



Stephanie Stemmler Photos

2009 OPEN NATIONALS

THE FIELDS WILL BE BEAUTIFUL!

October 2-4, 2009

Blue Heron Farms in Defiance, Missouri:

The American Polocrosse Association is pleased to have 2009 Nationals at beautiful Blue Heron Farms at 4020 Benne Road in Defiance, Missouri. Our scheduling will be more relaxed, but expect that our play will still be fast and fun. Play starts Friday morning and goes to Sunday afternoon. The idea is to have games on the hour, with down time in between. You will be able to play APA members from different zones, you have the chance to meet new people and visit with old friends. Prizes are special and you will be able to honor those getting our rotating awards and those of special recognition. When there is a potential to see well over 100 APA players line up for the National Anthem, it will make you swell with pride for polocrosse! This is what our event is about.

New formatting and a new centrally located facility will allow more equal access to all participants and a top notch facility ensures the safety and security for our players, our horses and our supporters. Plan to participate in the auction for incredible items! Come one, come all to a planned exhibition on Saturday afternoon with Guy McLean, an incredibly talented horseman traveling with Simon Knight, breeder of the premier Australian Stock Horse stallion, Warrenbri Romeo. Visit both websites at www.warrenbristud.com and www.guymclean.com.au

This year after listening to the playing members, the APA Board has voted to modify the definition of a team to allow the participation of more than one foreign player per team. We hope that our inclusive policy affords our membership exposure to increased technical skills and will provide access to future coaching and educational opportunities.

Please remember that we are being viewed for the first time by the local population and the Busch family members. We want to make a good impression. Parking instructions for trailers will be available upon arrival. Trash control and pick up will be mandatory. We'd like to be welcomed back in the future. Come enjoy great play and great fellowship and join us for the biggest tournament of them all!

ARE YOU OF **MASTERS (over 40) AGE??** If so, **WE WANT YOU!** We want a whole Masters Division, not just a few chukkas...but we need you to sign up. Want a slower pace than A Grade? Come enjoy the fun of competition without those hot shot youths trying their hardest to upstage you. Join past player greats, past Presidents and Board Members. Not available if we don't get the players.

AUCTION: Some may be live, some will be 'silent'. This is always fun and entertaining during Saturday dinner. Please make arrangements with Laura Humphreys at lhumphreys@americanpolocrosse.org to donate craft items, art items, decorative items, baskets, services, jewelry etc. and more. Ask a talented person or business you spend with to donate. Outbid your polocrosse friends! Start a bidding war! See what is there! Keep track during dinner of who is bidding higher than you are...and outbid them! This is shopping at its most convenient...at the announced time, bidding will stop, paperwork will be done and owners get to pay up! *Thanks for supporting the APA!*

U21 Best Rider Award: The APA would like to recognize knowledgeable, serious good riders in our sport. Your club nominates you, using these criteria:

- 1) Candidates will be someone who regularly comes to club practices;
- 2) Covers the range of someone who trains their own horse to someone who rides loaners;
- 3) Is a good to strong rider who uses all the aids to ask the horse to "do" things efficiently and humanely. This is not someone who just looks nice on a horse, nor someone who uses just hands or balances from the stirrups; this is someone who works *with* the horse in proper communication;
- 4) Candidates play in Nationals, where the winner will be named;
- 5) We are planning for attending PDP Coaches to select.
- 6) **Clubs: send nominations to Laura Humphreys at lhumphreys@americanpolocrosse.org by September 1st.**

Bomber Junior Horseman Award to be awarded at Nationals

The Bomber Junior Horseman Award is for junior riders under the age of 18 who show the best ability to bring along and make a playing horse over the course of a season. Check the website under APA News for the details of nomination.

PARTICULARS OF THE EVENT:

Team Declarations: PLEASE email your team list and what division you *think* you will play in to Laura Humphreys no later than September 4th. This helps us know who wants to be in Masters, D and Junior divisions; and we'd like the program to be correct. Remember, ratings will be used to place teams in divisions.

