



**PONY CLUB**  
AUSTRALIA



# Annual Report

2023



A **life**  
with **horses**  
starts here

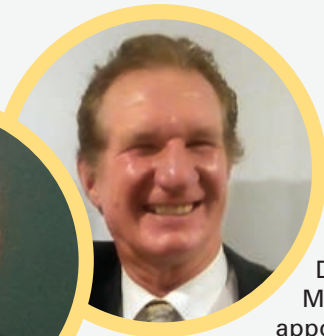
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*On the cover: Horseball lesson at a Yandina Pony Club muster (rally).  
Photo: Tanya Titman*

# Snapshot of 2023



Dr Andrew McLean (left) was appointed as the new PCA patron. PCA thanked Heath Ryan (above) for his contribution in the role over the last four years.



Our educational webinar series on our YouTube channel continued with topics such as Emergency First Aid for Horses with Dr James Meyer (above); Solutions for Strong Horses with Andrew McLean and A Better Bit for the Horse and Rider Combination with Fiona Dearing.



There were 19 successful applicants from around Australia for the 2023 Leadership certificate, who spent the year working with mentors to develop their skills and knowledge to equip them to work in the horse industry.



Riders at several PCA Accredited Riding Centres and China Pony Club members competed in the first international 2023 Virtual Dressage Competition. The youngest rider was just five years old and the oldest 59.

Riders represent Australia in showjumping, mounted games, dressage and quiz in 2023.

Our proficiency certificate manuals underwent a makeover, with some updates on welfare and more interactive activities. The B Certificate now has non-jumping alternative.



Pony Club Australia has mapped our proficiency standards with the Australian national regulator (ASQA) and offers Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) towards many VET (Vocational Education and Training) approved courses.

VET Certificate levels start from Level 1 through to Level 4 and then on to a Diploma. The PCA Syllabus can provide RPL for courses such as Racing, Agriculture, Equine Studies, Horse Breeding, Equine Dentistry, Community Services all the way through to Diploma of Sport, and Diploma of Equine Management.

For a full list of where the PCA Syllabus can take you, visit the website at [https://ponyclubaustralia.com.au/further\\_education/](https://ponyclubaustralia.com.au/further_education/)

Since adopting the National Integrity Framework in 2022, our international coaches and competitors have been completing the mandatory 'Clean Sport' courses on prohibited substances that are required by Sport Integrity Australia.

A new hybrid format was trialled for the National Championships in October, hosted by WA. Some riders travelled to WA and some competed in hubs in their own state.



In what is believed to be a world first for an equestrian organisation, PCA now permits bitless bridles to be used in all disciplines.



We conducted a survey about how our female riders cope with their periods at rallies, musters or competitions. Following a great response, dark colour jodhpurs, moleskins and jeans were introduced for all as a uniform option.



With more than 20 years of sport industry experience at national and state level, Matt Helmers was appointed CEO in August.

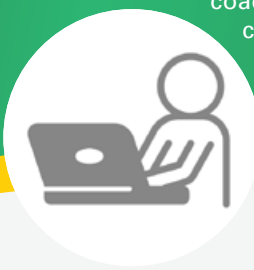


China Pony Club (CPC) delegates visited Australia to discuss a number of initiatives with PCA. This will include exchange visits and camps.

We introduced a new Coaching Resources page on the Pony Club Australia website, for registered coaches. It includes lesson plans, coaching webinars, training tips, and rider assessment tools.



PCA's Horse Medication Policy is now on the website, and is being fully implemented from the beginning of 2024.



In 2023 we farewellled CEO Dr Catherine Ainsworth, who led the organisation for eight years through major changes, including:

- the rebranding of PCA with the current logo,
- a new syllabus in 2019 that is leading the world in rider education,
- online database for management of memberships and events at no cost to clubs,
- maintaining a comprehensive and value for money insurance program for riders, coaches, volunteers, clubs and associations,
- navigating the challenges of COVID including running a national championship 'virtually' rather than cancelling.
- PCA's leadership in horse welfare becoming recognised across the world and the commitment stated in the PCA Horse Welfare Policy.
- additional national representation opportunities with the introduction of international virtual competitions in dressage and showjumping,
- enhanced agreement with China Pony Club,
- 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.
- the formation of a strategic Education and Development Committee as an independent 'thinktank' looking at program innovation,
- new safety policies such as concussion, medical services and incident reporting.
- National Gear Rules in place and National Discipline rules for some sports completed.
- the elevation of PCA's Governance processes which now see PCA outperforming our peers on the Australian Sports Commission governance standards.

# Message from the Chair

2023 was a year of transition. We transitioned out of COVID-19, actioned new plans for extreme weather, delivered hybrid events and reviewed national programs, committees, and pathways.

We transitioned from launching world firsts to delivering them as part of our everyday, including international virtual events via Pony Club International Alliance (PCIA); and the PCA Horse Welfare Policy.

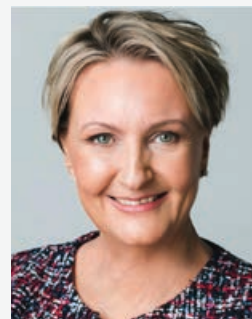
We welcomed Dr. Andrew McLean as our new patron. Andrew is an honorary fellow of the International Society for Equitation Science and is well known in Pony Club as a past rider, coach and PCA board member. We also acknowledge the guidance and leadership that Andrew provided during the development of our current PCA Syllabus which is internationally revered. Andrew takes over as patron from Health Ryan and we thank Heath for his contribution over the past four years.

I am thrilled to share that we have returned to an operating surplus which will enable appropriate resourcing to ensure we are delivering to our strategic plan today and into the future. Returning to a surplus could not have been done without our amazing PCA staff and my fellow board members. Our combined diligence and commitment has given us a strong base on which to leverage further value and enable continued and new opportunities for our members and community.

PCA continued its extended tenure as chair of the Pony Club International Alliance (PCIA). As a collaboration of eight nations working together to provide education, competition and international opportunities and pathways, our mission to education and unite Pony Clubbers was on full display this year with the extra opportunities for international competition and activities.

I would like to thank my fellow PCA Directors for entrusting me with chair responsibilities. Thank you to Jacob McLoughlin for his role as secretary, and my fellow board members for all they do for PCA from a position of good governance and for giving extra time for our councils, committees, forums, and workshops where they lend their expertise and time.

A special thank you to Venetta Sasha for her expertise and guidance as the independent chair of PCA Finance Audit and Risk Committee; Shannon Durrant for her expertise as the independent chair of PCA Nominations Committee and last but certainly not least to Dr. Catherine Ainsworth our



*I am thrilled to share that we have returned to an operating surplus which will enable appropriate resourcing to ensure we are delivering to our strategic plan today and into the future. Returning to a surplus could not have been done without our amazing PCA staff and my fellow board members.*

outgoing PCA CEO who led our staff and day to day operations for the past eight years. Catherine's contributions have given us a solid foundation for which we can move into our future.

We are delighted to welcome our incoming CEO Matthew (Matt) Helmers and are excited by what his experience, energy and focus will bring to our future.

A huge thank you to our state members for their time and expertise. Working together we deliver to so many. And of course our members, their families, the many volunteers that support Pony Club across Australia, our amazing coaches, gear checkers, and officials – thank you!

PCA continues to be committed to delivering to our diverse membership and being an active contributor to the equine industry, ensuring we have a bright future for horse sports within Pony Club, and as preparation for our members who take up work or continue to compete in the horse industry.

**Heather Disher**  
Chair, Pony Club Australia

# Message from the Australian Sports Commission

## A message from the Chair of the Australian Sports Commission – Josephine Sukkar AM

Sport has a place for everyone and delivers results that make Australia proud.

As we progress through this defining era in Australian sport, the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) is clear in our vision to lead and support the sector.

Our role is to provide opportunities for all communities to be involved in sport, while growing elite success and representation, and inspiring future generations.

As the Australian Government agency responsible for supporting and investing in sport at all levels, we strive to increase involvement in sport and enable continued international sporting success.

We do this through leadership and development of a cohesive and effective sports sector, targeted financial support and the operation of the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS).

We play a unique role in the sport ecosystem and tackle the big challenges and opportunities with and for the sector.

We're proud to do so and through our vision, we aim to bring out the best in everyone involved in sport as we establish Australia as the world's best sporting nation.

Collectively, we've already made huge strides to set Australian sport up for success.

Australia's High Performance 2032+ Sport Strategy is an industry-wide approach to harness our collective strengths, talent and resources.

It is built on creating an environment where athletes and sports can **Win Well** – by balancing ambitious performance goals with a culture of care, integrity, fair play and pride.

Working hand in hand with this is the co-designed National Sport Participation Strategy which calls on Australians to **Play Well**.

Building safe, welcoming, inclusive and fun experiences is central to the Strategy which focuses on people of all ages, backgrounds, genders and abilities coming together to access the benefits of sport.

The sporting strategies, programs and facilities we deliver now have the capacity to shape Australia's long-term prosperity, well beyond sporting boundaries.



*As the Australian Government agency responsible for supporting and investing in sport at all levels, we strive to increase involvement in sport and enable continued international sporting success.*

This is a defining era for Australian sport. We are well into the Green and Gold decade to Brisbane 2032, and we are focused on building sustainable success for decades to come.

As the national home of sport, we are proud of the role we play in supporting athletes, coaches and high performance staff to reach their potential.

In the past 12 months alone we've welcomed more than 5,000 athletes, coaches and support staff across 33 sports and 200 camps to the AIS campus and I look forward to seeing many of these athletes shine at the upcoming Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games and Milano Cortina 2026 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games.

On behalf of the ASC, thank you to everyone who contributes to the sector as we work collectively to ensure every Australian sees a place for themselves in sport.

**Josephine Sukkar AM**

# Message from the CEO

I am delighted to present my first report as CEO. I acknowledge the contributions and achievements of my predecessor and I am honoured to be entrusted with the responsibility of leading an organisation that brings families, horses and communities together for enriched experiences. I look forward to working with our stakeholders to ensure our brand prominence is amplified to attract investment and continues to evolve offerings and sustain our impact for future generations.

