

2017



ANNUAL REPORT



PONY CLUB
AUSTRALIA



Justin Robinson and son Blake at
Peak Downs Pony Club, Queensland



PONY CLUB
AUSTRALIA



MESSAGE FROM THE AUSTRALIAN SPORTS COMMISSION

The Australian Sports Commission (ASC) thanks all of our partner national sporting organisations (NSOs) for your continued hard work and commitment to excellence. All of you understand innately the importance of sport in Australian life. It's much more than a source of national identity and pride, it's the fabric that binds us together - a common language for all, with multiplier benefits in health, education, social cohesion and the economy.

There were many great sporting events to celebrate during the course of last year – the launch of both the AFL Women's competition and the National Netball League with prime-time TV coverage, the Richmond Tigers' win in the AFL, dominant performances by the Australian Ashes teams in the men's and the women's series, the Matildas winning the football Tournament of Nations and the Socceroos qualifying for this year's World Cup in Russia – just to pick a few.

Sport has traditionally been our national past-time. A competitive sporting spirit has been a natural part of our DNA. But like any industry, sport faces competition, from other entertainment options domestically or from other nations internationally. At the ASC, we are serious about taking on that competition.

We appreciate the willingness of NSOs to embrace this challenge. We commend athletes for their dedicated commitment to training for upcoming Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games and, further ahead, the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

One of the most important long-term challenges for our country is to help our children be physically active, to participate in sport and enjoy its lifelong benefits.

The ASC's Sporting Schools program has reached more than 6,000 primary schools around Australia and now includes a targeted program for secondary schools. It is vital to ensure physical education is re-emphasised in the national school



curriculum. To this end, the ASC has been doing ground breaking work on physical literacy for young people and we look forward to rolling this out nationally in the year ahead.

As the national leadership organisation for sport in Australia, the ASC is excited by the enthusiasm that the Minister for Sport, Senator the Hon. Bridget McKenzie is showing for promoting physical activity for all Australians, and we continue to work with her on a National Sport Plan. This will create, for the first time, a comprehensive blueprint for Australian sport. It is an outstanding initiative and we thank the Minister for her commitment and those that have contributed to the Plan.

Finally, I say a big thank you to the army of volunteers – parents, coaches, officials and administrators - who contribute their time and services for the good of Australian sport. You bring community strength, passion and great value to the identity, productivity, cohesion and health of our nation.

The ASC wishes you every success in the year ahead. We look forward to working closely with you for the common good of Australian sport.

John Wylie AM
Chair, Australian Sports Commission

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR



Presenting the report for 2017 year on behalf of the Pony Club Australia board gives me great pleasure as it has been a year of great progress and consolidation for the Pony Club movement within Australia. Our board was missing a director for part of this year as we sought to fill the position with nominations from Central or Western Australia however as none were forthcoming during the first six months the board appointed Dr Juliet Skinner from far North Queensland to fill this position. As a Pony Club mum, a medical doctor and from a remotely situated area Juliet is well able to fulfil her duties and contribute to board decisions.

Sadly our Patron over the past 5 years Gill Rolton OAM passed away after her health deteriorated over a short period of time. Judy Pitt a long term board member was able to represent Pony Club Australia at Gill's funeral held in Adelaide during November. At the February board meeting Heath Ryan was nominated for this position and has accepted. Heath is well known for his Dressage and Eventing prowess and continues training and competing on the highest level in Australia.

The support of the Australian Sports Commission both financial and with administration advice is acknowledged and highly appreciated. Pony Club needs to increase actual riding membership and visibility to the community to improve this recognition from the ASC.

Their programme of Women in Sport was especially targeted by our CEO Catherine Ainsworth with a group of seven young enthusiastic Pony Club girls from around Australia selected to attend a weekend course in Adelaide. This initiative (a group of young people working together) for the Women's Leadership in Sport programme was selected a case study by the ASC to highlight the value and outcomes of this programme. Catherine continues to work with the selected girls to encourage continued valued involvement with the Pony Club movement – our future leaders!

Pony Club is an International organisation and this year Pony Club Australia was represented successfully in many International competitions around the world and at home. The two yearly competition - Inter Pacific Exchange was held in USA with the team placing a creditable second and the International Mounted Games team travelled to Canada where it also placed second. At the PCA Nationals in Toowoomba the Australian team competing in the Aquis Tri Nations Cup against France and China was the winner. Our Quiz team travelled to Canada early October to compete against the USA and Canada. Whilst Quiz is a relatively new competition (for PCA) it is an amazing chance to increase knowledge and meet new friends across the globe. The dedication of the Coaches and Managers of these teams does not go unrecognised and without their knowledge and enthusiasm our teams would not be able to travel and compete so successfully.

Even more opportunities are available in 2018 for dedicated Pony Club members from around Australia to travel to International Competitions. This year we are sending representative teams to the International Tetrathlon in USA, France for Showjumping, UK for polocrosse, Mounted Games in UK, and China – near Shanghai – for gymkhana and Showjumping competitions. Good luck to all those selected and on return we hope you continue to inspire more members to apply for these fantastic opportunities.

The Pony Club Australia National Championships held in Toowoomba Queensland during September 2017 was a very successful event with the Queensland committee having put a lot of time and effort into making the event run as smoothly as possible. Despite the complaints after the 2015 Nationals of the Interschool events being in a different state which meant choosing between competitions – there were very few competitors attending PCA Nationals who were also competing at Interschool Championships the next week. Adding another younger

age group for competition also did not inspire many states to take advantage of this even though our largest membership numbers come from this age group which was disappointing.

The enlarged programme made a few more scheduling headaches – but the competitors responded well to being hurried along at times to reach their events. The Tetrathlon competition attracted the biggest entries and some great competition. With swimming being the only phase off site and laser pistols in use for the first time, it all ran well. The formal gymkhana also attracted good entries and will benefit from some scheduling improvements in the future. Pony Club Australia will continue to document national rules for competitions that are consistent with international events.

Coaching and learning is the main part of our Pony Club programme with a few changes on the horizon. Firstly the ASC decided they did not need to be involved in overseeing our coaching programmes especially the formulation of modules – so we no longer need to include the ASC logo on our coach education publications and certificates. However the board decided that we should still use the terminology of National Coach Accreditation Scheme. The syllabus is undergoing major review and modernisation with noted equitation education specialists Portland Jones and Sophie Warren being invited to assist with this, working alongside PCA Director Dr Andrew McLean. The ultimate aim is to have the Coaching modules available on line with more available work sheets and ideas for coaches in 2019.

Pony Club Australia was also pleased to welcome on board Mitsubishi as a major sponsor for the next three years. This means Pony Club members Australia wide can purchase Mitsubishi vehicles at a substantial discount. The Mitsubishi range and dealer network are great for members and we look forward to valued times with Mitsubishi.

There has been major change in government and community expectations for child safe sport and our Member Protection Policy and new Child Safe Policies guide our conduct. It is important that we utilise

communication direct to our grass roots so that every person involved in our organisation can access information to ensure our children are safe.

It is pleasing to note the use of social media to promote and advertise Pony Club activities all over Australia – we need to keep our organisation fresh, vibrant and available to our members at all levels. My thanks to the State bodies for their continued support and co-operation over the last twelve months.

Whilst we have lots of mention of achievements we also need to recognise the realities of membership and progressing in this modern equestrian world. Does Pony Club have too many rules? Does our organisation provide for the things modern equestrian families require? Urban encroachment and competing sports for young athletes is becoming more problematic and we cannot ignore the pressure on membership from all sides.

My thanks to the National Coaching Committee who under the leadership of Michael Carlson, Chair and Denise Legge, Secretary are keeping up with an increasing workload as Pony Club continues to move forward.

The directors of the board of Pony Club Australia have dedicated themselves to delivering our strategic plan which is nearing the completion of its third year. Our directors Shannon, Michelle, Sonia, Andrew, Juliet, Judy, Melanie have contributed greatly their expertise and knowledge – remembering that the board members are independent and skilled volunteers. It is also timely to welcome our new administrative assistant Megan Giannini to our organisation.

Our CEO Catherine Ainsworth keeps our organisation moving forward smoothly as well as working many hours overtime to ensure we remain efficient and progressive. The time and efforts of Catherine, Megan and the board members are much appreciated and ensure that Pony Club in Australia will remain a leading Equestrian force.

Carol Paterson
Chair, Pony Club Australia

STRATEGY REVIEW

Governance

Governance of PCA is subject to annual review by the Australian Sports Commission, and in 2017, PCA was assessed as exceeding governance standards of comparable sports. The overall governance score was 91% against a range of criteria including structure, board operations, integrity and reporting.

The Audit and Risk Committee, under independent Chair Dennis Clark completed a major review of risk across the organisation, with the PCA Board ratifying the Risk Appetite Statement, Risk Tolerance Report, Risk Register and Risk Management Plan.

PCA has continued the development of national policies in key areas including Child Protection, Safety and Animal Welfare.

PCA assisted state Pony Club associations on request on matters of risk, governance and constitutional reform.

PCA led a national tender for member insurance and secured enhanced cover, tailored to the needs of Pony Club, at a reduced cost for members in six of seven states.

Marketing

Pony Club Australia continued to focus on consistent messaging in media placements highlighting the opportunities and achievements of members of the organisation, and "A life with horses starts here."

The corporate partnership with Horseland was a prominent feature of the PCA National Championships in Toowoomba. Other partnerships with HorseWyse magazine, Horse360, Wini Equine and Gow Gates Insurance Brokers continued throughout 2017.

Aquis Farms came on board with Pony Club as sponsor of the Tri-Nations Cup showjumping held at Toowoomba.

In September 2017 PCA signed a new national sponsorship agreement with Mitsubishi Motors, that also delivers a saving on new vehicles for all Pony Club members.

Education

Pony Club Australia commenced the development of a new syllabus and instruction materials for all certificates, that will be completed in 2018. Members will have access to a world-leading equestrian education system, incorporating age-appropriate equitation science, that will build knowledge, confidence and competence as a rider and horse owner.

A cohort of young leaders undertook a leadership development program funded by the ASC Women Leadership in Sport initiative, and each has gone on to apply their skills for the future of Pony Club.

PCA delivers coach and rider education at 17 riding centres affiliated with China Pony Club. There are now 74 PCANCAS Preliminary coaches and one PCANCAS Level 1 coach that have been trained and examined by visiting PCA coaches.

There was rotation of members in the National Coaching Committee to address succession planning.

The National Officials' Committee was convened with representation across states and will address recognition, education and accreditation of officials.

Participation

Pony Club provides sports participation to riders, coaches, officials and volunteers and contributes to physical activity and social interaction for a population aged from 5 to 85 years in all states.

PCA is committed to uniform discipline rules and has developed these for Tetrathlon and Quiz. Rules will be based on international or national standards as appropriate. Participation in Tetrathlon continues to expand with laser pistols now able to be used more widely.

Australia welcomed visiting teams from France and China for the Aquis Tri-Nations Cup showjumping in Toowoomba. A group of young Chinese riders from Yingzi Riding Centre in Guangzhou City visited Queensland for a training camp in July 2017.

PCA competed in International Mounted Games in Canada, Inter-Pacific Exchange in USA and International Quiz in Canada in 2017. International opportunities have been added for members, including;

- Short and long-term coach placements with China Pony Club. A PCA team will compete in the China Pony Club championships in 2018.
- A new exchange program with France that has enabled an Australian team to compete in the Generali World Club Tournament in 2018 for the first time.
- A new international exchange with the UK in polocrosse to commence in 2018.

Communication

Pony Club Australia communicates with the many layers of members using monthly newsletters, bulletins to state offices, and social media.

PCA is keen to be a listening organisation and displays its contact details prominently on the PCA website and Facebook page. This is used frequently by grass roots members.

2017 saw a steady rise in Facebook subscribers and utilisation of the MyPonyClub database to distribute information.

PCA board members and the CEO travelled to all states to attend events, club rallies and state meetings in 2017.

2018 is the final year of the current Strategic Plan, and the development of the 2019-2021 plan has commenced.

