



Red Valley Saddle Club

Strathroy, Ontario

February 21, 2019

Red Valley Saddle Club is venturing into an exciting time for change. A local riding club will always have a foundational value in the lives of riders. It is at these clubs we connect with others who have a passion for horses; it is where young riders get their first taste of competition, and riders who enjoy the thrill of competing but have no interest making the larger circuit investments come to play, and where big circuit riders come back to for practice; it's in these spaces we learn a new trick or two, some piece of wisdom that makes the world of a difference in how you ride or care for your horse. The local riding club is a space where members support each other through many moments of laughter, like when your horse tries to roll in the sand during a class; tears, from spills or the loss of a good horse and through celebration of a ribbon or personal best. Red Valley commits to continuing to hold this space for its members as we move through this process of change. The format of hosting shows monthly has come to close for the 2019 year and we now seek to build a new structure that meets the need of today's riders while maintaining these foundational qualities.

Below you will see an ambitious start to this new journey as members have started to share their thoughts on what this could be. This list of activities will be used to spark our organizational meeting held Sunday, **March 3rd at 1pm** in the office of The Blanket Smith (Pam Grants house). Peewee parents, Youth volunteers, Members, you are all welcome to come establish our 2019 calendar of events and if you are unable to attend, please contribute to the chart any activities you would like the group to discuss.

Address: **6947 Olde Dr, Strathroy-Caradoc**

Activity	Pee Wee	Youth	Combined?
Showmanship/ Leading session for Pee Wees followed by "show" including showmanship	✓		
Tracey Mitchell REMT Youth Demonstration		✓	
Field Trip to a horse breeding farm during foaling season, followed by lunch			✓
Bandaging techniques		✓	
Show prep & practice			✓
Trip to the Royal Winter Fair - Youth Event		✓	
Equine First Aid certification training - Youth Event supplied horses		✓	
Confirmation challenge - learn how the body structure can tell you what kind of mover the horse will be - Youth event BYOH		✓	
Buying a horse - what to look for (vet seminar?) - Youth Event BYOH		✓	
Trail ride and cookout/camp out (peewee & youth) - BYOH			✓
Peewee/Youth team challenge - gymkhana BYOH			✓

	Activity	Pee Wee	Youth	Combined?
	Trip to CAN-AM horse expo			✓
	Team committed to enter Western Fair? Simcoe Fair? Paris Fair?			✓
	Pony play - balance & coordination games (peewee - supplied or BYO)		✓	
	Barrel Clinic Followed by Youth speed show			✓
	Western Performance Clinic - Showmanship, Trail and Horsemanship Followed by performance show	✓	✓	
	Liberty Clinic with Tracy Marshall		✓	
	Field Trip to watch team penning		✓	
	Field Trip to watch a Dressage show		✓	

To be able to keep the club functioning we will need to have directors. This can be as simple as taking on one of the activities per year (many hands make light work). The tentative plan is to discuss the next event at the one going on, eliminating the need for monthly meetings.

Positions within this new structure:

Youth Event Co-ordinator: Jessica Austin, her role will be the point person for any events being planned that are youth (9-18yrs) focused. She can help promote and coordinate with the Pee Wee group for events that would cross over (ie; trail ride).

Pee Wee Event Co-ordinator: Jordy Free, her role is the same of Youth Event Co-ordinator but for the Pee Wee group (8yrs and under)

Treasurer: Jordy Free
Secretary: Pam Grant

Directors - their role is to coordinate a specific event of interest to them. Currently our directors include:

Kate Johnson – Larry Johnson Memorial Barrel Race
Ken O'Donnell - High School Equestrian Challenge
Tammy Hope – Peewee & Youth trail ride

It will be decided at our March 3rd meeting how many, and which events will take place, with whom as their director. Post meeting a full schedule with organizational chart will be shared to members.