## PCA team

Thanks to the PCA staff for their commitment to supporting our members. Michelle Newham (Member Services), Sally Wiseman (Participation), Monil Shah (National Membership database support), Suanne Waugh (Integrity), and to Bronwyn Wheatley for her ongoing support to PCA marketing in a caretaking capacity. Her extensive knowledge has been invaluable and her legacy will position the full time role for success in 2024.

## National Committees

### National Safety Committee

As part of PCA's commitment to the safety of riders, volunteers and horses in Pony Club activities and ensuring that practices meet community and government expectations, the PCA National Safety Committee (NSC) met twice (February & August) to review data from the Incident Report System, develop templates to assist event organisers with their risk assessment and management, and maintaining minimum medical standards for events and courses. This committee also reviewed any medical services exemption applications.

### National Gear Committee

To ensure the appropriate use of approved gear for horse welfare and rider safety, the PCA National Gear Committee (NGC) met twice (May & November) to make amendments and additions to the National Gear Rules. A sub committee of three reviewed exemption applications as they arose, and we thank them for their valued input.



*I look forward to working with our stakeholders to ensure our brand prominence is amplified to attract investment and continues to evolve offerings and sustain our impact for future generations.*

### National Discipline Committees

Thanks to the PCA national discipline sub-committees for advice on PCA national discipline rules, national competition programs and recommendations for national team selection. Thanks to PCA Mounted Games National Committee (MGNC) outgoing chair, Warwick Slade, and particular acknowledgement to the chair of PCA Tetrathlon National Committee (TNC), Ann-Catherine (Kate) Thomson, who received an OAM for her service to Modern Pentathlon.

### Coaching Advisory Committee

The PCA Coaching Advisory Committee (CAC) met in November to discuss the implementation of the updated content for the PCA Level One coaching course, including the communication plan, to ensure both a smooth transition for Preliminary coaches seeking to upgrade and a suitable bridging plan for existing Level One coaches looking to update.





*CEO Matt Helmers and Participation Manager Sally Wiseman caught up with China Pony Club's Operations Manager Smily Duan, and China Pony Club principal Leo Liang in Queensland to discuss support and cooperation.*



### **Educational Advisory Committee**

The PCA Education and Development Committee (EDC) has provided ongoing advice on the development of programs for coach education, rider syllabus and leadership. This year had a particular focus on the Leadership Certificate which had 19 successful applicants develop their leadership skills under the support of mentors, and actively apply them within Pony Club and the broader equine industry.

### **International events**

The 2023 calendar provided international pathway opportunities with PCIA virtual events across several disciplines (Dressage, Jumping & Quiz), World Club Showjumping invitational in France in July and our hosting of the International Mounted Games Exchange in NSW in November. In addition, a team of four riders from regional Australia (Esperance-WA, Cobar-NSW, Hamilton-Vic and Rockhampton-QLD) supported by a coach and team manager from Tasmania, attended an exchange in China in October. PCA are fortunate to have such great ambassadors representing the community values of more than 700 affiliated clubs throughout Australia.

### **Final acknowledgement**

Thanks to our major sponsors Thoroughbred Industry Careers, Gow Gates, Elecbrakes, and the Australian Sports Commission for their recognition and support. Thanks also to the PCA board for their governance and leadership and to our state members, zones and clubs for their commitment to our guiding principles and delivery framework summarised in 'together for a stronger Pony Club' to support and grow our membership. At the heart of it all, just as rider and pony are joined by trust not tack, there is a recognition of reliance on each other and acceptance of becoming the selfless guardian of the other's well-being.

**Matt Helmers**  
CEO, Pony Club Australia

# International and National Competitions

Joining a Pony Club not only offers the chance of friendships and developing important horse skills, these days there are a growing number of opportunities to make a national team, and compete overseas or in a virtual international competition close to home, on your own horse. Everything from dressage, showjumping and mounted games to tetrathlon/pentathlon and quiz are opportunities members can aim for, as well as exchange visits to China hosted by China Pony Club.

## Showjumping in France

In 2023, four members competed at one of the biggest horse events in the world - the World Clubs Showjumping Tournament in France.



The Australian team, on borrowed horses, placed fourth of eight teams, behind three teams on their own mounts. The win went to Italy with no penalties over three rounds, then Portugal – 4 penalties, France - 8 and Australia - 9.

During the two week stay, the team visited the chateau de Versailles where the equestrian events of the 2024 Olympics will be held.



*“Being lucky enough to be a part of such an amazing trip, with the most amazing team, was a truly incredible experience. The memories I have made, with the team and with all the people I met will be remembered forever, and I can’t thank Pony Club Australia enough, for the incredible opportunity they gave me.”*

- Lalwa May



### Team members:

**Catelin Crawford**  
Tumut Pony Club, NSW

**Amy Cunzolo**  
Comet River Pony Club, QLD

**Lalwa May**  
Darwin Horse and Pony Club, NT

**Abby Raymond**  
North Dorrigo Pony Club, NSW

### Team coach:

**Rachael Edwards, VIC**

## Inter Pacific Exchange

This trip involved several rounds of showjumping competitions between Australia, USA, Canada and host New Zealand, held on the South Island in January.

### Team members:

**Georgia Goss, WA**

**Georgia Elias, TAS**

**Bridget Mouat, VIC**

**Ashleigh Bennett, NSW**

### Team coach:

**Meaghan Sutherland**

### Manager:

**Deziree Roos**



## Mounted Games Exchange

The International Mounted Games Exchange (IMGE) is an annual competition for Pony Club riders 16yrs and under. In November 2023, it was Australia's turn to run the event, with PCA and Pony Club NSW hosting. The trip was full of sightseeing as well as a closely-contested but very enjoyable Mounted Games competition. Great Britain won from Australia, then New Zealand/USA and Canada.



### Team members:

**Keira Dowding**  
Swan Valley HPC WA

**Ryan Bissicks**  
Yarrambat PC VIC

**Ashlea Rees**  
Birrilee & Districts  
PC, TAS

**Denver Vivian**  
Darwin PC NT

**Charlie MacKenzie**  
Rylstone PC, NSW

### Team coach:

**Dan Foster**, Orange  
Grove PC, WA

### Manager:

**Niree Weybury**,  
Woodlands PC VIC

## PCA National Championships 2023

The PCA National Championships are held every second year, and were held in 2023. Pony Club WA was the host and created a unique hybrid model, with some events in WA and others in State hubs.

Team WA was a deserving winner of the Perpetual Roger Braham Shield, just ahead of Team Vic. There were some outstanding performances and huge entries, made possible by competitions in WA and in some state hubs. For example mounted games for all states was held in Benalla, Vic, while tetrathlon riders show jumped in hubs and then travelled to WA for their other three events (swimming, shooting and running.)

Congratulations to the small, dedicated team in WA who organised this major event and we thank everyone for their patience while the huge amount of video entries were judged for events like Dressage and the new featured event, 'Showman'. While it takes longer, the huge upside is that many more riders in every state, if they were selected, got the chance to ride at the Nationals no matter where their location.



Photos: Rebecca De Vries Photography

## China Exchange

The team visited several China Pony Club riding centres, enjoyed plenty of sightseeing and took part in showjumping and novice level dressage events.

### Team members:

**Amarlie New** Crompton Park Pony Club, QLD

**Isabelle Cox** Esperance Pony Club, WA

**Zac Boland** Cobar Pony Club, NSW

**Charlie Hiscock** Hamilton Pony Club, VIC

### Team manager and coach:

**Carol Hobson**, TAS and **Ray Oliver**, TAS

## Pony Club International Alliance Virtual Dressage

This event involved seven countries, with Pony Club members all riding within their own country. Tests were recorded and judged by international judges. Australian teams and individuals gained some great results.



### Preliminary (14 years & under USEF Training level):

**Ava Irwin**  
Bamawn Extension, VIC  
**Milly Mulcock**  
Barwon Valley, VIC  
**Liam Mackenzie-Smith**  
Mt Sugarloaf, NSW  
**Chenin Hislop**  
Woodridge, WA

### Novice (18 years & under USEF First level):

**Asha Fiedler**  
Horsham, VIC  
**Demi Tatnall**  
Hurstbridge, VIC  
**Abbie Kirkham**  
Margaret River, WA  
**Matthew Kerridge**  
Tamworth, NSW

### Elementary (25 years & under USEF Second level):

**Lucy Johnston**  
Midlands, TAS  
**Catelin Crawford**  
Tumut, NSW  
**Ella Nast**  
Lilydale District, TAS  
**Felicity Ericsson**  
King River, WA



Matthew Kerridge (Novice class).

### Medium USEF Third level:

**Darcey Eyb**  
Cudal, NSW  
**Lauren Rowe**  
Busselton, WA  
**Caitlin Pritchard**  
King River, WA  
**Olivia Farrell**  
Burlingame, QLD  
**Margrete Erling (Masters)**  
Watagan, NSW  
**Keighley Leeson (Masters)**  
Cabarita Beach, NSW

### Pas de Deux:

**Amy Bennett**  
Balnarring, VIC  
**Jessica Gregory**  
Balnarring, VIC  
**Lucy Johnston**  
Midlands, TAS  
**Ella Nast**  
Lilydale District, TAS

### Prix Caprilli

**Kassi Jones**  
Fern Park, TAS  
**Ryan Mackenzie-Smith**  
Mt Sugarloaf, NSW  
**Robin Henry**  
Quirindi, NSW  
**Amy Bennett**  
Balnarring, VIC

## PCIA Virtual Showjumping

With Pony Club WA putting up their hand to host the Australian hub, members of WA Pony Clubs rode for Australia. A Masters section for riders 25 and over was held for the first time.

