

Students and Parents Meeting

December 2007

This is a CHANGED Power Point for those who could not attend the meeting

First of All....

THANK YOU!!!!

We would not be here without YOU!

We LOVE our jobs and want to give YOU the BEST equestrian educational experience that we can!

Thank You for being OUR INSPIRATION!

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Some things to remember...

- ♣ Driveway speed limit is 5 mph, not 6 and definitely not 15. We have already had accidents this winter due to people flying by the shut door in the indoor arena.
- ♣ Make sure to check your health insurance to make sure that horse related incidents (on the ground and while riding are covered). Many companies do not cover these things.
- ♣ Also, remember to dress warmly and in layers for the winter, and still bring water with you.

What is the Pony Club???

- ♣ National organization- one of the oldest youth horse programs- ages through 26 years old.
- ♣ Programs are goal orientated with standards for each level. Something for EVERYONE regardless of riding ability.
- ♣ Leadership, personal growth and development, independence, career skills (even non-horse related), self-discipline, education, safety, and more are emphasized
- ♣ Local, Regional, State, Area, and National events, seminars, and competitions
- ♣ Competition is NOT required, but LEARNING IS!

Pony Club Program



- ♣ The BEST way to SAVE you MONEY!
- ♣ 1 year into the program, GREAT benefits waiting for you!
- ♣ HIGH BENEFITS (up to \$500 of activities available per MONTH for your membership)
- ♣ LOW COSTS (including both National and Riding Center dues \$25 per month, for the cost of an extra lesson per month you get up to \$500 of extra horse/riding activities per month- it makes sense to do it)
- ♣ Continue riding throughout the week
- ♣ NO MINIMUM or MAXIMUM activity required
- ♣ Riding and Disability Insurance are included in your membership and a subscription to the USPC News a Quarterly magazine

How to Join

- ♣ Easy, simple application
- ♣ Membership dues to USPC
- ♣ Riding center dues to Ace-High
 - ♣ Riding center dues may be paid at \$20 per month or by a one time payment of \$220 in order to save money
- ♣ Can start in activities IMMEDIATELY
- ♣ No minimum or maximum participation required. You do however much you want to do.

It's NOT just for the kids

- ♣ Horsemasters is the adult program of Pony Club
- ♣ Open to ALL adults, regardless of riding ability (even if you do not ride you can join up in order to learn)
- ♣ Very similar to children's program, but with different goals to obtain
- ♣ Goal is to help nurture an all around knowledge of horses and riding while being able to offer social activities

Pony Club offers something for our little ones too!

- ♣ The Junior Pony Club is for our younger kids.
- ♣ Open to lesson students and those new to Ace-High
- ♣ 8 week long course to learn all about horses and riding
- ♣ Manual and guidelines are followed, learning and safety are emphasized

Pony Club CAMP Summer 2007

- ♣ Exclusive Pony Club Camp
- ♣ Different than our normal camps
- ♣ Open only to AHPC members
- ♣ Week long, full day camp
- ♣ Campers take care of "their" horse for the week
- ♣ Special reduced rate for the Pony Clubbers
- ♣ Potential Dates are June 3rd to 6th

Camps 2007

- ♣ Wee Ones Camp
- ♣ Adults Camp
- ♣ Parents of Horse Crazy Kids Camp
- ♣ Summer Camp
- ♣ Winter Break Camp
- ♣ Overnight Camp
- ♣ Pony Club Camp

Wee Ones Camp

- ♣ Ages 5 to 7 years old
 - ♣ Younger ages may be accepted
- ♣ Current Students ONLY
- ♣ Held one week only during the summer
- ♣ This is a 3 day camp instead of a 4 day camp
- ♣ Hours are from 8 am to 12 pm
- ♣ Fun activities, riding, and more
- ♣ Parents are invited to stay and play too!
- ♣ Potential Dates are July 1st to 3rd

