

Bendigo Pony Club
P.O. Box 2257
Bendigo Mail Centre 3554

September 2009

Pony Express

The committee and members of the Bendigo Pony Club gratefully acknowledge

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The Committee and members of Bendigo Pony Club thank CEPA FARM SUPPLIES for their generous sponsorship of ring 3 at our Open show

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SEPTEMBER

13th—Bendigo Pony Club EFA
Open Show & Gymkhana—
Bendigo Show Grounds

19th—Alan Mitchell Clinic—
Bendigo PC Grounds

26-27th—Werribee Pony Club
Horse Trials

27th—Neangar Pony Club—
Open Gymkhana

OCTOBER

10th—Neangar Pony Club Open
Combined Training Day

17th—Maldon Pony Club Show-
jumping Series

22nd—Midland Zone Meeting—
Maryborough



“Friendship
doubles
our joy and
divides our
grief”

Montana Maud & Sammi Browell

BIRTHDAYS

Ebony Carter—30th

Hannah Mika—17th

CONGRATULATIONS!

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TOP 10 EXERCISES TO BECOME A BETTER EQUESTRIAN

They say it takes seven falls to make a rider. But there's a lot more to it than that. Check out this humorous list of 10 simple exercises that will help you become a better equestrian.

10. Drop a heavy steel object on your foot. Don't pick it up right away. Shout, "Get off, Stupid, GET OFF!"
9. Leap out of a moving vehicle and practice "relaxing into the fall." Roll lithely into a ball and spring to your feet.
8. Learn to grab your checkbook out of your purse and write out a \$200 check without even looking down.
7. Jog long distances carrying a halter and a carrot. Go ahead and tell the neighbours what you are doing - they might as well know now.
6. Affix a pair of reins to a moving freight train and practice pulling to a halt. Smile as if you are having fun.
5. Hone your fibbing skills: "See hon, moving hay bales is FUN!" and "No, really, I'm glad your lucky performance and multimillion dollar horse won the blue ribbon. I am just thankful that my hard work and actual ability won me second place."
4. Practice dialling your chiropractor's number with both arms paralysed to the shoulder and one foot anchoring the lead rope of a frisky horse.
3. Borrow the Australian Army's slogan: Be All That You Can Be -- bitten, thrown, kicked, slimed, trampled, frozen...
2. Lie face down in a puddle of mud in your most expensive riding clothes and repeat to yourself, "This is a learning experience, this is a learning experience, this is ..."
1. THE NUMBER ONE EXERCISE TO BECOME A BETTER EQUESTRIAN: Marry money.



Proud mum Deb Browell & Sammi competing at Bendigo Open Show

D.C.'S MESSAGE

Hello all,

Our Open Show on September 13th was another successful event for our club. The event drew a lot of quality horses as riders took the opportunity to campaign their mounts one last time before the Royal Melbourne Show. We are very grateful to Omega Horse Feeds and Ceca Farm Supplies for their generous sponsorship of the event.

The Pony club and Fun Rings were also well supported with one rider travelling all the way from Wangaratta to participate! Congratulations to all Bendigo Pony riders who competed on the day. As usual, you all looked fantastic and best of all you were good sports. I read something in regard to good sportsmanship this week and thought I would share it with you.

“When you win say nothing, when you lose say less”

Thanks again to all members and adult supporters of our club who chipped in and helped on the day or at the working bee on Saturday. I did notice that it is much easier to set up for a show than it is for a combined training day! As it was an Open event a lot of riders needed to fill in a day attendance forms. These are available from our website and if you are going to compete at an event that requires one of these please fill one in prior to the competition and present it already completed to the organisers. They will be very appreciative!

As a club we are very grateful to the judges at our show. They arrived on time, looked the part, did an outstanding job and only charged petrol money (If they charged at all!) This professionalism and attitude of giving back to the sport that has given to them is to be commended.

Our portable cross country jumps have been completed and are ready to be put into place. Thanks to Clinton Hedger for the great job he has done in building the jumps and to John Faull for allowing Clinton the use of sheds at John's business to build the jumps in. The jumps will give our members much needed practise for riding at horse trials and I look forward to seeing more of the Bendigo Pony Club green and gold on the cross country courses next season.

Til next time,

Happy Horsing, Sue

RALLY ATTENDANCE

Just a reminder that to be eligible to compete at any pony club event or in the pony club ring at a show the following attendance criteria must be met as per the PCAV By laws:

31.5 Rally Attendance Requirements for Competitions

31.5.a Junior club member:

Five rallies, two of which must be by the combination, within the preceding 12 months.*

However, within the first six months of new club membership, only two mounted rallies by the combination are required. (Refer to rule 13.11 for definition of a new club member).

31.5.b Associate club member: two mounted rallies by the combination in the preceding 12 months.

** this means the preceding 12 months from the date of the competition*

Members are defined as:

13.6 Junior Club Member

13.6.a A junior club member is one under the age of 17 years.

13.7 Associate Club Member

13.7.a An associate club member is one aged 17 years and over.

13.7.b An associate club member may continue membership of their club and receive PCAV benefits until 30 June following their twenty-fifth birthday.



SHOWING GUIDELINES

Lead Classes

The Handler must be in correct Pony Club Uniform including boots. A compliant Dressage whip may be carried.

Riding Classes

Pony Club Uniform must be worn. The horse must be presented in a snaffle bridle.

Turnout

Turnout is judged on the presentation of both the rider and the horse. The following are taken into consideration, cleanliness and neatness of both horse and rider, fit of the gear and the suitability of both. Pony Club Uniform must be worn. The horse must be presented in a snaffle bridle, spurs and gloves may be worn. A whip if carried must not exceed 75cm.