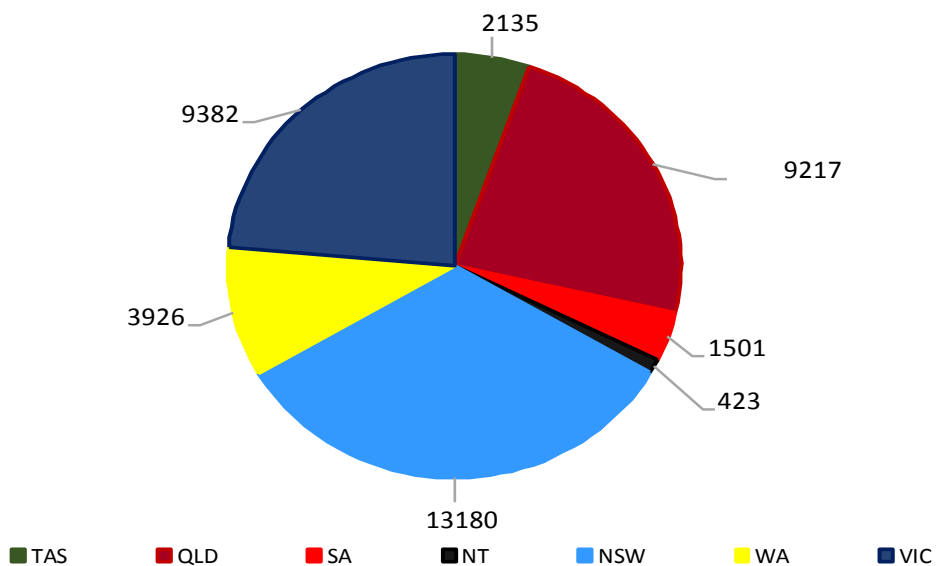
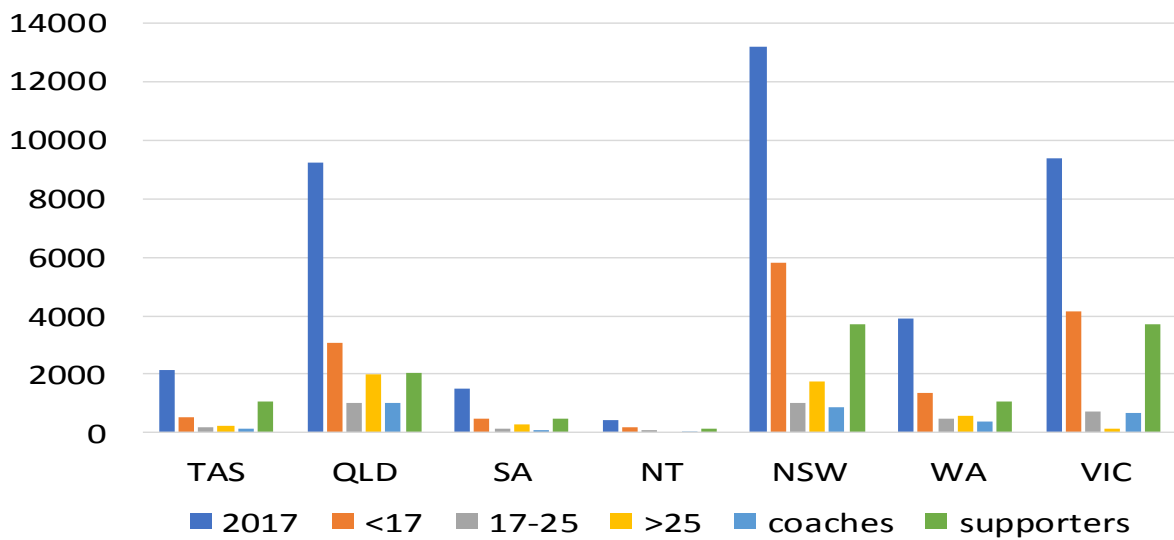


Pony Club Australia Board 2017 - Andrew McLean, Melanie Woodward, Judy Pitt, Carol Paterson, Michelle Harper, Sonia Murphy, Juliet Skinner, Shannon Durrant.

MEMBERSHIP—2017

Riders under 17 y	Riders 17-25 y	Riders over 25 y	Coaches	Supporters
15,608	3,644	4,990	3,248	12,274

Total membership 2017 = 39,764



IN MEMORY OF GILLIAN ROLTON



Gillian Rolton was Patron of Pony Club Australia, but meant so much more to everyone. We pay tribute to her life and contribution to sport in Australia, and especially to Pony Club.

Gillian's story was the embodiment of "A life with horses starts here". She talked her non-horse parents into getting a horse at the age of 10, and then she was off. Her career went from rider, to elite competitor, Olympian, coach, official and administrator over the next 50 years. Gillian competed in the Barcelona and Atlanta Olympics, winning Gold in eventing both times. It is no surprise that the PCA Award for Pony Club alumni is named the "Gillian Rolton Award".

Gill was interested to assist those to take the pathway from enjoying riding at Pony Club to high level competition through EA, but also took great delight in listening to Pony Club members proud of a good dressage test, a clear round or a much-loved horse. "Fred" and the Olympics was a tale we never tired of hearing.

Gillian would regularly attend Pony Club events just because she found out they were on and she had a free day. She will always be remembered for her courage, care, smile and dedication to animals and equestrian sport.

Gillian was awarded the Order of Australia medal in 1993 for services to Australian sport and was inducted into the Sports Australia Hall of Fame in 2000. The Member of the Order of Australia was awarded to Gillian posthumously in 2018 for "significant service to horse sports through roles with a range of national and international equestrian organisations".

Gillian passed away in November 2017 and Pony Club was represented at her funeral by PCA Board member Judy Pitt, Pony Club South Australia President Greg Bailey and many Pony Club members. (photo)



PONY CLUB AUSTRALIA YOUNG LEADERS

A Women Leaders in Sport (WLIS) grant from the Australian Sports Commission enabled Pony Club Australia (PCA) to build capability for the future of the organisation.

The WLIS organisation grant funded a female leadership program course for seven women selected from across Australia. The women attended a two-day workshop in Adelaide to explore concepts of leadership, organisational culture, emotional intelligence, communication and teamwork. From the workshop each member developed a plan for their continued involvement in Pony Club.

The program has helped several of the participants take up new opportunities at higher levels including leadership roles within their local club, running large events and management roles for current state and national priority actions.

Gabi Ashmeade, from Kimba Pony Club SA, improved rally structure, engaged with local media and competed at the 2017 PCA National Championships in Toowoomba. Kimba PC was successful in getting a local grant for the club and ran a major showjumping and dressage event drawing participants from across the region.

Clare Edsor, from Canberra Lakes Pony Club, took a brief hiatus from Pony Club late in 2017 while travelling around Australia with work. Clare is now back and engaging with new members in her club, introducing them to all that Pony Club offers. Clare is a big advocate for Pony Club certificates to establish a strong basis in both riding and horsemanship.

Elisha Hodgson from Tallebudgera Pony Club, Queensland has pursued her coach qualification, run a major competition for 150 riders on the Gold Coast, improved communication and recognition of volunteers at her club, and balances the demands of coaching with her career as a lawyer.

Sarah-Jane Jameson, from Two Wells Pony Club SA, was team coach and manager for the SA team that competed in Toowoomba. Sarah was also inspired to pursue further education in governance of not-for-profit organisations.

Adrienne Kelley, from Herbert River Pony Club Queensland, successfully revamped the zone camp, started training as a cross country course builder and TD, continued coaching and competed in dressage, eventing, endurance riding and Stockman's challenge on her all-rounder.

Jacqui Panozzo, from Drouin Pony Club Victoria, responded to the challenge of engaging new members at her club so Drouin PC ran a successful 'riders without horses' program in 2017. Jacqui continues to inspire a sense of community and positive culture at her club and across the West Gippsland Zone.

Natasha Williams, from Riverside Park Pony Club WA, now has roles in the WA State Coaching Panel and the National Quiz Committee. Tash was a member of the international Quiz team in 2014 and is keen to increase the participation in Quiz at local, state, national and international level.



Left to Right

Adrienne Kelley, Gabi Ashmeade, Clare Edsor, Catherine Ainsworth PCA CEO, Natasha Williams, Sarah-Jane Jameson, Jacqui Panozzo, Elisha Hodgson

PONY CLUB AUSTRALIA AWARDS 2017

The PCA awards were presented at the formal dinner held during the 2017 PCA National Championships in Toowoomba. The awards were well supported with nominations from across Australia. The winners were:

Club of the Year, sponsored by Gow Gates Insurance Brokers, was won by Gisborne Pony Club, Victoria. Gisborne had grown its membership by 33% in the previous year through a focus on quality coaching, diverse disciplines, 'riders without horses', and flexible programs for older riders.

Finalists for Club of the Year were Huntingfield, Tasmania and Mt Duneed, Victoria.

Coach of the Year, sponsored by Wini Equine, was won by Wendy Cumming, Western Australia. Wendy is a NCAS Level 1 coach at Serpentine Horse and Pony Club. Wendy started a specialist eventing program that has provided great opportunities and elite education for Pony Club members in a regional area.

Finalists for Coach of the Year were Peter Bridgeman, Queensland and Anthony Newham, NSW.

Volunteer of the Year, sponsored by HorseWyse Magazine, was won by Carole Ann Hodges, NSW. Carole held positions at Telegraph Point Pony Club, Zone Treasurer and scorer for all 12 NSW state championships utilising a cloud based system that provides live scoring to officials and participants.

Finalists for Volunteer of the Year were Peter Bridgeman and

Grace Brodie, both from Queensland.

Chris Paton from Victoria won the Horseland award for Best Achievement by a Rider under 17 years. Chris excels at Mounted Games representing his club, zone, state and Australia. He is actively developing younger riders and assisting Werribee Pony Club at rallies and competitions.

Finalists for this award were Georgia McGrath, Tasmania and Lucy Peters, Victoria.

Rebecca Cameron from Armidale Pony Club, NSW won the Horseland award for Best Achievement by a Rider 17-25 years. Rebecca had invigorated her club, stepped into the role as Senior Instructor and organised trail rides, club camp, new clinics and social events, attracting new members.

Finalists for this award were Olivia Palfreyman and Victoria Temm, both from NSW.

Richard Mitton was the recipient of the Gillian Rolton Award. Richard was a Pony Club member in Victoria, achieving his A certificate at 18 years old. He went on to a successful career in eventing and as an official at national and international competitions including the Sydney and Beijing Olympics. Richard is an active coach in Queensland and for China Pony Club.

Natalie Hibbert from WA was a finalist for the Gillian Rolton Award for Pony Club Alumni.



Gisborne Pony Club members celebrating their award



Richard Mitton coaching members from China Pony Club

PCA NATIONALS—QUEENSLAND

Toowoomba - venue for the 2017 PCA National Championships proved to be a good location for the event. Toowoomba Showgrounds have many suitable arenas and venues for the competitions and having also been host 10 years ago the expertise to conduct the programme of events proved to be a benefit to all the visitors. The committee led by Kev Walsh and Secretary Alice James (herself a previous competitor 10 years ago) had been working hard over the previous year to ensure the smooth running of the large programme. Stabling was allocated on a State by State basis and there was plenty of room for the horses under cover. Five of the seven states were represented at the Championships – a little disappointing when there were unmounted programmes available if there were any issues in getting horses to Queensland. Some members missed the distinction of representing their State at a National competition.

The introduction of a new division of 12 years and under and new events – Quiz and Formal Gymkhana met with small entries. These two competitions now have an International experience available and PCA Board would like to maintain them for Pony Club members, remembering that Pony Club offers a wide range of equestrian experiences not just the Olympic disciplines.

Pony Club Australia was well represented with Chair – Carol Paterson and CEO Catherine Ainsworth accompanied by board members Michelle Harper, Andrew McLean and Sonia Murphy.

Following a busy morning of team meetings and vet checks it was time for the unmounted team parade and Official opening of the event. After words of welcome from State politicians, Toowoomba regional council representatives and Chairman of PCQ Kev Walsh, PCA Chair Carol Paterson declared the competition open.

