



**PONY CLUB**  
AUSTRALIA

**AUGUST 2023**

# PCA News

**Pony Club Australia Monthly Newsletter**

**France  
Results**

**PCA AWARDS**

**Nominate someone now**

**Visit China**

**- Nominations Open**

**CEO says  
Farewell**

**Clubs  
Showing  
Kindness**



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# Très bien!

Congratulations to the Australian team who placed fourth in the World Clubs Showjumping Tournament in France.

The Aussies placed behind teams on their own mounts with the final results being Italy - 0 penalties over 3 rounds, Portugal - 4, France - 8 and Australia - 9. Many thanks to team coach Rachael Edwards and to Susan Williams, Sam Gourmaux and the Normandy Committee of the French Equestrian Federation.

The team enjoyed sightseeing in Paris before the long trip home. #ponyclubproud

THE TEAM  
**Catelin Crawford** -  
Tumut Pony Club NSW  
**Amy Cunzolo** -  
Comet River Pony Club, QLD  
(COVER PHOTO)  
**Lalwa May** -  
Darwin Horse and Pony Club, NT  
**Abby Raymond** -  
North Dorrigo Pony Club, NSW  
**Rachael Edwards** -  
Coach and Manager, VIC

Teams taking part:  
Italy, Portugal, France,  
Australia, Madagascar,  
Turkey, Malta and Belgium

The World Clubs Tournament takes place every year at the Parc équestre fédéral in Lamotte-Beuvron (France) during the

Generali Open de France Clubs, one of the largest equestrian gatherings in the world. In addition to its impressive size, with more than 5000 riders and 5000 ponies and horses who come together for a week to represent about 1000 clubs, this event includes 17 equestrian disciplines.

During the two week stay, the team visited the chateau de Versailles where the equestrian events of the 2024 Olympics will be held, National Stud farm and WEG venue at the Haras du Pin et la Jumenterie where they also met the course builder and designer for European championships; had a trail ride across Mont Saint Michel Bay; sightseeing in Paris

PCA is grateful to Susan Williams, an Australian now living in Normandy, for arranging the invitation and hosting the team.



Horses for the event were provided by Haras de la Chéchinère (an equestrian centre in Normandy) .



# PCA Annual Awards now open



These are hotly contested and acknowledge our riders, coaches, officials and volunteers for achievements and contributions to the development of Pony Club.

**Entries are now open for 2023 and close September 3, 2023.**

Winners are announced in October.

Categories are:

- Best achievement by a rider aged 12 years and under \*
- Best achievement by a rider aged 13 – 17 years \*
- Best achievement by a rider aged 18 – 25 years \*
- Best achievement by a rider aged over 25 years **NEW**

\*Age as at January 1, 2023

- Volunteer of the Year
- Miss Kay Irving Coach of the Year
- Young Coach of the Year (NEW) aged 30 years and under. **NEW**
- Gill Rolton Alumni Award
- Accredited Riding Centre of the Year
- Pony Club of the Year

Note: It is the quality of the nominations, not the quantity



Club of the Year 2022  
Yandina and District Pony Club



[Award Guidelines](#)

[Online nomination form](#)

[Read More](#)

[Past Winners List](#)



With thanks to our prize sponsors



# Meet the PCA International Showjumping Team for 2023



*Congratulations*



## 2023 Australian team for the Pony Club International Showjumping

### **SUB JUNIOR**

Lily Bennett  
Swan Valley H & P C

Matilda March  
Serpentine H & P C

Lexi Caldwell  
Swan Valley H & P C

Amelia Chester  
Swan Valley H & P C



### **JUNIOR**

Allira Bond  
Serpentine H & P C

Aimee Kidd  
Dardanup H & P C

Isabelle Cox  
Esperance P C

Ellie McCrum  
Gidgegannup H & P C



Teams from Australia, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa and United Kingdom will ride in the virtual event in September/ October 2023.

PCIA is excited to include Masters riders in the event this year.

The Australian team is from Western Australian Pony Clubs as Pony Club WA offered to host the event again in 2023.



Tayla Carpenter



Lexi Caldwell

*Congratulations*



## 2023 Australian team for the Pony Club International Showjumping

### **SENIOR**

Vanessa Davis  
Gidgegannup H & P C

Jack Bennett  
Swan Valley H & P C

Tayla Carpenter  
Wallangarra R & P C

Lewis Hudson  
Wooroloo H & P C



### **MASTERS**

Kaitlin Goss  
Eastern Hills H & P C

Georgia Lowry  
Serpentine H & P C

Jazmin Anderson  
Horsemen's P C

Alison Hanson  
Capel H & P C





Applications are invited for team members to travel to China in December 2023. The team will consist of four riders, aged 13 – 16 years (at 1/1/2023) and one coach.

The estimated travel dates are 6th – 18th December and the team will fly into Shanghai.

