



APRIL 2021

NEWS UPDATE

Next muster:
Sunday 18 April 2021

Muster Dates for 2021 – please diarise!!

18 April
23 May
20 June
25 July
15 August
19 September
24 October
21 November

Other BHPC Dates for 2021

10 & 11 April - BHPC 2021 Camp at Brookfield
25 April - ANZAC Day Horse Parade
13 June - Training/Certificate accreditation
1 August - BHPC Combined Training Event
12 September - Fun Day
11 October - Derby Day
28 November - Awards & AGM

Brookfield Horse & Pony Club Newsletter

Pony Club Queensland (PCQ) compliant gear

To be covered by PCQ insurance when riding, the gear you use on your horse, as well as your own riding gear must comply with PCQ requirements.

New rules for cross-country jumping have just been published by PCQ.

Body Protectors are compulsory for schooling and competing over cross-country fences at any time. From 1 Jan 2021, body protectors must be manufactured after 2009 and the label complies to one of these: BETA 2018 Level 3, BETA 2209 Level 3, EIN13158:2009 Level 3. (Jan 2021).

This means during musters or any time you are jumping the cross country fences. If you need to get a body protector, you could make use of the 10% discount to Pony Clubbers at Greg Grant Saddlery this weekend. Body protectors for cross country jumping will not be required until the March muster.

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

Helmets must 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:** PCQ has now amended its 5 year expiry rule to advise that "Helmets generally have a useful life of 5 years, but must be checked after a fall".

For information on gear, uniforms and Pony Club rules for the various disciplines, go to “Rule Books” at <https://ponyclubqld.com.au/resources/rulebooks/>



Chief Instructor's Report

March Muster

Thanks to Erika for organising the muster, and the instructors who were able to help on a hot humid day. We welcomed 2 trainee coaches to the club. Grace Beatty was a member for 8 years and after a few years absence has returned to join the instructor team. Kellie O'Meara has been a member of Middlemount and Southside Pony Clubs, and is keen to continue her coaching accreditation at our club. A great turnout with 42 riders, including 3 adult riders and a trial rider. Thanks also to new member Kalani who couldn't bring her horse but came to help. Riders did a range of activities, including flatwork, show jumping, cross country riding, stockhorse challenge and games. After lunch, Felicity organised an Easter egg hunt and other games, so a lot of fun for the kids racing about on foot, giving the horses a break on a hot day. Many thanks Felicity for that great activity!

Next muster Sunday 18 April: 8.00 am – 2.00 pm.

This is our Sporting Gymkhana (Informal Ribbon Day), the first of our 2 competition Ribbon Days. Results from these 2 days add up to give us our Group Winners at the end of the year. All riders come in informal uniform (club polo shirt and beige jodhpurs or stockman cut trousers, with horses clean and well presented, but not plaited, and gear well looked after.

The programme will be: Rider Class, Top Score Show Jumping and 6 games (bending, bounce pony, drum & peg, stockhorse challenge (Mystery Course), Nambour nuisance, Bawnduggie bend). Rider class notes are included at the end of the newsletter.

Start practising the games at home!!! You can find rules of the games on the PCQ website. Go to <https://ponyclubqld.com.au/resources/rulebooks/>,

click on 'Rules for Sporting Formal Gymkhana' or 'Rules for showjumping'.

Ribbons will be awarded for each class, as well as prizes for overall group winners and placegetters.

Rules reminder – Offloading and parking of Floats & Cars

If you drive along Horse Parade to the stables, please offload horses and gear promptly. You must then move your vehicle & float away from the stable area, and park along Horse Parade or in the Cemetery paddock car park. For those riding to Pony Club, parents should offload gear, and then move their car away from the stable area, past the gate or in the car park near the canteen. This is a safety issue for which we all have responsibility. Please follow the directions of our volunteer car park attendants.

BHPC Camp 10 – 11 April at Brookfield

We have made the difficult decision to revise our annual camp given the current COVID-19 situation. Activities will now be held at Brookfield to ensure we can comply with COVID-19 restrictions and to keep us all safe. Please make sure that you read all of Erika's emails so that everyone knows how the activities will be run.

ANZAC Day Horse Troop - Sunday 25 April

Brookfield Pony Club has again been asked to participate in this year's ANZAC Day remembrance event at the Brookfield Showground with a led troop of Pony Club horses and ponies. The day's activities are based around the Shell Green cricket match and commemoration event being organised by the RSL at the Brookfield Showgrounds.

This event acknowledges the Shell Green cricket match played at Gallipoli during preparations for the allied troops' evacuation, the contribution of Sri Lankans who fought alongside the ANZACs, the history of the local community's commitment to supply horses for the war effort, and the sacrifice of past Kenmore State High student Mathew Hopkins who was killed in Afghanistan in 2009. The led horse troop re-enacts the donation of horses to the war effort during World War I at the Brookfield Showground, with local horses being led to the grounds for recruitment.

Pony Club members lead their horses in pairs in a troop line, led by riders of the Light Horse, and stand behind the Army XI and Brookfield cricket teams along with Armoured Vehicles for the remembrance, including recital of the Ode and the Last Post, before the cricket match. Below are the details of the event, although times may alter slightly.

