

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND

saddle club



STRAIGHT FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH VOL 2019, WINTER ISSUE

TOTO, WE'RE NOT IN KANSAS ANYMORE!

It does feel as if we woke up and found ourselves in another land. Even for this mid-westerner, the weather has been a bit unnerving without the infra-structure to deal with it. We hope everyone has managed the icy temperatures, power outages and crazy amount of snow. However, if you or your barn is in need of assistance, now or in the future, please let us know and we will help spread the word through our equestrian member network. Text Jackie Flannery at (206) 747-1734.

SAVE THE DATE - BISC SPRING CLEANUP IS SATURDAY MARCH 23 9AM-12PM

2019 EVENT CALENDAR IS [POSTED!](#)

FROM THE BOARD: "GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR 2019"

As we enter the new season, the Board of Directors has singled out three guiding principles for 2019: 1. Simplification. 2. Financial Oversight, 3. Volunteer Deployment

We are methodically working through our processes to identify what we can do to make club operations easier while improving the management of our resources. This is all for the ultimate purpose of ensuring the Club's sustainability.

Two initial considerations have been operating budget and membership. Our many membership levels added unnecessary overhead and complexity, while preventing us from managing our membership fees cleanly. We noticed that other clubs offered less than half the number of our levels! **So on Saturday 2/2, members approved a simplified set of memberships: Family, Individual, Supporting.**

FAMILY - \$120 ...up \$20
INDIVIDUAL - \$75 ...up \$10 for Juniors
SUPPORTING - \$40 ...up \$20

Yes, there are some price changes... After financial analysis, it became clear that we needed to restructure our fees to ensure that our events cover their expenses, and that we proactively plan for facility maintenance and upgrades. Therefore, prices will be adjusted slightly. We hope this will not be overly burdensome to you. If they are, certainly reach out in confidentially to a [board member](#) please.

MEMBER DATABASE CLEANUP

While implementing these changes on our website, we're also taking the opportunity to

clean out our member database. **During this time, the membership renewal page is offline.** A notice will be posted and emailed when it is ready to roll. When you renew your membership, you will be asked to create a fresh account with current contact and member information. Inaccurate account balances will be left behind. We hope you will find the changes intuitive and easy to navigate. Feel free to contact Jackie Flannery at 206-747-1734 if you have questions.

TRAINERS

We need each other. The Saddle Club exists for all riders. However, we do recognize that trainer engagement will make or break the club. Hopefully the Club provides a valuable offering to local training programs. We want to facilitate you, the trainer, in bringing your riders to enjoy the club facilities both on and off show days. Therefore, we have eliminated the Trainer Membership Level to offer you the same pricing as other members. Please become a member and encourage your riders to do the same. Take advantage of the schooling shows and other events. By providing a certificate of liability insurance with the BI Saddle Club as a named insured, you and your member riders may practice and lesson at the club along with others on non-show days. Our club is unique in its access to the beautiful adjacent BI Manzanita Park trails for you and your riders to enjoy. For details, please visit the new [Trainers](#) section under the Members menu on the Club's website.

MANZANITA PARK CROSS-COUNTRY JUMPS RENOVATION

We know that the equestrian trails at Manzanita Park are important to all of us. While the Saddle Club is not directly involved in the work and upkeep of these trails, we want to share information we learn as it relates to the Park with our members.

An independent taskforce has formed to save the cross-country jumps in Manzanita Park.... Lacking ownership of maintenance, BI Parks was prepared to remove the features in the interest of safety. When word got out, a small group of passionate folks stepped up to work with BI Parks to redesign and renovate the old Pony Club course to meet current ridership needs. The initial assessment and project plan have been completed, along with a first pass cleanup effort and removal of non-repairable jumps. The next phase of repair and redesign is soon to get underway. If you would like to help or learn how you can be involved, please contact Jennifer Hills at (360) 930-2101.

Got suggestions? We want to hear them! jflannery@chezflan.net

