



## THE UNITED STATES PONY CLUBS, INC. PRESS RELEASE

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### USPC Festival 2021 to be Held at the Kentucky Horse Park July 19-26, 2021

**June 29, 2021 (Lexington, KY)** — The United States Pony Clubs, Inc. will be hosting USPC Festival 2021 Presented by SSG Riding Gloves, Sponsored by State Line Tack, July 19-26, 2021. Held at the world-renowned Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington, Kentucky, the USPC Festival will include Championships, plus mounted and unmounted education. Pony Club will welcome over 2,000 members, their families, friends, volunteers, and Pony Club leadership from across the country to Kentucky to enjoy competition, learning, and fun activities.

USPC Festival Championships is the culmination of training and hard work for members who competed at qualifying rallies and competitions throughout the year. Held annually, National Championships in Dressage, Eventing, Mounted Games, Polocrosse, Quiz, Show Jumping, Tetrathlon, and Western Dressage are showcased during the first part of the Festival week. USPC Eventing Championships are again recognized by USEF/USEA. This year's competition also includes an American Polocrosse Association Sanctioned Tournament and invitational competitions in Pony Club's two newest disciplines of Gymkhana and Western Trail.

The educational phase of Festival offers a unique learning experience, offering outstanding clinics, both mounted and unmounted, presented for members, parents, and volunteers. The clinics are conducted by Pony Club Graduates, Olympians, and equine experts in various disciplines. A popular non-riding portion of Festival offers a myriad of clinics and workshops teaching all things equine. Anyone can participate in these unmounted educational opportunities and registration is available on-site.

The cornerstone of the Pony Club foundation are education, safety, sportsmanship, stewardship, and leadership through horsemanship. Members learn teamwork, a sense of responsibility, safety, self-confidence, and leadership, through the riding and care of horses. The skills, habits, and values instilled through horsemanship are tested as members progress through the Pony Club Standards of Proficiencies and Certification levels.

The Opening Ceremonies will be held on Tuesday, July 20 at 6:30 PM EDT. All disciplines and competitors will be celebrated as USPC welcomes all the participating regions to Festival. Special guest speaker Governor Andy Beshear will give a welcoming address to those in attendance.

The deadline for Championships has already passed, but competitors may still register for the mounted education through July 6 at 12:00 PM EDT and unmounted education throughout the event. More information on USPC Festival 2021 can be found on the Pony Club website here:

<https://www.ponyclub.org/Events/Festival/Default.aspx>

**About Pony Club** — The United States Pony Clubs, Inc. (Pony Club) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit educational organization that builds the foundation of teamwork and sportsmanship through riding, mounted sports, care of horses and ponies, while developing and enhancing leadership, confidence, responsibility, and a sense of community in its youth and adult members. USPC is proud to offer instruction and competitive opportunities in more than 10 different disciplines through hundreds of clubs and centers across the United States. Pony Club's educational standards continue to be instrumental in curriculum development for schools, universities, equestrian professionals and organizations across the United States. Many of the nation's top equestrians, including Olympic team members, as well as successful business professionals and leaders in a variety of fields, have roots in Pony Club.