



April 2017 News from Pony Club Australia

2017 International Quiz Team

Congratulations to the following Pony Club Members who have been selected for the International Quiz Competition in Canada in October 2017. They will travel with Kim Ward, team coach/manager.

Sarah Hilet (Vic)

Georgia Laird (Queensland)

Rachael Perkins (WA)

Rebecca Thaller (Vic)

Pony Club Australia Board

The PCA board is made up of 8 directors. The terms of two elected directors are ending at the AGM in May. Details of the role are attached.

Please contact your state office to discuss your interest in the role and obtain a copy of the nomination form.

A life with horses starts here

Pony Club has touched hundreds of thousands (millions?) of people and played an important role in their lives. *"I remember my time in Pony Club"* is followed by a smile and a good story about how much they enjoyed it. Some are still involved but others have gone on to major careers in corporate life and the wider Australian community.

Do you know of a high profile person in Australian or international business, politics, academia or the broader equestrian community that was a member of your Pony Club? We would love to hear about it by email to info@ponyclubaustralia.com.au

2017 PCA Awards

The 2017 awards will be presented at the National Championships in Toowoomba in September. Nominations are now open and will close at the end of June 2017. Details attached.

Pony Club Australia Awards

2017



PONY CLUB
AUSTRALIA

The Pony Club Australia Awards reward our riders, coaches, officials and volunteers for achievements and contributions to the development of Pony Club.



Overview

Pony Club Australia (PCA) is committed to educating young riders in a safe and friendly environment. PCA offers a diverse range of disciplines and supports members to reach their full potential. In so doing we rely on the capabilities and contributions of all our coaches, officials and supporters. Recognising and rewarding achievements of our riders and coaches, and expressing gratitude to our volunteers is an essential part of our culture.

The key elements of success for our organisation are reflected in the following awards:

1. Best achievement by a rider under 17 years
2. Best achievement by a rider aged 17 -25 years
3. Pony Club alumnus
4. Coach of the year
5. Volunteer of the year
6. Club of the year

There will be one award for each category annually. However, the judging panel may decline to make an award for any category if it determines there is not a submission of sufficient merit to be given an award.

Nomination Process

Each nomination must be accompanied with information on why the nominee/s should be considered for the award. Each of the assessment criteria are equally weighted. Nominations must be submitted electronically (via email) to info@ponyclubaustralia.com.au

- **Nominations are expected to be around one page in total.**
- **Please address the Key Selection Criteria for the award.**
- **Nominations should focus on the nominee's activities in the preceding 12-18 months (from January 2016).**

Selection Process

The nominations will be considered by a judging panel of six people, made up of representatives of PCA and Member States.

The judging panel may decline to make an award for any category if it determines there is not a submission of sufficient merit to be given an award.

Prize

The winner/s of each award will receive an inscribed medallion or trophy and prize.

Award Ceremony

The awards will be presented at the National Championships Dinner in Toowoomba in September 2017.

Key Contact

If you require any further information regarding the program, or assistance in preparing a nomination, please contact: info@ponyclubaustralia.com.au

Nominations for the 2017 awards close on Friday 30th June 2017

Best achievement by rider under 17 years sponsored by Horseland

Selection criteria

1. Participation in Pony Club rallies and activities
2. Improvement in riding and leadership skills through diligence and effort
3. Club citizenship (eg. helpful to others)



Best achievement by rider 17 – 25 years sponsored by Horseland

Selection criteria

1. Participation in Pony Club rallies and activities
2. Improvement in riding and leadership skills through diligence and effort
3. Contribution to club or zone management and programs



The Gillian Rolton Alumnus award sponsored by PCA

This award is for a current or ex-Pony Club member over 25 years old who has gone on to be an active participant in the horse industry as a rider, leader or professional serving the horse industry (eg educator, journalist, vet). The nominee has taken inspiration from their time at Pony Club and been an ambassador for the organisation.

