

Martha's Vineyard Horse Council

Shows and Events

2026



Visit our website: mvhorsecouncil.com

Martha's Vineyard Horse Council

The MVHC is a non-profit organization comprised of horse lovers, trainers, professionals and pleasure enthusiasts.

MVHC works to bring together all horse lovers on Martha's Vineyard, to promote horses and their related activities, and to provide educational clinics, seminars and youth programs for its membership.

You don't just join the Martha's Vineyard Horse Council, you become part of the Island horse community.

Monthly meetings are held on the 2nd Thursday of each month, except August, at the Martha's Vineyard Agricultural Hall, 35 Panhandle Rd, West Tisbury, unless otherwise noted on the website, mvhorceouncil.com.

Membership is required to participate in MVHC shows and events. Membership is valid for one calendar year starting in January.

MVHC Officers and Committee Chairs

President

Jill Lane
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Vice President

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Webmaster

Vici Surr

Dressage

Jennifer Rand

Horse Shows

Sam Look

Pace Rides

Stephanie Dryer

Education/Equine Aid

Julie Flanders

Welfare

Jennifer Rand

Scholarship

Clare Harrington

MVHC RULES & REGULATIONS

*All participants must be a current member to register for MVHC events**

Participants must be familiar with MVHC event rules and regulations

The MVHC, event organizers, officials or clinicians will not be responsible for any accident that may occur to any animal, person or property and each participant shall hold them harmless and indemnify them against any legal proceedings or liabilities arising from any such accident, or loss of property caused to or by property or employee of such participant.

General:

- The MVHC reserves the right to change officials or clinicians, decline any entry, revise time schedule, cancel any class where there is less than two entries, combine classes or divide any class in the best interest of the event.
- Neat attire, including helmet and boots, shall be worn by all riders at all events.
- Proof of negative Coggins must accompany each entry. Coggins tests must be dated within six months for out-of-state horses and 24 months for Massachusetts horses. Other vaccinations should also be current.
- All riders must wear properly fitted ASTM/SEI-certified protective headgear with the harness secured at all times when mounted on competition grounds. Any rider violating this rule will be immediately prohibited from further riding until such headgear is properly in place. It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian of the junior exhibitor to see that the headgear worn complies with such standards.
- Stalls at the Ag Hall barn are charged per day on a first come basis. Participants are responsible for cleaning their stall and area around their stall before leaving the show grounds. A cleaning fee will be charged for any stall not properly cleaned.
- Under Massachusetts Law an equine professional is not liable for an injury to or the death of a participant in equine activities pursuant to section 2D of Chapter 128 of the General Law.

Horse Shows:

- Horses entered and not exhibited shall forfeit fees, unless the committee is presented with a veterinary certificate, or in equitation only, a physician's certificate
- No participant or person shall approach the judge unless he first obtains permission from the show manager. Any exhibitor or person disregarding this rule may be asked to cancel all entries and forfeit entry fees. Judges' decisions are final.
- Champion and Reserve ribbons may be awarded in all divisions to the top two horses who have acquired the most points in their divisions. Points will be awarded through 6th place: 10, 8, 6, 4, 2, 1. There must be at least three entries in the first over fences class in all hunter divisions and at least two entries in all other classes unless otherwise stated for championship and year-end points to be awarded. To be eligible for championship and reserve, the exhibitor must have shown in at least one other qualifying class in the division.
- A trophy may be presented in all classes.
- Post entry fees may apply to entries not received by a given date before the show.

*Horse related events including horse shows, clinics, trail rides, hunter paces and meetings.

2026 MVHC Events

The MVHC will be offering year end awards in 2026.

To be eligible one must participate in two out of the three shows in the Open Show Series.

May 17, 2026

Spring Fling Open Show & Tack Sale

Judge: Tobí Stall

June 7, 2026

Dressage Show

Judge: Lainey Johnson

June 11, 2026, 6:00 pm

MV Horse Council Meeting

June 28, 2026

Trail Ride

July 9, 2026, 6:00 pm

MV Horse Council Meeting

August 16, 2026, 10:00 am

**MV Horse Council Demonstrations at the
Martha's Vineyard Agricultural Fair**

September 10, 2026, 6:00 pm

MV Horse Council Meeting

September 20, 2026

Open Show

Judge: TBA

October 8, 2026, 6:00 pm

MV Horse Council Meeting

October 18, 2026

Fall Fuzzy Open Show

Judge: TBA

November 12, 2026, 6:00 pm

**MV Horse Council Annual Meeting
and Election of Officers**

December 8, 2026, 6:00 pm

MV Horse Council Meeting

*Entry forms are available
on the MVHC website.*

*Check the website for
updates to these events
and events that have not
yet been listed.*

mvhorsecouncil.com



PLAN AHEAD

For the MVHC William M. Honey Scholarship

All applicants must be paid members of the
MVHC for three years prior to application.

