



**PONY CLUB TASMANIA Inc.**  
**(Affiliated with PONY Club Australia Inc.)**  
**November 2016 - November 2017**

***PONY CLUB MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS***

I have pleasure in presenting this overview of the activities and achievements of the past twelve months in Pony Club.

This Organisation is manned by a volunteer workforce whose major goal is to provide a happy, harmonious and safe arena for our members and I would like to extend my thanks to all Zone and Club officials for their hard work and support throughout the year.

We are extremely fortunate to have a very efficient Treasurer in Sue DeKaste. The demands on the Treasurer/Insurance Officer continue to increase. The PCT is in a sound financial position which is due to our member's subscriptions, and the generous funding we received this year from Sport and Recreation Tasmania. The audited Annual Financial report will be read as a separate report.

Erin Hunn continued in the position of State Secretary and has been invaluable in her support, as has Vice President, Marissa Hall. Many thanks also to Anne Cotton our Chief Coaching Delegate who stepped down during the year after her tenure on the national coaching panel came to an end in May. Anne was a valued member of our Council and spent many years supporting the Chief Coaches panel, coaching and assessing throughout the State. Anne did not seek re-election as a southern zone Chief Coach at their AGM in September. Marissa Hall has stepped in to the role of State rep to the National Chief Coaches Panel and already she has taken on the role with gusto. Marissa has many years experience as a coach and will fill the very big shoes Anne Cotton has left, admirably. Phyllis Fairhurst, Phyllis Pyke and Anne Cotton have continued as MPIO's for the State and Kylee Pearn from the northern zone has joined them in the role. Kylee has vast experience in this area working as a social worker with the Department of Health and the Department of Education.

To Alannah Blackman our State Test Coordinator, and of course to all our Visiting Commissioners, Chief Coaches, Examiners and Council Members, on behalf of our members, I thank you all for your tireless and sometimes thankless work.

Thank you also to our Administration Officer, Kyra Jackson. After the success of our first year with part-time administration assistance, Kyra's role was expanded last year to support the Chief Coaches panel and to take on the website management.

The following section of the report is presented against the PCT Strategic Plan objectives for the improvement and continued success of Pony Club in Tasmania.

### **Grow Participation**

All Clubs continue to provide rallies on a regular basis. One Tom Johnston Clinic for C level riders was conducted in each of the 3 Zones supporting over 50 riders throughout the State. Pony Club Tasmania has held well attended coaching workshops in each of the zones and coaching and assessing numbers are increasing. Erin Hunn, Sue de Kaste, Anne Cotton and myself attended the National meeting in Adelaide in May where valuable discussions and networking took place.

Marissa Hall was unable to attend the National coaching clinic held recently in Western Australia due to recovering from surgery, however, provided valuable information to the meeting for consideration. Carol Hobson one of our State Coaches and assessors has visited China on a number of occasions coaching on behalf of Pony Club Australia and I congratulate Carol on being selected to fulfill this role.

Our membership continues to grow, a trend not seen nationally, and once again, we surpassed our target for efficiency testing for the year.

### **Build Capacity**

***We have had several successful educational sessions this year including.***

- A well attended workshop conducted with Hunter Doughty at the PCT State Trials for Technical Delegates, Cross Country course builders and officials. Hunter is an Internationally accredited Technical Delegate and Cross Country Course Designer and we value his expertise.
- The number of coaches accredited this year has increased and I thank our Coaching Panel for their hard work in assisting and mentoring our trainee coaches.
- Our inaugural stakeholder forum was a resounding success and is set to become an annual event.
- An excellent practical cross country course building clinic conducted by Hunter Doughty and Craig Gordon, international course building assistant saw in excess of thirty participants attend, with Craig now potentially being secured to assist with the building of a number of courses in the State.

### **Governance Management**

The new Handbook was launched at the beginning of 2017 and feedback on its structure has been excellent. Members report the document being very easy to read and understand with the search function making things so much easier to find.

After eighteen months of consultation and drafting, the new Pony Club Tasmania Constitution was adopted in September of this year. The Constitution allows for a mix of representation and skills base with a total of 10 members. The adoption of the new structure brings an end to 14 years of the State Council as we have known it, today. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have served on the Council during these years. Your enthusiasm and commitment to the Pony Club movement in the State has helped make the organization the successful youth movement that it is today.

### ***Promote Pathways***

Each year championships are rotated around the state and in 2017, the State Horse Trials Championships was hosted by the Southern Zone. The event was held at the Tasmanian Equestrian Centre and saw over 120 riders compete. The event was extremely friendly and well run and I would like to extend my thanks to the organizing committee for their hospitality. Many thanks also to Hunter Doughty the State's Technical Delegate who expressed his delight at the standard and presentation of the cross country course. Thank you also to Ian Coulson who acted as the Zone's TD and to the many judges and support personnel who volunteered their time to such a successful championship.

The Dressage and Show Jumping Championships were hosted by the North West Zone at the Ulverstone Showground, a new venue for the north west, which proved to be exceptional in every way. Both the Dressage and Showjumping days enjoyed excellent numbers and I thank the North West Zone Committee for their work in organizing such a successful event.

The Games Championships were hosted by the Northern zone and were held at Edinburgh Park, the home of West Tamar Pony Club. Thank you to the northern zone organizing committee for a friendly, well run day.

Tasmania had a representative in the Australian Team for the International Mounted Games competition, held in Canada. Georgia Elias from the Tasmanian Pony and Riding Club was amongst the successful Australian Team who came second in the competition.

While much of this report seems to cover a great number of events and competitions offered to riding members, I would like to think that the majority of our members who attend their club rally days and enjoy learning all aspects of riding, horsemanship and care of their horse with friends and ultimately have fun with their equine partner. The backbone of pony club is of course our monthly rallies and the fun, fellowship and enjoyment our members have on these days is the prime reason we exist.

In closing, I would like to extend my gratitude to all the members of Pony Club Tasmania for their support, and hope next year in Pony Club is an enjoyable one, and to wish each and everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy and fulfilling 2018.

Karina Johnstone  
Pony Club Tasmania President