The team will visit Saga Pony Club in Suzhou city and Dream Rider School (or alternative riding centre TBC) in Ningbo city.

The competition will include 90cm showjumping and Novice dressage events.

Estimated cost of the trip is \$2000 per rider inclusive of travel, accommodation, meals, uniform, riding and insurance.

[Apply here by 21st August 2023](https://form.jotform.com/PonyClubAust/pca-team-for-china-december-2023)

<https://form.jotform.com/PonyClubAust/pca-team-for-china-december-2023>

## It's not just Pony Club

Did you know that Pony Club is a registered trade mark? That means that organisations that are not affiliated with Pony Club Australia and the state Pony Club® organisations cannot use the name "Pony Club" to describe their products and services. Pony Club should always have a capital P and C, and if you are feeling fancy, use the ®

You don't use the ® for your registered club name, for example Londonderry Pony Club, but you can for Pony Club® sports or Pony Club® camp or Pony Club® uniform.

If you see any business using the Pony Club name – please tell us!



## 'A' for Initiative - Cobbitty PC

Cobbitty Pony Club has started a riding group for adults. This is to provide opportunities for senior riding members to come together with their equestrian partners and other like-minded people for enjoyment and learning.

They hope it will also grow Club numbers, provide additional canteen income and merchandise sales. Best of all these riders must undertake 'service' hours equivalent to two rally days.

This could include:

- coaching or coach training
- working bees, fundraisers
- help at competitions, clinics & camps,
- set up for rally days
- help in canteen etc
- (and don't forget becoming [qualified gear checkers.](#))



The cost is \$30 a day or you need have a current PC membership. The \$30 comes off a full membership if you join within 30 days. Does your Club have a great initiative? We'd love to hear about it.  
[marketing@ponyclubaustralia.com.au](mailto:marketing@ponyclubaustralia.com.au)



PCA's CEO, Catherine Ainsworth, leaves us later this month after 7 ½ years as CEO and one year as a board member in 2015. During Catherine's time, we have seen significant changes in the profile and programs Pony Club. Some of the initiatives during Catherine's tenure have been:

- The rebranding of PCA with the current logo and #alifewithhorsesstartshere
- Social media channels expanding by 500% and reach of some posts >100,000
- Celebrating PCA's 80th Birthday in 2019
- The PCA syllabus, which has been recognised as leading the world in rider education, with many now following in PCA's path
- Increased online education tools for riders and coaches freely available on the PCA website and YouTube channel
- Online database for management of memberships and events provided at no cost to clubs, zones and states
- Maintaining a comprehensive and value for money insurance program for riders, coaches, volunteers, clubs and associations
- Navigating the challenges of COVID and the initiatives with #ponyclubplanB
- Bravery to run the 2021 PCA Nationals in virtual format rather than cancel them, paving the way for future initiatives
- Additional national representation opportunities with our collaboration with Normandy Committee of the French Equestrian Federation and Pony Club International Alliance virtual competitions in dressage and showjumping
- The enhanced agreement with China Pony Club and inbound and outbound opportunities for riders and coaches
- Securing funding for the introduction of the PCA Accredited Riding Centre program bringing Pony Club to non horse owners
- Promotion of an expanded number of disciplines including quiz, horse archery, horseball and pony racing
- PCA annual National awards and values awards
- Two groups of young leaders completed the ASC Women Leaders in Sport program
- The formation of a strategic Education and Development Committee as an independent 'thinktank' looking at program innovation

- The PCA Leadership certificate to assist rider development and volunteerism
- 'Living Legends' certificates awarded to long time Pony Club helpers aged 80 and over, during our 80th birthday
- New safety policies such as concussion, medical services and incident reporting
- National Gear Rules in place and National Discipline rules for some sports
- PCA's leadership in horse welfare recognised across the world and the commitment stated in the PCA Horse Welfare Policy
- The elevation of PCA's Governance processes which now see PCA outperforming our peers on the Australian Sports Commission governance standards
- The formation of PCA Finance Audit and Risk and Nominations Committees to assist governance, each with an independent chair
- Strategic plans that now convey the priorities, values and communication processes of the organisation, and the roles and responsibilities of different levels of Pony Club

Catherine said "I would like to thank the people I have worked with over the past 8 ½ years including staff members - Michelle Newham, Monil Shah, Kirrilly Thompson, Suanne Waugh, Bronwyn Wheatley and Sally Wiseman. When you don't have a lot of resources, you need to be resourceful and the PCA team members are certainly that. The board members have been supportive of the strategic direction of the organisation.

"The many volunteer members on the gear, safety, coaching and discipline committees have given their time and experience to help us improve the quality and consistency of services.

"Some of the highlights of my time include attending the PCA Nationals in Murray Bridge, Toowoomba and Sydney, and the other times I have been able to speak directly with members."