When: Sunday 25 April at 10.15 am for the parade at approx 11.00 am and completion around 12.00

Where: Parking of floats in the cemetery paddock and gathering on the grassy area for lineup and troop practice with instructors

Who: Horse to be presented with neat and clean natural presentation in bridle; handler to be in formal Club uniform including helmet. Parents can accompany junior handlers as required and medals can be worn [right side for those wearing medals on behalf of loved ones]. See photos near the end of the newsletter.

We meet at 10.15 am in the Brookfield Reserve paddock and finish around midday. A rewarding experience for our members to take part in. Please let Sandy know if you are attending with your horse (sandypollitt@hotmail.com).

BHPC Management Committee Report

Rosters

All members are required to complete 2 setup rosters and 2 canteen rosters each year. Also a working bee and a fundraising event. Please contact Robyn our Roster co-ordinator at Robyn@eastwells.com.au if you have not selected your roster dates or would like to put your name down to help on ANZAC Day.

Horse and Participation Health Declarations are always a last moment effort to print and fill out, but essential for our Club Biosecurity and COVID-19 records.

HANDY HINT – Fill out one form with all the required personal and horse details, scan and print multiple

copies, enough for the Pony Club year. Keep the copies in your vehicle, on muster day, sign and date, hand in at the gate, so easy!!

The Brookfield Showground PIC is QJBB0368 for your Declaration.

Junior Committee

Members who are 11 through to 17 years, are invited to attend the Junior Committee meeting at the muster on 18 April. Come along and put forward your ideas about pony club, activities you want and fundraising ideas. Elections for Club Co-Captains positions on the Junior Committee will be held.

Long yard arena and oval use

The long yard and oval are facilities managed by the Brookfield Reserve Trust. Riding members of BHPC may use the long yard arena and oval without charge. Junior members must be accompanied by an adult or instructor. Please note that the long yard cannot be used if there is a cricket match or other event occurring.

For the long yard, riders must book on-line 2 days before use to gain approval from the Showground booking officer. Fill out your booking details, including your Pony Club membership number, on the Brookfield showground webpage at <https://www.brookfieldshowground.com.au/facilities-for-hire/the-long-yard/> .

The long yard accommodates one booking only at any time. All manure must be removed.

The arena, long yard and oval are for training only at steady paces - absolutely no galloping around. All riders must wear a suitable riding helmet (current standard required by PCQ), riding boots and Pony Club compliant gear.

Rider Class Notes for the Sporting Gymkhana

Rider class is judged on rider position, correct use of aids & correct workout. The workout will depend on the ages and abilities of the riders in the group. Younger riders will only be asked to walk and trot a fairly simple workout. Older riders will be asked to ride at walk, trot and canter a more complex workout.

Rider Position

Straight line through ear, shoulder, hip and heel. Leg stretched down with lower leg held still against horse, not loose or swinging. Heel pressed down, not raised up, heel slightly lower than toe. Feet parallel with the horse's sides, toes not turned out. Hips level with equal weight of seat in the saddle. Shoulders square, not rounded. Back straight and stretched tall, not rounded or hollow. Rider not leaning forward, particularly be aware of this when changing gait. Hands carried slightly above the horse's wither, with thumbs on top. Arms not stiff and straight, but with bend at elbows. Straight line from elbow, through hands to bit. Hands follow the horse's movement at walk and canter, steady at trot. Elbows carried neatly at sides. Seat is independent of the reins. Rider is balanced. Rider is not stiff and tense. Eyes up, looking forward, not down at horse.

Correct Use of Aids

Rider applies aids correctly and effectively. Correct aids for riding straight lines, curves and circles, moving forward and halt. Correct aids to change direction and gait. Rider on correct diagonal at rising trot, and horse on correct lead at canter. If incorrect, the judge wants to see attempts to correct instantly.

Correct Workout

During individual workout, rider keeps horse at an even rhythm in each gait. The horse is straight when moving on straight lines, and bends correctly when moving on a circle or curve. Transitions are smooth and at the correct place. Size of circles – rider to use entire area, circles should be good shape and the same size (if 2 included in workout). Centre line between circles is straight for a few strides, and the same centre line is used throughout workout. Rider can use the judge as one marker and distant object, e.g. post, for other marker to get centre line correct each time.

Judge's instructions

Listen carefully to the judge when the workout is described. Ride exactly the workout that the judge asks for. If unsure, ask the judge again before starting your workout. When it is your turn, ride forward out of the group, halt and salute your judge before you start, and salute again at the end of your workout. Stand respectfully, with horse on contact, quietly watching others take their turn. Riders can lose points for talking in line and not paying attention. Wait for previous rider to return to their place before leaving the line of horses for your turn. Instantly correct any mistakes, e.g. if horse breaks from canter back to trot, immediately balance and ask again for canter. Wait for presentation of all ribbons to be completed and dismissed by judge before moving away. If you win a ribbon, congratulate other place getters in the lineup and thank your judge.

ANZAC Day Pony Club Horse Troop 2019



Reward Training

Reward training is another method that we can use to help a horse to learn. Give your horse something he enjoys to reward his good behaviour.

You can give him a scratch or rub on the wither or neck.



You can give your horse a carrot or apple when catching him in his paddock, rewarding him for being caught. Just make sure to feed him off the flat palm of your hand for the safety of your fingers.



BROOKFIELD HORSE & PONY CLUB SPONSORS



Please support the
businesses that
support our club

Thank you to our long term sponsor WestVets.

Their continued generosity supports the purchase of equipment, ribbons and trophies, as well as allowing us to run Official PCQ events.