Monday saw the opening competitions and the riders showed their dedication to presentation looking stunning when entering the arena and a real credit to the State team managers and coaches.

Presentations for classes took place at the end of classes for showjumping or end of day for dressage.

The dressage featured interstate judges as well as qualified Equestrian Australia judges from Queensland.

The invitational Medium dressage test proved a little challenging for some of the horses as it was held in the indoor arena – The winner was Phoebe Wilkinson from NSW – (International Quiz team member 2014) with Lucy Peters PCV 2nd and Gabi Ashmeade PCASA 3rd. There were 42 dressage riders in total.

The National Dressage Championship teams event was won by PCV with PCQ second and PCANSW 3rd. National Senior Dressage Championship Team was PCQ, with PCV second and PCNSW 3rd.

Showjumping teams provided top competition for the Championships with 46 riders. PCANSW won the sub junior teams from PCQ whilst PCQ were victorious in both the Junior and Senior Showjumping teams. The competition was first class with many thanks to course builder Ken Jensen for providing the top class tracks.

The Horse Trials Championships attracted the smallest number of competitors - 26 - with only Junior and Seniors competing. The Cross country course had an amazing revamp using portable fences and was a credit to the stewards and committee. There was no Junior Team competition – only an individual Championship but PCV were Champion state in the senior competition from PCQ and PCANSW.

Tetrathlon was the competition with the best entries for the Championship with 50 entries in the three divisions. It was well supported with spectators and supporters. Using laser pistols in competition for the first time was an added bonus and now that several state governments have relaxed their rules regarding the use of the laser pistols it will make practice and competition a lot easier for all concerned.



In the team competition PCQ were first in the sub junior followed by PCANSW whilst PCV were winners in both the Junior and Senior teams. It was great to see PCASA 2nd in the Junior teams followed by PCQ. Runner up in the Senior teams was PCQ with PCANSW 3rd.

Quiz was held successfully for the first time and run over two evenings at the Nationals Championships and a big thank you to Rachel Morland and her helpers for the big effort that they put into creating the competition for the first time. Competitors were also riders at the Championships.

The first evening was the mega room phase where teams had to identify items of equipment, horse ailments, shoeing gear and the written test.

On the second evening the final phase was the classroom phase – all questions based on the competitor’s proficiency certificate standard. They could opt for bonus points by answering questions above their level in this phase.

Results in the Junior Competition were PCQ first, PCANSW 2nd and PCASA 3rd. PCQ also took out the senior Championship with PCANSW 2nd. With a lot more resources now available it would be great to see more states inspired to participate in what is now an International event.

Supporters in any competition are so important and it was great to see PCANSW President Wayne Pernice in the Quiz room!!

Mounted Games attracted entries from PCANSW, PCV and PCQ in both Senior and Junior divisions.

Held over two days there was plenty of fast and energetic competition with PCANSW winning the Junior Championship from PCQ and PCV. In the senior Championship – it was PCV first followed by PCQ and PCANSW.

Formal Gymkhana was held on the final day of the Championships and attracted 45 riders into the competition. As this was a first-time event it was great to see the numbers competing and also to assess its format.

The horses were immaculately turned out making the job of the judges in the formal events very hard. Thanks to the competitors for showing us their best presentation skills. In the Sub junior classes PCQ were first, with PCANSW second. Juniors saw PCANSW first with PCV second and PCQ third. Senior teams were won by PCQ with PCANSW 2nd and PCV third.

The report would not be complete without mention of the **Official dinner** held off site in Toowoomba’s main business area. Everyone was looking pretty awesome with this chance to show off their State uniforms and there were many happy groups mingling with their old friends and new friends. The guest speaker Alyssa Azar - a young lass from Toowoomba who had climbed Mt Everest – was an inspiration and spoke well of her trials and successes. Also included in the evening were the presentations of the Pony Club Australia Annual Awards.

The Braham trophy for the State with the highest point score for the 2017 Championship events was won by Pony Club Queensland with PCV second, PCANSW third. Roger Braham from PCANSW was the instigator of the first Pony Club National Championship event in 1996 and unfortunately passed away 19th December 2016. The Braham family were represented by one of his daughters Annabel Tudor who along with her children Ryan and Brooke presented the trophy to Pony Club Queensland Riders - Sarah Laxton and Peter Green. (photo above)

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE AND TRI-NATIONS CUP

After the initial contact with Sue Williams from the Normandy Equestrian Federation some two years ago - the riders along with the coach- Sam who manages his own riding centre in Normandy, chaperone – Fanny who accompanied the para riders to Rio Olympics in 2016 and Sue arrived into Brisbane airport to commence their 2 week visit to Australia. The main purpose was to compete in the Tri Nations Cup at the 2017 PCA National Championships with the first week being more a tourist excursion. 2.00 a.m. is the best time to arrive as things around the city are pretty slow at that hour, however we managed to pack the excess luggage into my car and discuss arrangements for the day before the hire car place was ready for our contact. Off to the Sunshine coast and the first day was pretty steady catching up on lost sleep and walks along the amazing beach between Alexandra Headlands and Maroochydore. Tuesday was also a free day and hiring surf boards (with a flat surf) caused some mirth and generosity from the hire place who gave them all surf boards at a very cheap rate. Wednesday was off to Australia Zoo with the emphasis on the Aussie animals - koalas and kangaroos and watching the crocodile feeding show. Thursday took in the trail ride at Lake Wyeba near Noosa with the guides geared for a fast ride through water and over some logs. All the team participated and thoroughly enjoyed the experience coming in quite wet and invigorated. Off to Noosa for lunch at Betty's Burgers to complete the experience. Saturday morning saw lots of activity as we got ready to leave the coast and head south firstly to visit the Aquis farm at Canungra – where we met up with some of the Chinese contingent and pleased to meet with the Manager Paul Knight - who was an ex Pony Club member from Wynnum in Queensland. The RM Williams Show Outback Spectacular was the evening entertainment.

Now to the real business of the exchange – travelling to Toowoomba on the Sunday morning the team were due to meet their team of horses and select who rode which one for the challenge.

The horses had been divided into teams of four horses for each Nation after much hard work from the Nationals organising committee. China was supported by two Australian riders – Blake Jones from PCQ and Elli Clavarino from PCV and Australian Coaches Jacqui Larson and Rachel Morland from PCQ . The French and Chinese teams were the first to allocate their riders with the Australian team under the guidance of coach Guy Creighton being the last to select. Thanks to Janet Hamblin from PCANSW for agreeing to step in as team manager for Australia.

The International teams were accommodated at The Glennie School some 20 minutes from the Showgrounds. As the horses were loan horses the riders also faced the challenge of looking after them, luckily for some the owners were already on the grounds so were able to assist with much of the feeding.

The French and Chinese teams were also part of the Official opening parade and were popular with the audience. They looked super smart in their uniforms

The first competition an AM5 was due for Monday lunchtime and the teams were showing their professionalism and team spirit for the first event. Riding

new horses over a course for the first time proved a challenge for the riders with France's Mathis winning the round but Australian locked in valuable points for the challenge taking out 3 of the 5 placings.

Keeping in with the swing of the Championships and a



The visiting team from France with PCA Chair Carol Paterson and representatives of China Pony Club



Winner of the Tri-nations Challenge 2 phase competition Courtney Tincknell representing Australia – with Catherine Ainsworth PCA CEO, Carol Paterson PCA Chair and Kev Walsh PCQ, Chair of the Organising Committee

gathering of likeminded people from all over Australia the French and the Chinese participated in the Monday evening games event in the indoor arena.

Tuesday was break day and time to catch up and plan for the Wednesday competition – which was a 2 Phase power and speed. Although we run under FEI rules it appeared that the article advertised was not quite how the French ride the competition. This shows the necessity for clarifying all the interpretations of the rules. The competition again provided some exciting rounds with Australia's Courtney winning – with some great riding from the French with Mathis again pressing the winner's time.

One of the highlights of the visit by the International teams was the liaison between the visitors and the locals. It was great to see the International teams at the Official dinner introduce themselves so well and be accepted into the evening activities by all the State teams. Pony Club is a truly International organisation.

Friday was the last day of the competition – some hard calculations by France had them working towards a trifecta in the last competition to give them some chance of heading off Australia to win the Aquis Pony Club International Showjumping Competition.

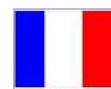
The Grand Prix course first round had France leading from China and Australia for the event – best laid plans were coming to fruition. Unfortunately the second round proved

to be the most interesting – with the China team winning the overall Grand Prix with Australia second and France third. Mathis again winning the round and becoming the overall individual Champion for the week's Competition. An exciting end to the week.

The Overall team Championship saw Australia 1st, France second and China third – well done teams

Huge thanks to Kev Walsh from PCQ and the Nationals Organising committee for finding the horses and the owners of the horses for the loan for the week. They did an amazing job. The judge and course builder for the events Jan Morland, Kev Jensen and Geoff Thompson Chief Steward – thank you so much. Guy Creighton – Australian Team coach for his expertise, Janet Hamblin for filling in as Team manager, and also to the Australian coach Jacqui Larson and riders Blake and Ellie for participating for China Pony Club.

It was an amazing two weeks for the French and China teams and an enjoyable competition for all those participating in the 2017 Aquis International Pony Club Showjumping competition.



REPORT FROM CHINA PONY CLUB

The past year has witnessed the flourishing development of China Pony Club in which 16 clubs and 292 individual members join our system.

With an emphasis on coach training, in 2017, PCA sent 8 Australian coaches to China and held 15 prelim coach seminars for Chinese coaches, benefiting more than 230 coaches and staff. At the same time, CPC held prelim coach test for 8 times with PCA assessors' help. Happily, 54 of the Chinese coaches succeeded in passing the coach tests. Moreover, focusing on the promotion of teenagers' teaching, a national CPC coach seminar was hosted by CPC. Based on the coaching syllabus of PCA, we designed E&D level reference lesson plans according to Chinese riders' needs. Also open lessons/clinics were given to CPC coaches for free several times.

Members of CPC take advantage of the various activities held by CPC in the whole country. What's more, in 2017, CPC also organized PONY CLUB rallies for 8 times, which CPC members can attend for free. Thanks to the rider trainings given by PCA coaches, an increasing number of CPC members broadened their horizons in

equestrian sport and knew more about Pony Club. It's nice to see that more and more Chinese riders make progress and 132 brilliant youngsters got the rider efficiency certificates from PCA, of which 103 got E level certificate while 29 got D level certificate.

In addition to training activities, CPC also runs different kinds of competitions, for example, during the year, 8 Gymkhana Games competitions took place in several member clubs. The CPC Nationals of 2017 were held successfully in Wuxi city, including Show Jumping competitions at 60cm & 80cm level. CPC team participated in the China- France- Australia Show jumping Challenge at PCA Nationals. Owners of two Chinese pony clubs also went to PCA Nationals and watched the competitions.

In 2017, we organized two pony club camps to Australia for Chinese teenagers and meanwhile, invited 10 Australian brilliant teenagers to China for competition and communication which strengthens the relationship between CPC and PCA.



NATIONAL COACHING COMMITTEE

During 2017 the National Coaching Committee has been promoting, developing and advancing PCA Coaches, Riders and Officials as well as providing advice to the Board of PCA.

At the start of 2017, to aid succession planning and assist with continuity, Committee members with more than 6 years service stepped down. We thank Anne Cotton (TAS and outgoing Chair), Jenny Frankum (NSW) and Ann Olsen (SA). All three ladies had dedicated many, many years to Pony Club and we thank them for their significant contribution.

The NCC welcomed new members Sarah Venamore (NSW), Di Birmingham (SA) and Marisa Hall (TAS). Michael Carlton (QLD) was voted in as Chair and Denise Legge (WA) was appointed as Secretary. Kate Wilson (VIC) and Debbie Thiel (NT) remain on the Committee providing valuable continuity and experience. Profiles on all NCC members can be found under the Coaching tab of the PCA website.

The NCC had 2 face-to-face meetings in 2017. The first in May at Adelaide (PCA AGM) and the second in Perth, WA in November. At the November meeting the Committee visited Dr Portland Jones and Sophie Warren at their Swan Valley property and gained a valuable understanding of equitation science. Other meetings were conducted by teleconference.

