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West Waterford Hunt Branch of the Irish Pony Club

Welcome to our August Newsletter!

We had a very busy summer with many of our members attending the summer camp, competing at the Area 3 Qualifier or doing other competitions.

Congratulations - Former member Maebh Hennessy excelled in the elementary classes of the Young Rider International in Scotland, scoring 72%, 66% and 67%. She finished 2nd in the elementary young rider individual championships. We're proud of you Maebh!

Congratulations also to Karynn C. for coming 3rd in the Carling King show jumping competition and to Alannah B. for coming in joint 1st place for leading rider in the Carling King league.

Congratulations to Gavin S. who has already placed a whopping nine times at EI events this year winning four CNCP** events. Also congratulations to Kirsty C. for placing at five EI events this year winning two CNCP* events, among them the recent EI Camphire National CNCP*.

More congratulations go to Jennifer H. for excelling at track and field running again. She came 3rd over 800m and 1st over 1500m in the Munsters. Excellent job Jennifer!

Horse Trials Results - One Day Events are all-round tests of riding ability. They consist of riding a Dressage test, doing a round of show jumping, and jumping a cross-country course. Classes are usually big and it's hard to place. These are our members who placed at the IPC events so far this year:

Area 5 ODE at Ballindenisk on Sunday, 3rd July: U12A - 6th Kobee F., U12B - 1st Mary S., 5th Lucy O'G., Junior A - 6th Aine M., Junior B - 5th Jill O'G. Intermediate - 2nd Colum McC., 6th James N.;

Limerick ODE at Crecora on Saturday, 16th July: Junior A - 2nd Sarah C., Junior B. - 1st Kirsty C., 4th Gavin S.;

Tipperary ODE at Grove: U12 A - jt. 5th Aine F and Mary S., jt 6th Kobee F., U12 B - 4th Lucy O'G., jt 5th Mary S., Junior A - 1st Sarah C., Junior D - 2nd Kirsty C., Intermediate - jt. 3rd Tabitha A.

Area 5 at Kilguilkey on Saturday, 30th July: U12B - jt. 1st Kobee F., U12C - jt. 4th Jack C., Newcomers - 2nd Lauren O'M., Junior A - 3rd Clara R.-P., Junior B - 1st Sarah C., Junior C - 1st Kirsty C.

Muskerry at Fort Arthur on Sunday, 7th August: U12 - 1st Mary S., Junior B - 5th Aine M., Intermediate - 5th Colum McC.

Well done to all who participated and congratulations to all who placed!

Red Mills Horse Trials League - Special congratulations go to Sarah C. who came joint 8th in the junior section of the IPC Horse Trials League. In this league you get points every time you place at an IPC Horse Trials qualifier so this is a national competition. Kirsty C. came jt. 14th, Jill O'G. jt. 23rd, and Gavin S. ft 29th in this competition. So we had four members in the top 30 of all juniors who attended IPC Horse Trials Qualifiers in the country. Well done to all four!

IPC Red Mills Horse Trials Championships - Quite a few of our members qualified for the Horse Trials Championships this year. Colum McC., James N., Claire McA., Tabitha A. (all Intermediates), as well as Eimear O'B. and Aoibhe O'B. (Juniors) decided not to go.

Congratulations to our junior team of Jill O'G., Sara C., Kirsty C., and Gavin S. for **W I N N I N G** the junior team section of the national IPC Horse Trials Championships!!! This is an incredible result seeing that there were 43 teams in the junior competition. This calls for some serious celebration. The heat was on with our team not even being able to afford a single time fault when going out on the cross-country course. However, they kept their nerve.

Congratulations also to Aine M. for coming 5th nationally in the individual junior section! Well done also to Kim F. who also represented our branch at the national finals.