Adults Camp

- ♣ Open to all adults of all levels
- ♣ Three day camp (Fri pm, Sat all day, Sun all day)
- ♣ First day is theory and evaluation (for non-AH clients)
- ♣ Second day is lots of riding and seminars
- ♣ Moonlight trail ride on Saturday evening with bonfire and relaxation time
- ♣ Sunday is more riding and seminars
- ♣ Potential Dates are July 11th to 13th

Just for Women 2008

- ♣ For the female adult riders only
- ♣ Dr. Rallie McAllister MD author of Riding for Life is coming to AH
- ♣ This camp is going to be a lot of fun and lots of learning
- ♣ Topics from her book will be covered including:
 - ♣ How to fit horses into a schedule full of have to's
 - ♣ Health and Nutrition for equestrians
 - ♣ Exercises for equestrians
 - ♣ How to get the most out of your dreams with horses
 - ♣ Many topics will carry over to "normal" life

Parents of Horse Crazy Kids Camp

- ♣ Ever wonder what a ergot is?
- ♣ Ever wonder why we lead the horses on the left side of them?
- ♣ Ever wonder why we have to groom horses?
- ♣ Ever wonder what you have gotten yourself into?
- ♣ Ever wonder where your child can go with horses?
- ♣ Ever wonder where you go from here?

- ♣ All of these questions and more will be covered
- ♣ Meets for one week Tuesday through Friday
- ♣ One hour in length- short enough to not miss a lot of time with your kids (advanced sessions are also offered through our horsemanship seminars)
- ♣ The purpose of this camp is to get you more prepared and to develop a higher understanding of what your child is doing here
- ♣ General horse information is covered
- ♣ General Riding will also be covered/done
- ♣ The future of your child with horses will also be addressed
- ♣ Lots of questions can be asked

Potential Other Camp Dates

- ♣ Parents of Horse Crazy Kids Camp
 - ♣ Session I March 4th to 7th
 - ♣ Session II July 15th to 18th
 - ♣ Session III November 4th to 7th
- ♣ Women Only Camp
 - ♣ Potential Dates of August 1st to 3rd
 - ♣ Just in time to refocus before the kids go back to school

Summer Camp

- ♣ Back and better than ever!
- ♣ Since 1997, over 500 campers since then
- ♣ Ages 7 to 16 are welcome
- ♣ No experience necessary, so tell the friends, cousins, and neighbors
- ♣ Discounts for referrals, multiple weeks, and siblings
- ♣ Runs Tuesday through Friday
- ♣ Can do one week or several weeks

- ♣ Half Day camp for beginners is from 8 am to 12 pm
- ♣ Half Day camp for non-beginners is from 1 pm to 5 pm
- ♣ Full Day camp is from 8 am to 5 pm
- ♣ We have something for everyone
- ♣ New activities for 2008 will be offered
- ♣ Summer camp dates will be posted very soon!
- ♣ Go to camp.acehigh.info for more information and for the 2008 dates when posted.

Summer Camp Session Dates

- ♣ Potential Dates (have to wait on firm show schedule before posting- will be done by mid-January)
- ♣ Session I June 3rd to 6th
- ♣ Session II June 10th to 13th
- ♣ Session III July 8th to 11th
- ♣ Session IV July 15th to 18th
- ♣ Session V July 22nd to 25th
- ♣ Session VI July 29th to August 1st
- ♣ Session VII August 5th to 8th
- ♣ Session VIII August 12th to 15th (depends on when school is scheduled to go back)

Winter Break Camp

- ♣ Another AH tradition
- ♣ Why keep the kids all cooped up in the house over Christmas break?
- ♣ Camp runs for two weeks for three days each
- ♣ Camp hours due to cold are from 10 am to 2 pm
- ♣ Level II and III riders have first right to camp, then it will be open to Level I students

♣ Covered in camp:

- ♣ Riding lesson every day
- ♣ Horse Science
- ♣ Horse Related FUN Activities

♣ Dates of Camp:

- ♣ December 26th (Weds) to 28th (Fri)
- ♣ January 2nd (Weds) to 4th (Fri)

♣ Cost of Camp:

- ♣ \$150 a week
- ♣ \$275 for both weeks/two children in same camp

♣ How to Sign Up

- ♣ Contact Amanda immediately! Next camp starts on Jan 2nd

Overnight Camp

- ♣ Starting in 2008 (fingers crossed!)
- ♣ New idea, same great camp program
- ♣ Campers stay at AH
- ♣ Week long (Mon to Sat), includes horse show
- ♣ Campers are completely immersed in horses during the week
- ♣ Other activity time including field trips and guest speakers

Lesson Program

Here we GROW again. . .