### Sub Juniors:

**Lily Bennett** and Krystelle Park Impressive, Swan Valley H&PC  
**Matilda March** and Maxi Mouse, Serpentine H&PC  
**Lexi Caldwell** and JB Chase Me Charlie, Swan Valley H&PC  
**Amelia Chester** and Mayfield Lollie, Swan Valley H&PC

### Juniors:

**Allira Bond** and LV Maverick, Serpentine H&PC  
**Aimee Kid** and Mister Sugar San, Dardanup H&PC  
**Isabelle Cox** and Counter Offer, Esperance PC  
**Ella McCrum** and KP Payback, Gidgegannup H&PC

### Seniors:

**Vanessa Davis** and Indi, Gidgegannup H&PC  
**Jack Bennett** and Belcam Charlotte, Swan Valley H&PC  
**Tayla Carpenter** and Lady Penelope, Wallangarra R&PC  
**Lewis Hudson** and Vain Moon, Wooroloo H&PC

### Masters:

**Kaitlin Goss** and Vintage Valley Dark Knight, Eastern Hills H&PC  
**Georgia Lowry** and Hansie Kronje, Serpentine H&PC  
**Jazmin Anderson** and Belcam Cerento, Horsemen's PC  
**Alison Hanson** and Sonigues Reggie, Capel H&PC

## International Quiz competition

This was held for Pony Club International Alliance countries, and was conducted online. The Australian team placed fifth. We know they put a lot of work into their preparation, including sessions of weekly quiz sessions, and were competing against countries where quiz has a much higher profile and been a popular discipline for much longer than here in Australia.



### Team Members:

**Sharne Haskins** – Captain, NSW  
**Kaitlyn Brockett**, TAS  
**Annabelle Ennis-Wert**, VIC  
**Hector Brennan**, VIC  
**Coach / Team Manager:**  
**Rachael Edwards**, VIC  
**Nominated Team Expert Australia:**  
**Ann Olsen**, SA

# 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, and choose the coaching pathway from 16 years of age.



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



Unity



Integrity



Innovation



Accessibility



Kindness



Horse Welfare

# Integrity report

## National Integrity Framework (NIF)

Pony Club Australia adopted the National Integrity Framework (NIF) in July 2022. This framework was developed in response to the Wood Review - Australia's Sports Integrity Arrangements and Safeguarding the Integrity of Sport. The Royal Commission into Institutional Response to Child Abuse and the Human Rights Commission Report 'Change the Routine' also played a role in the focus on safeguarding children and young people within the sport and recreational club environment.

## Sport Integrity Australia (SIA)

Sport Integrity Australia (SIA) was created as a National Sports Integrity Commission to oversee the education and embedding of integrity in sport and its activities. The role of SIA is to provide advice and assistance to counter the:

- use of prohibited substances and methods in sport
- abuse of children and other persons in a sporting environment
- manipulation of sporting competitions



- failure to protect members of sporting organisations and other persons in a sporting environment from bullying, intimidation, discrimination or harassment.

## What is the National Integrity Framework?

The National Integrity Framework is a suite of policies which outline the expected behaviours of members and individuals connected to Pony Club. The policies include Member Protection, Safeguarding Children and Young People, Competition Manipulation and Sport Betting, Improper Use of Drugs and Medicines in Sport and Complaints, Disputes and Disciplinary Policy.

## Integrity and Pony Club

Pony Club Australia has started the process of education and communication regarding integrity and safeguarding in Pony Club. Education helps people to understand why these matters help to ensure the positive future of our sport. Policies are about documenting the behaviours we want; the challenge is how to make these words live in our Pony Club events and activities.



### Safeguarding Children and Young People

Safeguarding Children and Young People has been identified as a specific risk area for the organisation. Communication and education has been a significant focus for Pony Club; specifically by asking all leaders, committee members, board members and coaches to undertake the Safeguarding Children and Young People in Sport Induction course to commence education of our workforce in Pony Club. Significant gains have been made with many Pony Club individuals undertaking this course, increasing the knowledge within the field of what it means to create a child safe club.



### Continuous Improvement Program

Pony Club Australia took up the opportunity from Sport Integrity Australia to undertake an audit of its current safeguarding practices. We have been audited and a Continuous Improvement Plan is now in place to help direct the efforts of the national body to further embed safeguarding practices at the national level.

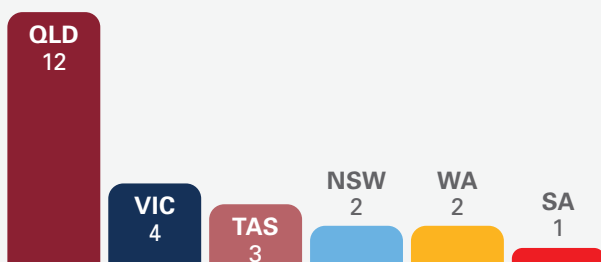
### Drugs in Sport & Competition Manipulation

Our international teams are required to undertake several integrity courses before they can head off to represent Australia in a national team. Many individuals who have been selected or are looking to be selected to represent Pony Club Australia internationally have undertaken these courses during 2023.

### Game Plan

Game Plan was launched by Pony Club Australia in March 2023 as a tool to help clubs systematically assess their club's management capacity. The online program helps committees of clubs to take a step by step approach to creating solid processes, procedures and practices to help clubs grow strong and stay strong. Uptake of Game Plan has been gradual with Queensland clubs leading the charge with six clubs signing up during 2023.

#### GAME PLAN UPTAKE TO END 2023



#### 2023 SUMMARY

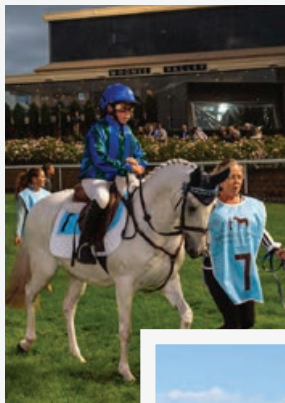
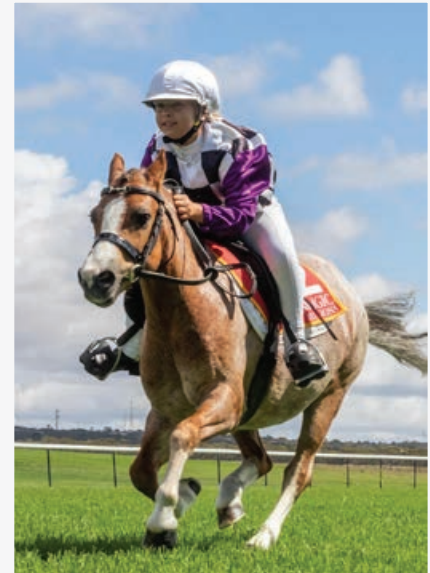
<b>1209</b>	<b>ASC ELearning</b> Number of people who have undertaken an ASC ELearning course in 2023
<b>506</b>	<b>Safeguarding Children and Young People</b> Number of people who have undertaken the Safeguarding Children and Young People in Sport Induction Course in 2023
<b>360</b>	<b>Improper use of drugs</b> Number of people who have undertaken an anti-doping course in 2023
<b>5905</b>	<b>Working with Children Checks</b> Number of Working with Children Checks entered in the system in 2023
<b>24</b>	<b>Game Plan</b> Number of clubs and zones who have signed up to Game Plan by the end of 2023

# Pony Racing

We have formed a great partnership with Lindy Maurice and her team at Thoroughbred Industry Careers and, in its second year, pony racing continued to attract interest and excitement amongst our younger members.

As well as showcasing our members' skills to a racing audience, members were able to learn about all the different career opportunities in the racing and breeding industry through 'Taster Days', where for a whole day, groups of riders heard from industry experts and enjoyed fun activities and riding practice. Those who were selected for a pony race at a major race meeting, then had a practice session at the track the day before, with TIC guidance. Trainers came on board to loan colours to the little jockeys and take them under their wing on race day.

Towards the end of the year, TIC held races in several states for Pony Club members with the winners being able to progress to a national final to be held early in 2024 at Royal Randwick, Sydney.



Meeting Chautauqua at a Taster Day



# Accredited Riding Centres

In 2023, Pony Club Australia celebrated the continued growth of its Accredited Riding Centres, with over 200 riding members spread across 30 centres.

Notably, three new centres emerged, including the addition of Bees Creek, marking the program's expansion into the Northern Territory.

The centre program continues to deliver on its objective of introducing riders without ponies to the equestrian sport via the Pony Club syllabus taught at accredited riding centres. To date 30 riding centre members have transitioned to becoming horse owners, seamlessly integrating into local Pony Clubs.

A first-ever competition event was the 2023 PCA Virtual Dressage competition, where riders were filmed at their centre and the videos submitted to Pony Club dressage judges. We welcomed entries from riders of all levels and the competition showcased impressive talent, with notable achievements including a top score of 68% and a commendable overall performance, with all riders surpassing the 57% mark. Such accomplishments underscore the quality coaching provided by accredited centre instructors.

Little Ranch Riding Centre emerged as the beacon of excellence, securing the prestigious title of Centre of the Year for 2023. Renowned for its comprehensive offerings, including school camps, clinics, gymkhanas, ladies' lessons, protocol days and specialised lessons, the centre epitomises dedication to its members' development. Josie Richardson, the centre's proprietor, received accolades from the Casino Chamber of Commerce in NSW for her excellence in contributions to agriculture and primary industries.

The concerted efforts of Accredited Centres in preparing riders for horse ownership and integration into Pony Club environments was showcased through collaborative initiatives with local Pony Clubs and zones. This included competition and rally opportunities with these clubs.



