

PCA News

Pony Club Australia Monthly Newsletter

Pony Racing Taster Days

Concussion Policy

Showman Event

Coaching competition

Emergency First Aid for Horses - Webinar

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info@ponyclubaustralia.com.au www.ponyclubaustralia.com.au



III pet stock



Petstock Pony Club Australia National Championships

Competition hubs



TASMANIA







August 26/27 Freds Pass (near Darwin)

September 6-17

Faulkner Park Grammar

Equestrian Centre, Invermay.

September 23-24 Danson Dressage Birdwood

September 25-27 Joint Hub Vic and NSW Venue TBA

October 2-5 Mounted Games for all states will be run at a hub in Benalla, Vic



Tet competitors will do their ridden phase at a QLD hub; others will compete in WA

October 2nd - 5th 2023

Those riders looking to stay in WA – there are additional events to enter:

- Showjumping
- Eventing



Dressage

Combined Horse Transport is proud to support this prestigious event and would love to see you & your horse in the West. Our support includes a **REDUCED** travel rate for all PC members' horses. We will get your horse, all your gear across to WA so all you need to do is get yourself there. Your horse will have overnight stops along the way, where they will be fed, rugged & made comfortable. Speak to CHT about the **REDUCED** transport rate 1800 998 157





Combined Horse Transport - WA Specialists in transporting horses from Coast to Coast & are proud to be supporting the PetStock PCA Nationals to be held in WA with reduced transport rates for competitors.

NATIONALS - WA



BOOK NOW



Pony Club WA Whadjuk Country 303 Cathedral Ave BRIGADOON WA 6069

Phone: (08) 9296 1500 Website: www.ponyclubwa.asn.au Email: marketing@ponyclubwa.asn.au Working Hours: Monday - Friday 9.00am - 5.00pm

Pony Club Western Australia recognises the traditional owners of the land across Western Australia upon which we share our enjoyment of our horses and ponies. We pay our respect to elders, past present and emerging.

ASSOCIATION SUPPORTERS



















Petstock Pony Club Australia National Championships

FEATURE EVENT

The Showman Competition

The Pony Club National Championship Host State can hold an additional competition that is not part of the points.

For 2023 the additional competition will be Showman (3 and/or 4 Phases) and will be held virtually (in rider's own state) and at the WA State Equestrian Centre.

Showman competition is originally derived from International Show Horse events. This multi-discipline competition has been designed to reward the allround equestrian athlete with a well-developed capacity to present a horse under saddle and in-hand.

Showman consists of 3 or 4 phases of equal weighting (100 marks each). All classes have a dressage test, an individual ridden display and an in-hand presentation.

Four phase Showman classes also include a jumping phase. The same horse/athlete combination must complete all phases in the correct order. The Rules for Showman have been designed to correspond with the National Sport Rules of each of the disciplines represented wherever possible.

State Uniform will be worn not show horse attire.

October 2nd - 5th 2023



Cover photo

Courtesy of Secret Women's Business

CLASSES

Sub Junior (10 - 12 years) Showman 3 Phase (Preliminary 1.3 Dressage + a set Ridden Workout + a set In Hand Workout) Junior/Senior (13 - 25 years) Showman 3 Phase (Novice 2.3 Dressage + a set Ridden Workout + a set In Hand Workout) Sub Junior (10 - 12 years) Showman 4 Phase

Sub Junior (10 - 12 years) Showman 4 Phase (Preliminary 1.3 Dressage + a set Ridden Workout + a set In Hand Workout + Showjumping 60cm)

Junior/Senior (13 - 25 years) Showman 4 Phase (Novice 2.3 Dressage + a set Ridden Workout + a set In Hand Workout + Showjumping 80cm) Junior/Senior (13 - 25 years) Showman 4 Phase (Novice 2.3 Dressage + a set Ridden Workout + a set In Hand Workout + Showjumping 90cm)

<u>Petstock Pony Club Australia Nationals Championship has a Facebook page</u> <u>- Join now and keep up to date</u>



Pony Club WAPhone: (0Whadjuk Country303 Cathedral AveWebsite:BRIGADOON WA 6069Email: mail

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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 winner of the PCA Gillian Rolton Award for Pony Club alumni.