Format: 6-man teams in A, B and C Grade. Sectional in D Grade, Masters and Juniors.

Masters: looking for a division of sections; this is for recreational players over 40, looking for fun without the pressure of the other divisions. Need 3 sections to have a division.

D Division: looking for sections of newer adult players who are playing at a slower pace.

Juniors: for players 17 and under in the Junior Division. Prizes and entry fee for a secondary group will differ if the division is split for beginner Juniors. Need 3 sections to have a division.

Reminder: **The Tournament Committee and Ratings Chair will decide the divisions according to ratings spreads. Divisions cannot be predicted and are dependant on when players get their entry forms in to the Nationals Chair. Please email or send in the entry form before the deadline!**

Entry Fee: \$175 per player in A, B, C, D and Masters. \$135 for Juniors playing in the Junior Division (17 and under).

Late Fee: **\$25 fee added to entry if received after September 4th or at registration. No exceptions. This is to encourage earlier information so scheduling can take place.**

Stalls: 12' by 12' stalls are \$15 per night. Stalls will be marked with your name.

Stall Clean Up Deposit: \$20 per stall. Your stall cleaning deposit will be refunded after Nationals if your stalls are cleaned before you leave the site. If you do not clean them, the APA will keep the clean up deposit.

Paddocks: Two paddocks are available, 10 horses per paddock, \$15 per horse per night; electric fencing allowed there only. First 20 horses (electric fencing mandatory here) get space. **Call first or email before you send entry money.** You must clean area, spread manure before you leave. lhumphreys@americanpolocrosse.org

Electric Pens: ARE NOT ALLOWED. The facility has decided these would tear up the grounds too much. Only allowed in the two paddocks.

Services: Hay, grain and shavings are for sale. Phone numbers and directions will be in the program. Veterinarians and farriers will be on call. EMT's will be on site.

Feed/Supplies: Green's Feed Store 636-561-6637. Pre-order shavings on entry form for \$6 per 3.2 cu/ft. bag.

Camping: CAMPING ALLOWED in designated trailer areas, next to your trailer or in it. You will be directed where to set up. No camp fires. No showers. Please clean up your area before you leave. How we handle ourselves is a reflection on the APA at this site.

Arrivals: You may arrive early but you must contact Laura Humphreys by September 4th if you plan to arrive before September 30th. Coggins will be checked. Please put an emergency number where you can be contacted during Nationals on the entry form.

Trailers: park in designated area; by barn or by paddocks. Camping only in your trailer or next to it. Tents on other parts of the property are not allowed.

RV's: NO electric hook ups available. Limited electric access at barn.

Gate to Use: All trailers and cars to use the main gate to the barn area.

Meals: Friday and Saturday night dinner will be catered. Free for players; non players pay \$15 for Friday and \$25 for Saturday night. Lunches will be by concession on the grounds Friday, Saturday and Sunday morning. Hospitality Tent drink tickets will be sold on entry form, at registration and at dinner at a drink ticket table.

Motel: The Hilton Garden Inn is the closest to the facility at about 6 miles from the site. Make reservations at 636-625-2700 or go to. Mention APA Nationals and the discount is \$79.00 per night. Pets are allowed. **The deadline for the discount block is September 18th.**

Ads: If you would like to be an APA sponsor, we will give you space in the program, contact Laura Humphreys with your computer ready ad at lhumphreys@americanpolocrosse.org no later than **September 4th**. Advertise your club or let your friends know you support them!

All players must be current full APA members, not day members. New members may join at Nationals; renewing members (if you have ever been a member) rejoin with the late fee.

The new helmet rule will be in effect at Nationals.

Foreign players: More than one foreign player may play on a team be and be eligible to place in the division. They must be in good standing with their home country and must join the APA as a full member.

Registration: Thursday afternoon, at the APA Tent. **AGM time will be in the program.**

Rules Clinic/Team Captains Meeting: Thursday, late afternoon about 5 PM at the APA Tent.

