



PONY CLUB TASMANIA Inc.
(Affiliated with PONY Club Australia Inc.)
November 2017 - November 2018

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 sport for our members, and I take this opportunity to acknowledge the many volunteers who run our organization at club and zone and state levels who assist with ensuring the objectives of our Strategic Plan are met.

I would also like to acknowledge the role played by our administrative assistant, Kyra Jackson who ensures the communication with our clubs, zones and members is efficient and everyone is kept up to date.

The support of Sport and Recreation Tasmania, both financial and administrative is acknowledged also, as this support enables us to provide a quality program at the grass roots level of our sport.

We are extremely fortunate to have a very efficient Treasurer in Sue DeKaste. The demands on the Treasurer/Insurance Officer are enormous and it is hoped that the introduction of the use of the new online membership platform will take some of the load off Sue's shoulders.

I also extend my thanks to Marissa Hall, the State's Chief Coach, who has undertaken her role with enthusiasm and commitment, and Jenna de Kaste, the State's Test Co-ordinator. Under the stewardship of these ladies, the State will see 9 riders undertaking their B Test in December, an achievement riders have not reached for many years.

Thank you also to Board members Erin Hunn; Mike Smith; Sharyn Bingley; Karen Pearce and Trici Hankin for their commitment to our organization. The depth of skills and knowledge on the Board has allowed us to develop the organization and keep up to date with contemporary 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.

Participation

All Clubs continue to provide rallies on a regular basis with quality coaching working against the national Syllabus. As a result, over 180 efficiency tests will have been achieved by our riders over the past twelve months and it is great to report that Tasmania continues to be a leading State in this area. Also pleasing is the information shared at the PCA National meeting in May, that when comparing pony club members as a ratio per head of population, Tasmania continues to be the leading State in Australia.

Tom Johnson clinics have been held in each zone with over 50 riders at or around C test level throughout the State participating. Successful State Championships in the disciplines of Eventing, Showjumping, Dressage and Games were held throughout the year by each zone and I take this opportunity to thank zones and clubs for their input into on running these wonderful events.

Tasmania was well represented at national and international competitions this year with a team travelling to Victoria to compete in the National Prince Philip Games and Tasmanian Riders selected as part of Australian Teams for Polocrosse in the UK; Showjumping in France; Gymkhana, Showjumping and Games in China together with five representatives selected by Pony Club Australia to take part in exchange programs in China.

The new format of Pony Club Tasmania awards was well supported with the winners going through to the National Awards program. It was with great excitement, that through this process, Flinders Island Pony Club was awarded the National Pony Club of the Year award against a quality number of nominations from all over Australia.

Education

Pony Club Tasmania has held well attended coaching workshops in each of the zones and coaching and assessing numbers are increasing. A number of coaches and examiners also attended the Adrian Patch assessors workshop and 4 of our coaches attended the bi-annual national coaching workshop in Queensland. Erin Hunn, Sue de Kaste, Marissa Hall and myself attended the National AGM; member forum and Chief Coaches meeting in May where valuable discussions and networking took place.

A well attended TD clinic was held in March in conjunction with Trials with over 30 participants. This clinic is invaluable in keeping our TD's and course designers up to date with rules changes and safety upgrades. PCT officials also participated in a risk management and safety clinic with Roger Kane, the National Safety officer for EA which was conducted by Equestrian Tasmania.

The bi-annual jumping equitation clinic with David Quick was again a wonderful success with coaches; judges; pencilers and riders coming from throughout the State to take part.

Each zone held an education clinic supported financially by State with the NW zone conducting a cross country stewards briefing clinic and the southern and northern zones conducting

training clinics with the south supporting riders getting to Trials and the north supporting riders wishing to upgrade.

Governance Management

After a review of Pony Club Tasmania's Governance profile, 2017 saw the organization move to Board structure with the introduction of a nine member Board. The Board has now been in place for twelve months and has prepared and adopted a new Strategic Plan and worked towards achieving the objectives of that Plan. It has adopted a Child Safe Policy; Concussion Policy and is currently working alongside PCA on the review of the Member Protection Policy.

The Board continues to monitor and update the PCT Handbook.

Communication

2018 has seen the ongoing development of the national database and a number of clubs have trialed the new membership platform. From January 2019, all clubs will move to the new online platform for their memberships.

The Facebook Page has become a major communication link for our members and we will continue to use this to communicate with members and promote events.

The Stakeholder Forum was held in September with excellent participation rates from Clubs. This has become a major event on our calendar and is a great way to disseminate information to Clubs as well as enabling club officials to network and discuss common issues.

Pony Club continues to be strong and offer a wonderful opportunity for our riders to learn the skills of riding and horsemastership in a safe and supportive environment making wonderful friendships along the way. The backbone of our organization is of course our monthly rallies at the grassroots level and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the club officials and volunteers for giving your time and providing such a supportive environment for our members.

Karina Johnstone
Pony Club Tasmania President