

# HALIFAX JUNIOR BENGAL LANCERS NEWSLETTER

January 15, 2016

## IMPORTANT DATES

January – July Ride Schedule  
Resumes – January 2

Rider Levels Lecture Series  
Wednesday Nights @ 5:30 pm  
Jan - Mar

Junior Executive Cookie Dough  
Campaign  
January 18 - February 10

Annual Meeting – January 25th  
@ 6:30 – 8:45 pm  
Halifax Central Library  
Lindsay Children's Room

Junior Executive Bowling Party  
January 30, 2016 @ 6:30 pm  
Bowlarama

## MESSAGE FROM BOARD CHAIR

**H**appy New Year! The past year brought challenges and new opportunities to the Lancer community and I feel that we are well poised for a successful new year!

Christmas was a busy time and I would like to thank Lancer members who supported Lancers in many ways! Special thanks are extended to those who signed up for night hay and assisted with the care and feeding of the horses over the holidays. As well the Erin MacQuarry clinic, held on January 3rd provided a great opportunity to start the New Year.

The Rider Levels Lecture Series to kick off in January also provides an opportunity for our riders to prepare to become certified as per Equine Canada standards. The lecture series will extend from January to March and will

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“All the best for a happy, healthy and rewarding  
2016!” Darin McLean

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occur on Wednesdays at 5:30 pm. More information about the lecture series is included in this newsletter.

Looking ahead, I would like to remind Lancer members that our Annual General Meeting (AGM) will occur at the Halifax Central Library (Lindsay Children's Room – 2nd floor) on January 25th from 6:30 – 8:45 pm.

The AGM provides the opportunity to review the financial statements of the club, elect new board members from nominations received by November 25th, vote on bylaw changes as well as present reports on the previous fiscal year. Come meet the board and understand how Lancers operates. Please mark this date in your calendar and plan on attending.

All the best for a happy, healthy and rewarding 2016!

Darin McLean

# BARN MANAGER AND HEAD INSTRUCTOR MESSAGE



Christmas was a busy time at Lancers! I want to thank everyone who supported us in a variety of ways whether it was buying wreaths, supporting the silent auction at the Christmas party, or by being a Barn STAR!

In December we suffered the devastating loss of Jetta, one of our newest equine members. Losing Jetta was a painful reminder of just how much our horses rely on us to keep them healthy and happy, and how fragile they can be. While there was little we could have done to change the outcome for Jetta, I plan to reinforce the importance of good horsemanship with all of our members in the coming year.

On a happier note, we have found a wonderful forever home for Juno where he will be well cared for and enjoyed by his new owners, Christina Martin and her family. Juno will be moving to his new home this week. I know many of our members will miss the big guy, but I am confident this is in the best interest of Lancers and Juno.

The New Year brings new opportunities for us to learn more about the equestrian sport. Thank you to the riders who attended the Erin MacQuarry clinic on January 3rd. Feedback from the event has been very positive, and Erin has agreed to return in the future. Lancers will continue to provide clinics throughout the year in order to provide more opportunities for our riders to evolve their skills.

With this in mind, I encourage all to attend the rider level lecture series to help prepare for Equine Canada's Rider Levels testing. This is a proficiency system for riders which tests rider skills at ten levels. All lessons at Lancers are taught using the progressive guidelines of the EC Rider Level Program, however, it is not a Lancer requirement to participate in the testing process. For those who wish to do so, the rider level lectures will help prepare for testing. For more information refer to the rider level series article further in the newsletter.

Now that we are settling into the second week of classes I hope that all riders have had an opportunity to review the make-up ride schedule from January to the end of July. Note that there are two options to make

up a lesson. One is to attend the Friday night make up ride which occurs at 8:30 pm. These make up classes are grouped by skill level to try to make the ride a meaningful lesson. The other option is to sign up for a lesson that another rider has indicated they will miss in a ride level above or below you. This option will only work if riders who will miss a class provide us with as much advance notice as possible. Note that in order to be eligible for a make-up class you must provide 24 hours notice. While sickness and other commitments can occur, riders are encouraged to not miss their lessons so that they are able to keep up with peers in their current ride level.

