

**MIDLAND ZONE OF PCAV  
49<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
HELD AT MARYBOROUGH ON 28<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2015**

**Club Representatives Present:**

Ararat -  
 Bealiba – Debbie Weir, Faye Barnett, Kellie Barnett  
 Beaufort -  
 Bendigo – Jackie Tresize, Debbie Browell, Nicole Johnson, Kerrie Long  
 Castlemaine -  
 Charlton -  
 Donald -  
 Harcourt -  
 Horsham -  
 Huntly-Spring Gully – Caroline Granger, Rick Tomkins, Gillian Bowie  
 Loddon – Jon & Nadine Holland  
 Maldon – Nicki Chalmers, Kira Chalmers, Julie Robins  
 Mandurang South – Anita Houlahan, Donna Stebbins  
 Maryborough – Nicole Kendt, Chelsea Gerring, Carl Ruff  
 Neangar Park -  
 Stawell – Viv Cole, Tracey Barber  
 St Arnaud –  
 Zone – Sue Foley, Debbie Ruff, Christine Linton, Linda Gerring

**Invitees** – Diane Davies

**Apologies** – Aileen Marshall, Kaye Blanchard, Jo Lane, Narelle O’Callaghan, Leanne Thorpe, Don & Pauline Roach, Jill McEwen

Confirmation of the Minutes of the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting 2014:

**Moved:** *Viv Cole that Minutes as circulated are a true and correct record.*

**Seconded:** *Kira Chalmers*

**Treasurers Report as presented by Christine Linton**

**Moved:** *Christine Linton*

**Seconded:** *Sue Foley*

Annual Return for Midland Zone of PCAV as at 30/06/2015

Opening Balance      \$5960.04

Income

|                  |           |
|------------------|-----------|
| Uniform          | \$624.00  |
| State Entries    | \$2014.00 |
| Zone Events      | \$7082.00 |
| `C' Certificates | \$563.00  |
| Merchandise      | \$80.00   |
| Raffle           | \$26.00   |
| Clinic           | \$357.50  |
| Interest         | \$163.30  |
| Affiliation Fees | \$810.00  |
| Stale Cheques    | \$380.10  |

Expenses

|                  |           |
|------------------|-----------|
| Uniform          | \$624.00  |
| State Events     | \$4602.00 |
| Judges           | \$1635.00 |
| `C' Certificates | \$363.60  |
| DCI Travel       | \$800.00  |
| Zone Rep Travel  | \$500.00  |
| Workshop         | \$390.00  |
| Gift/Florist     | \$232.00  |
| PCAV Shop        | \$44.00   |
| Honorarium       | \$700.00  |

|                 |             |                  |             |
|-----------------|-------------|------------------|-------------|
| Direct credits  | \$165.00    | Consumer affairs | \$53.00     |
|                 |             | Supper           | \$40.00     |
|                 |             | Cheque Book      | \$15.00     |
|                 |             | Sashes           | \$2075.55   |
| Total Income    | \$12,264.90 | Total Expenses   | \$12,074.15 |
| Closing Balance | \$6150.79   |                  |             |

- If we did not have stale cheques returned to the income side we would have spent more money than came in this financial year
- Actual income was \$11,884.80 and expenses \$12,074.15
- We do not make sufficient funds from our events to cover the costs associated with running the zone

Term Deposit – matures on 11/4/2016 with interest rate of 4% p.a.

|                         |            |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Opening Balance         | \$37836.84 |
| Plus interest           | \$420.77   |
| Plus State Event Profit | \$3850.00  |
| Closing Balance         | \$42107.61 |

### **Presidents Report as presented by Linda Gerring**

***Moved:*** Linda Gerring

***Seconded:*** Nicole Kendt

Welcome to everyone from our club members through to life members and special guests. I think I can say for all of us that this year has moved by very fast and once again we can all look back on the past 12 months and be amazed at how fast it has all gone.

We have seen a shuffle on the Zone committee and people stepping up into vacant positions.

Sue Foley took on the role of our Zone Representative to the PCAV State council and rose to the challenge of this role in a time of major changes. Sue has quickly fitted into the group at state level and is respected for her clear mind and understanding of the bylaws and her belief in the Pony Club movement. On behalf of the Zone, its clubs and members I thank Sue for giving 200% to this time consuming role and we are very lucky to have her take on this role.

The Midland Zone has endeavoured to ensure communication is kept open between clubs, riders and the Zone in the past 12 months. The Zone has a Facebook page and within that a Facebook Events group to share and promote club and zone information/events. Small Facebook groups are set up to give sections the chance to communicate with each other without having to organise meetings when planning and Zone events. The Zone now has a bi-monthly newsletter as well as the usual array of emails to help keep the communication lines open between us all.

This past year we have run four Zone events and a very big thankyou goes to the clubs that have hosted these events. It takes much planning and manpower to ensure clubs grounds, equipment, etc. are up to scratch for events and the Zone very much appreciates the efforts clubs and their members put in for this.