## Accredited Riding Centres 2023

NSW	Ameldean Equestrian (Tamworth)
	Horsetalk Riding Farm (Jiggi)
	Little Ranch Horse Riding Lessons (Yorklea)
	Skywood Equestrian Centre (Williamtown)
	Sydney Riding School (Duffys Forest)
	Whitethorn Academy (Maitland Vale)
	Yara Balba Stables (Mandalong)
Yass Valley Riding Centre (Manton)	
NT	Bees Creek (Darwin)
QLD	4mile Farm (Gracemere)
	Bonogin Valley Horse Retreat (Bonogin)
	Bribie Island Road Saddle Club (Caboolture)
	Elemental Equine (Gympie)
	Firefly Park (Jimboomba)
	Horses And Humans (Bellie Park)
	Kurshonbrooke Lodge (Gumdale)
Mundoolun Reins Riding Academy (Mundoolun)	
Phoenix Acres Equine Centre (Sharon)	
TAS	Jeu De Cheval (Hobart)
	Junction Farm (Carrick)
	Nan's Riding School (Longford)
	Oakwood Equestrian Academy (Birdwood)
VIC	Avoca Park (Macclesfield)
	Classical Dressage Academy, (Pakenham Upper)
	Jolong Park Riding School (Bangholme)
	Trot Up Pony Centre (East Gippsland)
WA	Claremont Therapeutic Riding Centre (Claremont)
	Zia Park (Gidgegannup)
	Eq Cetera Riding Centre (Darling Downs)



# 2023 PCA Awards



## Rider 12 Years and Under

### Chloe Benis

Tooradin Dalmore Pony Club VIC

#### Finalists:

**Amelia Gordon**

Serpentine Horse & Pony Club WA

**Clara Greenwood**

Macedon Pony Club VIC

Sponsored by



## Rider 13 - 17 Years

### Emily Hudak

Seville Pony Club VIC

#### Finalists:

**Brianna Ballesty**

Rokewood Pony Club VIC

**Olivia Sleep**

Merricks Pony Club VIC

Sponsored by



## Rider 18 - 25 Years

### Emily Newberry

Mooloolah Pony Club QLD

#### Finalists:

**Lily Pettigrew**

Matchem Valley Pony Club NSW

**Sara Leitch**

Hastings Pony Club VIC

Sponsored by



## Rider Open Age – over 25 years

### Jasmine Tohill

Denmark Pony Club WA

Sponsored by



## Young Coach of the Year

### Jayde Kirkham

Macedon Pony Club VIC

#### Finalists:

**Lacy Male**

Toongabbie & District Pony Club VIC

**Tracey Gorick**

Bunyip Pony Club VIC

Sponsored by





### Coch of the Year

**Kasey Manolini**  
Albany Pony Club WA

**Finalists:**

**Julia Stewart**  
Main Ridge Pony Club VIC

**Niree Weybury**  
Woodlands Pony Club VIC

Sponsored by



### Volunteer of the Year

**Robyn Gordon**  
Serpentine Horse & Pony Club WA

**Finalists:**

**Bill Sadleir**  
Ravenshoe Pony Club QLD

**Julie Cameron**  
Wallangarra Riding & Pony Club WA

Sponsored by



### Gillian Rolton Memorial Alumnus Award

**Todd Hinde**  
Bega Pony Club NSW

*Australian Olympic showjumping team  
chef d'equipe, appointed FEI Jumping Director  
in 2023 (first Australian)*

**Finalists:**

**Danielle Smith**  
Mornington Peninsula Pony Club VIC

**Rachael Edwards**  
North Eastern Horse & Pony Club VIC



**PONY CLUB**  
AUSTRALIA



### Accredited Riding Centre of the Year

**Little Ranch Horse Riding**  
Josie Richardson, Yorklea NSW

**Finalists:**

**Firefly Park**  
Victoria Sloane, Jimboomba QLD

**Phoenix Acres**  
John & Sue Golchert, Bundaberg QLD

Sponsored by



### Pony Club of the Year

**Canberra Riding Club**  
**Pony Club ACT**

**Finalists:**

Keira Pony Club, NSW  
Mornington Peninsula Pony Club, VIC

Sponsored by



Is there a person at your Club who deserves recognition?  
Nominate them for the 2024 Awards in one of categories shown here.  
Visit [ponyclubaustralia.com.au](http://ponyclubaustralia.com.au) for more information.



# Western Australia



This past year has been a successful yet challenging one for the team at Pony Club WA, with a busy schedule of events, a change in leadership, and hosting of the 2023 Pony Club National Championships.

In 2023, Pony Club WA hosted the National Championships; an exciting event to celebrate all disciplines within Pony Club. To encourage increased participation of this great event, we trialed a hybrid competition format, offering a combination of in-person and virtual competitions running throughout hubs across Australia. While this new format presented some challenges for our staff and riders alike, it allowed for greater participation for all riders across Australia with record participation numbers. We will use feedback from this event to continue developing the Pony Club Nationals for future host states.

In 2023 WA members were selected to represent Australia in Mounted Games, Dressage and Showjumping.

We faced some challenges along the way, including a change to our leadership team. Rick Gill stepped down as CEO after 3.5 years with Pony Club WA and we would like to thank him for his leadership and contribution and wish him the best as he moves on to other endeavours. Tanya Appleby stepped in as Acting CEO, taking on this role during a busy and challenging time for the association.

Our success wouldn't be possible without the support of our wonderful staff and volunteers. We appreciate our committees, coaches and officials who volunteer their time to run our events and programs throughout the year. You are the heart and soul of Pony Club WA, and your contributions make a significant difference in the Pony Club community.

Pony Club WA with the support of The Races WA have continued to provide State High Performance Squads. These squads help increase the knowledge, skill and performance levels of our riders. This ongoing initiative aims to increase participation in disciplines and encourages rider and mount combinations with the potential to compete in higher levels of sport, including Pony Club Australia National and International events.

Pony Club WA currently offer the following State Squads support from our State Sport Committees: Active Riding, Dressage, Eventing, Showjumping and Tetrathlon. This year also saw the continuation of online training workshops to provide additional learning opportunities for our members.

The Healthy Kids Healthy Horses program formed the basis of recipe workshops held by clubs and provided hands on experience creating healthy meals. All clubs holding workshops were presented with workshop packs that included recipe books, aprons, and lunch containers. The recipe competition was hugely popular, with some of our members' winning recipes appearing in the new recipe books that have been kindly printed by Healthway and available to all clubs as a resource.

The state coaching panel continues to use the knowledge and experience of its members to upskill and develop coaches, assessors and riders. Several proficiency assessors attained their C accreditation, and a couple progressed to C\*/K level. The panel was pleased to have been asked to contribute towards the content of the new Level 1 Coaching Manual and provide feedback on the draft.

The State Dressage Championships in its new format held over three days was a huge success, with 680 tests completed over the weekend. Freestyle tests are always a favourite class for all competitors and the effort and detail that goes into costume making is truly outstanding. Every parent should be commended for this. A rule change allowed composite teams to be formed, enabling those riders riding at higher level or from smaller clubs a greater opportunity to participate.

This year the Showjumping Committee worked together with Simon Barry from Jumping WA to present workshops for accreditation and re-accreditation of showjumping officials.

WA again hosted the annual Pony Club International Virtual Showjumping competition, at Swan River grounds at Brookleigh. Hosting gave WA the right to have their state riders represent Australia, and compete against teams from the United Kingdom, South Africa, and Hong Kong.

The 2023 Petstock Pony Club Nationals in Perth saw the selected WA Tetrathlon Teams exceed expectations, with the senior girls placing 1st, senior males 2nd, junior males 2nd and junior females 2nd.

We aim to continue to educate, encourage and develop riders, volunteers, coaches, officials and interested people in all major disciplines through workshops, clinics and at a club level.



# South Australia



Clubs and Zones continue to run rallies and competitions.

We have seen the closure of some clubs and an increase in numbers in other clubs.

Our Executive Council, Rules Advisory Committee and Chief Instructors Panel continue to work well.

The SA state ODE championships was hosted by Southern Zone at Monarto, with championships for grades 1,2 & 3. Alongside the championship the PCASA ODE for grades 4 & 5 was also run. At the AGM in October, it was approved to include grades 4 & 5 as Championship classes, as this makes the event more inclusive for our members.

We are hoping to have a new Championship course for grades 1-5 on Kangaroo Island in 2025.

SA held a National Championships hub in September at Danson Dressage, with 27 riders taking part in Dressage, Showjumping, Tetrathlon and Showman.

Our State Championships and Gymkhana was hosted by Eyre Peninsula Zone at Kimba.

While numbers were down due to the Nationals hub being the weekend before, the weekend was a success. State Championships were held on the Saturday with warm conditions and the wind picked up in the afternoon and caused some excitement in the show jumping.

On Sunday everyone had fun with the gymkhana, a few new games, and a Working Equitation class.

With sponsorship from Horseland we ran our State Quiz competition again over four weeks with scores being added together for a winner in sub junior, junior, and senior.

*SA held a National Championships hub in September at Danson Dressage, with 27 riders taking part in Dressage, Showjumping, Tetrathlon and Showman.*



Photo by Sue Young



Photo by Kerri Cliff. Riders and volunteers at Kimba for State Championships



Photo by Ashton Ide



Photo by Sue Young. Sue Ryan & helpers



Photo by Alix Bell

# Queensland



2023 began on a positive note with the restrictions of COVID now seemingly behind us.

Pony Club® in Queensland was kickstarted with the annual State Seminar, where the host, Southport Pony Club (Gold Coast) welcomed riders, coaches, and officials from across our vast state to participate in a diverse program of riding sessions with renowned presenters such as Tori Welch, Graham Watts, Guy Creighton, Glennis Nunn and Martin Erickson. Presenters from the State Chief instructors' Panel were also on hand to share their expertise.

PCQ introduced a Regional State Seminar to benefit those members in the more remote areas of the state, with the Taroom Pony Club in the western region of Queensland hosting this inaugural regional event. This seminar enabled members access to junior rider development clinics, coaching updates, and preparations along with dressage and jumping equitation accreditations and updating. The Regional State Seminar will continue in 2024 in a different regional location.

With the ongoing success of the State Chief Instructor (SCI) Medals initiative, the SCI Merits program was introduced. This program is designed for the non-rider (bronze level); rider requiring some assistance (silver level) and the un-aided rider or rider requiring minimal assistance (gold level) with no restriction on the rider's age at all levels. The SCI Merits is an ideal program for young beginners.

2023 saw a small change in the composition of the Executive Committee with a new Vice President being appointed to fill a casual vacancy. PCQ welcomed Leah Frohloff to this position; Leah is a Pony Clubber through and through and has held various roles within her club, zone and region. Leah, being from country Queensland, will add to the diversity of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee also undertook an induction in the early part of the year, and we were fortunate to secure funding to conduct this activity.

The success of our 2023 State Championship events was due to our hard-working sub-committees, as well as club and zone volunteers who, as always, gave 110% effort. Most of the events were conducted without the disruption of inclement weather as seen in 2022 and those events that were weather affected experienced minimal problems.

As usual, clubs and zones continued providing the grass roots riders and other members with ongoing education through the conducting of regular musters, competitions, camps, clinics and updates throughout the year.

