

Bendigo Pony Club
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Bendigo Mail Centre 3554
www.bendigoponyclub.com.au



JUNE 2011

PONY EXPRESS

Mandurang South Pony Club Horse Trials.....



..... Well done
EMMaby 3rd & HANNAH
2nd Grade 5!! More
results in the
NeWSletter.....



DC'S MESSAGE

Hi All,

It is hard to know how to begin this month's message. Most of you will be aware of an email that was sent to the majority of Bendigo Pony Club members after the May rally. I was so upset that anyone would think that this was an appropriate course of action to deal with a complaint. Although an apology was sent to the club for the sending of the email, the instructor whose reputation was defamed in that email and also on a horse blog did not receive an apology for the potential injury to his professional reputation. This is my biggest regret personally of the whole situation. I received many emails of support for the instructor from other club members. Thank you to those members for your support.

It is part of my job as DC to organise the instructors for each rally and I would like to take this opportunity to stress how grateful I am to all the fantastic instructors who regularly teach our riders. Every instructor at every rally has years of experience and much to offer our members.

I realise that sometimes due to lack of knowledge or a difference of opinion it is possible for misunderstandings to occur. When I was asked at the May rally if it was acceptable for 2 riders in one family to no longer attend flat lessons with an instructor I replied it was unacceptable. At this point I should have added "I need to check the rules". I was thinking this but I didn't articulate it. I apologised later to the mother of the riders for not doing this. I was also thinking that flat work is the basis for all other disciplines. It is one thing not to participate in games or jumping if a combination isn't ready but every rider needs to do flat work.

It states clearly in our bylaws *all riders are expected to participate in all activities. If for any reason a rider does not wish to participate in an activity they are to remain with their group unmounted, after receiving permission from the DC to do so.*

The bylaws also state *Safety of riders and horses is a priority at pony club and coaching can be distracting and cause mishaps. Courtesy to the instructor is required; they are in control of the activity and may have a lesson plan or approach different to yours. This can be a learning experience for the rider.*

Well-meaning parents can often be a source of stress and tension for the rider. Parents are naturally keen for their child to progress and in doing so actually impede the child's ability to learn. The objective approach of the instructor is usually the best way to help a child.

After checking the rules and speaking with our Zone rep I had decided to recommend at the committee of management meeting that in this case at future rallies for the harmony of the club, both members of this family be allowed to attend flat lessons unmounted. However before the meeting took place the emails were sent and the issues then became the inappropriate handling of a complaint and a serious breach of the PCAV Code of Conduct.

At the meeting the committee voted that a letter of apology should be sent to the instructor by the person who forwarded the original email acknowledging that at no time was the rider's safety compromised due to the method of instruction. There was no incident during the lesson.

The rider did feel out of their comfort zone but this happens when trying new things, especially with a nervous rider on a green horse.

The instructor, who is a formally accredited NCAS PCAV coach, did receive an apology with the inclusion of the statement *I do apologise if I have caused you any concern or distress and I deeply regret my actions* (i.e. the sending of the email) but there was not the acknowledgement that at no time in the lesson was the rider unsafe due to the instruction as the email implied. Again there was no incident during the lesson.

The family involved have chosen not to renew their membership to the club.

To help avoid regrettable situations arising in the future please refer to our club bylaws and the PCAV Code of Conduct both of which are on display in the club rooms.

We all want what is best for our kids and we all want our pony club to be a happy, safe and inclusive learning environment. The rules and bylaws exist for this reason. We need to do our best to adhere to them at all times whilst recognising that we are human and mistakes will happen. However when they do occur we learn from these mistakes for the betterment of the club and ourselves as individuals.

Til next month,

HAPPY horsing,

Sue



Happy Birthday to -

Morgan Rose Maud: June 19th



PRESIDENTS REPORT

Thank You for voting me in as President for the 2011-2012 year. It was a bit daunting to begin with after a prickly start to my duties. My first reaction was "John Please Come Back!!!" but with many positive phone calls and the support of a great executive committee I soldiered on. I can assure you of my personal commitment to be as good a President as I can, so the success of Bendigo Pony Club continues.

As we look back on another year of pony club I think we have a lot of achievements to savour. Once again our Interschools event was a great success and a wonderful promotion of the quality of event we are capable of producing. A huge THANK YOU to every member who went over and above their duty to make sure this event was a success for the benefit of our club.

Last rally it was good to see many members on new ponies or horses having a try at pony club. With this exposure in a safe environment they are able to get used to the many facets of pony club. This leads me to the experienced instructors we have the opportunity to learn from. How lucky are we to be able to have such great instructors from all disciplines at every rally?

A few HORSE keeping rules to please keep in mind:

- Gear checking is a MUST for all riders before they begin their first group. At gear check all gear is to be clean.
- Hair MUST be tied back and well groomed under your riding helmet. If necessary a hair net may be used.
- No visible piercings at all. If jewellery can't be removed it must be taped.

