

**BACCHUS MARSH PONY CLUB INC.
NEWSLETTER - FEB. 2008**

A BIG WELCOME BACK!! - after our extended break. Hope everyone had a great Christmas and are ready for a very busy start to the New Pony Club Year.

Due to the E.I.. outbreak all Pony Clubs must now keep a register with their members Names, address, name of horse and where it is kept. This list must be kept updated, so, riders must ensure if they bring a different/new horse, or if the member address or contact details change they must fill in additional paper to update the Clubs record.

**PAPERWORK WILL BE AVAILABLE TODAY, SO PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU
FILL IT IN BEFORE YOU GO HOME.**

All PCAV Events which includes events on the Barwon Zone Calendar have been submitted to D.P.I. for registration. Individual Clubs do not need to contact the D.P.I. or P.C.A.V. when holding a competition or event.

In the event of a lockdown, all people and horses will be immediately sent home and they will be quarantined at their home along with all others in the area.

From now on Bio-Security forms and paperwork will be sent out with entry forms. These forms will filled in by the rider and sent back with their entry. Clubs running events must keep a check list of competitors who have not sent back their forms, riders who have not sent them back will be required to fill them in on the day before they will be allowed to compete.

It is the responsibility of all riders to check and make sure their horses are healthy and safe to compete.

RALLIES/GEAR CHECK.

The Instructors have put in place a point system for rally days which will decide the trophies at the end of the year.

ATTENDANCE	4	One point for each session – a point will be deducted for each session a rider misses or is late arriving.
HORSE	4	The horse is not expected to be spotless, but an effort must be made to brush or clean mud and dirt from the body, legs, mane and tail.
RIDER	5	A rider must have an armband, clean & safe boots, jumper/tie, NO Jewellery and overall must be clean and Tidy.
GEAR	5	Correctly fitting Stirrup Irons, Stitching on Stirrup Leathers, Bit must fit correctly, Saddle/Bridle fit correctly and the overall cleanliness of the Gear.
EFFORT AND CO-OPERATION	2	Riders attitude towards the Instructor and fellow members, overall effort and improvement.

At Gear Check a note will be made on the Instructors sheets of incorrectly fitting gear, stitching that needs attention, riders without armbands and riders who have not removed or taped earrings or other obvious piercing and any issues will be followed up at the next rally.

Riders must be mounted by 10.00a.m. and ready for gear check at 10.15a.m.

A reminder that any riders leaving before the end of the day/4th session must see the D.C. – Peter Bailey before leaving.

GRADING:

Any rider wanting to be graded for Dressage, Show Jumping, Eventing or Combined Training must speak to the D.C. – Peter Bailey at the start of the rally. The Instructors have put in place a Grading Panel – Peter Bailey, Toni Davey (Chief Instructor in Lotta's absence) and Allison Backhouse. This Panel will organise to watch the rider and Grade or Upgrade them.

NOTE: Riders can have different gradings for the different disciplines. For example a rider graded 3 for Eventing won't automatically be "C" for showjumping. Eventing has a maximum height/width for jumping, Show Jumping has a starting height and can increase considerable in height and width for second rounds and jump off's. A Horse/rider may be good a dressage, but may not be confident or like jumping therefore could have higher grading for dressage, lower or no grading for jumping. Etc. etc.

ELIMINATIONS:

Due to the E.I. the Show Jumping and Dressage Eliminations last December were cancelled, they have been rescheduled for this coming weekend, Saturday – 8th Feb.2008 at Smythesdale. To be eligible to compete riders must be graded 1,2 or 3 for Dressage or A.,B or C for Show Jumping. If you would like to compete or unsure of your Grading see D.C. – Peter Bailey today.

For riders who have not competed in these eliminations before, if you place 1st, 2nd, 3rd in the dressage (Gr 1-3) or 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th in the Show jumping (Gr. A-C) you will have the opportunity to compete at the State Dressage/Show Jumping Championships – March 30th at Elmore.

It's a Great Experience, and can be a lot of fun getting to know other riders from other clubs around the State.

A REMINDER TO RIDERS GRADED 1 OR 2 FOR EVENTING, AND WANT TO QUALIFY FOR THE STATE HORSE TRIALS IN MAY, YOU NEED: A QUALIFYING EVENT FROM MAY-DEC. 2007 AND WILL NEED ONE MORE BETWEEN NOW AND THE CLOSING DATE IN APRIL, OR TWO BETWEEN NOW AND THE CLOSING DATE IN APRIL. AGAIN IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN COMPETING AND NEED GRADING SEE: D.C. – Peter Bailey today.

STATE HORSE TRIALS are on the 3rd and 4th May at Yerringburg (Near Lilydale). Again it's a Great Weekend!

The Games, Flat Teams and Musical Ride Eliminations are being held at **BACCHUS MARSH** on Sunday, 27th April. So, lets see if can get organised and have teams in every discipline.

If you are interested in being in one of the above teams, please give your name to Peter at lunch time today. Also, if we have any parents who would be interested in assisting with any of the above teams could you also see Peter today. We will need to organise practises - dates, times etc.

A LIST OF DATES AND TIMES OF PRACTISES WILL BE ON THE NOTICE BOARD TODAY AND POSTED ON THE WEB SITE AFTER THE RALLY.