Keep your membership up to date
to qualify for this scholarship.

*Applications for the Horse Council Scholarship are due each March.
See the MVHC website or your high school guidance counselor for details.*



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Martha's Vineyard Horse Council Open Horse Show Series

Warm-up opens at 7:45 • Classes begin at 9:00

Classes may be split to accommodate large groups and/or multiple riders sharing a horse or pony. When a split occurs, the show committee will make every effort to split groups according to age and experience.

If you don't see something that you were hoping we would include, please just let us know! The intent of the show committee is to include as many riders as possible.

Show attire is not required, but all riders must wear helmets and boots.

Stalls are available on a first come-first served basis. The stall must be left clean.

If you need help finding someone to trailer your horse to the show, we can provide a list of people who have offered their services for this event. *Entry forms and membership applications are available on the MVHC website: mvhorsecouncil.com*

The MVHC will be offering year end awards in 2026.

To be eligible one must participate in two out of the three shows in the Open Show Series.

CLASS LIST

In Hand Division

1. Fitting and Showmanship (no charge, open to all ages, all disciplines). Judged on appearance of horse: condition, grooming, braiding, tack care & ground manners. Rider does not need to be in formal show clothes but should be neat and clean.
27. In Hand Class: Open to all ages. Handlers may be asked to walk and trot their horses in hand, and navigate obstacles.

Leadline Division

Open to all riders. Leader must be 14 years+. Shown at the walk and individually at the trot. Riders under 5 must have a spotter.

2. Leadline Equitation
3. Leadline Pleasure

Short/Long Stirrup Division

Open to any and all riders, regardless of age, who walk, trot, canter and jump 18" (riders can also opt to do the course as trotting poles if more comfortable)

4. Short/Long Stirrup Equitation
5. Short/Long Stirrup Pleasure
6. Short/Long Stirrup Equitation Over Fences (18", four-six fences)
7. Short/Long Stirrup Hunter Over Fences (18", four-six fences)

Adult Division

Open to all riders, 18 and older, who walk, trot, canter and jump 2' or higher. Each rider can pick their course height and complexity, 2'- 2' 9".

8. Adult Equitation on the Flat

9. Adult Equitation Over Fences
10. Adult Hunter Under Saddle
11. Adult Hunter Over Fences
12. Adult Hunter Equitation Over Fences

Junior Division

Open to all riders, under the age of 18 yrs, who walk, trot, canter and jump 2' or higher. Each rider can pick their course height and complexity, 2' - 2' 9".

13. Junior Equitation on the Flat
14. Junior Equitation Over Fences
15. Junior Hunter Under Saddle
16. Junior Hunter Over Fences
17. Junior Hunter Equitation Over Fences

Green Horse/Pony Division

Open to riders of all ages on any horse or pony in its first year of showing.

18. Green Horse/Pony Hunter Under Saddle
19. Green Horse/Pony Hunter Suitability
20. Green Horse/Pony Pleasure

Walk Trot Division

Open to all riders under age 18.

21. Walk Trot Equitation
22. Walk Trot Pleasure
23. Walk Trot Horsemanship

Walk Trot Canter Division

Open to all riders under age 18.

24. Walk Trot Canter Equitation
25. Walk Trot Canter Pleasure
26. Walk Trot Canter, trot poles (riders will individually navigate a short course of poles)

Adult Walk Trot (and Canter) Division

Open to all riders 18 and over. Walk, trot in both directions and canter at rider's discretion – not at all, one at a time, only one side of the ring, etc.

28. Adult Walk Trot (and Canter by choice) Equitation
29. Adult Walk Trot (and Canter by choice) Pleasure
30. Adult Walk Trot (and Canter by choice) Horsemanship

Pleasure Division

Open to all riders, regardless of age. Emphasis on demeanor and harmony of horse and rider team. May be ridden in any tack (Western, English, Dressage, etc.).

