

Why Not Try...?



The Discipline of the Month

Horseball

Five reasons to try Horseball

1.

This is a team sport for everyone

2.

Highly competitive or play for fun

3.

Horseball improves confidence
and horsemanship skills

4.

Horseball engages riders at all levels
and ages

5.

Horseball is a recognised sport
internationally.



Horseball

- what is it?

Horseball was introduced to Australia in 2009 following the sport's popularity throughout Europe.

The action packed sport involves two teams of four players vying for possession of a leather-bound ball.

The attacking team must make a minimum of three passes between their team members before shooting the ball through a hoop-shaped vertical goal.

The defensive team can protect their goal by pushing opponents out of the playing area using their horse's weight or they have the possibility to get alongside the players and pull the ball from their hands.

Horseball is a great team sport requiring a high degree of horsemanship and dexterity, played over two 10 minute halves.

It's often referred to as a cross between basketball and rugby or even quidditch - just on horseback!



Information from www.australianhorseball.com.au

Email - horseballaustralia@gmail.com



History of the Sport

The sport's predecessor, pato, originated in Argentina in the early 1700s. It was outlawed in 1790 due to high mortality among players. In 1941 the Federacion Argentina de Pato was created.

In 1953 was declared as Argentina's national game. The name of the game "pato" derives from the use of a live duck instead of the six-handled ball which is used in the modern sport. The game as it is known today, including the use of a ball instead of an animal, was defined in the 1930s. It gained success and has spread across Europe and overseas.



About the game

Players

A team is made up of six horses and six players. Only 4 players from each team are allowed on the pitch at any one time. A team can play with only three players but no less than that number. Substitutes must remain within the security zone until a substitution is made or in the zone designated by the official appointed for the indoor pitch.

Substitutes

Substitutions may only be made when:

- there is a break in play (such as when a goal has been scored or when the ball has gone out of play);
- during a time-out called by a team, or the referee.

There is no limit to the number of substitutions that may be made

Duration of the match

A match consists of two halves, each of 10 minutes duration or less if stated by the Competition Rules, separated by a half-time period of 3 minutes. An official timekeeper controls the game-clock

Passing the ball

A pass is the interval between the ball leaving the hands of one player and being touched by a second player of the same team. Handing the ball to another player does not constitute a pass. There must be three passes between three different players of the same team before a goal can be allowed. If the ball is dropped or it is intercepted the three-pass count starts again. Touching or deflection of the ball by the opposing team is not loss of possession.

The ball can be passed either with one or two hands.

Picking up the ball

The ball must be picked up without dismounting. The ball may be picked up with the horse moving at any gait. The ball may not be picked up while the horse is stationary



Referees

To control each match there are the following refereeing systems:

Refereeing on horseback

Two referees, one on the pitch (on horseback) and one on the sideline (seated) control each match.

Refereeing on foot

Three referees control each match: Central, Zone A, Zone B



The Goals

There are two goals, one at the centre of each end of the pitch. The goals are circular with an internal diameter of 1m and made from a material with a thickness of 6 cm. They are mounted vertically 2.5 m from the vertical support with the base of the goal 3.5 m from the ground.

The goals should be painted white, with a white net (4 cm mesh). They may either be suspended or mounted on a frame. The frame must not infringe the playing area.

Gear

For competition and serious training.

You cannot use:

- Bits with shanks eg FM;
- Stock saddles, or western saddles with horns (due to rider leaning over side of horse)
- Winkers

You can use:

