



January 2016 Newsletter



Where you and your horse
can have fun!

Happy New Year!!!

January Events

SOCA would like to wish all of you a very Happy New Year! It's hard to believe the new season is already here! We have two events in January.

January 16th and 17th is our combined Extreme Cowboy Race and Obstacle Challenge at the Florida Horse Park. We already have a number of entries in both events, as well as folks camping. If you haven't sent your entries or made your reservations, please do so now! The flyer/entry/reservation form is attached and is on the website.

January 30th will be an open schooling day at Darby Oaks Stables in Bushnell, FL. For those of you that want to try obstacles, but aren't ready for competition yet, this is the place to start. Over 40 obstacles that you can try at your own pace, as many times as you like, between 10 am and 2 pm. The flyer and release form are attached and are on the SOCA website.

We look forward to seeing everyone at a SOCA event soon!

REMINDER.....

SOCA dues (\$10) are due January 1st!

Please renew at your first event of the year.

Dues help fund the highpoint awards and administrative costs of the club.

Thank you to the Tack Shack of Ocala for your generous donation and the great work you did on our Championship Jackets!

2016 Events

- 1/16-17/16** – Florida Horse Park – Extreme Cowboy Race (double points) on Saturday & Obstacle Challenge on Sunday (**Flyer Attached**)
- 1/30/16** – Schooling Day – Darby Oaks Stables, Bushnell, FL (**Flyer attached**)
- 2/27/16** – Obstacle Challenge – Hillsborough County Fairgrounds in Dover, FL to benefit the Special Olympics. (**Flyer attached**)
- 4/9/16** – Extreme Cowboy Race (double points) - Green River Farm, Gaffney, SC
- 4/23/16** – Obstacle Challenge – McCulley Farms, Jasper, FL
- 5/14/16** – Extreme Cowboy Race (double points) – Pontotoc Agri-Center, Pontotoc, MS
- 6/3-4/16** – Extreme Cowboy Race – EXCA Nationals (Triple Points), Circle E Guest Ranch, Belvidere, TN
- 7/9/16** – Schooling Day & Judging Clinic- Darby Oaks Stables, Bushnell, FL
- 8/13/16** – Extreme Cowboy Race (Double Points) – Chicopee Agricultural Center, Gainesville, GA
- 9/10/16** – Obstacle Challenge - Darby Oaks Stables, Bushnell, FL
- 9/24/16** – Extreme Cowboy Race SE Regional Championships (Triple Points)- Green River Farm, Gaffney, SC
- 11/12/16** – Obstacle Challenge Championships (double points) – TBD

**Events flyers are on the website at
www.southernobstaclechallenges.com**

Southern Obstacle Challenge Association

352-217-2448



P.O. Box 1479, Bushnell, FL 33513

southernobstaclechallenges@gmail.com

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Joel Mobley
and Jim
Anderson
having a
little fun in
MS!

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SOCA NEWS AND HAPPENINGS

SOCA's own Rick Peniston in Carolina
Hoofbeats Magazine – Congratulations!



ATTENTION YOUTH!!!

Bernie Duncan Memorial Educational Fund

Starting with the 2016 show season, SOCA will award \$500 to the high point youth rider at the Obstacle Challenges and \$500 to the high point youth rider at the Extreme Cowboy Races.

The youth/horse combination must compete in all 2016 SOCA Obstacle Challenges to be eligible for the \$500 Challenge Fund Award.

The youth/horse combination must compete in all 2016 SOCA Extreme Cowboy Races to be eligible for the \$500 Race Fund Award.

The Youth must be a paid member of SOCA for the 2016 season. The same youth can win both awards if they attend all races and challenges.

There is no application or fee to be included, with the exception of dues and entry fees for each event.

Spread the word – If you know of any youth riders that would like to participate, the first event is January 16th and 17th!

If you have news that you would like to submit to the SOCA newsletter, please email it to southernobstaclechallenges@gmail.com

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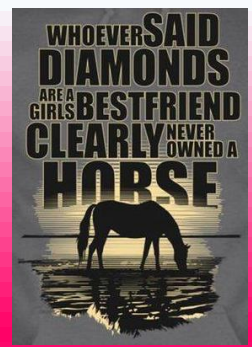
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Each year, SOCA makes a donation to charities on behalf of our judges that go above and beyond by judging at all of our obstacle challenges. Here are the recipients of this year's donations!



Plantation Horse Rescue in Bushnell,
FL on behalf of Lisa Ratliff



Bella Run Equine Rescue on behalf
of Denise Rizzo



Daytona Beach German Shepherd
Rescue on behalf of Keith Earle



The First Baptist Church of Fort McCoy
Youth Program on behalf of J.P. Tyson



Equine Rescue and Adoption Foundation
on behalf of Dorrie Krabec



The Key Training Center in Inverness, FL on
behalf of Kathy Beville & Danny Hochadel

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REMINDER!!!! What's new for 2016

SOCA 2016 Divisions

EXCA Rule Changes

Divisions - Please be honest with divisions entered – SOCA promotes a fair playing field for all skill levels. SOCA reserves the right to refuse entries for anyone purposely misrepresenting their abilities, as deemed by judges and officers. If you have questions about what division you belong in, please ask!!

- **Youth** – Riders 17 & Under (limit of three horses per youth rider)
- **First Year Horse & Rider (Amateur)** - Both horse and rider (non professional) are new to obstacle challenges and SOCA. Can only compete in this introductory division one show year (Jan – Nov).
- **Novice Horse & Rider** – If you have won a SOCA event or any obstacle challenge, you are not eligible for Novice. SOCA judges or directors can determine that you should remain in Novice or should be moved up due to skill level. If you place in the top 3, three times in SOCA events, you must move up to Non Pro or Open Elite.
- **Non-Pro (Intermediate Horse & Riders)** – Riders 18 & Over who do not accept money for training or riding horses. Riders may complete the year as Non-Pro, however, any rider placing in the top 3, three times, will graduate to Open Elite the next year.
- **Open Elite** – This division is open to trainers and Non-Pro riders that have excelled in that division and graduated to Open Elite status. These are the top tier riders and horses, the SOCA Elite!
- **Posse** – Horse/rider that is a certified member of any posse or mounted unit, or has trained with a posse. Posse or mounted unit riders can choose to compete in Non Pro or Open Elite, instead of Posse.
- **Green Horse** – Training division for horses of any age, that are new to obstacle challenges, and riders of any level. Prizes and ribbons only, no payback or high point. Horses must move out of Green Horse after one win or after one show season (January – November).

EXTREME COWBOY ASSOCIATION

Major Rule Changes in 2016

- **Obstacles should not be numbered.**
- **Novice Move Ups:** At the end of the competition year, a decision will be made by the Executive Board as to whether or not to move a competitor out of the Novice Division. The Executive Board will make this statistical determination based on how many times a Novice has won their division and the number of competitors that were in the Novice division at each race. A rider who has been moved out of the Novice Division may petition the Executive Board to remain in the Novice Division.
- **Intermediate Move Ups:** At the end of the competition year, a decision will be made by the Executive Board as to whether or not to move a competitor out of the Intermediate Division. The Executive Board will make this statistical determination based on how many times an Intermediate has won their division and the number of competitors that were in the Intermediate division at each race. A rider who has been moved out of the Intermediate Division may petition the Executive Board to remain in the Intermediate Division. An Intermediate rider may not ride “down” into a lower division.

**THANKS TO ALL OUR JUDGES,
VOLUNTEERS &
SPONSORS!!!!!!!**

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Serenity Ranch Photography
Dade City, FL

Jr Adams
SerenityRanchPhotography.com
serenityranchphotography@outlook.com



THANKS TO OUR 2016 SPONSORS!!!

SOCA would like to thank our 2016 Corporate Sponsors

Glonek Trucking- Auto Taxi Transport –Stellar Marine & Lisa Steinbach
Walker Pond Farm – Darby Oaks Stables – Performance Marketing Services
Ehrich Transport – Peniston Deason Attorneys – Mo & Keith Earle

Ranch Hand & Gene Chaires – Serenity Ranch Photography – La Fiesta Mexican Restaurant

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Phone 352-568-2001
Fax 352-568-3351

Performance Marketing Services

Tracy Pitson
President
PO Box 1477
Bushnell, FL 33513
Phone - 352-568-3309
Cell - 352-217-2448
Fax - 352-568-3351
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stellarmarine.net

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Mo & Keith Earle
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www.PenDeason.com



La Fiesta Mexican Restaurant
7802 N. Atlantic Avenue (A1A)
Cape Canaveral, Florida 32920
(321) 783-7755

**Thank you to our 2016
buckle, division and
ribbon sponsors:**
Tyson Colt Company
**Janie & Wayne Van De
Walker**
L&M Awards
**Renee' Lewis Pet
Sitting**



Vetericyn ^{plus}

**We have room for more
2016 sponsors!!!!**



**SPONSOR OF THE 2016 OVERALL
HIGHPOINT AWARD
HEARTLAND FARMS**

Ranch Hand Feed Depot
21029 Cortez Blvd.
Brooksville, FL 34601
352-796-4186



Obstacle Practice/Schooling Directory

Kick N Back Farm has got well over 50 obstacles spread out both on and off trails. Many are in the woods and closely mimic both SOCA, as well as other trail competitions. We also have arena style obstacles. We have everything from the "scary" horse killing objects to finesse style challenges to help people at whatever level they want to work. Located in Ocklawah, FL 352-895-2564.