To ensure there is an adequate number of first aiders, clubs were given an opportunity to nominate an individual to undertake a nationally recognised accredited first aid course which PCQ funded. The availability of this online course was particularly beneficial to those clubs in the more regional and remote areas of the state.

Queensland did not conduct any hubs for the National Championships, instead taking the decision to send a small team across to Perth to experience first hand the camaraderie and competition atmosphere that a national event provides.

Fire ants have been on the march in the south-east of the state and pose a bio security risk to clubs in this region. Thanks to the National Fire Ant Eradication Program, PCQ and clubs are kept informed and updated on the progress and process of the eradication program.

Once again, Pony Club Queensland was fortunate to have retained its ongoing sponsors for 2023 with the State Government providing funding assistance and Greg Grant Saddlery, Riverina, Oz Shots and Australia Show Ribbons providing prizes for the State Championship events.

Lastly, PCQ acknowledges and greatly appreciates the endless and often challenging work carried out by the countless number of volunteers at all levels of Pony Club throughout the state.

*PCQ introduced a Regional State Seminar to benefit those members in the more remote areas of the state, with the Taroom Pony Club in the western region of Queensland hosting this inaugural regional event.*





# Tasmania



Pony Club Tasmania continues to have a wonderful team of willing volunteers who work tirelessly to allow our membership to ride and enjoy all kinds of activities concerned with horses and riding, in a safe and supportive environment.

Recently someone shared her daughter's experience at a Pony Club camp and how she was able to connect with riders from other clubs, make new friends and open up about mental health issues and have positive conversations. Just one of the reasons we do what we do.

In March, the Southern Zone ran the State Trials with over 100 riders enjoying a super event over the fantastic cross-country course at the Tasmanian Equestrian Centre. This was a professionally run competition; thanks to the Southern Zone and all the work they put into this state championship.

We then headed off to Wynyard for the Dressage and Jumping Championships being run by the Inglis Pony Club, at their lovely grounds. This event was run by a very small group who worked very hard to run a great Championship and a lovely weekend of competition.

We travelled northeast with the Mounted Games Championships being run at Scottsdale in June and what a lovely day and friendly competition this was. Congratulations to North Eastern Pony Club and the Northern Zone on another well-run Championship.

Our Northern Zone hosting the Tasmania hub in September for the National Championships.

Our clubs continue to run rallies, events and training activities more easily, with quality coaches continuing to work with the National Syllabus. We are progressing well towards reaching our target for proficiency tests. Tom Johnston clinics were held in each of the three zones with riders at C test level participating. Pony Club Tasmania supports each zone financially to run these camps.

In January we saw Georgia Elias represent Australia in New Zealand as part of the Inter Pacific Exchange. It was wonderful to watch Georgia's trip and see the amazing time she had. In November Ashlea Rees represented Australia in the International Mounted Games Exchange in NSW.

A Technical Delegate (TD) clinic was held in March in conjunction with the horse trials, and this clinic continues to be invaluable in keeping our TDs and course designers up to date with rule changes and safety upgrades in our sport of eventing.

*Our clubs continue to run rallies, events and training activities more easily, with quality coaches continuing to work against the National Syllabus. We are progressing well towards reaching our target for proficiency tests. Tom Johnston clinics were held in each of the three zones with riders at C test level participating. Pony Club Tasmania supports each zone financially to run these camps.*

PCT continues to hold coach updates and information sessions via Zoom to make sure that our coaches are kept up to date with the latest rules, policies, and best coaching techniques to provide our riders with the best opportunities. This included a Jumping Equitation clinic with Judy Kilby and Jo McFarlane.

Tasmania has also fielded representatives to the National Discipline Committees of dressage, jumping, mounted games and tetrathlon, as well as the Education, Gear Rules, and Safety Committees. Having people representing our State on these committees, ensures our voice is heard when it comes to considering rules and qualifications for events associated with each discipline, as our circumstances can vary quite considerably compared to the other states.

Each zone has held an education clinic supported financially by the State, including activities such as Mental Health First Aid training, a proficiency certificate camp and training clinic for upcoming coaches.

The Stakeholder Forum continues to receive excellent participation numbers from Clubs, with 20 of our 23 clubs having representation last year. It has become an important event in our calendar. It's a great educational opportunity for club officials and enables fantastic networking and discussion of common issues and resolutions.



Photo: Maddison Beckett



# Northern Territory



**PONY CLUB**  
NORTHERN TERRITORY

Despite being so far away, we managed to organise quality coaching, training and fun experiences for members.

In January five riders passed their C\* certificates, and we had 20 participants at a Portland Jones coaching and riding clinic; Portland is a popular exponent of equitation science and played a big hand in writing the certificate manuals based on the new Pony Club syllabus (2019)

Sponsored coach Nicole Mutimer delivered some riders' clinics in Alice Springs, and we sponsored five riders and two coaches to travel to WA for eventing training.

In May we held an online clinic for Preliminary level coaches, and PCANT hosted the showjumping and Mounted Games competitions at the Freds Pass Show.

We were very proud of member Lalwa May, and sponsored her trip to France as a member of the PCA Showjumping team, where they rode borrowed horses, made new friends and saw the sights. We also sponsored Denver Ryder who was selected to ride for Australia in the International Mounted Games Exchange in NSW.

In August as part of the PCA National Championships hosted by WA, we held a hub in the Northern Territory for dressage and showjumping events – NT was proud that for the first time, we entered a Masters Showjumping team. We think this is a great addition to the program now more clubs are opening up membership to open age riders.

NT rounded out the year with a showjumping course design clinic in Darwin, and a 1.5 day conference with all 15 club representatives to plan the 2024 events calendar.



## RIDING HIGHLIGHTS

PCA Australian Show Jump Team - First NT rider selected on the Senior team. The team competed at Generali Open de France. Huge congratulations to Lalwa May !!!

PCA Australian Mounted Games team. NT junior rider selected in the team. Congratulations Denver Vivian!

PCA National Championships Masters Show Jump - NT enter its first Master Show Jump Team. The Team was runner up for the Nationals. Congrats to Garry Branson, Teresa Cummings and Nicole Mutimer.

PCA National Championships Master Show Jump individual competition - NT rider Garry Bransen placed 4 in Australia. Well done Spud!

PCA National Championships Show Jump Junior/Senior individual competition - NT rider Bridie McKenna placed equal 6th. Congratulations Bridie!

PCA National Mounted Games Championships – NT Team represented with: Denver Vivian, Ava Cottle, Lilliana Clayton, Isabella Seipel, Asha Schmidt. Reserve: Kelly Barker



# Victoria



With a new-found freedom afforded to Victoria after 2022 and the aftermath of Covid-19 seemingly behind us, our hard working volunteers continued to support our organisation and in 2023 enabled Pony Club Victoria to continue to thrive as a result of our incredible volunteer brigade.

Having the security of our major sponsor Horseland, we delivered our state-level events in 2023 with a greater enthusiasm to ensure the rider/family experiences were memorable ones.

PCV takes the opportunity to recognise and acknowledge the efforts of various zones and clubs who delivered events on behalf of the state

- State Show Jumping and Dressage Championships was held in February at Yarrambat Pony Club;
- State Horse Trials held in May at Balnarring Pony Club;
- Games Flat and Musical was run in conjunction with Bacchus Marsh Pony Club in June;
- State Quiz Challenge was conducted online this year in June/July 2023;
- Prince Philip National Mounted Games was hosted at Lardner Park in the month of August;
- State Ride to Time event was hosted at Moonee Valley Racecourse in September; and
- Tetrathlon was hosted at Mt Duneed Pony Club in December.

*PCV acknowledges the team of volunteers including office bearers, supporters, officials and riders across our zones and clubs who ensure the ongoing journey and experiences for Pony Club members continue to be the very best they can be.*

PCV also demonstrated its support and held a National Hub event at Bacchus Marsh to support Western Australia's efforts as state coordinator of the PCA National Championships. We also hosted a rider representation at this event from NSW and QLD, who had riders attend the Victorian Hub.

Thanks must go to all individuals and hard-working organising committees for hosting the state events and Nationals Hub event conducted in 2023.

PCV Board welcomed new Directors Ruth Feltoe and Anita Gisch and farewellled John McDougall mid-way in the year. We also farewellled our General Manager Mat Glasson in the latter part of the year, and in an interim phase our office team did an amazing job stepping up in

the PCV office to ensure our members continued to receive exceptional service with dedication and commitment.

PCV acknowledges the team of volunteers including office bearers, supporters, officials and riders across our zones and clubs who ensure the ongoing journey and experiences for Pony Club members continue to be the very best they can be.

We look forward to celebrating what will be the 70th anniversary of Pony Club in Victoria, in 2024.





Photos: Derek O'Leary

# New South Wales



A full calendar of events took place in 2023 – albeit to some different timetabling. Increasingly we are finding it difficult to find host Zones with suitable venues and in 2023 we found ourselves setting dates not long prior to events taking place. This was partly due to some believing that State Championships would cost their Zone or Club and they wouldn't be able to make money and also a carry over from Covid and severe weather events of the years prior. Volunteers are becoming volunteered out, time is precious and living is expensive.

It was reassuring in 2023 that on the whole our participation numbers in State Championships were on the rise again. Whether we get back to the days of many hundreds attending Pony Club events remains to be seen but we do hope that our Pony Club NSW championships are a highlight for members to showcase their skills and horsemanship as well as the camaraderie that makes Pony Club special.

Thank you to all of the amazing Organising Committees, Host Zones and Advisory Committees that made the 2023 calendar possible.

We had strong teams compete at the Pony Club Nationals, hosted by WA, as part of the Victorian Virtual Hub. It was the decision of Pony Club NSW to not host our own hub.

Our teams performed wonderfully with solid results across all disciplines and we were very close to taking out the Braham Shield for overall top State. There is a lot to take away from this event and we have expressed our view to Pony Club Australia and their board that we do not want to see the loss of a national competition in one location. Regardless, our riders should be commended – they represented their state admirably and we are very proud of them all.