- 31. Open Pleasure
- 32. Pleasure Horse and Pony (emphasis on transitions)
- 33. Pleasure Hack (may include extensions and hand gallop)
- 34. Pairs Class: Open to riders of all ages.

Western Division

Open to all riders, regardless of age.

- 35. Western Equitation
- 36. Western Pleasure
- 37. Western Horsemanship

Games Division

- 39. Apple Drop: Maneuver your horse to pick up apples and move them to new locations, including tops of standards, fence posts and/or dropping them in buckets. Fastest time with all apples successfully in the right places wins.
- 40. Crepe Paper Pairs: Two horses ride in sync, with riders holding a piece of crepe.
- 41. Egg and Spoon: See how long you can ride while holding an egg and spoon in one hand.
- 42. Barrel Racing / Pole Bending: Race through a figure of barrels (or standards). Fastest time wins.
- 43. Sit-a-Buck: Remember a \$5 bill to ride with! Test your seat, how long can you keep a \$5 bill from flying out. May be ridden bareback or with a saddle. Winner takes all the \$5 bills!
- 44. Izzy Dizzy: From start line, ride pony to a marked location. Dismount, hand pony to a person. Put head on bat, spin 7 full circles, then RUN back to start line.
- 45. Wheelbarrow Race: From start line, two riders ride pony to a marked location. Hand pony to a person. One rider gets into a wheelbarrow and is pushed by the other rider back to start line.
- 46. Costume Class

TIME TABLE

Classes start at 9:00 am

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Fitting and Showmanship | 24. Walk Trot Canter Equitation |
| 2. Leadline Equitation | 25. Walk Trot Canter Pleasure |
| 3. Leadline Pleasure | 26. Walk Trot Canter, trot poles |
| 4. Short/Long Stirrup Equitation | 27. In Hand Class |
| 5. Short/Long Stirrup Pleasure | 28. Adult Walk Trot (and Canter by choice) Equitation |
| 6. Short/Long Stirrup Equitation Over Fences | 29. Adult Walk Trot (and Canter by choice) Pleasure |
| 7. Short/Long Stirrup Hunter Over Fences | 30. Adult Walk Trot (and Canter by choice) Horsemanship |
| 8. Adult Equitation on the Flat | 31. Open Pleasure |
| 9. Adult Equitation Over Fences | 32. Pleasure Horse and Pony (emphasis on transitions) |
| 10. Adult Hunter Under Saddle | 33. Pleasure Hack (may include extensions and hand gallop) |
| 11. Adult Hunter Over Fences | 34. Pairs Class |
| 12. Adult Hunter Equitation Over Fences | 35. Western Equitation |
| 13. Junior Equitation on the Flat | 36. Western Pleasure |
| 14. Junior Equitation Over Fences | 37. Western Horsemanship |
| 15. Junior Hunter Under Saddle | 39. Apple Drop |
| 16. Junior Hunter Over Fences | 40. Crepe Paper Pairs |
| 17. Junior Hunter Equitation Over Fences | 41. Egg and Spoon |
| 18. Green Horse/Pony Hunter Under Saddle | 42. Barrel Racing/Pole Bending |
| 19. Green Horse/Pony Hunter Suitability | 43. Sit-a-Buck |
| 20. Green Horse/Pony Pleasure | 44. Izzy Dizzy |
| 21. Walk Trot Equitation | 45. Wheelbarrow Race |
| 22. Walk Trot Pleasure | 46. Costume Class |
| 23. Walk Trot Horsemanship | |

Martha's Vineyard Horse Council Fun Day

June 7, 2026

SCHOOLING DRESSAGE SHOW

Dressage Judge: Lainey Johnson

WORKING EQUITATION OBSTACLE COURSE

MV Agricultural Hall
35 Panhandle Rd, West Tisbury, MA
9:00AM Start Time

**Entry Fee: \$25 per Dressage Class
\$20 Working Equitation Obstacle Course
must be included with entry form**

Entry Due Date: June 1, 2026

**Exhibitors MUST be current members of
Martha's Vineyard Horse Council, Inc. to show.**

*Entry Forms and Membership Applications are available on the
MVHC website: mvhorsecouncil.com*



Class List

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. Intro Level Test A | 7. First Level Test 1 |
| 2. Intro Level Test B | 8. First Level Test 2 |
| 3. Intro Level Test C | 9. First Level Test 3 |
| 4. Training Level Test 1 | 10. Test of Choice (2 nd through 4 th , |
| 5. Training Level Test 2 | 11. Eventing Test of Choice |
| 6. Training Level Test 3 | 12. Western Dressage Test of Choice |
| 13. Working Equitation Obstacle Course. Numbered obstacles / patterns. Ride any from one to all. Can be done at the walk, trot or canter. Ribbons for the number of obstacles completed. | |



Martha's Vineyard Horse Council, Inc.