FACILITY RULES:

- Trailers will be parked in a designated area, to be lined up neatly
- **All dogs MUST be tied at camp or on a leash at all times and in control**
- No camp fires; no smoking in stable areas
- Do not block roads on site with vehicles

DEADLINE: Have your entry form and fees in to Laura Humphreys BY September 1st.

Make checks payable to: **American Polocrosse Association** and send to:

Laura Humphreys, APA Nationals

P.O. Box 158

Bonneau, SC 29431

Directions to The Ranch:

- From St. Louis, take I-70 West towards Kansas City
- Take MO-94, exit # 228, First Capitol Drive
- Take MO-94 West
- After 12.5 miles, turn right onto MO-D
- After 5.8 miles, turn right onto MO-DD
- After .9 miles, turn left onto Benne Road
- Blue Heron Farms is .8 miles on the left at 4020 Benne Road
- Drive in on the barn side of the property, there will be a Board Member to assist you with parking directions.

Deadline-September 4thDeadline-September 4thDeadline-September 4th

September 4th: send team declarations to Laura Humphreys, lhumphreys@americanpolocrosse.org

September 4th: deadline for program ads

September 4th: deadline for entry form AND fee

September 4th: deadline to tell Laura Humphreys early arrival date (if before September 30)

September 18th: deadline for hotel reservations to get discount fee

ENTRY FORM ON NEXT PAGE

DEADLINE; SEPTEMBER 4th at the APA office in SC

Name _____

Address _____

Your Phone and Email _____

Your Emergency Number While At Nationals _____

Team Name, Shirt Colors (needed for program) _____

List Team Members (needed for program) _____

Need teammates? _____ Division you *think* you'll be in _____

Ratings will be used to seed teams; seeding rounds may be used. (A, B, C, D, Masters, Junior)

Player Entry: \$175 for A, B, C, D, Masters; \$135 for Junior in Junior Division..... \$ _____

Late Fee: Add \$25 to entry fee if entry *will arrive in SC after September 4th*..... \$ _____

Fun Chukkas: \$30 for 2 chukkas of Mom/Dad; Green Horse; Mini Junior (circle) \$ _____

Dinners: (count is needed for caterer planning for players and non players)

Player Friday _____ Saturday _____ ~included~

Non-Player Friday (\$15) _____ Saturday(\$25) _____ Kids under 10: \$10 each... \$ _____

Drink Tickets: \$4 for Beer and Wine; \$5 for Margarita or other mixed drink

Please itemize here \$4 x _____ \$5 x _____ \$ _____

Arrival Date: _____ **Departure Date:** _____

If you want to arrive earlier than Thursday, 9/30, you must notify Laura Humphreys

Stalls

How many stalls? _____ x \$15 per night = _____ x how many nights? _____ = \$ _____

Shavings Order.....\$6.00 per bag.....How many bags? _____ x \$6.00\$ _____

Membership (please include signed membership form)

New APA Membership (\$90 Family; \$60 Senior (Over 18); \$30 Junior (17 & Under) \$ _____

Renewals: After January 31st: (\$108 Family; \$72 Senior; \$36 Junior) \$ _____

Umpire Horses: This sport cannot be played without umpire horses Each team is

required to supply an umpire horse that is fit for the grade game to be played and safe. The APA

Chief Umpire is requiring each team to supply an appropriate umpire horse for that team's game. The Chief Umpire may swap the umpire horses depending on the grade of play/quality of horse. Each team is responsible for meeting with the Chief Umpire and that team's scheduled umpires in advance to clarify what horses will be provided. Teams who do not satisfy the requirement to appear timely with a qualified horse will be penalized. Team umpire horse: _____ Appropriate grades of play: _____

Anyone available for scorekeeping and timekeeping? Who? _____

Please have them find Betsy Lovelace at registration.....THANK YOU!

TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED..... \$ _____

Make checks payable to: **American Polocrosse Association; send to:**

Laura Humphreys, APA Nationals; P.O. Box 158; Bonneau, SC 29431

Questions? Ask Laura Humphreys at 843-825-2686 or email at lhumphreys@americanpolocrosse.org

Notes for Registration:

