



PONY CLUB
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

NOMINEE STATEMENTS

For the election of Directors to the Board of Pony Club WA Incorporated

This year's retiring Directors are Jan Lawrie, Mike Agnew and Karl Stokes.

Jan Lawrie will be standing for re-election.

As the Board had one vacant Elected Director position in 2019, this leaves four (4) Elected Director positions to be filled.

Five valid nominations were received and the candidates for election in alphabetical order are:

1. Amelia (Gal) Thomas
2. Jan Lawrie
3. Rod Dowding
4. Shannon Mitchell
5. Steve Frantom

Following an assessment of the Association's needs going forward, the current Board believes that members with skills and experience in the following areas would add the most value to the organisation over the coming 2/3 years:

- Legal
- Media & Communications
- Marketing
- Sponsorship Development
- Human Resources
- Leadership
- Governance
- Risk Assessment/Risk Management

This booklet contains the Nominee Statements for each candidate.



Amelia Thomas née Gal

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

As a member of pony club for almost 20 years, I have been involved as a volunteer on a number of occasions and recognised for these efforts receiving the Pony Club WA Citizenship Award in 2017 and the Pony Club WA Dressage Coach of the Year Award recipient in 2018. Over that period, I have also been involved in the operations of my club as a former member of the committee, both as a junior member and associate.

I have a background in Human Resource Management, Accounting, Politics & International Relations with a Bachelor of Commerce & Arts obtained from the University of Notre Dame. For the past two years I have been working in Human Resources and Finance at Horizon Power, with recently a focus in governance of projects as my role as Portfolio Officer. My experience in Human Resources is centred around recruitment and policy creation. With my political background and understanding I have been able to assist groups and organisations in applying for government grants.

I am a member of Australian Human Resource Institute and was a finalist in the AHRI Ram Charan Student Award in 2018 and runner-up in 2019. I have previously held positions on the Murray HPC committee, the State Dressage Committee, inaugural Riders Consultancy Panel and as a delegate to the Murray Equestrian Association committee. In 2018 I was an elected member of the Notre Dame Student Association as the Assist Officer.

WHAT I CAN BRING TO THE BOARD

With a professional background in both Accounting, Human Resources, Politics and International Relations, I believe I would be able to contribute to the operations of Pony Club WA in multiple ways. Add to this a deep commitment and understanding of Pony Club in Western Australia as a recent riding, committee and coaching member experience, I believe I can assist in bringing a unique perspective to the board with both professional and equestrian experience. I would like to see Pony Club Western Australia continue to grow as a youth organisation in Western Australia and believe that I have the experience and drive to help ensure this happens.

To the board I would bring my personal experiences in Pony Club along with my contemporary knowledge and understanding of best practice in Human Resources, Accounting, Finance & Project Governance. This combination of skills I believe will enable me to objectively assess situations that come to hand as a member. By making me a member of the board, Pony Club of WA would gain a objective, passionate member dedicated to enhancing the experience of all members throughout Western Australia.

WHAT IS MY MOTIVATION TO NOMINATE FOR A BOARD POSITION?

I have always had a desire to help grow the Pony Club Association of Western Australia and have been gradually building on that over the past 8 years in multiple roles and positions. As a coaching member now living in Perth for work, I have an opportunity to continue to contribute to the association; bring together my lifetime passion and professional skills. I believe strongly in the potential Pony Club has to develop leadership skills in its members, and as a former riding member who has gone through this process, I can attest to this as being true. The opportunities Pony Club Western Australia has provided me over the past decade have enabled me to be in a position where I can give back to the association that has given me so much.

Pony Club has taken me from a beginner on a shetland to coaching and being involved in State Committees and events. I view becoming a member of the board as the next step in continuing my involvement and development as a member of Pony Club. I hope to learn from the vast experience and knowledge of other members on the board, to grow as a leader and continue to contribute to the guidance of Pony Club in Western Australia for many years to come. I am excited by the challenge and committed to being the best leader I can for all the riders, coaches, and members in Pony Club throughout the state.



