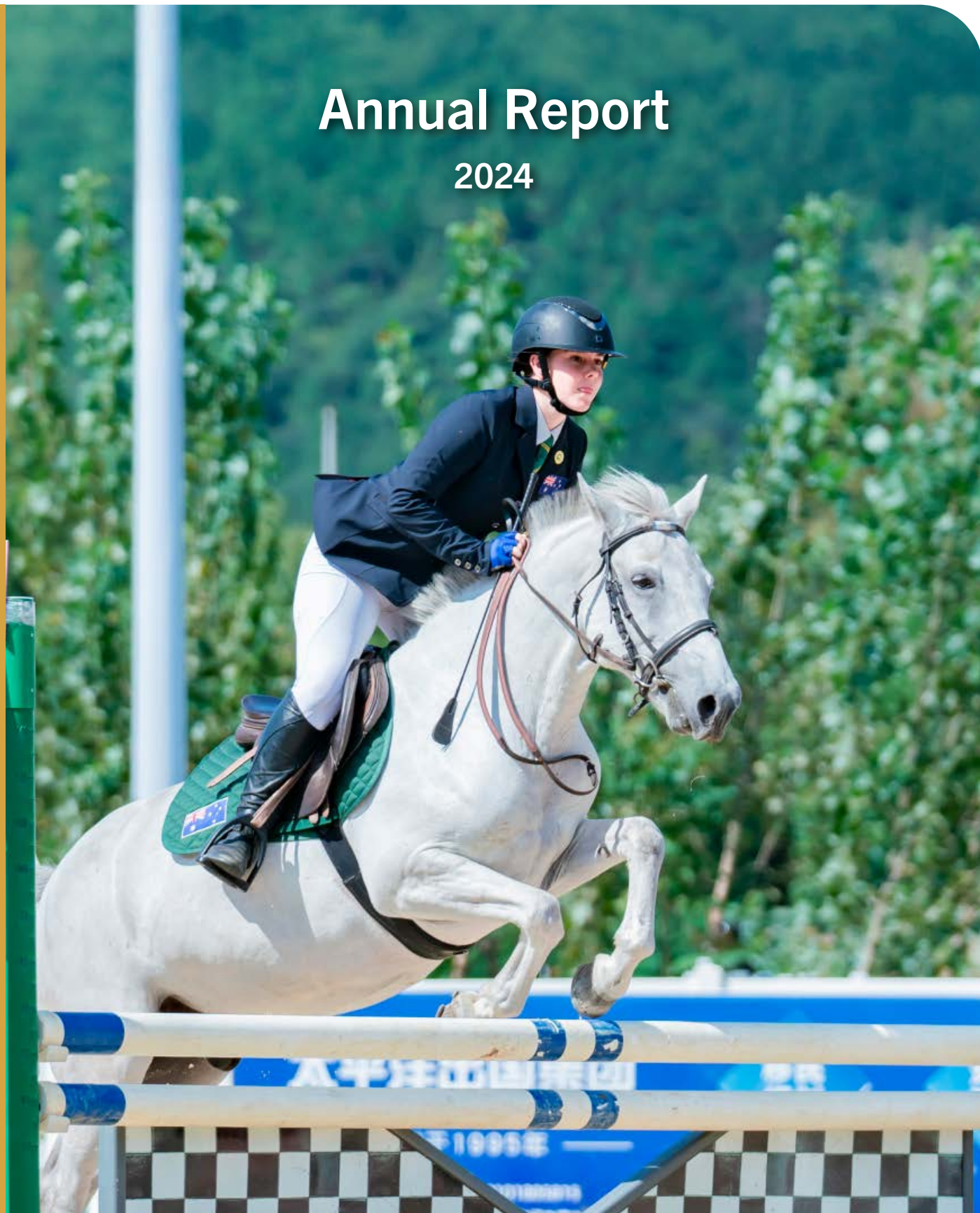




# Annual Report

## 2024







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## About Pony Club Australia

Pony Club Australia is the largest organisation for horse sports in the country. We champion education, safety, horse welfare, enjoyment and community, supporting over 750 clubs and almost 30,000 members. We pride ourselves on being the foundation of equestrian excellence across Australia.







## Vision

A life with horses starts here.

## Purpose

To remain the leading organisation for horse sports in Australia through education, safety, horse welfare, enjoyment and community.

## PCA Values

**Unity** We draw strength from our core purpose and support each other as a team.

**Integrity** We are committed to trust, transparency, fairness and evidence-based decisions and initiatives.

**Innovation** We have courage and insight to be innovative to improve our value to members.

**Accessibility** We actively facilitate participation and create pathways in our sport, regardless of background, abilities, beliefs or situation.

**Kindness** We are considerate and advocate for the health and wellbeing of our members and our community.

**Horse Welfare** We uphold and promote the highest standards of welfare for horses in our sport.



## From the Chair

**Heather Disher**  
Chair, Pony Club Australia

### 2024 has been a year of gratitude and achievement, thanks to the commitment and hard work of so many remarkable people.

My fellow board directors and state representatives have collaborated extensively to develop a new strategic plan, which comes into effect for 2025–2027. This plan is more ambitious and robust than ever before, and I'm excited about the direction it sets as we continue to grow together.

Through sound management and prudent financial planning, I am pleased to report another operating surplus for the year. These funds will be reinvested to support the delivery of initiatives under the new strategic plan, ensuring continued value for our members.

In 2024, we remained focused on reviewing, monitoring, and updating our policies and programs. Notably, we made significant updates to our Horse Welfare Policy and Concussion Policy, reinforcing our commitment to best practices.

Internationally, we expanded experiences and opportunities for members. After two terms (four years) serving as the secretariat of the Pony Club

International Alliance (PCIA), PCA proudly handed over responsibilities to the United States Pony Club (USPC) at the PCIA Conference in Kentucky in July. This collaboration between eight nations continues to enhance educational, cultural and competitive opportunities, uniting Pony Club members as part of a global family.

We also celebrated the lead up to our 10th anniversary of our partnership with China Pony Club (CPC). The milestone was marked by a special cultural exchange in October, attended by both our CEO and me. This experience not only celebrated our international connections but also fostered future development opportunities through meetings with the CPC board, staff, and accredited riding centres. The smiles and stories shared by our members following each exchange highlight the true impact of this partnership.

In support of continuous improvement, the board undertook a voluntary board evaluation this year. Benchmarking PCA's governance against other funded National Sporting Organisations (NSOs), I'm pleased to report that our results were above average. We remain committed to strong governance through ongoing evaluation and measurement.

I extend my sincere thanks to Venetta Sacha, for her expertise and guidance as Independent Chair of the



PCA Finance, Audit, and Risk Committee, and to Shannon Durrant for her leadership as Independent Chair of the PCA Nominations Committee.

A heartfelt thank you also to our patron, Dr. Andrew McLean, a leading advocate for horse welfare, who has represented PCA's interests with distinction. The comprehensive review of our Horse Welfare Policy, conducted using an ISO compliant framework, was made possible through the dedication of Dr. McLean, Maris Beck, Board Director Kate Fenner, and an incredible team of dedicated contributors from our member states. Their leadership and commitment are deeply appreciated.

As noted earlier, the operating surplus for 2024 is a testament to careful stewardship. These resources ensure that PCA remains well positioned to deliver a high level of service to our diverse membership and to play an active, meaningful role in the broader equine industry.

None of these achievements would be possible without our outstanding PCA staff. Led by CEO Matt Helmers, the team supports not only our members but also the many volunteers, families, and broader communities that form the heart of Pony Club across Australia. Their dedication and impact are invaluable.

I would also like to thank my fellow PCA Directors for their trust and collaboration. Special thanks to Carole Hodges for her role as Secretary, ensuring PCA meets its compliance obligations, and to Marylou Hodges, Deputy Chair, for her invaluable support, particularly in the board's chair succession planning as I complete my final term. Each director's commitment, whether through committee work, councils, forums, or workshops demonstrates the passion and purpose that will continue to drive PCA's success.

To our state members: thank you for your expertise, time, and collaboration, which enable us to deliver so much. And to our members, their families, and countless volunteers, our wonderful coaches, gear checkers, and officials; thank you for all you do to make Pony Club the vibrant community it is.

In 2024, PCA remains both grateful and committed to serving our diverse membership. As an active contributor to the equine industry, we look ahead to a bright future for horse sports within Pony Club.

A Life With Horses Starts Here!



## Message from the Australian Sports Commission

Kate Jenkins AO

**It was an honour to be in Paris for the 2024 Olympics and Paralympics and see the incredible performances of our Australian athletes and teams which have left long lasting memories in the hearts of all Australians.**

While not every sport the Australian Sports Commission supports was on show in Paris, I know the joy and pride that sport can bring us all, and the opportunities it provides.

As we look towards a home Games in Brisbane in 2032, my vision is for sport to be safe, fair, accessible and inclusive for everyone, with every athlete supported to reach their full potential.

We want to bring out the best in everyone involved in sport because that's how we will become the world's best – by working together and bound by a common purpose.

We encourage and help Australians of all backgrounds, ages and abilities to get involved in sport and we advocate for sport and the positive influence it has on the nation.

Our grant programs support athletes, coaches, officials and organisations, while our Sporting Schools program is helping more children access free and fun sporting activities than ever before. More than 9,200 schools are registered with the program and our goal is to reach 32 million participants by Brisbane 2032.

Our high performance sport system is more united than ever through Australia's High Performance 2032+ Sport Strategy and our shared commitment to Win Well. It was wonderful to see the Win Well ethos alive in Paris and as we approach the end of Horizon 1, see the country's peak Olympic, Paralympic and Commonwealth Games sporting organisations come together to deliver the best outcomes for our athletes, our sports and for all of Australia.

Likewise, work continues to help Australians to Play Well with stakeholders coming together to discuss how to put the nation's first codesigned Sport Participation Strategy into action with workshops held across the country.

We are proud that our Australian Institute of Sport Campus has been the home of sport in Australia for over 42 years and a \$249.7 million investment from the Australian Government to upgrade our high performance facilities will ensure we continue to be world-leading.

I know success will be greatest when every part of the system is able to perform their role at their best, and I look forward to leading the ASC, including in its work towards ensuring there is a lasting legacy for all Australian sports and the community from this green and gold decade - when the eyes of the world will be on Australian athletes, Australian sport and Australian venues.





## From the CEO

**Matt Helmers**  
CEO, Pony Club Australia

**This year was the final year of the 2022-2024 strategic plan. Our commitment towards safeguarding children and young people continued through implementation of the Safeguarding in Sport Continuous Improvement Program (SISCIP) action plan to embed practices across the organisation. It was pleasing to elevate PCA's ranking under the Australian Sports Commission recognition and receive notification of additional funding under the Play Well investment which priority initiatives are resourced for the next 2025-2027 strategic cycle.**

PCA continued its commitment to the safety of riders, volunteers and horses in Pony Club activities and ensuring that practices meet community and government expectations. The PCA National Safety Committee (NSC) met several times to maintain minimum medical standards for events, review variation applications, monitor trends from the incident report system and recommend policy changes.

To ensure the appropriate use of approved gear for horse welfare and rider safety, the PCA National Gear Committee (NGC) made amendments to the national gear rules and reviewed exemption applications.

The 2024 calendar provided an expansion on international pathway opportunities. Australian teams proudly wore the Coat of Arms at the International Tetrathlon Exchange in the United Kingdom and Ireland, the International Mounted Games Exchange in Canada and the International Quiz Exchange which coincided with the PCIA conference in the United States of America.

There were two exchanges hosted by China in May & October, where ambassadors upheld the collective values of a diverse footprint of more than 700 affiliated clubs throughout Australia.

Thanks to:

- PCA National Discipline sub-committees for advice on discipline rules, national competition programs and recommendations for national team selection.
- The PCA Coaching Advisory Committee (CAC) for updating the preliminary coach written test and agreeing to a national approach for the practical assessment of the A level rider certificate.

- The PCA Education and Development Committee (EDC) for their advice on rider development and leadership. Elizabeth Stanfield was particularly instrumental in PCA executing a landmark MoU with Tasmanian Assessment and Standards Certification (TASC), ensuring that PCA rider certificate graduates receive recognition towards their Tasmanian Certificate of Education (TCE). The PCA leadership certificate had 14 successful graduates who applied their skills within Pony Club and the broader equine industry under the support of volunteer mentors.

Thanks to the PCA staff for their commitment to supporting our members. Michelle Newham (Member services), Sally Wiseman (Participation), Monil Shah (Sports Development) and Suanne Waugh (Integrity). We also welcomed Emma Le Grand as Marketing and Communications Manager in April, who led the PCA website redesign which provides improved customer experience and SEO.

Thanks to our major sponsors Thoroughbred Industry Careers, Gow Gates, Elecbrakes and the Australian Sports Commission for their recognition and support. To all the category sponsors for the PCA annual awards that enable us to celebrate the achievements of our riders and coaches and recognise the contributions of our volunteers. To the PCA board for their governance and leadership, in particular to our chair, Heather Disher, who is serving her final term after six years of invaluable contribution.

We are grateful to state members, zones, clubs and stakeholders for their commitment to our guiding principles and coordinated delivery framework and contributions in the development of the 2025-2027 strategic plan.

We look forward to the next chapter in continuing our prominent influence both domestically and internationally and sustaining our impact for future generations.



## Message from our Patron

**Dr. Andrew McLean**

Once again, another year has passed, giving me more opportunities as Patron to get involved as much as I can. I greatly enjoyed working with Pony Club Victoria (PCV) at Equitana and was so impressed by how the three riders were able to demonstrate the fundamental basics of horse training, and then show how you can achieve very nice work in dressage and demonstrate self-carriage very easily—because the horses stay in rhythm in all gaits, making for happier and safer horses and riders.

Another highlight was helping PCV at their stand at Equitana and meeting and greeting streams of pony clubbers, including Sharne Haskins, who won the classroom phase at the PCIA International Quiz Exchange in the USA. She told me that knowing a little bit about learning processes in horses gave her the edge over the others.

I am also very impressed with PCA's educational output on social media, which is very current and up to date. I think these posts educate more riders across the planet than we will ever know.

Thank you again, PCA, for asking me to continue as Patron. It is an honour, and one I'm very proud of.

