Brookfield Horse & Pony Club Newsletter

OCTOBER 2026

BHPC dates – please diarise

Muster dates

Sunday 25 October – Dressage & Derby muster
Sunday 15 November - Fancy Dress and Fun Day muster

Other 2026 activities:

Sunday 11 October – Dressage & Derby Training afternoon
Sunday 22 November - AGM, Awards Presentation & Break up party
Friday 11 December - Brookfield Bush Christmas canteen

Pony Club Queensland (PCQ) competition
Competing at any PCQ events gains points for our riders towards the prestigious BHPC End of Year Competitor Awards.

Please send Chief Instructor Sandy your results from official PCQ competition events to be in the running for our BHPC Senior and Junior competitor awards.

Email chiefinstructor@brookfieldponyclub.org.au or text 0400 952 002.

Body Protectors
Body Protectors are compulsory for schooling and competing over cross-country fences at any time.

Riders jumping cross country fences at the October muster will need to wear a body protector.

OCTOBER MUSTER SPONSOR
Our sincere thanks to **Brookfield Gardens** for sponsoring our Dolly's Dream muster in October.

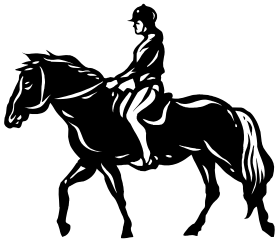
BROOKFIELD GARDENS

Brookfield Gardens is proudly local, homegrown and an integral part of the local community.

Over a 15 year period, the McLay family have created an inspiring destination which has been built up from a small and simple nursery. At the very heart of their philosophy is their dedication to plants and an authentic love of gardening.

They support various charities both locally and in the wider community.

https://brookfieldgardens.com.au
info@brookfieldgardens.co.au



Chief Instructor's Report

Congratulations – Sarah Willsford

BHPC rider and coach Sarah Willsford was a member of Team Australia in the Pony Club International Alliance Virtual Quiz.

Australia finished fourth in the Virtual Quiz, behind New Zealand, the United Kingdom and the United States. The team delivered some excellent section results, finishing as the top-ranked country in both Breeding and Spot the Mistake.

Congratulations to Sarah and Team Australia! It is a huge effort to take part in this type of event, and great to learn that there were plenty of laughs and inventive answers along the way.

Musters

September Muster

The September muster was our last teaching muster for 2026, preparing riders for our Dressage and Derby muster in October. We had 10 riders attend, including 1 adult rider.

Activities included show jumping, cross country jumping, dressage, as well as games, archery, treasure hunt and time trial riding.

October Muster – 8 am – approx. 2 pm on 25 October – Summer uniform - riders come in Informal uniform (white polo shirt or long sleeved green cool shirt).

Plan to arrive by 7.30 am to be ready for an 8 am start. Adult riders are invited to come for their own lesson in the long yard at 7 am before the muster.

The October muster is our Dressage & Derby muster. Riders will ride a dressage test, and then ride a Derby course (cross country course with show jumps included on the course). Games will be available while waiting after dressage.

The dressage and Derby scores will be used to determine our club Champion Formal Riders in Junior (12 and under) and Senior (13 and over) age groups.

We always have lots of fun on the day – it's very inclusive and everyone can take part. Even the youngest riders do a dressage test (parents are most welcome leading their riders in the dressage arena), and can get around the low show jump and cross country courses. Parents should bring a lead rope, and wear joggers if leading around the cross country – it's a fair way!!!

Here are the Classes to choose from. Riders WILL STAY IN THEIR JUMP HEIGHT CLASS FOR THE DAY.