Over the last 12 months the NCC has continued to support China Pony Club (now 16 clubs) with eight trips by

Australian coaches to coach and assess riders for Proficiency Certificates. Congratulations to Hui Jianke (Jack) from China Pony Club on achieving his NCAS Level 1 Coaching qualification in January 2018 at the Queensland State Seminar on the Gold Coast.

There have been steady but not spectacular numbers gaining their Preliminary and Level 1 NCAS qualifications. The NCC has streamlined the lesson plan content for the Preliminary qualification to encourage more coaches to get started on their NCAS journey. And to ensure coaches remain aware of the latest techniques, process and practises, coaches now need to attend an update course every 2 years rather than every 4 years.

The framework for NCAS Level 2 qualification is now complete and there would seem to be sufficient genuine interest by our coaches across the States in offering this qualification.

The NCC looks forward to Queensland hosting the 2018 Biennial Coaching Conference in August on the Gold Coast. The conference focus is to show case Pony Club and release the new Coaching Syllabus.

2017 State Coaches

TAS	QLD	SA	NT	NSW	WA	VIC	Total
118	1037	105	29	890	399	670	3248

INTERNATIONAL MOUNTED GAMES EXCHANGE

The International Mounted Games Exchange was held in Canada in June 2017. The team was Jared Newham NSW, Chase Naylor QLD, Emma Puckey VIC, Georgia Elias TAS and Lucy Blenkiron SA with coach Tim Ling and team manager Janet Hamblin.

There was an organised training camp in NSW for 3 days prior to departure. Thanks go to Londonderry PC and the Newham Family for helping to organise this part of our trip. This gave the coach time to evaluate each rider and determine the best type of horse for them. This would prove invaluable when we got to the final competition. Rain did happen things a bit but we managed to do lots of team bonding exercises between riding and had trips around Sydney and did some ten pin bowling.

After an uneventful 15 hour flight to Vancouver we were picked up by one of our wonderful hosts for a welcoming breakfast of waffles, fruit, cream and maple syrup. Our accommodation for the first 3 nights was at the University of British Columbia where we met up with the teams from UK, USA and Canada.

Our sightseeing included some shopping at Granville Market, a ferry trip across the bay and a 4D 'fly over Canada' which was AMAZING! We headed down to our dinner cruise

where we spent a wonderful 4 hours sailing the harbour and surrounding area before docking to watch the fireworks.

We were very spoilt with a trip to Thunderbird Park - one of the largest showjumping/hunter equitation/dressage complexes. We were treated like VIP's and given reserved seating next to the Grand Prix arena, a course walk of the Grand Prix course, lunch and gifts. The next day we visited Stanley Park, the aquarium and sea wall.

We were then billeted out to families in the area. Next day we tackled the Grouse Grind, a hiking track 2.8km long and 800m climb. All teams showed great team work and persistence. Once on top the mountain views were fantastic showing a bird's eye view of the Vancouver City and joining rivers.

The hike was then followed by dragon boat racing. We were put into 2 boats - Britain and Australia were against the United States and Canada. A few laps and splashes the teams raced which was super fun, especially as we were the victors! It was then back to host families for another night.

We travelled by ferry to the seaside city of Victoria and stayed at the amazing Queen Margaret's School. There were clinics organised by Queen Margaret's Equestrian Centre and staff. A visit to Cowchin Bay and Ocean Ecoventures finding



killer whales then some seals and bald eagles was certainly one of many highlights of our trip.

A PPG Fun Day at Cowichan Fairgrounds saw riders from each team demonstrating various games before the local riders had a mini competition. The next day was a friendly mixed team demo competition. The Maple Leaf Mixer comprised of riders from each country who were allocated to 4 teams with all countries being represented in each team which were coached by Tracey from GB, Matt from USA, Jazz from Canada and Josh the team manager from GB filled in for Tim Ling, as he was asked to assist in the commentating for the event.

While most of the ponies had limited games experience, all the riders took special care to nurse their mounts through the 12 race program. The Cowichan Pony Club members were most impressed with the skills that were put on display and special care was taken to look after the ponies as the conditions were quite hot. It was a very even competition with Chase Naylor being in the winning team.

After a trip up the mountain in a gondola we then commenced the ziplining through the mountains. It was spectacular! Late afternoon we hopped back in the Gondola and continued back up the mountain to transfer onto the peak to peak which displayed some of Canada's most beautiful features. A buffet dinner was had at the mountain top restaurant before we began our descent into Whistler village.

We took an old big blue bus to the end of the river for our white-water rafting. In our group we had the 7 Aussies, an American ring in (Ronald) and our hilarious guide Mirko. We had an amazing ride through the rapids, riding level 3 and 4. We had the opportunity to climb a small cliff and jump into the freezing water. Some of us also jumped out of the raft and floated down some of the smaller rapids.

As the competition was nearing, Tim asked the team to start increasing their activity levels so each morning they went for a run along the beach. We went to Academie Duello for some medieval swordplay, archery, mounted combat and Lancing. We even had the chance to do mounted archery at canter speed which proved to be quite difficult to do! With our travels nearly at an end we all spent a quiet last morning with our billets before travelling to Western Trinity University for the rest of our stay.

The day of competition was busy. We arrived and got to meet the ponies we would use for the first rotation. There were to be 4 rotations so each team got to ride different ponies each time they swapped. They had only about 2 mins to get the feel of the ponies before the next round of games started. Tim's experience at the training camp meant that he could quickly pair up horse and rider combinations. After a wonderful day of competition our fabulous Aussie team came 2nd only 2 points behind Great Britain followed by Canada and the US. It was an exciting finish to a wonderful trip.

Whilst we did many exciting and fun things, the competition was a focus for us all. It was a great day of sportsmanship, comradeship and horsemanship. The Australian team were amazing ambassadors for PCA, their states and their individual clubs. All rode brilliantly and adapted their riding to each different type of horse. All owners of horses were extremely impressed by the quality of our riders and the care that they took with their beloved ponies.

We thank Pony Club Australia for their ongoing support and for allowing us to have this wonderful experience. We hope to encourage other Pony Club members to reach for the stars. and apply for one of the International opportunities available each year.

Report by team manager Janet Hamblin.





INTERPACIFIC EXCHANGE 2017

The 2017 Inter-Pacific Exchange was hosted by United States Pony Clubs Inc. Australia was represented by Adeline Collins (Vic), Blake Jones (Qld), Milly Patton (WA), Serina Ridge (NSW) and supported by Sheila Oorshot (Coach-WA) and Tracy Hosier (Team Manager-Vic).

We flew from our respective ports and all met in Sydney where we were joined by Carly Heislars from Victoria who had been invited to represent Canada.

Decked out in our green and gold tracksuits we commenced the long journey to Greenville, South Carolina. We overnighed in Dallas and it was a welcome relief to have a nice shower and good night's sleep before commencing our last leg.

We received a lovely warm welcome from our hosts Janna Ritacco and Allyson Hartenburg and met the other teams from United States, New Zealand, Canada and Hong Kong at Furman University which would be our home for the next four nights. What a beautiful campus – wonderful open spaces, a lake, extensive sporting facilities and the accommodation wasn't too shabby either.

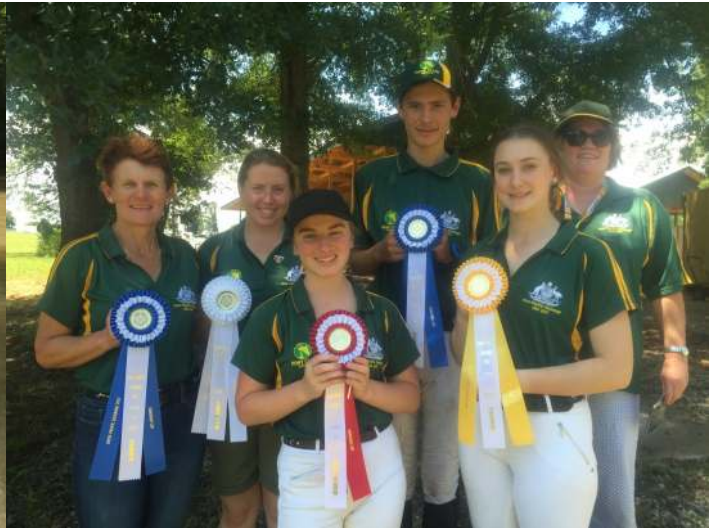
Day 1. An easy day to start to allow everyone time to blow away the jetlag cobwebs. Not only had our Kiwi friends had the journey across the Pacific, but some of the Hong Kong team had come from places such as Scotland, South Africa and Belgium. Our new best friend, Ron our bus driver for the duration drove us to lunch in Downtown Greenville followed by a trip to Paris Mountain State Park where we all had a bit of fun on paddleboats.

Day 2. An early departure for Riverbend Equestrian Centre to participate in the Bald Eagle Cup (Mounted Games). We were presented with a very wide selection of horses from a

mule through to a huge horse that looked very similar to a Suffolk Punch – but this all added to the fun of the competition and despite the pouring rain there was a lot of cheering and giggling going on. The coaches and team managers joined the riders for a trail ride through the nearby forest and despite getting soaked it was good fun. We visited the Tack Shop on the way home – always a dangerous thing – I noticed there were quite a few shopping bags as we boarded the bus. Our final activity for the day was back in Downtown Greenville to a baseball game between the Greenville Drive and Lexington Legends. Very much a family outing for the locals, but despite being very vocal it wasn't Greenville's day and they were smashed - well that's what us novices gathered anyway.

Day 3. Time to leave Furman and head to Gardiner-Webb University in Boiling Springs, North Carolina. Another huge beautiful campus with ducks and geese roaming the grounds. This area is more rural with mountains and forests and amazing motorways that link one small town to the next. We headed out to Windridge Farm a beautiful property owned by Alicia and David Henderson who are longtime supporters of USPC and run 3 or 4 Horse Trials events each year. We met the owners and horses and had some time to familiarize ourselves with our mounts for the Kangaroo Cup Scrambled Teams competition the next day (sort of like a Derby – a dressage test followed by a combined showjumping and x-country course). Once again the torrential rain and a lightning storm saw us ducking for cover.

Day 4. The day dawned fine but we could tell it was going to be another hot one. The teams received some final words of advice from their respective coaches and some



encouraging words from their owners before heading off to do their dressage tests. Everyone rode really acceptable tests and it was very close as the riders headed out to cross country. The riders did a sterling job on their unfamiliar horses and really enjoyed themselves but in the end it was the Alligators under the watchful eye of our very own Sheila who took out first place.

The next few days were all about having fun as well as some thrills. There was a trip to Carowinds Theme Park, Zip lining and Kayaking in the Green River Gorge, a typical Southern dinner, more shopping, 4th July fireworks before returning to equestrian pursuits.

The equine community around Tryon the venue for the 2018 World Equestrian Games is amazing. We visited a world class equine rehabilitation facility as well as an equine hospital with a walk in MRI. Libbie Johnson a very passionate and knowledgeable advocate for all things equestrian gave a very informative presentation. It was obvious that much can be achieved when all equine bodies and the local community work together to lobby local, state and national governments. Our final excursion was attending Saturday Night Lights at the Tryon Equestrian Centre. What an amazing venue – world class facilities are far as the eye can see. The USD\$130,000 showjumping class that night drew riders from US, Europe as well as our very own Scott Keach. How amazing to think that Sheila and Scott went on an IPE way back when – it was a wonderful reunion for them both.

Before we knew it was time to get down to the serious riding the Nations Cup at the Foothills Equestrian Centre (F.E.N.C.E). Another lovely facility and once again our thanks go to the wonderful owners who bought down some beautiful, well educated horses for us to chose from on the day before the competition. We had seen a few of them perform at Windridge so we had a bit of an idea of which horses would suit our riders. Sheila did a great job putting the riders through their paces in readiness for the 3 rounds of show

jumping competition the next day.

