



## PCA Announces National Award Winners for 2020

A coach who created online competitions and drop-in education sessions, a Club that built strong community and business partnerships, and a rider who represented Australia in China are among the winners of the annual PCA National Awards for 2020.

In a first for Pony Club Australia, the Riders of the Year, and Coach, Volunteer and Club of the Year have been announced online, in a presentation unfolding like a TV awards ceremony.

PCA Board Chair Heather Disher, in lockdown in Victoria, hosted the event and celebrated both the finalists and winners.

The awards acknowledge the best achievements, dedication and service by riders, coaches, volunteers and Club. With over 800 Clubs and 40,000 members, competition is always keen.

Pony Club Australia CEO Dr Catherine Ainsworth said the annual awards are not just about achievement. "It's about participation, citizenship, giving back to Pony Club and showing initiative," she said.

Award judges included two former three day event Olympians, both of whom started their riding careers in Pony Club. Atlanta gold medallist Wendy Schaeffer and Beijing silver medallist Megan Jones. They were impressed by the good governance and level of commitment shown by nominated Pony Clubs and members.

This year, three of the awards went to Tasmanian nominations, from strong fields in all categories.

The winners are:

\* NOTE: We can put you in touch with any of these winners, or provide nomination details

### **Best achievement by a rider aged 12 years and under**

Chloe Daun, Huntingfield Pony Club, TAS

### **Best achievement by a rider aged 13-17 years**

Holly Pulford, Murrumbateman Pony Club, NSW

### **Best achievement by a rider aged 18-25 years**

Sarah Gant, Hendra Pony Club, Queensland

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The Australian Government through Sport Australia recognises Pony Club Australia to develop Pony Club in Australia. The financial support of Sport Australia is gratefully acknowledged.

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**The Kay Irving Award for Coach of the Year**

Rachael Edwards, Seville Pony Club, Victoria

**Volunteer of the Year (joint winners)**

Erin Hunn, Hobart and Districts Pony Club, Tasmania and

Lois Dawes, Babinda and District Pony Club, Queensland

**Club of the Year**

Lilydale District Pony Club, Tasmania

You can also watch the awards ceremony here:

<https://tinyurl.com/PCANationalAwards2020>

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