## Message from the Board

On behalf of the PCA Board I would like to thank and acknowledge Dr. Catherine Ainsworth for her role as PCA CEO. Over the last 8.5 years Catherine has been leading our team of passionate and skilled individuals to deliver positive change to us as a National Sporting Organisation.

She has fostered relationships with a range of stakeholders to ensure we have strong corporate governance and importantly we are safe and welcoming for everyone. The many programs that Catherine has delivered enable a pathway for people of any age to be involved with Pony Club encouraging participation at all levels.

There have been so many riders, coaches, volunteers and stakeholders that have sent messages of gratitude and enjoyment over the years, and many thousands of smiling faces in photographs - all of which are a testament to the outcomes Catherine has been part of delivering.

The board thanks Catherine for her unwavering service, support and diligence during times of uncertainty (Covid, bush fires etc),

We wish her every success with her future endeavours and look forward to building on her advocacy for animal welfare, participation and the overall development of our sport.

With appreciation  
Heather Disher  
Chair, Pony Club Australia

“  
*We look forward to building on her advocacy for animal welfare, participation and the overall development of our sport.*  
”

A new CEO has been appointed by the Board, and they will start soon. More details next month



(L to R): PCA Board Chair Heather Disher, Michelle Newham (Member Services), CEO Dr Catherine Ainsworth and Sally Wiseman (Participation & Development) at the PCA stand, Equitana 2022

**Rhys Lanskey:**

# Is Paris Calling ?

This is one of the great stories about where Pony Club can take you. Rhys Lanskey from Redlands Horse and Pony Club recently competed in Bern Switzerland, at the Swiss Open Championships, Modern Pentathlon.

From 15 different countries competing, Rhys came 5th overall and second in the swimming section. For his riding out of the maximum 300 points, Rhys scored 283 points.

He is now qualified to go to the Olympic Trials at the African/ Oceania Championships at the end of August!

Mum Jenny said it all started when Rhys went to the Zone 1 Camp in 2017. He got to try out the pistol shooting with Cathy McCarthy Equine Partnership who shared information about Pentathlon. From there in 2017 he went to PCA Nationals in Queensland in Tetrathlon (swimming, shooting, running and showjumping).

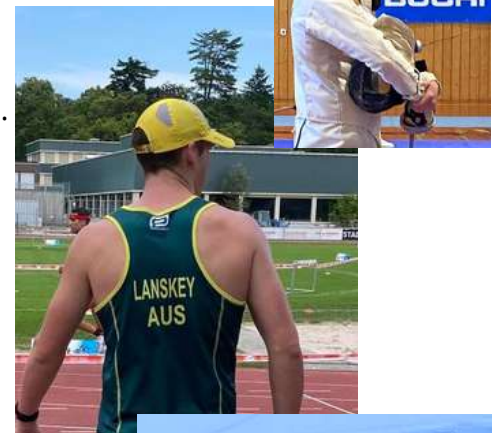
At a tetrathlon competition at Gatton Pony Club, Mark Taylor from Modern Pentathlon Queensland was helping with the shooting, saw Rhys ride and said - 'he's a good rider, can he run and swim?' After the competition he encouraged Rhys to try Modern Pentathlon. His family had no idea what that was!

After he came 2nd at the Nationals Tetrathlon, Mark told him to go and learn fencing because he's got what it takes to be a great modern pentathlete.

So from there he has taken it in his stride and also goes out to Pony Clubs helping to spread information about the sport he really enjoys. (See below).

In April this year, Lanskey won his fourth consecutive Australian senior Modern Pentathlon title. Well done, Rhys!

Have you found your dream horse discipline from the grass roots of doing Pony Club? We'd love to hear YOUR story too. Message or email us :)





Each month, we take a look at what PCA is doing under each of these values.

Pony Club Australia's Values, in the 2022 – 2024 PCA Strategic Plan are:

- **Unity**
- **Innovation**
- **Kindness**
- **Integrity**
- **Accessibility**
- **Horse Welfare**

## Kindness

***We are considerate and advocate for the health and wellbeing of our members and our community.***

The way in which we treat others is the foundation of the culture of Pony Club from the local club to the national level. Younger members have reinforced to PCA how important the attribute of kindness is to them. We will make the most of this value when it is a strategy, a practise and a strength.

When members feel emotionally connected and invested in their club, they are more likely to remain, invite others in and to want to contribute.



### We can demonstrate kindness by:

- Expressing gratitude to volunteers
- Listening to the thoughts and ideas of members of all ages, particularly those who are currently riding
- Recognising our coaches supporting and encouraging riders, plus acting and educating those that don't meet our expectations
- Helping riders and volunteers to succeed in their chosen field - and accept that the measure of success is not ours, but theirs
- Using national campaigns such as RUOK and "Do it for Dolly" to stop and think about our members' Pony Club experience
- And, of course, being kind to our horses and ponies too!