*Andrew McLean,  
PhD | CEO, Equitation Science International (ESI);  
Honorary Fellow & Trustee,  
International Society for Equitation Science (ISES);  
Director, Racing Victoria Equine Welfare Advisory; FEI  
advisor on horse welfare; Patron, Pony Club Australia.*



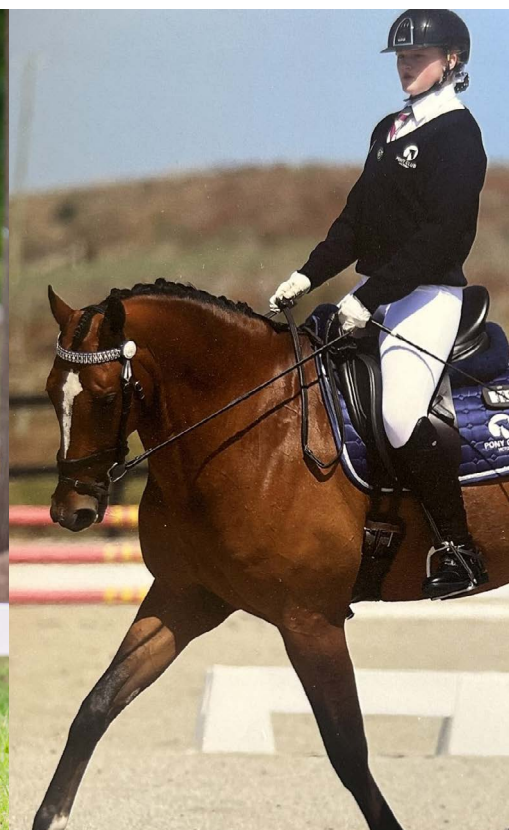


# 2024 Year in Review



**PONY CLUB**  
AUSTRALIA





## International Competitions

### PCIA Virtual Dressage 2024

The fourth annual Pony Club International Dressage Show hosted by the PCIA saw over 230 competitors represent Pony Clubs from 11 countries. Australia selected 47 members, resulting in multiple top finishes in both individual and team categories. PCA also provided judges for two of the levels.

Virtual events like this, where riders compete in their own country and are judged by video, has opened up the opportunity for international competition to many more members.

#### Pas de Deux

##### Team

Marni Bercene (14) Wellington District Pony Club WA  
 Krystina Bercene (16) Wellington District Pony Club WA  
 Ayla Barton (18) Huon District Pony Club TAS  
 Tamara Jacobson (32) Huon District Pony Club TAS

##### Individuals

Tracey Gorick (23) Tooradin-Dalmore Pony Club VIC  
 Amy Bennett (15) Merricks Pony Club VIC  
 Caitlin Pritchard (20) King River Pony Club WA  
 Ashleigh Pritchard (22) King River Pony Club WA

#### Prix Caprilli

##### Team

Aleisha Lorenson (18) Gympie Pony Club QLD  
 Misha O'Malley (15) Black River Pony Club QLD  
 Michelle Woodcroft (17) Riddells Creek Pony Club VIC  
 Lauren Cocks (21) Riddells Creek Pony Club VIC

##### Individuals

Brianna Ballesty (16) Maryborough Pony Club VIC  
 Andelaine Mackie (10) Kenthurst Pony Club NSW (reserve)  
 Shannon Howard (37) Maryborough Pony Club VIC (reserve)  
 Kaitlyn Brockett (22) Lilydale District PC TAS (reserve)

#### Third Level

##### Team

Sophie Appleby (21) Serpentine Horse and Pony Club WA  
 Rosie Williams (16) Hervey Bay Pony Club Qld  
 Mia Tollarzo (16) Darling Range Horse and Pony Club WA  
 Charlotte Iles (15) Drysdale Leopold Pony Club VIC

##### Individuals

Macey Devlin (18) Drysdale Leopold Pony Club VIC  
 Lili Taylor (18) Riddells Creek Pony Club VIC  
 Bella Touzel (14) Grafton Pony Club NSW  
 Paige Witney (24) Mount Evelyn Pony Club VIC  
 Rosie Mison (14) Londonderry Pony Club NSW





## Second Level

### Team

Charlize Mackie (14) Kenthurst Pony Club NSW  
Kaeleigh Brown (24) Capel Horse and Pony Club WA  
Jorja Wareham (16) Dardanup Pony Club WA  
Lauren Rowe (18) Busselton Horse and Pony Club WA

### Individuals

Jessica Friske (22) Tiaro Pony Club QLD  
Jessica Ridley (19) Busselton Horse and Pony Club WA  
Amelia Dawson (17) Gearys Gap Pony Club NSW (reserve)

## First Level

### Team

Lily Diss (11), Maldon Pony Club VIC  
Erin Brown (14), Loop Line Pony Club NSW  
Michaela Foubister (13) Two Wells Equestrian and Pony Club, SA  
Makynli Holt, Vines Pony Club NSW

### Individuals

Gracie Gartung (14) Stratford Pony Club VIC  
Amelia McDonald (13) King River pony Club WA  
Tahni Jordan (17) Greenbank Pony Club QLD  
Lily Collins (15) Mildura Alcheringa Pony Club VIC

## Training Level

### Team

Grace Ryan (12) Narrandera Pony Club NSW  
Alira King (13) Lancefield and District Pony Club VIC  
Torah Kelly (12) Londonderry pony Club, NSW  
Lucinda Bennet (12), Naracoorte Hunt Pony Club SA

### Individuals

Lalya Clarke (13) Millicent Pony Club SA  
Kassie Pontifex (13) Gympie Pony Club QLD  
Ava Irwin (13) Bamawm Extension Pony Club VIC  
Emma Tomlinson (14) Murray Horse and Pony Club WA

### Judges

Susan Nevett PCA Level 1 Coach and EA-B Level judge, and FEI Dressage Judge for FEI eventing.  
Belinda Dawkins, Ballarat PC, former Dressage Coordinator PCA Nationals, EA-D Level Judge

## Pony Club Exchanges to China

Two groups of riders attended exchanges in China in 2024, enjoying social activities, friendly competitions and learning about Chinese culture.

### Teams

#### October 2024

Alena Duncan Manilla Pony Club, NSW  
Charlie Ward Guyra Pony Club, NSW  
Kassi Jones Fern Park Pony Club, TAS  
Robin Henry Quirindi Pony Club, NSW  
Team manager: Tania Haling NSW  
Coach: Carol Hobson, TAS

#### May 2024

Emily Hudak Seville Pony Club VIC  
Amy Bennett Merricks Pony Club VIC  
Tess Musgrave Wirlinga Pony Club NSW  
Emily Marshall Ararat Pony Club VIC  
Coach Rebecca Ham, Tooradin Dalmore Pony Club VIC





## International Mounted Games Exchange Canada

Pony Club Australia sent a talented team to the International Mounted Games Exchange (IMGE) in Canada in September. They enjoyed a 10 day tour that included eight days in Nova Scotia, followed by two days in Toronto. The tour was packed with thrilling activities, such as zip-lining through treetops, kayaking in the Atlantic to observe seals, and whale watching, where the team was delighted to spot four whales. They also enjoyed trail riding in the Canadian forests, bushwalking, and sightseeing in Halifax. Australia placed second in the competition, which brought the trip to a close.

Pony Club Australia continues to provide exceptional opportunities for riders, coaches, and managers, facilitating connections with Pony Clubs from around the world and promoting the spirit of mounted games on an international level.

### Team

Alister McLachlan Murrumbateman Pony Club NSW  
 Ember Van De Rydt Corner Inlet Pony Club VIC  
 Lauren Bassola Swan Valley Horse and Pony Club WA  
 Meg Kilby Tasmanian Pony and Riding Club TAS  
 Asha Schmidt Katherine Horse and Pony Club NT  
 Coach Dan Foster WA  
 Team Manager Niree Weybury VIC



## International Tetrathlon Ireland and UK 2024

In July, two teams headed off to Ireland and the UK to compete in the Irish Tetrathlon Championships, the UK Senior International Tetrathlon Competition, and the UK Tetrathlon Championships 2024. They enjoyed sightseeing, outdoor activities, and staying with host families. This discipline is popular with our all-round athletes as it includes showjumping, running, shooting, and swimming. It's a fun and challenging event for both boys and girls, offering opportunities to compete at state, national, and international level.

### Female team

Darcy Miller, Leaven Pony Club TAS  
 Emma Wiese, Dryandra Pony Club WA  
 Anastasia Topalov, West Toowoomba Pony Club QLD  
 Isabelle Cox, Esperance Pony Club WA  
 Chloe Leen, Drysdale Leopold Pony Club VIC  
 Lily Bright (Katherine Horse and Pony Club, NT) – competed in a composite team with US and NZ

### Male team

Cohen Wade, Stratford Pony Club VIC  
 Amos Vagg, Salt Ash Pony Club NSW  
 Bailey Elias, Tasmania Pony and Riding Club TAS  
 Daniel Wiese, Dryandra Pony Club WA  
 Kian Blanchard, Charlton Pony Club VIC  
 Coach - Nikita Mawhirt, WA  
 Manager - Janet Hamblin, Warren Pony Club NSW



## International Quiz, Kentucky USA

The Australian team proudly finished 4th overall at the 2024 Pony Club International Quiz Exchange! After three big days of competition across five challenging phases — including three phases that were entirely new to our team — every Australian rider contributed scores in every section, a fantastic achievement. In several phases, individual team members also placed within the Top 3 and Top 5.

The competition was incredibly close between all nations, and we warmly congratulate all teams on their outstanding efforts — especially the United Kingdom, who were crowned the 2024 champions.

### Meet the Australian Team

**Captain:** Sharne Haskins – Londonderry Pony Club, NSW

**Team Members:** Kaitlyn Brockett (Lilydale Pony Club, TAS), Hector Brennan (Woodlands Pony Club, VIC), Annabelle Ennis-Wert (Werribee Pony Club, VIC)

**Reserve:** Tegan Hughes (Capel Horse and Pony Club, WA)

**Coach:** Rachael Edwards (Seville Pony Club, VIC)

### About Quiz in Australia

Quiz is a relatively new discipline in Australia, first featured at the Pony Club Australia National Championships in 2017. It has since been included at the 2019, 2021, and 2023 Nationals for both Junior and Senior teams.

Australia's involvement in international Quiz was sparked by a special invitation from Pony Club Canada in 2017, leading to our participation in the Pony Club International Alliance Quiz Exchange.

### The Global Quiz Community

Internationally, Quiz is a well-established discipline, particularly in Canada, the United States, and the United Kingdom. It stems from the Pony Club syllabus of learning — a foundation for developing riders' knowledge and horsemanship skills both in and out of the saddle, practiced worldwide at Pony Club rally days.







## National Events and Initiatives

### National Pony Racing Series

By Michelle Newham, PCA Member Services Officer

The inaugural National Pony Race Series was a resounding success, delivering unforgettable experiences for riders and their ponies while reinforcing Pony Club Australia's strong commitment to safety and education. Held in partnership with Thoroughbred Industry Careers (TIC), the series introduced many young riders to the sport of pony racing and the broader racing industry.

Together with TIC, we developed a comprehensive set of rules that aligned with both Pony Club Australia's standards and racetrack regulations. Across five states, we travelled over 40,000 km to deliver this program—an incredible effort for a four-person team.

### Taster Days

Taster Days were open to all Pony Club members capable of walking, trotting, and cantering unassisted. These introductory sessions were designed to give riders a feel for pony racing and included:

- **Introduction to Pony Racing:** TIC CEO Lindy Maurice presented insights into pony racing and career pathways in the industry.
- **Horse Health Sessions:** Delivered by Karlie Triffitt and the Ranvet team, with a focus on welfare and race-day fitness.
- **Rider Fitness Sessions:** Tracy O'Hara and guest jockeys led sessions to help riders understand the physical demands of racing.



- **Coaching Clinics:** Tracy and I worked one-on-one with riders to develop race riding skills.
- **Mini Race Experience:** Riders suited up in silks and rode in a mini race under simulated conditions.

Participants were closely observed, and those showing readiness were invited to the next phase.

### Training Days

Riders selected from the Taster Days progressed to more intensive racetrack-focused Training Days. These sessions focused on:

- **Capability Assessment:** Ensuring riders could manage their ponies safely alongside others.
- **Selection Criteria:** Riders who could follow directions and ponies with calm, manageable temperaments were prioritised.
- **Risk Mitigation:** Strict safety protocols were enforced to minimise collision or fall risks. Ponies displaying unsafe behaviour were excluded.

From these sessions, the top 10 riders in each of the small and large pony categories were selected for Race Day events.

### Race Days

Race Days were carefully planned and executed, requiring teamwork, punctuality, and an unwavering focus on horse and rider welfare. Key aspects included: Health Checks: All ponies underwent pre-race temperature and health assessments.

- **Gear and Rider Preparation:** Riders received saddle cloths and silks, followed by a detailed race-day briefing.
- **Coordination:** Riders were escorted by designated strappers, while families watched from the finish line.
- **Race Execution:** Tracy and I managed the start lines and ensured fair, safe racing. Post-race checks were carried out by Karlie and the Ranvet team.

- **Presentation and Debrief:** Each race concluded with a presentation in the mounting yard and a debrief with riders and families—celebrating experience over results.

### Series Overview

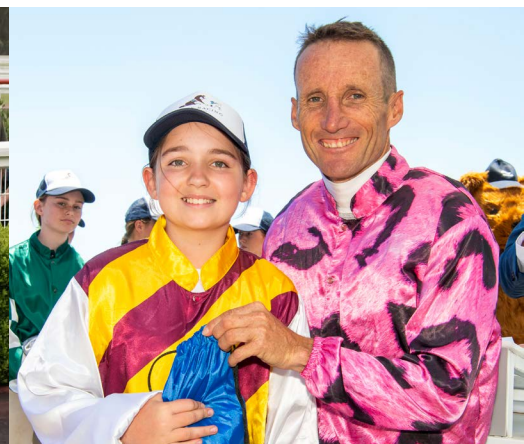
The 2023–2024 National Pony Race Series was comprised of several exciting races held across various states, each preceded by a well-attended Taster Day. These events provided invaluable experiences for young riders and their ponies. The series included the following races and Taster Days:

- **Brisbane Races (QLD):** Taster Day held at Jimboomba Pony Club, with 41 riders attending.
- **Morphettville Races (SA):** Taster Day held at Woodlands Pony Club, with 50 riders attending.
- **Ascot Races (WA):** Taster Day held at Woodlands Pony Club, with 50 riders attending.
- **Gold Coast Races (QLD):** Taster Day held at Toowoomba Pony Club, with 40 riders attending.
- **Warwick Farm Races (NSW):** Taster Day held at Blacktown Pony Club, with 47 riders attending.
- **Morphettville Races (SA):** Taster Day held at Onkaparinga Pony Club, with 28 riders attending.

