

USPC Medical Card Instructions

As of February 1, 2010, a Medical Card will be worn by all USPC participating members when mounted and/or working around horses.

Implications and Implementation:

- The Medical Card will replace the previous Medical Release Form.
- Members will wear the Medical Card at all Pony Club activities when riding and/or working around horses.

The purpose of the Medical Card is: to allow a USPC member to receive medical treatment in the absence of Parent/legal guardian, to provide handy emergency contact information, and to provide medical history for emergency medical personnel.

It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to complete the Medical Card, update the card when necessary, and ensure that the USPC member is wearing the card in an armband at all Pony Club mounted activities and/or activities where the member is working around horses.

Any member with an injury or medical condition (sickness, head injury, pregnancy, etc.) that may be affected by mounted or unmounted activities has the responsibility to discuss the physical requirements of equestrian activities with his/her physician and to receive the physician's clearance to participate. It is the member's/parent's/guardian's responsibility to update the current USPC Medical Card and the medical conditions section.

The card is in a new foldable format and **the panel that will be viewed in the arm band includes member name, any allergies, and contact information.** This is the ONLY portion of the card that USPC leaders, instructors, and judges will need to view. This will mean that USPC leaders will no longer need to be privy to any sensitive member information. ***Be sure to print out the form with an ink jet printer, not a dot matrix printer, as the latter will 'run' if the paper gets wet.*** The form is available in an interactive format so that data may be typed in before printing, or may be filled in by hand if desired.

The Medical Card will be in used February 1, 2010, following the 2010 Annual Meeting. We anticipate that spring 2010 will be a transition period and during that time a number of clubs may also continue to use the old forms (hopefully as well as requiring the new cards be worn by members).

Rational for adopting the Medical Card:

1. USPC leaders tell us that obtaining this paperwork is one of the most difficult parts of their job.
2. Clubs and Regions currently may have many copies of member medical information in the hands of numerous people in the course of a year. Use of the new Medical card allows USPC leaders to step out of that uncomfortable position of handling possibly sensitive member information.
3. This appropriately places the responsibility of providing medical information to emergency medical personnel on the member/parent/guardian.
4. USPC has for two years required participants to wear armbands and Medical Release forms while participating at Championships. For the past year USPC has required that Regional Rally participants wear armbands and MR form while participating at Rally and a number of clubs and regions have already started requiring the armbands at club and region activities.