ALL RIDERS WELCOME, THE MORE THE MERRIER!!

STATE GAMES, FLAT TEAMS & MUSICAL RIDE CHAMPIONSHIPS are on the 14th & 15th June at Werribee.

This is a great event for riders of all ages, no gradings or experience needed, just put you name down and come along to practise.

BACCHUS MARSH HORSE TRIALS: 16TH MARCH, 2008.

More work has been done on the Cross Country Course, which comes close to finishing the upgrade. Over the past 2-3 years, the courses for all grades 1-5 have been completely rebuilt under the guidance of Professional Course Builder Ewan Kellet - Ewan is currently a member of a team Building the Cross Country Course for the Olympics in Beijing at the end of the year. We have been very fortunate to have had the services and expertise of Ewan.

We have some tidying up to do out on the course before our event in March, Working Bees have been organised for 16th Feb. and March rally 2nd March. Remember these Working Bees go towards working off your hours as well as keeping of grounds and equipment ship shape.

We are required to close our Cross Country Course 3 weeks before our Horse Trials, so, the course will be closed from the 24th Feb. until after our event on the 15th March.

Again we will be looking for lots of helpers for the Horse Trials, list of jobs in on the board. If there is a job you would like to do, see De Davey today, otherwise everyone will be allocated jobs at next rally.

The Club keep their fees down to a minimum, they are set to cover Insurance, Zone fees, Ground Hire and a few dollars for the Club's running Costs. The Club relies on the Horse Trials and Show (major events) to raise funds to maintain and continue to upgrade the Pony Club facilities for all members to enjoy. So, even if you have a young rider or a rider not competing for whatever reason, we still need your help and remember all riders well benefit from the event in the long term.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

The A.G.M. has been set for Thursday 27th March, 8.00p.m. at the Pony Club Shed. We welcome everyone along and hope to encourage some new members onto to the committee - *Committee meetings are held on the Thursday night before the Rally at 8.00p.m. at the Pony Club Shed.* Being on the committee is a great way of being

involved, learning how the Pony Club system works and having the opportunity to bring new and fresh ideas to the table.

FEES for the coming year are set at the A.G.M. and the club must have all their fees collected and sent to P.C.A.V. by the 15th June. Membership forms will be handed out at the April rally and we ask that they be returned with money at the May rally. This enables the club to collect last of fees in June and get the Clubs Strength return off to P.C.A.V. straight after the June rally. If our returns are late arriving at P.C.A.V. members/club aren't covered by insurance and are at risk of temporarily being put out of action.

CANTEEN:

Canteen closed this rally due to maintenance on the club rooms/canteen - *the white ants over the years have done considerable damage to the wall between the club rooms and canteen.*

Instead of the normal canteen facilities will be having a sausage sizzle, salad rolls and drinks will be available.

Again we have been fortunate to have the services of Work for the Dole, who have undertaken the job to repair the wall and paint the club rooms. Work for the Dole are only on site on Wednesday & Thursday, so progress is a little on the slow side, but as we have experienced with the First Aid room and Office they do a great job and eventually get the job done.

DRESSAGE & SHOW JUMPING CLINICS:

The Zone is in the process of trying to fit on the calendar and organize a Dressage Judges Clinic in July. If you are interested in attending this Clinic could you see Peter today as the club has an expression of Interest to return to the Zone. This Clinic is for members/parents or anyone else interested in judging, it's an opportunity to gain some help and confidence to get started or just to improve your skills.

A Show Jumping Clinic along the same lines is to be organised for later in the year.

ANTHEA'S LESSONS:

A LIST OF DATES FOR ANTHEA'S LESSONS WILL BE ON THE NOTICE BOARD TODAY.

Riders interested in having lessons with Anthea or wanting more information need to see Tracey today.

Anthea teaches both Flat and Dressage – riders can book in for 2 sessions (Show Jumping & Flat) or just one session (Show Jumping or Flat), cost is \$10.00 per session, maximum 4 in group.

For those looking for extra instruction to improve their skills, Anthea is a very good and experienced instructor.

“C” CERTIFICATE:

The club will be working towards putting a group of C's together to be examined in August. To be eligible to sit for your “C” you need to be 12 years old by August. P.C.A.V. have put out a “C” Test Book that riders working towards their “C” will need to purchase – at a cost of \$20.00 - The club has these books in stock and can be purchased at our second hand shop - **SEE: DOROTHY HAZEL**

If you are interested or need more information on doing your “C” speak to either D.C. Peter or Chief Instructor, Toni today.

HORSE FLOAT FOR SALE:

Kentucky Horse Float with extended front, has always been shedded.
Price \$5,000.00 for more details see Anne Wilson.

WEB SITE:

With all the events and activities coming up in the next few months, keep updated by regularly viewing the Web Site.

WITH SO MUCH GOING ON, KEEP VIEWING THE WEB SITE FOR INFORMATION ON:.

- **ANTHEA'S LESSONS**
- **TRAINING DAYS/TIMES FOR GAMES, FLAT TEAMS AND MUSICAL RIDE .**
- **UPDATED INFORMATION ON E.I.**
- **ALL OTHER CLUB INFORMATION**
- **A.G.M.**
- **"C" CERTIFICATE**