How it is NOW

- ♣ Students can start with a one-time Introductory Package then move onto the regular lesson program
- ♣ Students can pay by the lesson
- ♣ Students can do packages of lessons that are in quantities of 4s
- ♣ Private, semi-private, and group lessons
- ♣ Students in the regular lesson program have a lesson membership fee of \$10 per month

WHY we are changing

- ♣ We have simply grown well beyond our capacity in the past two years
- ♣ The growth is not slowing down, so we must change in order to suit YOUR needs better
- ♣ We need to become more efficient in our lesson program in order to offer the best education that we can to our students
- ♣ Simplification of billing and the lesson program, all while giving you the most for your money

What we are changing to

- ♣ It is the same for all general items
- ♣ Instead of packages of 4s we are going to "Sessions"
- ♣ Privates, Semi-Privates, and Groups
- ♣ Lesson membership monthly fee remains
- ♣ Main difference is that all riders capable of riding in groups will be riding in HOUR group lessons instead of HALF HOUR private lessons- This is giving you the most for YOUR money and time

Lesson Sessions

- ♣ The "Sessions" will be SIX weeks in length (much like normal schools)
- ♣ Each session has FIVE weeks of normal lessons and ONE week of a make up or bonus lesson
- ♣ Our big events and shows are pre-planned into the sessions with some longer than others
- ♣ It is possible to PAY BY THE LESSON as well if you are going to be out of town a lot or need additional lessons during the session
- ♣ Each session has an end of session show

Example 1:

- ♣ Susie signs up for group lessons with Amanda on Wednesdays at 5 pm for Session I starting on January 1st.
- ♣ January 2nd Susie's first lesson
- ♣ January 9th Susie's second lesson
- ♣ January 16th Susie is sick, cancels lessons the day before
- ♣ January 23rd Ace-High has no lessons
- ♣ January 30th Susie's third lesson
- ♣ February 6th Susie's fourth lesson
- ♣ February 13th Make up week, Susie's fifth lesson (make up lesson since she missed one)

Example 2:

- ♣ Bob signs up for Session I of private lessons with Jayme on Fridays
- ♣ January 4th Bob's 1st lesson
- ♣ January 11th Bob's 2nd lesson
- ♣ January 18th Bob's 3rd lesson
- ♣ January 25th Ace-High has no lessons this week
- ♣ February 1st Bob's 4th lesson
- ♣ February 8th Bob's 5th lesson
- ♣ February 15th Make Up Lesson week, Bob's 6th lesson is a BONUS lesson since he has not missed any lessons

End of Session Show

- ♣ Held during the last week of the current session or the first week of the next session
- ♣ Riders grouped according to age, ability, etc as needed
- ♣ Entry fee of \$20 to ride in as many classes as you are eligible for
- ♣ Show clothes NOT required, but may be worn
- ♣ Awards given for skills developed in lessons and shown in the show
- ♣ Points are tallied for end of year awards

Tentative 2008 Dates of End of Session Shows

- ♣ All Dates will be on a Saturday afternoon/early evening after our lessons are through for the day. Sometimes a Sunday will be added as needed.
- ♣ Session I- February 23rd
- ♣ Session II- April 5th
- ♣ Session III- May 11th
- ♣ Session IV- July 6th
- ♣ Session V- August 16th
- ♣ Session VI- September 27th
- ♣ Session VII- November 12th
- ♣ Session VIII- December 20th