Jan Lawrie

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Gidgegannup H&PC member for 26 years as parent, committee member, coach and President.
- Hills Zone Committee and President.
- Pony Club WA Board Member from 2014-2019.
- Gidgegannup CCN committee member and Event Director from 2006.
- Knowledge of Not for Profit, volunteer management, club administration and fundraising/sponsorship.
- Strategic planning at Board level.
- Sponsorship for CCN and club level.
- Fundraising and volunteer management at club level.
- Risk management and club and Board level.

WHAT I CAN BRING TO THE BOARD

Experience at all levels of pony club management.

I have a very broad understanding of the running of Pony Club WA and a good knowledge of issues that clubs, zones and the Board have to deal with at any time.

I believe that my long term on a pony club committee and the past 6 years as a board member allow me to see the big picture and make balanced decisions in the best interest of the Association.

WHAT IS MY MOTIVATION TO NOMINATE FOR A BOARD POSITION?

Pony club is a wonderful association for youth who are interested in equestrian activities. It plays an important part in belong to mould young lives in a positive direction. By giving my time and expertise I can help make this happen.

My involvement on the Board gives me knowledge of better governance practices and understanding of risk management.



Rod Dowding

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

Having been the President of Horsemen's Pony Club for the previous two years I have a good knowledge of the workings of the Club, it's Not for Profit status, including completing the required ATO self-assessments for the Club.

Seeking Sponsorship and joining partner alliances to enable benefits back to the club.

Overseeing the Committee for the last two years working with like-minded Volunteers, ensuring our Club is not only meeting its administration requirements but ensuring it translates into an enjoyable Club at all levels

As above my last two years have been as President and covers much of above, outside of Pony Club I am in Operations overseeing the running of nine Managed Self Storage Facilities here in WA, Each Facility runs as a separate business, each business requiring Strategic planning, Accounts Management, Marketing/Social Media, Communications, HR, Staff Training, IT, Repairs and Maintenance, all things aligned to Running Business.

As above 2 Years as Horsemens President, also covered Grounds Manager and Marketing for the Club. Last 6 and 1/2 Year as Operations Manager for Storage King WA overseeing the Management of WA Stores (included for a period of time the SA Stores until both regions crew in Size) Prior to that 5 1/2 Years as Sales and Operations Manager.

WHAT I CAN BRING TO THE BOARD

Two years as Horsemens President, Grounds and Marketing.

My aim when taking the role was to gain the understanding of the requirements of the club. To use my experience to set the club up for the future.

I worked with our Treasurer to create transparency within each role, created a central data base I ensured we worked with Pony Club WA to better align the club with Pony Club WA.

Created links with several other clubs to help each other with support. Worked with Sponsors.

Worked with Not for Profit Links, this gave us access to Office 365 and the creation of our own Horsemens emails allowing for a cleaner look and a method to hand over to incoming committee members and sharing past knowledge and correspondents.

Got our Events back on track and running back under Pony Club Rules. Created and ran the Marketing and Social Media.

Ensured our Club grew financially and in member numbers and created an environment that club members wanted to be a part of.

Hopefully bring the current Club involvement, knowledge and experience with me, I hope I would be able to use those skills to help any plans and strategies to be achieved

WHAT IS MY MOTIVATION TO NOMINATE FOR A BOARD POSITION?

Having come from the Club level and seeing working with Pony Club WA rather than against there are some positive outcomes that can be achieved, my motivation is to see if that can assist other Clubs big and small to see if we can make their life easier and help them grow again both financially and memberships

I am known as a neutral person in that I listen to all sides and work through a solution without bias. I am also hands on person as per my Volunteer of the Year 2019 award from Pony Club Australia demonstrates.

I have not been in the industry long so I hope I can help which is my motivation, if I can learn more and further assist Horsemen's or any club in the future that is my aim.

