

ANNUAL AWARDS GUIDELINES

The Pony Club Australia Awards reward our riders, coaches, officials, supporters and volunteers for achievements and contributions to the development of Pony Club.

Overview

Pony Club Australia (PCA) is committed to educating riders in a safe and friendly environment. PCA offers a diverse range of disciplines and supports members to reach their full potential. In so doing we rely on the capabilities and contributions of all our coaches, officials and supporters, including clubs and riding centres. Recognising and rewarding achievements of our riders and coaches, and expressing gratitude to our volunteers, is an essential part of our culture.

The key elements of success for our organisation are reflected in the following awards:

1. Best achievement by a rider aged 12 years and under*
2. Best achievement by a rider aged 13 - 17 years*
3. Best achievement by a rider aged 18 -25 years*
4. Best achievement by a rider over 25 years*
5. Volunteer of the Year
6. `Miss Kay Irving Coach of the Year
7. Young Coach of the Year (30 years and under*)
8. Club of the Year
9. Riding Centre of the Year
10. Gillian Rolton award for Pony Club alumnus

** Age at 1st January 2023*

There will be one award for each category annually. However, the judging panel may decline to make an award for any category if it determines there is not a submission of sufficient merit to be given an award.

Nomination Process

Each nomination must be accompanied with information on why the nominee/s should be considered for the award. Each of the assessment criteria are equally weighted. Nominations must be submitted electronically using this form:

<https://form.jotform.com/PonyClubAust/pony-club-australia-2023-awards>

- **Nominations should focus on the nominee's activities in the preceding 12-18 months.**

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Selection Process

The nominations will be considered by a judging panel of four people, made up of representatives of PCA and Member States.

Prize

The winner/s of each award will receive an inscribed medallion or trophy and prize.

Announcement

The awards will be announced in an online event.

Key Contact

If you require any further information regarding the program, or assistance in preparing a nomination, please contact: info@ponyclubaustralia.com.au

Award Categories

Best achievement by a rider aged 12 years and under

Selection criteria:

1. Participation in Pony Club rallies and activities
2. Achievements in riding and completion of Pony Club certificates
3. Demonstrated partnership with and care for their pony

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Best achievement by a rider 13-17 years

Selection criteria:

1. Participation in Pony Club rallies and activities
2. Improvement in riding and leadership skills through diligence and effort
3. Club citizenship (eg. helpful to others)

Best achievement by a rider aged 18 – 25 years

Selection criteria:

1. Participation in Pony Club rallies and activities
2. Improvement in riding and leadership skills through diligence and effort
3. Contribution to club or zone management and programs

Best achievement by an adult rider (over 25 years)

Selection criteria:

1. Participation in Pony Club rallies and activities
2. Shows enthusiasm and improvement in riding and horse management, and application of the PCA syllabus
3. Participation in Pony Club rallies and activities, and contribution to their local club

Volunteer of the Year

Open to helper, administrator, club office holder, official. Selection criteria:

1. Displays Pony Club values
2. Contribution to development of their Pony Club for the benefit of members
3. Commitment to good governance and professionalism

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The Miss Kay Irving Award (Coach of the year)

Selection criteria:

1. Contribution to development of the contemporary coaching program at Pony Club
2. Commitment to coaching excellence and professional development through the PCA National Coaching Accreditation Program.
3. Contribution to a club or zone coaching program in one or more disciplines, and/or as coach of a zone or state team

Young Coach of the Year (30 years & under)

Selection criteria:

1. Contribution to development of the contemporary coaching program at Pony Club
2. Commitment to coaching excellence and professional development through the PCA National Coaching Accreditation Program.
3. Innovation in rally program or lesson design to increase fun and engagement of members with the PCA rider syllabus.
4. Positive feedback from students and peers

Club of the Year

Selection criteria:

1. Implementation of initiatives to attract and retain members, inclusive and responsive to the needs of members
2. Good governance processes at club level including member protection, objective decision making, safety and risk management program, succession planning.
3. Innovation in club management, such as sponsorship programs, financial management, use of online databases for management of memberships and events
4. Delivery of coaching syllabus, demonstrated achievements by members and coaches (eg certificates attained, PCA National Coaching Program Accreditation).

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PCA Accredited Riding Centre of the Year

Selection criteria:

1. Implementation of initiatives to promote Centre Membership, attract and retain members
2. Innovation in the delivery of the Pony Club program, inclusive and responsive to the needs of Centre members
3. Delivery of the PCA Syllabus, demonstrated through achievements by Centre Member riders and Centre coaches (e.g. certificates attained, PCA National Coaching Program Accreditation).

Gillian Rolton Memorial Alumnus Award

This award is for a current or ex-Pony Club member over 25 years old who has gone on to be an active participant in the horse industry as a rider, leader or professional serving the horse industry (e.g. coach, educator, journalist, vet). The nominee has taken inspiration from their time at Pony Club and been an ambassador for the organisation.

Selection criteria:

1. Career achievements and profile
2. Contribution to the horse industry
3. Links to Pony Club, past and present.