- Minimum of 5 to schedule weekdays or evenings. Also offer night obstacles and host clinics.
- Prices: One on one \$50; Groups of 5 plus \$40; Play days \$25
Clinics are \$40 with lots of hands on help and we serve lunch for \$5
Current SOCA members \$5 off clinics if signed up in advance
- <https://www.facebook.com/KnBFarmObstacles> (check for scheduled events)



Greene Acres Stables - Owners Pam and Ronnie Bacon 813-727-0502
Email twhcasper2@gmail.com 5041 Reece Road, Plant City, FL 33567
Cost for schooling your horse \$20.00 Per horse - Negative coggins required.
Plenty of obstacles and still adding – Schooling and lessons available.



Time to Shine Equestrian Center - Located in Lakeland, Florida. Right now practice days will only be a couple days a month, but no set schedule due to the summer rains. We will also be having scheduled obstacle challenges and will be updating our Facebook page. Phone is 863-559-4589



TROT Ranch - 25 Acres of Fun, located in Geneva, Florida. All ages and disciplines of riding are welcome. Shaded trails, open fields, over 50 obstacles providing the perfect place to, have fun, enhance confidence and build trust. We provide creative obstacles from low to high challenges that build and test your skills in a safe and controlled environment. You control the pace and intensity with expert guidance when you need it. Whether your goal is to win obstacle challenges or simply have fun with your horse TROT Ranch is here. Bring a friend or book a group. **For more information go to our webpage: www.trottranch.com. To schedule a session or lesson email jane@trottranch.com or call 407-349-9351.** Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/trot.ranch



Tyson Colt Company – Ft. McCoy, FL – Training, lessons, obstacle course on premises, come practice anytime \$25 per person.
Contact: Audra Tyson 352-390-7446.



TTT Horsemanship - Join the obstacle challenge fun or win that trail class – Confidence building for you and horse. Offering private lessons on your horse or mine. Vicky DeCaro Summerfield, FL 704-953-5632



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2016 High Points

In 2016 SOCA will award high point obstacle challenge winners in the following divisions: First Year (Amateur), Novice, Youth, Non Pro, Open Elite and Posse. Points from each of the 2016 SOCA Obstacle Challenges will be totaled, with double points at the obstacle challenge championship in November. The horse/rider team with the most points will be the high point champion. Based on the feedback from members, the high point award will be custom SOCA buckles.

Regional Championship buckles for the Extreme Cowboy Races will be determined by points accumulated at SOCA events only. The horse/rider teams accumulating the most points at each designated SOCA EXCA race (with the triple points at the Nationals in June and Regional Championship races in September and double points for all State Championships) will be awarded the high point buckle in the following divisions: Pro, Non-Pro, Ride Smart, Novice, Intermediate, Youth, and Non-Pro.

Purpose of SOCA

OBSTACLE CHALLENGES

- Divisions for all levels of horses and riders
- Open to all breeds
- Payback in all classes, prizes, and ribbons
- Ten to fifteen obstacles
- Events will be in arenas and on the trail

EXTREME COWBOY RACES

- Sanctioned Extreme Cowboy Races with divisions for: Pro, Non-Pro, Novice, Intermediate, Ride Smart, Youth, Young Guns, & Green Horse
- Open to all breeds
- Payback, prizes, and ribbons

CLINICS/SCHOOLING DAYS

- Learn to negotiate obstacles
- Schooling days will allow you to practice obstacles with the help of others, and without the pressure of competition.

Dates, details and previous months newsletters can be found on the SOCA website at

www.southernobstaclechallenges.com

SOCA dues (\$10) are due January 1st!

Please renew at your first event of the year.

Dues help fund the highpoint awards and administrative costs of the club.

Extreme Cowboy Racers

Reminder to pay your dues to the EXCA so your points will count! If you aren't sure if you are current, check the EXCA website under the club page.

If you have news that you would like to submit to the SOCA newsletter, please email it to

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