



Central New England Region Pony Clubs
**2026 Qualifying Standard Quiz Rally
OMNIBUS**

Sunday, March 29, 2026

Fitzpatrick Community Center
45 Main St, Pepperell, MA

This is a QUALIFYING RALLY for 2026 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Rally Organizers

Donna LaPierre
browntreestables@gmail.com

Kirsten Fleming
hmo@cneponyclub.org

Susan Hanna
(603)770-6928 (text is best)
susanhanna@gmail.com

Location

Fitzpatrick Community Center
45 Main St, Pepperell, MA

Cost

\$80 per competitor - Novice, Junior, Senior Divisions
\$40 per competitor - Mini Division (half day)

Entries should be paid by Club check to "CNER" or via PayPal to CNETreasury@gmail.com.
Please put a memo on checks and PayPal payments: "Quiz Rally" and *competitors names*.

Refunds will be given up to March 20, 2026 (except for illness/injuries - see below).
Refunds due to rider injury or illness will be given at any time.

Entry Due Date

Friday, March 20, 2026

Entries can be mailed, texted, emailed, or filled out online (on cneponyclub.org)
Mailing Address: Susan Hanna, 54 Newfields Road, Exeter, NH 03833.
Email: susanhanna@gmail.com
Text: 603-770-6928
Online entry: centralnewengland.ponyclub.org

** If you miss the entry due date, contact Susan Hanna, Rally Organizer, to see if we can still accommodate your competitors **

USPC Code of Conduct

All competitors must adhere to the USPC Participating Member Code of Conduct, All adults in attendance (non-competitors) must adhere to the USPC Adult Code of Conduct. USPC Code of Conduct can be found in the USPC Rulebooks and at the end of this entry. Failure to do so may, at the discretion of the Rally Organizers and Officials, result in being restricted from attendance or participation in Pony Club activities.

Rally Information

The 2026 CNER Qualifying Standard Quiz Rally will be conducted in accordance with the 2026 Pony Club Quiz Rulebook and 2026 Quiz Newsletter.

Awards

Competitors will receive ribbons based on the Team Score.
The top THREE competitors of EACH division will receive an individual ribbon.

Competitor Attire

A competitor must wear **at all times** from check-in until after the awards ceremony:

- Nametag (provided by the organizer and found in competitor's packet)
- medical armband OR medical bracelet
- USPC pin (can have the felt backer)

Required Attire:

Competitors should be neat and clean with no rips, holes, or stains. No inappropriate jewelry.

- PANTS: Long pants or riding pants or skirt (mid-length or longer). Khaki, tan, stone or similar.
- SHIRT: Collared shirt matching teammates (club polo, polo style shirt, dress shirt, or ratcatcher) with long or short sleeves, shirt tucked in.
- SHOES: Clean thick-soled shoes (sneakers are allowed) or boots (short or tall). Must have sturdy construction (so Ugg-type boots are not allowed), cover the ankle, entirely enclose the foot. Must be tied/zipped.
- BELT: Required if pants/skirt has belt loops. Any color.
- JEWELRY: All visible piercings must lay close to the skin, i.e., stud or post. No hoop or dangling adornments of any type (necklaces, earrings, bracelets) on any visible body surface is acceptable

USPC 2026 Horse Management Rulebook has more information on attire requirements.

Divisions/Team Formation

Teams are 3 to 4 members.

TEAMS should choose a team name - theme is Desserts.

Scramble riders and incomplete teams are welcome. We will form teams and distribute contact information.

One team member must be designated as the Team Captain. Team Captain need not be the oldest or highest rated. Pick the best candidate for the job! Scramble teams may choose their Captain, but if a Team Captain is not selected and reported to the organizer by March 20, the organizer will select the Captain based on highest rating, then age.

Divisions:

D Divisions:

- Mini: Ratings: unrated, D1
Age: up to and including 8 years old
- Novice D: Ratings: unrated, D1, D2, and D3.
Age: Up to and including 11 years old
- Junior D: Ratings: unrated, D1, D2, and D3.
Age: 12-17 years old
- Senior D: Ratings: unrated, D1, D2, and D3.
Age: 18 years old and older

C Divisions:

- Novice C: Ratings: C rating
Age: Up to and including 11 years old
- Junior C: Ratings: C, B, A
Age: 12-17 years old
- Senior C: Ratings: C, B, A
Age: 18 years old and older

Ratings are HM ratings (e.g. D1-HM, C1-HM).

Unrated competitors will compete as D1.

Age for the Division is determined by Pony Club Age: The age that competitor is on January 1, 2026.

Competitors can “compete up” into the next age division (novice can compete on a junior team, junior can compete on a senior team). At least one member of the team must be the age of that division (e.g., a junior team must include at least one member who is 12 - 17 years old). Any junior competitor playing up to a senior team must have a USPC Junior/Senior Team Formation form (from the Quiz Rulebook – form is also on the CNER Website under FORMS). A novice competitor playing up to a junior team does not need to fill out a form.

D-rated competitors cannot compete on a C team, and C rated competitors cannot compete on a D team.

Chaperones/Emergency Contact

Each Team must have an assigned Chaperone if *any* member of the Team is under 18 years old.

