

PONY CLUB RALLIES



One of the main objectives of pony club is to encourage and improve horsemanship and horse care in its riding members, therefore the **Working rally is the backbone of the Pony Club Movement**. It is by such rallies the Aims and Objectives of the pony club movement are best carried out.

The Club Chief Coach is responsible for the club's coaching program and the safe implementation of the current PCA Syllabus of Instruction.

All rally dates are arranged by the Club Committee, recorded and minuted by the secretary and notified and open to all financial members. No person shall conduct a rally or coach at a rally unless authorised by the Club Committee and the Club Chief Coach.

DEFINITION OF A WORKING RALLY

A **WORKING RALLY** is a rally to which all financial members are eligible to attend and where **coaching from the current Pony Club Australia Syllabus of Instruction** is given – e.g. flatwork, jumping, horse care, general knowledge and active riding, e.g. games, polocrosse, vaulting. A Working Rally is generally a minimum of three (3) hours **of instruction** in duration, with lesson times varied to reflect the ages / level of riders, weather and other factors. A riding member can expect two (2) or three (3) ridden (flatwork, jumping, active riding) sessions and at least one unmounted horse care session

SPECIAL MOUNTED RALLIES

These can be a club outing to a different venue when the whole expedition is a learning experience for all. Examples are, but not limited to, trips to the beach, farms or forest trail rides.

UNMOUNTED RALLIES

These can be of great value and are generally devoted to horse care. These lectures provide practical knowledge and experience and can be delivered by experts in the field or experienced coaches on horse ailments and their treatments (vets), fitting and care of saddlery (saddle fitters), shoeing & trimming (farrier) grooming, feeding, stable management and other aspects of horse care, Landcare, vaulting and many other equestrian related topics.

QUALIFYING AS HORSE & RIDER COMBINATION

Where qualifications for pony club activities are required such as national/state/zone competition or Efficiency Certificate assessments, both the horse and rider must be present at a **Working Rally** as follows:

1. Attend for minimum of three (3) hours x three (3) separate Working Rallies within the previous 12-month period, two (2) of which must be at the Club they are representing.
2. A maximum of two horses/ponies may be ridden by one rider at any Working Rally
3. Must participate in at least one ridden session on horse at each Working Rally to count as a ridden qualification.

QUALIFYING AS AN ASSOCIATE RIDING MEMBER

1. Associate Riding Members and horse combinations must attend for minimum of three (3) hours at three (3) separate Working Rallies within the previous 12-month period with at least one (1) Working Rally being at the Club they are a member of; **or**

2. Associate Riders can attend for a minimum of (3) hours at (2) two separate Working Rallies within the previous 12-month period with at least one (1) Working Rally being at the club they are a member of providing they meet one or more of the following conditions:
- I. Hold their C*/K or above Certificate
 - II. Have gained equivalent coaching hours instructing at rallies
 - III. Have provided other regular service to their financial Club or Pony Club WA (i.e. Club Executive, Zone Representative, State Committee) over the preceding 12-month period.

Associate Riders qualifying under option 2.I, 2.II or 2.III must be agreed to and signed off by a Club Chief Coach and a member of Club Executive, provided that the qualifying mount(s) are known to the Club Chief Coach to be competent at pony club activities at the level chosen for competition.

STATE TRAINING DAYS AS WORKING RALLIES

If a State Training Day takes place on a normal club rally day, then the rider attending the Training Day may be granted one Working Rally. Only one State Training Day per year may be claimed as a Working Rally.

State Training Days are defined as State Squad Days as acknowledged by the relevant Sport Committee in relation to PCA National Championships.

STATE SCHOOLS AS WORKING RALLIES

Mounted attendance at a State C/ C*/K/B/H/A Development School can be used as one Working Rally over a 12-month period.

CAMPS AS WORKING RALLIES

Club / Zone Pony Club Camps consisting of one or two-day duration is counted as ONE (1) Working Rally ONLY.

Associate Riders ONLY, are permitted to count 2-3 day camps as TWO (2) Working Rallies as long as they are participating (riding or coaching) all day at camp (see point 2.III above).

VISITING RALLIES

Horse and rider combinations may attend Working Rallies at a club other than their own financial Club, which must be notified too and agreed by the rider's Club Chief Coach and the Chief Coach of the club they are visiting.

A member may not be a visiting rider more than twice in any calendar year unless an exemption is applied for through the State Coaching Panel on the appropriate form.