I would also like to remind adult riders that 30 days written notice is required to advise Lancers if you are not able to continue with our programs.

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“I plan to reinforce the importance of good horsemanship with all of our members in the coming year.”

Angie Holt

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The Barn STAR program is well underway and I am delighted that we have so many eager and willing STARS in our program here at Lancers! Keep up the great work!



Winter riding can be challenging. Cold fingers and cold feet can be uncomfortable so please wear layers when riding or working in the barn. Spring/Summer feels like a long way away but it isn't. Lancers will soon start planning our spring and summer show schedule. Riders who wish to compete in shows this summer should come and speak to me.

As a final reminder I join Darin in encouraging members – particularly the parents of juniors to attend our AGM on January 25th.

Happy 2016. I look forward to riding with you this year!

Angie Holt

# SPECIAL RECOGNITION AND THANKS

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The Lancer Christmas Party held on December 6th provided a great opportunity for the Lancer community to enjoy some Christmas fellowship and to provide recognition to deserving Lancer members. A list of award recipients is as follows:

## Barn Angels

Mary Morrison  
June Holt  
Emily Melvin

Kate Hartlin  
Brenna Noble  
Ella MacDonald

Elsa Holt  
Ava Block

Terry Arnason  
Maya Jessome

## Merit Awards

James Nicholson – Who provides handy man skills (*and who cantered nicely to the stage.*)

Nathalie McLean – Who manages our books.

Sarah Frost – Who was instrumental in the Musical Ride during 2015, and for her role as “Horse Show Mom.”

Suzanne Ramsey – Who was instrumental in the Musical Ride during 2015.

Helga and Peter Cunningham – We could fill the newsletter with all they do for Lancers!

## Most Improved Riders

Lael Church  
Bella Morgan  
Bea Cameron Surette

Sara Whittaker  
Lauren Willet

Caroline Fernandez  
Ruth LaFleche

Maddie Cormier  
Nadia Bonardelli

## Sarah Louise Smith Trophy

This trophy which recognizes the best overall junior member was awarded to Sophia Andriopoulos for her horsemanship skills and leadership.

## Kenny Irving Trophy

This trophy which recognizes the best junior rider was awarded to Emma McLean.

## The Prince of Thieves Trophy

This trophy which recognizes outstanding sportsmanship was awarded to Beth Cordy.

## Musical Ride Award

A special award recognizing the rider who contributed the most to the 2015 Musical Ride went to Dominique Johnson for her strength of character.

## Bill Henry Award

The Bill Henry Award which recognizes the volunteer of the year was provided to Tamzen Black, for assuming the role of interim Barn Manager from March to September 2015.

## Louise Corkum Award

The Louise Corkum Award which is given in the spirit of the love of horses was awarded to Barb Mabe.

Special thanks to Rickey Osmond for taking photos at the Christmas party. Check out his awesome photos [here](#).



Tamzen Black (l) accepts Bill Henry Award from Angie Holt (r)

## BE A Barn STAR!

The first Barn STARS draw occurred at the end of December and the winners of a semi-private lesson were Gracie Walker (Ride 3) and Caroline Fernandez (Ride 1.) Gracie and Caroline earned lots of stars for weekend night hay and other barn chores. Special shout outs to Sophia Andriopoulis and Nadia Bonardelli (both of Ride 3, who each earned 13 stars), and also Ride 8 for having the most people from a single ride earn ballots. Non-winning stars will carry forward to next month.

If you have not signed up to be a Barn STAR please add your name to the list! Adult riders are also welcome to sign up. You will earn a star every time you do weekend night hay, or help unload hay deliveries. Helping with shaving deliveries will earn you two stars.

