

WINTERTHUR



## Winterthur Press Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **JOIN THE FUN AND CELEBRATE THE 40TH RUNNING OF THE WINTERTHUR POINT-TO-POINT RACES ON SUNDAY, MAY 6**

*Activities include champion steeplechase racing,  
antique carriage parade, and fun for families;  
Ticket sales start March 1*

Winterthur, DE February 13, 2018—Winterthur Point-to-Point, the Brandywine Valley's signature springtime event, celebrates its ruby anniversary this year with a day full of championship horse racing, a spectacular antique carriage parade, tailgate picnics, people watching, and other activities.

The first Point-to-Point races at Winterthur took place on May 6, 1979. Searching for a way to use the nearly 1,000 acres of the estate, the trustees decided to present a day of steeplechase racing. Winterthur tractors cut a course through a former cow pasture, and the event was a tremendous success. Reports on attendance varied but the crowd, mostly horsemen and their families and friends dressed in rugged country gear (think barn jackets and riding boots), enjoyed good weather and great racing.

Today, Point-to-Point is a day of fun for all ages, including activities such as stick horse races for children, a parade of River Hills foxhounds, canine capers, and a display of Rolls-Royce and Bentley cars. A highlight of the day is the George A. "Frolic" Weymouth Carriage Parade, named in honor of the late artist and founder of the Brandywine Conservancy &

Museum of Art in Chadds Ford, Pa., and the nation's largest procession of antique horse-drawn carriages, takes place at 1 p.m. (weather permitting).

"Point-to-Point is truly a family tradition, both for spectators and participants," said Jill S. Abbott, Race Director. "Today's owners, trainers, and riders are the children and grandchildren of the 1979 participants, while many of today's attendees first attended as children."

Post time for the Isabella du Pont Sharp Memorial, a maiden timber race with a \$15,000 purse, is at 2 p.m. The Winterthur Bowl, an open timber race with an anniversary purse of \$40,000, takes place at 2:30 p.m. Post time for the Vicmead Plate, an amateur highweight timber race with a \$15,000 purse, is at 3 p.m. The steeplechase races are run on a course of approximately 3 ½ miles, with a total of eight fences that are jumped 17 times. The Middletown Cup, a flat race, begins at 3:30 p.m. Trophies for the races are adapted from originals in the Winterthur collection. The Alison Hershbell Pony Races, run in two heats, for small and for large ponies, start at noon.

Gates open at 11:30 a.m. Admission must be purchased in advance. No sales race day and no will call.

### **Entertaining Options**

Enjoy a reserved table for ten and watch the races from a seat at the finish line in the **Anniversary Hospitality Tent**. The package includes an elegant luncheon, gracious table settings, and VIP parking. Reservations may be made by calling 302.888.4994. Spectators may also purchase admission to **Kid Shelleen's and Tito's Outpost**, a private tent on the rail featuring Texas-style hospitality. For reservations, visit [harryshospitalitygroup.com/product/point-to-pointticket](http://harryshospitalitygroup.com/product/point-to-pointticket).

This year, spectators can entertain in one of the new **Celebration Tailgate Tents**, which include a 10' x 10' tent, ten adult wristbands, six tables with linens, and a personal jumbo screen message. Or, spectators may pre-order a convenient Tailgate Picnic Lunch. For

information and to purchase, call 302.888.4994 or visit [winterthur.org/ptp](http://winterthur.org/ptp).

Point-to-Point is a rain-or-shine event. No refunds are issued. The event is Winterthur's largest one-day fundraiser, and proceeds benefit the continued maintenance and preservation of the garden and estate at Winterthur.

Point-to-Point sponsors include: Capital One, Exelon, Intercollegiate Studies Institute, Kid Shelleen's, Tito's Handmade Vodka, Marriott, Weymouth Swayze & Corroon, the University & Whist Club, and the Stanley-Laman Group. Media sponsors are 6ABC, The New Mix 99.5 WJBR, iHeart Radio, *Delaware Today*, *The Hunt*, *Main Line Today*, and *Out & About Magazine*.

### **Information about Purchasing Wristbands and Tailgate Spots**

- Online at [www.winterthur.org/ptp](http://www.winterthur.org/ptp)
- By phone at 800.448.3883
- At the Point-to-Point office, 4901 Kennett Pike, Wilmington, DE 19807

### **Cost:**

- \$40 adult general admission. No wristbands will be mailed after April 27. Purchasers will be required to pick up wristbands after April 27 at the Point-to-Point office  
\$25 young adults, ages 12–20
- Children under 12 free, but must have wristband for admittance (not available on race day)

### **General Admission Satellite Sales Outlets**

- **Brew HaHa!**—Trolley Square and Greenville locations
- **Ellie**
- **Houpette** Greenville location
- **Janssens**
- **ShopRite**—Brandywine location
- **Wilmington Country Store**

**Please visit [Winterthur.org/ptp](http://Winterthur.org/ptp) for more details on our satellite ticket partner locations.**

**Premium Parking** locations are available for \$15–\$25 per car to shorten the walk to the races.

Winterthur—known worldwide for its preeminent collection of American decorative arts, naturalistic gardens, and research library for the study of American art and material culture—offers a variety of tours, exhibitions, programs, and activities throughout the year. For details, visit [winterthur.org](http://winterthur.org) or call 800.448.3883.

Winterthur is open 10 a.m.–5 p.m., Tuesday–Sunday, and is located on Route 52, six miles northwest of Wilmington, Delaware, and five miles south of U.S. Route 1. Closed on Mondays, Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day.

***\*High-resolution jpeg images available upon requests***

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