something for everyone.



Photo by: Laurel Jarvis

VICTORIA

That sounds fantastic! Can you give us a sneak peek into what attendees can expect at this year's banquet?

MEGHAN

Of course! We have a lot in store for our members, their guests and sponsors. First and foremost, we've chosen a beautiful venue that exudes elegance and style. The Symes is located in Toronto and provides a fitting backdrop for this special occasion. This unique location offers an Art Deco vibe in a space that has been restored and restyled for its 21st century renaissance.

Guests can look forward to a red-carpet entrance, cocktail hour and Shirley Temple Bar for the kids, followed by a sumptuous dinner with options for everyone. We will offer a kid's menu as well as vegetarian options for the adults. Dessert won't disappoint as we have an ice cream sandwich bar and candy bar for the kids to take advantage of and for those adults with a sweet -tooth we look forward to welcoming you to these exciting stations.

VICTORIA

Great food and creative meal choices are always crowd-pleasers. What about awards and recognition?

VICTORIA

That sounds amazing! Can you tell us about the entertainment planned for the banquet?

VICTORIA

It all sounds incredibly exciting! Lastly, how can OHJA members and their guests get their tickets?

VICTORIA

Thank you, Meghan, for giving us a glimpse into what promises to be an extraordinary evening. It's going to be a night to remember! Thank you for all that you are doing to create this unforgettable event.

MEGHAN

Absolutely! Our awards segment will be the highlight of the evening. This year we have added some new divisions and programs to our line up and our year end prizes will not disappoint. We will have a photo booth available to capture the unforgettable moments of the evening along with some fun candid shots. We will also have some prize giveaways.

MEGHAN

Certainly, we will have a DJ and dancing into the evening with music for everyone. In addition, we will have a large video screen profiling our members over the 2023 show season. We are asking members to start sending in their pictures now so they can see themselves up in lights that evening.

MEGHAN

Members can purchase tickets through our website. We encourage everyone to secure their spots early, as seating is limited. We will continue to profile the Banquet with links for our ticket purchase site regularly through social media between now and the event. We are also asking members to indicate what barn they want to sit with.

PONY POWER

FINALS



Charlotte Morassutti
Photo by: Laurel Jarvis

Sept 6 - 10,
2023

Hosted at the Hunter Spectacular &
Equitation Special CEP

Pony Power Series

The Pony Power classes are intended to develop skills for the young rider and to familiarize riders and parents with scored hunter rounds. One Pony Power class is included in each of the EC Small, Medium and Large Pony Divisions at select venues. The class is one round, over a 'handy' styled course. The class may consist of a rollback, trot fence, hand gallop fence, bending line, a halt, option fence, bounce or a fence jumped in a direct line to/from the in gate. Rounds are scored based on traditional hunter criteria and the

scores will be announced. Ponies will be required to jog (at the discretion of the venue to be a closing trot circle or jogged in hand). There will be special ribbons and prizes awarded by the OHJA for these classes.

At select shows there will also be one hunter round of the Children's Pony, Short Stirrup and Cross Rail divisions that will be run with open scoring and awarded special prizes—these classes do not qualify for a final.

Class 506 - \$5,000 Pony Power Final

Score W/ Jog

BFL Stadium

20 Trips

RANK	HORSE	RIDER	PRIZE	S1	SCORE
1 st	184 - CAPICHE	CHARLOTTE MORASSUTTI	\$1,250	86	86
2 nd	422 - BLUESIDE	AVA CAMPBELL	\$1,000	85	85
3 rd	350 - WAY TOO DREAMY	LEI DODSON	\$800	84	84
4 th	227 - CUSTOM MADE	FAYE FERGUSON	\$500	82	82
5 th	125 - THE STORYTELLER	MIKAYLA GOWLAND	\$400	81	81
6 th	183 - BROWNLANDS LAST CALL	AARYA ARMOGAN	\$300	79	79
7 th	231 - MISCHIEF MANAGED	MACKENZIE FAWCETT CHENG	\$250	78	78
8 th	186 - HOWIE DO IT	CHARLOTTE MORASSUTTI	\$250	74	74
9 th	383 - SMOOTH MOVES	PAIGE BOLEN	\$125	73	73
10 th	190 - RAJAH	AARYA ARMOGAN	\$125	72	72



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For the love of competition.