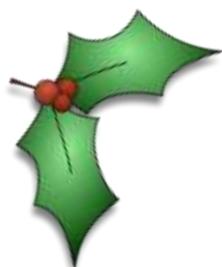




PCA News

December 17th, 2019



In this newsletter

- **What a Year! We recap all the major events**
- **Horses and heat**
- **Riding Centres join PCA**
- **News from around the Clubs**
- **Polocrosse opportunities**

Horses and Heat - did you know?

- Horses sweat to cool down, but this only works when their sweat comes into contact with the air and/or a breeze (evaporation). Light summer rugs can block this natural cooling effect and increase core body temperature.
- Every living creature has a thermoneutral zone (TMZ). This is a temperature range at which the body can maintain normal body temperature without expending too much energy.
The TMZ of humans is approximately 25-30 degrees Celsius, but horses can maintain normal body temperature within a range of 5-25 degrees Celsius. That means that you feel cold well before a horse does, but your horse may feel hot before you do. Make sure they always have access to shade and water.
- The best place to put your hand to feel if the horse is hot is just behind the withers (not the ears or legs). *(From the new C Certificate proficiency manual)*



Welcome To First Centres

Some top quality riding centres are jumping on board to become PCA Accredited Riding Centres, for riders of all ages without their own horse.

Welcome to:

- Sydney Riding School (NSW)**
- Jolong Park Riding School (VIC)**
- Yara Balba Stables (NSW)**
- Equitation Science for Children (SA)**
- Skye Equestrian (VIC)**
- The Equine Club (VIC)**

SYDNEY RIDING SCHOOL
PONY CLUB ACCREDITED CENTRE

Join our Pony Club Centre in 2020

WWW.SYDNEYRIDINGSCHOOL.COM.AU

0407 459 297

PONY CLUB AUSTRALIA

Pony Club Australia

info@ponyclubaustralia.com.au

www.ponyclubaustralia.com.au

Follow Us:



Survey - is your pony special?



Pony Club members are invited to take part in a major survey - the Equine Behaviour Assessment and Research Questionnaire (E-BARQ). That's because the E-BARQ team recognises that owners know their horses better than anyone else and that pooling and sharing that knowledge can help horses all over the world.

This University of Sydney study is free, and will reveal invaluable information on how our training, management, horse behaviour and welfare are inter-related. Your horse's stats can be compared to thousands of others through your personal dashboard and you can add details every six months for an ongoing picture.

You can access E-BARQ here: <https://e-barq.com/>

You can access an E-BARQ how-to video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TBKry6Wz2gc>

What is this Polocrosse?



Some Pony Clubs already enjoy this team sport, but there are plenty of others who have not yet had the chance. To kick off our 2020 Discipline of the Month next year we will be emailing Clubs with information about sampling or improving your polocrosse experience, with the support of the Polocrosse Association of Australia (PAA).

The January email will include lesson plans, equipment offers and arena instructions for use in February or whenever it suits your club, with a different sport featured each month after that.

You can even look up your nearest Polocrosse association and invite someone along to help. Polocrosse has 'Blue Bandage Polocrosse' - one horse, no contact, for beginners or those returning to the sport.



www.bluebandagepolocrosse.org.au

There will be special offers for Pony Clubs on racquet and ball kits and we are looking into loan equipment for Clubs to borrow and try out this exciting sport.



New website

Early in the new year you will see an exciting, new-look PCA website featuring some of your photos from our 80th celebrations - we cannot wait!

All I want for Christmas...



is festive horse gear?
What can't you buy for horses these days!

Our 2019 - what a year!



We celebrated Pony Club's 80th birthday



Australia won the International Mounted Games Exchange Championship in Colorado, USA

Our birthday cake competition had over 110 great entries!



Our National Championships were held in Sydney



We introduced a world first syllabus of instruction which included Equitation Science and held coach training across Australia



We acknowledged over 100 Living Legends (aged 80 and over) for their Pony Club contributions



PONY CLUB AUSTRALIA



#NoPonyNoProblem

We launched Pony Club Centre membership for those without horses, to attract new people to horse riding



PCA announces the first National Safety Conference for Horse Sports (for 1/2/2020)



Love the new look!



We published new Proficiency Certificate manuals - A and B levels to come in 2020



We have gathered nation-wide talent for new education and youth advisory committees



Pony Club members enjoyed 10 trips to China Pony Clubs



It was a wheely good year!

Better Safety Practices for Equestrians

Equestrian Australia's newly appointed National Safety Manager, Meredith Chapman will speak at February's National Safety Conference for Horse Sports – but places are filling more quickly so don't miss out.

Her topic will be - ***'Talkinabout' a better, safer rider, not just 'putting on a lid'.***

Meredith is well placed to speak, as she has advised on Work Health & Safety and Vocational Rehabilitation throughout Australia for over 20 years. She has a Masters in Safety Science and post-graduate degrees in Rehabilitation Counselling, Health Sciences and Accident Investigation. For her PhD she is exploring how 'WHS as a framework can reduce horse-related human injuries and fatalities'. Meredith is also an accomplished rider and breeder (at her Waymere Stud), and also a judge and inspector, for over 30 years. She has just joined PCA's new Education and Development Committee, bringing with her this wealth of talent and experience.