Finally I would like to encourage ALL members of our club to get involved and make the most of your time at pony club. The more you put in to the club the more you will get out of it.

PRESIDENTS QUOTE FOR THE MONTH:

A good rider can hear his horse speak to him, a great rider can hear his horse whisper, but a bad rider won't hear his horse even if it screams at him.



Till next month,

Lisa

JUNE
6th PCAV
Award of
Merit Closing
Date to State

15th PCAV
Club
Membership
Strength
Returns Close


18th /19th State
Games & Flat
Team
Championship
(Venue to be
arranged)

21st PCAV
State Council
Meeting
Zone
Instructors
School Section
'C'




Every horse deserves to
be loved by a little girl
once in its life






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**KNOW YOUR
RULES**

HORSE TRIALS

GENERAL ELIMINATIONS / DISQUALIFICATIONS

1. Failure to be eligible as per Horse Trials, as a graded combination.
2. Rider being under eight years of age.
3. Horse being under four years of age.
4. Failure to be in correct dress for each phase.
5. Jumping or attempting to jump any obstacle without headgear or with an unfastened retention harness (chinstrap)
6. Competing in any phase and using incorrect saddlery and/or equipment.
7. Person other than the competitor lungeing/riding the horse once on the Event grounds.
8. Failure to undergo a gear check before each phase of the competition.
9. Failure to obey orders/directions of officials.
10. Riding over, on or near any competition area and/or arena except when actually competing.
11. Abuse of horse in all forms once on the competition grounds.
12. Rapping in any form whether in public or not.
13. Doping of horse and/or rider taking stimulating or calming product in any shape or form.
14. If the horse is so lame and the jury of appeal decides that the horse shall not continue, the competitor will be eliminated.
15. Fall of rider anywhere on venue resulting in unconsciousness or concussion – refer PCAV Handbook of Bylaws 24.1
16. Dressage – Refer to the Rules in PCAV Dressage Rules Eliminations for Dressage Tests.
17. Showjumping Schedule of Penalties
 - Third disobedience in the whole Test
 - First fall of horse and or rider
 - Omission of an obstacle or boundary flag
 - Exceeding the time limit
 - Refer to FEI Rule Book
 - Article 240 – Eliminations for Showjumping competitions.

Remember on the cross country course the **RED** flag is ALWAYS on your right



**Mandurang South
Horse Trials results:**

Grade 3

Emma Lea 2nd

Shelby Thompson 6th

Grade 5

Hannah Mika 2nd

Emmaby Barton Grace
3rd

CONGRATULATIONS



If your horse says no, you either asked the wrong question or asked the question wrong



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To the Stable: Brrrr...the cold weather is here and it may be time to think about clipping your horse.

Before you think about clipping your horse you need to establish why and ultimately what sort of clip you need to give your horse. Clipping ensures your horse remains healthy and comfortable. Make sure you know when you should start clipping your horse and continue to maintain his clip for the correct period of time. Remember, which ever clip you choose you will need to rug your horse correctly.

Should I consider clipping or trimming?

If your horse gets too hot during exercise, is overheating or is in danger of becoming chilled while waiting to dry in cold weather you should definitely consider clipping. Some horses and ponies will grow very heavy coats all year round and after the smallest amount of work will break out into a sweat - having a heavy coat then makes it incredibly difficult for them to dry out quickly, clipping these sort of horses or ponies is a must.

Reasons for clipping:

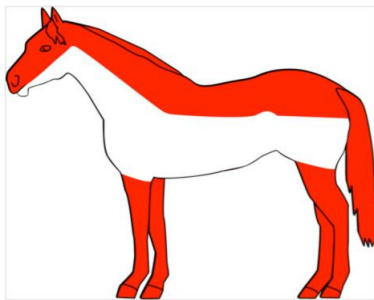
- For quick drying after exercise.
- So your horse can be exercised rigorously without being uncomfortable.
- To maintain good condition by avoiding excessive sweating.
- Makes grooming easier.
- Maintains a smart looking horse.
- What sort of clip should I consider for my horse?

Your choice of clip depends on the type of work your horse will be doing over the winter period, taking into account how much he usually sweats.

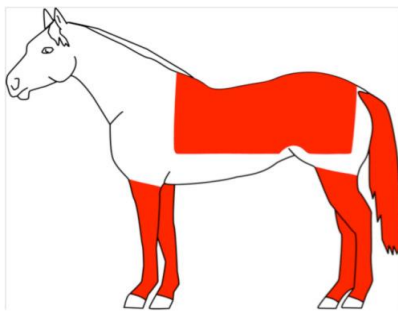
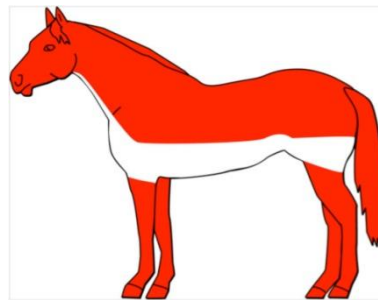
The various clips include the following:

- **Trace clip:** there are two types, the high and the low trace. This clip allows horses and ponies to be exercised without getting too hot. It also allows them to continue being turned-out in the winter. The coat is removed from the belly and up the underside of the neck. Hair is left on the head, the topside of the neck, body and legs for warmth and protection. For a low trace only a small section of hair is removed from the belly and neck. A high trace takes more hair from these areas going further up the horse's flank.

