



FEBRUARY 2020

NEWS UPDATE

Muster Dates for 2020 – please diarise!!

23 FEBRUARY

22 MARCH

19 APRIL

24 MAY

21 JUNE

26 JULY

30 AUGUST

27 SEPTEMBER

25 OCTOBER

15 NOVEMBER

Other BHPC Dates for 2020

BHPC 2020 Camp

3, 4 & 5 APRIL

ANZAC Day Horse Parade

25 APRIL

Certificate accreditation

14 JUNE

BHPC Combined Training Event

9 AUGUST

Inter-Pony Club gymkhana

23 AUGUST

Doggy Fun Day

13 SEPTEMBER

Derby Day

11 OCTOBER

Awards & AGM

22 NOVEMBER

Brookfield Horse

&

Pony Club

Newsletter

2020 membership – rejoin ASAP

Renewal of membership is a 2 stage process.

1) Apply for PCQ membership online at

<https://ponyclubqld.com.au/>

2) Fill out BHPC membership form on BHPC website

at [https://www.brookfieldponyclub.org.au/becoming-](https://www.brookfieldponyclub.org.au/becoming-a-member/)

[a-member/](https://www.brookfieldponyclub.org.au/becoming-a-member/) and email to our Membership Secretary

Jacquie Willsford (jwillsford@yahoo.com or for queries

Mobile: 0413742085).

Please apply as soon as possible to allow time for the Management Committee to approve your membership application and for payments to be processed before the February muster. You must be a ratified member to be able to ride at the February muster. Please don't leave this too late, do it NOW!!

PCQ compliant gear – For information on Pony Club compliant gear, select "Rules for Saddlery and Gear Check - 2019" at

<https://ponyclubqld.com.au/resources/rulebooks/>

PCAQ Helmet Compliance

Remember to check your helmet for compliance with PCQ regulations. *This is each rider's responsibility.*

Helmets need to comply with the following standards: AS/NZS 3838 (AU) and ARB HS 2012; PAS 015 (UK); ASTM F 1163 (USA); VGI (Europe). EN1384 – Only for helmets with manufacture date up to and including 2015.

NOTE: Helmet compliance expires 5 years from date of manufacture.

Spot checks will be done to ensure compliance.



Chief Instructor's Report

Welcome everyone to Brookfield Horse & Pony Club Inc. (BHPC) for 2020. I hope everyone is looking forward to a fun year of riding and making new horsey friends!! I send a special welcome to our new families who have joined this year.

1st Muster: Sun 23 February
8 am START
9.30 am Morning Tea
11.30 pm Lunch
2 pm FINISH

Hot food, cold drinks and icy poles are available from the canteen at morning tea and lunch break.

Activities will include flatwork, jumping, games and team sports. Riders come in their informal polo shirt, and beige jodphurs or beige stockman trousers. If you don't have a polo shirt yet, don't worry. You can wear a plain polo shirt until you get one from the uniform co-ordinator (Emma Tait at emmatait74@gmail.com).

Aim to be in the saddle by 7.30 am - 7.45 am, so that you have time to settle yourself and your horse. Only slow work before the muster - walk and trot please on the showgrounds. Use the Long Yard or Square Yard if required to lunge or work horse and rider in a more confined space.

The day will begin with a brief introduction by the Chief Instructor, and then riders will break up into Rider Groups. Can all parents please be present on the oval during this time from 8 am. With the hot weather, please make sure children have had plenty to drink before they come to the muster and have adequate sunscreen on. Parents are encouraged to stay with their child's group during the muster and provide children with cold water as required. If riders have to leave early, please let your instructor know when you are going. Younger riders may find riding the entire muster very tiring.

Stables

Stables are available on a "first come basis". You can only claim a stable if you have your horse with you. If you have young children who you walk down with as

they ride to the muster, you may come down first to leave their hay and buckets. Sharing of stables is dangerous for horses and children, and is not allowed. Definitely no riding in the stables.

Stables and the stable area must be left clean of any manure and leftover hay after the muster before you go home. A pitchfork and a wheelbarrow are in the Gear Shed and manure should be placed into the manure pile at the end of the yards.

Parking of Floats & Cars

No parking of cars or floats in the stable area or along the oval fence. If you arrive with a float and get a stable, please offload horses and gear promptly and move your car & float away from the stable area, along the driveway, or in the Cemetery paddock car park. For those riding to Pony Club, parents should offload gear from their car, and then move their vehicle away from the stable area, past the gate or in the car park near the canteen.

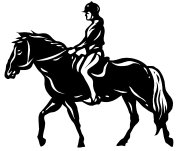
What to bring

Please make sure you bring a halter, lead rope and baling twine in case you have to tie up your horse during the muster. Bring hay and a water bucket for use during the break. It is preferable for horses which are tied up to a float to have their hay in a haybag or haynet which can be secured up near the horse's head. Horses should be tied up fairly short, so that they can't get their leg caught over their lead rope. Please note that string haynets with large mesh holes are not allowed in the stables – use a canvas hay bag or slow feeder hay net.

New Member Orientation

Saturday 22 February 4 pm for talk and tour.
Welcome to those members who are new to the club. You are invited along on the Saturday afternoon before our first muster.

If you intend to come along, you must let me know. Please e-mail Sandy Pollitt (sandypollitt@hotmail.com) by Wednesday 19 Feb. We will go through some basics including: how pony club works, rules, timetable, PCAQ, where is everything, tour of facilities. Meet at 4 pm at the Pony Club clubhouse next to the Show Society bar at the Brookfield Showgrounds.



C and C* Proficiency Certificate for riders

Riders, if you have gained or are ready to gain your D Rider Proficiency certificate, you may like to aim higher and take the next step!!