Road Safety Test - All 16 road safety test candidates passed this year's test. Well done! These are our new road safety test holders:

Bronagh B., Cliona R., Tom B., Anthony McA., Jennifer H., Kim F., Frazer B., Denis McD., Kerry B., Kate M., Laura L., Aine M., Kate C., Daniel J., Alison B., Aoibhe O'B., Thanks go to Paula O'Brien for organising the road safety test training.

Summer Camp - A big 'thank you' goes to the camp sub-committee for organising this year's summer camp. A lot of work goes in to organising the camp and if it wasn't for all the voluntary helpers there would be no pony camp. We are also very grateful for Mrs. Agnew for welcoming us back to Fortwilliam Estate this year. It is a fantastic venue and we could not imagine doing camp anywhere else.

The provisional dates for the 2012 summer camp have been set for 9th - 13th July 2012.

Tests at summer camp - Congratulations to everyone who did a test at summer camp. Everyone passed their test(s) this year. This is the list of those who passed their tests:

D Test - 16 candidates: Tamzyn C., Ciara F., Thomas F., Lara P., Brian D., Naomi L., Sean F., James G., Dylan P., Padraig F., Emily P., Jodi R., Kate F., Darragh M., Hannah R., Denis McD., Gillian B.

D+ Test - 14 candidates: Ceinwein R., Sarah M., Madeline T., Andy L., Alannah B., Padraig F., Melissa J., Emily P., Jodi R., Kate F., Darragh M., Hannah R., Denis McD., Gillian B.

C Test - 19 candidates: Jodi R., Kate F., Ella R.-P., Orlaith C., Darragh M., Philip K., Denis McD., Gillian B., Katie Mc G., Mary S., Lauren O'M., Lucy O'G, Hannah R., Fiona A., Jack C., Darragh D., Kobee F., Muirín B., Elly O'H.

Thanks go to everyone involved in the organisation and to Murphys for hosting the C test stable management lessons before camp and to Bernie Hennessy for organising the tests at camp.

Area 3 Qualifier - Thank you to the area qualifier sub-committee for organising this great day. It goes to show that the more organisational work you put in beforehand the more smoothly things run on the day. Sincere thanks also to Evelyn McGrath who was our doctor on the day, thanks to all the parents and helpers on the day, thanks to our members for being such good sports, and particular thanks to Mary and Jimmy Mangan for the provision of the venue. We couldn't have done it without any of you!

Robbie Bailey - Repeating our success from last year, two of our Robbie Bailey teams qualified for the IPC Festival placing 1st and 3rd at the Area Qualifier. This is a great achievement since only the first three teams from each area (i.e. from all 5 branches in our area) qualify. Congratulations to our 'yellow' team of Aine F., Hannah F., and Robyn C. for coming first and to our 'red' team of Aine M., Colm O'D., Kim F., and Eimear O'B. for coming third and thus qualifying for the national finals. Well done also to our other six Robbie Bailey teams who represented us very well at the qualifier.

At the festival Daniel J. was substituted for Aine M. who had a fall at the area qualifier and could not ride at the finals. The competition was very close and we could have placed. It was a nerve wrecking final in which all depended on Eimear, our last rider who took on the responsibility and floored the accelerator in her usual speed round style in a great attempt to bring home the trophy. Unfortunately, despite showing extraordinary skill and strong nerves, the last fence prevented the victory, putting us in 8th place. Please see the box on the right for Eimear's report from the Robbie Bailey finals at the IPC Festival. Thanks go to Carmel Barry, Maurice Smiddy, and John Joyce for organising the Robbie Bailey training and groups.

John Ledingham - Unfortunately, none of our intermediate show jumping teams got through to the finals. However, James N. got the only double clear in the JL competition on the day, which deserves a special mentioning because as can be seen by the amount of faults and falls on the day, the courses were quite difficult. Well done James! Thanks go to Bernie Brown, and Tom Gillespie for organising the John Ledingham training and groups.

