

From: Happy Valley Ag and Recreation Club

To: Village of Rycroft Council

Hello Council Members!

Thank you for your consideration of our sponsorship proposal! Our club is always striving to bring about opportunities for recreational activities, as well as foster an environment of friendship between our small communities. Our events draw participants from all over the Peace Country and beyond!

2023 was a very busy year in Happy Valley! We started our year with our annual kids Easter party. It featured crafts, games, prizes, treats and an Easter egg hunt.

May saw the kick-off of our weekly gymkhana sessions. We also hosted a beginner horsemanship clinic to get the season started. Gymkhana lasted through into September when we hosted a barrel and pole jackpot in conjunction with our gymkhana wind-up. Participants ranged in age from 2 to 60(ish) and varied in skill level from beginner to experienced adult. The winners of the events were presented with prizes, and all the gymkhana children walked away with a bucket of prizes and a round of applause!

In June, we hosted our Spring Bust-Out ride, hosting over 30 riders on our trails throughout the Saddle Hills. Saddle Hills County has generously paired up with us for the last couple of years to provide supper for our Spring Bust-Out Ride, as well as host a 'Meet the Councillors' evening. Approximately 60 people joined us for this supper and a meet and greet with several of our local councillors.

In July, we hosted a Community Fun Day. It featured a bouncy castle, face painting, pony rides, lawn games, soft ball, horse shoes, a scavenger hunt, water station and a potluck supper. Over 50 people of all ages attended the events and finished off the evening with a bonfire sing-along.

Our facility is also available for rentals, and was the site of a double birthday party for two siblings in June. The picnic pavilion and barbeque facilities were very much appreciated as the weather was not very cooperative!

Our Fall Trail Ride in September is always our biggest hit of the year. We hosted 51 riders and had nearly 100 people for supper and evening events. Highlights included Chicken Plop Bingo, our Pig Weight Guessing Contest, and Dessert Auction.

We concluded our year with a kids Halloween party, featuring games, treats, prizes and a Pumpkin Hunt through the forest.

Aside from events, we worked on several capital projects in 2023. We were able to purchase a tractor with a mower and tiller, so we can perform grounds maintenance ourselves, instead of hiring it out. We purchased a Sea-Can for secure storage. Our most exciting project is the installation of a brand new playground, which wrapped up in November.

With 2024 already upon us, we are busy planning for the year. Our capital projects for the year include improvements to our picnic pavilion, the purchase of an ATV for grounds keeping, a fence for

the new playground, bleachers and more sand for our riding arena. We will continue to provide a variety of community events. Some new ideas being explored right now are an Equine Wellness Day, A Night Market, a Roping Clinic and wagon rides.

We try to offer something for all members of the community, and we encourage anyone who may be interested to attend a meeting or approach a member with new ideas! All of these projects and events require a constant need to fundraise. We are very thankful to Saddle Hills County for their grant program, as well as to sponsors like yourselves, for allowing us this opportunity to provide a fun and safe environment for Happy Valley and all of our surrounding communities!

Thank-you for your consideration!

Connie Poss

President

Happy Valley Ag and Recreation Club