Thursday 20th July 2023 at 7.30pm https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82432344630

Club President, and wi nore from his Rolton a



for Pony Club

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

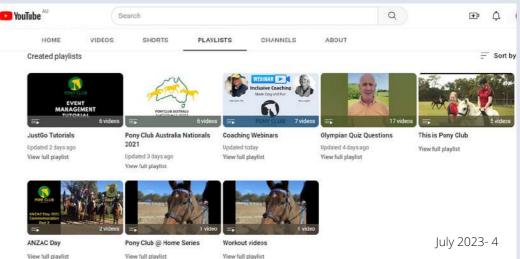
June 2023





Watch here Or visit the PCA YouTube channel @ponyclubaustralia2208







Media opportunities!



Prizes!



Meet famous Jockeys!







Pony racing is coming your way!

Have you dreamt about riding down the straight on a race course? Are you 9-15yrs on a pony under 13.3hh? If so, here is your chance! Thoroughbred Industry Careers (TIC) in partnership with Pony Club Australia will be running a Pony Race TASTER DAY in QLD, NSW, VIC, SA & WA in lead up to upcoming Pony races Taster days have been developed for all riders to be able to join in the fun and excitement on learning new skills to help get you on the race track.

Upcoming Taster Days QLD - Jimboomba Pony Club grounds Sunday 9th July Entry Link: https://tinyurl.com/PonyRaceEntry_ NSW - Blacktown Pony Club grounds Saturday 2nd September

Entry link: https://tinyurl.com/PCAPonyRaceBlacktown

other NSW, VIC, SA, WA event dates TBC

To be eligible for Pony Races you will need to attend a Taster Day **UPCOMING Pony Race days** Eagle Farm, Brisbane QLD - 12th August 2023

Warwick Farm NSW - 26th January 2024

Fun!



Friendship!



Partnership!





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 wellbeing 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 of riders and ponies who are SELECTED from the taster days (and have expressed interest) to further their skills towards displaying their ability and control on a racetrack.

RACE DAYS

Fields of 10 will be SELECTED from the TRAINING DAYS (in two age/height categories - see more information) to compete on a racetrack.

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 9-12 yrs on a pony 12.2hh or under Riders aged between 12-15 yrs on a pony 12.2hh-13.3hh *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 or under, riders 12 yrs and under 650m - ponies 12hh - 13.3hh, riders 12 yrs - 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.

Contact Us

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Pony Club Australia ~ Values

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

- Unity
- Innovation
- Kindness
- Accessibility
 Horse Welfare

Integrity

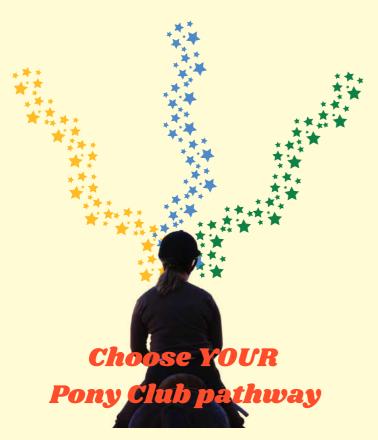
Each month, we take a look at what PCA is doing under each of these values.

Accessibility

We actively facilitate participation and create pathways in our sport, regardless of background, abilities, beliefs or situation.

Pony Club Australia seeks to provide opportunities to members that connect with our diverse member base. Some of our current initiatives and programs are:

- The 2023 PCA Nationals in WA enabling riders to compete from their home state, plus our WA members get to enjoy the event at home for a change!
- Expanded international virtual competitions so more riders can 'wear the green and gold' and compete for Australia
- PCA Accredited Riding Centres and 'Riders Without Horses' at local clubs for members without their own horse or pony
- Modified competition rules and gear rules for riders with a disability, and a coach education module on inclusive coaching
- Transition away from age-based competition to competency-based classes
- PCA syllabus providing options for riders to choose jumping and non-jumping alternatives at levels above the C certificate
- Rules in most sports have all genders competing together
- Rider insurance provided to riders from three years to eighty years
- Promotion of adult membership and the introduction of Masters' classes at national and international level for riders over 25 years
- A diverse Pony Club Pathway so that members can choose different sports to suit their horse and ability, choose to compete or not compete, choose the coaching pathway from 16 years of age.