Membership Form

☐ Renew ☐ New For Year _____

Membership Type:

☐ \$20 Junior (under 18 years of age) ☐ \$25 Adult (18 years and older) ☐ \$40 Family (up to 2 Adults and 2 Juniors)

Member's Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____ If Junior, Date of Birth _____

For Family Membership only:

Additional Adult Name _____

1st Junior Name _____ Date of Birth _____

2nd Junior Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Rider's Discipline:

Please select your primary discipline (1) and other choices (2, 3, etc.)

☐ Dressage	☐ Trail
☐ Hunter/Jumper	☐ Endurance
☐ Eventing	☐ Driving
☐ Western	☐ Other _____

For Office Use Only:

Member No. _____

Date _____

Payment type _____

Payment:

Donation to MVHC General Programming: \$ _____

Donation to MVHC Scholarship Fund: \$ _____

Make check or money order

payable to: MVHC, Inc.

Mail completed form

and payment to:

PO Box 833

West Tisbury, MA 02575

Membership: \$ _____

Subtotal: \$ _____

Add 3% if paying by Venmo: \$ _____

Pay by Venmo: (add a 3% service fee) @mvhorses

Total: \$ _____

Martha's Vineyard Horse Council Awards

Fisher Memorial Award

Donated In Loving Memory Of Anne And Tony Fisher

This award is given to the individual(s) who best exemplify the spirit of Anne and Tony through improvement and beautification of the island; be it at home, farm, or business.

Leadership Award

The MVHC Leadership Award is to honor the adult that has shown by their example the qualities of a leader, sportsman and horseman throughout the year. It is awarded to the person who has been the most unstinting in their efforts to aid the horse community of Martha's Vineyard whether through volunteer, professional, private or behind the scenes activities. The recipient is not necessarily a member of MVHC but should be someone who has taken a leadership role in the community in a way that directly or indirectly benefits the equine community.



Sandra F. Hillman

Hillman Award Of Special Recognition

Donated In Loving Memory of Sandra F. Hillman

This award is given to a junior member of the MVHC who best exemplifies what it means to be a true horseman. This member will show care and concern for horses as well as other people in the equestrian community.



Marjorie Manter

Marjorie Manter Award

Given in honor of Marjorie Manter who gave of herself unselfishly to the horse community by teaching, riding and horsemanship. This award is presented to the person who exemplifies Marjorie's good will and spirit.

Martha's Vineyard Horse Council

Annual Awards

The MVHC will be offering year end awards in 2026. To be eligible one must participate in two out of the three shows in the Open Show Series.

Flash Me a Smile Cup

Awarded to the horse or pony who has gone above and beyond to serve his or her riders.

Flash Me a Smile is an elderly chestnut pony who is a favorite at Pond View Farm.

Years ago, Flash broke his leg while he was turned out. The break was severe and no one thought the pony would survive. The Pond View kids pulled together and raised \$11,000 to cover Flash's veterinary expenses.

Flash beat the odds to recover and spent his days teaching little ones the basics at Pond View. Flash has now crossed the rainbow bridge, and is missed by all who knew him.

Versatility Gold Award

Participate in all the MVHC 2026 events and receive a Gold Award.

Martha's Vineyard Horse Council Scholarship in Memory of William M. Honey

William M. Honey was the quiet, bespectacled, former longtime president of the Martha's Vineyard National Bank and one of the last of a breed of small-town bankers who loaned money to Islanders in need with no paperwork and no questions asked.

For nearly 25 years he presided over the Martha's Vineyard National Bank in the bank's historic stone-built headquarters on Main Street, Vineyard Haven.

After his retirement from the bank in 1984, he lived in West Tisbury, and in those years was better known as a farmer, livestock man and tinkerer with antique engines. He had always loved horses and like a true Islander, lived simply and close to the land.

Applicants for this scholarship must be a paid member of the MVHC for three years prior to application. Applications are due each March. See the MVHC website or your high school guidance counselor for details.



William Honey

JOHN KEENE

EXCAVATION

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