"I am delighted to be able to share ideas about



Above: Meredith Chapman; equestrian safety expert

better-safety practices for equestrians at the National Safety Conference for Pony Club Australia and the broad section of horse industry," Ms Chapman said this week.

"Staying safe at work, home and sport is close to all of our hearts and I do believe we are trying to do this better."

Hosted by Pony Club Australia for all horse sports, the conference is on Saturday February 1, 2020 in Caroline Springs, Melbourne.

You can access more information and booking forms at:

<http://www.ponyclubaustralia.com.au/Events/NationalSafetyConferenceforhorsesports.aspx>

Certificates by Christmas

It was great to see a lot of clubs doing certificate grading to end the year. Here (top right) some Gawler River (SA) riders are shown after their successful C assessment.

In the Northern Territory, (below right) Alice Springs Pony Club recently hosted the assessments for a new Preliminary Coach, two C certificates and a D * candidate.



*How did your club celebrate Christmas?
Send us a photo!*

info@ponyclubaustralia.com.au



Please help spread the word about how great Pony Club is!



There are many pony-less children who would love to go to Pony Club and learn the Pony Club way of riding and caring for a pony.

With the launch of our Centre Membership program recently with the support of Sport Australia, these children, and even adults wanting to learn to ride or return to riding, can start their journey at a PCA Accredited Riding Centre.

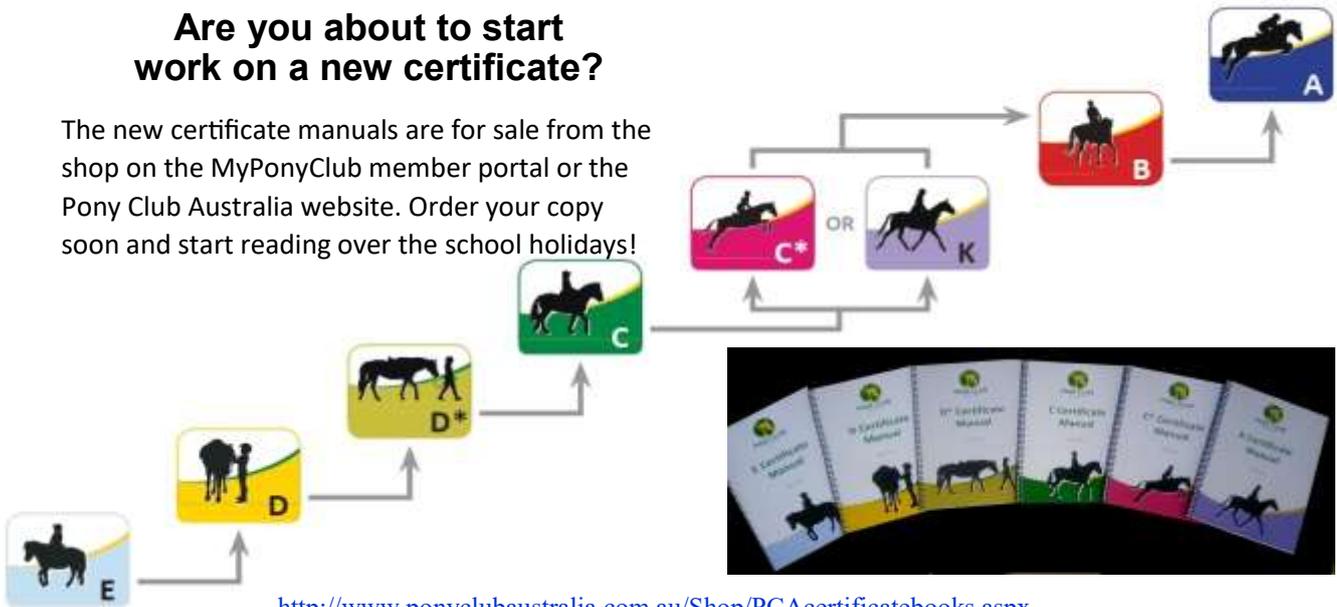
If they go ahead and get their own horse or pony, they need to transfer to a Pony Club - maybe yours! If you have any riding centres in your district, why not suggest they look into becoming a PCA Accredited Riding Centre, or let us know.

Email: centremember@ponyclubaustralia.com.au #noponynoproblem

More info: <http://www.ponyclubaustralia.com.au/Centres.aspx>

Are you about to start work on a new certificate?

The new certificate manuals are for sale from the shop on the MyPonyClub member portal or the Pony Club Australia website. Order your copy soon and start reading over the school holidays!



<http://www.ponyclubaustralia.com.au/Shop/PCAcertificatebooks.aspx>



Have you asked your local Mitsubishi dealer about the Pony Club discount?



SPORTAUS



We are grateful for the support of national sponsors. The Australian Government through Sport Australia recognises Pony Club Australia to develop Pony Club in Australia. The financial support of Sport Australia is gratefully acknowledged.






Everyone at Pony Club
Australia wishes you
all a wonderful,
healthy, enjoyable and
safe Christmas and a
happy new year!

