

Why not try . . . ?

The Discipline
of the Month



No 2.

Tentpegging

Five reasons why your club should try tentpegging:

1.

Tentpegging helps you learn to go fast in a straight line which is good for other sports as well, such as cross country.

2.

Tent pegging improves your horsemanship and balance and is one of the sports often featured in Mounted Games

3.

Tentpegging is an area you can specialise in for your K or B Proficiency Certificates

4.

If you enjoy it and want to join a tentpegging team, there is more information available from the Australian Tentpegging Association

5.

So you've tried tentpegging - did you know there are variations, including using rings and lemons?





What is Tentpegging?

Tent pegging is a race, usually a team race or relay, where a rider and horse aim to knock down a peg with a stick, or pick up a peg on a lance, as fast as possible.

The broader class of tentpegging games also includes:

- ring jousting (in which a galloping rider tries to pass the point of his weapon through a suspended ring);
- lemon sticking (in which the rider tries to stab or slice a lemon suspended from a cord or sitting on a platform);
- mounted archery
- even jousting!

WATCH

How the Game is Played



Pony Club WA has done the hard work—watch this great 13 minute video they have produced, showing how to tent peg featuring some members of the Walliston Riding and Pony Club - it sums it all up beautifully.

(** Scroll down the page for the video link)

<https://www.ponyclubwa.asn.au/tent-pegging/>

AND if you want to see it played at full pace, here's a Prime TV interview when the Australian Tentpegging team was selected in 2018.

<https://www.prime7.com.au/news/278-australian-tent-pegging-team-ready-to-take-on-the-world>



READ

TENT PEGGING FOR PONY CLUB



2018 Pony Club WA Tent Pegging Rules <https://www.ponyclubwa.asn.au/tent-pegging/>

Pony Club WA has made a great information sheet on tentpegging (downloadable pdf)

This contains the rules, the dimensions for equipment (pegs, sticks, ring stands) and more.

Don't have tent pegging sticks?
Use broom handles!

MORE

Frequently Asked Questions

<http://www.tentpeggingaustralia.org/frequent-questions/>

Is This Very New to Your Club? - Start with the Basics

This cute 30 sec video clip of a tentpegging/ stick pegging race at the 2008 Midland Zone Pony Club Games, will show you how a relay works



This features four teams of six riders, who all start at one end. Each in turn has to knock down a peg as they race for the opposite end, turn a barrel and race back and knock a second peg down. The stick gets passed to the next rider. The winner is the team whose sixth rider crosses the finish line first. It's also a great spectator sport!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=llajxx2-Z9s>

A Brief History of Tentpegging

Tentpegging is said to have originated over 2500 years ago in India, in the military. In battle, mounted soldiers used lances, swords, battle axes, jousting poles, maces and other deadly weapons.

It was essential for mounted warriors to practise their skills with these weapons before battle. They would have also engaged in mounted sports for recreation. An ancient painting from Asia depicts a mounted warrior honing his skills while carrying three weapons - lance, sword and bow and arrow.

The name 'tentpegging' came about from soldiers' moonlit or dawn raids on enemy camps. Mounted troops would gallop amongst the tents, severing guy ropes with their swords and pulling out tent pegs with their lances. This would collapse the tents and create confusion amongst the enemy.



LEFT: Countries like India and Pakistan were early proponents of tent pegging and are still strong competitors today.



An early photo of a Deniliquin Tentpegging Team, who often rode all greys and were regular performers at Royal Shows along with Mounted Police teams (it was very big with Victorian and South Australian police) and army, or Light Horse teams. All used lances except the Light Horse who used swords.

The first tentpegging club in Australia was formed in Deniliquin in 1964 and the Australian Tentpegging Association was formed in 1981.

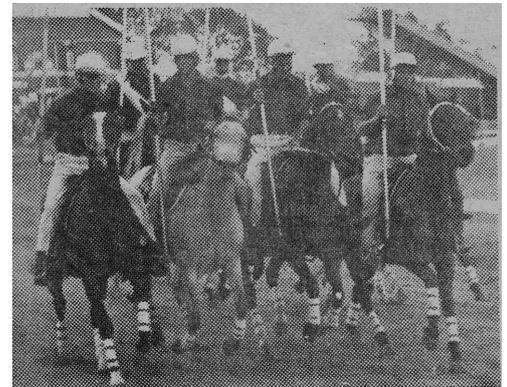


Sen. Cons. David Whittle of the Victoria Mounted Police demonstrates his skill with the lance, picking up a tent peg from between another officer's legs - at the gallop. (1960s)

Since 1963, international tentpegging tournaments have been held around the world, including in Australia, Great Britain, India, Israel, Pakistan, Namibia, and South Africa.

Today, tentpegging is especially popular in Australia, India, Israel, Oman, Pakistan, South Africa, and the United Kingdom.

The Olympic Council of Asia included tent pegging as an official sport in 1982, and the International Federation for Equestrian Sports recognised it as an official equestrian discipline in 2004.



RIGHT: A tentpegging team at the Bega Show NSW in 1979

Trying Tentpegging?

Don't forget to share, and also send us, your photos so we can see and share them in our newsletters and on Facebook too!

facebook



Each month in 2020 we will be bringing you a 'Discipline of the Month' - it is up to you when you try it out

More information from State Pony Club websites or the Tentpegging Association of Australia
<http://www.tentpeggingaustralia.org/>

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