### Series Final

First and second placegetters from each race in the series were invited to Sydney for a week of training ahead of the final. Riders and their ponies were accommodated at the prestigious Inglis complex, offering access to world-class facilities and an immersive experience in equestrian excellence. During the week, our focus remained on pony welfare, with twice-daily health checks and plenty of time outside the stables to graze and stretch. Highlights included:

- **Track Training:** Daily sessions at Warwick Farm helped riders adjust to race conditions.



- **Ranvet Tour and Lunch:** Riders enjoyed a fun and informative visit to Ranvet headquarters.
- **Inglis Dinner:** A formal dinner with sponsors and families featured a live barrier draw ahead of finals day.

### Final Race Day

Despite challenging weather, the final race day went ahead with adjusted schedules to ensure safety and comfort. Highlights included:

- **Jockey Meet and Interviews:** Riders met professional jockeys and were interviewed in the Royal Randwick parade ring.
- **Post-Race Celebration:** Families gathered for a celebratory meal while ponies were cooled out and monitored by our team.

### Finalists

#### Small Pony Category

- Amber Kahler (QLD)  
Kurrajong Pony Club
- Mia-Rose Cornish (VIC)  
Rochester Pony Club

- Aspen Pike (WA)  
Peel Metropolitan Horse and Pony Club
- Blair Burke (QLD)  
Dayboro Pony Club
- Nate Muller (QLD)  
Chinchilla Pony Club
- Caley McKellar (NSW)  
Oberon Pony Club
- Stacey Edwards (SA)  
Millicent Pony Club
- Maddi-Rose Cox (SA)  
Goolwa District Pony Club
- Sophia Ricketson (NSW)  
Berrima Pony Club
- Rhys McEvoy (NSW)  
Mangrove Mountain Pony Club

#### Large Pony Category

- Antonia Maggiolo (QLD)  
Park Ridge Pony Club
- Ayla Griffin (QLD)  
Glass House Mountains Pony Club
- Robert Scobie (VIC)  
Mildura—Alcheringa Pony Club





- Isabella Sprigg (WA)  
Bonnie Rock Horse & Pony Club
- Emilia Savage (QLD)  
Bangalow Pony Club
- Zavanah Cochran (QLD)  
Darra Oxley Pony Club
- Maddison McConachy (NSW)  
Loop Line Pony Club
- Cheyenne Crane (SA)  
Aspley Pony Club
- Ruby Davis (VIC)  
Benalla Pony Club
- Jake McEvoy (NSW)  
Mangrove Mountain Pony Club

### Winners

#### Small Pony

Stacey Edwards (SA)

#### Large Pony

Emilia Savage (QLD)

### A Standout Story

One particularly heartwarming story from the series involved Georgina Sharpe, who attended a Taster Day but didn't progress to Race Day. A passionate aspiring reporter, Georgina was invited to cover the pony races on television—an experience that allowed her to shine in her dream role and become part of the action in a different but equally special way.

### Looking Ahead

The 2023–2024 National Pony Race Series concluded with riders and families expressing immense gratitude for the experience—often valuing the journey more than the race results. The series highlighted the importance of safety, preparation, and opportunity, while giving Pony Club riders a meaningful introduction to the thoroughbred industry.

Looking ahead, we hope to include Tasmania in the next series and broaden our coaching program at Taster and Training Days. This will help equip more coaches with the skills to support rider development and deliver safe, engaging pony racing experiences nationwide.



## National Mounted Games Championships

In October the Pony Club Australia Mounted Games National Championships (formerly the Prince Philip Cup Mounted Games Championship, or PPMG) brought together junior and senior teams from across the country in a thrilling showcase of skill, teamwork, and speed. Congratulations to our champions—Pony Club Victoria juniors and Pony Club WA seniors. All on borrowed horses, thanks to Victorian families. Held at the Woodlands Pony Club grounds near Melbourne, all teams showed great sportsmanship.

Juniors compete for the Prince Philip Cup Trophy, honouring H.R.H Prince Philip, who played a pivotal role in creating opportunities for children to compete in equestrian sports without access to expensive horses. His vision helped shape the Mounted Games into the exciting, international competition it is today.

**Results:** 1st – Victoria, 2nd - Western Australia, 3rd - New South Wales, 4th – Tasmania, 5th - Northern Territory.

Seniors compete for the Allan Hession Memorial Trophy, recognising Allan Hession’s significant contribution to the Prince Philip Games and the sport of Mounted Games in Australia.

**Results:** 1st – Western Australia, 2nd New South Wales, 3rd Victoria and 4th Tasmania.

Organised by Niree Weybury from the National Mounted Games Committee and the Victorian PPMG Committee, the event included plenty of social activities for the state teams in the week prior, helping form some lasting friendships and contacts.

Competitors at the 2024 National Championships were also eligible for selection in the Australian team that will travel to the UK in July 2025 for the Pony Club International Alliance (PCIA) International Mounted Games Exchange. This prestigious international event gives riders the chance to represent Australia on the world stage, competing against teams from around the globe in a true display of teamwork, adaptability, and horsemanship.

Teams	VIC	
	Junior	Senior
	Jack Hamilton Ember Vanderydt Emily Oliver Taylor Perkins Deacon Parker Harry Brennan Warwick Slade Jodie Bissicks	Zack Stakemire Tara Murphy Jay France Sharna Uden Tamika Coggan Brodie Haliday-Tough Dan Foster Niree Weybury
	<b>Coaches Manager</b>	
NSW		
	Jess Foster Ali McLachlan Max Ivanov Bella Ivanov Chelsea Nickson Ben Logue Rob McLachlan	Doug Gosling Em Conn Taleha Urzelek Tom McLachlan Will Zeiler Jeff Braithwaite Rob McLachlan
	<b>Coach Manager</b>	
TAS		
	Meg Kilby Mila Jane Emily Archer Ruby Atkins Charlie-Ann Bennett David Quinn Toni Kilby	Brooke Foster Bailey Elias Georgia Elias Britney Davis Ashlee Rees Theresa Elias Emily Kilby
	<b>Coach Manager</b>	
WA		
	Keira Dowding Maddelyn Harney Cade Smith Ellie Steel Lauren Bassola Sean Corbin Sarah Suvaljko	Jorja Brown Rohan Smith Aaron Suvaljko Daniel Suvaljko Lewis Hudson Sean Corbin Steve Harney
	<b>Coach Manager</b>	
NT		
	Denver Vivian Asha Schmidt Ava Cottle Kelly Barker Bonnie Stanley Natasha Clayton Sally Isberg	
	<b>Coach Manager</b>	



## Strategic Growth & Development

### Equestrian Multi-Sport Agreement

**This year, Pony Club Australia was proud to be a part of an historic international agreement to develop, promote and manage equestrian multi-sport.**

Equestrian multi-sport combines horse riding with other athletic disciplines -

- **Aquathon** – Run/Swim
- **Equathon** – Run/Swim/Ride
- **Tetrathlon** – Run/Swim/Ride/Shoot
- **Pentathlon** – Run/Swim/Ride/Shoot/Fence

As part of the Pony Club International Alliance (PCIA), PCA signed an agreement with the International Pentathlon Association (IPA). PCIA has a strong tradition of international participation and competition in Tetrathlon (horse riding, swimming, running and pistol shooting) and IPA was formed to develop the aspirations of young athletes who wish to participate in Pentathlon (horse riding, swimming, running, pistol shooting and fencing).

Both organisations will work together to promote and embrace world's best practice in athlete safety and animal welfare. They will share rules and technical information and collaborate on national and international competition including a possible international equestrian multi-sport games. They will both promote pathways for athletes of all ages and abilities to explore harmonious relationships with horses and athletic performance for fun and fitness in activities and competition.



### New Accredited Riding Centre: Turlinjah Park Equestrian Centre

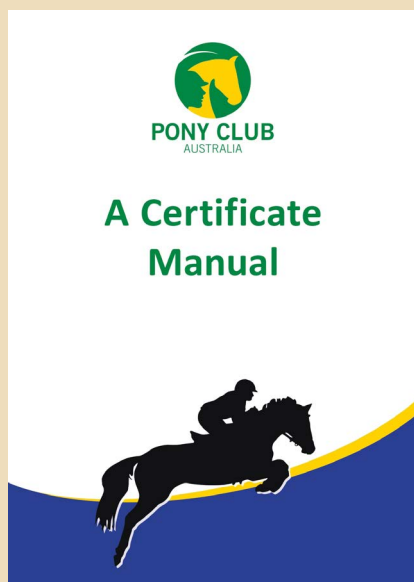


**Turlinjah Park Equestrian Centre on the south coast of NSW is our most recent addition to the list of Pony Club Australia Accredited Riding Centres, where people can learn the Pony Club syllabus even though they don't have their own horse.**

This exciting milestone brings new opportunities for local riders of all ages and abilities to enjoy top-tier equestrian coaching in a supportive and inclusive environment. Owned and operated by Michelle Nickson, a highly qualified equestrian coach, a total of 16 riders attended the first rally.

Michelle holds multiple qualifications, including Pony Club Australia Level 1 Coach, Equestrian Australia Introductory Coach, and Riding for the Disabled (RDA) coach, ensuring that riders receive expert instruction tailored to their individual needs and goals. The centre prides itself on catering to riders of all ages and abilities, including adult riders and riders with disabilities.

## A Certificate Launched



The Pony Club Australia A Certificate manual is now available for purchase on JustGo, coinciding with the five-year anniversary of our Syllabus of Instruction.

This manual represents the pinnacle of horse management, training, and care, tailored for B Certificate holders ready to further their skills and knowledge.

The key objectives are for members to:

- Become an educated horseman/horsewoman, riding with confidence and skill.
- Understand and apply the principles of training for both young and off-the-track horses.
- Develop the ability to ride and jump horses of varying temperaments and training stages, while assessing their potential for improvement.
- Gain comprehensive knowledge of horse care, conditioning, and management.

Graduates of the Pony Club Australia A Certificate will be well-prepared to make valuable contributions across various equine-related fields, armed with contemporary skills and knowledge for future work or study.



## Leadership Certificate Program

By Dr Catherine Ainsworth, 2024 Leadership Program Director.

The Leadership Certificate Program is designed for members aged 14 to 18. It focuses on developing leadership skills and fostering personal growth through skill development, community engagement, leadership growth, and reflection. **It's more than just horses; it's about gaining essential life skills too.**

The 2023 PCA Leadership certificate candidates completed their program and assessment in 2024. Following enrolment in the program, members attended a series of webinars with subject matter experts, on topics including marketing, communication, project management and personal leadership styles. In addition, members applied and practised leadership by undertaking local projects and activities at their Pony Club. Each person was allocated a personal mentor to assist with their progress and reflections.

It was fantastic to see the 14 successful candidates present to the assessment panel and demonstrate their experience, growth and understanding of leadership.





Isabella Hughes



Hanna Bailey

- **Hanna Bailey, Midlands Pony Club TAS**, developed her skills in human and horse first aid and studied club and risk management.
- **Kimberley Dowling, Gatton Pony Club, QLD**, set up a junior committee at her club and studied to become an accredited gear checker.
- **Charlotte Duffey, Gatton Pony Club, QLD**, ran a successful showjumping competition at her club and studied to become an accredited gear checker.
- **Brydi Fittock, North Dorrigo Pony Club, NSW**, was an exceptional candidate who completed studies in emergency management and first aid; volunteered to assist organisation of the club camp; and analysed risk management and diversity programs.
- **Chloe Froude, Euroa Pony Club VIC**, completed a course to become a dressage official, helped improve the cross country course at her club and ran two freshman showjumping events.
- **Maddison Geiss, Karana Downs Pony Club QLD**, managed a profitable showjumping event including sponsorship and led the development of a junior committee at her club.
- **Isabella Hughes, Hinton Wallalong Pony Club NSW**, studied showjump course building, developed a handbook for new Pony Club members and analysed elements of successful leadership and management at her club.
- **Ebony Inman, Orange Pony Club NSW**, developed skills in dressage penciling and judging and prepared a series of promotional videos of club members to launch her club's Instagram account.
- **Lucy Johnston, Midlands Pony Club TAS**, developed learning materials for Pony Club certificate candidates, analysed the key success factors for her club and studied to become an accredited gear checker.
- **Summer Lindgren, Rosewood Pony Club QLD**, participated in club committee meetings, developed a Diversity and Inclusion Policy for her club and studied to become an accredited gear checker.
- **Illana McDougall, Tasmanian Pony and Riding Club**, ran an education session on Tetrathlon for clubs in her region, participated in the organisation of a range of events at her club and analysed the range of essential volunteer roles.
- **Natasha Schilling, Mildura Alcheringa Pony Club VIC**, completed an FEI course then designed and set up a showjumping course for her club. Her major project analysed equine pain indicators and how this area of knowledge can be incorporated into the PCA rider syllabus.
- **Jessica Wicks, Wirlinga Pony Club NSW**, studied to become an accredited gear checker, planned and managed a rally day at her club and became a club committee member.
- **Charlotte Wright, North Dorrigo Pony Club NSW**, studied to become an accredited gear checker, ran the canteen at her club's biggest annual event and developed a rider exercise program to improve strength and stability.