# What is *Pony Racing*

**Pony Racing is an exciting sport that's been administered in Ireland, England, and the US for some time. It varies slightly from country to country but is a sport that predominantly involves young riders and their ponies competing on a racecourse.**

**It is important to note, Pony Racing is NOT about speed, the emphasis is on advancing your riding ability and skill, learning how to better control your pony, your balance, and the fitness and well-being of both you and your pony.**

**It is also a chance to explore the vast range of career opportunities available in the thoroughbred industry, which spans from media to veterinary, marketing, breeding, sales, hands-on horse care, riding roles and much more.**

**In Australia, Thoroughbred Industry Careers (TIC), in conjunction with Pony Club Australia (PCA) has been running pop-up exhibition races around the country to showcase this sport. Given their popularity, we are now developing a series of races for riders aged between 9-15 yrs.**

**Many Pony Racing riders in Europe have had very successful careers in the thoroughbred industry worldwide.**

## How will it work?

### TASTER DAYS

**Everyone is welcome** (all ages on any size pony or horse) to come and have a fun day and learn new skills. The only criteria for this day are that you need to be able to walk, trot and canter independently in a group situation.

### TRAINING DAYS

These days will be made up Fields of 10 will be **SELECTED** of riders and ponies who are from the **TRAINING DAYS** (in two **SELECTED** from the taster days age/height categories - see more (and have expressed interest) information) to compete on a to further their skills towards racetrack. displaying their ability and control on a racetrack.

### RACE DAYS

*\*All riders must be a current Pony Club member.*

## What is a TASTER DAY?

Local Pony Clubs in conjunction with TIC and PCA will be running taster days on Pony Racing where everyone of all ages and sizes (horses/ponies) who can walk, trot and canter independently and in a group situation are welcome to come and learn new skills including:

- Health and well-being of horse and rider
- Riding with control and balance
- Mount and rider fitness with advice on equine feed programs
- Explanation of Pony Racing and what it entails
- General racing rules and safety expectations
- Careers in the Thoroughbred breeding and racing industry

The opportunity to be selected to compete on one of Australia's best racecourses.

## Who's welcome to a TASTER DAY?

All ages and sizes of riders who can walk, trot and canter independently and in a group situation are welcome to come and learn new skills.

At these TASTER DAYS, riders who wish to progress to the next level (and are within the Pony Race selection criteria) will be invited to progress to the next stage of Pony Racing, the TRAINING DAYS.

### The Eligible criteria for selection to the next stage are:

Riders aged between 9-15 yrs on a pony 12.2hh or under  
Riders aged between 9-15 yrs on a pony 13.3hh or under  
\*Age at 1st January 2023

## TRAINING DAYS

If you have been SELECTED to attend a TRAINING DAY, riders and their ponies will attend a racetrack and further their skills towards displaying their ability and control on a course.

Final fields and reserves for RACE DAYS will be selected on these training days.

## RACE DAYS

Final fields will line up in two races on a selected race day. Riders will be supplied silks from famous racing stables, studs or owners and be mentored by leading jockeys and industry people to prepare them for the race.

### Race Categories

450m - ponies 12.2hh and under (riders aged 9-15yrs)  
650m - ponies 13.3hh and under (riders aged 9-15 yrs)  
\*Age at 1st January 2023

## What do I need?

For the TASTER DAYS, all you need is your regular rally day uniform and gear compliant with the PCA National Gear rules

For the TRAINING DAYS, all-purpose saddles or jump saddles will be required, along with other gear compliant with the PCA National Gear rules.

## About Thoroughbred Industry Careers (TIC)

TIC was founded in 2019 to address the lack of awareness of careers in the Thoroughbred breeding and racing industry. TIC is a not-for-profit organisation backed by the preeminent stables, studs and owners in the industry.

## Gallop towards a racing career.

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THOROUGHBRED  
INDUSTRY ♦ CAREERS



PONY CLUB  
AUSTRALIA



**Media opportunities!**



**Prizes!**



**Meet famous Jockeys!**



## **Pony Racing Series is coming your way!**

Have you dreamt about riding down the straight on a racecourse?

Are you 9-15yrs on a pony under 13.3hh? If so, here is your chance!

Thoroughbred Industry Careers (TIC) has teamed up with Pony Club Australia (PCA) to launch a National Pony Racing Series, which is scheduled to kick off in Brisbane In August and run across five states (Queensland, Victoria, New South Wales, Western Australia, and South Australia), culminating in 'Finals' during the Autumn carnival in Sydney next April.

To be eligible for the races you will need to attend a Taster Day, the following Taster days have been locked in. Follow the link to register.

### **NSW- Blacktown Pony Club**

<https://pca.justgo.com/workbench/public/events?ref=D75F2A8EF5B3CED77E5B78D13F19D3AE0CA5255B>

### **VIC - Benalla Pony Club**

<https://pca.justgo.com/workbench/public/events?ref=73AACB69346D84C99C629F67F9322D337C0532AE>

### **VIC - Woodlands Pony Club**

<https://pca.justgo.com/workbench/public/events?ref=895FC83650AEE265DE06B16DCE3AC0D5CBD453E3>

### **WA - Venue TBA\_**

<https://form.jotform.com/232038176408859>

Pony Club members are welcome to come and join the fun and excitement learning the skills required to help get you on the racetrack!