Every three stars will get you an entry in a monthly draw for a semi-private lesson with the draw occurring at the end of each month.





# HJBL LECTURE SERIES

*Lectures will take place on Wednesdays from January to March from 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm in the Mitchell Room. All riders are encouraged to attend.*

The Equine Canada Learn to Ride English Level 1-10 program was developed for individuals who wish to learn safe horsemanship and practices. The program is a Canada wide program with national standards that rewards all riders, recreational to competitive, for advancing their learning with Certificates of Achievement and Badges. This program provides riders and coaches with an attainable progression throughout the rider level framework. In addition, the program encourages all riders to ride, learn and safely enjoy the sport of riding while providing guidelines to their coaches and instructors.

Lancers will be hosting the rider level lecture series throughout the year with a specific focus on lectures from January to March for various rider levels. Speak to your instructor about what EC Rider Level is appropriate for you to study. Handbooks can be purchased through the Nova Scotia Equestrian Federation [www.horsenovascotia.ca/Shopping-Development-English](http://www.horsenovascotia.ca/Shopping-Development-English). Riders must be a current member of the Nova Scotia Equestrian Federation to be eligible to take rider level examinations. NSEF membership offers many benefits including a bursary program. [Click here for more information.](#)

Lancers will facilitate the testing sessions in the Spring.

## JANUARY – FEBRUARY LECTURES

Jan. 13 - EC Rider levels 1 & 2 (For Lancer rides 8, 9, 10, & Adults)

- Anatomy of the horse and hoof, proper handling, tying & grooming. Recognizing horse's body language.

Jan. 20 – EC Rider levels 3 & 4 (For Lancer rides 5, 6, 7, & Adults)

- Anatomy of the horse, proper handling, hoof care, tying & grooming. Recognizing horse's body language and common ailments. Proper blanketing technique, Tying hay nets, & measuring a horse.

Jan. 27 – EC Rider levels 5 & 6 (For Lancer rides 2, 3, 4 & Adults)

- Recognizing horse body language and common ailments. How to take temperature, Pulse & Respiration. Basic first aid for wounds.

Feb. 3 – EC Rider Level 7 & Instructor of Beginners Candidates (For Lancer riders who have EC Canada Level 6 certification)

The remaining February and March lecture topics will be provided at a later date.

# MARCH BREAK CAMP

Lancers will offer a March Break Camp from March 14 -18 for 8-12 year olds. Camp times are 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. The cost is \$300 including HST. An early drop off or late pick option will be available at a charge of \$5.00 per day. To register for the camp please visit our website [www.bengallancers.com](http://www.bengallancers.com), download and fill out the March break camp application form, and provide a \$50.00 cheque to secure a spot in the session. Space is limited and registrants will be accepted on a first come first served basis. Campers will learn to groom and tack up, as well as the fundamentals of walking and trotting. While not riding, riders will have in-barn lessons where they learn the parts of the horse and important barn rules.



Spread the word about the upcoming March break camp. There are also a few spots open in the J Rides and Adult Rides if you know of anyone who wishes to renew their love of riding. For more information email the office at [hjbl@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:hjbl@ns.sympatico.ca) or call 902-423-6723.

## UPCOMING NEW PROGRAM DATES

Adult Beginner - Monday's at 8:30 pm      April 4 - June 20

Junior Beginner - Wednesday's at 5:30 pm and Saturday's at 1:30 pm      April 6 - June 25



# SALMON RIVER CAMP

Save the dates: Aug 15-19 and/or Aug 22-26

Junior Riders age 10 -18 eligible

Cost: \$650 per week

Register by: May 20th, 2016

\$150 deposit required upon registration

During the middle of August all Lancers horses will be transported to Salmon River, NS (just past Truro) for a mini-break. Horses will enjoy a taste of country life while Lancers volunteers and instructors will host two separate week long overnight camps for 30 junior members. Juniors will ride twice a day in the outdoor ring and also on trails as well as enjoy games, crafts and the camp experience.