Shannon Mitchell

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

I have been a Pony Club member from 1987 to 2003 at Darling Range Pony Club. I served on the Junior Committee and Senior Committee during this time. We organised fund raising and shows to raise money for new equipment for the club.

I received a Vet Search Award for citizenship in 2002 for work carried out for the Club.

I represented Darling Range and the Metro Zone successfully in Showjumping, PPMG, Zone games and dressage during my time there.

I also helped out at the club with judging unofficial dressage, games and jump judging. In 2002 I did my D level instructors certificate and started coaching at Rallies.

In 2004 I completed my Level One instructor's certificate at Orange Grove Pony Club.

I went on to run a family business within the horse industry including agistment and lessons, breaking and training.

I have also worked in the racing industry during this time before the birth of my eldest son.

I also worked abroad in Canada and Texas at a racing stable there.

Currently during the week I am instructing D/E level riders at Rosevale Park in Maida Vale focusing on Pony Club preparation for children wanting to get into Pony Club and wanting to purchase ponies in the future. We also cater for families that cannot afford their own ponies and make sure that all children get the opportunity to be able to ride and spend some time with horses to learn how to care for them.

Currently 18 children have gone through the riding school and have gone on to get their own ponies and are competing successfully.

I am also instructing at Orange Grove Pony Club.

Last year my 6 year old son also started riding herein the led line groups.

Pony Club involvement has been a huge part in my life. Being able to coach and help riders with the care of their horses is my passion.

I have also started studying Equine Therapy. This will enable me to help people that are in a stage of their life that may have emotional or mental health problems. It extends my beliefs of the I-Thou ideals of horses. Although these clients aren't riding, they reap benefits to their health and wellbeing by being around the horses. The acceptance and feeling they get from this type of therapy is extremely helpful. I volunteer at Whispering Sands to learn more and get a sound base in this time of therapy and develop skills as a coach and mentor. These ideas and concepts can be adapted for any situation.

WHAT I CAN BRING TO THE BOARD

I have a strong background with risk management and safety to riders. I also ride myself, so I am not out of touch with riders and have a sound understanding of what Pony Club envisions as well as correct procedures.

I have fundraising ideas that are new and some ideas for sponsorship.

I have done all the advertising for Rosevale and run the social media pages/newsletter.

I worked at Qantas Flight Catering for 10 years. I worked in a role that included labour distribution, working to a time frame and an understanding of policies and procedures within the workplace including of health and safety of the food industry.

I have managed at stables since I was 18 years of age being able to keep the business running successfully and work to budgets and have a good client base.

I have done all schedules, books, bills and budgets. Not to mention the social media pages and advertising through Facebook and other online medias.

I bring a lifetime of experience of being in the horse industry and being an active member within Pony Clubs for my whole life within WA. I have a knowledge of all horse related sports. I am a hard worker and have a friendly disposition. I am approachable and can look at any situation with an open mind.

I have a strong understanding of the aims and objectives of Pony Club.

I am able to handle conflict resolution and difficult situations well. I am about to liaise with clients and co-workers.

WHAT IS MY MOTIVATION TO NOMINATE FOR A BOARD POSITION?

I would like to be more involved with the Pony Club movement. I think it is a well-run, forward thinking organisation with a great future for kid's sport.

I would like to learn more about the running of a business, new ideas and the policies and procedures of running an organisation such as Pony Club WA. I would like to learn from other directors who have skills within the business sector.

I would like to run for council in 2022 and gaining the experience on the Pony Club WA board would also help me learn a lot for my future. I am wanting to join our local council to give Equestrian People within our shire a voice and help out with local issues. One of my role models in Dianne Bennett, I think she has done a lot for the horse industry in WA as a whole.