How it works

- ♣ One month before each session the registration application is due along with payment for the session.
 - ♣ Payment plan is available
- ♣ Registration applications may be found on the website or at the barn, both sides filled out completely
- ♣ Each session you must sign up for
- ♣ Spots are not held and you must sign up in order to get your spot
- ♣ Registrations are entered on a first come, first served basis

Types of Lessons

- ♣ SAME types as normal
- ♣ Descriptions have changed somewhat
- ♣ Pony Pals
- ♣ Private/Semi-Private
- ♣ Group

Pony Pals

- ♣ Up to 7 years old
- ♣ Purpose is to prepare for regular lesson program.
- ♣ Pricing is the same as Level I
- ♣ Half-Hour private or small group (new addition- with the small groups will be 2 to 3 students only)
- ♣ On leadline or with very close supervision.
- ♣ Parents invited to participate (new addition- we used to do the PP lessons in this way and feel that it is time to offer this again)

Private Lessons

- ♣ Beginners start here (usually for 6 to 10 lessons)
- ♣ Also may be done for those needing extra work individually for shows or problem solving
- ♣ Half-Hour or Hour in length
- ♣ May be done by Session or Pay By The Lesson (must be scheduled at least 4 days in advance if doing pay by the lesson)
- ♣ Introductory lesson packages are still applicable and may be used as private lessons

Group Lessons

- ♣ For those who are able to ride their mounts in and around others at a walk and trot
- ♣ Typically have taken 6 to 10 lessons with Ace-High and are most likely a Hunt Seat Beginner II level (meaning that they can walk and trot with control and have learned how to post)
- ♣ Hour in riding time, at the farm additional 30 to 60 minutes to take care of horse before and after the lesson (total of 1 ½ to 2 hours time at the farm)
- ♣ Groups have from 3 to 5 riders in each of them, with the lower riding levels having less riders. Students receive about the same time of individual attention as a private lesson BUT have the added 30 minutes riding time in order to develop their skills more fully for easier retention and attainment.
- ♣ May be done by Session or Pay By The Lesson (must be schedule at least 4 days in advance)

Lesson Weather Policy

- ♣ We are **NOT** going to cancel lessons anymore due to weather unless in the case of severe weather resulting in unsafe road conditions at the farm (see Snow Bird for cancellations)
- ♣ On occasion with all of the lessons, due to this change in policy, an **unmounted** horsemanship lesson will be done to work on horsemanship to allow all around development of the rider. The material covered on the ground is more important than material covered while riding as it is the first thing that is often overlooked in lesson programs.
- ♣ Dress warmly in layers and be ready to be outside no matter what the weather is. You may not know where your lesson is taking place until you arrive at the farm. The instructors do not want to be outside in the cold anymore than you do, but there will be sometimes where the need is there to ride outside to work on certain skills or in order to free up the indoor arena due to other less skilled students taking lessons.

Lesson Cancellation Policy

- ♣ Still in full force and effect
- ♣ 24 hours or more for NO CHARGE
- ♣ 12 to 24 hours equals HALF CHARGE
- ♣ 12 hours or less equals FULL CHARGE
- ♣ Call or text message the farm cell phone in order to cancel
- ♣ If you know that you will be missing a lesson ahead of time, please tell your instructor so that they may notify Amanda prior to the lesson.
- ♣ With early cancellations we can often move you to another day/time in order to get your lesson in either before the week of the absence, at another time during the same week of the absence, or in the following week(s) after the cancellation.

Pricing of Lessons

- ♣ The pricing of lessons has changed for a few reasons:
 - ♣ Ace-High has NOT had a price increase in lessons for more than 10 years. However, the costs of maintaining and caring for the lesson horses has gone through the roof in the past 8 months and is not going down, nor will it go down in the future. Because of that, the lesson prices have increased. The Private lessons have increased from \$5 to \$8 each depending on level. We feel that this is a fair amount of a raise in price and that it is not outrageous.
- ♣ Since we desire for all students who are capable of riding in groups to ride in groups, the prices for group lessons are LESS expensive than what they were in the old system.
- ♣ Riding in Private lessons is an option for everyone, it is the student's choice, but we have set the prices to encourage students to participate in group lessons