Nations Cup day and we were at it bright and early, braiding (plaiting), feeding, mucking out and tacking up. It was another hot day so the organisers were keen to get the competition underway earlier. It was evident after the first few clear rounds that this was going to be a very tight competition. But it went down to the wire and 4 seconds in the jump off for the Aussies to be beaten by the Kiwis. Despite our second placing Sheila and I couldn't have been prouder of our team. Throughout the exchange they were great ambassadors – appreciative of all the organisers, volunteers and horse owners, willing to take advantage of every opportunity presented, supportive of their fellow team mates and other members of the exchange. They were a great bunch of talented riders and Sheila and I certainly enjoyed sharing the experience with them.

Finally, it was time to don our finery and kick up our heels at the farewell dinner. It was great to see all the riders having fun singing and dancing – they had really had a wonderful time together as a group.

As with any exchange there are a lot of people to thank. PCA for giving these riders such a wonderful opportunity. The support the riders received from their clubs, zones and states, as well as families and friends. To our hosts USPC – we had an awesome time – thanks for all your hard work. To all the other participants from US, HK, NZ and Canada it was a pleasure to meet you all – didn't we have a great time! Can't wait for Hong Kong in 2019 – what an experience that will be!

In closing, I'd encourage all PC members throughout Australia to strive towards attaining their 'B' certificate and working hard at their riding and horsemastership skills. Pony Club can offer you so many opportunities to develop as a rider and a young person. Who knows where it could lead!

Report by team manager Tracy Hosier.

INTERNATIONAL QUIZ—CANADA

The 2017 Quiz team consisted of Sarah Hilet, Vic; Georgia Laird, Qld; Rachael Perkins, WA; Rebecca Thaller, Vic and team manager Kim Ward, Vic.

Quiz Preparation

As Team Manager/Coach for the Australian International Quiz Team, I started early to prepare the Team for competition by testing them on their knowledge and providing them with information to learn from. Being the only International Team not previously exposed to Quiz, I knew I would have to provide the Team with as much information as possible, so I called on resources from across the world to ensure I had the correct information to assist the girls with their study and sent it through to them on a weekly basis. I also purchased the Horse360 app and suggested the girls do the same.

The Journey

We departed from Brisbane, Australia for Vancouver, Canada and on arrival we took a shuttle bus to the Days Inn, Vancouver Airport Hotel where we met Canadian Pony Club Administrator, Val Crowe. We were the first international team to arrive. The UK team arrived a couple of hours later and then the US team and finally, the Canadian team. The first hour or so was taken up with lots of talking and laughing and the US Team wanting to listen to the girls' Aussie accents! If you didn't know any better, you would have thought the girls had all known each other for years!

Vancouver

On the first night, Val introduced us to some Quiz games which gave us Aussies a better understanding of what Quiz was about. Although we were a little puzzled when one of the questions went something like "What is a part of the horse which can also be a type of bird?" The answer to this question was the Hock. We later realised the bird she was referring to was a Hawk – pronounced "Hok" in Canada! This is when we realised there could be differences we would need to overcome!

The following day, we transferred to the YWCA Hotel and stayed there for 4 nights. Over the course of the week in Vancouver, we were treated to some wonderful sights and fantastic tourist destinations which included: Whistler (including riding the Peak to Peak), Vancouver Mounted Police Stables, the Aquarium, Paintball, Granville Island and a dinner cruise.

Kelowna

We travelled by plane to arrive in Kelowna where the Quiz would be held. After lunch we played a few games of 5 pin bowling splitting the teams with a member from each country in each team. The following day, we travelled to take in the sights of the Myra Canyon Forest for a Trail Ride (and get our horse fix!) and later experienced the Myra Canyon Adventure Park where the girls participated in ropes courses and team building exercises (which they all excelled in!) We ate pizza for lunch by campfire and some of the team toasted marshmallows!

The Quiz

The Canadian National Quiz was held in conjunction with the International Quiz and Canadian Pony Club members competing in the Nationals Quiz arrived on Friday afternoon. (150 of them!) I attended the Team Managers' meeting and I was approached by a couple of Canadian Team Managers who were surprised to hear Australia does not have Quiz. They were very helpful and offered to assist the Australian Team by inviting them to a study session with their teams that night (which was gratefully accepted!) After dinner our girls teamed up with the Canadian Nationals girls and they went through lots of information regarding the Quiz. A lot of information was also shared about everyone's different equestrian activities in Pony Club. We felt so welcomed and looked after by these pony clubbers!

Day 1

Phase 1 – The Written Test

Day one was filled with nerves and excitement. All International Teams were to meet for their individual written test. The test was done in an exam type of environment. It was pleasing to hear our girls coming out of the test saying "It wasn't as bad as I thought it would be!"

Phase 2 – The ID Tables

After lunch, we began the 2nd phase with the ID Tables. This phase was daunting. It was a test of 3 hours duration and it was done in silence. All Team Managers (including myself) helped at each table scoring. Each table had a set of papers (different in colour for International/National). The tables had a set of items (eg horse bits) on the table which were numbered. The papers had a list of answers but there were more answers than bits. The time allowed at each table was 10 minutes and this phase was done individually.

Day 2

Phase 3

This was the fun day of the Quiz and it made it less stressful as it was team based. All teams had to move from station to station in 10 minute intervals and play equestrian based games. I was placed on a station called "Headbands" which is the equivalent here in Australia to "Celebrity Head" where one member of the team has a card placed on their head showing an equestrian related word. One of the words was Christopher Burton (which I'm happy to say, the Australian Team was the only team who got this one right!!) Other station activities included Pictionary, Charades, A memory game, etc. This Phase was the most relaxed and fun out of all the phases.

The Presentation Night/Dinner

At night, it was the Presentation Night and we had a lovely meal and then the presentations took place. The Canadian Team came 1st, the US 2nd, the UK 3rd and the Australian Team, 4th. The Australian Team presented organiser, Val Crowe a stuffed Kangaroo and Koala as a gesture of thanks for all of her organisation and hard work which was very much appreciated. After the Presentations, the girls (both National and International) danced the night away.

Summary

The Australian Team represented our country in a positive and enthusiastic manner knowing they did not have the Quiz experience that the other International teams possessed.

They gave everything a go and participated happily in all activities in a true easy going "Aussie" style! They all agreed they had made some wonderful friends and learned a lot about the way the different countries conduct their equestrian activities.

During the course of the International Quiz, I had numerous discussions with other Team Managers and competitors about starting the Quiz in Australia. I have received lots of support and can say that every person I spoke with at the International Quiz is happy to help us with information to help get it started here in Australia.

I was amazed to discover that Canadian Pony Clubs do not ride from October through to April (due to weather conditions) but meet on a weekly basis to do theory. (I can see how the Quiz competition has developed!) And no wonder they are so good at it!

Experiencing the International Exchange has been a wonderful opportunity for me and for the Australian Pony Club members who went to Vancouver. From the experience I have gathered, I am currently spreading the word to as many members and Club Officials as possible to encourage them to get involved and realise the exciting opportunities Pony Club can offer.

Report by team manager Kim Ward.





NEW SOUTH WALES



2017 was another jam packed year for Pony Club NSW! Our Annual State Camp started the year off well with 70 young riders selected to enjoy a week of professional coaching by top level instructors at the excellent facilities of Sydney International Equestrian Centre.

In March 2017 we thanked Dianne Cullen our outgoing State President for eight years of service as State President and welcomed Wayne Pernice to the role.

NSW once again had a great year on the representative front, having two riders represent Australia overseas; Jared Newham of Londonderry at International Mounted Games in Canada and Serina Ridge of The Vines at the Inter Pacific in the USA. We also had Jessica Towns of Gravesend represent NSW in the inaugural Aquis International Showjumping Championship which was held in conjunction with Nationals at Toowoomba. This is a great honour for our riders and they all were terrific ambassadors for our Association.

There were a few changes to the 2017 State Championship calendar which saw 3 Championships in April for the Sporting, Campdraft & Team Penning Championships held

at Gravesend. All riders from NSW and QLD had a fabulous time and Gravesend put on a terrific weekend.

In July we went to Tamworth for the Showriding, Showjumping, Dressage and Equitation championships where we once again had riders competing from interstate. This was another great event and riders enjoyed the fantastic facilities at AELEC.

In October we had Bungendore provide an excellent venue for the Mounted Games and Team Sporting Championships over the October long weekend along with the One Day Event and Combined Training Championships held at Harden a week later.

Overall, our State Championships attracted a total of 1,157 entries from 633 riders. This year we have experienced an increase in riders competing in more than 1 discipline at State level which is a very positive result.

Pony Club NSW continued to support the Pony Club events at the prestigious Sydney Royal Show with 160 riders taking part in the Pony Club Showjumping, Sporting, Rider and Team classes.

In July we presented 51 of our valued members with special awards including Volunteer of the Year, Junior Service and Keith Lowe awards. With support from Horseland we were also able to announce a Club of the Year Award that was presented to Glenorie Horse & Pony Club.

On a national level our State Championship scorer Carole Hodges was recognised as the Pony Club Australia Volunteer of the Year, as well as Rebecca Cameron from Armidale Pony Club from who was awarded Best Achievement by a rider 17-25 years. Our State Mounted Games Coach, Anthony Newham was also named as a

Finalist for the second year in a row in the Pony Club Australia Coach of the Year Award.

NSW sent a team of 52 riders to compete in the Pony Club National Championships in Toowoomba, with great quality teams entered in all disciplines and most age groups. Our major results include Senior Eventing Champion for Rachael Temm, Junior Formal Gymkhana Champion for William Wood and Sub-Junior Showjumping Champion for Molly Smith.



NORTHERN TERRITORY



PONY CLUB NORTHERN TERRITORY

In the Northern Territory we have 5 clubs, 3 in Darwin, 1 in Katherine and 1 in Alice Springs. 2017 has seen good growth in membership in most of our clubs. All clubs worked hard to deliver syllabus-based rallies as well as making riding horses fun and safe.

We saw new events being trialled such as the Noonamah Horse and Pony Clubs-Trifecta which was a resounding success. Darwin Horse and Pony Club adjusted their annual Easter event to run Mounted Games Pairs as opposed to teams, taking pressure off clubs to select teams. Katherine Horse and Pony Club focussed on accrediting their coaches which resulted in Level 1 coaches travelling to Katherine to deliver clinics to riders and coaches. We strongly encourage clubs to actively seek out outside support in delivery of programs and accreditation.

As always there is difficulty with obtaining and retaining volunteers. Clubs and PCANT have worked hard in this area but need to be more innovative in what we do. Just getting a full club committee can be very challenging which results in a few people with heavy workloads.

PCANT Sub-Committees

PCANT was keen this year to form sub-committees to spread the workload. Some were more successful than others, but we certainly had a very busy, fun year. Feedback forms have been an important part of future planning.

RAC (Rider Advisory Committee)

Its role is to be the voice of our junior riding members; improve communication between PCANT and riding members; develop new events and improve old ones.

The RAC committee members were keen to instigate some more social activities. We had fantastic support from our local member, Kezia Purick and our local Saddleworld. Below are some activities that they were involved in.

- Fashion Parade and Quiz night
- Show Jumping Course design
- Gala Ball at Champs
- Youth Conference (Photo at right of Yoga session at Parliament House)

Mounted Games Sub-Committee:

This was a very busy sub-committee quite focussed on building Mounted Games profile with PCA Nationals in mind. It has run development training sessions and fun competitions.

Show Jumping Sub-Committee:

Activities included Course design training with RAC, Competitions and a New Jump grading trial.

Coaching:

We have continued with an active coaching program encouraging and promoting accreditation, aligned with National changes. Debbie Thiel has been instrumental on this continued program at a local, remote and national level and used key Pony Club people to promote our program. The following initiatives were run in 2017;

1. Coaching support in remote areas
2. Coaching clinics in Darwin
3. State Coaching school with Andrew McLean and Ann Cotton

Policy:

Some of our policies or lack of policy has let us down this year. The Board has been strategically developing important functional policy. An important part of our policy development has been to involve stakeholders. Currently draft policies are with members for feedback.