NSW hosted the International Mounted Games Exchange (IMGE) in November last year. A tour of 30 riders, coaches and team managers from Australia, USA, Canada, United Kingdom and New Zealand had the trip of a lifetime taking in the sights of Sydney, South Coast NSW, Blue Mountains and Canberra, as well as competing. Our IMGE committee did a sterling job with the tour and the final competition, thank you all.

It became apparent that over the Covid years, with some natural disasters interspersed in there, rider proficiency certificates have been going by the wayside. A major part of Pony Club is the education and we have been encouraging all clubs to be following the syllabus and offer certificate work

*NSW hosted the International Mounted Games Exchange (IMGE) in November last year. A tour of 30 riders, coaches and team managers from Australia, USA, Canada, United Kingdom and New Zealand had the trip of a lifetime taking in the sights of Sydney, South Coast NSW, Blue Mountains and Canberra.*

and testing. These certificates aim to encourage the interest and improvement in knowledge of members. They are viewed as a measure of a rider's progress in their overall proficiency. In working for them, riders acquire valuable knowledge and skills, which enhance their riding experience. Congratulations to all Zones and Clubs who had riders achieve certificates they had been working towards in 2023.

After the 2022 State Camp a dedicated group of State Councillors and ZCIs formed a working group to cut the expenses of the event to keep it running. Reducing by one day, having sponsorship and a tour from Randwick Equine Centre and consolidating arenas used were simple changes but made a significant difference. We were also able to allocate a small amount of the Office of Sport Grant funds towards the camp which has fostered so many of our riders over its 30-year existence.

Active Kids also saw changes in 2023 when the NSW Government found they could no longer afford \$100 twice a year for every child. First it was reduced to \$50 followed by \$50 means tested in 2024. This could have a real effect on our membership numbers as families find themselves paying the full price.

Thank you to all involved in any aspect of Pony Club NSW in 2023 – whether you are a member, a family member, spectator, official, Club or Zone Office Bearer, Zone Delegate, State Councillor or State Executive, you make a mark on Pony Club and are the people who shape this organisation.





Photos: Rodney's Photography

# China Pony Club

2023 was a year for China Pony Club to resume holding our face to face international exchanges:

- During January, we held our 1st ever Pony Club Level 1 coach test in China. Five coaches passed the test with more than capable ability.
- During March, when international travel to China was still difficult, Q&A webinars were given by PCA coach Carol Hobson, organised by China Pony Club (CPC) for free to all CPC coaches. This meant coaches could still solve their questions about horse training, coaching and riding and continue to progress. Over 150 coaches from 29 different CPC clubs attended this webinar.
- From April, although those entering China still needed to do a PCR test, there were Australian Pony Club coaches started to travel to China and help with coaching and assessing at different Chinese Pony Clubs. At China Pony Club we always try our best showing our hospitality to Australian coaches, and let the Australian coaches experience Chinese culture and the beautiful scenery in different places of China. It's always more than an equestrian exchange.
- During May, CPC's first competition after the pandemic was held.
- In August, China Pony Club sent two different groups, 29 members in total, to camps at two different PCA accredited centres in NSW & VIC, Australia. The campers were so lucky that they visited Olympian Heath Ryan and had a coaching session with Grand Prix dressage rider Leanne Williams. Since 2014, China Pony Club had organised eight different groups of Chinese riders to attend Pony Club camps in Australia.
- The exciting Australia-China Virtual Dressage Competition in September saw our members perform very well and show how far they have come.
- In December, the China Pony Club International Exchange in Suzhou and Ningbo saw 557 youth competitors from Pony Clubs in Australia, NZ, South Africa enjoy some competitions and tours, and even a Christmas concert in which they performed. The visitors visited riding centres, ancient temples and gardens, and had a city walk, plus a welcome from the New Zealand consul general in Shanghai.
- Pony Clubs around the world are one family. International exchanges make the Pony Club movement stronger.
- In 2024, China Pony Club will hold two International Exchanges in China in four different Pony Clubs during May, June, September and October. China Pony Club is also planning a CPC camp to Australia in August.

**Smily Duan**  
Operations Manager, China Pony Club



1st ever group of Level 1 Pony Club coaches in China



Nationals cup award ceremony(dressage) in CPC international exchange



PCA team practice with Chinese horses



CPC's first competition after the pandemic.



CPC campers visiting Heath Ryan's equestrian centre during the camp to Australia



New Zealand Consul General in Shanghai presents awards to the top place getters



Knowledge reviewing before the rider efficiency standard test



Taking a PCA coach skating in a Beijing park



CPC camp in Leanne Williams' Equestrian Centre



International teams sightseeing during CPC exchange



PCA coach visiting Terra Cotta Warriors



PCA coach experiencing Chinese New Year celebrations with a CPC staff member in Beijing,



CPC riders waiting to take E level test



PCA rider competes during CPC exchange



Australia-China Virtual Dressage Competition

*PCA continues to be committed delivering to our diverse membership and being an active contributor to the equine industry ensuring we have a bright future for horse sports within Pony Club, and as preparation for our members who take up work or continue to compete in the horse industry.*

*Heather Disher  
Chair, Pony Club Australia*

*(Full report page 6)*



*Photo: Rodney's Photography*



**Pony Club Australia Ltd**

**ABN 95 090 080 265**

**Annual Report - 31 December 2023**

**Pony Club Australia Ltd**  
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**Pony Club Australia Ltd**  
**Directors' report**  
**31 December 2023**

The directors present their report, together with the financial statements, on the company for the year ended 31 December 2023.

**Directors**

The following persons were directors of the company during the whole of the financial year and up to the date of this report, unless otherwise stated:

Heather Disher  
Jacob McLoughlin  
Jo Morgan  
Carole-anne Hodges  
Nick Hassett  
Tonia Murtagh  
Kate Fenner  
Maris Beck

**Principal activities**

The principal activities of the Company during the financial year was that of being the national governing body of Pony Club in Australia, recognised as a National Sporting Organisation by Sport Australia.

There have been no significant changes in the nature of these activities during the year.

**Operating results**

The surplus of the company for the financial year amounted to \$66,538 (2022: deficit of \$65,750).

**Significant changes**

On 14 August 2023, Matt Helmers was appointed CEO. Catherine Ainsworth resigned effective 28 August 2023. No other significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

**Objectives**

**Short term objectives**

PCA's short-term objectives are to:

- Raise the standard of governance across the organization to unify and strengthen Pony Club;
- Offer memberships, activities, and opportunities that increase and retain the number of riders and coaches in Pony Club;
- Connect with members, stakeholders and the community to increase the profile and recognition of Pony Club;
- Put the welfare of members and horses first in everything we do; and
- Develop best practice, innovative programs for riders, coaches, officials and volunteers.

**Long term objectives**

PCA's long term objectives are to:

- Encourages people to enjoy all kinds of sport and pleasure connected with horses and riding;
- Provide instruction in riding and horsemanship and instilling in people a love of their horses, a sense of responsibility and acceptance of the responsibility for the proper care of their animals;
- Promote the highest ideals of sportsmanship, citizenship and loyalty, thereby cultivating strength of character and self-discipline.

**Events after the reporting date**

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.

**Environmental issues**

The Company's operation are not regulated by any significant environmental regulations under a law of the Commonwealth or of a state or territory of Australia.

**Pony Club Australia Ltd  
Directors' report  
31 December 2023**

**Information on directors**

Name:	Heather Disher
Qualifications:	Certified Chair (CCABC), Certificates in Governance and Finance
Special responsibilities:	Board Chair
Name:	Jacob McLoughlin
Qualifications:	Bachelor of Law. Admitted to a practice as a solicitor of the Supreme Court of Queensland and High Court of Australia; Barrister and Solicitor of the High Court of New Zealand
Special responsibilities:	Secretary and Finance, Audit and Risk Committee
Name:	Jo Morgan
Qualifications:	Bachelor of Business (Marketing Major), Master of Applied Finance, Graduate Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, Fellow of FINSIA (Financial Services Institute of Australasia)
Name:	Carole-anne Hodges
Qualifications:	Certificates in Finance and Business Management
Name:	Nick Hassett
Qualifications:	Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD), Governance in Sport qualification from the Governance Institute of Australia, Masters in Public Policy and Management from Monash University
Special responsibilities:	Finance, Audit and Risk Committee and Nominations Committee
Name:	Tonia Murtagh
Qualifications:	Licensed Real Estate Agent
Name:	Kate Fenner
Qualifications:	Bachelor of Equine Science (Hons), PhD (Horse Behaviour, Training and Welfare), University of Queensland Lecturer and Researcher, Equestrian coach, Horse trainer, International Society of Equitation Science, JV President
Name:	Maris Beck
Qualifications:	Bachelor of Arts (University of Canterbury), Masters of International Politics (University of Melbourne), Directorial candidate (University of Sydney), Diploma of Government Investigations (Australian Security Academy), Foundations of Directorship (Australian Institute of Company Directors)
Special responsibilities:	Finance, Audit and Risk Committee and Nominations Committee
Name:	Venetta Sacha - Non Director
Qualifications:	B Ec, CA, Chartered Tax Adviser, Financial Adviser, Graduate of Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD)
Special responsibilities:	Chair: Finance, Audit and Risk Committee



**Pony Club Australia Ltd**  
**Directors' report**  
**31 December 2023**

**Meetings of directors**

The number of meetings of the company's Board of Directors ('the Board') held during the year ended 31 December 2023, and the number of meetings attended by each director were:

	Attended	Full Board Held
Heather Disher (Board Chair)	8	8
Jacob McLoughlin	8	8
Jo Morgan	8	8
Carole-anne Hodges	7	8
Nick Hassett	7	8
Tonia Murtagh	7	8
Kate Fenner	7	8
Maris Beck	7	8

Held: represents the number of meetings held during the time the director held office.

**Member's guarantee**

Pony Club Australia Ltd is a company limited by guarantee. In the event of, and for the purpose of winding up of the company, the amount capable of being called up from each member and any person or association who ceased to be a member in the year prior to the winding up, is limited to \$20 for members subject to the provision of the company's constitution.