- Bitless bridles
- Knee protectors, back protector

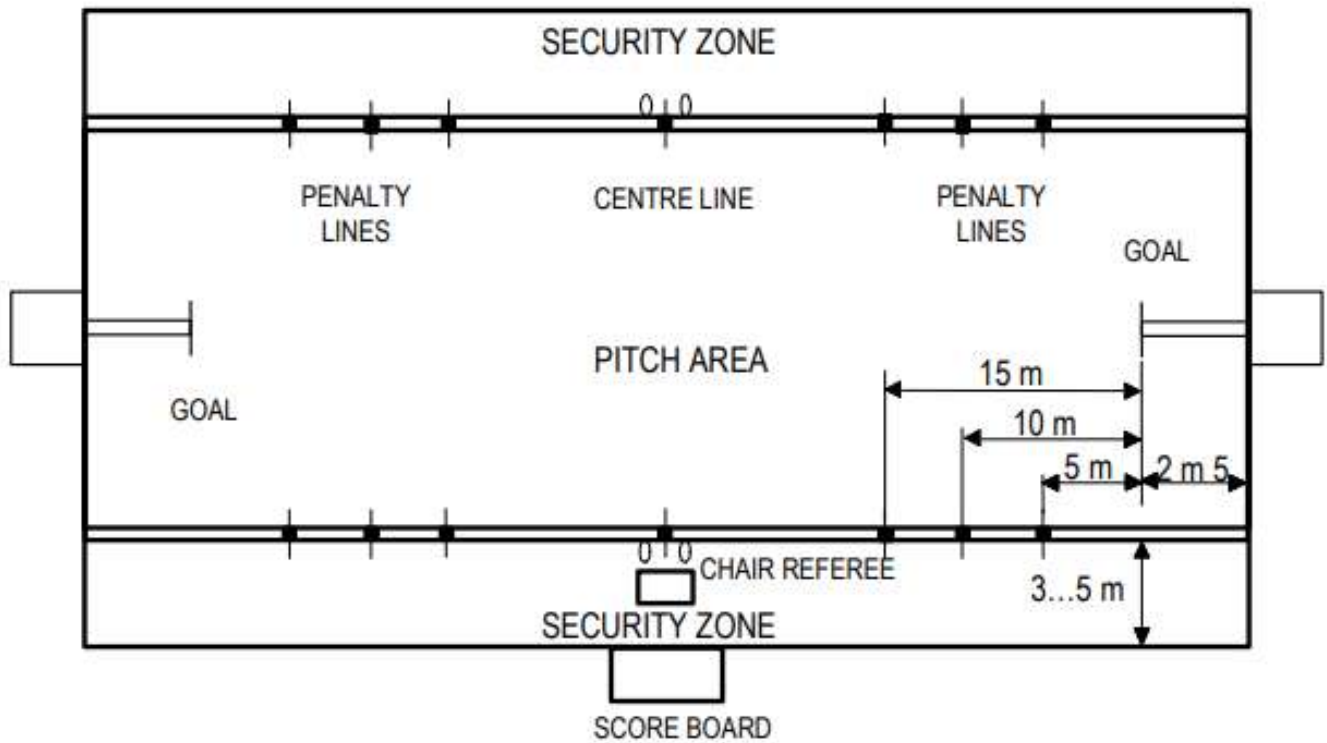
You will need:

- Standing martingale
- Overreach boots
- Leg protection (horse)
- Pickup strap - from stirrup to stirrup, under belly of the horse and through the martingale loop.

You need to follow [PCA Gear Rules](#).

[Horseball gear rules can be found here or the website](#)

The Pitch



The size is usually 65m by 25m - or use a 60m by 20m dressage arena

What to expect from a lesson

If you invite a Horseball Coach to a rally or muster to teach some basics, what can you expect from a practice session or lesson?

- Gear check and discussion about what Horseball is, and some history
- Explanation of the roles of players
- Explanation of rules
- Explanation of how to pick up the ball
- A game or two at slow pace explaining the rules as you go
- A lot of fun!



Where can I purchase a ball?

www.australianhorseball.com.au/shop



The Australian Horseball Association sells two sizes of ball harness, which has six handles.

Larger: You then fit in a normal junior soccer ball Size 4 used for Open category of play.

Smaller: Fits a soccer ball Size 3 used for Ladies and Under-16's category of play.

Pony Club members are already playing horseball. This page is from a 2022 PCA newsletter

Pony Club members in Horse Ball World Cup team

It's a fairly new sport for Pony Club, with NSW and Queensland leading the way. And four of the six team members for the next World Cup are Pony Club members!

Congratulations to the following on making the Beyond Bank U-16 Horseball World Cup Team for 2022:

- Ethan Whiting Lake Albert Pony Club in Wagga Wagga NSW, Zone 12 (top right)
- Rainer White is from Coolamon PC, NSW (lower left)
- Katie Maund, Cannon Valley Pony Club Qld (lower right)
- Hayley Schatkowski, Mackay North Pony Club Qld. (top left)

How did Pony Club members get interested in this exciting sport?

