



## PCT NEWSLETTER NO 65 – DECEMBER 2014

Sponsored by Horseland



Editor – Kyra Jackson – sec@pcat.org.au

President: Karina Johnstone – pres@pcat.org.au

Administrator: Kyra Jackson – sec@pcat.org.au

PCT Website – www.pcat.org.au

P.O. Box 558, Burnie, 7320

PCA website – www.ponyclubaustralia.com.au

Phone: 0438 366 488

**Most news items get posted directly onto our website under LATEST NEWS so look up that section regularly, especially in busy PC times and keep an eye on the Calendar for forthcoming activities. Will clubs please keep their calendar updated as new activities are arranged.**

### NEW PRESIDENT

Karina Johnstone has been involved in Pony Club for many years. As a young girl living in Deloraine, she was a member of the Deloraine District Pony Club. She was a keen Eventing competitor as a member of NTEC and did some show jumping. Since her marriage, and now living in Westbury, she has been involved with the Tasmanian Pony and Riding Club as an instructor/coach, its chief coach and test coordinator, and a three year stint as its DC. She was also one of the Northern Zones CC panel until retiring from that this year due to her other PC responsibilities. She has been PCT's vice president for the last two years so was the acting president since Judy Pitt's resignation. We welcome her to the role as elected in her own right.

### DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS

These have been changed to a competency based competition, like the jumping and eventing championships, rather than age based competition as before. This means that commencing in 2015, riders can choose which grade they compete in.

Grade three will be split into two competitions: a Junior (members) under 17 and a Senior (Associates) 17 and over.

There will no longer be an optional Elementary test. Riders wishing to do the Elementary should enter in Grade 1. Given it is expected there may be an increase in numbers, it may be necessary to ballot riders, so DC's will need to rank their riders and enter them in such a way that their highest order riders are listed first on the entry form. Depending on numbers and in the case where a ballot is required, the highest order riders will be the ones to ride in the Championship competition and be counted for the team. Lower order riders would ride in a separate competition and be eligible for an individual placing only.

This situation may vary from year to year, depending on entries.

The overall club/zone team will be made up from the highest placed Grade 1 rider; the highest placed Grade 2 rider and the highest placed Grade 3 **Junior** rider from the Championship competition.

**NOTE: A change has been made to the qualifying standards.** We have reduced these to 50% for the Elementary test and 55% for the Prelim and Novice. These may be obtained at any pure dressage competition (not eventing) providing the judge is approved on the EA or PC panel.

Note: All trot work at the preliminary and novice level may be either rising or sitting unless otherwise stated. It is an EA rule, not a specific PC one, so organisers must make sure that judges realise this.

The tests for 2014-15 season are as follows.

<u>Pure dressage</u>	Grade 1: 2.3 and 3.1;	Grade 2: 2.1 and 2.2;	Grade 3: 1.2 and 1.3.
<u>Eventing</u>	Grade 1: 3.1;	Grade 2: 2.1;	Grade 3: 1.2; Grade 4: 1.1 Grade 5 – PCAV 5A and 5B.

Grade 1 in both disciplines does include an elementary test. As the National Champs require an Elementary test for both the Seniors Dressage and Eventing, we have to give our riders a chance to gain experience riding an elementary test to qualify.

Amendments will be made to the handbook so please refer to this when the time comes to enter.

PLEASE WATCH THE WEBSITE UNDER HANDBOOK FOR ANY RULE CHANGES.

Note change to Ann Graves email <agraves405@bigpond.com> as incorrect in Office Bearer's list.

## **SPONSORSHIP FROM THE TASMANIAN RACING CLUB**

Tasracing has kindly offered to support an award at this year's State Championships for Off the Track Thoroughbreds.

The award will be presented to the highest placed OTT in the following categories:

Trials: The highest placed OTT in Grade 1

Showjumping Champs: The highest placed OTT in Grade 1

Dressage: The highest placed OTT: Junior and Senior - the higher tests will be given more weight

For riders to be eligible, they must enter for the award on the relevant entry form and provide the racing name of their horse and if they have it, the horses racing registration number. This information will then be checked by Tasracing to confirm eligibility. Entries can only be for OTT horses and must be received with the relevant entry form. No late entries will be accepted. A space has been included on the entry form for the horses racing name.

The award will consist of a rug and merchandise.

Please send this information out to your members so that they are aware and enter if their horse is eligible.

## **HELMET CAMERAS**

Any riders wishing to wear a camera on their helmet must have the device passed by the TD. The TD will check to ensure the camera will come off easily in case of a fall and that it hasn't been secured in any way that will compromise the safety of the helmet. Riders must take responsibility themselves to present with their helmet to the TD before the start of the XC. Ultimately, it will be the TD's decision as to whether they are prepared to allow helmet cameras or not. If a rider presents to gear check with a helmet camera the gear checker should tell the rider to present to the TD. It is not up to the gear checker to make a decision.

## **INSURANCE**

A reminder to clubs that they need to be forwarding insurance and affiliation on to the State Treasurer by the 4<sup>th</sup> of every month otherwise riders are not covered and will not be able to count any qualifiers/rallies obtained in this period. Each time membership cards are sent to DC's, they are provided with an up to date list of their riders, who is insured and who is not, so it is really important for DC's to go through this list. A reminder to riders that they should be presenting their membership cards on entry to events.