At 31 December 2023, the collective liability of members was \$140 (2022: \$140)

**Indemnification and insurance of officers and auditors**

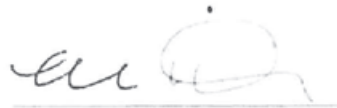
No indemnities have been given during or since the end of the financial year, for any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of Pony Club Australia Ltd.

**Auditor's independence declaration**

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 is set out immediately after this directors' report.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of directors, pursuant to section 298(2)(a) of the Corporations Act 2001

On behalf of the directors



Ms. Heather Disher  
Director



Mr. Jacob McLoughlin  
Director

15 April 2024

HEAD OFFICE  
Unit 1, 1 Pioneer Avenue  
Tuggerah NSW 2259

OFFICES

- Sydney CBD
- Drummoyne
- Erina



**BISHOP COLLINS**  
**AUDIT PTY LTD**  
ABN: 98 159 109 305

ALL CORRESPONDENCE  
PO Box 3399  
Tuggerah NSW 2259

W: <https://www.bishopcollins.com.au>  
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T: (02) 4353 2333  
F: (02) 4351 2477

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S DECLARATION  
TO THE MEMBERS OF  
PONY CLUB AUSTRALIA LTD**

We hereby declare that to the best of our knowledge and belief during the year ended 31 December 2023, there have been:

- no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

**Name of Firm**

Bishop Collins Audit Pty Ltd  
Chartered Accountants

**Name of Registered Company Auditor**

  
Martin Le Marchant

**Auditor's Registration No.**

431227

**Address**

Unit 1, 1 Pioneer Avenue, Tuggerah NSW 2259

**Dated**

15 April 2024



CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS  
AUSTRALIA • NEW ZEALAND

LIABILITY LIMITED BY A SCHEME APPROVED UNDER THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS LEGISLATION



Directors: Martin Le Marchant CA, Johan Van Der Westhuizen CA

Associate Director: Cecille Capucac CA

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF  
PONY CLUB AUSTRALIA LTD**

**Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Pony Club Australia Ltd ('the Company') which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023, statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information and the Directors' Declaration of the company.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Pony Club Australia Ltd is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 31 December 2023 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

**Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia; and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis of our opinion.



LIABILITY LIMITED BY A SCHEME APPROVED UNDER THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS LEGISLATION



Directors: Martin Le Marchant CA,  
Johan Van Der Westhuizen CA

Associate Director: Cecille Capucão CA



### **Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Report**

The Directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures to the extent described in Note 2 to the financial report, the Corporations Act 2001 and for such internal control as the Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial report. We also conclude, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the disclosures in the financial report about the material uncertainty or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the opinion on the financial report. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.



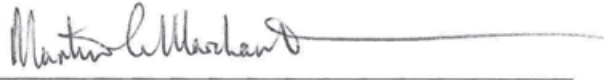
We communicate with the Directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide the Directors with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

**Name of Firm**

Bishop Collins Audit Pty Ltd  
Chartered Accountants

**Name of Registered Company Auditor**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Martin Le Marchant

**Auditor's Registration No.**

431227

**Address**

Unit 1, 1 Pioneer Avenue, Tuggerah NSW 2259

**Dated**

15 April 2024

**Pony Club Australia Ltd**  
**Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2023**

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>Revenue</b>	5	1,792,340	1,532,803
Interest revenue		8,811	1,722
Total revenue		<u>1,801,151</u>	<u>1,534,525</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Consultancy, legal and professional fees		(46,421)	(24,045)
Depreciation and amortisation expenses		(510)	(777)
Employee benefits expenses		(580,960)	(497,446)
International team costs		(73,003)	(25,267)
Insurance premium and related expenses		(694,100)	(679,502)
Merchandise purchases		(83,782)	(81,749)
Office and IT expenses		(156,602)	(198,811)
Programs, events and marketing expenses		(80,386)	(58,231)
Travel and meeting expenses		(16,069)	(31,951)
Other expenses		(2,780)	(2,496)
Total expenses		<u>(1,734,613)</u>	<u>(1,600,275)</u>
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for the year</b>	15	66,538	(65,750)
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income (deficit) for the year</b>		<u><u>66,538</u></u>	<u><u>(65,750)</u></u>

*The above statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes*

**Pony Club Australia Ltd**  
**Statement of financial position**  
**As at 31 December 2023**

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	737,018	606,533
Trade and other receivables	7	28,928	14,046
Other	8	-	23,438
Total current assets		<u>765,946</u>	<u>644,017</u>
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Intangibles	10	926	1,436
Total non-current assets		<u>926</u>	<u>1,436</u>
<b>Total assets</b>		<u>766,872</u>	<u>645,453</u>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	11	42,161	23,991
Employee benefits	12	26,797	59,317
Other	13	129,647	51,262
Total current liabilities		<u>198,605</u>	<u>134,570</u>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Employee benefits	14	5,142	14,296
Total non-current liabilities		<u>5,142</u>	<u>14,296</u>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<u>203,747</u>	<u>148,866</u>
<b>Net assets</b>		<u>563,125</u>	<u>496,587</u>
<b>Equity</b>			
Retained surpluses	15	563,125	496,587
<b>Total equity</b>		<u>563,125</u>	<u>496,587</u>

*The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes*

**Pony Club Australia Ltd**  
**Statement of changes in equity**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2023**

	<b>Retained surpluses \$</b>	<b>Total equity \$</b>
Balance at 1 January 2022	562,337	562,337
Deficit for the year	(65,750)	(65,750)
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	<u>(65,750)</u>	<u>(65,750)</u>
Balance at 31 December 2022	<u>496,587</u>	<u>496,587</u>
	<b>Retained surpluses \$</b>	<b>Total equity \$</b>
Balance at 1 January 2023	496,587	496,587
Surplus for the year	66,538	66,538
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	<u>66,538</u>	<u>66,538</u>
Balance at 31 December 2023	<u>563,125</u>	<u>563,125</u>

*The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes*



**Pony Club Australia Ltd**  
**Statement of cash flows**  
**For the year ended 31 December 2023**

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Receipts from members and customers (inclusive of GST)		1,051,013	767,471
Insurance contribution income received from members		669,391	659,586
Government grant received		140,450	165,403
Payment to suppliers and employees		(1,739,180)	(1,648,273)
Interest Income		8,811	1,722
		<u>130,485</u>	<u>(54,091)</u>
Net cash from/(used in) operating activities	16		
Net cash from investing activities		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net cash from financing activities		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		130,485	(54,091)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		<u>606,533</u>	<u>660,624</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	6	<u><u>737,018</u></u>	<u><u>606,533</u></u>

*The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes*

**Note 1. General information**

The financial statements cover Pony Club Australia Ltd as an individual entity. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is Pony Club Australia Ltd's functional and presentation currency.

Pony Club Australia Ltd is a not-for-profit unlisted public company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Its registered office and principal place of business are:

<b>Registered office</b>	<b>Principal place of business</b>
Pony Club Australia Ltd	Melton West VIC 3337

A description of the nature of the company's operations and its principal activities are included in the directors' report, which is not part of the financial statements.

The financial statements were authorised for issue, in accordance with a resolution of directors, on 15 April 2024. The directors have the power to amend and reissue the financial statements.

**Note 2. Material accounting policy information**

The accounting policies that are material to the company are set out below. The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous financial year, unless otherwise stated.

**New or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations adopted**

The company has adopted all of the new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') that are mandatory for the current reporting period.

Any new or amended Accounting Standards or Interpretations that are not yet mandatory have not been early adopted.

**Basis of preparation**

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB'), and the Corporations Act 2001, as appropriate for not-for profit oriented entities.

*Historical cost convention*

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

*Critical accounting estimates*

The preparation of the financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the company's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements, are disclosed in note 3.

**Revenue recognition**

The company recognises revenue as follows:

*Revenue from contracts with customers*

Revenue is recognised at an amount that reflects the consideration to which the company is expected to be entitled in exchange for transferring goods or services to a customer. For each contract with a customer, the company: identifies the contract with a customer; identifies the performance obligations in the contract; determines the transaction price which takes into account estimates of variable consideration and the time value of money; allocates the transaction price to the separate performance obligations on the basis of the relative stand-alone selling price of each distinct good or service to be delivered; and recognises revenue when or as each performance obligation is satisfied in a manner that depicts the transfer to the customer of the goods or services promised.

## Note 2. Material accounting policy information (continued)

Variable consideration within the transaction price, if any, reflects concessions provided to the customer such as discounts, rebates and refunds, any potential bonuses receivable from the customer and any other contingent events. Such estimates are determined using either the 'expected value' or 'most likely amount' method. The measurement of variable consideration is subject to a constraining principle whereby revenue will only be recognised to the extent that it is highly probable that a significant reversal in the amount of cumulative revenue recognised will not occur. The measurement constraint continues until the uncertainty associated with the variable consideration is subsequently resolved. Amounts received that are subject to the constraining principle are recognised as a refund liability.

### *Grant revenue*

Where grant income arises from an agreement which is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations then the revenue is recognised when control of each performance obligation is satisfied.

Each performance obligation is considered to ensure that the revenue recognition reflects the transfer of control and within grant agreements there may be some performance obligations where control transfers at a point in time and others which have continuous transfer of control over the life of the contract.

Amounts arising from grants in the scope of AASB 1058 are recognised at the assets fair value when the asset is received. The Company considers whether there are any related liability or equity items associated with the asset which are recognised in accordance with the relevant accounting standard.

### *Sale of goods*

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised at the point in time when the customer obtains control of the goods, which is generally at the time of delivery.

### *Rendering of services*

Revenue from a contract to provide services is recognised over time as the services are rendered based on either a fixed price or an hourly rate.

### *Membership revenue*

Revenue is recognised on a proportional basis over the period of the membership.

### *Affiliation fees*

Affiliation fees is recognised upon receipt.

### *Interest*

Interest revenue is recognised as interest accrues using the effective interest method. This is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset and allocating the interest income over the relevant period using the effective interest rate, which is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset to the net carrying amount of the financial asset.

### *Other revenue*

Other revenue is recognised when it is received or when the right to receive payment is established.

## **Income tax**

As the company is a tax exempt institution in terms of subsection 50-10 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997, as amended, it is exempt from paying income tax.