Coaching

Fun Lesson Competitition!

To coincide with our brand new Coaches Resources area on the website, we are inviting all coaches and riders to send us their lesson plans and go in the draw to win a great Pony Club Rider's Merchandise pack including our brand new trucker hat, long riding socks and polo shirt.

Create your own lesson plan for any discipline - jumping, musical ride, pole work, mounted games, dressage, beginners, showing, eventing, polocrosse, horse archery, groundwork etc

The Coaches Resource area on the website is open to all Pony Club coaches and will have an extensive library on lesson plans for all disciplines, as well as access to coaching webinars. Register now at: <u>https://ponyclubaustralia.com.au/register</u>

TO ENTER:

1) Find the lesson plan template online at https://ponyclubaustrali a.com.au/pcancas/ or you can also submit a video

2) Email your lesson plan to info@ponyclubaustralia. com.au



Competition Closes 28th July 2023. Winners announced in the August PCA newsletter



Did you also know that we have our very own Pony Club Australia Coaches private Facebook group where you can ask questions and share ideas? Join now at <u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/294014092684550</u>

International Mounted Games Exchange 2023



The 2023 International Mounted Games exchange will be held in Sydney Australia hosted by Pony Club NSW form the 8th November to the 19th of November.

The Exchange will consist of teams from Canada, America, United Kingdom & Australia Teams will tour around Sydney, Blue Mountains, Canberra & Moruya seeing some of the amazing sights that Australia has to offer.

The International Mounted Games Exchange competition will be held on Saturday 18th November in the Sydney region. The competition will consist of 20 races where riders will compete on loan ponies from members across NSW Pony Club. There has been a break in competition due to COVID, so Australia has been reigning world champions since 2019.

Go the green and gold!

COACH - Dan Foster

I have been coaching PPMG teams since 2005, I absolutely love helping any rider, any age, young and old, learn about Prince Philip Games and share the joys of Pony Club. Since 2011 I have coached national WA teams for 6 years for 5 wins and one second at national level. I have seen the best Australia has to offer great coaches, great riders and an amazing community.

I joined Darling Range H+PC in 1986 moved house and club in 1993 so attended Eastern Hills PC met an amazing family who showed me PPMG in 1996, finally moved to my club for life Orange Grove PC in 2005.

I represented clubs at state level PPMG 1996 to 2006, represented WA in PPMG as a rider 1999 to 2006 and coached as a life long passion since the day I joined Orange Grove. My greatest achievement has not been the wins or the honours of representing but rather the chance to repay all the people who helped me on my journey. Obviously you can't pay back so I honour them by paying forward. Every time I introduce a new rider to PPMG or I show a young person that this sport has a future with their name on it I'm saying thank you to every one who has helped me.



International Mounted Games Exchange 2023



<mark>NT -</mark> Denver Vivian

TEAM MANAGER - Niree Weybury

I started Pony Club in 1989 at Oaklands Pony Club in Central Zone, Victoria. Although I rode every discipline I had a passion for mounted games. I have been lucky to be coached, and have ridden against some amazing riders when selected into the Victorian Prince Philip team.

After finishing riding at Pony Club I started coaching and have had many successful games teams. I have been the Victorian PPMG team manager and now assistant junior coach. I'm currently still competing in mounted games with the Australian Mounted Games Association and love every minute of it.

Aside from horses I'm a registered nurse and work as a nurse unit manager in a busy Melbourne hospital and have two sons who are also keen games riders.

I'm really excited to be the team manager for this amazing team and can't wait to see them compete in November under our talented coach Dan Foster.

I have been riding from an early age and am a member of Darwin Horse and Pony Club. I compete in Show Jumping, Polocrosse and Games and am proud to be representing the NT and Australia in the IMGE. I love the adrenaline and excitement of Games and have met so many amazing people through competing. We are all very lucky to have Pony Club Australia and it's pathways to support us in this amazing opportunity. I am excited to head to Sydney with a great team - Go Team Australia!





VIC - Ryan Bissicks

My name is Ryan Bissicks and I started riding at Yarrambat Horse & Pony Club when I was 10 years old. I have been member of the Yarrambat games teams and Prince Philip Mounted games development and junior squads in Victoria since 2018. Mounted games is my favourite sport to do with my pony Tucker and we are out most weekends competing or training.