## Recognition and Engagement

### 2024 PCA Annual Awards



#### **'VIPA Body Protector' Best Achievement by a Rider 12 yrs and Under**

**Winner:** Oliver Sinclair Inverell Pony Club NSW

##### **Finalists :**

Abigail Graham Mt Lofty Pony Club SA  
Isabella Kunde Harcourt Pony Club VIC  
Shea Egan Dungog Pony Club NSW



#### **'Ranvet' Best Achievement by a Rider Aged 13-17 Years**

**Winner:** Natasha Schilling Mildura Alcheringa Pony Club VIC

##### **Finalists:**

Charlotte Crowley Huntingdale Pony and Riding Club TAS  
Shelby Turl Cambooya Pony Club QLD  
Isabel Ford Toongabbie Pony Club VIC



#### **'Lara Tweedie Equestrian' Best Achievement by a Rider Aged 18-25 Years**

**Winner:** Sharne Haskins Londonderry Pony Club NSW

##### **Finalists:**

Bec Kendt Maryborough District Horse and Pony Club VIC  
Vanessa Davis Gidgeannup Horse and Pony Club WA  
Anika Piket Huntingfield Pony and Riding Club TAS

LARA TWEEDIE



#### **'Equinade' Best Achievement by a Rider Aged Over 25 Years**

**Winner:** Lisa Streeter Maryborough & District Horse and Pony Club VIC

##### **Finalists:**

Alison Eyles Vines Pony Club NSW  
Mallory Walker Maryborough & District Horse and Pony Club VIC  
Aleisha Guest Huntingfield Pony and Riding Club TAS







**'Earlwood Equine' Volunteer of the Year**  
**Winner:** Jo Humphries Oxenford Pony Club QLD



**Finalists:**

Dior Fletcher Katherine Horse and Pony Club NT  
Pauline Campbell Bendigo Pony Club VIC  
Debbie Ruff Maryborough & District Pony Club VIC  
Sonia McWhirter Blacktown Pony Club NSW



**'Scoot Boots Australia' Kay Irving Coach of the Year**

**Winner:** Paul Seuren West Gippsland Zone, Vic chief instructor VIC



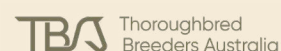
**Finalists:**

Anne Lyell Londonderry Pony Club NSW  
Dan Foster Orange Grove Pony Club WA  
Julie Targett Deloraine District Pony Club TAS



**'Thoroughbred Breeders Australia' Young Coach of the Year**

**Winner:** Adeline Collins, VIC



**Finalists:**

Madeleine Manton Wooden Pony Club VIC  
Nikita Mawhirt Dryandra Pony Club WA  
Sharne Haskins Londonderry Pony Club NSW



**'Gow-Gates' Club of the Year**

**Winner:** Black River Pony & Hack Club, QLD



**Finalists:**

Maryborough & District Horse and Pony Club VIC  
Dungog Pony Club NSW  
Midlands Pony Club TAS



**'Duncan Equine Group' Accredited Riding Centre of the Year**

**Winner:** Kurshonbrooke Lodge Queensland



**Finalists:**

Claremont Therapeutic Riding Centre WA  
Bees Creek Pony Club and Riding Club NT



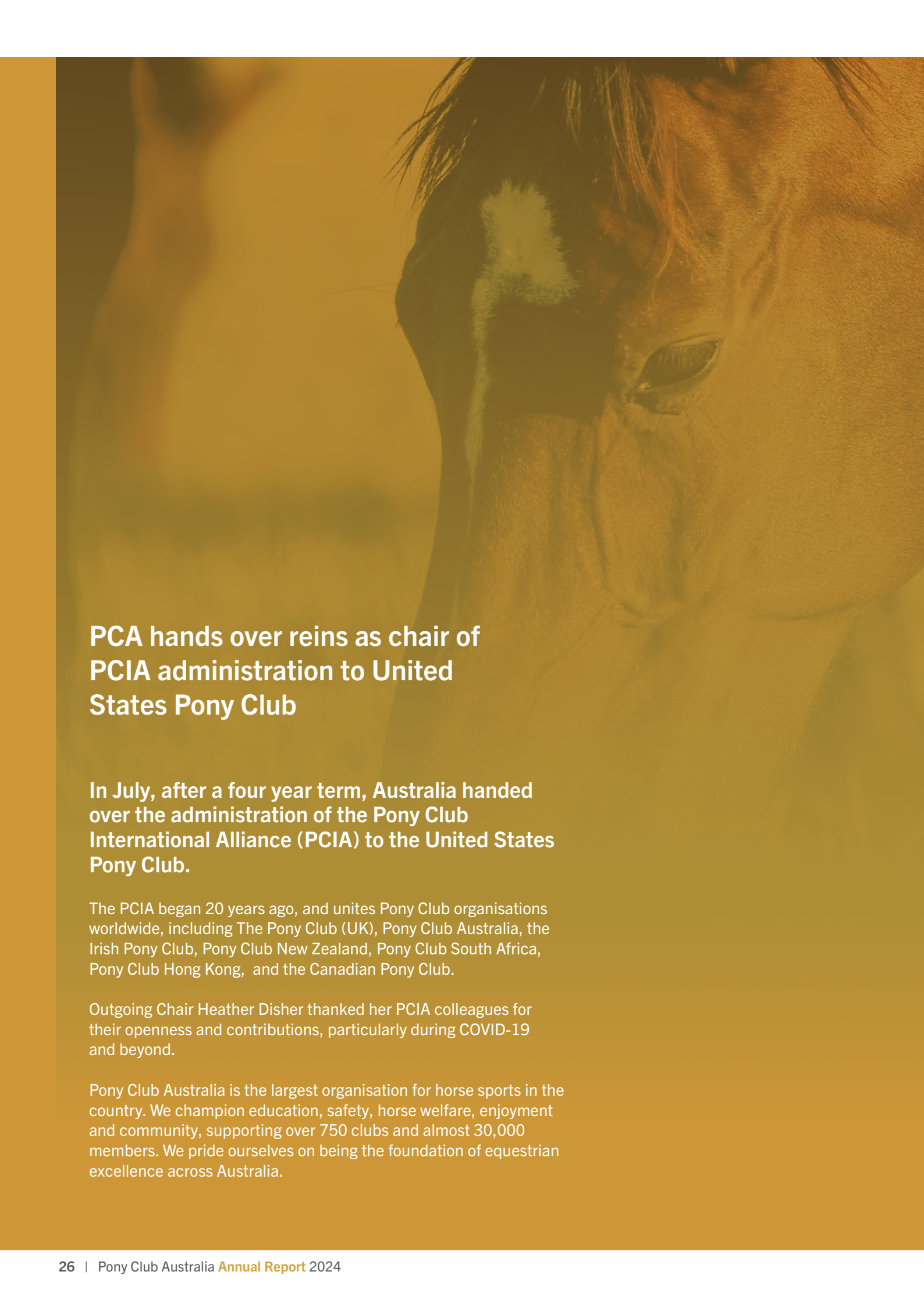
**The Gillian Rolton Award for Pony Club Alumnus**

**Winner:** Rachael Edwards Seville Pony Club VIC

**Finalists:**

Bev Shandley Corner Inlet Pony Club VIC  
The Atkins Family Birrallee and Districts Pony Club TAS  
Nellandra Henry Pony Club WA





## **PCA hands over reins as chair of PCIA administration to United States Pony Club**

**In July, after a four year term, Australia handed over the administration of the Pony Club International Alliance (PCIA) to the United States Pony Club.**

The PCIA began 20 years ago, and unites Pony Club organisations worldwide, including The Pony Club (UK), Pony Club Australia, the Irish Pony Club, Pony Club New Zealand, Pony Club South Africa, Pony Club Hong Kong, and the Canadian Pony Club.

Outgoing Chair Heather Disher thanked her PCIA colleagues for their openness and contributions, particularly during COVID-19 and beyond.

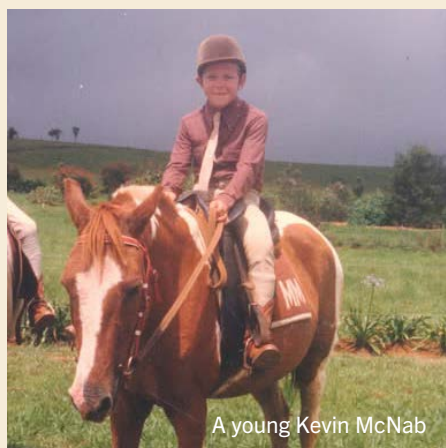
Pony Club Australia is the largest organisation for horse sports in the country. We champion education, safety, horse welfare, enjoyment and community, supporting over 750 clubs and almost 30,000 members. We pride ourselves on being the foundation of equestrian excellence across Australia.



Australian Olympian and former Pony Club QLD member, Kevin McNab

## Olympians Start at Pony Club

**Pony Club has been the starting point for most of our international riders over the years, hence our Vision Statement ‘A Life with Horses Starts Here’. The Paris Olympics in 2024 was no exception.**



A young Kevin McNab

### Eventing team

Chris Burton  
Kevin McNab

Shane Rose  
Shenae Lowings

### Dressage team

Simone Pearce  
Jayden Brown  
William Matthew  
Mary Hanna

### Show jumping team

Edwina Tops-Alexander  
Hilary Scott  
Thaisa Erwin  
Amber Fuller

### Paralympians (dressage)

Our four Paris paralympians - Stella Barton, Bridget Murphy, Dianne Barnes and Lisa Martin - were all Pony Club members.

Brymaroo Pony Club QLD  
Millaa Millaa, Malanda and  
Mareeba Pony Clubs, QLD  
Forest Hills and Avondale Pony Clubs NSW  
(travelling reserve) Riverside Pony Club WA

Bamawm Extension Pony Club VIC  
Brookfield Horse and Pony Club QLD  
Wanneroo Pony Club WA  
(reserve) Nambour Pony Club QLD

Avondale Pony Club NSW  
Moree and The Oaks Pony Clubs NSW  
Uralla and Districts Pony Club, NSW  
(travelling reserve) Bega and Narooma  
Pony Clubs NSW



## ANZAC Day celebrations

Some Pony Clubs in each state take part in their local ANZAC Day parades, honouring our veterans and in particular bringing back memories of our Lighthorsemen.



1. Glenlyon Pony Club 2. Narrabri PC 3. Bega Pony Club 4. Grenfell Pony Club

## Do It for Dolly

In May each year, more and more clubs participate in Do It For Dolly Day, raising awareness about the terrible effects of bullying. Pony Club Australia stands alongside all those dedicated to creating a kinder world, free of bullying.

At their May rallies and musters, members and their horses are encouraged to wear blue and raise funds for Dolly's Dream through activities such as making and selling blue food.







# Achievements Against Strategic Priorities



**PONY CLUB**  
AUSTRALIA

Throughout the reporting period, Pony Club Australia has made measurable progress across all five strategic priorities. From securing greater national recognition and funding, to improving governance, strengthening brand presence, expanding participation pathways, and embedding ethical practices, PCA continues to build a more aligned, inclusive, and future-focused organisation. The following outlines achievements under each strategic priority.

### **Strategic Priority 1: Secure the sport's position as the leading horse sport organisation in Australia**

Pony Club Australia has strengthened its national standing with an elevated National Sporting Organisation (NSO) ranking and increased funding for 2025/26 under the Australian Sports Commission's new Play Well investment strategy.

Internationally, PCA continues to play an active role in the Pony Club International Alliance (PCIA), attending the PCIA Conference hosted by the United States Pony Club in Kentucky in July.

PCA is building influence within the broader horse industry through regular collaboration with Riding for the Disabled Australia (RDAA) and Pony Club Australia. The CEO attended RDAA's strategic forum in July, and joint projects, including inclusive coaching modules, are planned for 2025.

Pony Club pathways were showcased through the National Pony Racing Series final at Warwick Farm, NSW, in April 2024. Media and content coordination

continues through monthly meetings between PCA's marketing lead and state representatives.

All PCA Annual Award sponsorship categories were filled in 2024, with a focus now on new procurement guided by an asset register. The Educational Development Committee continues its leadership initiatives, with 2024 Leadership Certificate graduates and a new Young Volunteer Recognition Program to be launched in 2025 via an Expression of Interest.

Multipurpose events remain a focus, with international exchange opportunities coordinated across four disciplines in 2024 and over 120 expressions of interest received for the Virtual Dressage Challenge. Domestically, the Prince Philip Mounted Games were hosted by Pony Club Victoria in October, and planning is underway for the 2025 PCA National Championships and International Pony Exchange at WPNEC.





Rebecca de Vries Photography

## Strategic Priority 2: Deliver a Strongly Aligned Sport Nationally

Pony Club Australia continues to strengthen its national alignment through improved governance, stakeholder engagement, and club support. The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee (FARC) meets three times annually under the leadership of independent Chair Venetta Sacha, with a focus on the risk register and audit recommendations. The Nominations Committee, chaired by Shannon Durrant, identified skill gaps and recommended appointments to the PCA Board, which were ratified in 2024. An annual governance assessment was completed using an industry-aligned template, resulting in a targeted action plan and a board evaluation.

Strategic and operational alignment with states is supported through quarterly meetings with state executives, held in February, May and October 2024, with the 2025–2027 strategic plan review a key focus.

Discipline committees for Tetrathlon and Mounted Games continue to meet regularly to review national rules and selection criteria.

A review of organisational values was included in the strategic planning process to ensure consistent, member-focused decision-making.

PCA also progressed enhancements to the JustGo membership and event portal, with state-supplied change requests collated and classified for implementation.

At the club level, 66 affiliated clubs have now commenced the Game Plan process, and a revised New Member Manual—drafted using contributions from state submissions—has been endorsed and rolled out as a recruitment and retention tool.

### **Strategic Priority 3: Enhance the image and perception of Pony Club horse sports**

Pony Club Australia has continued to strengthen its brand presence and broaden its appeal both within the organisation and to the wider horse community. A redesigned PCA website was launched with improved customer experience and search engine optimisation as key objectives.

Branded merchandise continues to support visibility, with orders processed via the JustGo shop and managed in-house by PCA's Member Services Officer. Engagement across all levels remains a focus, supported by a communications plan that uses email, website and social media tools to share key messages. Baseline metrics are being developed to assess engagement, and social media performance is actively monitored.

The 2024 PCA Annual Awards recognised contributions across 10 categories, with winners announced virtually following a public finalist showcase. PCA is also committed to telling its story in a meaningful way. 'Member Moments' were introduced to the social media schedule, highlighting rider milestones, challenges, and positive contributions. Leadership Certificate graduates from 2023/24 were featured in articles that emphasised the impact of the program and the qualities fostered in Pony Club members.

Clubs across the country have also embraced meaningful community involvement. On ANZAC Day, many Pony Clubs take part in local parades, honouring our veterans and commemorating the legacy of the Lighthorsemen. In May, increasing numbers of clubs participate in Do It For Dolly Day, raising awareness of the devastating effects of bullying. Pony Club members and their horses wear blue at rallies and musters, and run activities such as bake sales and blue-themed competitions, raising funds for Dolly's Dream and helping to build a kinder world.