Why is there a huge difference in the pricing for the Session and Pay by the Lesson

- ♣ In order for the Session system to work, students need to be enrolled in the session.
- ♣ We have set the session rates FAR LESS expensive than the pay by the lesson rates.
- ♣ You have the option of paying by the lesson or doing the lesson session, but since we desire for students to participate in the Session we made the Session prices much less than the pay by the lesson rates.
- ♣ On the following price list, you will see the prices for the sessions and for pay by the lesson. On the sessions we have placed the cost per lesson for the groups and privates in both the new and old system for your convenience in comparing prices.

Pricing of Lessons

Lesson Type	Level I	Level II	Level III
Group Session	\$149	\$209	\$259 (\$24 to \$43 ea)
Current Price	\$150	\$210	\$270 (\$25 to \$45 ea)
Group EACH	\$34	\$44	\$54
Current Price	\$25	\$35	\$45
Private Session ^(1/2 hr)	\$149	\$229	\$279 (\$24 to \$46 ea)
Current Price	\$120	\$180	\$240 (\$20 to \$40 ea)
Private EACH ^(1/2 hr)	\$39	\$49	\$59
Current Price	\$20	\$30	\$40
Private Session ^(hr)	\$329	\$379	\$429 (\$54 to \$71 ea)
Current Price	\$240	\$360	\$480 (\$40 to \$80 ea)
Private EACH ^(hr)	\$69	\$79	\$89
Current Price	\$40	\$60	\$80
Session LMF	\$15	\$15	\$15 (\$2.50 ea lesson)
Monthly LMF ^(pay by the lesson)	\$10	\$10	\$10 (pd ea month 1 x)
Current Price	\$10	\$10	\$10 (\$2.50 ea lesson)

Level System

- ♣ Will continue
- ♣ Riders will either be tested in their normal lesson with a different instructor or will do a separate testing time (lesson price)
- ♣ Gives both AH and you a good measure of where they are at in their riding ability
- ♣ This helps if you must relocate to another riding facility, as too many times we receive phone calls from parents who have no idea what their child is doing in their lessons. This way you can contact the new facility and tell them what they have been doing and what they have been proficient at for ease in the transition.

Practice Rides

- ♣ Because of freeing up both arena and horse usage times, we will be able to offer the practice rides again to all Level II and III riders.
- ♣ Allows riders to "rent" a horse for an hour in order to work on whatever skills they choose to do.
- ♣ Advanced Level II and all Level III students may use this time to ride in the open as well.
- ♣ Cost is \$20 per time (hour in length) and needs to be reserved at least four days in advance in order to have a better chance at reserving which horse you choose to ride.
- ♣ Instructors are present at the farm, and may be in the arena teaching while the practice ride is occurring. Parents of all students under the age of 18 should stay adjacent to the arena during the entire time due to no direct supervision of an instructor. This is for safety.

What you need to do to sign up

- ♣ Obtain an application
- ♣ Decide what you want to do for the lesson type. If you have a question about this talk to your instructor- we will be available after this meeting. We only have around 15 students who need to stay in privates which most of those are in the Introductory period still.
- ♣ Return application with check for amount due
- ♣ If you have questions, please ask the instructors or Amanda in regards to it. Someone is at the farm Tuesday through Saturday from at least 10 am to at least 5 pm. Amanda is here Tues thru Fri unless she is out of town from 11 am to at least 6 pm.

Possibilities for This Session

- ♣ We have already come up with a list of potential groups by riding ability and age
- ♣ If you already know the day of the week and the time that you desire, then CALL AMANDA NOW. The lesson schedule will be done on December 30th.
- ♣ You can add your name to the schedule after Dec 30th. The time(s) that you may desire may not be available however.
- ♣ This will help us with the scheduling of the first session as this is going to be a learning experience on all of our parts!

What happens then. . .

