

Green Creek Hounds Halloween Hunter Pace and Trail Ride

Sunday, October 25th, 2020

Submitted by Missy Bright

The Green Creek Hounds Halloween Hunter Pace and Trail ride went on with very few glitches. Mother Nature was not so kind, though. The area had been inundated with heavy rain. That being said, the weather forecasts showed that Sunday had an all-day window to ride. According to the Green Creek Hounds group, the trails would drain nicely. "Thank you to all of our riders who braved questionable forecasts and came out to support the Green Creek Hounds Halloween Hunter Pace & Trail Ride."

This Hunter Pace was unique in that it was a pre-register event. Riders were able to register on-line and pick a specific time to start. There was a team captain who handed all necessary paperwork in at the starter tent. Masks were worn whenever there was a group of people and everyone was practicing social distancing.

Many thanks to the gracious landowners who allowed passage through their property.

This village of people with the Green Creek Hounds had their jobs cut out for them! DJ Jefferis was the event organizer and general doer. Course cleanup and trimming were handled by David Raley.

Parking duties were handled in shifts, and they had their hands full! From the ingate down to the parking area, Ginny Howard, Marc James, Deb Jundt, Sue Russell, and Momo Weatherby guided the rigs across the field. The second shift of David and Jeanne Ahrenholz, Jane Barrett, Richard Pierce, and Jana and Paul Sloan took on their duties around the 10:15 hour. At the Check Point riders were greeted by Skip Fleck and Betsy McCray who provided a cool drink to the riders while on their mandatory break.

Anna Dalton, Anna LaVigne, and Anne Pierce were on hand to provide assistance with any other duties.

Long time Pacers were very happy to see Jan and Lou Smith back on site and at the start finish line!

And last but certainly not least our beloved Joey was the timer extraordinaire. He sent riders off on a true adventure following either the red or yellow ribbons, that signified the short or long course. Speaking of the long course, it was an 11.99-mile course. The shorter mini version was 4.5 miles. There were 4 river crossings with some other places that could pass for creeks. There were several jumps along the way for those who wished to partake.

The only thing missing upon arrival was the aroma of grilled hotdogs and hamburgers and the massive amount of those sugary sweets we've all come to look forward to at the Green Creek Hounds events!

In the Field Hunter Division there were 38 riders in 20 teams. The Optimum Time was clocked at two hours, 10 minutes.

Now, let's get to those results:

First Place Honors were awarded to Carol Land from Marvin, Hailey Gardner, and Haley and Jamie Garis from Waxhaw. Their time was two hours, ten minutes, 40 seconds. With a time of two hours, 11 minutes, 13 seconds, Asher and Sarah Quinn from Pisgah Forest and Liza Stahnke from Charlotte claimed the Second Place Red Ribbon. Third place was awarded to Shalise Gallaher from Columbus and Miki Razo from Tryon with the time of two hours, 12 minutes, 36 seconds. A duo from Columbia, Britney Clark and Devon Tracy claimed the Fourth-Place spot with the time of two hours, 15 minutes. Fifth Place was awarded to Carole Anne Marty from Vero Beach and Andrea Stoll from Mill Spring with the time of two hours, 16 minutes, 32 seconds. Rounding out the placements in the Field Hunter Division for Sixth Place with the time of two hours, 16 minutes, 33 seconds was the quartet of Jennifer Brown and Mary Cullen from Tryon, Anita Crouse from West Palm Beach, and Dawn Melton from Aiken.

Other Field Hunters out to enjoy the day were Natalie Aiello, Carol Bridges, Kate Coldren, Nora Claire Croft, Barb DiPalma, Stephanie Easler, Karolin Eichler, Ann Fratcher, Gabrielle Grubic, Kaitlyn Hermans, Shannon Jackson, Amanda Jones, Cecilia Libby, Catherine Mooneyham, Linda Plummer, Paige Presnell, Jana and Paul Sloan, Jacqueline Wasniewski, and Carrie and Olive Wilsey.

There were 30 riders in 14 teams in the Trail Rider Division. The Calculated Optimum Time was three hours, 26 minutes, 56 seconds.

First Place Honors were awarded to the husband and wife team of Bob and Tamara Bruning from Columbus with a time of three hours, 27 minutes, 43 seconds. Karen Merrill and Teresa Snyder from York claimed the Second Place Red Ribbon with a time of three hours, 32 minutes, 30 seconds. Third Place was awarded to Tracie Parker from Gaffney and Peggie Sullenberger from Inman with the time of three hours, 32 minutes 47 seconds. Jill Kelsey and Boots Plyler from Greenville jumped on the Fourth Place Ribbon with the time of three hours, 34 minutes, seven seconds. Fifth Place was awarded to Nancy Erny and Carlyne Groves from Simpsonville with the time of three hours, 19 minutes, 15 seconds. Rounding out the placements in the Trail Rider Division for Sixth Place were Missy Bright from Campobello and Ronnie Mann from Columbus with a time of three hours, 35 minutes, 16 seconds.

Other Trail Riders out navigating the trails were Susan Angermeier, Casidie Auton, Kelly Cannon, Debbie Craycraft, Marion Edel, Beth Fisher, Debbie Fowler, Elizabeth Greene, Dawn Harrison, Beth Elder-Massey, Paula Moore, Kay Mott, Suzy Nixon, Becky O'Neill, Janna Ritacco, Ken Robertson, Alison Stuck, and Emily Wojik.

Green Creek Hounds offered a Mini Pace Division for this Hunter Pace. Those riders rode a shorter version of the trail. They were: Jorja Clark, Alexia and Mary Coker, Daisy Fouts, Helen Kaiser, Kate Keilman, Claire Lindberg, Arlene Lulavage, Emily and Olivia Lunen, Mary Macy, Claire Moore, Rachel Neese, Camille, Karrie, and Nora Pennington, Anna Roskavaua, Deb Schmitz, Leslie Scott, Amanda Smith, Sarah Tweed, Kelley Walker, and Madison Yate.

Next up for the Western Carolina Hunter Pace Series is the FENCE Fall Hunter Pace and Trail Ride scheduled for Sunday, November 8th, 2020. Their rain date is Sunday, November 15th, 2020. Following that will be the Goodwin Hounds Hunter Pace slated for Sunday, November 22nd, 2020, and then the Windridge Farm Winter Hunter Pace on Sunday, December 6th before we break for the holidays.

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.

See you on the trails!