- Strategic Planning involving clubs
- Planning the future: development of Complaints Procedure and Team Selection Policies

Database:

Finally we are up and using the database. Clubs have been

amazing and are making it work for them. We really appreciate all the work club committees have put into administration. We have a way to go but we are on the right road. Our goal is to have all clubs on board in 2018

Website:

We have felt it very important to develop a user friendly website. We have had a few hiccups with this, but finally we are headed in the right direction and populating it with relevant information.





QUEENSLAND



In 2017, Pony Club Queensland had 212 affiliated clubs with a membership of over 8,000 riding, social, volunteers and coaching members. These clubs continued to conduct rallies, open days, official events and other competitions for their members to participate in and enjoy as well as promoting our sport to newcomers and the wider community.

Over 900 members competed in 9 disciplines at the 3 state championships events during the year with countless coaches, officials, volunteers and families giving up their valuable time to assist to ensure the success of each event. Our host clubs and zones were spread across the state from Tamborine on the Gold Coast Hinterland, to Roma in the South West and north to Maryborough in the Fraser Coast. Our members also competed at the New South Wales championships with some success.

Queensland was the host state for the 2017 Pony Club National Championships which was conducted in Toowoomba during September. Most states attended the

event and the healthy rivalry and sportsmanship shown by all competitors contributed to a successful event. The addition of the Formal Gymkhana and Quiz alongside the Dressage, Showjumping, Eventing, Mounted Games and Tetrathlon tested the skills and abilities of all competitors. The success of this event was due to the dedication, tireless efforts and support of the organising committee, volunteers, parents and riders and an excellent time was had by all.

PCQ continued to conduct administration training workshops as well as zone and regional coaching/ officiating workshops and clinics throughout the state including our major annual seminars, the largest being Southport. This seminar kicks off the Pony Club year in January and is well-attended and popular for those attendees looking to revise and upskill their knowledge in the areas of instructing, officiating, administration and rider coaching and is an excellent opportunity for friends and colleagues to catch up and trade information and experiences.



As more interest is shown in Tetrathlon, PCQ took the opportunity and acquired 6 sets of the targets, laser guns and computers to enable any affiliated club throughout the state to borrow this equipment to conduct their own Tetrathlon events. PCQ saw this as an excellent way for clubs to promote not only this event but also the variety of activities that pony club offer.

PCQ is fortunate to have the continued support from the Queensland Government as a major financial contributor under the State Development Program through the Department of National Parks, Sport and Recreation. Added to this, the ongoing support and contributions of Sandale Saddlery, Oz Shotz, Paul Smith Photography and Australian Show Ribbons was very much valued and appreciated. All stakeholders contribute to the ongoing success of Pony Club Queensland.

The My Pony Club online database is still providing some challenges for users and staff however it is anticipated that all matters will be resolved over time.

PCQ are hosting the 2018 National Coaching Conference at Southport in August and preparations have commenced for the conducting of this conference.

PCQ continues to provide a positive, safe and inclusive environment for the personal and sporting development of our riders, coaches, volunteers and other members throughout Queensland.





PONY CLUB
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

During 2017 Pony Club Association of South Australia have tested 11 riders for their C, 3 for K, 2 for K gold* and 3 for C* which are our first C* candidates.

We have tested 9 Preliminary coaches and have 14 training on Kangaroo Island which has involved having people travel to the Island to do training and mentoring and look to have assessments in May 2018.

We had a Quiz competition at our State Championships which saw 30 members taking part and about 20 spectators in what was a very successful night with everyone having a good time.

We had a successful Coach clinic with Di Keach in July with coaches from all over the state attending.

Horse archery has been taken up by some clubs and is proving to be quite successful. It is now on the list of achievement badges.

PCASA ran a couple of Level 1 clinics with candidates to be assessed in 2018.

Our zones ran rider development clinics as well as gear checking.

Some clubs run Quiz at their camps.

With the development of quiz in both a physical participation as well as a multiple choice answer sheets have been taken up by clubs and added another level of enjoyment to participants and spectators. With such positive feedback PCASA will further develop quiz into the future.

During this financial year many of our clubs have had new members take on roles previously held by other members. This has been challenging for all. The state body has

needed to provide ongoing support to assist these members to learn the fundamentals of their new roles. We would like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation and recognition of these members for their dedication in working through the steep learning curve in order to get up to speed with the voluntary but necessary role they have taken on. Without the work and dedication of all the various volunteers Pony Club would not and could not exist.

It is always important to appreciate the knowledge held by members and the importance of ongoing training of our future leaders at club level as this is the heart and soul of Pony Club. Sadly one of our clubs during the year suffered the loss of their long term secretary. Without notice another club member was required to step in to fill this role. As the State Body we stepped in to ensure that the new secretary had the support and mentoring to enable her to successfully carry out this important role.

At 3pm on Saturday 18th November 2017 Gillian Rolton who as an Adelaide girl developed her love of horses at a young age whilst being a member of pony club passed away after a courageous battle with cancer. She will be remembered as a true champion in the horse industry and patron to Pony Club Australia. A State funeral was held for her and the President of PCASA Greg Bailey in consultation with Gillian's husband as well as the State Government arrange for pony clubbers to form a guard of honour in tribute to Gillian at her funeral.

On a brighter note it is with pleasure to report that recently, Roma M'kinnon one of PCASA's Life Members celebrated her 90th birthday.



Putting together equipment blindfolded, and identifying bits — all part of the fun of QUIZ!



TASMANIA



In 2017, Pony Club Tasmania had a membership of approximately 1100 members made up of riding, non-riding, volunteers and coaches. The year saw all clubs providing instructional rallies on a regular basis. One Tom Johnston clinic for C test level riders was held in each of our three zones supporting over 50 riders throughout the State. Pony Club Tasmania has held well attended coaching workshops in each of the zones and coaching and assessing numbers are increasing. Four member of our committee attended the National meeting in Adelaide in May where valuable discussions and networking took place.

2017 saw the following efficiency Tests completed 52 E, 67 D, 55 D*, 26 C, 5 K, and 3 C* a total of 208 certificates completed.

A well attended workshop was conducted with Hunter Doughty at the PCT State Trials for Technical Delegates, Cross Country course builders and officials. Hunter is an internationally accredited Technical Delegate and Cross Country Course Designer and we value his expertise.

Our inaugural stakeholder forum was a resounding success and is set to become an annual event.

An excellent practical cross country course building clinic conducted by Hunter Doughty and Craig Gordon, international course building assistant saw in excess of thirty participants attend, with Craig now potentially being secured to assist with the building of a number of courses in the State.

Our Coaching Panel has been hard at work this year assisting and mentoring our trainee coaches and hosting clinics across the state and the number of coaches accredited this year has been maintained.

The new Handbook was launched at the beginning of 2017 and feedback on its structure has been excellent. Members report the document being very easy to read and understand with the search function making things so much easier to find.

After eighteen months of consultation and drafting, the new Pony Club Tasmania Constitution was adopted in September of this year. The Constitution allows for a mix of representation and skills base with a total of 10 members. The adoption of the new structure brings an end to 14 years of the State Council.

Each year championships are rotated around the state and in 2017, the State Horse Trials Championships was hosted by the Southern Zone. The event was held at the Tasmanian Equestrian Centre and saw over 120 riders compete. The event was extremely friendly and well run. The Dressage and Show Jumping Championships were hosted by the North West Zone at the Ulverstone Showground, a new venue for the North West, which proved to be exceptional in every way. Both the Dressage and Showjumping days enjoyed excellent numbers. The Games Championships were hosted by the Northern zone and were held at Edinburgh Park, the home of West Tamar Pony Club, this was a well run event.

Tasmania had a representative in the Australian Team for the International Mounted Games competition, held in Canada. Georgia Elias from the Tasmanian Pony and Riding Club was amongst the successful Australian Team who came second in the competition.

It is a great achievement to make these teams and we look forward to the team members passing on their experiences with our members.

Carol Hobson one of our State Coaches and assessors has visited China on a number of occasions coaching on behalf of Pony Club Australia

The backbone of Pony Club in Tasmania is our monthly rallies where members enjoy learning all aspects of riding, horsemanship and care of their horse in a safe, supportive and friendly environment. Through this education they become confident and competent horsemen and women.



VICTORIA



Pony Club Victoria (PCV) receives funding under the State Government's Supporting Victorian Sport & Recreation (SVSR) Program which is designed to enhance the Government investment into the Health and Wellbeing of more Victorians through Sport & Active Recreation.

Sport has been linked to the Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2015-2019 which aims to build a more sustainable sport & recreation sector as well as increasing equity, diversity and inclusiveness. Studies have identified that participation in sport has many benefits. It instils discipline, respect, health and wellbeing.

PCV has aligned its strategic pillars with the SVSR priority areas which have been assigned to a workplan which is reviewed with six monthly progress reports to ensure delivery on the Government investment.

Organisational Excellence

Review of the PCV Governance structure is a non-negotiable priority in the workplan. A Governance Sub Committee has been appointed, consultant engaged and Market Research conducted to ensure that all stakeholders are considered in the review. Wide scale consultation with

Clubs will be undertaken before a final model is developed to be put to a vote later in 2018.

Membership & Participation

The National Data Base rollout continues and this year membership renewal was conducted completely via the OSM system. All clubs are on board with active Club Profiles and all State Championships entries have been run through the online system which required riders to set up their member profiles. Planning & supporting the rollout has been a huge undertaking and achievement by the PCV office, Clubs and members.

Rider Development

The Ride 2 Time initiative with Racing Victoria Ltd continues to be well supported – 100 riders participated at 15 training days held across 9 Zones at metropolitan and regional racecourses. The finals take place at a Group 1 Race meeting at a Moonee Valley where riders and their families experience race day with many going on to take up a career in the racing industry.

PCV and Modern Pentathlon Victoria (MPV) have partnered to develop the sport of Tetrathlon and create pathways to national and international opportunities via Tetrathlon and



Modern Pentathlon, an Olympic Sport. Joint training opportunities are offered as well as competitions for both disciplines in events run by MPV and PCV. In 2015 there were 51 participants in the initiative which rose to 257 in 2017.

Three PCV Members were selected in MPV Teams for the Youth World Championships in Prague and the Asian/Oceania Youth & Senior Championships Tokyo with the goal being to qualify for the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo

In October PCV & MPV were invited to present their partnership case study at the Annual SRV Forum attended by all funded sports which provided recognition and exposure for both sports.

The Pony Club Victoria Equestrian Centre continues to be developed to cater for all disciplines. Cross Country courses have been constructed for all Grades 1 through to 6 with all State Championship Events being held at the venue in 2017.

Clubs hold camps and other equestrian groups and individuals hire the centre for training and competition.

International Representation

Eight PCV Members will have the opportunity of International Representation in 2018 along with a Victorian Coach and Manager

Workforce Development

The State Coaching Panel supports the PCA Coach Education program with training and assessment opportunities. 210 Coaches and Officials attended State Training Days and 665 Riders undertook Efficiency Certificate Assessment.

Pony Club Victoria acknowledges the support of the Victorian Government Vicsport and Horseland

WESTERN AUSTRALIA



PONY CLUB
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

2017 for Pony Club Western Australia Inc. has been a year of settling into operating under the new constitution and making sure we operate under strong governance across our state for all clubs.

Pony Club Western Australia Inc. has in excess of 65% of its members in Regional WA and to allow us to reach all our members we have continued to build from within, allowing State Office to support members through strong Social Media platforms (Facebook followers grew by 6% and Instagram grew by 79%) and our informative weekly Newsletter has kept everyone well informed with great articles, what's happening and events. The State Office has continued to work closely with its committees to run great State Championships throughout the year. We saw in excess of 800 riders compete across our 5 State Championship Events throughout the year which were extremely well run by all our dedicated volunteers.

During 2017 we worked hard to roll out programs that were funded by our loyal external Corporate Partners.

Healthway supported the Pony Club Western Australia Inc to increase awareness of Go for 2&5 message and encourage behaviour change leading to good health. Again in 2017 Healthway supported the Healthy Canteen program for clubs to be involved in delivering great menus for its members. Healthway were once again a strong supporter of all our 5 State Championship events.