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Steve Frantom

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

My knowledge of Pony Club and Not for Profit sporting associations:

- 12 months serving on the Board of Pony Club WA in the position of Appointed Director.
- 12 months serving on the Pony Club WA Audit and Finance Committee
- 13 years association with the WA Pony Club movement.
- Extensive knowledge and parent volunteer participation in Pony Club events at club, state and national level.
- Extensive knowledge of Pony Club WA processes, policy and protocol.
- Working knowledge of Pony Club core business including election processes, code of conduct and ethics.
- Understand processes, policy and protocol of Western Australian sporting committees including local committees of the WA Football Commission and WA Cricket Association.

My skills in Pony Club WA related tasks and roles:

- Business Improvement Advisor Westrac WA: high level corporate systems, team training in customer care and safety process, procurement, meeting facilitation, risk management systems relating to business and facilities. Coordinator of safety audits and implementation of corrective actions. Project manager of service department relocation.
- Diploma of Management 2013 AIM
- IT skills in Excel, PowerPoint, Microsoft word
- Cert IV Diploma of Computing Systems and Practices
- Participated in pony club fundraising activities.

My experience in Pony Club WA and similar WA sporting clubs:

- 13 year association with Pony Club WA as parent volunteer at events of club, zone, state and national level
- Active participant and volunteer at state events since 2006 including State Show jumping
- Championship, State Active Riding Championship, State Tetrathlon Championship and State Dressage Championship.
- Former member of Darlington Pony Club and current Eastern Hills Pony Club (EHHPC)

WHAT I CAN BRING TO THE BOARD

Committee roles and contributions:

- Currently Pony Club WA Board Member (Appointed Director)
- Also on the Pony Club WA Audit and Finance Committee which is in charge of overseeing financial reporting and disclosure of Pony Club WA.

Treasurer/ Co President Parkerville Equestrian Centre (PEC)

- I facilitate the PEC accounts, including management of budget and funds.

- I organised the recent power upgrade of the electricity service to clubrooms liaising with the Shire of Mundaring and other key stakeholders.

I am able to contribute to Pony Club WA:

- Using my experience and knowledge of Pony Club WA events at club, zone and state level I can contribute by making informed decisions at board level about the efficient and safe management of these events.
- I will be able to utilise skills in risk management, management processes and protocol in making decisions that meet the best outcomes for all Pony Club WA members and follow Pony Club WA Policy and Constitution.
- I will utilise my experience in sporting committees as club treasurer, Auskick coordinator, committee member and volunteer to promote the positive management of working parties and support effective teamwork required to complete events and projects undertaken by Pony Club WA

WHAT IS MY MOTIVATION TO NOMINATE FOR A BOARD POSITION?

I am motivated to continue to be part of the Pony Club WA board to support the fair and equitable running of the organisation. I will contribute as a volunteer to support the aims of Pony Club WA and help the organisation to prosper and continue to grow.

As a parent of Pony Club WA riding member for 13 years I would like to contribute my time and to 'pay it forward' in supporting the aims and objectives of the organisation. I believe my family has experienced comradery and fellowship as members of their Pony Club and have learnt valuable life skills in horse mastership and riding as a result.

I will bring to the board working knowledge and active experience in numerous recent club, zone and state events run by Pony Club WA and associated committees.

I can give feedback from the perspective of a parent and from a current riding member if required by the board.

I will also use my corporate knowledge and skills to support the board with ongoing business improvement and review as this is an element of my work life that I am well versed in.

I see that my actions as board member will benefit Pony Club WA as I am able to complete planned outcomes in a timely way and I am proven to be effective as an active team and committee member in this and other sporting codes in WA including WAFL and Cricket.

I will gain from continuing to be a member of the board as an opportunity to be part to a working party that makes decisions for the Pony Club WA organisation as a whole.

I will be able to support my children, my club and my zone to provide fair and equitable leadership at this level of governance. I want to contribute the positive actions of the board in growing the organisation of PCAWA which supports young people to participate in equestrian activities as good sports and citizens, whilst caring for their horses and ponies. We as a family have thoroughly enjoyed being part of this organisation over 12 years and would like the opportunity to give back, by volunteering my time in this role.