### **Strategic Priority 4: Create opportunity for everyone to participate in horse sports**

Pony Club Australia continues to broaden access to horse sports through inclusive participation pathways, coach and official development, and community engagement initiatives. National insurance policies were secured to provide coverage for members, coaches, clubs, and zones. The National Safety Committee met in February, May and August 2024, focusing on incident data, the medical services framework, and concussion policy review. Participation opportunities for non-horse owners continue to grow through PCA's network of 30 accredited riding centres, with increasing state support to foster pathways into clubs. PCA also supported Pony Club Victoria in hosting the 2024 National Mounted Games from 24–27 October.

Coach and official development remains a key area of focus. The revised Level 1 coaching curriculum was launched, supported by an online manual, assessments, and lesson plan library now accessed by 380 of PCA's 1,077 accredited coaches. The Coaching Advisory Committee continues to guide the implementation of major education projects, including the bridging course, A certificate review, and coach assessor development. International coaching opportunities were extended to PCA coaches, including Paul Sueren and Carol Hobson, who were selected to support rider and coach development in China. More than 800 individuals are now accredited through PCA's officiating framework for gear checking.

To support skill development and retention, the A Certificate has been added as the pinnacle achievement in PCA's rider education framework, aligning with international standards. PCA also continues to invest in inclusion initiatives, with Indigenous coaches recently assessed in Halls Creek, WA, as part of the establishment of a new PCA riding centre for remote communities.



## Strategic Priority 5: Develop an ethical framework for participants within the PCA environment

Pony Club Australia continues to embed ethical practices across all areas of the organisation, with a strong focus on horse welfare and member integrity.

The Horse Welfare Policy was reviewed, following board approval of a framework aligned with Australian Standard AS ISO 37301:2023. Stakeholder consultation was conducted during April and May, with a revised draft presented to state representatives in October/November.

The National Gear Committee met in September for its annual review, with updates for 2025 to include the newly adopted body protector recommendation.

Horse welfare awareness is also supported through PCA's weekly 'Welfare Wednesday' social media series, linking equitation science principles with the PCA syllabus.

PCA is also advancing its integrity framework through the staged implementation of its continuous improvement (SISCIP) action plan, aimed at embedding best-practice safeguarding and member protection systems. Funding has been secured under the SIA National Integrity Capability Enhancement (NICE) Program through to 2026, enabling ongoing delivery by PCA's National Integrity Manager (NIM). The Integrity Reference Group meets regularly, and the NIM is actively travelling to states in 2024 to support local education efforts. Complaints management has also been centralised under the Conduct and Disciplinary Policy, with a compliant process piloted in Tasmania.





# National Committees



**PONY CLUB**  
AUSTRALIA





## **Pony Club Australia's national committees bring together experienced volunteers and staff from across the country to guide key areas of our organisation.**

Each committee plays an important role in maintaining national standards, supporting safety and education, developing disciplines, and ensuring consistent practices across all states and territories. Their work underpins the growth, safety, and success of Pony Club at every level.

### **National Safety Committee**

Tonia Murtagh (PCA, Chair)  
Tanya Appleby (WA)  
Shari Mawson (VIC)  
Greg Bailey (SA)  
Geoff Thomson (QLD)  
Clare Martin (NSW)  
Erin Hunn (TAS)

### **National Gear Committee**

Sally Wiseman (PCA)  
Michael Carlson (QLD)  
Dianne Ould (WA)  
Claire McDonald (VIC)  
Philip Logue (NSW)  
Ann Olsen (SA)  
Hayley Atkinson (TAS)  
Ilana Eldridge (NT)

### **Coaching Advisory Committee**

Sally Wiseman (PCA)  
Michael Carlson (QLD)  
Kathleen Kindler (VIC)  
Sarah Venamore (NSW)  
Judy Rose (WA)  
Ruth Hanssen (NT)  
Jacqui Arnold (SA)  
Tania Walsh (TAS)

### **Education and Development Committee**

Elizabeth Stanfield  
Jennifer Mainland  
Rebecca Ham  
Karen Luke  
Cathy Beh  
Kate Fenner  
Marylou Hodges  
Dr Catherine Ainsworth

## National Discipline Committees

### National Tetrathlon Committee

Kate Thomson (Chair)  
Kev Walsh (Qld)  
Janet Hamblin (NSW)  
Sarah Wiese (WA)  
Phyllis Pyke (Tas)  
Tiffany Bennett (SA)  
Kalinda Wade (Vic)

### National Mounted Games Committee

Michelle Newham (PCA)  
Niree Weybury (VIC)  
Penny Maynard (SA)  
Scott Jackson (QLD)  
Sean Corbin (WA)  
Phil Logue (NSW)  
Theresa Elias (TAS)  
Ruth Hanssen (NT)

## Integrity Network Group (Working Party)

Ruth Hanssen (NT)  
Tanya Appleby (WA)  
Ann Olsen (SA)  
Grada Andrews (TAS)  
Kathleen Kindler (VIC)  
Elysha Sargent, Renee Delicata (NSW)  
Sarah Standen (QLD)





# Integrity



**PONY CLUB**  
AUSTRALIA





## SPORT INTEGRITY AUSTRALIA

### **Pony Club Australia is committed to creating and maintaining a safe, fun and fair environment for everyone to enjoy Pony Club.**

Our organisation relies heavily on the volunteer efforts of many within the field to create and deliver our Pony Club activities and experiences. Our efforts to help implement and embed safeguarding and integrity practices is balanced with ensuring the support is provided to those in the field working to provide quality experiences to our members.

### **Continuous Improvement Program**

Pony Club Australia continues to work with the support of Sport Integrity Australia to address our own safeguarding practices and ensure we embed these practices in our everyday activities. The Safeguarding in Sport Continuous Improvement Program (SISCIP) is helping our organisation to increase our safeguarding measures and assisting state and territory governing bodies to assess and improve their practices as well.

### **Safeguarding & Integrity Workshops**

Pony Club Australia received a grant to help deliver one or more of the SISCIP deliverables. The area chosen was to educate our organisational leaders in safeguarding and integrity. These workshops have been delivered in Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia, Western Australia and the Northern Territory. Moving into 2025, workshops will be held in Queensland and New South Wales.

### **Integrity Network Group**

The Integrity Network Group meets monthly to find consensus on how to implement and embed safeguarding and integrity practices across the country. This group is seeking to harmonise practice across the country with the aim to simplify implementation and embedding of practices for club and zone volunteers. The sharing of knowledge within this group has been highly beneficial to the organisation's efforts to find a coordinated effort in the integrity space. This group has been working toward creating a national integrity plan to help consolidate efforts and ensure a common message.

### **Safeguarding and Integrity E-learning**

Pony Club Australia has a Sport Integrity Australia (SIA) Education Plan which incorporates integrity and safeguarding learning through the Sport Integrity Australia e-Learning platform. All National Board members have completed this training along with national staff as a part of the SIA Implementation Plan. State and Territory bodies along with Zone and Club committees and coaches have been asked to undertake this training. Significant progress has been made with many clubs, zones, coaches, state board members and state staff making this a priority. Nationally these requirements are being built into advertising for roles within the organisation and in role descriptions.

### **Game Plan**

Game Plan was launched by Pony Club Australia in March 2023 as a tool to help clubs to systematically assess their club's management capacity. The online program helps club committees to take a step-by-step approach to creating solid processes, procedures and practices, helping clubs grow strong and stay strong. National and State/Territory bodies have been provided with their own portal and will be assessed through this platform for their governance and management performance. The organisation has made some progress in sign up to Game Plan with nine percent of clubs and zones signed up to the platform by the end of 2024.





## Credentialing - completed

Credential Name and numbers completed	2023	2024
ASC-National Integrity Framework	8	181
ASC-Safeguarding Children and Young People in Sport Induction	202	385
ASC-Annual Update	41	79
ASC-Anti-Doping Fundamentals	56	75
Working with Children check	3123	2577
Game Plan	24	41

## Game Plan total sign up by the end of 2024

STATE	SIGNED UP
NSW	8
NT	3
QLD	36
SA	1
TAS	6
VIC	10
WA	2
TOTAL	66



# State Reports



**PONY CLUB**  
AUSTRALIA





## Western Australia



**It has been an incredible year for Pony Club WA. Our Association isn't just about riding horses; it is a community where young people grow into tomorrow's leaders. We focus on values like compassion, empathy, respect, and integrity, which help shape our members into great citizens.**

We began the year facing an unexpected challenge: the extreme heat experienced across Western Australia. This presented significant obstacles, leading to the cancellation of the State Coaching School and club rallies. Clubs and coaches were forced to adapt quickly, demonstrating amazing creativity in adjusting their programs and ensuring the continuity of our activities. This period highlighted the strength and adaptability of our members and committees, who did an amazing job at overcoming the challenges.

Despite these initial hurdles, our riders achieved great success on both the National and International stage. We were proud to witness the outstanding performances of Isabelle Cox (Esperance), Emma Wiese (Dryandra), Daniel Wiese (Dryandra), and Campbell Black (Wallangarra) at the PCIA Tetrathlon in Ireland. Under the guidance of Coach Nikita Mawhirt (WA), they represented Australia with excellence, showcasing their talent and dedication to our sport.

Lauren Bassola (Swan Valley) earned the prestigious honour of representing Australia at the PCIA Mounted Games in Canada, coached by Dan Foster (WA). Our State Teams also excelled at the National Championships in Victoria. The Senior Team of Daniel Suvaljko (Serpentine), Aaron Suvaljko (Swan Valley), Jorja Brown (Swan Valley), Rohan Smith (Wooroloo), and Lewis Hudson (Wooroloo); Reserve: Kailani Muir (Murray) took home first place. Their Coach was Sean Corbin and Team Manager Steve Harney.





Our Junior Team of Ellie Steele (Swan Valley), Lauren Bassola (Swan Valley), Cade Smith (Wooroloo), Keira Dowding (Swan Valley), and Madelyn Harney (Swan Valley); Reserve: Ellie Gilberd (Serpentine) secured a commendable second place, highlighting the high calibre of riders we have within our state. Their Coach was Sean Corbin and Team Manager Sarah Suvaljko.

The PCIA Virtual Dressage provided an exciting avenue for our dressage riders to showcase their skills. Australian Team members: Mia Tollarzo (Darling Range), Sophie Appleby (Serpentine), Kaeleigh Brown (Capel), Jorja Wareham (Dardanup), Lauren Rowe (Busselton), Marni Bercene (Wellington), Krystina Bercene (Wellington). Individuals: Emma Tomlinson (Murray), Amelia McDonald (King River), Jessica Ridley (Busselton), Ashleigh Pritchard (King River), Caitlin Pritchard (King River). We celebrated numerous individual and team successes, further demonstrating the talent within Pony Club WA.

A huge thank you to PCA and Thoroughbred Racing Industries for the thrilling National Pony Racing series. The WA Qualifier was held at Ascot Racecourse, where Ruby Gilberd (Serpentine) won the small category and Cade Smith (Wooroloo) won the large category.

Royal Randwick NSW was the impressive stage for the National Final of the Pony Racing series. After making the huge trek over with their ponies, Aspen Pike (Peel), was 2nd overall in the small pony category and Isabella

Sprigg (Bonnie Rock) placed 3rd in the large pony category. Absolutely outstanding results!

Our partnership with the Royal Agricultural Society for Pony Club Day at the Perth Royal Show was a highlight of the year, providing a platform for our members to excel in Showman, Showjumping, and Games. The event was a resounding success, showcasing the skill of our riders in front of the enormous crowds that gathered to watch.

The State Coaching School, held in late November/early December, embraced technology to support our country coaches through online presentations. This innovative approach enhanced the accessibility and effectiveness of our coaching programs, ensuring that our coaches are equipped with the latest knowledge and skills. Sally Wiseman from PCA and Allira Gould from Gow-Gates were both in attendance, and we benefited from their knowledge.

This year, we hit some tremendous milestones. Our Regional Service Grant has been a game-changer, allowing us to provide more support to our regional clubs. A special shoutout to our State Coaching Panel for their huge commitment to travel to these clubs and deliver programs to coaches, officials, and members. Their dedication has made a significant impact on our regional communities.





A huge thank you to the Board, Vanessa, Wanda, Vikki, and all our amazing officials and volunteers. We joined together to run six successful State Championships, and the Pony Club Festival. The level of sportsmanship and community grows each year. We are very fortunate to have so many talented young riders.

We extend our sincere gratitude to Thompson & Redwood for their continued and invaluable support. Their sponsorship of the T&R Pony Club Mount of the Month program, which builds confidence in our younger riders and recognises the brilliance of those special ponies in the formative years.

The High Performance 2-day Camp hosted at Serpentine Horse and Pony Club provided an excellent opportunity for over 60 aspiring riders to refine their skills and advance their performance. It was wonderful to see them striving for excellence together.

We wrapped up the year with the Awards Night, held in December, where we celebrated the achievements of our members, coaches, and volunteers. Over 250 people attended and shared a meal under the festoon lights and marquee. The evening took place on the President's Lawn, State Equestrian Centre, and recognised outstanding contributions in various categories, including Young Coach of the Year, Volunteer of the Year, and Best Achievement by Riders across different age groups. The inaugural winner of the Thompson and Redwood "Spirit of Pony Club

Award" was Campbell Black (Wallangarra). We were fortunate to have Suanne Waugh, Integrity Manager from PCA, present two Integrity workshops earlier in the afternoon at the Pony Club Cottage for our members. This was a great opportunity for our country members to attend the workshops and our Awards Night all at the one venue.

These highlights underscore the vibrant and dynamic activities of Pony Club WA in 2024, reflecting our commitment to excellence and community engagement. We honoured the dedication and hard work of our community, highlighting the spirit and camaraderie that defines Pony Club WA.

As we reflect on 2024, it is evident that our Pony Club community has demonstrated incredible resilience and a steadfast commitment to equestrian sports. We have faced challenges, celebrated triumphs, and strengthened our connections as a community. To our members, your passion, dedication, and unwavering spirit are the foundation of Pony Club WA. As we look to the future, let us continue to build on this success, fostering a vibrant and inclusive community for future generations.

"A life with horses starts here."





## Queensland

**2024 was a busy and productive year for PCQ. The year traditionally started in early January with the annual State Seminar at Southport Pony Club.**

The seminar attracted riders, coaches and officials from across Queensland with a diverse program offered including rider development sessions in dressage and showjumping, general coach updating clinic, technical delegate accreditation and updating in showjumping, course design, dressage and combine training and dressage judge accreditation and updating. Queensland also saw a significant number of members becoming gear checkers.