Speed to Safety program was run again this year with 3 training days and a final aimed at empowering a generation of riders to understand the importance of control and safety when riding at speed, whilst introducing them to broader opportunities within the

equine and racing industries. It was also an opportunity to merge the knowledgeable and experienced individuals of the racing industry with the enthusiasm and determination of our youth.

Riders firstly had a go on the mechanical horse to get the feel of riding with shortened stirrups and bridged reins, then moved onto gearing up their own horses and heading out on the track. After being introduced to the clicker timing system, worn on their helmets, riders tested their ability to ride to time according to their skill level and confidence. A Leaderboards style competition was included in 2017 which was a great way to build participation including an end of year championship event that was run on a local country racetrack. We are looking for more riders to participate in 2018.

Pony Club Western Australia Inc. also worked with external providers to run over 2 weekends Laser Pistol Training and First Aid Courses for our members, we were pleased with the participation at both of these courses which added valuable training to everyone concerned.

We were thrilled with our National Representatives in 2017 being:

Milly Patton – PCA Team Member (2017 Interpacific Exchange)

Sheila Oorschot – PCA Team Coach (2017 Interpacific Exchange)

Rachel Perkins – PCA Team Member (2017 International Quiz)

We were also pleased to see Kaitlin Goss be awarded her PCA B Certificate, and we look forward to many other riders working to achieve their certificates.

Pony Club Western Australia Inc. understands that to continue to build our profile and seek new members we must continue to be innovative in our approach as a great sport for young people to get involved in, this is why we will continue to build upon our Social Media platforms heavily throughout 2018 and also look at promoting brand opportunities as they arise.

We would like to thank all our members and hard-working volunteers, who contribute their time throughout the year,

working in State Committees and Club Committees, in organising rallies and competitions, coaching riders, checking gear, building courses, judging events and the list goes on. To our State Team that work hard at delivering a great Pony Club experience and our Sponsors and Corporate Partners that allow us to fund and run many programs throughout 2017.







Pony Club Australia Ltd

A.C.N.: 090 080 265

**Annual Financial Report
For the year ended 31 December 2017**

Contents

Directors' Report.....	2
Auditor's Independence Declaration	5
Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income.....	6
Statement of Financial Position	7
Statement of Changes in Equity	8
Statement of Cash Flows	9
Notes to the Financial Statements.....	10
Directors' Declaration	20

Directors' Report

The Directors of Pony Club Australia Limited ("PCA") present their report together with the combined financial statements of the company for the year ended 31 December 2017 and the Independent Audit Report thereon.

Director Details

The following persons were Directors of PCA during or since the end of the financial year.

Mrs Carol Paterson

Appointed:
Qualifications:

Special Responsibilities

Director/Chairperson

July 2016
PCA NCAS Instructor level 1, NCAS Assessor, EA Elementary
Dressage Judge, Team Manager Inter Pacific Teams, Chairman
National Pony Club Championships
Chairperson

Ms Shannon Durrant

Appointed:
Qualifications:
Special Responsibilities

Director/Secretary

July 2016
Masters of Applied Finance (Financial Planning), MBA
Secretary, Audit and Risk Committee; Marketing Committee (Chair)

Mrs Melanie Woodward

Appointed:
Qualifications:
Special Responsibilities

Director/Treasurer

July 2016
Bachelor of Business (Accounting); FCPA; FGIA; GAICD
Treasurer, Audit and Risk Committee

Mrs Michelle Harper

Appointed:
Qualifications:

Special Responsibilities

Director

July 2016
Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Laws, Admitted to practice as a
Barrister and Solicitor of the Supreme Court of Victoria and the High
Court of Australia, Certificate of General Nursing (The Royal
Melbourne Hospital)
Governance and Dispute Resolution

Dr Andrew McLean

Appointed:
Qualifications:
Special Responsibilities

Director

July 2016
B.Sc., PhD., Dip Ed., NCAS II. 'B' & 'K' cert PC
Training and welfare

Mrs Sonia Murphy

Appointed:
Qualifications:

Director

May 2017
PCA NCAS Instructor Level 1, PCV Dressage Judge, PCV Certificate
Examiner

Mrs Judy Pitt

Appointed:
Qualifications:

Director

July 2016
Diploma of Management

Dr Juliet Skinner	Director
Appointed:	Nov 2017
Qualifications:	MB.BS.; DRCOG.
Special Responsibilities:	Medical and Northern Issues

Ms Sharon Le Mesurier	Director
Appointed:	July 2016
Resigned:	May 2017
Qualifications:	Sports trainer level 1(Sports Medicine Aust.), MPIO, Level 1 TAE40110, HLTF 301B, Show Horse Council of Aust. (SHC) state judge, EA show horse judge/state level, EA show jumping judge Level 1, EA jumping course designer entry level, PCA level 1 coach, PCANT Certificate Examiner, jump grader and dressage grader.

Mrs Jacinta Without	Director
Appointed:	July 2016
Resigned:	May 2017
Qualifications:	Bachelor of Commerce (Marketing & Accounting Majors), Post-graduate Diploma (Marketing Major), Master of Business Studies (Marketing Major), PCAWA Eventing Steward,
Special Responsibilities	Marketing and Sponsorship Committee; Organising Committee for 2017 Nationals

Principal Activities

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

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

Short-term objectives

PCA's short-term objectives are to:

- Enhance the visibility of the Pony Club brand and improve communication and information to internal and external stakeholders;
- Increase participation by existing and new members in horse riding activities conducted by the organisation at all levels;
- Improve the quality and accessibility of the programs conducted by Pony Club.
- Grow external revenue from a range of sources; and
- Develop and apply best practice governance throughout the organisation.

Long-term objectives

PCA's long-term objectives are to:

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

Directors' meetings

During the financial year, 9 meetings of directors and 2 audit and risk committee meeting were held. Attendances by each director were as follows:

Director	Board Meetings		Audit and Risk Committee Meetings	
	Held (a)	Attended	Held (a)	Attended
C Paterson	9	9	-	-
S Durrant	9	8	2	2
M Woodward	9	8	2	2
M Harper	9	9	-	-
A McLean	9	6	-	-
S Le Mesurier	3	0	-	-
S Murphy	5	5	-	-
J Pitt	9	8	-	-
J Seedhouse	1	1	-	-
J Withoud	3	2	-	-

(a) number of meetings held whilst a member

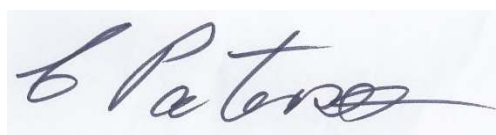
Contribution in winding up

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 state is required to contribute a maximum of \$20 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the company. At 31 December 2017, the total amount that members of the company are liable to contribute if the Company wound up is \$140.

Auditor's Independence Declaration

The auditor's independence declaration for the year ended 31 December 2017 has been received and can be found on page 5.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.



Mrs Carol Paterson
Chairperson



Mrs Melanie Woodward
Director/Treasurer

Dated this 8th day of March 2018



PITCHER PARTNERS

ACCOUNTANTS • AUDITORS • ADVISORS

Level 38
345 Queen Street
Brisbane
Queensland 4000

Postal Address:
GPO Box 1144
Brisbane
Queensland 4001

Tel: 07 3222 8444
Fax: 07 3221 7779

www.pitcher.com.au
info@pitcherpartners.com.au

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NORMAN THURECHT
BRETT HEADRICK
WARWICK FACE
NIGEL BATTERS
COLE WILKINSON
SIMON CHUN
JEREMY JONES

Auditor's Independence Declaration

As lead auditor for the audit of Pony Club Australia Ltd for the year ended 31 December 2017, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants*.

PITCHER PARTNERS

NIGEL BATTERS
Partner

Brisbane, Queensland
8 March 2018

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

For the year ended 31 December 2017

		2017	2016
	Note	\$	\$
Revenue and other income	4	332,836	346,669
Cost of goods sold		-	-
Gross profit		332,836	346,669
Employee benefits expense		(142,514)	(120,080)
Amortisation expense		(5,153)	(4,993)
Insurance premiums and related expenses		(4,197)	(5,015)
Office and IT cost		(52,878)	(54,331)
Professional fees		(6,500)	(6,764)
Event and promotion expenses		(90,764)	(78,513)
Travel, board and committee expenses		(19,111)	(47,934)
Other expenses		(7,275)	(16,883)
Profit before income tax		4,444	12,156
Income tax expense	1(d)	-	-
Profit for the year		4,444	12,156
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the company		4,444	12,156

This statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

Statement of Financial Position

As at 31 December 2017

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	255,547	230,562
Trade and other receivables	7	45	85,578
Inventories	8	-	-
Other assets	11	101,466	60,976
Total Current Assets		357,058	377,116
Non-Current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	9	-	-
Intangible assets	10	23,269	24,552
Total Non-Current Assets		23,269	24,552
TOTAL ASSETS		380,327	401,668
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	12	7,174	21,102
Other liabilities	13	28,208	45,000
Provisions	14	12,852	7,917
Total Current Liabilities		48,234	74,019
TOTAL LIABILITIES		48,234	74,019
NET ASSETS		332,093	327,649
EQUITY			
Retained earnings		327,649	315,493
Net income		4,444	12,157
TOTAL EQUITY		332,093	327,649

This statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the year ended 31 December 2017

	Retained Earnings	Total Equity
	\$	\$
Balance as at 31 December 2015	315,493	315,493
Comprehensive income		
Profit for the year attributable to members of the company	12,156	12,156
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the company for the year	<u>12,156</u>	<u>12,126</u>
Balance as at 31 December 2016	<u>327,649</u>	<u>327,649</u>
Comprehensive income		
Profit for the year attributable to members of the company	4,444	4,444
Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the company for the year	<u>4,444</u>	<u>4,444</u>
Balance as at 31 December 2017	<u>332,093</u>	<u>332,093</u>

This statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 December 2017

	Note	2017	2016
		\$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Government grants received		195,800	-
Receipts from members and clubs		184,358	180,451
Payments to suppliers and employees		(355,085)	(323,362)
Interest received		3,782	5,109
Net cash (used in) / generated from operating activities	15	28,855	(137,802)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for intangible assets		(3,870)	(4,966)
Net cash (used in) investing activities		(3,870)	(4,966)
Net (decrease) / increase in cash held		24,985	(142,768)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year		230,562	373,330
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	6	255,547	230,562

This statement should be read in conjunction with the notes to the financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2017

1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The combined general purpose financial statements of the Company have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*, Australian Accounting Standards Reduced Disclosure Requirements and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board. A statement of compliance with the International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) cannot be made due to the Company applying not-for-profit specific requirements contained in the Australian Accounting Standards.

PCA is a Public Company limited by guarantee incorporated and domiciled in Australia. The address of its registered office and its principal place of business is 4/24 Parnell Street, Elsternwick Victoria 3185.

The financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2017 were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 8 March 2018.

(a) Basis of preparation

Historical cost convention

The financial report has been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by revaluations to fair value for certain classes of assets as described in the accounting policies

(b) Revenue

Revenue from sale of goods is recognised when the significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods have passed to the buyer and the costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the transaction can be measured reliably. Risks and rewards of ownership are considered passed to the buyer at the time of delivery of the goods to the customer.

Levies and related contributions revenue is recognised in the period in which the service is provided.

Sponsorship revenue is recognised as and when received.

Revenue from organising and hosting events is recognised in the period in which the events are held.

Interest revenue is recognised when it becomes receivable on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

(c) Contributions, Government Grants and Donations

A non-reciprocal contribution or grant is recognised when the entity obtains control of the contribution or grant and it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the company, and the amount of the contribution or grant can be measured reliably.

If conditions attached to the contribution or grant that must be satisfied before the company is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of contribution or grant as income is deferred until those conditions are met.

A non-reciprocal donation is recognised when the right to receive a donation has been established.

When the entity receives grants but is obliged to give directly approximately equal value to the contributor, recognition of grant income will be deferred until the delivery of service.