Smartest on Parade

This is judged to determine the most attractive horse and rider combination. It is judged on suitability of the horse, general presentation of horse and rider and overall appeal.

Note:

In accordance with PCAV Gear rules:

- Plaiting the horse is optional for PCAV showing competitions
- Gear check is required for all pony club sections.

In accordance with the PCAV Handbook of By-Laws:-

- PCAV club members must present PCAV club member cards and prove their eligibility to compete
- Day attendance forms and fee are required for Open sections.

LEAD CLASSES

In these classes the horse is being judged on conformation, soundness and paces. In a Pony Club class the handler should be in full Pony Club Uniform and the horse in a snaffle bridle.

When leading a horse remember to lead from the near side and turn him away from you so he remains balanced and does not stand on you. Make sure you do not stand or lead between the horse and the Judge. This means the Judge can see the whole horse at all times

RIDING CLASSES

This is a competition between riders to determine the most correct position of the rider and application of the aids producing a picture of harmony. Classes are usually divided into age groups.

TURNOUT CLASSES

Turnout is judged on a point score system. It is designed to determine the best all round turnout. It is judged on confirmation and soundness, manners and paces, costume and Saddlery, riding ability and appeal. Appeal includes suitability of the horse, colour co-ordination, condition of the horse and presentation of horse and rider.

SMARTEST ON PARADE

This is a competition to determine the most attractive horse and rider combination. It is judged on suitability of the horse, general presentation of horse and rider and overall appeal. The Judge may inspect each combination more closely by walking around the horse and inspecting the cleanliness of horse, rider and Saddlery. It is generally accepted that this event is judged on a circle. The final selection may be decided from the line up at the discretion of the Judge. There should be no individual workouts or points awarded as in a turnout class.

TO THE STABLE

You've probably seen **horses do this strange thing** with their noses and wondered what it was all about. If you give your horse something different to eat, or if he's checking something out by smelling it, he will often raise his head and wrinkle his nose .

Well it's officially called the **Flehmen Response** and it allows odours to reach special odour sensing receptors further back in the horse's skull. The Flehmen Response is mostly displayed by stallions when they are checking a mare's urine to see if she's ready for breeding.



How do you spell "Hungry Horse" in 4 letters? - M T G G

Riding Horses on The Road

If you ride regularly, then you'll probably find yourself **riding on roads** and among traffic at some stage. Did you know that horses ridden on roads are considered 'vehicles'. It's only after the rider has dismounted that he or she is considered a pedestrian and the horse an animal.

Horses are allowed to be ridden on all roads unless there's a sign indicating otherwise, for example most free-ways and tollways have signs stating **no pedestrians, bicycles or animals beyond this point**

As horses are slower than cars, you must ride as close as possible to the left-hand side of the road and travel in the same direction as the traffic. Unlike cars, a horse and rider is allowed to travel on footpaths and nature strips unless the local Council has laws

against it. A word of warning though, some pedestrians and home owners might object!.

As an official vehicle on the road, you're not allowed to ride on median strips, nor go across traffic islands or roundabouts. The rules at roundabouts are the same as cars, always give way to your right. It's inevitable that sooner or later someone will try to stir your horse by revving his engine or tooting the horn. This is a good reason why you should avoid taking youngsters or skittish horses on the road. If your horse shies or starts playing up, GET OFF IMMEDIATELY. It's just not worth the risk. On the other hand, most drivers are considerate and will give you space, when they do, acknowledge their courtesy with a friendly wave. .



SUMMER IS ON THE WAY

If there's no feed in your horse's paddock and you can't afford to pay the high prices to hand feed, then letting any horse in your care starve is both legally and morally **NOT AN OPTION**. Consider selling the horse, or contact one of the local horse welfare organizations for advice. They're sure to be busy during times of **drought** but may be able to offer some advice.

*If you own a mare and are considering putting her in foal, think long and hard first.

The mare will need extra feeding during pregnancy and nursing and the foal will be an extra mouth to feed once it's weaned and that's supposing you can even get feed.

*Pick up manure as often as you can during a **drought** to maximize available pasture. If you don't have one of these, then use an old large tyre or hay bag. Hay thrown on the ground can get walked on and soiled, going to waste.

Manure is a vital part of worm life cycles so regular manure collection is an important part of worm management.

*Horses being ridden regularly have higher energy requirements than those not in work.

If you can't provide bulk in the form of grass or hay, or afford to buy too much commercial feed mix, consider not riding your horse until conditions improve.

*Minimise hay wastage by feeding in hay feeders.

*If your horse is being fed mostly hay because there isn't any grazing in his paddock, then it's a good idea to dampen it down first to help avoid impacting in the horse's stomach, which can cause **colic**

*Horses burn energy to keep warm in cold weather so rugging your horse will help preserve his condition meaning he'll need less feed.

Carrots and apples are okay but not in huge amounts and should not be a horse's main diet. Introduce them slowly and don't over feed, studies have shown that sugar in carrots can be detrimental to horses suffering **Cushing's Disease**, so it's recommended no more than four or five carrots be fed a day.

Pears are another treat, good for **older horses whose teeth may be worn**.

Make sure all fruit and vegetables are washed first to remove any chemicals.

***Don't feed lawnmower clipping EVER**. They can compact and ferment in the horse's stomach, causing blockages and **colic**

It's way better to take the horse to the lawn and let him graze!. The average suburban backyard won't sustain a horse for long though, plus most councils won't approve either.

* Make sure your horse's teeth are in good condition, if he has sharp edges he won't be able to chew properly and utilise whatever feed you are giving him.



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