Selection criteria

1. Career achievements and profile
2. Contribution to the horse industry
3. Links to Pony Club, past and present.



The Kay Irving Award (Coach of the year) ¹ sponsored by Wini

Selection criteria

1. Contribution to development of the contemporary coaching program at Pony Club
2. Commitment to coaching excellence and personal professional development
3. Personal passion and resilience, including feedback from students and peers



www.wini.com.au

¹ Not open for direct nominations from Western Australia. Please contact the PCAWA office

Volunteer of the year – sponsored by HorseWyse²

Open to Helper, Administrator, Club Office holder, Official.

Selection criteria

1. Displays Pony Club values
2. Contribution to development of their Pony Club for the benefit of members
3. Commitment to good governance and professionalism



Club of the year – sponsored by Gow Gates²

Selection criteria

1. Implementation of initiatives to attract and retain members, inclusive and responsive to the needs of members
2. Good governance processes at club level - including completion of "Club Health Check", advocate of "Play by the Rules", safety program, succession planning
3. Innovation in club management, such as sponsorship programs, financial management, use of *MyPonyClub* database for management of memberships and events
4. Delivery of coaching syllabus, demonstrated achievements by members and coaches (eg certificates attained, NCAS coach accreditation)



² Not open for direct nominations from Western Australia. Please contact the PCAWA office.

Director – Pony Club Australia Ltd

Background

Pony Club Australia Ltd (PCA) is the national sporting organisation providing leadership, management and administration to Pony Club and all associated Pony Club activity. Strongly aligned within the equestrian community PCA is the largest equestrian sports organisation in Australia servicing both its young learner riders to its high-performance individuals and teams.

As well as assisting members to enjoy participation in equestrian activity at the level of their choice, PCA also supports volunteers, technical officials and coaches to achieve their goals within the sport, both nationally and internationally. All riders who have represented Australia at the Olympics and International competitions have had their beginnings in Pony Club.

The PCA Board

Pony Club Australia Ltd is a Company Limited by Guarantee with a skills-based board. The PCA Board consists of 8 directors – 5 elected by Members and 3 appointed on the basis of specific skills.

PCA directors play a critical part in PCA achieving its outcomes. Directors give up their time to bring a wide range of skills to the oversight, management, fundraising and operations of PCA.

Time commitment

Directors are expected to participate in all scheduled meetings. At least 6 meetings are held per year in person or by teleconference. Interstate travel is required for face-to-face board meetings and major events.

Remuneration

The position is not paid. Directors are reimbursed for travel and other expenses incurred in fulfilling their role. Receipts must be provided to substantiate expenses.

Director's Duties

The Corporations Act 2001 specifies four main duties for directors:

- Care and diligence - to act with the degree of care and diligence that a reasonable person might be expected to show in the role.
- Good faith - to act in good faith in the best interests of the organisation and for a proper purpose, including avoiding conflicts of interest, and to reveal and manage conflicts if they arise.
- Proper use of position - to not improperly use their position to gain an advantage for themselves or someone else or to the detriment to the organisation;
- Proper use of information - to not improperly use the information they gain in the course of their director duties to gain an advantage for themselves or someone else or to the detriment of the organisation.

Competencies Sought for PCA Board

All Directors are expected to have good financial literacy and communication skills. The following personal competencies are important:

- Integrity – fulfilling Director's roles and responsibilities, acting ethically, acting in the best interests of Pony Club Australia.
- Collaborative, curious and courageous – a director must be an effective team member but must also have the curiosity to ask questions and the courage to persist in robust discussions with management and fellow Directors when necessary.
- Business judgement and instinct – a Director needs to demonstrate good business instinct and can assimilate and synthesise information.

The required skill mix of the PCA Board includes expertise in;

- Education, including horse riding and horsemanship and coaching of equestrian sport
- Law
- Finance, accounting
- Marketing, communications and event management
- Fundraising
- Business administration