Class 1: Jump Height – Low cross rails.
Dressage - choose either EA Preparatory Test 2 (Walk/Trot) or EA Preliminary 1.2 (dressage callers allowed)

Class 2: Jump Height - 40 cm.
Dressage - choose EA Preparatory Test 2 (Walk/Trot) or EA Preliminary 1.2 or EA Novice 2.2 (dressage callers allowed)

Class 3: Jump Height - 60 cm.
Dressage - choose EA Preparatory Test 2 (Walk/Trot), EA Preliminary 1.2 or EA Novice 2.2 or EA Elementary 3.2 (dressage callers allowed)

Class 4: Jump Height - 80 cm.
Dressage - choose either EA Preliminary 1.2 or EA Novice 2.2 or EA Elementary 3.2 (no dressage callers allowed)

You can find the Equestrian Australia (EA) dressage tests at https://www.equestrian.org.au/Dressage-rules.

As in past years, Yarawa Pony Club riders have been invited to the October muster. Please make them and their supporters very welcome.

** Riders are required to nominate to help with organisation and so that a dressage draw can be prepared. Could all riders please let Sandy know if you are coming or not coming to the muster (email

chiefinstructor@brookfieldponyclub.org.au or text 0400 952 002) by 5 pm Monday 19 October.

If attending, please specify:
- class you will enter
- dressage test you are doing
- horse you will be riding

As an initiative by members of our Junior Committee, our October muster will again be promoted as a Mental Health day with the theme for this year's muster to again be Dolly's Dream. Members are invited to dress up in blue to support the Dolly's Dream foundation and to make a gold coin donation which will be donated to that Foundation. There will also be Dolly's Dream themed treats at the canteen available at lunch time, where all funds will go towards Dolly's Dream fundraiser.

During the lunch break, we will also be acknowledging the completion of the Rita O'Hanlon Arena refencing and drainage project with a special ceremony to which Dr Christiam Rowan MP has been invited. Dr Rowan's election promise of funding which was administered through the Department of Sport, Racing and Olympic and Paralympic Games, enabled the club to undertake this major project.

The canteen will not be open for morning tea – please BYO snacks and drinks. We are planning an easy lunch of chicken or ham with salad wraps.

Other activities

BHPC Beach Ride – Tuesday 22 September 2026

During the Spring School holidays, we had a pony club beach ride at Beachmere, along the section of beach where horse riding is allowed.

We met at 11.30am just before the low tide when there was plenty of beach for riding. Liz and Sandy attended to supervise and have fun with the 6 riders on the beach. See the photos on page 6.

BHPC Dressage & Derby Afternoon on Sunday 11 October

This is a practice session for our October muster competition day. We encourage riders to practise the dressage test which they plan to do at our October Derby muster. The Dressage tests to choose from are EA Preparatory 2, EA Preliminary 1.2, EA Novice 2.2, or EA Elementary 3.2.

Dressage will start at 3:00pm, and the Derby Course will start at 20cms at approx. 3:30pm. See the email from our club Secretary for more details.

Please nominate by 5:00pm Friday 9 October. Let me know rider's name, and which dressage test & which height jumping the rider will be doing. Email Sandy at chiefinstructor@brookfieldponyclub.org.au or text 0400 952 002.

Adult rider group

Adult riders at BHPC can take part in the adult rider lesson before each muster, can attend fortnightly lessons on Thursday afternoons led by instructor Liz Terry, as well as riding at musters and at all our clinics, training sessions and camp.

If you are interested, please contact Adult Rider Group Co-ordinator Olivia Pollitt at oliviapollitt@yahoo.com.au for more details.

BHPC Management Committee Report

Committee members and other officials

The Management Committee meets monthly, usually on the first Tuesday night of each month at the Clubhouse at 7 pm. Members are welcome to attend. Minutes of each Committee meeting are available from the BHPC Secretary at secretary@brookfieldponyclub.org.au.

BHPC AGM and Awards Get Together – Sunday 22 November

Please come and join us for the BHPC End of Year Break-up on Sunday 22 November in the Brookfield Hall from 4 pm.

- Annual General Meeting from 4 pm
- Awards Presentation
- Free pizza dinner and nibbles from 6 pm
- BYO Drinks
- Games for the kids!!