## **Current and non-current classification**

Assets and liabilities are presented in the statement of financial position based on current and non-current classification.

An asset is classified as current when: it is either expected to be realised or intended to be sold or consumed in the company's normal operating cycle; it is held primarily for the purpose of trading; it is expected to be realised within 12 months after the reporting period; or the asset is cash or cash equivalent unless restricted from being exchanged or used to settle a liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other assets are classified as non-current.

**Note 2. Material accounting policy information (continued)**

A liability is classified as current when: it is either expected to be settled in the company's normal operating cycle; it is held primarily for the purpose of trading; it is due to be settled within 12 months after the reporting period; or there is no unconditional right to defer the settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period. All other liabilities are classified as non-current.

**Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

**Trade and other receivables**

Trade receivables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any allowance for expected credit losses. Trade receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days.

The company has applied the simplified approach to measuring expected credit losses, which uses a lifetime expected loss allowance. To measure the expected credit losses, trade receivables have been grouped based on days overdue.

Other receivables are recognised at amortised cost, less any allowance for expected credit losses.

**Property, plant and equipment**

Plant and equipment is stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the items.

Depreciation is calculated on a straight-line basis to write off the net cost of each item of property, plant and equipment (excluding land) over their expected useful lives.

The residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful life of the assets, whichever is shorter.

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when there is no future economic benefit to the company. Gains and losses between the carrying amount and the disposal proceeds are taken to profit or loss.

**Intangible assets**

Intangible assets acquired as part of a business combination, other than goodwill, are initially measured at their fair value at the date of the acquisition. Intangible assets acquired separately are initially recognised at cost. Indefinite life intangible assets are not amortised and are subsequently measured at cost less any impairment. Finite life intangible assets are subsequently measured at cost less amortisation and any impairment. The gains or losses recognised in profit or loss arising from the derecognition of intangible assets are measured as the difference between net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the intangible asset. The method and useful lives of finite life intangible assets are reviewed annually. Changes in the expected pattern of consumption or useful life are accounted for prospectively by changing the amortisation method or period.

*Website*

Significant costs associated with the development of the revenue generating aspects of the website, including the capacity of placing orders, are deferred and amortised on a straight-line basis over the period of their expected benefit, being their finite life of 5 years.

*Patents and trademarks*

Patents and trademarks are recognised at cost of acquisition. Patents and trademarks have a finite life and are carried at cost less any accumulated amortisation and any impairment losses.

**Impairment of non-financial assets**

Non-financial assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount.

**Note 2. Material accounting policy information (continued)**

Recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value-in-use. The value-in-use is the present value of the estimated future cash flows relating to the asset using a pre-tax discount rate specific to the asset or cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. Assets that do not have independent cash flows are grouped together to form a cash-generating unit.

**Trade and other payables**

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the company prior to the end of the financial year and which are unpaid. Due to their short-term nature they are measured at amortised cost and are not discounted. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

**Employee benefits**

*Short-term employee benefits*

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and long service leave expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the reporting date are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled.

*Other long-term employee benefits*

The liability for annual leave and long service leave not expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date are measured at the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service. Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the reporting date on national government bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

Contributions to defined contribution superannuation plans are expensed in the period in which they are incurred.

**Fair value measurement**

When an asset or liability, financial or non-financial, is measured at fair value for recognition or disclosure purposes, the fair value is based on the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date; and assumes that the transaction will take place either: in the principal market; or in the absence of a principal market, in the most advantageous market.

Fair value is measured using the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, assuming they act in their economic best interests. For non-financial assets, the fair value measurement is based on its highest and best use. Valuation techniques that are appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data are available to measure fair value, are used, maximising the use of relevant observable inputs and minimising the use of unobservable inputs.

**Goods and Services Tax ('GST') and other similar taxes**

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the tax authority. In this case it is recognised as part of the cost of the acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the tax authority is included in other receivables or other payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to the tax authority, are presented as operating cash flows.

Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the tax authority.

**Note 3. Critical accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts in the financial statements. Management continually evaluates its judgements and estimates in relation to assets, liabilities, contingent liabilities, revenue and expenses. Management bases its judgements, estimates and assumptions on historical experience and on other various factors, including expectations of future events, management believes to be reasonable under the circumstances. The resulting accounting judgements and estimates will seldom equal the related actual results. The judgements, estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities (refer to the respective notes) within the next financial year are discussed below.

*Estimation of useful lives of assets*

The company determines the estimated useful lives and related depreciation and amortisation charges for its property, plant and equipment and finite life intangible assets. The useful lives could change significantly as a result of technical innovations or some other event. The depreciation and amortisation charge will increase where the useful lives are less than previously estimated lives, or technically obsolete or non-strategic assets that have been abandoned or sold will be written off or written down.

*Trade receivables*

The receivables at reporting date have been reviewed to determine whether there is any objective evidence that any of the receivables are impaired. An impairment provisions is included for any receivable where the entire balance is not considered collectible. The impairment provision is based on the best information at the reporting date.

**Note 4. Restatement of comparatives**

*Reclassification*

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.

**Note 5. Revenue**

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Insurance contribution	669,391	659,586
Capitation fees	551,342	431,596
Grants funding	140,450	165,403
Events and merchandise sales	175,886	121,646
International team member contributions	69,213	21,000
Affiliation fees	8,886	12,609
Event and program fees	124,290	83,470
Sponsorship income	52,500	26,000
Other income	382	11,493
Revenue	<u>1,792,340</u>	<u>1,532,803</u>

**Note 6. Current assets - cash and cash equivalents**

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Cash at bank	<u>737,018</u>	<u>606,533</u>

**Note 7. Current assets - trade and other receivables**

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Trade receivables	28,928	9,954
BAS receivable	-	4,092
	<u>28,928</u>	<u>14,046</u>

**Note 8. Current assets - other**

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Prepayments	-	23,438
	<u>-</u>	<u>23,438</u>

**Note 9. Non-current assets - property, plant and equipment**

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Office equipment - at cost	-	16,540
Less: Accumulated depreciation	-	(16,540)
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

**Note 10. Non-current assets - intangibles**

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Website - at cost	3,870	3,870
Less: Accumulated amortisation	(3,870)	(3,870)
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Trademarks - at cost	6,562	6,562
Less: Accumulated amortisation	(5,636)	(5,126)
	<u>926</u>	<u>1,436</u>
	<u>926</u>	<u>1,436</u>

*Reconciliations*

Reconciliations of the written down values at the beginning and end of the current financial year are set out below:

	Registered trademark \$	Website \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 January 2023	1,436	-	1,436
Amortisation expense	(510)	-	(510)
	<u>926</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>926</u>

**Note 11. Current liabilities - trade and other payables**

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Trade payables	7,985	1,706
Other payables	25,005	22,285
BAS payable	9,171	-
	<u>42,161</u>	<u>23,991</u>

**Note 12. Current liabilities - employee benefits**

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Annual leave	<u>26,797</u>	<u>59,317</u>

**Note 13. Current liabilities - other**

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Revenue received in advance	<u>129,647</u>	<u>51,262</u>

**Note 14. Non-current liabilities - employee benefits**

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Long service leave	<u>5,142</u>	<u>14,296</u>

**Note 15. Equity - retained surpluses**

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Retained surpluses at the beginning of the financial year	496,587	562,337
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	<u>66,538</u>	<u>(65,750)</u>
Retained surpluses at the end of the financial year	<u>563,125</u>	<u>496,587</u>



**Note 16. Reconciliation of surplus/(deficit) to net cash from/(used in) operating activities**

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	66,538	(65,750)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation and amortisation	510	777
Change in operating assets and liabilities:		
Decrease/(increase) in trade and other receivables	(14,882)	24,421
Decrease in other operating assets	23,438	35,236
Increase in trade and other payables	18,170	4,142
Increase/(decrease) in employee benefits	(41,674)	26,670
Increase/(decrease) in other liabilities	78,385	(79,587)
Net cash from/(used in) operating activities	<u>130,485</u>	<u>(54,091)</u>

**Note 17. Remuneration of auditors**

During the financial year the following fees were paid or payable for services provided by , the auditor of the company:

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Audit services - Banks Group - 2022 FY	<u>5,300</u>	<u>5,000</u>
Bishop Collins Audit Pty Ltd - 2023 FY	<u>6,500</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>11,800</u>	<u>5,000</u>

**Note 18. Key management personnel disclosures**

*Compensation*

The aggregate compensation made to directors and other members of key management personnel of the company is set out below:

	2023 \$	2022 \$
Aggregate compensation	<u>239,559</u>	<u>138,915</u>

**Note 19. Related party transactions**

*Key management personnel*

Disclosures relating to key management personnel are set out in note 18.

*Transactions with related parties*

There were no transactions with related parties during the current and previous financial year.

*Receivable from and payable to related parties*

There were no trade receivables from or trade payables to related parties at the current and previous reporting date.

*Loans to/from related parties*

There were no loans to or from related parties at the current and previous reporting date.

**Note 20. Contingencies**

In the opinion of the Directors, the Company did not have any contingencies at 31 December 2023 (2022: NIL).

**Note 21. Member's guarantee**

The Company is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 and is a Company limited by guarantee. If the Company is wound up, the constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$20 each towards meeting any outstanding and obligations of the Company. At 31 December 2023, the number of members was 7 (2022:7).

**Note 22. Events after the reporting period**

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 31 December 2023 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the company's operations, the results of those operations, or the company's state of affairs in future financial years.

Pony Club Australia Ltd  
Directors' declaration  
31 December 2023

In the directors' opinion:

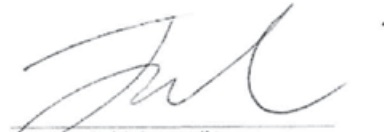
- the attached financial statements and notes comply with the Corporations Act 2001, the Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures, the Corporations Regulations 2001 and other mandatory professional reporting requirements;
- the attached financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 31 December 2023 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of directors made pursuant to section 295(5)(a) of the Corporations Act 2001.

On behalf of the directors



Ms. Heather Disher  
Director



Mr. Jacob McLoughlin  
Director

15 April 2024



**PONY CLUB**  
AUSTRALIA

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