Crossjump rallies - We will be holding two crossjump rallies in Castlemartyr in September. Anyone interested in doing the Minimus competition or xc next year should consider doing these rallies. Crossjump consists of show jumping combined with cross-country jumping. *->Please see Event Box 1 for more!*

Tetrathlon - There are a large number of teams in the Tetrathlon and the first 10 teams place in this competition. We got an excellent result this year and the best ever so all the hard training did pay off in the end. Congratulations to all who participated and particularly to Jennifer H. who came 5th nationally in the junior running phase! These are the WWPC results from this year's IPC Tetrathlon competition:

Colum McC.'s team won the Senior Boys, Claire McA. and Beverley M.'s team came 4th in the Senior Girls, our Junior Girls team of Eimear O'B., Jennifer H., Clíona R., and Kate F. came 7th, Anthony McA. and Denis McD.'s Junior Boys team came 14th. Well done all!

B test - The B test is organised at Area level. B test riding and stable management training has now finished. We had six members training for this year's test, four of whom went forward for the mock test and are planning on doing the test. The 2011 B test date is 3rd September at Thomastown, which is where the full area 3 B test mock was also held. Thanks go to O'Briens, Murphys, Alexanders and Gurnees for hosting the

training sessions. Special thanks to Gurnees for the barbecue they spoiled us with after the riding session. Good luck to all candidates who decide to go forward for the test!

We also have six members on the list for next year's test whose training should start soon. We are planning a riding assessment with Patricia Lalor at Boulta on Sunday, 18th September for next year's group. Stable management training with Mary Allen has also been organised. If you are not on the list but would like to do training towards your B test please contact Claudia on 087-9687590.

C+ Test - The C+ test training is ongoing with riding and stable management training every Saturday at different venues. The mock test will be held at Boulta on 1st October. The C+ test will be held a week later on 8th October also at Boulta. Good luck to all those who decide to go forward for the test! Thanks go to Petra Roch-Perks for organising the C+ test and training.

Weekend Jockey Skills Course at RACE - Two of our members Eimear O'B. and Hannah R. were selected to participate in the Weekend Jockey Skills Course at RACE in Kildare. There were only 10 places nationally on this course. Well done and have fun to both of them!

Irish Pony Club Race Day at the Curragh - 'The Irish Pony Club will join forces with The Curragh Racecourse on Sunday September 25 when the second Irish Pony Club Family Race Day takes place at the famous County Kildare venue. A packed program of entertainment during the afternoon will provide the Pony Club with the opportunity to highlight their various activities with presentations courtesy of TRI to some of their winning teams, including Horse Trials, Hunter Trials, Mounted Games, Minimus, Tetrathlon, Show Jumping and Dressage taking place during the afternoon, while the winning Musical Ride teams will perform on the track between races. There will be a national competition to have one of the races named after one of the Pony Club branches, while members will be selected to present Turn-out prizes for certain races on the day.' (by IPC) Please text our phone if you would like to go up to this.

Robbie Bailey Finals at the IPC Festival

Two of our West Waterford teams got to the Robbie Bailey final in Barnadown.

The 1st team to qualify was Eimear O'Brien, Colm O'Donoghue, Kim Fitzgerald and Daniel Joyce.

The 2nd to qualify was Aine Flynn, Ali Flynn, Robyn Creagh and Hannah Rose.

Thirteen teams got into the jump off altogether. The 1st team got into the jump off and the two that went for the jump off were Daniel and I.

Daniel got the 2nd fastest time which put us into 2nd place. When I went, I was up on the clock coming to the last fence but I cut the corner too tight and Patch refused. Unfortunately, we were not placed.

By Eimear O'Brien

Event Box 1: **Crossjump Rallies**

Dates: Saturdays, 10th + 17th September

Venue: Collins', Castlemartyr (by kind permission)

Times: starting at 2pm

Cost: €15 per rally

These are rallies for those jumping 50cm to 80cm cross-country.

Closing Date: 1/9/11

Booking necessary: text 087-9673399

You may book in for one or both rallies but we need to know by the closing date which ones you are going to do.