(d) Income tax

No provision of income tax has been raised as the company is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

(e) Inventories

Inventories held for sale are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

(f) Financial instruments

Classification

The company classifies its financial assets into the following categories: financial assets at fair value through profit and loss, loans and receivables, held to maturity investments, and available for sale financial assets. The classification depends on the purpose for which the instruments were acquired. Management determines the classification of its financial instruments at initial recognition. The organisation does not hold derivative financial instruments.

Financial instruments

Financial instruments consist of investments in equity and debt securities, trade and other receivables, cash and cash equivalents, loans and borrowings, and trade and other payables.

Financial instruments are initially recognised at fair value, plus directly attributable transaction costs (if any), except for instruments recorded at fair value through profit and loss. After initial recognition, financial instruments are measured as described below.

Available-for-sale

Available for sale assets include any financial assets not included in the above categories and are measured at fair value. Unrealised gains and losses arising from changes in fair value are taken directly to equity. The cumulative gain or loss is held in equity until the financial asset is de recognised, at which time the cumulative gain or loss held in equity is recognised as a profit or loss.

Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities include trade payables, other creditors and loans from third parties.

Non-derivative financial liabilities are recognised at amortised cost, comprising original debt less principal payments and amortisation.

Financial liabilities are classified as current liabilities unless the company has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting period.

(g) Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

The depreciable amount of all property, plant and equipment is depreciated over the useful lives of the assets to the company commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

(h) Impairment of assets

Assets with an indefinite useful life are not amortised but are tested annually for impairment in accordance with AASB 136. Assets subject to annual depreciation or amortisation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or circumstances arise that indicate that the carrying amount of the asset may be impaired.

An impairment loss is recognised where the carrying amount of the asset exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount of an asset is defined as the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows which will be received from the assets employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have been discounted to present values in determining recoverable amounts.

(i) Employment benefits

Short-term employee benefit obligations

Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and any other employee benefits expected to be settled within twelve months of the reporting date are measured at their nominal amounts based on remuneration rates which are expected to be paid when the liability is settled. The expected cost of short term employee benefits in the form of compensated absences such as annual leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. All other short term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables.

Long-term employee benefit obligations

Liabilities arising in respect of long service leave and annual leave which is not expected to be settled within twelve months of the reporting date are measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflow to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date.

Employee benefit obligations are presented as current liabilities in the balance sheet if the entity does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, regardless of when the actual settlement is expected to occur.

Contributions made by the company to Superannuation funds are charged as expenses when incurred.

(j) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Tax Office. In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

(k) Comparatives

Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified and repositioned for consistency with current year disclosures.

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

Certain accounting estimates include assumptions concerning the future, which, by definition, will seldom represent actual results. Estimates and assumptions based on future events have a significant inherent risk, and where future events are not as anticipated there could be a material impact on the carrying amount of the assets and liabilities discussed below.

(a) Annual leave

Net present value calculations are used to estimate the annual leave provision.

3. ACCOUNTING STANDARDS AND INTERPRETATIONS ISSUED BUT NOT OPERATIVE AT DECEMBER 2017

There is not expected to be any significant impact on the Company's financial report as the initial application of Australian Accounting Standards issued at reporting date but not yet effective.

4. REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Revenue from grant funding	105,500	100,000
Sales income	32,045	9,206
Affiliation fees	6,809	8,485
Capitation fees	100,197	108,000
National database contribution by member states	10,000	49,680
International team member contributions	74,241	56,464
Interest received	3,782	5,109
Other income	262	9,725
Total Revenue and other income	<u>332,836</u>	<u>346,669</u>

5. PROFIT FOR THE YEAR

a. Expenses

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Employee benefits expense:		
- wages and salaries	(124,566)	(101,539)
- contributions to defined contribution superannuation funds	(11,834)	(9,646)
- employee entitlements	(4,934)	(7,917)
- worker's compensation	(1,180)	(978)
Total employee benefits expense	<u>142,514</u>	<u>(120,080)</u>
Auditor's remuneration:		
- auditing or reviewing the financial statements	(818)	(5,000)
- accounting services provided	-	(1,500)
Total auditor's remuneration	<u>(818)</u>	<u>(6,500)</u>

6. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Cash at bank	255,547	230,562
Total cash and cash equivalents as stated in the statement of financial position	255,547	230,562
Total cash and cash equivalents as stated in the statement of cash flows	255,547	230,562

7. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Current		
Trade receivables	-	82,500
		82,500
<i>Other receivables</i>		
Sundry debtors	45	3,078
Total current trade and other receivables	45	85,578

All amounts held are short-term. The net carrying value of trade receivables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value.

All of the company's trade and other receivables have been reviewed for indicators of impairment.

8. INVENTORIES

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Current		
At cost:		
Inventory	-	-
	-	-

9. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Equipment – at cost	16,540	16,540
Less accumulated depreciation	(16,540)	(16,540)
	-	-

10. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Database – at cost	24,986	24,986
Accumulated amortisation	(8,675)	(4,511)
Net carrying amount	<u>16,311</u>	<u>20,475</u>
Registered trade-marks – at cost	6,198	6,198
Accumulated amortisation	(2,603)	(2,121)
Net carrying amount	<u>3,595</u>	<u>4,077</u>
Website – at cost	3,870	-
Accumulated amortisation	(507)	-
Net carrying amount	<u>3,363</u>	<u>-</u>
Total intangible assets	<u>23,269</u>	<u>24,552</u>

	Database	Registered Trade Marks	Website	Total
	\$	\$		\$
2017				
Balance at the beginning of the year	20,475	4,077	-	24,552
Additions	-	-	3,870	3,870
Amortisation charge	(4,164)	(482)	(507)	(5,153)
	<u>16,311</u>	<u>3,595</u>	<u>3,363</u>	<u>23,269</u>

11. OTHER ASSETS

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Current		
Prepayments	10,455	7,618
Accrued income	91,011	53,358
	<u>101,466</u>	<u>60,976</u>

12. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
Current			
Trade payables		-	709
Other creditors and accruals		-	4,500
Other payables		7,174	15,893
	12	7,174	21,102

a. Financial liabilities at amortised cost classified as trade and other payables

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
Trade and other payables:			
- total current		7,174	21,102
- total non-current		-	-
		7,174	21,102
Less: other payables (net GST payable)		411	(5,172)
Financial liabilities as trade and other payables	18	7,585	15,930

13. OTHER LIABILITIES

	2017 \$	2016 \$
Current		
Database contributions	-	-
Grant monies received in advance	28,208	25,000
Horse insurance levies	-	-
National competition monies held in trust	-	20,000
Team member advances	-	-
	28,208	45,000

14. PROVISIONS

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Current		
Provision for employee benefits: annual leave	12,852	7,917
	<u>12,852</u>	<u>7,917</u>
	Employee Benefits	Total
	\$	\$
Analysis of total provisions		
Opening balance at 1 January 2017	7,917	7,917
Additional provisions raised during year	8,627	8,627
Amounts used	(3,692)	(3,692)
Balance at 31 December 2017	<u>12,852</u>	<u>12,852</u>

Provision for employee benefits

Provision for employee benefits represents amounts accrued for annual leave.

The current portion for this provision includes the total amount accrued for annual leave entitlements that have vested due to employees having completed the required period of service.

The company does not expect the full amount of annual leave balances classified as current liabilities to be settled within the next 12 months. However, these amounts must be classified as current liabilities since the company does not have an unconditional right to defer the settlement of these amounts in the event employees wish to use their leave entitlement.

No provision has been raised in respect of long service leave accrued to 31 December 2017.

15. CASH FLOW INFORMATION

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
Reconciliation of cash flows from operations with profit for the year		
Profit for the year	4,444	12,156
<i>Non-cash flows in profit:</i>		
- amortisation	5,153	4,993
<i>Changes in assets and liabilities:</i>		
- (increase) / decrease in trade and other receivables	85,532	(82,751)
- (increase) / decrease in other assets	(40,474)	(57,375)
- (increase) / decrease in inventories	-	9,906
- (decrease) / increase in trade and other payables	(5,223)	6,097
- (decrease) / increase in provisions	1,435	7,917
- (decrease) / increase in other liabilities	(22,011)	(38,745)
Cash flows from operating activities	<u>28,855</u>	<u>(137,802)</u>

16. KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL COMPENSATION

Any person(s) having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the company, directly or indirectly, including any director (whether executive or otherwise) of that company is considered key management personnel (KMP).

The totals of remuneration paid to KMP of the company during the financial year are as follows:

	2017	2016
	\$	\$
KMP compensation	136,400	111,184

17. MEMBER'S GUARANTEE

The Company is limited by guarantee. If the company is wound up, the Constitution states that each member state is required to contribute a maximum of \$20 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the company. At 31 December 2017, the number of members was 7 (2016: 7).

18. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

	Note	2017 \$	2016 \$
Financial assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	255,547	230,562
Loans and receivables	7	46	85,578
Total financial assets		255,593	316,140
Financial liabilities			
<i>Financial liabilities amortised at cost:</i>			
- trade and other payables	12a.	7,585	15,930
Total financial liabilities		7,585	15,930

The board of directors have overall responsibility for identifying and managing operational and financial risks. These risks are managed by the Audit and Risk Committee.

Of the financial risks, the company is exposed to, including government funding, interest rate, credit and liquidity risks, arising from the above investments in financial instruments. The board has determined the key risk to PCA as at 31 December 2017 is government funding risk.

Given PCA is dependent on federal government funding to operate many of its services, the risk of loss of these funding streams is considered to be material to the company. During the period since incorporation, government funding contributed 29% of the company's revenues.

This risk is managed through a range of complementary strategies, though cannot be totally mitigated by PCA.

19. ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY

As noted above, PCA is dependent on grants received from the Australian Sports Commission ("ASC") for the majority of its revenue used to fund its operations, at 32% of PCA's revenues for the financial year (2016: 29%). At the date of this report the Directors have no reason to believe the ASC will not continue to support the company.

20. INKIND SPONSORSHIPS

During FY17 Pony Club Australia entered into an inkind 3 year sponsorship agreement with Mitsubishi Motors Australia Ltd. Mitsubishi has provided Pony Club Australia with the use of a leased Mitsubishi vehicle for the duration of the agreement. This lease has not been accounted for within these financial statements.

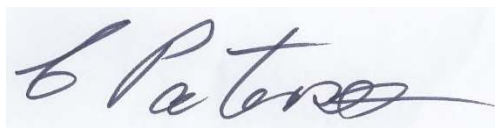
21. EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE

No other 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 year.

Directors' Declaration

In accordance with a resolution of the directors of Pony Club Australia Ltd, the directors of the company declare that:

1. The combined financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 6 to 19, are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, and:
 - a. comply with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements;
 - b. give a true and fair view of the combined financial position of the company as at 31 December 2017 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date.
2. In the directors' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.



Mrs Carol Paterson
Chairperson



Mrs Melanie Woodward
Director/Treasurer

Dated this 8th day of March 2018



PITCHER PARTNERS

ACCOUNTANTS • AUDITORS • ADVISORS

Level 38
345 Queen Street
Brisbane
Queensland 4000

Postal Address:
GPO Box 1144
Brisbane
Queensland 4001

Tel: 07 3222 8444
Fax: 07 3221 7779

www.pitcher.com.au
info@pitcherpartners.com.au

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COLE WILKINSON
SIMON CHUN
JEREMY JONES

Independent Auditor's Report to the Directors of Pony Club Australia Ltd

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Pony Club Australia Ltd "the Company", which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2017, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Company is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 31 December 2017 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements 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 auditor independence requirements of 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. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Corporations Act 2001*, which has been given to the directors of the Company, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

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

Other Information

Those charged with governance are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Company's financial report for the year ended 31 December 2017, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is 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 management either intends to liquidate the Company's or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Company's financial reporting process.

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 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 the 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 management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, 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 related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. 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 those charged with governance 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.

Other Matter

The financial report of Pony Club Australia Ltd for the year-ended 31 December 2016 was audited by another auditor, The Field Group - Audit, who expressed an unmodified opinion on the financial report on 24 March 2017.

Pitcher Partners

PITCHER PARTNERS



Nigel Batters
Partner

Brisbane, Queensland
8 March 2018



Photo Courtesy of Manilla Pony Club



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