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What a start to the show season we've had! Or, um - didn't have. Unfortunately, a global pandemic has gotten in the way of most of what we do, including our Pony Club activities and equestrian pursuits in general. We are all being mindful of physical distancing, appreciating our front line workers in healthcare and other essential services, and respecting local decision-makers who we trust to get us all through this safely. Read on for ways to



connect with Pony Club online and be engaged virtually.

Pony Club Activities: Suspended

Keep apprised of current pandemic advisories as they pertain to Pony Club

by checking in at the Canadian Pony Club website's news page:

<https://www.canadianponyclub.org/activities-events/resources/news>

At this time, we know that all physical Pony Club activities continue to be suspended until further notice. Online initiatives continue to be offered at branch, regional and national levels. If you feel you are not connected, or if you have any questions about the situation, please reach out to your branch District Commissioner, your Centre Administrator, or any member of the regional committee. Of course, your Active Youth Reps would look forward to any suggestions for fun virtual activities!

Your 2020 COR Regional Committee

The Regional Annual General Meeting held in November 2019 included elections, which brought a mix of new and returning faces to the regional table.

You can review the positions and see the contact list at the regional directory found at the Canadian Pony Club website:

<https://www.canadianponyclub.org/contact-us/regional-committees/central-ontario>

During this time, your committee has kept busy with online meetings as we continue to plan for future initiatives.



Be social!

COR has turned to online platforms in order to connect and bring the Pony Club experience to you. Look for us at Facebook (search for COR Pony Club and ask to join) and Instagram (at /cor_ponyclub).

We've already had:



Captured Online

Thanks to everyone who played our recent online Bingo game. Lots of people have certainly done lots of things during their time in Pony Club, and we all look forward to getting back at it as soon as



... some Arabian horses have one fewer vertebra and one less pair of ribs than other horses?

Keep an eye on our social media and the corcomm for an

- Spring Fling video contest
- Driveway Dressage contest
- Virtual Bingo

Coming up, look for:

- Favourite Breed project*
- Virtual Book Club*
- *earn a Pony Club badge!

Some branches or centres may have gatherings and special guests at online meeting apps. Woodwind South PCRC invites the region to their regular Zoom meetings. Keep an eye on your corcomm (regional email) or at the social media accounts for details.

Canadian Pony Club also has ways to engage members across the country. Keep an eye on their online options as well, especially the "Canadian Pony Club Education" public facebook group.

we can! For now, keep it virtual - keep it safe.



upcoming "Favourite Breeds" activity you can do at home, share with us, and earn the Breeds badge!



Be Creative!

You may be inspired to show your artistic side or create a neat craft all on the "horsey" theme. Doing so can earn you the Arts & Crafts Pony Club badge! For more information on the Pony Club badge program, visit:

<https://canadianponyclub.org/activities-events/education-testing/badges/overview>



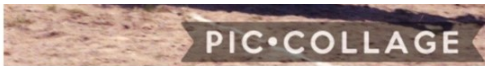
Catching Up with our Alumni

Pony Club is known for providing a solid foundation for youth as they go on to achieve great things, whether in the equestrian world or beyond. CORBits will catch up with some of our local alumni and share their news and insights with you.

This season we feature Beth Murray, a Durham Pony Club member who joined in 1991 at the age of eight and remained in Pony Club until she was 21. Beth played PPGs for many years, loved every minute of it, and PPGs will always be her favourite Pony Club-specific discipline. That said, Beth discovered Dressage while in Pony Club; it will forever be her passion and remains what inspires her life with horses the most.

With a lifetime of fabulous Pony Club memories ranging from a miniature cross country project for Regional Quiz to PPG Championships at the CNE, one of Beth's most cherished experiences was travelling to New Zealand as the Senior member of the International Pony Club Dressage Derby in January 2004. Along with her teammate and coach, Beth spent three weeks showing, riding, touring and having a wonderful time.

Currently, Beth is an Equine Canada Medium



Dressage judge, FEI Dressage rider and coach. When asked what advice she would give current Pony Club members, Beth replied: "Try everything - Pony Club has so much to offer!"

- Take advantage of all the incredible educational opportunities
- Ride all the horses and ponies you have access to
- Learn:
 - the training scale
 - how to pass a baton
 - at least 5 feeding rules
 - how to tie a quick release knot
 - to set a bounce
 - to ride a 20m circle
 - normal resting TPR
 - to canter 350 mpm
 - to shoot an air pistol
 - how to use a spider bandage
 - the letters around a Dressage ring
 - the importance of cleaning tack

"The list is endless. The knowledge you gain will be useful in and out of the equestrian world and even more so whether you become a working student, go to post secondary education, become an adult amateur or a professional."

Thank you, Beth, for taking the time to answer our questions and for continuing to support Pony Club!



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