

Maryland Steeplechasing Association

Junior/Young Rider Novice Steeplechasing Clinic

Green Spring Valley Hounds

13920 Mantua Mill Road, Reisterstown, Maryland 21136

March 3, 2019

10:00 a.m.

Location: Green Spring Valley Hounds Hunter Trial Course

Clinicians: Darren Nagle: 2x National Steeplechase Champion Jockey, Willie Dowling: MSA Trainer Proprietor of WD Racing, Liz McKnight: former MFH and Maryland Hunt Cup winner, and MSA leading junior riders Theo Sushko, Colin Smith, and Tommy Fenwick who will be avail for a Q&A session following the mounted session

Overview:

This Steeplechase Racing Clinic for Junior Riders is a mounted clinic. We will teach and practice the basic riding skills necessary to be successful on the pony racing circuit. In addition to riding we will talk about tack, entering a race, and preparing for race day. Alongside our talented clinicians, 3 of MSA's leading junior riders will be on hand to answer questions and share their experiences. Riders must be proficient at the walk, trot, and canter. Jumping is not required.

Goals:

- (1) Introduce the sport to new participants and to teach juniors with an interest in pony racing the skills and tactics necessary to succeed; more seasoned jockeys are encouraged to attend as well - all levels will benefit from our experienced panel.
- (2) Teach kids how to use their knowledge from the show ring or hunt field and translate it to the race course.
- (3) Provide all with an actual opportunity to canter in company, and to jump fences in a group. Jumping is optional.
- (4) Riders and parents should leave with a clear understanding of what happens prior to race day, the day of and during an actual race, both flat and field master chases. All will become comfortable with "race conditions," how to enter a race, the paddock protocol, required tack and equipment necessary for race day, etc.

Components:

(Mounted): Practicing the Skills and Tactics

- (1) Leg up, tying knot, goggles down
- (2) Practicing the start
- (3) Canter a turn
- (4) Canter in company and staying behind a designated leader
- (5) Approaching the fence
- (6) Schooling side by side
- (7) Schooling/jumping in a group behind a designated leader

This will also be a qualifier for the Maryland Junior Field Master Chases if you have not previously qualified.

Registration: marylandsteeplechaseassociation.com

Info: Amy Fenwick, 410-382-5348