## **WORKING WITH CHILDREN REGISTRATION**

The State Government has introduced legislation requiring anyone who works/volunteers with children, to apply for and receive a 'Working with Children' Registration. This is now the law and is therefore mandatory, just like having a drivers licence.

There are some exemptions which are listed on the Department of Justice website but as a general rule, anyone who is 16 years or older who works/volunteers with children and is in a position where they can develop a relationship of trust, is required to hold registration. In pony club's instance, this includes but is not limited to: DC's, Coaches, Team Managers, Chief Coaches, TD's, Assessors/Examiners and Chaperones at club camps/rallies. Photographers have been identified by the Department as also being required to have the registration. Of particular importance to us and one which may be over looked, is anyone who stays overnight at club camps, even a parent, looking after other people's children, will require the registration.

One exemption which potentially could apply to pony club is if:

*....."you are engaged in a regulated activity for not more than 3 days in any 4-week period and for not more than 7 days in any calendar year".*

This may be relevant to those people who are brought in as a once or twice a year as coaches...

The period by which people need to be registered is 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015. It can potentially take up to six weeks to receive your registration so PCT is advising clubs to get this information out to your members and coaches so that they can get onto it sooner rather than later.

Whether people are involved in pony club, EA, swimming, football, netball, parent help at school, or anything else to do with children, they will need this registration. It is not only specific to pony club but to any workplace, sporting club, dance school, childcare centre, school or anywhere where people are volunteering or working with children.

Information and registration can be done online at [http://www.justice.tas.gov.au/working\\_with\\_children](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au/working_with_children)

If you have any queries, there are numerous fact sheets and guidelines on the website.

Please remember this legislation has been put into place to protect our children.

## **GAMES AND INTER PACIFIC EXCHANGE**

Nominations have now closed for the 2015 Inter Pacific Exchange and International Mounted Games. Selections for both are being held on the 4th January 2015 at the Westbury Showgrounds.

The IPE will be hosted in Ontario by the Western Ontario and Central Ontario regions of the Canadian Pony Club and will run from 31st July 2015 to 17th August 2015.

The International Mounted Games will be held from the 12<sup>th</sup> July to 26<sup>th</sup> July 2015 and hosted by the United States Pony Club.

**International Mounted Games Exchange 2014** - Tasmanian representative Alarna Fraser along with Team Manager Sue deKaste set off in August to compete in the Australian team for the International Mounted Games Exchange 2015. Both Sue and Alarna had a fantastic time and were well looked after seeing lots of sights around the UK. Overall placings were 1<sup>st</sup> Great Britain, 2<sup>nd</sup> USA, 3<sup>rd</sup> Australia and 4<sup>th</sup> Canada.

**National Prince Phillip Mounted Games** - Tasmanian Team consisting of Bronte Page, Alarna Fraser, David Gardiner, Bailey Elias, Karley Beer, Coach Liz Murton and Team Manager Andy deKaste headed off to Western Australia to represent Tasmania in October after several months of training. The team were looked after amazingly. The games arena was laid out in the main show arena with a huge four sided TV screen dividing lanes 3 and four. There were 21 games in which Tasmania rode consistently well, gaining an overall placing of third.

**Games Rules** - There are a few minor changes to the General Rules so riders and organisers should check before competitions.

## **CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations to Alarna Fraser who was awarded The Advocate's IGA Junior Sports Award - Female individual section.

Also to Judy Pitt for being awarded Life Membership of Pony Club Tasmania, Ann Graves who received a gift in appreciation from the Chief Coaches Panel and Jenny Maney from Mersey Valley Pony Club receiving the Senior Service Award.

## **PCA NATIONALS 2015**

Nominations have been called for Dressage, Showjumping, Eventing, Tetrathlon, Junior Mounted Games and Senior Mounted Games for the 2015 PCA Nationals which will be held at Murray Bridge during Sept-Oct 2015. Riders will be required to take their own horse for all disciplines including games.

Please note that at this stage horses will be required to be fully vaccinated for the Hendra Virus. This is a requirement of the organising body and is regardless of where the horses are coming from. If the requirement regarding Nationals changes, we will let members know as soon as the information comes to hand.

Rider nominations along with their code of conduct form, play by the rules certificate and confidential DC Report and \$20.00 nomination fee should be forwarded by the DC to Kyra Jackson by the 30th January 2015. Please contact [sec@pcat.org.au](mailto:sec@pcat.org.au) for more information.

## **HENDRA VACCINATION**

At the State meeting held on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November, a recommendation was put forward and accepted regarding horses coming into the State and the Hendra vaccination.

Pony Club Tasmania now recommends that any horse coming into Tasmania originating from either Queensland or NSW, be vaccinated in full for the Hendra Virus.

If horses are not vaccinated, then it is recommended they be kept quarantined on the new owner's property for 30 days after its arrival.

## **SERVICE AWARD**

A reminder to clubs to nominate any Associate member of a pony club, who has given outstanding practical assistance to their club. Associate members should be recommended in the year prior to them leaving Pony Club. Applications are to be made on form 10.2.6 available from the Form section of the Handbook, and accompanied by a letter of recommendation from the Club DC. They can then be forwarded to Kyra Jackson [sec@pcat.org.au](mailto:sec@pcat.org.au) for inclusion in the next State meeting.

We wish you all a happy and safe Christmas and good Pony Clubbing in the New Year