On behalf of the Zone I wish to thank our executive committee for their commitment to the Midland Zone.

Debbie Ruff in her first year as Secretary has taken on the most time consuming, and often thankless, role. I wish to thank Debbie from all of us as I know that she took this role on very reluctantly.

Christine Linton has continued to undertake the treasurer role with a dedication that is remarkable after nearly 20 years. Christine's family commitments have taken up much of her

time this year but she continues to be available for advice and guidance when called upon. Thank you Christine.

Thank you to Debbie Weir for supporting us all, keeping our website updated and organising Zone uniforms. Debbie often takes on the jobs that others do not have time for and this is such a big help to us all.

Thank you to Jill McEwan who has completed her first term as Junior Vice President and has been a big support at events.

Nicki Chalmers continues to be both Zone Chief Instructor and Zone Examining Secretary and has once again done a great job coordinating and planning C Certificate examination days and instructors workshops. Nicki brings a lot of enthusiasm to her role and is a positive influence for all our riders and parents. Thank you Nicki.

I also would like to thank the club representatives who attend zone meetings on a regular basis, some from many kilometres away. Please remember that all our Executive are Volunteers and do the jobs because, firstly, no one else will and secondly they believe in PCAV and the Midland Zone and want the best for all our riders and clubs

So when people sit back and criticise the job that is done please take a minute to think about what you can do to help.

- Can you put your hand up for a job?
- Can you represent your club at zone meetings?
- Can you help out more at Zone Events, etc.

For the Zone to run efficiently we need everyone to be proactive and supportive of the people who put up their hands to do the jobs that must be done.

Well done to the many riders that have represented our Zone and their clubs throughout the year. We are a smaller Zone by numbers and I believe this gives way to riders and parents developing firm friendships. It is great to see our zone riders & parents supporting and encouraging each other at State, Zone and Club events.

To the Clubs and riders who have supported our Zone Events – Thankyou. It is great to see as many clubs and riders as possible at our zone events. The introduction of composite teams has made sure lots of riders have the opportunity to be a part of teams at Zone events.

So I would like to finish my report by reminding everyone of the PCAV Aims and Objectives:

- To encourage young people to ride and to learn to enjoy all approved types of sport connected with horse riding.
- To provide instruction in horsemanship, riding and the proper care of horses.
- To promote the highest ideals of sportsmanship, citizenship and loyalty, thereby cultivating strength of character and self-discipline.

The Zone and its members are here to support clubs to do the above, work within the PCAV bylaws and to follow the many rules and guidelines of PCAV that are in place to ensure the safety of our riders.

Linda Gerring  
Midland Zone President

### **Zone Representative Report as presented by Sue Foley**

*Moved: Sue Foley*

*Seconded: Deb Weir*

Good evening to our Special guest, life members, members and friends. It is my pleasure to present my first report as the Zone Representative for the Mighty Midland Zone of PCAV.

I have been on a very steep learning curve this year. As with many things "pony club" I have discovered that there is a lot more to the position of being a PCAV State councillor

than first meets the eye. Perhaps too is the fact that Kaye Blanchard did the job so well for so long and made it look easy

During this past year I have learnt a lot about governance in PCAV. I soon realised at my first State council meeting that those of us who belong to this wonderful organisation in whatever capacity are a part of something that is much bigger and much more involved than simply being a member of our local pony club. Governance works from State to Zone and from Zone to clubs.

Everyone involved in pony club at committee level has an understanding of how much work needs to be done to keep a club running smoothly, effectively and efficiently. So it is at head office multiplied by approximately 200 and I have nothing but admiration for the hard working team in Mulgrave.

I know the seemingly constant rule changes can be frustrating for clubs but with insurance liability and the possibility of litigation hanging over us, keeping on top of the rules is a real necessity in this day and age. There is a saying that there are only two certainties in life, those being death and taxes. I would like to add one more certainty, that of change. Nothing stays the same forever and we have seen a BIG change in pony club come about this year with the purchase by PCAV of the Shirley Heights Equestrian Centre in Gladysdale, now known as the Pony Club Victoria Equestrian Centre or PCVEC. With all the State championships now to be held at the centre there has been some necessary adjustment to the State calendar which in turn has affected our Zone and club calendars.

This will take some time to get used to but having visited the centre last weekend I can only say how impressed I am with the facility and that once it has been fully developed it will be an amazing asset that belongs to every member of PCAV.

The Midland Zone clubs of Ararat, Bendigo, Horsham, Maryborough and Stawell competing at the InterZone 3-4 Challenge over the weekend of September 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> will be among the first to get to experience the facility including a brand new cross country course. We wish them well and know that win, lose or draw they will do our Zone proud. Our Zone has had a wonderful year competing at State events. We started the year with a trip through the dreaded tunnel to the SJ and Dressage Championships held at Wonthaggi PC grounds over the weekend of February 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup>. The weather was wonderful and it was a great weekend for our riders.