Riders will be selected at the Taster Day to proceed to training day selection.

**Hurry places are filling fast!**

**Fun!**



**Friendship!**



**Partnership!**



# 40 Riders Enjoy A Taste of Pony Racing

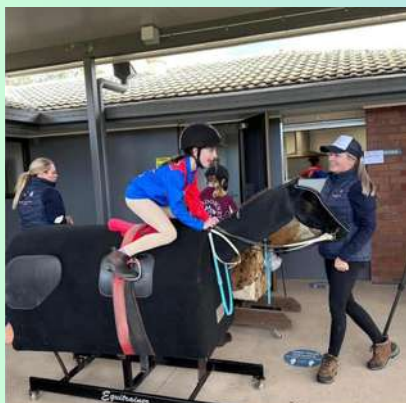
Thoroughbred Industry Careers (TIC) in partnership with Pony Club Australia will be running two Pony Races at Eagle Farm Brisbane Racing Club on the 12th August.

In preparation for this, Jimboomba Pony Club hosted a TASTER DAY in July where members of all ages and abilities\* are welcome to come and learn new skills and also learn about careers in the Thoroughbred breeding and racing industry. All for a cost of only \$10! Jimboomba did a wonderful job.

While any age riders can attend taster days (there will be more in each state), to actually ride at a major race meeting in the Pony Exhibition Race, you need to fit one of two categories:

- \* Riders on a pony 12.2 and under
- \* Riders on a pony 12.2hh-13.3hh
- \*Riders for both races need to be aged between 9 and 15yrs (age at 1st January)
  - Must be a current Pony Club member

But remember, anyone welcome to come and enjoy a new experience at a Taster Day as long as riders can walk, trot, and canter independently and in a group situation.



**Latest News**



★ Congratulations to all riders who made their state teams! ★

## HORSE TRANSPORT FOR THOSE IN THE NT & SA

Darwin Horse Floats are offering reduced rates in conjunction with Combined Transport for those traveling from the Northern Territory and South Australia.

Darwin Horse Floats is a family-owned and operated business that has been transporting horses in and out of the Territory for over 40 years. We pride ourselves on horsemanship and animal welfare. Always doing our best to get your horse there safely. We follow strict COVID-19 rules. We have a certified Covid-19 management plan and have essential traveler permits for all states and Territories. We are business as usual. To book your horse in call Brad 0418 179 538.

## UPDATE ON TETRATHLON SCHEDULE

Tet riders wanting to get a head start on the venues for the Nationals – search Google Maps for a sneak peek.

Running – Swan Valley Fields – State Equestrian Centre

Shooting – State Equestrian Centre foyer and Swimming – Guildford Grammar

The Tet committee has also organized three sessions of activities for the Tet riders time to experience what the Swan Valley has to offer: High Ropes, Canoeing & Archery – Monday 2nd & 4th October.

## FINAL PIECE OF THE PUZZLE

Victoria Hub has announced that Woodlands Pony Club will be the location for the Victoria/NSW hub.

**WA Highlights** - WA has been fielding plenty of calls and emails from interstate competitors entering the Petstock Pony Club Nationals – with comments that they can't wait to come over!



# Pony Club Australia Webinar Series

Watch ~ Learn ~ Enjoy



## Emergency First Aid for Horses with Dr James Meyer

James is a past Pony Club member, Club President, and 2022 winner of the PCA Gillian Rolton Award for Pony Club alumni.

[Watch here](#) Or visit the PCA YouTube channel  
[@ponyclubaustralia2208](#)



Promote your Club  
to your community,  
potential members  
and sponsors

[Watch here](#) Or visit the PCA YouTube channel  
[@ponyclubaustralia2208](#)



## Webinar with PCA Patron Dr Andrew McLean SOLUTIONS FOR STRONG HORSES - Kind options for control and safety



Andrew discusses decision making on bits and training methods to address issues

June 2023

[Watch here](#) Or visit the PCA YouTube channel  
[@ponyclubaustralia2208](#)



[Watch here](#)

Or visit the PCA YouTube channel  
[@ponyclubaustralia2208](#)



## A Better Bit for the Horse and Rider Combination

with  
Fiona Dearing from Bit Right - Equine

Presented by



July 2022

# Clubs Showing Kindness



Gunnedah & District Pony Club held a BeKinder Day for their July rally, with 30 riders participating.

Older troops formed buddies with the younger troops for the day and helped each other out. There was Big Ball, team sporting, riding in pairs and jumping events.

Riders were all presented with some lovely treats to share with themselves and their horses as well as some glitter to sparkle their way through the day. Well done.