The chaperone is the team contact in case of an emergency and must be on the rally grounds at all times. The chaperone can serve as a volunteer for the competition in addition to their chaperone duties.

Chaperones are not allowed in the competition rooms, including classrooms. Chaperones may not help or give suggestions to competitors at any time during the Rally. They may not talk to or interfere with judges or with the process of an inquiry or protest.

Chaperones must complete the Chaperone Form (from the Quiz Rulebook – form is also on the CNER Website under FORMS). This form must be submitted to the rally organizer prior to the start of the rally.

Competitors above the age of 18 must submit an Emergency Contact Form with their rally entry (from the Quiz Rulebook – form is also on the CNER Website under FORMS). The Emergency Contact listed on this form is not required to be on the grounds of the competition. They should be accessible via phone.

Spectators

Spectators are not allowed in the competition rooms, including classrooms.

Spectators may not help or give suggestions to competitors at any time during the Rally. They may not talk to or interfere with judges or with the process of an inquiry or protest.

Cell Phones

All cell phones (held by competitors and noncompetitors) should be in silent mode. Competitors with cell phones must leave their phone with the Phase Coordinator at the front of the room upon entry.

Competitors with a cell phone during any phase can be disqualified from competition, EXCEPT during Inquiry Periods with permission from the Phase Coordinator or Judge to look up a reference.

Cell phones are allowed in the Neutral Zones.

Tentative Schedule

Actual schedule will be completed once all entries are received. This is a DRAFT SCHEDULE. A complete schedule will be issued once we know how many teams are participating.

There can be some down time during the Rally. Plan accordingly (activities, books, etc)

Each team (except Minis) will participate in the following:

- Classroom: 2 rounds (Round 1: Team Question tie-breaker and 3 individual questions per competitor. Round 2: 3 individual questions per competitor)
- Mega-Room: 1 round of 5 tables
- Stations: 1 round of 5 stations
- Written Test

Minis will participate in the following:

- Classroom: 1 round (3 individual questions per competitor)

- Mega-Room: 1 round of 3 tables
- Stations: 1 round of 3 stations
- Written Test

Information about the competition phases can be found in the 2026 USPC Quiz Rulebook.

7:30: Set-up

8:00: Community Center Opens - Cafeteria only
Packet Pick-up, Payments, Paperwork at Entrance for Competitors

8:30: Competitor, Parent, and Volunteer Briefings

9:30: Competition begins

TBD: Lunch

TBD: Awards (15 minutes)

5:00: Center Closes

Volunteers

Each team should provide at least two volunteers (chaperones can be volunteers). We will assign volunteer positions, which will be published with the final schedule. Feel free to swap with others, as long as all positions are filled.

Logistics

The Neutral Zone is the cafeteria, the bathrooms, and outside the building. NO DISCUSSION OF QUIZ PHASES IS ALLOWED, even in the Neutral Zone.

Eating is only allowed in the cafeteria. Only bottles/cups *with tops* are allowed outside the cafeteria.

We are planning Lunch for sale onsite. Teams are encouraged to bring snacks and drinks.

Scoring

Scoring will be done following the 2026 USPC Quiz Rulebook.

PENALTY POINTS

Late arrival to phase:	10 penalty points
Unauthorized assistance:	0-30 penalty points for first incident Disqualification for second incident
Competitor as spectator:	Disqualification
Unsportsmanlike conduct: (includes cheating)	Penalty points assessed at the discretion of the discipline ground jury
Frivolous or groundless protest:	5 penalty points per occurrence
Cell phone during a phase:	Disqualification
Inappropriate attire:	3 penalty points per occurrence

Unauthorized Assistance includes:

- Talking about phases to competitors who have not participated in that phase
- Receiving assistance or advice on Inquiries
- Turning around during classroom phase (competitors must face forward at all times)
- Gesturing or making noises to influence a competitor during classroom.

Frivolous or groundless protest: Review the Rulebook for the Inquiry process. Frivolous protests are determined by the Judges/Coordinators and the Stewards. It refers to competitors "chasing points" instead of genuinely believing they had the correct answer.

Championships

This is a QUALIFYING RALLY for the 2026 USPC Championships.

Mini Division is NOT a qualifying division.

USPC no longer has a Modified Division, so all competitors will compete in the Standard Division. Although competitors have made their intent to qualify in the entry for this rally, anyone may request to compete at Championships until June 22, 2026. Contact your DC or CA to make the request.

If you choose to use this rally to qualify for 2026 Championships, you must complete all phases of this rally, without disqualification from a phase or the rally. You must compete in this rally at the level you want to compete in Championships.

The Championships Divisions from this Quiz Rally are:

Novice D: D2 HM and D3 HM, 10-11 years old
Junior D: D2 HM and D3 HM, 12-17 years old
Senior D: D2 HM and D3 HM, 18 years old and up

Novice C: C1 HM and over, 10 -11 years old
Junior D: C1 HM and over, 12-17 years old
Senior D: C1 HM and over, 18 years old and up

Age is the competitor's age on January 1, 2026.

Competitors can compete on a team one age level up - so a Novice can compete on a Junior Team and a Junior can compete on a Senior team. Ds cannot compete on a C team, Cs cannot compete on a D team.