

Welcome to Meadowlark Pony Club "MPC"! We are so glad for your interest in joining. We want to do a little explaining here to help make your transition into the club a little less confusing.

United States Pony Clubs, Inc. started in 1954 to teach riding and the proper care of horses. It is based on The British Pony Club, which was created in 1929 as a junior branch of the Institute of the Horse. Since then, Pony Club has expanded to many countries around the world, with the main goal being to promote sportsmanship, stewardship and leadership through horsemanship.

The United States Pony Clubs, Inc. is an educational organization which builds the foundations of teamwork and sportsmanship through riding, mounted sports and the care of horses and ponies while developing and enhancing leadership, confidence, responsibility, and a sense of community in its youth and adult members. Pony Club has an extensive mounted and unmounted program. You can do as much or as little as you want! One can just do the educational part (unmounted) or one can do both riding and education (mounted and unmounted)! Pony Club has levels that you work through in order to ensure no learning gaps occur for clubbers.

Who Can Join?

There isn't a lower or upper age limit for Pony Club members. That said we do ask for an instructor's recommendation letter for those under age 7. Horse ownership isn't needed for unmounted meetings however only a limited number of lesson horses may be available during mounted meetings.

What do I need to know?

When you join Pony Club, you are joining at the National level, the Regional level and the Local level (MPC). There is a National website that you will gain access to that has a host of educational information for you along with information about Pony Club for members and leaders alike. You will receive in the mail from Nationals a username and password which will allow you access to the website. www.ponyclub.org. The Regional website is www.midwest.ponyclub.org. In that same packet that you receive from Nationals, you will also receive a Pony Club pin to wear at all meetings. Pony Club also asks you to wear a medical armband in case you were to need medical attention during a meeting along with a helmet and proper foot attire. You can purchase a medical armband from the local club for \$6 or you can order an armband of your own choosing as long as the pertinent information is included in the armband

What are Pony Club Certifications / Ratings?

Pony Club is an organization which offers many disciplines. Our club currently does games, dressage, jumping and polo type meetings with general horsemanship mixed throughout. Pony Club offers "certifications" which are tests showing proficiency in particular areas. When you pass a test, you are considered "rated" at the level of the test that you took. The different levels in Pony Club are A, B, C and D, with D being entry level and A being the highest level of achievement. Within the C and D levels, there are 3 sublevels. For example, you start as a D1, advance to a D2, then D3, then C1 etc. We typically do certifications 1 to 2 times per year. You can certify in any number of mounted disciplines in addition to Horse Management. There are Pony Club manuals that cover each level that you can purchase for around \$23. We suggest starting with the D Manual available at www.shopponyclub.org and other book stores.

Open House / Informational Meeting

We are having an information meeting on Feb. 19 at 2:30 pm. It will be held at Capall Baile Stables located at 3400 S 143rd St. E., Wichita, Ks, 67232. The gate code is 0328. We hope to see you then!!!

How to Join?

Meadowlark Pony Club's current officers are Lori Monteith (DC), Leah Condon (Treasurer) and Mackenzie Monteith (Secretary). If you were to desire to join Pony Club, please send lilmonteith0909@gmail.com an email and you will receive an email from Pony Club with a link to fill out online registration to join. This email link will only gain you National membership which is **\$155**.

You will also need to submit a check to Meadowlark Pony Club for your Regional dues (\$25) and local dues to Meadowlark (\$50). Mail a check to MPC for **\$75** to Leah Condon, 911 N Gilman, Wichita, Ks, 67203. (316-249-3535)

If you have any further questions, please to not hesitate to reach out. We are so excited to learn of your interest in Pony Club!

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