For those who are aged 11 years and over, you can nominate to do your C Standard Proficiency Certificate. Riders must hold a C Certificate to be eligible to compete at State Championship events.

Those riders who completed their C certificate can start working toward their C Star certificate.

For more information about what is involved, go to the PCAQ website (www.pcaq.asn.au/Resources/Coaching.aspx) and select 'Pony Club Australia Syllabus of Instruction'.

With a group of riders who are keen, we will start a study group to make the learning more fun. Typically in past years, we have had 5 theory sessions together, plus a ridden and practical session. If you have any queries or would like to take part, please contact Liz Terry at terryst.brookfield@bigpond.com.

BHPC Management Committee Report

Handbook and Bylaws

All members, new and renewing, are urged to read the members' handbook and bylaws on the BHPC website <https://www.brookfieldponyclub.org.au/information-for-members/> to ensure that all member families are aware of the rules of the club and their family's obligations as club members.

Horse Health Declaration

You must bring a completed Horse Health Declaration to each muster. Hand it to Sophie Weitemeyer, our Horse Health Officer, or another committee member, before the muster or at the lineup at 8 am on the oval. The PIC number of the Brookfield Showground is QJBB0368.

Working Bee

We will need willing workers from our BHPC families at our Working Bee from 8-11 am on Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 February. You can choose to help on Saturday with cleanout and stocktake of the gear shed, jump shed or clubhouse, OR help on Sunday in the cemetery paddock with whipper snipping, mowing, weeding, and general tidy up. Please fill out the roster form sent out by Robyn Eastwell, our roster co-ordinator, or email Robyn (robyn@eastwells.com.au) if you don't have the form.

If you are not available to volunteer over this weekend, you will be asked to do other maintenance tasks during the year.

Junior Committee

Members who are 11 through to 17 years are invited to attend the Junior Committee meeting at the first muster on 23 February. Come along and put forward your ideas about pony club, activities you would like to participate in and fundraising ideas. Elections for positions on the Junior Committee will be held, including Club Co-Captains.

Sponsorship thanks

The Committee extends its thanks to Dr Christian Rowan MP, Member for Moggill, for sponsoring the new, large fan that we have installed over the clubhouse veranda. Such a relief on a very hot day to have some air movement. It is greatly appreciated.

Camp 3, 4 & 5 April – date claimer

Our BHPC camps have always been a highlight of the year for both children and parents. We will again be based at Burpengary Equestrian Centre and have our experienced guest coaches, with Guy Creighton giving show jumping lessons on Saturday, Ruth White giving flatwork lessons on both days, and Sasha Ulasowski giving cross country lessons on Sunday. There are also games organised, trail rides, and fun night time activities. The ride along the beach at low tide at Beachmere beach is always a favourite.

So many great activities, even our youngest riders who don't want to do the jumping lessons, come along to enjoy the weekend and take part in the other activities. Keep that weekend free!!

Horse Welfare in the hot weather

In this hot weather, ensure your horse or pony always has plenty of clean water available. The average adult horse can drink 30 – 50 litres of water per day. Check troughs and water tubs twice daily to ensure they are not contaminated with dead birds or toads. With the recent rain, there is rapidly growing grass in the paddocks, so monitor your horse or pony carefully so that it does not get too fat, with the potential for laminitis especially in cresty ponies. Your pony may need to be locked away in a yard for part of the day, but will still need to be exercised if it is confined in a small area.

Check your horse's condition every day, looking for injuries, skin conditions or ticks, attending to hooves as required, and grooming to keep your horse's coat, mane and tail in good condition. Skin conditions like rain scald and greasy heel can occur in the hot and humid weather after rain, and Queensland Itch gets worse with all the insects about. These conditions will need attention and regular application of medication.



Rain scald



Queensland Itch

Be aware that some horses can develop anhydrosis in very hot, humid weather. Anhydrosis means that the horse has lost its ability to sweat, and it will overheat when exercised, which is very dangerous. This condition can result from horses sweating profusely for long periods of time – usually from exercising too intensely in the heat and high humidity, or from being rugged and out in the summer sun without adequate shade.

Be on the lookout with your horse. If you have been out on a ride and he does not sweat as normal, and seems to “puff” very hard after the ride, your horse may be affected. To avoid anhydrosis, use caution when riding on very hot, humid days, use only light rugs overnight which can “breathe”, and keep him either stabled or in a yard or paddock with plenty of shade during the heat of the day.

Regular shoeing or trimming means that your horse's feet will stay in good condition. This varies from horse to horse, but usually it is between 4 to 6 weeks, especially for shod horses. Do not wait until the horse's feet look in poor condition before calling the farrier. Remember to pick out and examine your horse's feet daily, checking the condition of hoof and shoes, and looking for thrush, abscesses, cracks and punctures.

Worming is also very important, so make sure you keep up its regular worming programme (every 6-8 weeks) and keep paddocks clean of manure to stop horses being reinfected by worms from the manure. Remember to remove any bot eggs (tiny yellowish white eggs laid by bot flies especially on horse's legs) daily.



Bot fly eggs on horse's leg



Hooves in poor condition in need of trimming

If your horse has not had its annual tetanus/strangles injection, arrange to have it vaccinated. If its teeth have not been checked in the last year, this can be done by your vet or horse dentist.

BROOKFIELD HORSE & PONY CLUB SPONSORS



Please support the businesses that support our club

Thank you to our long term sponsors.

Their continued generosity supports the purchase of equipment, ribbons and trophies, provides prizes, and allows us to run Official PCAQ events.

BHPC is Proudly Sponsored By

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Dr Christian Rowan MP,
Member for Moggill