I am very proud and excited to represent Pony Club Australia at the International Mounted Games Exchange in Sydney and looking forward to meeting the rest of my team and the competitors from overseas.

International Mounted Games Exchange 2023



WA - Keira Dowding

Hi my name is Keira Dowding. I am 15 years old and I am from Western Australia and I am a member of the Swan Valley Horse and Pony Club. I been involved in Pony Club Mounted Games for 6 years and I am so honored to be riding for Australia at the International Pony Club Mounted Games. To be able to meet Mounted Games riders from other countries is going to be so much fun. I will do my best to make my family, friends and country proud.

TAS - Ashlea Rees

I am Ashlea from Tasmania. I am so excited and grateful to be joining the other riders for the Australian Team for IMGE. I love Mounted Games and have been lucky enough to represent Tasmania at Prince Phillip Mounted Games a couple of times. I have been riding at Pony Club since I was 7 and I can't wait for this amazing opportunity.





NSW - Charlie Mackenzie

My name is Charlie MacKenzie and I'm a member of Rylstone Pony Club in Zone 6, New South Wales. I live in the Central West near Mudgee and attend boarding school in Bathurst.

I've been riding all my life and have been doing Mounted Games for 10 years.

We travel a lot to compete and my horse Charlie and I have had success at AMGA in the past few years, we also compete in Pony Club sports days and Inter schools.

I'm humbled to be chosen for the NSW rider position in the Australian team and can't wait to compete in my home state and show my fellow Australian and International riders how lucky we are to live where we do.

Gear Rules - June 2023 Update

<u>The National Gear Rules</u> are reviewed every six months, and if required, updated issues are put on the PCA website in January and July. (Under Sports/National Gear Rules)

<u>An addendum</u>, or summary, of the latest changes is also available on the website so members can see at a glance what has changed. The latest gear rules, free to download, also has the most recent changes in red.

These updates are generally to include any new gear coming on the market, or (less common) restrictions on gear that is not considered safe or is detrimental to horse welfare, or to clarify existing rules.

The June 2023 version also explains that Gear Checks can now be conducted mounted or unmounted. The PCA Gear Committee considers that the best options are to do gear check mounted at competitions, and either mounted or unmounted at other activities. This committee, which meets twice a year, has representatives from each state and territory.

Some of the latest changes include:

a) a new type of bitless bridle added for use

b) Bitless bridles, with approval, may now be used in all disciplines.

c) Compression hoods can be used for rallies, musters and other non-competitive activities such as clinics, camps and training days. May also be used for showjumping and fancy dress competition, or with an approved exemption. In hot climates light colours are advised. PLUS: 'To be reviewed for use in other disciplines in Nov 2023'.

d) Stock saddles can have stirrup leather buckles near stirrup, with keeper and buckles turned inwards. (Never banned, just added for gear checkers information.)

e) Pickup strap

This strap needs to be fitted by a Horseball coach the first time and USED ONLY for Horseball activities, no other sport. Do not use unsupervised; do not use baling twine or rope. Riders should not attempt picking up a ball from the ground without a pickup strap which runs from stirrup to stirrup under the girth.

f) Under bandaging, it now says 'bandages should be removed as soon as possible to allow a horse's legs to cool'.







Make sure you know the gear rules

International Dressage Results - Virtual comp



The Centre Page

Great Ideas for School Holiday Camps at our Accredited Riding Centres

Bonogin Valley Horse Retreat, QLD

While Debbie Burgermeister offers a lot of different school holiday opportunities, they are running their first ever **vaulting clinics** these holidays, both on their horses, as well as their great Equitrainer mechanical horses. BVHR also runs regular Kids Horse Play Days over the holidays as a great introduction for young riders.





Avoca Park Equestrian, VIC

Leanne and the Avoca Park team offer **Overnight School Holiday Camps** that cover grooming, plaiting, washing, stable mucking, feed prep, groundwork, tacking up, riding and trail activities, accommodating all in their 8-bed bunkhouse.

Ameldean Equestrian Centre, NSW

A **Pony Spa Day** sounds just like what our ponies ordered! Alyson is bringing in Equine Healthworks specialist Dr Jane Clothier to help your riders learn about horse anatomy, especially designed to be fun for younger riders.





