



March 2017 News from Pony Club Australia

HorseWyse Competition Winner

Congratulations to Tracey Smith from Finley Pony Club who was the winner of the HorseWyse subscriber competition. Tracey and her daughter Tash have won a huge haul of prizes including a new **Wintec Lite All Purpose D'lux** saddle valued at \$1175. Tash has already tried it out on Buddy.

Also included in the \$2000 prize were goods from World's Greatest Hoof Oil, Mitavite, Promectin, Horse and Country TV, SSG Gloves, Peter Williams, Champion Tails, Giddy Up Girl and more.



Make sure that you give the name of your Pony Club when subscribing to the magazine. There are great articles about Pony Club, and where it can take you, in every edition.

PCA Board

The PCA Board consists of 5 elected Directors and 3 appointed Directors.

Elected Directors need to be a member of a Pony Club, and their nomination is endorsed by their state office.

There will be two directors elected at the forthcoming AGM in May 2017. If you are interested in making a contribution at the national level as a director of Pony Club Australia, please email info@ponyclubaustralia.com.au for more information.

Are you around Sydney?

A riding family from Seattle, Washington is keen to visit Sydney in December 2018 for New Year. The family of 3 includes their 17-year-old daughter who is a keen rider and tetrathlon competitor. They would love to stay with a Pony Club family and experience Australian Pony Club life. They offer a reciprocal visit to Seattle too.

If you have a place to offer, please email info@ponyclubaustralia.com.au



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Pony Club Western Australia Coaching School

Denise Legge, State Coaching Panel Member, PCAWA

Over 130 coaches from across the State plus one coach from the Northern Territory recently attended the annual Pony Club WA State Coaching School. Traditionally the School has been



held in the Swan Valley region but this year Pony Club had the opportunity to use the recently refurbished facilities at Karinya Equestrian Park, home to Orange Grove Horse and Pony Club. The theme for the State Coaching School was "Mindful Coaching".

Undeterred by flash flooding and fierce winds, our presenters rose to the occasion and our demo riders and their horses were incredibly well behaved under the circumstances. Philippa Collier opened our School with a practical session on how to manage a group of mixed ability Pony Club riders - every coach's nightmare! Dr Portland Jones from Sustainable Equitation followed with Why Horses Hate Surprise Parties and the basics of riding for junior members backed up with equine science.

After lunch Jon Pitts from RideSmart and his team took us through how to create a safe and fun learning environment for children and a practical session on Fit Ball training for balance and confidence. Meanwhile for the Show Jumping aficionados Fred Freeman covered simple show jumping design and coaches had the opportunity to set out a SJ course that was used on the following day. The day ended with an informal networking session so coaches could ask questions of the State Coaching Panel team and swap Pony Club stories.

The weather improved on the Sunday and Nellandra Henry covered Show Jumping Problems with unknown riders and horses in a very informative and straightforward way. Nell then put the riders over the designed course and all performed really well. A real testament to Nell's coaching and Fred's course design. Don Hawkins was next up with a great presentation and video on Tent Pegging followed by the real thing out on the grounds with riders tackling the peg with a lance at a flat-out gallop. To see the riders pull up so calmly after this was most impressive. Philippa who opened the School also closed it with a very enlightening video and presentation on Footfalls and Paces.

It was a very inspiring weekend and coaches went away with new ways of thinking and solving problems plus techniques that will help them be more mindful coaches. Our thanks to Karinya Equestrian Park and Orange Grove Horse and Pony Club for the use of their grounds and equipment. To our presenters who triumphed despite the weather and of course to our coaches who attended the weekend, without whom there would be no Pony Club.

The Australian Government through the Australian Sports Commission recognises PCA to develop Pony Club in Australia.

The financial support of the Australian Sports Commission is gratefully acknowledged.



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Next generation of Pony Club leaders



Seven young women joined PCA CEO, Catherine Ainsworth, in Adelaide last weekend for the “Women Leadership in Sport” workshop.

The group spent two days with women from a range of other sports exploring concepts of leadership, organisational culture, emotional intelligence, communication and team work.

The Pony Club group will be working together throughout 2017 so that they can continue to contribute their skills and ideas to Pony Club.

Left-to-right: Adrienne Kelly (Qld), Gabi Ashmeade (SA), Clare Edsor (NSW), Catherine Ainsworth (PCA), Tash Williams (WA), Sarah Jane Jameson (SA), Jacqui Panozzo (Vic), Elisha Hodgson (Qld)

2017 PCA Awards

The 2017 awards will be presented at the National Championships in Toowoomba in September.

Nominations open 1st April and close 30th June. Categories will include

- rider under 17 years,
- rider 17-25 years,
- Coach,
- Volunteer,
- Club
- Pony Club Alumnus.

Photos

PCA is always on the lookout for great photos that represent fun and achievement at Pony Club. We will use them in the 2016 Annual Report, for example, so they need to be higher resolution >500kb.

Send them anytime to info@ponyclubaustralia.com.au

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