PCQ's state chief instructors and regional directors of coaching, supported by regional and zone panels have been instrumental in conducting clinics and seminars focused on coach and official development, updating

and governance. These efforts are crucial in building capacity at the club, zone and state levels.

A new initiative by our State Chief Instructor saw the introduction of the Safe Horse Interaction Program (SHIP) specifically for beginners and targets prep and under, although it is also open to anyone wanting to learn about horses. The SHIP initiative is a forerunner to the Merit program.

In keeping with our strategic plan, a revised edition of the PCQ Admin Handbook was produced and published with each financial club and zone receiving a bound copy. This resource is an excellent guide for clubs to use as a reference especially for newly elected office bearers. The Admin Office also began conducting Q&A sessions via zoom for clubs and zones to enable everyday queries to be addressed. A survey was also conducted to gain feedback from members to enable PCQ, moving forward, to serve our members more effectively.





The Executive Committee became aware that some clubs have somewhat old and outdated constitutions, so to assist those clubs wanting to rectify this, PCQ in consultation with legal advice developed a Pony Club specific 'model rules' that clubs are able to adopt.

There was a strong emphasis on governance with PCQ signing up to the ASC Game Plan and encouraging zones and clubs to do likewise, this is ongoing. With governance being highlighted, a skills matrix guide was drafted to assist zones/clubs with succession planning, balancing skills to oversee their operations and meet strategic goals and future direction of their respective association.

PCQ established the SteerCo'26 committee, compiling a list of the next generation of young innovative positive and proactive thinkers which provides advice to the Executive Committee in the future direction of Pony Club® in Queensland.

During 2024, PCQ upgraded its website with the development of a modern, fresh look and a more user-friendly structure enabling this resource to be better utilised. An APP was also developed to complement the website and assist in obtaining information pertinent to pony club in Queensland more relevant and more easily available.

The Executive Committee also introduced a 'recognition program' for our volunteers in the categories of coaches, officials, gear checkers and volunteers. Our volunteers are the backbone of our sport and as an acknowledgement to these members, recognition lapel pins were provided to individuals. This is a small token of PCQ's appreciation which recognises these members expertise, skills, experience, commitment and dedication to our sport.





## Tasmania

**Pony Club Tasmania continues to provide fantastic opportunities for riders to enjoy and develop their skills in a safe and supportive environment, thanks to the dedication of our volunteers.**

However, membership numbers are declining, and with no paid staff, the workload on a small group of committed individuals continues to grow. We greatly

appreciate the support of the Tasmanian Government department, Active Tasmania, whose financial and administrative assistance enables us to deliver quality education and training programs at the grassroots level. However, this support was at risk this year as we faced challenges in achieving the required gender balance for the State Board.

In March 2024, we saw the Northern Zone run State Trials (Eventing Championship) with nearly 100 riders



enjoying a super event over the fantastic cross-country course at Powranna. This was a very professionally run competition held over three days; thanks to the Northern Zone for all the work they put into this State Championship.

We then headed off to the South in April for the State Dressage and Jumping Championships being run by the Southern Zone at the Tasmanian Equestrian Centre. This again was a very well-run championship with a good number of entries.

Finally, we travelled to the North West with the Mounted Games State Championship being held in Smithton in June. This was run under the new format, and it was a lovely day with friendly competition. Congratulations to Circular Head Pony Club on another well-run championship.

In August we hosted our annual Stakeholder Forum for all District Commissioners and club representatives. This year's topics included a presentation from PCA's Suanne Waugh on Game Plan and Integrity, Handbook/ rule updates, a Chief Coaches' update, an update regarding proficiency certificates earning credit for the Tasmanian Certificate of Education, and Chenoa Trama (Yandina PC QLD) on JustGo. The Stakeholder Forum is a great opportunity for all clubs to be able to come together and talk through any issues that they may be experiencing.

Hanna Bailey, Lucy Johnston and Ilanna McDougall completed the PCA Leadership Certificate, and the feedback from them in relation to this certificate has been very positive. Likewise, the feedback from PCA has also been very complimentary about these young members.

We have seen many riders selected for international representation this year; this is certainly an opportunity that sets PCT apart from other equestrian organisations for our members.

- Ashlea Rees competed in the International Mounted Games Exchange in New South Wales.
- Ella Nast, Lucy Johnston and Kassi Jones competed in the International Virtual Dressage competition with good results.
- Kaitlyn Brockett was selected for the Australian team heading to the International Quiz Exchange in Kentucky.
- Bailey Elias and Darcy Miller were selected to go to the UK and Ireland for the Senior Tetrathlon Championships.
- Meg Kilby was selected to represent Australia in the International Mounted Games Exchange in Canada and
- Kassi Jones was part of the China Exchange with Tasmanian Coach, Carol Hobson. These are such amazing trips and offer members an opportunity to make lifelong friends and memories, I encourage riders to look out for opportunities in the coming 12 months.

In June, we returned to face to face coaching updates, hosting an update weekend for all coaches. In all 70 coaches travelled from all over the state, including Flinders Island, providing a great opportunity for current coaches to maintain their accreditation and new coaches to be inducted.

In September the Northern Zone hosted the inaugural State Awards night, which was a huge success and a lovely way to showcase the award winners and finalists this year. It was an honour to have PCA Chair Heather Discher attend the night and also to recognise Maddy Handbury on achieving her A Certificate, as well as acknowledging all our final year members.

This year Pony Club Tasmania is included in the National Pony Racing Series, which will give us a great opportunity to further develop our relationship with TasRacing and also give our riders an opportunity to participate in this exciting activity.

We must recognise and say thank you to the amazing volunteers, members and supporters of Pony Club in Tasmania for their valuable contribution and support. I have enjoyed my time as PCT President and welcome Martin Rees to the role as incoming President and Chair.

**- Erin Hunn, Outgoing President**

Photo credits: Caitlin How Photography, MB Photography, Di Nicolson, Gary Harris-Newsham, Sarah Johnston and photos submitted by pony club members



## Northern Territory

### The 2024 year started with a gear checkers course held in Jan 2024 resulted in 9 volunteers being accredited.

Early in the year our Coach Development co-ordinator Ruth Hanssen, travelled to Alice Springs to deliver Prelim coach training. One volunteer coach was assessed and is now a qualified Prelim Coach. Congratulations Heidi Kudrenko, on achieving this coaching milestone.

A number of young riders trained for their C certificates in the April school holidays with approx. 10 riders achieving their C certificates.

The group of 5 youth riders who enrolled in the B Certificate program in 2023 continued to work their way through the requirements. This year they focused on the flat work component. Kath Kindler, Victorian Chief Coach, carried out a virtual assessment and gave sound guidance on how each rider could improve their skills.

The renowned Portland Jones came to the NT mid year and offered rider clinics with a focus on foundation skills and equitation science.

In May, Noonamah Horse and Pony Club hosted the equestrian program at Freds Pass show with a suite of showjumping and mounted games events being offered.

Sponsored coach Nicole Mutimer travelled from Darwin to Alice Springs Horse and Pony Clubs several times to deliver rider clinic for youth and Adult riders. Litchfield Horse and Pony Club continued to offer a variety of activities and did a great job attracting and retaining adult riders as well as young riders. Litchfield held its first Stockman's Challenge series this year. This proved to be very popular, particularly for Adult riders, and is likely to become a regular event.

Katherine Horse and Pony Club made great use of their newly turfed arena and upgraded facilities by hosting several competitions involving showjumping, mounted games and dressage. This club offered a very diverse rally program for young and adult riders that included campdrafting, polocrosse, extreme cowboy obstacle



course as well as the staples of dressage, flatwork, showjumping and mounted games.

A PCANT Board Member travelled to Victoria to attend the PCA Annual Conference and AGM in May. This proved to be a great opportunity to get across the range of current and emerging issues, stimulate ideas and create new networks. Our rep, Ilana Eldridge came back to the NT with a head full of information and motivation.

In the June school holidays the NT Youth Camp was held with approximately 60 riders attending the week long event. Riders came from most clubs to experience a busy week of riding and on ground lessons and social activities. Interstate coaches, Dan Foster – mounted games and Clem Smith – showjumping ensure the young riders stretched their abilities and increased their horsemanship knowledge and skills.

Katherine Horse and Pony Club hosted the mounted games and Pony Club ring events at the Katherine Show in July. There was a good turn out and it is a great way for junior riders to start their show riding careers.

Katherine Horse and Pony Club rider, Lilly Bright, travelled to the UK and Ireland in July, as the reserve member of PCA's International Tetrathlon Exchange team. Whilst in the UK Lilly was invited to be a member of a composite USA/NZ team and this gave her the opportunity to compete in all the events.

In September a Katherine Horse and Pony Club rider, Asha Schmidt travelled to Canada as a team member of the International Mounted Games Exchange.

Excitedly, the Australian team came 2nd to the UK. In October 2024, PCANT hosted the equestrian events for the Alice Springs Masters Games. Approximately 30 riders competed across 5 equestrian disciplines. It was busy yet fun time for riders, coaches and volunteers with all describing their experience as the 'friendly games'. In addition to the Games, there was an Off the Track (OTT) riding clinic held prior to the games and a ranch riding clinic held on the 'rest' day during the games. PCANT thanks Thoroughbred Racing NT for their generous sponsorship to support the Masters Games.

If you are an adult rider from interstate, who is up for an adventure and unforgettable experience, save the date for October 2026 in your diary and start planning to come to the next Master Games in Alice Springs. Who knows, we might even add a 'State of Origin' competition.

The NT Junior Mounted Games team travelled to Victoria for the National Mounted Games competition in October. The NT team continued to improve this year, placing well in the various rounds and were in 3rd place until the last 2 events which saw the team slip to 5th place.

PCANT hosted its Annual Conference in November with delegates from all of the clubs attending. The PCA National Integrity manager, Suanne Waugh, attended and facilitated several information sessions, which provided invaluable support and training to our club officials and volunteers. Along with all the club identifying their highlights and issues to be addressed the weekend conference provided a lot good ideas and helps the clubs map out their priorities and event schedules for the coming year.

Throughout the year PCANT representatives participated in the National Coaching Committee meetings, the National Safety Committee meetings, National Mounted Games meetings, as well Horse Welfare Committee meetings. Having people representing the Northern Territory on these committees, ensures as our circumstances are considered when changes are proposed and we are keeping abreast of current issues and we are 'keeping up with the times', so to speak.

All in all, 2024 was another productive year with junior, youth and adult riders continuing to develop their skills and stretch themselves in competitions.

Our small band of committee and club officials and volunteers across the NT did a massive job to ensure the Pony Club movement in the NT remained vibrant, relevant and enjoyable to all.

PCANT thanks NT Government for its ongoing financial support throughout the year.



## Celebrating 70 Years of PCV

2024 marked the 70th anniversary of Pony Club Victoria, a milestone celebrated on January 13, 2024. This year brought significant leadership transitions and a renewed focus on organisational values and cultural development.

## Key Events & Competitions

PCV successfully hosted a range of state-level events:

- Prince Phillip Mounted Games - August & June
- Ride to Time Championship - September
- Tetrathlon - December
- State Dressage & Showjumping Championships - February
- State Horse Trials - May
- Kay Irving Games & Musical Ride – June





## Membership & Growth

PCV continues to thrive, with 7,637 total members, including Ready 2 Ride and adult/club supporters. The Come & Try program remains strong, continually introducing new riders to the club.

## Leadership & Office Updates

Despite staff changes, PCV's office team maintained smooth operations, delivered successful training programs, supported state events, and upgraded office technology to enhance efficiency.

## Coaching & Rider Development

- 613 registered coaches supported riders statewide.
- New coaching qualifications were introduced, including the Foundation National Coaching Level.
- Collaborations with Racing Victoria's Off the Track helped train coaches working with retired racehorses.
- 149 new accredited Gear Checkers were trained to ensure safety at events.
- High-achieving riders were awarded Rider Certificates and Awards of Merit.

## Looking Ahead

With a strong foundation set, PCV is committed to enhancing member experiences, fostering club growth, and continuing to be the leading choice for young riders and families.

Thank you to our volunteers, sponsors, and members for making this year a success!





New South Wales



**Pony Club NSW has a broad and diverse calendar for each year, some events move about according to the best times for those Zones wishing to host but many have traditional dates – 7 championship weekends covering 13 disciplines were held in 2024.**

Entries at almost all were greater than the previous year and all events covered expenses or made a profit. The improved numbers were due to the introduction of new event regulations or new age groups and classes for championships. In NSW rules can only be changed at the State meetings held 3 times a year and in recent times we have made considerable progress in updating our event regulations to remain more in touch with modern events. One such example is allowing 2 horses for certain disciplines which has been a resounding success and welcomed by many members.

#### Our events for 2024 were:

State Camp – SIEC, January – the 15 highest ranked applicants for each of the disciplines attend an intensive 4 ½ day training camp. State Camp has been running for 31 years now. Our coaches for 2024 were Sam Lyle (Eventing), Sarah Venamore (Dressage), Jane Frankum (Showjumping), Ben Logue (Mounted Games), Phil Logue (Mounted Games and Versatile

Rider), Clare Martin (Versatile Rider) and invited experts in Polocrosse and nutrition. An excursion to the state of the art Randwick Equine Centre and mini masterclasses was topped off by Night of the Stars with Olympic dressage rider Brett Parbery, Eventing Champion and superstar coach Sam Lyle and Australian Showjumping Team Chef D'Equipe Stephen Lamb and then a Lighthorse demonstration by Phil and Ben Logue

#### State Championships held were:

March	Formal Gymkhana and Tetrathlon, Denman, Zone 7
April	Sporting, Campdraft and Challenge, Warialda, Zone 8
August	Sydney Royal Pony Club events ODE and Combined Training, Coonabarabran, Zone 5 Showjumping and Jumping Equitation, Camden, Zone 10
October	Mounted Games and Team Sporting, Braidwood, Zone 27
November	Dressage, Gloucester, Zone 25
January (postponed)	Show Riding, Hawkesbury, Zone 26

Thank you to all host Zones around the state who pitched in, offered their venues and in most cases reaped the rewards from successful canteen operations. We also had some local stars come to visit





Jolong Park Riding School, Bangholme VIC



Photo credits: Rodney's Photography

and present awards such as Shane Rose who attended the Camden event.

Some major projects for 2024 have been the revamp of the NSW rulebook which is known as the Blue Book. This has been a major ordeal as the Blue Book has been added to and edited since the 1980s – it was finally time for a major overhaul and simplification. This project is now in its final stages and all are looking forward to accessing the new version.