The Salmon River facility features include:

- Club house with washrooms and canteen
- Large outdoor ring which can be divided into two rings
- Warm up ring
- Lots of jump standards and poles
- Two barns which can house up to 50 horses
- Approximately 230 acres with cross country trails
- Horse Trials event course

Meanwhile back at Lancers, the barn will undergo clean up and any renovations/repairs that are required before the horses return home. Mark these dates in your calendar and stay tuned for more information.



# MESSAGE FROM THE JUNIOR EXECUTIVE



*Jr Executive - Amy Withington, Emma Knapp, Beth Cordy, Dominique Johnson*

## COOKIE DOUGH FUNDRAISER

The Junior Executive are pleased to announce their major fundraiser for 2016! Please support our barn by selling cookie dough to your friends and neighbours!

Here is what you need to know:

- Forms will be distributed the week of January 18 to each rider
- Deadline for orders to be returned is Wednesday, February 10th
- All completed forms must be accompanied with cheques/money.
- All cheques are payable to HJBL.
- Cookie dough will be delivered to Lancers March 1st.
- Each 3lb tub costs \$14 - *Participation goal for each member is to sell 3 tubs each to your friends/family.*

Prizes:

For every case (six tubs) of cookie dough you sell you will receive a barn star!

Additionally, there will be prizes for the people who sell the most cookie dough!

- 1st place: A private lesson!
- 2nd most: A semi private lesson certificate!
- 3rd most: A semi private lesson certificate!

If you have any questions, please email Brenna - [noblebr@shsh.ca](mailto:noblebr@shsh.ca) or Gracie - [graciejwalker@gmail.com](mailto:graciejwalker@gmail.com).

Remember, the money is going back to our caring school horses and ponies!!! Proceeds pay for fun days, new winter coats, coolers and saddles for the horses, along with other horse necessities!

## BOWLING PARTY

The Junior Executive will host a BOWLING PARTY for all Junior Riders! Details are as follows:

Time: Saturday January 30, 2016 at 6:30 pm

Where: Bowlarama on Bayers Road in Halifax

Cost: \$10 per person

How: A sign-up sheet will be posted in the lobby. Teams will be assigned with older juniors paired with younger juniors.

*Come one come all. Meet and mingle and have some fun outside of the barn!*

*A big thank you to the Junior Executive who have kindly purchased some new equipment for the barn!!*

*A brand new 'Smart Cart' - the Cadillac of Wheel Barrows, and two new Wave forks!*

*Available for everybody's use in the barn.*



## Contact Us

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Like us on Facebook  
and Twitter



## LANCER ALUMNI

Share your favorite Lancers memories and photos with us. Feel free to email or call (see details left). We also welcome older Lancer photos!

## CANS AND BOTTLE DRIVE

Please consider saving your refundable bottles and cans and donating them to Lancers now and throughout the year. There are two easy ways to do this:

1) Bring your empties to Lancers and place them on the stairwell to the hayloft

OR

2) Drop off empties at TANNERS ENVIRO DEPOT, 6393 Bayne Street, Halifax, N.S. (At Lady Hammond Road take first right beside Rubber Duck Car Wash then first right onto Bayne Street.)

Note - you don't have to count your refundables just make sure to speak with the person in the office to let them know that your donation should be added to the HJBL account.

*Special thanks to Lynn Knapp for organizing this fund raiser on our behalf!*

## NEWSLETTER

We would love to hear from you if you have news or a special story to share. Please provide updates, important dates and other information that you want to share by email at [hjbl@ns.sympatico.ca](mailto:hjbl@ns.sympatico.ca). In the subject line - say Newsletter Content.

*Special thanks are extended to Rhea Black, former Lancer member, who contributed to the January newsletter and Rickey G Osmond, current Lancer parent, for contributing photos!*