## And the lesson of the day is . . . be kind

PCA was tagged in this post and we are so glad we were. You might want a tissue handy...

This little mixed up (composite) team went into the (NSW) State Mounted Games and Team Sporting Championships knowing they couldn't win the overall point score. They held their heads high and showed great sportsmanship and courage.

'Congratulations team members Ellie Logue (10) Aberdeen PC, Zone 7, Bailey Logue (12) Aberdeen PC, Zone 7, Cooper Richardson (16) Londonderry PC, Zone 19, Charlie Mackenzie (15) Rylstone PC, Zone 6, Bree Mackenzie (17) Rylstone PC, Zone 6. You're all great kids and should be so proud, I know as parents we couldn't be prouder of you all.

When you decided to share your blue ribbons with the little team that didn't win a ribbon all weekend was my favourite moment of the whole competition.'

This team rode extraordinarily well, taking out many 1st places as well as getting into just about every final - all the time helping and encouraging other teams.

At the end of the weekend the team called upon one of the younger teams that had not won a ribbon the whole day to come forward so they could each present them with one of their blue ribbons. This was not only a wonderful display of sportsmanship it also showed that riding is not always about the win, but the friendships, and support we show others along the way.

Well done team! and well done NSW.



You see photos like this every day, right? Not quite . . .

today you could be standing next to someone who is trying their best not to fall apart. so whatever you do today do it with kindness



Northern Metropolitan Zone (VIC) held a Ride to Time qualifier for members at Yarra Valley Racing Club recently.

Some riders were riding some amazingly accurate optimum times!!!

Looks like fun? Want to know more about Ride to Time (and Speed to Safety?)

Check out the [Ride to Time Discipline of the Month information sheet on the PCA website](#). There's plenty of other sports there to try as well.

## Can you ride to time?



## Quiz rules update

The Quiz Rule Book has been updated. It is now on the [PCA website under Sports/Competition Rules](#).

You will also find here the rules for Tetrathlon, Horse Archery, and Mounted Games.

More standardised rules are added here as the state committees put them together.

The Quiz Handbook is unchanged.



## When Harry met Kenny



Harry Brennan and Kenny from Woodlands Pony Club have only been a partnership for four months but are already kicking goals, with mounted games their favourite activity. Great to see Harry in a PCA sun smart polo top (available from the PCA shop on the website.)

Woodlands Pony Club came about a few years ago when three clubs near Melbourne merged after two lost their grounds - and they have been a major force, particularly in mounted games, to be reckoned with ever since.





# The Centre Page

## Phoenix Acres Equine Centre Riders enjoy a gymkhana

Pony Club Program riders from **Phoenix Acres Equine Centre** attended the Musgrave PC Gymkhana (QLD) recently. They are seen here taking part in the march past and some events and looking very smart. We hear there were lots of laughs, loud cheering and fun.



FireFly Park's Amelia rode very well to place at the Mt Gravatt Show last month on pony, Charlie.



They don't own a horse (yet) but are still progressing along the Pony Club path. These four are the latest D\* PCA Certificate Level riders graduating at **Yarra Balba PCA Accredited Riding Centre!** Such a good effort moving up the levels over the last 12 months or so! Well done Ebony, Holly, Courtney and Maya.

**CONGRATULATIONS** To Little Ranch Riding Centre, who have been named a Casino Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year Finalist for 2023. Great work Josie and team!



**Pony Club Australia accredits approved riding centres around Australia to teach the Pony Club syllabus to riders without their own horses. Riders, if and when they get their own horse, are then able to join a local Pony Club. [MORE HERE:](#)**

# Do You Follow PCA on the Socials?

The Pony Club Australia rider syllabus teaches the aids, and their use, from the very beginning. For example stop (rein), go(legs) and turn (rein).

Two simultaneous aids results in overshadowing, and the horse chooses to respond to only the most significant signal. It can cause the horse to be desensitised and unresponsive to the second aid. It can be hard to let go of old beliefs about the horse's ability to respond to rein and leg aids at the same time. But now that we know more about the horse, we should clear up our communication and think about the timing of our aids

Posts like this appear weekly on the PCA Facebook page and Instagram to highlight aspects of horse welfare.

Are you following the PCA Facebook page and/or Instagram account?  
@PonyClubAust

Ask me one thing at a time please!