Also in 2023/24 we saw the successful introduction of the Bronze and Silver Instructors courses which were updated versions of the NSW old system Intro, Level 1 and Level 2 accreditations which have existed for decades – the Bronze and Silver have been a resounding success and embrace new technology with the ability to use Zoom sessions making it more accessible to most people, they also complete components online as well as a face to face session and practical assessments. We have now had over 200 instructors successfully complete the updated courses.

It is important to note that the NCAS accreditations are also offered, taught and examined so that any instructor in NSW can choose which system suits their needs – some become accredited with Bronze and then move on to NCAS when they realise it is not as daunting as first thought!

Membership numbers were slightly down in 2024 with just over 9000 members. We continue to think of more ways to ensure members are interested and happy and the organisation is attractive to all to attend. NSW Clubs and Zones are entirely volunteer based with only a few key Executive members having an honorarium and the professional office staff being paid. We find it a great system and it enables all areas to keep expenses down for participants. Membership numbers are often affected by local situations (weather events, drought etc) and NSW is a very large state. What works in one area does not necessarily suit another however we continue to move forward.

Financially Pony Club NSW are in a great position through hard work and constant budgeting which can also only get better! We have leased out our office in Wollongong and cut many of the expenses associated with it. Given modern technologies and work processes, the office and its income are a valuable asset. We are also grateful to the NSW Office of Sport for the annual Organisational Support Grant which each State Sporting Organisation is eligible for and try to give back to the members through the Zones and Clubs. A key area that the grant requirements cover is getting the organisation in order according to Game Plan and the Government's key priorities. Pony Club NSW was originally formed in 1946 and surprisingly many policies and protocols still need updating to NSW 2025 standards so this is a work in progress.





Photo by Sahara Warren



Photo by Sue Young



Photo by Sue Young



Photo by Christine Lippert

## South Australia

**The State ODE Championships was hosted by South East Zone at Mt Gambier. For the first time there were championships for the younger grades – down to Grade 5 level. Alongside the championship the South East held a Grade 6 and Combined Training competition to help increase numbers.**

Our gala dinner 'Boots & Bling', which is a celebration of our volunteers, was held at the West Lakes golf club and was a huge success with lots of prizes and fun activities. There was a whip cracking demonstration by Tierym Warren, line dancing tips and more.

The Willington One Day Event was run by Pt Augusta Pony Club at Willington in August. This is the first time this event has been run for 30 years. Phil and his team spent many hours building the cross country courses

for levels Six up to Three. The event saw a rider who rode at the last one 30 years ago ride at this year's event!

Our State Championships and Gymkhana event was hosted by Central Zone at Kadina. Once again the weather provided a challenge with a storm dumping quite a lot of rain on some unlucky riders. Dressage was well represented, and we saw an increase in our showjumping numbers which was good to see. Quiz was once again hotly contested with lots of fun had by all.

With sponsorship from Horseland we ran our State Quiz competition again, over four weeks, with scores being added together for winners in sub junior, junior, and senior. We have seen an increase in numbers in the sub junior section and feedback was positive. Competition was very close with only a few points separating the placings.





# Accredited Riding Centres



**PONY CLUB**  
AUSTRALIA



**Pony Club Australia's Accredited Riding Centres continue to experience significant growth, with a 43 percent increase in riding centre members over the past year.**



This growth highlights the important role these centres play in providing accessible entry points to equestrian sport for riders who do not own their own horse.

The Riding Centre program continues to successfully deliver on its core objective of introducing new riders to the Pony Club syllabus within the supportive environment of accredited riding centres. These centres cater to a broad spectrum of riders, including those with disabilities, by offering tailored programs such as therapeutic sessions and non-ridden horse experiences.

Camps offered through Riding Centres remain highly popular, with over 20 camps held throughout the year catering to both junior and adult riders. These camps provide valuable opportunities for skill development, social connection, and increased engagement with the Pony Club community.

A highlight of the year was the recognition of Kurshonbrooke Lodge as the 2024 Riding Centre of the Year. Owner Shonell Balsillie, a qualified teacher, has developed an outstanding program that focuses

on introductory riding lessons and Equine Assisted Learning (EAL). In addition, Kurshonbrooke Lodge partners with local schools to deliver programs designed to foster confidence and personal development through interaction with horses.

In 2024, Riding Centres also began facilitating coaching pathways to further strengthen the delivery of the Pony Club syllabus within their programs. Three new coaches have commenced a 12-month training program, which will result in their accreditation as Preliminary Coaches, ensuring high-quality instruction and consistency with Pony Club standards.

The contribution of Accredited Riding Centres in preparing riders for horse ownership and their seamless transition into Pony Club membership continues to be a key focus. This commitment is reflected in the collaborative initiatives between Riding Centres, local Pony Clubs, and zones, which aim to support riders as they progress from learning in a centre environment to active participation in the broader Pony Club community.





Claremont Therapeutic Riding Centre

## Accredited PCA Riding Centres 2024

<b>NSW</b>	Ameldean Equestrian (Tamworth)
	Little Ranch Horse Riding Lessons (Yorklea)
	Whitehorn Academy (Maitland Vale)
	Yara Balba Stables (Mandalong)
	Yass Valley Riding Centre (Manton)
<b>NT</b>	Bees Creek (Darwin)
<b>QLD</b>	4Mile Farm (Gracemere)
	Bonogin Valley Horse Retreat (Bonogin)
	Elemental Equine (Gympie)
	Firefly Park (Jimboomba)
	Kurshonbrooke Lodge (Gumdale)
	Mundoolun Reins Riding Academy (Mundoolun)
	Phoenix Acres Equine Centre (Sharon)
<b>TAS</b>	Jeu De Cheval (Hobart)
	Junction Farm (Carrick)
	Nan's Riding School (Longford)
	Oakwood Equestrian Academy (Birdwood)
<b>VIC</b>	Avoca Park (Macclesfield)
	Jolong Park Riding School (Bangholme)
	Trot Up Pony Centre (East Gippsland)
<b>WA</b>	Claremont Therapeutic Riding Centre (Claremont)
	Zia Park (Gidgegannup)
	Eq Cetera Riding Centre (Darling Downs)



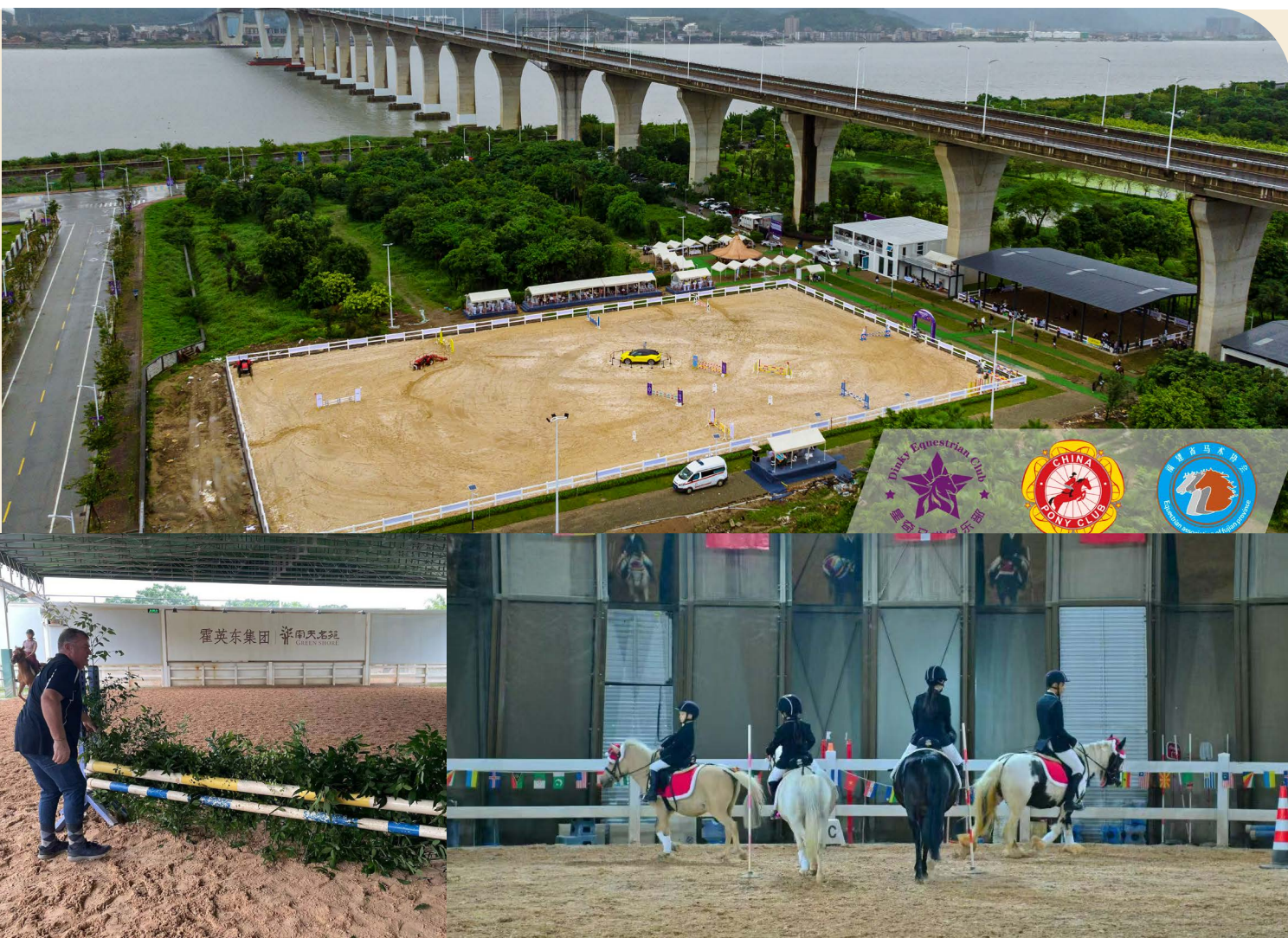
# China Pony Club



**PONY CLUB**  
AUSTRALIA







## The current economic environment has affected the number of China Pony Club (CPC) members able to learn about and sit for their Pony Club proficiency tests.

To keep CPC member clubs active and involved in the Pony Club system, and to make the good use of the expertise of different visiting PCA coaches, CPC arranged PCA coaches to visit different member clubs to provide training for riders and coaches based on their specific needs, such as:

- Basic showjumping course design clinic,
- How to coach dressage,
- C and C star manuals knowledge training to coaches and riders (normally, most of the Chinese coaches don't have access to learn theory knowledge or cross country knowledge),
- Musical ride camp and other training with special topics,

This allowed the coaches to spend longer with CPC member clubs so our coaches could learn how to coach in a real Pony Club way. Although different PCA coaches may vary slightly in their coaching methods, they all reinforced the message to our riders and coaches that Pony Club is fun!

Early in the year, China Pony Club CEO Leo Liang and secretary Smily Duan made a work trip to Australia and New Zealand to finalise several CPC international events, including camps and international exchanges.

During May, a Youth Equestrian Challenge was held at two Chinese Pony Clubs -Blue Horse Equestrian Academy (Green Shore branch) and Blue Horse Pony Kingdom Equestrian Academy (Six Elements Branch).

This is the second year these clubs have hosted this competition, designed to give Pony Club members competition experience. CPC sent PCA coach Carol Hobson as the chief judge along with two CPC colleagues to operate and coordinate these events.





The CPC Asia & Pacific Cup Showjumping Challenge (Fuzhou) and The First “Dinky Cup” Equestrian Invitational Tournament were also held in May. Teams from Australia and New Zealand Pony Clubs also competed beside Chinese riders from 14 different equestrian centres and Pony Clubs in this exchange.

In August, seven Chinese Pony Club members and two team managers attended a Pony Club camp at the New England Girls School (NEGS) in Armidale, NSW. This was the 8th CPC camp to Australia! It was also the first time that CPC camp was held in an equestrian centre on site at a school, which provided the campers with opportunities to attend different school classes with local students, live in school guest houses, and eat in a school canteen, as well as equestrian lessons. CEO of PCA Matt Helmers visited the campers when they arrived to welcome them.

In September, Chair of PCA board, Heather Disher and CEO Matt Helmers visited five CPC member clubs in four cities. They met with CPC board members and centre managers, some riders, coaches and parents and attended some events, all helping them

to understand CPC better and contribute to a closer relationship between the two organisations.

Four international teams from Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Ireland attended an exchange in China later in the year, and riders from 21 different Chinese equestrian centres and Pony Clubs took part. Next year is the 10th anniversary of China Pony Club.

The huge language and cultural differences with most other Pony Club nations has not stopped CPC from becoming an organisation with nearly 50 member clubs. It has been a great decade and all the CPC staff will keep trying their best to continue contributing to the Pony Club movement as much as possible.



## CPC International Cultural Exchanges

**This type of exchange is more about equestrian and cultural exchange and communication, rather than intense competition.**

It gives a chance for less competitive riders from both China and abroad to participate, and allows smaller China member clubs a chance to host an event.

This type of exchange was very popular in China before the pandemic. For example, PCA sent nine teams on cultural exchanges in 2019 and it is hoped the visits will increase again in the future.

For our part, CPC riders attended camps and exchanges to Australia for 11 times in 2024.

Smily Duan, CPC Secretary





# Financial Statements



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# Directors' report

31 December 2024

**The directors present their report, together with the financial statements, on the company for the year ended 31 December 2024.**

## Directors

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

- Heather Disher
- Jo Morgan
- Carole-anne Hodges
- Nick Hassett
- Tonia Murtagh
- Kate Fenner
- Marylou Hodges (Appointed 25 May 2024)
- Alison Cairns (Appointed 25 May 2024)
- Jacob McLoughlin (Resigned 25 May 2024)
- Maris Beck (Resigned 25 May 2024)

## Principal activities

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

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

## Operating results

The surplus of the company for the financial year amounted to \$86,126 (2023: surplus of \$66,538).

