

FREE Newsletter – August 9, 2007

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BLACK PRONG
EQUESTRIAN CENTER

Where Champions Train
... and Vacation!

News & Reminders From Black Prong

August 9, 2007

Greetings!

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A Message from Alan and Maureen

Happy Summer! As we prepare for the 2007-2008 season, we wanted to keep in touch and share our thoughts and responses to questions we've either been asked directly, or have heard through the grapevine. If you know us and our family well, you already know that above all, we strive to be as candid and up-front as possible regarding Black Prong programs and policies.

Our goal has always been to cultivate and share this magnificent place with other equestrian enthusiasts - while at the same time protecting and preserving it for guests and competitors, for whom we take our responsibility seriously.

What responsibility? The answer is simple, heartfelt, and unwavering: To provide guests, competitors, and their equines with the best possible experience when they visit Black Prong.

Below is a series of questions and answers we've thoughtfully compiled, to help clear up any confusion or misunderstanding. Thanks for taking the time to review it, and please share it with friends, so we can all begin the exciting next season on the same page.

With our sincere and warm regards,
~ Maureen and Alan Aulson, Owners

Save the Date: Oct 6

The Aulson's are organizing a Myopia Driving Club event on **Saturday, October 6** (Columbus Day Weekend) in Georgetown, MA.

It will feature a double cones course and dressage, plus tailgating, picnicing and other fun throughout the day!

Save the date; more details to come...

DID YOU KNOW?

> **Rooms are still available** at Black Prong for the upcoming season! Contact us today to reserve yours!

> **Exercise continues at Black Prong!** If you enjoy morning exercise in a fun group setting, contact Maureen for details.



Questions & Answers about Black Prong

Why the increased fee for the Season Supporter/Black Prong Club program, and \$50 day use fee?

Originally our intention was to discontinue the Season Supporter and Day Use programs in order to preserve the grounds for our guests and shows. However, for various reasons - including the fact that many drivers asked us for it - we decided to continue to make our property available, especially since it is many drivers' only opportunity for day use.

If we have people over for the afternoon, do they have to pay the \$50 Day Use fee?

Visitors and drivers have always been welcome to visit friends and drive the property. It's only when they choose to use the obstacles, dressage rings, training facilities, etc. that they pay the Day Use fee.

Are trainers still welcome to use the facility?

As always, guests of Black Prong are welcome to invite their trainers.

Can I still travel on Black Prong roads if I'm not a guest?

Yes. Our policy has not changed - we encourage and welcome fellow drivers to drive through and/or stop by and say hello!

I've heard some people say that the Aulson's want to keep out the "Rif-Raf." Is that the reason for the policy updates?

When we first heard this sentiment, it deeply concerned us - *and in fact upset us* - to learn that we had inadvertently offended others, so please let us explain: From the beginning, it has always been our dream to open Black Prong as a world-class training and show facility. As the facility has evolved, however, we have a greater responsibility to our clients and guests to preserve the grounds in order to create a world-class experience. To this end, we were initially going to discontinue the Day Use program, but for various reasons we decided to continue it for those drivers who wish to participate.

Will areas of Black Prong be closed during the season?

As with any facility, consistent grounds maintenance is critical. Therefore, we must reserve the right to temporarily close parts of the facility (obstacles, roads, etc.) on a daily or seasonal basis for maintenance, preservation, and security purposes. In addition, for certain shows ADS rules require closing of obstacles at least 30 days before the event. Thank you in advance for your understanding and patience, as we work to consistently sustain your world-class Black Prong experience!

Can I still visit the property?

Our policy of open passage has not changed. We welcome you to drive through or stop by and visit!

Is property for sale at Black Prong? Most all of the property is available for sale or lease. Interested parties please contact us or our broker.



HORSE FOR SALE

Great 6-yr. old seal-brown gelding.

Laddy (*registered name: R. C. Irish Lad*) will make a great single horse, ready to take you to the top!

Asking \$12,000 O.B.O. Call Alan at 508-451- 1987.

DID YOU KNOW?

Black Prong also has other **young World- Champion- bred horse prospects** for sale! For more information, call Alan at 508-451-1987.

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Will there be shows at Black Prong next season?

Yes. We will continue to host shows, provided there is continued interest and support from both competitors AND volunteers. In 2008, we look forward to the Nature Coast HDT on January 19-20 and the Black Prong HDT on March 15-16.

Confirm Your Reservations Now

It's time to confirm your reservations for the upcoming season!
Click to view our [2007- 2008 Rates & Info](#), which includes a list of area shows for your convenience in planning your visit.

PLEASE NOTE: For the consideration of other guests, please confirm your reservation and send payment of at least 25% of your lodging and stall fees prior to October 1, 2007. Your cancelled check is your confirmation of our receipt. We look forward to your visit!

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We encourage you to share this newsletter with friends and family who are as passionate as you about "all things equestrian"! Simply use the "forward e-mail" link at the very bottom of this newsletter. They can sign up to receive it free for themselves by going to our home page www.BlackProng.com and entering their e-mail address in the "Receive our Free E-newsletter" signup box. They will receive a welcome e-mail, asking them to reply and CONFIRM that they want to receive it.

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