Ethan first tried horse ball at a Denman Pony Club camp back in 2015 for Zone 7 when he was a member of Singleton Pony Club.

He was introduced to it again at Lake Albert when the Zone Chief Instructor Barb Wiscombe invited a top coach to teach at a zone pony club camp. Three other Pony Club instructors also trained to be horse ball coaches at the time.

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Beyond Bank
AUSTRALIA



Find out more about this exciting sport!



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



Coach and Player clinics

For the training of coaches to be certified with the Horseball Coach Level 1 Certificate, the Australian Horseball Association has a specific program of one day of theory (\$150 per person) equivalent to six hours; min of four coaches. This is followed up by two days of practice (\$50/day per person) and these practice sections are actually a training clinic for players simultaneously at a cost of \$75/day for each candidate player.

Practical training days require a fenced arena of at least 60m x 20m with a minimum of six and maximum of 12 participant players. Riders will be assessed for safety and suitable equipment and their respective horses will also be inspected for correct and properly fitted tack at the beginning of each day.

The Association provides the following training gear: - the required set of notes in paper format, Horseball balls, a training goal post and pick-straps for demonstration purposes only. Upon successful completion of this clinic each Coach will receive their Level 1 Certificate recognised and supported by the Australian Horseball Association and by the International Horseball Federation (FIHB). Contact details - next page.

Horseball videos

To get a feel for where the sport can lead, watch this:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ynoBpwhI2fQ>

Want to get started?

Buy a ball and harness, and start on some passing skills at a standstill, walk, and trot.

Here's a good beginner video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y6nvCZqJeDY>



Horseball Coaches and Contacts



*Francisco Campeao
Horseball Technical Trainer
(FIHB Coach Expert Trainer &
International Coach Level 3)*

Francisco José Campeao Dos Santos of Portugal settled in Australia five years ago, arriving on a Distinguished Talent visa. He had much success in show jumping in several countries as a rider and trainer.

An electronics engineer, he moved to full time coaching in 1995 and started a riding school he still owns in Portugal - the Escola de Equitação Colégio Vasco da Gama in Sintra.

His qualifications include International Horseball and Working Equitation coach, Pony Club NSW Instructor for Showjumping, Dressage, Horseball and Working Equitation; Federation of International Horseball (FIHB) Expert Horseball Coach Trainer and FIHB Horseball Technical Trainer, FIHB Ambassador for Oceania; AHBA Chief Umpire and International Officer.

He won the Merit Trophy 2002 for National Team Coach of the Year by the Portuguese Sports Institution and the Portuguese Sports Institution Equestrian Trainer Merit Award in 2003.



If you are looking for activities to try at your Club or at home, all previous Disciplines we have covered so far are [on our website here:](#)



With thanks to:

Francisco Campeao eecvg@jotmail.com
and the Australian Horseball Association: Facebook and
website <https://www.australianhorseball.com.au/>

AUSTRALIAN HORSEBALL ASSOCIATION Horseball Certified Officials List & Updates



These are currently the best contacts we have from the AHA. We will endeavor to update this as soon as possible.
Questions can be directed to Francisco Campeao eecvg@hotmail.com

HORSEBALL COACH LEVEL 1	OBS.
- LINDA GRAY	PCA QLD Zone 22 Chief Instructor
- CANDICE LOUISE PEARNS	Tamworth Junior Riding PC Coach - NSW
- SAMANTHA GOOR	Kootingal & District PC Coach - NSW
- RACHEL YOUNG	
- CHRISTOPHER JAMES YOUNG	
- JOANNE HODGES	Alice Springs PC Coach - NT
- TRUDY MIZZI	
- ADELIN POID	Proserpine Hack PC Coach - QLD
- CATHERINE MARGARET BRANNIGAN	Proserpine Hack PC Coach - QLD
- CHRISTINE ANNE WILLCOX	
- BARBARA ELLEN WISCOMBE	PCA NSW Zone 12 Chief Instructor
- HELEN SARAH PROCTOR	Coolamon PC Coach - NSW
- JOANNA LEE EVERETT	Tumbarumba PC Coach - NSW
- AMY MADISON GRAY	Cannonvalley PC Coach - QLD
- CHRISTINE CULLEN	
- JODIE MARIE RUGLESS	



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