## Significant changes

No other significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

## Objectives

### Short term objectives

PCA's short-term objectives are to:

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

### Long term objectives

PCA's long term objectives are to:

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

## Events after the reporting date

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

## Environmental issues

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

# Directors' report (continued)

## Information on directors

**Name:** Heather Disher

**Qualifications:** Certified Chair (CCABC),  
Certificates in Governance and Finance

**Special responsibilities:** Board Chair

**Name:** Jacob McLoughlin

**Qualifications:** Bachelor of Law. Admitted to  
a practice as a solicitor of the Supreme Court of  
Queensland and High Court of Australia; Barrister  
and Solicitor of the High Court of New Zealand

**Special responsibilities:** Secretary and Finance,  
Audit and Risk Committee

**Name:** Jo Morgan

**Qualifications:** Bachelor of Business (Marketing  
Major), Master of Applied Finance, Graduate  
Member of the Australian Institute of Company  
Directors, Fellow of FINSIA (Financial Services  
Institute of Australasia)

**Name:** Carole-anne Hodges

**Qualifications:** Certificates in Finance and  
Business Management

**Name:** Nick Hassett

**Qualifications:** Graduate of Australian Institute  
of Company Directors (GAICD), Governance in  
Sport qualification from the Governance Institute  
of Australia, Masters in Public Policy  
and Management from Monash University

**Special responsibilities:** Finance, Audit and Risk  
Committee and Nominations Committee

**Name:** Tonia Murtagh

**Qualifications:** Licensed Real Estate Agent

**Name:** Kate Fenner

**Qualifications:** Bachelor of Equine Science  
(Hons), PhD (Horse Behaviour, Training and  
Welfare), University of Queensland Lecturer  
and Researcher, Equestrian coach, Horse  
trainer, International Society of Equitation  
Science, JV President

**Name:** Maris Beck

**Qualifications:** Bachelor of Arts (University of  
Canterbury), Masters of International Politics  
(University of Melbourne), Directorial candidate  
(University of Sydney), Diploma of Government  
Investigations (Australian Security Academy),  
Foundations of Directorship (Australian Institute  
of Company Directors)

**Special responsibilities:** Finance, Audit and  
Risk Committee and Nominations Committee

**Name:** Marylou Hodges

**Qualifications:** Diploma in Business, Community  
Services & Case Management, Certificate in  
Training and Assessment, Education support  
in tertiary education

**Name:** Alison Cairns

**Qualifications:** Graduate of Australian Institute  
of Company Directors (GAICD), Technology  
transformation Partner at Ernst & Young

**Name:** Venetta Sacha - Non Director

**Qualifications:** B Ec, CA, Chartered Tax Adviser,  
Graduate of Australian Institute of Company  
Directors (GAICD).

**Special responsibilities:** Chair: Finance, Audit  
and Risk Committee



## Meetings of directors

The number of meetings of the company’s Board of Directors (‘the Board’) held during the year ended 31 December 2024, and the number of meetings attended by each director were:

Directors	Attended	Full Board Held
Heather Disher (Board Chair)	8	8
Jacob McLoughlin	3	8
Jo Morgan	7	8
Carole-anne Hodges	8	8
Nick Hassett	7	8
Tonia Murtagh	8	8
Kate Fenner	6	8
Maris Beck	3	8
Marylou Hodges	5	8
Alison Cairns	5	8

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

## Member’s guarantee

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

*At 31 December 2024, the collective liability of members was \$140 (2023: \$140)*

## Indemnification and insurance of officers and auditors

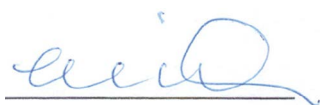
No indemnities have been given during or since the end of the financial year , for any person who is or has been an officer or auditor of Pony Club Australia Ltd.

## Auditor's independence declaration

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

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

On behalf of the directors:



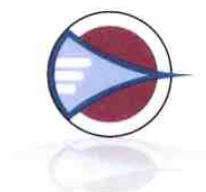
Ms. Heather Disher  
Director  
17 March 2025



Carole-anne Hodges  
Director  
17 March 2025



**HEAD OFFICE**  
Suite 6, 6 Reliance Drive  
Tuggerah NSW 2259



**BISHOP COLLINS**  
**AUDIT PTY LTD**

ABN: 98 159 109 305

**ALL CORRESPONDENCE**

PO Box 3686

Tuggerah NSW 2259

**W:** <https://www.bishopcollinsaudit.com.au>

**E:** [audit@bcaudit.com.au](mailto:audit@bcaudit.com.au)

**T:** (02) 4314 8020

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


We hereby declare that to the best of our knowledge and belief during the year ended 31 December 2024, 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 any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

**Name of Firm**

Bishop Collins Audit Pty Ltd  
Chartered Accountants

**Name of Registered Company Auditor**

  
Martin Le Marchant

**Auditor's Registration No.**

431227

**Address**

Suite 6, 6 Reliance Drive Tuggerah NSW 2259

**Dated**

17 March 2025



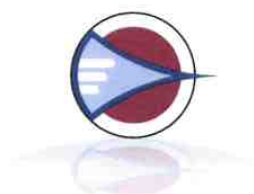
LIABILITY LIMITED BY A SCHEME APPROVED UNDER THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS LEGISLATION



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

**Associate Director:** Cecille Capucio CA

**HEAD OFFICE**  
Suite 6, 6 Reliance Drive  
Tuggerah NSW 2259



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

### **Opinion**

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Pony Club Australia Ltd ('the Company') which comprises the statement of financial position as at 31 December 2024, statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information and other explanatory information and the Directors' Declaration of the company.

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

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 31 December 2024 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures (including the Australian Accounting Interpretations) and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

### **Basis for Opinion**

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

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



LIABILITY LIMITED BY A SCHEME APPROVED UNDER THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS LEGISLATION



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

**Associate Director:** Cecille Capucão CA





## **Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon**

The Directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Company's annual report for the year ended 31 December 2024 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



report about the material uncertainty or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the opinion on the financial report. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.


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

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

**Name of Firm**

Bishop Collins Audit Pty Ltd  
Chartered Accountants

**Name of Registered Company Auditor**

  
Martin Le Marchant

**Auditor's Registration No.**

431227

**Address**

Suite 6, 6 Reliance Drive Tuggerah NSW 2259

**Dated**

17 March 2025



# Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>REVENUE</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1,982,624</b>	<b>1,792,340</b>
Interest revenue		7,957	8,811
Total revenue		1,990,581	1,801,151
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Consultancy, legal and professional fees		(61,601)	(46,421)
Depreciation and amortisation expenses		(504)	(510)
Employee benefits expenses		(627,772)	(580,960)
International team costs		(159,838)	(73,152)
Insurance premium and related expenses		(710,593)	(694,100)
Merchandise purchases		(86,797)	(83,782)
Office and IT expenses		(146,385)	(156,602)
Programs, events and marketing expenses		(71,408)	(80,237)
Travel and meeting expenses		(36,615)	(16,069)
Other expenses		(2,942)	(2,780)
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>(1,904,455)</b>	<b>(1,734,613)</b>
<b>SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>86,126</b>	<b>66,538</b>
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR</b>		<b>86,126</b>	<b>66,538</b>

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

# Statement of financial position

As at 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	831,495	737,018
Trade and other receivables	6	35,170	28,928
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>866,665</b>	<b>765,946</b>
<b>NONE-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Intangibles	7	422	926
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>422</b>	<b>926</b>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>867,087</b>	<b>766,872</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	8	41,430	42,161
Employee benefits	9	45,102	26,797
Other	10	123,593	129,647
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>210,125</b>	<b>198,605</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Employee benefits	11	7,711	5,142
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>7,711</b>	<b>5,142</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>217,836</b>	<b>203,747</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>649,251</b>	<b>563,125</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained surpluses	12	649,251	563,125
<b>Total equity</b>		<b>649,251</b>	<b>563,125</b>

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



## Statement of changes in equity

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Retained surpluses \$	Total equity \$
Balance at 1 January 2023	496,587	496,587
Surplus for the year	66,538	66,538
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>66,538</b>	<b>66,538</b>
<b>Balance at 31 December 2023</b>	<b>563,125</b>	<b>563,125</b>

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

	Retained surpluses \$	Total equity \$
Balance at 1 January 2024	563,125	563,125
Surplus for the year	86,126	86,126
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>86,126</b>	<b>86,126</b>
<b>Balance at 31 December 2024</b>	<b>649,251</b>	<b>649,251</b>

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

# Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 December 2024

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Receipts from members and customers (inclusive of GST)		1,134,944	1,051,013
Insurance contribution income received from members		787,118	669,391
Government grant received		125,000	140,450
Payment to suppliers and employees		(1,960,542)	(1,739,180)
Interest Income		7,957	8,811
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>94,477</b>	<b>130,485</b>
<b>Net cash from investing activities</b>		-	-
<b>Net cash from financing activities</b>		-	-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		94,477	130,485
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		737,018	606,533
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>831,495</b>	<b>737,018</b>

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

## Notes to the financial statements

31 December 2024

### Note 1. General information

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

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

**Registered office** Pony Club Australia Ltd  
**Principal place of business** Melton West, VIC 3337

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

The financial statements were authorised for issue, in accordance with a resolution of directors, on 17 March 2025. The directors have the power to amend and reissue the financial statements.

### Note 2. Material accounting policy information

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

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

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



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

### **Basis of preparation**

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

#### *Historical cost convention*

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

#### *Critical accounting estimates*

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

### **Revenue recognition**

The company recognises revenue as follows:

#### *Revenue from contracts with customers*

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

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

#### *Grant revenue*

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

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

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

#### *Sale of goods*

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

#### *Rendering of services*

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

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

### *Membership revenue*

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

### *Affiliation fees*

Affiliation fees is recognised upon receipt.

### *Interest*

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

### *Other revenue*

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

### **Income tax**

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

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

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

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

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

### **Cash and cash equivalents**

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

### **Trade and other receivables**

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

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

### **Intangible assets**

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



#### *Website*

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

#### *Patents and trademarks*

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

### **Impairment of non-financial assets**

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

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

### **Trade and other payables**

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

### **Employee benefits**

#### *Short-term employee benefits*

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

#### *Other long-term employee benefits*

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

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

### **Fair value measurement**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### *Estimation of useful lives of assets*

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

### *Trade receivables*

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



## Note 4. Revenue

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Insurance contribution	787,118	669,391
Capitation fees	643,128	551,342
Grants funding	125,000	140,450
Events and merchandise sales	110,487	175,886
International team member contributions	182,740	69,213
Affiliation fees	14,614	8,886
Event and program fees	65,134	124,290
Sponsorship income	54,403	52,500
Other income	-	382
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>1,982,624</b>	<b>1,792,340</b>

## Note 5. Current assets - cash and cash equivalents

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Cash at bank	831,495	737,018

## Note 6. Current assets - trade and other receivables

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Trade receivables	35,170	28,928

## Note 7. Non-current assets - intangibles

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Website - at cost	3,870	3,870
Less: Accumulated amortisation	(3,870)	(3,870)
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
Trademarks - at cost	6,562	6,562
Less: Accumulated amortisation	(6,140)	(5,636)
<b>Total</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>926</b>
<b>Non-current assests total</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>926</b>

## Note 7. Non-current assets - intangibles (continued)

### Reconciliations

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

	Registered trademark \$	Website \$	Total \$
Balance at 1 January 2024	926	-	926
Amortisation expense	(504)	-	(504)
Balance at 31 December 2024	422	-	422

## Note 8. Current liabilities - trade and other payables

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Trade payables	2,794	7,985
Other payables	37,347	25,005
BAS payable	1,289	9,171
Total	41,430	42,161

## Note 9. Current liabilities - employee benefits

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Annual leave	45,102	26,797

## Note 10. Current liabilities - other

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Revenue received in advance	123,593	129,647

## Note 11. Non-current liabilities - employee benefits

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Long service leave	7,711	5,142



## Note 12. Equity - retained surpluses

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Retained surpluses at the beginning of the financial year	563,125	496,587
Surplus for the year	86,126	66,538
<b>Retained surpluses at the end of the financial year</b>	<b>649,251</b>	<b>563,125</b>

## Note 13. Reconciliation of surplus to net cash from operating activities

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Surplus for the year	86,126	66,538
<b>ADJUSTMENTS FOR:</b>		
Depreciation and amortisation	504	510
<b>CHANGE IN OPERATING ASSETS AND LIABILITIES:</b>		
Increase in trade and other receivables	(6,242)	(14,882)
Decrease in other operating assets	-	23,438
Decrease in trade and other payables	(731)	18,170
Increase/(decrease) in employee benefits	20,874	(41,674)
Increase/(decrease) in other liabilities	(6,054)	78,385
<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>	<b>94,477</b>	<b>130,485</b>

## Note 14. Remuneration of auditors

During the financial year the following fees were paid or payable for services provided by Bishop Collins Audit Pty Ltd, the auditor of the company:

	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>AUDIT SERVICES -</b>		
Banks Group - 2022 FY	-	5,300
Bishop Collins Audit Pty Ltd	7,000	6,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,000</b>	<b>11,800</b>

Note 15. Key management personnel disclosures

Compensation

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

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Aggregate compensation	156,543	239,559

Note 16. Related party transactions

Key management personnel

Disclosures relating to key management personnel are set out in note 15.

Transactions with related parties

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

Receivable from and payable to related parties

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

Loans to/from related parties

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

Note 17. Contingencies

In the opinion of the Directors, the Company did not have any contingencies at 31 December 2024 (2023: NIL).

Note 18. Member’s guarantee

The Company is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 and is a Company limited by guarantee. If the Company is wound up, the constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$20 each towards meeting any outstanding and obligations of the Company. At 31 December 2024, the number of members was 7 (2023:7).

Note 19. Events after the reporting period

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 31 December 2024 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the company’s operations, the results of those operations, or the company’s state of affairs in future financial years.



## Directors' declaration

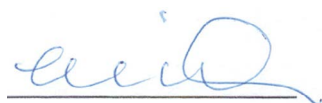
31 December 2024

### In the directors' opinion:

- the attached financial statements and notes comply with the Corporations Act 2001, the Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures, the Corporations Regulations 2001 and other mandatory professional reporting requirements;
- the attached financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 31 December 2024 and of its performance for the financial year ended on that date; and
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

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

On behalf of the directors:



Ms. Heather Disher  
Director  
17 March 2025



Carole-anne Hodges  
Director  
17 March 2025

# Acknowledgements



**Pony Club relies on the support of volunteers to run as successfully as it does, at the many clubs throughout Australia.**

We acknowledge the efforts of the many volunteers, coaches and officials that help our equestrian sport so enjoyable for so many.

Many sponsors help make annual awards and competition prizes sought after, and we urge our members to support them in return.



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