Under our BHPC rules, all Management Committee and other positions become vacant at each AGM and office bearers and other non-committee positions for the coming year are then elected. Please consider nominating for one of the positions on the

Management Committee or another role at the club. The success of our club depends on helpers willing to undertake a variety of roles.

At our End of Year Awards presentation, the following trophies and awards are presented:

- A Participation trophy to all riding members 17 years & under who have attended at least 3 musters.
- A 100% Attendance Award given to each riding member who attends ALL the musters during the year.
- A 5 Year & 10 Year Loyalty award is given to those riders who have been with the club continuously for 5 or 10 years.
- For riders new to the club this year, awards are presented to Most Improved Riders 12 Years and under and Over 12 Years, as well as Encouragement Awards for those age groups.
- The Chief Instructor's Award each year recognizes a special rider's commitment to the club.
- The Alan Haycraft Trophy, selected by the President, recognizes a member's special commitment to Pony Club. Alan Haycraft was a life member of BHPC and acted as the caretaker at the Brookfield Showgrounds for many years.
- Gymkhana Trophies are awarded to the rider in each group who has the most points when points gained at the Sporting Gymkhana and Formal Gymkhana are combined, and in the event of equal points, will include points from completion of the worksheets.
- BHPC Champion Prizes are awarded to encourage the highest standards of riding and horsemanship, and participation in club events. Prizes will be awarded for Junior riders (12 years and under) and for Senior riders (13 to 26 years) in 3 categories:
  1) BHPC Champion Formal Rider – based on scores for dressage and Derby at the from the October muster
  2) BHPC Champion Sports Rider - based on times in the sporting events at the Sporting and Formal Gymkhana,
  3) BHPC Horse management Champion – based on results from the 3 horse management worksheets and instructors' observations of horse and gear care at musters.
- Three major Perpetual Trophies:
  1) Colquhoun Family Trophy for Champion Senior Competitor - Awarded to the Champion Senior Rider, aged 13 to 26 Years, for Official PCQ competition only.
  2) Colquhoun Family Trophy for Champion Junior Competitor, 12 Years and under, for Official PCQ competition only.
  3) Bill Kay Award - This is awarded by adding points from both gymkhanas, from muster attendance, and from attendance at Zone 1 events. There is no age limit.

Fundraising

In addition to running our canteen at various events, extra vital income for the club is provided by sponsorship of our musters, as well as our Containers for Change program.

Sponsorship opportunities

If you, your family or friends have a business you want to promote, please consider becoming a club sponsor. For information on BHPC sponsorship opportunities, please contact our Sponsorship Officer at sponsorships@brookfieldponyclub.org.au. The BHPC committee would love to hear from you!!

Containers for Change

BHPC is registered with Containers for Change, so we can boost our fundraising efforts.

Recently, the club received $434.50 for recycled containers collected this year. A huge thank you to Ben Pollitt for collecting, storing and organising the club's recycling.

There are 2 ways you can help.

1. Collect recyclable items at home, bring along to the monthly muster and place in our big green recycle barrel. Many thanks to those who bring their recyclables to the clubhouse.

OR

2. Take your own recyclables to a Containers for Change facility and use the BHPC barcode or Team Member Number to donate to our club.

BHPC barcode

Team Member Number - C11460038.

The funds go straight into our BHPC bank account.

Come and Try Pony Club

Do you have any relatives, friends or neighbours interested in Pony Club and who would like to give it a try before joining? Any interested riders can come and ride at one muster as a 'Come and Try' rider to experience a range of Pony Club activities and get to know some other like-minded horse enthusiasts.

A Day Participant Waiver and Liability Declaration must be filled out, and current Hendra vaccination certificate provided. The cost is $20 for a day of learning, fun and friendship. Please contact Sandy at chiefinstructor@brookfieldponyclub.org.au for details and registration. Alternatively, families are welcome to drop in to any of our musters to meet us, ask questions and see what we do.