Junction Farm, TAS

Junction Farm are taking the opportunity to hold a *Gymkhana* for all of their Academy Riders, including lots of fun classes with fancy dress, fancies mane and tail, smartest on parade and best colour coordinated rider. Leanne also has an incredible new Eventing Simulator for their riders to hire!

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. <u>MORE HERE:</u> July 2023- 15

Around the Grounds

Cabarita Beach Pony Club (Zone 15 NSW) recently held a two day gymkhana and organisers engaged with the local press to cover the event to increase the visibility of the club in the local community, encourage new membership and also just to give the kids a buzz of it being in the paper - and it worked well.

Cararita encourages encourages all clubs across Australia to do similar, to promote new membership

and all the wonderful things Pony Clubs do. Well done!

Please message or email your photos to us at marketing@ ponyclubaustralia .com.au





Congratulations to Carabita member Keighley Leeson, one of our adult members who rode in the PCIA dressage. She placed 6th in her class! (See page 14)

Riders at the Zone 14 Pony Club Camp at Bega, NSW in April enjoyed trying horseball drills.

Horseball now has a <u>Discipline</u> of the Month fact sheet on the <u>PCA website</u> to help clubs find out more. Why not check out the other sports while you are there and find something new for your Club to try







Francisco Campeao, based in NSW, helped compile our Horseball Discipline of the Month. He runs clinics in Victoria as well (and maybe other states if there's interest). His qualifications include International Horseball and Working Equitation coach, Pony Club NSW Instructor for Showjumping, Dressage, Horseball and Working Equitation.







Tentpegging under lights - with a sword.

Around the Grounds



Brittany Lowik is an open age member, along with her son, of Yandina and District Pony Club. She was one of the club's members who rode at the Sunshine Coast Show (QLD) recently - but she was part of a Light Horse Troop display.

This looks like so much fun! We know Light Horse Troops also take part in commemoration days such as Anzac Day. We suspect these horses would be very good at many different Pony Club activities.



Photos: MCJukes Photography



📂 Quick and simple 'Two Finger Rule'

Horse welfare includes comfortable gear

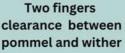


Two fingers clearance below cheek bone



Two fingers clearance for noseband tightness







Two fingers fit under the girth







Not sure? Check the National Gear Rules on the PCA website

CLUB

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





CONCUSSION POLICY



PURPOSE OF THIS POLICY

EGRIT

This policy is to assist in safeguarding the health and welfare of riders and volunteers in Pony Club activities. The purpose of this policy is to provide information and direction to riders, parents, coaches and administrators.

WHAT DOES A CONCUSSION LOOK LIKE?

There may be obvious signs of concussion such as loss of consciousness, brief convulsions or difficulty balancing or walking. More subtle signs and symptoms of concussion include:

- headache
- dizziness

- sensitivity to noise or light
- blurred vision
- confusion
- nausea or vomiting
- drowsiness
- sense of pressure in the head
- sadness or irritability
- feeling 'in a fog'
- amnesia
- neck pain

IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW

- A rider diagnosed with a concussion is not permitted to ride at a Pony Club rally/muster or event for a minimum period of 21 days and must be symptom-free for the preceding 48 hours.
- The Pony Club or event organiser must complete an Incident Report and submit the final copy, endorsed by the doctor, to their state office.

Incident Reporting

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

ASC E-LEARNING! CLEAN SPORT 101

Clean Sport 101 is an introduction to Anti-Doping rules written in plain English. Designed for pathway athletes early in their careers, unlikely to be tested, and community/grassroots levels. Any rider who is riding at State level should think about completing this course. Coaches and parents should consider this course too for knowledge! Once completed you can register your badge under credentials on JustGo.



Clean Sport 101

An introduction to Anti-Doping rules written in plain English. Designed for pathway athletes early in their careers, unlikely to be tested, and community/grassroots levels.

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. Recruitment & Screening

Our next focus in the program is Recruitment & Screening. Recruitment and screening help us to ensure the people we have working with our young members are vetted and appropriate. Ensuring your club makes every effort to check that the individual undertaking child-related roles helps to make sure you are providing a child safe environment.

Find the Recruitment and Screening checklist on the next page!