- ♣ All applications will be gone through to determine when each person's lesson will occur at
- ♣ The lesson schedule will be posted on the calendar section of www.acehigh.info, emailed to clients, and instructors will call clients to confirm lesson days and times no later than December 31st. This may be available before this time.
- ♣ We will do our best to give you your first choice on times, but our times of lessons will be changing with this new way of operating.

Expected Questions

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How can four instructors teach group lessons at the same time?

We are not doing that until the weather/facilities are different. We know that it is NOT possible.

The way that the schedule will be set up for now is that one instructor will have a group lesson and the other instructors will either have pony pals lessons or private lessons.

Student Safety is AH's First Priority

What about riding outside?

- Lessons may be taught outside in the lighted arena year round as long as the footing is safe for use (not too much rain or ice)
- Students should come prepared to ride inside or outside for their lesson as they will not know the location until they arrive at the farm
- Just like you, the instructors do not desire to be out in bad weather, and we will only do that if it is necessary in order to work on a specific skill or if safety wise it is required.

Keeping Warm this Winter

- We suggest dressing in LAYERS- students will get hot as they ride and will want to remove layers
- Always wear gloves! Mittens are NOT allowed at any time for safety reasons.
- Always wear boots! Other shoes are NOT allowed once trotting (that is usually the second lesson).
- Wear thick winter socks such as wool ones
- Ear warmers are ok as long as the helmet fits properly- there are specially designed ear warmers for helmet use (go to statelinetack.com and look for ear warmers with an elastic band for under helmet use)
- Jackets/Coats may be worn, but must be ZIPPED and must NOT be baggy. They should not be able to be sat on for choking reasons.
- Scarves and loose clothing are NOT allowed

What happens if we miss more than one of the lessons in the session?

This all depends on the nature of the absences. If the absence is a cancellation done prior to the 24 hour mark, then you will be able to make up those lessons either by doing additional make ups during the make up week or by doing make ups within the next session.

You are not going to LOSE lessons due to cancelling as long as our cancellation policy is followed. We will carry lessons over to the next session if necessary.

What if the missed lessons were not cancelled by the 24 hour mark?

If that happens, the lesson is lost if cancelled less than 12 hours from the lesson time as the full price of those lessons are charged.

You will have a half-lesson to make up if cancelled from 12 to 24 hours from the lesson time.

If more than one lesson has been missed in the session, then any lessons which need to be made up are done as previously mentioned on the prior question.

What if I do not want to participate in the End of Session Show?

No problem.

Participation in the End of Session Show is not mandatory. We are doing this to show off each student's skills to their family members, friends, and to the community. You are not penalized in any way for not participating in the End of Session Show.

For participation though you receive added experience and potential awards and honors.

Many of our students desire to show, but do not have the means to show in the larger shows which we attend.

This allows each of our students to get their feet wet in the show ring at the farm at the end of every session.

What if my Introductory Package is completed in the middle of a Session?

If your introductory package completes in the middle of a session, then you will be able to join the Session by either Pay By The Lesson or by doing a pro-rated Session for the remaining weeks of the Session (if it is not past the cut off for pro-rating).

You may also choose to wait until the end of the Session to begin the regular lessons.

The option is yours, but we highly suggest continuing right away to prevent learned skills from being forgotten.

What about Boarder's Lessons?

Boarder's lesson rates also change. A discount will still apply to boarders who ride their horse in the lesson. The riding of lesson horses does not qualify for a discount in the new system.

Boarders lessons will be done in the same way with Sessions.

If the Boarder's Horse is being used in their lesson, Boarder's rates are \$4 off the regular price of each lesson (session is \$20 off of the total session price).

What if it is thunderstorming?

We are still **DOING** lessons.

The lessons will be unmounted horsemanship lessons in order to develop an all around student.

If we determine that the weather has caused unsafe conditions (driving or lessons) we will cancel lessons only in that instance.

If lessons are cancelled due to this, then the lessons may be made up that week, during the make up week, or during an additional week. Again, we are not trying to make you loose lessons.

Any More Questions????

Please feel free to contact
Amanda at
210-6852