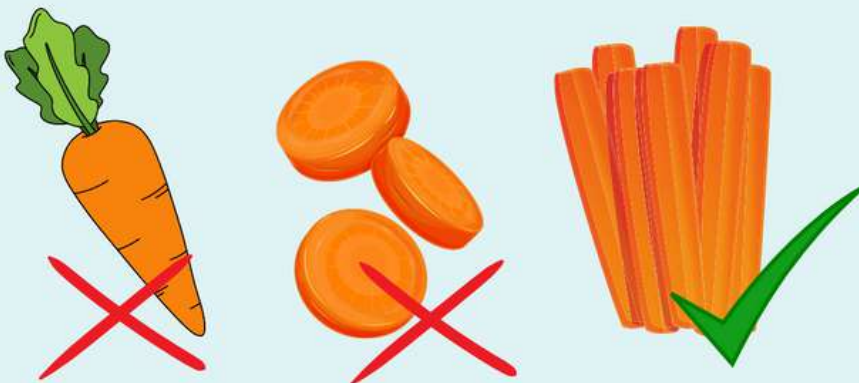
Humans are confusing

Welfare Wednesday



And I often add insightful comments

## Feeding treats to your horse



No large, round shapes to avoid choke

Slices are nicest

And hold your hand flat



Choke is a common equine emergency requiring veterinary attention. Unlike in human medicine, where choking refers to a tracheal (or windpipe) obstruction, choke in horses refers to an obstruction of the esophagus.

Closely observe an affected horse for 10 minutes as some can clear the blockage.

This was one of the topics Dr James Meyer discussed in his recent webinar for PCA members on Emergency First Aid for Horses.

You can watch the whole webinar on the PCA YouTube channel.

This would be a great learning tool to use at a Pony Club rally, for a theory lesson.

<https://tinyurl.com/PCAhorseFirstAid>



Welfare Wednesday





**Ranvet**



# Salkavite®

YOU DON'T SWEAT LESS IN WINTER!

## STAY HYDRATED ALL YEAR ROUND

# INTEGRITY TALK



PONY CLUB  
AUSTRALIA



Suane Waugh,  
PCA Integrity Manager  
Integrity line: 0424 067 045

## ASC E-LEARNING! CHILD SAFEGUARDING IN SPORT INDUCTION COURSE

This course is a requirement for coaches, club committee members or any position deemed child-related in Pony Club. If you hold these positions it is required that you have completed this course and have recorded this course as a credential on JustGo.



CHILD SAFEGUARDING

### Child Safeguarding in Sport Induction

The Child Safeguarding in Sport Induction course is for any person and any organisation who is bound by the Child Safeguarding policy. The course provides the foundation knowledge and education required to understand and

## Child Safeguarding Policy



### PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY

Pony Club Australia has a zero-tolerance policy to child abuse and neglect in any form. This Policy sets out the standards of behaviour expected of those involved in Pony Club® and the behaviours that are not acceptable ('Prohibited Conduct'). All levels of Pony Club are required to ensure they work to comply with the standards set in this policy.

### WHAT IS PROHIBITED CONDUCT?

Prohibited conduct defines unwanted or unlawful behaviours; these can be found within the Child Safeguarding policy. Any of these behaviours is a breach of the Child Safeguarding policy, which may lead to disciplinary actions or criminal proceedings.

### IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW

- All committee members must be registered as members on the JustGo database.
- All committee members must have a WWCC which is recorded on the JustGo database.
- All committee members must complete the Child Safeguarding in Sport Induction Course which is recorded on the JustGo database..
- All coaches must be registered as members on the JustGo database.
- All coaches must have a WWCC which is recorded on the JustGo database.
- All coaches must complete the Child Safeguarding in Sport Induction Course which is recorded on the JustGo database.

PCA  
Complaint Form



# CHILD SAFEGUARDING CLUB PROGRAM

## What is this program?

Pony Club is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in our activities, by ensuring that everyone involved in Pony Club is educated and informed of their responsibilities to protect and look after children. Pony Club Australia, believe child safeguarding is everyone's business. The Child Safeguarding Club Program is a series of checklists to help your club systematically put in place practices that help to create a child-safe environment at your club.

## Does our club need to do this program?

The Child Safeguarding Club Program is a voluntary program however every club must ensure they are aware of and implement child safe practices at their club. The Child Safeguarding Club Program aims to help clubs systematically make changes or think about how we as an organisation can promote and provide a child-safe environment for children participating in Pony Club.

## How does the program work?

The Child Safeguarding Club Program is a series of checklists aimed at helping your club to identify activities or actions to undertake to help embed child-safe practices at your club. We recommend you set an agenda item and circulate the checklist then check off the actions or activities on the list. If your club has done everything on the list, great! if not nominate someone to put in place what you don't have!

## 4. Child Safe Online Spaces

Our next focus in the program is Child-Safe Online spaces. It is important to let everyone know at your club which communication methods are sanctioned. Coaches or club officials should ask the permission of the club committee before starting any communication channel and ensure parents/guardians are included in these spaces at all times.

*Find the Child Safe Online Spaces checklist on the next page!*





# CHILD SAFEGUARDING CLUB PROGRAM

## 5. Child-Safe Online Spaces

Most adults who work with children and young people in Pony Club do so to make a positive contribution to their development and enjoyment.

However, there are a minority of adults who will become involved in sport to gain access to children and young people with the intention to harm them.

