

Foothills Riding Club Hunter Pace and Trail Ride

Sunday, March 20th, 2022

Submitted by Missy Bright

Spring of 2022 came in like a lamb with some beautiful weather for the Foothills Riding Club Hunter Pace and Trail Ride. Circle Z Farm in Gowensville is gorgeous! The views were amazing and afforded many photo-ops. Many thanks to landowners Gerry and Sara Zordan for opening up their property. Gerry worked very hard on the trails the days prior to this Hunter Pace and one could tell. Downed trees and debris were cut away and moved. The trails were exquisitely marked with yellow arrow signs and the obligatory ribbons to follow. It was said that Gerry "is a wizard at marking the trails"!

The trail course was 6.5 miles and Jillian Woolridge was the pace setter for the Field Hunters.

All of the volunteers were greatly appreciated. There were out at the venue early Sunday morning to set everything up. And, this was the day after running a horse show! Barbara Crawford and Sue Mullen were on hand to take care of the registration process and handing out numbers and meal tickets to riders. Toni Begrud and Mary Beth Herbert had parking detail. They did a wonderful job directing rigs to one of two pastures for parking. The parking areas were in decent shape even with the heavy rain a few days before. The check point or half way stop was a time to take a breather for the mandatory time. Our half-way point ladies were Hatsie Goodrich, Julie Ogg, and Nina Radar. The ladies offered riders a cool drink while stopped and then sent riders off to finish. Timer extraordinaire, Joey Cabaniss was on hand to get the riders started and finished. He'll always leave the light on for you! Kerry Freeland was his trusty assistant for the day. It's an art to time an event with riders coming and going all day. Carole Foster was official event organizer and Margo Savage was on hand to handle any issues and/or offer assistance throughout the day.

Last but not least, the food! Paul Dale with Foothills Bar-B-Que was on site for lunch. As always, the food was wonderful. Sandwiches or plates were available. His location was very convenient to access.

In the Field Hunter Division, there were 47 riders in 23 teams. The Optimum Time was one hour, 17 minutes, 38 seconds.

Now, let's get to those results:

First Place Honors were awarded to the team of Jane Barrett, and John Chatterton from Columbus with the time of one hour, 17 minutes, 39 seconds. They were a mere second off the Optimum Time. Debbie Croft from Anderson placed second with a time of one hour, 17 minutes, 25 seconds. Third Place was awarded to Diane Hicks from Pendleton with the time of

one hour, 18 minutes, 26 seconds. Marcia Headrick from Townsville scored the Fourth-Place white ribbon with a time of one hour, 18 minutes, 42 seconds. The Ribbon for Fifth Place was awarded to Linda Plummer from Clover with a time of one hour 12 minutes, 15 seconds. Rounding out the placements in the Field Hunter Division for Sixth Place was the team from Waxhaw, Nicole Hatfield and Janet Johnson with the time of one hour 11 minutes, 50 seconds.

Other Field Hunters out to enjoy the trails were Mary and Karen Benson, Kathy Bethka, David Catoe, Steph Culbertson, Andy and Anne Curell, Anna Dalton, Stephanie Easler, Madison Foschetti, Daisy Fouts, Danielle, Fuhs, Emory Heffron, Lanie Hines, Shannon Jackson, Amanda Jones, Carol Land, Leslie Lattanzio, Anna LaVigne, Abby Lyle, Nithvi Malipeddi, Emily Mitchell, Maria Oglesby, Kaitlyn Owen, Asher Quinn, Matthew Savage, Timi Schonhorn, Donna Schwind, Seamus and Shalise Sheehan, Ben Sikorski, Jane and Paul Sloan, Kaitlyn Thomas, Scott and Sutton Turner, Jacqueline Wasniewski, and Carrie and Olive Wilsey.

There were 65 riders in 28 teams in the Trail Rider Division. The Calculated Optimum Time was one hour, 45 minutes, 56 seconds.

The First Place Honor was awarded to the Trio of Ann Fratcher from Greer, Cynthia Milligan from Columbus, and Christine Vincent from Tryon with a time of one hour, 46 minutes, 39 seconds. There was a tie between two teams for Second Place with the time of one hour, 45 minutes, 11 seconds. The teams of Susan Angermeier from Chesnee and Debbie Fowler from Columbus and Missy Bright from Campobello and Ronnie Mann from Columbus claimed the Second Place Red Ribbons. With a time of one hour, 46 minutes, 45 seconds the trio of Sue Kessel from Roebuck, Megan Ryan from Columbus, and Peggie Sullenberger from Inman claimed the Fourth Place Slot. Fifth Place was awarded to the team of Carter, Hazel, Keith, Olive and Renee Wade from Tryon with the time of one hour, 47 minutes, one second. Rounding out the placements in the Trail Rider Division was the duo of Bob and Tamara Bruning from Columbus with the time of one hour, 47 minutes, 40 seconds.

Other Trail Riders out enjoying the day were Kristin Ahlum, Kris Astle, Janna Bankston, Stefanie Bates, Jackson Braasch, Lilah Branch, Emma Bridges, Marlan Burrell, Pavlina Byma, Elizabeth Clevenger, Caroline Coates, Melissa Coates, Katelyn Cooper, Taylor Docktor, Joleen and Tom Eizember, Heidi Fitch, Shelby Frazier, Christian, Kailey and Savanna Greene, Dawn Harrison, Laura Hendley, Katherine Heugel, Sandra Hyder, Brandy Johnston, Helen Kaiser, Lisa Kotalik, Mary Macy, Khloe Miller, Connie Moore, Meaghan Morris, Kathy Nebel, Rachel Neese, Jennarose Ortmeyer, Kate Pence, Boots Plyler, Sheila Poteat, Erica Revelle, Leslie Scott, Leslie Shealy, Harriet Smith, Jennifer Smith, Erin Stroud, Marcy Vance, Kelly Walker, and Dorothy Weatherby.

Next up on the Hunter Pace Series is the Tryon Hounds Spring Hunter Pace and Trail Ride on Sunday, April 3rd, 2022 at Long Shadow Farm. It's been quite some time since there has been a Hunter Pace at this venue so the trails should be awesome. Releases and Registration forms can be downloaded from the Tryon Hounds website and filled out prior to arrival.

To save some time and crowds at the Registration Tables, download the Registration Forms from the Western Carolina Hunter Pace website for the specific event and slap a return

address label on it including your emergency contact and email to insure you can be contacted. Some forms don't have a spot for an address but go ahead and write it somewhere on the form or use the aforementioned label!

Check the website at www.wchpace.org for upcoming events, changes, and to view your photos taken by Photographer Lou Smith. With the weather being so unpredictable here of late, rain dates are in place in case of a postponement.