Reminders

Riding in the Long Yard

As part of the Brookfield Showground, the Long Yard is managed by the Brookfield Recreation Reserve Trust. The Trust's policy allows only BHPC riders to ride in the Long Yard, and there is no charge for its use. You can use the lights at night time, but there will be a charge for that use.

Riders are required to book their use of the Long Yard on–line at least 4 days in advance through the Brookfield Showground webpage at https://www.brookfieldshowground.com.au/facilities/long-yard/ . Riders need to enter their pony club membership number when applying to use the Long Yard.

Use of BHPC jumping equipment in the long yard

BHPC riders can use some of the BHPC show jumping equipment in the long yard arena. This is aimed to provide greater access to our equipment for our riders.

For safety reasons due to the limited size of the long yard arena, riders must be under the supervision of a Pony Club coach or Equestrian Australia coach, or an adult club member who has completed a course in showjump course building.

Adults, please let Sandy know if you would like to participate in a Showjump Course Building Clinic.

Due to the size of the arena, the equipment that can be used is limited to 6 sets of show jump wings from the jump trailer, and the required jump cups and rails. All equipment must be put away after use.

Again, the long yard must be booked through the Brookfield Showground website at least 4 days in advance. You must also inform Chief Instructor Sandy that you plan to use the jumps and the name of the supervising coach or adult.

Use of other Pony Clubs' grounds

A number of other Pony Clubs allow PCQ riders to use their grounds for a fee. Locally, these are Moggill and Karana Downs Pony Clubs. You can book and pay for use of these grounds online at www.nominate.com.au.

September school holiday beach ride at Beachmere

So much fun on the beach for all ages. It was a dream come true for some riders!! We enjoyed a picnic lunch before heading home.

BROOKFIELD HORSE & PONY CLUB SPONSORS

Please support the businesses that support your club

A huge Thank You to our long term major sponsors

Sincere thanks to our sponsors and donors in 2026:

FEBRUARY MUSTER SPONSOR - VIZI ENERGY - https://www.vizi.com.au

MARCH MUSTER SPONSOR – BRISBANE SMILES - https://www.brisbanesmiles.com.au/

APRIL MUSTER SPONSOR – BRISBANE SMILES - https://www.brisbanesmiles.com.au/

MAY BROOKFIELD SHOW CANTEEN SPONSOR – SCI-FLEET TOYOTA - https://scifleettoyota.com.au/

MAY BROOKFIELD SHOW BENDING & BARREL RACES SPONSOR – THE FAT COW GOURMET MEATS - https://www.fatcowgourmetmeats.com.au/

MAY MUSTER SPONSOR – GLEN BORG CONSTRUCTIONS - glenborgconstructions@outlook.com

JUNE BHPC MUSTER SPONSOR – BROOKFIELD VETERINARY SURGERY - https://brookfieldvet.com.au/

JULY BHPC MUSTER SPONSOR – BLINK EQUINE – hickorygold@gmail.com

AUGUST BHPC COMBINED TRAINING SPONSOR – BROOKIES RURAL TRADERS - https://brookiesruraltraders.com.au/

AUGUST BHPC COMBINED TRAINING RAFFLE DONORS – WESTVETS, BLINK EQUINE, SADDLEWORLD, HORSELAND, DR CHRISTIAN ROWAN MP

AUGUST BHPC MUSTER SPONSOR – BROOKFIELD VETERINARY SURGERY - https://brookfieldvet.com.au/

SEPTEMBER BHPC BUSH DANCE SPONSOR - VERSATILE ASSET SOLUTIONS - versatileassetsoultions@hotmail.com

SEPTEMBER BHPC MUSTER SPONSOR – BROOKFIELD VETERINARY SURGERY - https://brookfieldvet.com.au/

OCTOBER BHPC MUSTER SPONSOR- BROOKFIELD GARDENS - https://brookfieldgardens.com.au

The generosity of our sponsors and donors supports the purchase of equipment, ribbons and trophies, provides prizes, allows us to invite guest coaches and hire other venues, as well as allowing us to run Official PCQ events.