A potentially abusive adult will seek to have one-on-one communication with a child/young person, separate from adults, parents, and peers. They do this to build trust and a relationship with the child/young person in order to abuse them. This is referred to as grooming.

To protect children and young people from the danger of abuse, electronic and/or online communication between an adult and a child or young person should be managed at all times.

Adopting these practices provides an open and transparent communication process so that there is no misunderstanding relating to any communication undertaken with a child or young person.

The checklist will help to identify safe practices.

### CHECKLIST

- PARENTS/GUARDIANS ARE ALWAYS INCLUDED IN COMMUNICATIONS WITH INDIVIDUALS UNDER 18YRS.
- THE CONTENT COMMUNICATED WITH INDIVIDUALS UNDER 18YRS IS DIRECTLY ASSOCIATED WITH YOUR OFFICIAL ROLE.
- THE LANGUAGE USED IN COMMUNICATIONS IS APPROPRIATE AND NOT PERSONAL IN NATURE.
- COMMUNICATION EXPECTATIONS CLEARLY OUTLINED TO COACHES, PARENTS, CLUB OFFICIALS AND RIDERS.
- ENSURE ONE-ON-ONE MESSAGES BETWEEN AN ADULT AND AN INDIVIDUAL UNDER 18YRS DO NOT OCCUR.
- ENSURE ALL COMMUNICATION MECHANISMS INVOLVING RIDERS UNDER 18YRS ARE PASSED BY THE COMMITTEE.
- ENSURE OFFICIALS, PARENTS/CARERS AND RIDERS ARE AWARE OF HOW TO REPORT CONCERNS AND/OR COMPLAINTS.

Child Safeguarding in  
Sport Induction course



Child Safe Online  
Communication practices



PCA Complaints Form





# Safeguarding & Integrity

*Fun, fair and safe Pony Club*

## What is Safeguarding & Integrity?

Safeguarding and integrity is the process of ensuring the environment that our members, spectators and supporters are fun, fair and safe.

All clubs aim to provide the best environment for people to be involved with Pony Club, the safeguarding and integrity policies help to give a little more structure to what a fun, fair and safe environment looks like.

Child Safeguarding is a very important concern for Pony Club with so many young members enjoying the fun and friendship which is a part of our great organisation.

Ensuring other integrity matters are understood and supported at club level is important to our organisation too.

Come along to safeguarding & integrity to learn more about policies which help us to be the best organisation we can be!

## Questions

### Safeguarding & Integrity

- Has our club linked our website to the national integrity pages?
- Does our club talk about Child Safeguarding at every meeting?
- Does our club ensure all committee members are registered on JustGo?
- Does our club ensure all committee members have a WWCC?
- Does our club ensure all committee members complete the Child Safeguarding in Sport Induction course?
- Does our club ensure all coaches are registered on JustGo?
- Does our club ensure all coaches have a WWCC?
- Does our club ensure all coaches complete the Child Safeguarding in Sport Induction course?
- Does our club ensure all child-related roles have WWCC?
- Does our club ensure all child-related roles have completed the Child Safeguarding in Sport Induction Course?

*Make sure to come to our Safeguarding & Integrity webinar to learn more!*





# Club Development Program

## Webinar Series

The Club Development Program is a webinar series aimed at helping club administrators to gain greater confidence to manage their clubs.

The webinars will be full of tips and tricks, essential information and things to think about. Hopefully shared experiences from other club administrators from all over Australia!

Being a volunteer club administrator can be a rewarding opportunity but sometimes there just seems like so much you need to know or understand.

The Club Development Program will support concepts raised in Game Plan and help clubs to systematically look at areas of operation in their club.

### WEBINAR SERIES

**Club Governance 101**  
Date: Tuesday 23 MAY 2023  
Time: 7-8pm



**Strategic Planning**  
Date: Tuesday 27 JUN 2023  
Time: 7-8pm



**Marketing & Communication**  
Date: Tuesday 25 JUL 2023  
Time: 7-8pm



**Safeguarding & Integrity**  
Date: Tuesday 29 AUG 2023  
Time: 7-8pm

[REGISTER NOW >](#)



**Risk Management**  
Date: Tuesday 26 SEP 2023  
Time: 7-8pm

**Recruiting & Retaining Members**  
Date: Tuesday 31 OCT 2023  
Time: 7-8pm



What is Game Plan?  
Watch our Game Plan Information  
Webinar to find out more!





Welcome to the Game Plan portal

Sign in or Register an account

# Game Plan

A tool to help build your club!

## What is Game Plan

Game plan is a tool aimed at helping clubs to understand where their management could improve and provides resources to help build capacity and operational strength

## Do I have to do it?

Game Plan is entirely optional for clubs however from committee to committee it is a way of helping to retain corporate knowledge and also help with planning for the future.

## Game Plan Information Webinar

Didn't get a chance to jump on our Game Plan Information Webinar? Don't worry we recorded it for you! Scan the code to find the webinar.