High Trace clip



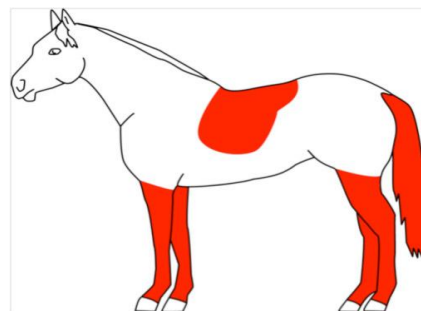
Low Trace Clip



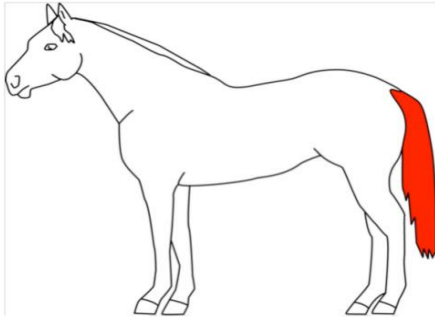
- **Blanket clip:** this type of clip would suit a horse that has regular exercise, is turned-out in the field and does various events at the weekends. The coat is removed completely from the head, neck and flanks, leaving only an area of hair that looks like an exercise sheet over the back and hind-quarters and on the legs. The hair on the legs is left mainly for warmth and protection

Blanket clip

- **Hunter clip:** used mainly for horses in heavy work, such as hunters. The clip is similar to the blanket except the hair over the hind-quarters is removed leaving only a patch in the saddle area. Again, the leg hair remains for warmth and protection.



Hunter clip



- **Full clip:** this is usually given to competition horses that compete in the winter months. The whole of the coat is removed, including body, legs and head. This clip looks very smart but does require careful stable management. Horses with a full clip need to be rugged up at all times and may need to wear stable bandages in very cold weather. The full clip is also popular as a show clip in the warmer months

Full clip

*** As with all things horsey unless you are very competent it is best to get a professional to do the job for you * 😊**

The 4 Steps to Competency



1. First we are **unconsciously incompetent** (*you aren't aware of what you don't know*)
2. Next, we are **consciously incompetent** (*you suddenly know what you don't know/can't do*)
3. Then we are **consciously competent** (*you think about it and then you can do it*)
4. Finally, we are **unconsciously competent** (*you don't even have to think about it and you do it automatically*)



Be a Sweet Tater!

Some people never seem motivated to participate, but are just content to watch while others do the work. They are called "Spec Taters".

Some people never do anything to help, but are gifted at finding fault with the way others do the work. They are called "Comment Taters".

Some people are very bossy and like to tell others what to do, but don't want to soil their own hands. They are called "Dick Taters".

Some people are always looking to cause problems by asking others to agree with them. It is too hot or too cold, too sour or too sweet or things are not done their way. They are called "Agie Taters"

There are those who say they will help, but somehow just never get around to actually doing the promised help. They are called "Hezzie Taters"

Some people can put up a front and pretend to be someone they are not. They are called "Emma Taters".

Then there are those who love others and do what they say they will.

They are always prepared to stop whatever they are doing and lend a helping hand.

They bring real sunshine into the lives of others. They are called "Sweet Taters".

The world needs more Sweet Taters!!



It's not goodbye... it's see you later....



It was with much sadness that the executive committee received the news that the O'Toole family have decided not to rejoin the club for the coming year. Family commitments mean that for a time pony club has to be put on the back burner but Matt & Shona assure us that as soon as things settle down they will be back at the club.

The entire O'Toole clan have been the perfect pony club family since they first joined 2 years ago. It was a case of one in all in with both parents, Shona and Matt being on hand to help around the club wherever needed ably assisted by the boys Conor and Lachy.

It was an absolute joy to watch Rhylan and Sarah Sparkle develop into such a wonderful combination, competing in showing, combined training and horse trials. Rhylan has all the qualities that make a rider: persistence determination, balance, courage and enthusiasm in equal measure.

There is no doubt that the club will miss you all very much and we look forward to welcoming you all back when life settles down. Thank you for all you have done for the club in your time with us and it will be great to see you back at Bendigo Pony club ASAP! 😊



Rhylan's 1st Rally July 2009



Winning Combination

Canteen Duty June rally: **Thompson, Kirk**

Please be at the canteen by 9.30am. You will be needed until 2.30pm. If you are not attending this rally please arrange to swap your canteen duty with another family