The B Gr. SJ team with Anna Parry (Bealiba) riding 2 horses, Brianne Cole (Stawell) and Chelsea Gerring (Maryborough) came 4<sup>th</sup>. Our C Gr. SJ team Hannah Wigg (Ararat) also riding 2 horses, Sam Palmer (Bealiba) and Alex Kelly (Bendigo) came 6<sup>th</sup>. The Gr. 2 Dressage team of Tahlia Wilson, Steph Horton (Neangar) and Shaleah Bray (Bendigo) also came 6<sup>th</sup>. Well done to our Gr. 1 individual dressage riders, Laura Grinton (Neangar) and Marissa Norris (Bendigo) and our grade 3 team Sammi Browell (Bendigo), Mikayla O'Neill (Neangar) and Molly Gould (Bealiba).

The first weekend in May was the date for the State HT held at Rosedale. Congratulations to Chelsea Gerring in Gr. 1, Mallory Walker and Riley Perry Parmenter in Gr. 2 (Maryborough) and Brianne Cole Gr. 2 (Stawell) and their support crews. You all did a great job of representing our zone at the State HT. Sadly a bad back attack kept me from the action but I was with you in spirit!

The Games Flat & Musical Ride Championships were held at Bacchus Marsh on June 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup>. On the Saturday our pairs teams from Maryborough (Riley Perry-Parmenter and Tiffany Walsh) and Neangar Park (Hannah Mika and Georgia Cole) rode really well. They were all exceptionally well presented.

Huge congratulations on the day went to Oscar Cole, Tess O'Callaghan, Brianne Cole and Olivia Cole from Stawell PC who won the musical ride with a brilliant ride and stunning costumes to the music from Priscilla Queen of the Desert. The ride was wonderful to watch and really had everyone talking long before the results were announced

Day 2 saw our games teams from Bealiba, Maryborough and Stawell having a great time competing and showing heaps of team spirit. It was such a fun weekend with a lot of

camaraderie between the kids and supporters alike, which is truly what pony club is about. The ribbons are the icing on the cake. The friendships formed and the memories made are the real rewards.

Just last weekend saw the final of the Speed to Safety event held at Moonee Valley Racecourse. This was one of my favourite events when my girls were competing in PC and I was sad when it was scrapped and thrilled when it was reintroduced. These days the event is really well supported by Off the Track and Racing Victoria. Our Zone was proudly represented by Emma Lea (Bendigo) in the Gr 3 & 4 section and Riley Perry-Parmenter (Maryborough) in the Gr 1 & 2 section. Both our girls rode so well with Riley winning her section and going on to speak on camera with poise beyond her years despite her excitement. Congratulations to them both.

I would like to say a huge thank you to the Midland Zone committee for all their hard work over the last 12 months. This zone is so lucky to have the commitment and involvement of the exec committee of Linda Gerring, Debbie Ruff, Christine Linton, Debbie Weir and Jill McEwan. Linda and Debbie have also put in countless hours organising Zone events. Thank you to life member Don Roach for his help with the scoring at the events. Nicki Chalmers does an outstanding job as our Zone chief instructor coordinating the certificates and the qualifiers for Speed to safety and representing our Zone at CIP meetings. Your hard work is greatly appreciated Nicki. All of these people give of their time freely and for no more than a thank you, so let's thank them now.

I would also like to thank those clubs who regularly attend zone meetings. As I said at the beginning of my report, PCAV is a huge association that is growing and developing constantly. The key to a successful club is communication and keeping up with all that is happening in your association and zone. Representation at zone meetings is an important part of the process. If your club is represented at zone meetings your club becomes a part of the decision making process and the future direction of our zone.

No matter what the culture of the individual club or the aims and objectives of the committee, each and every club wants to see their members having fun with their horses in a safe and supported environment while learning all they can and making the most of everything that pony club has to offer. In this we are united.

### **Zone Chief Instructors Report as presented by Nicki Chalmers**

*Moved: Nicki Chalmers*

*Seconded: Viv Cole*

It has been another busy year for our zone and my role as Chief Instructor has been, and no doubt will continue to be, an ongoing learning process. Not really having a recent successor in the role to follow on from I will be honest in saying that sometimes I do feel a little like I am feeling my way around in the dark. I am getting there and appreciate everyone's support over the last 12 months. I am appreciative of the opportunities that this role has provided me and would like to take this opportunity to reflect on what my role specifically entails. First and foremost, I am here to implement, facilitate and inform the zone regarding instructional matters. And I have an obligation to report to the zone and the State Chief Instructor Panel.

The DCI/ZA panel and Zone committee together have been working to improve the functioning of our zone and clubs, and ensuring that responsibilities, roles and goals are being worked towards. What has or has not happened in the past cannot be dwelled upon. We must move forward in creating positive steps, even if only small ones.

The process is underway to re-commence club visits within the next 12 months, which have not occurred for a number of years. These visits are designed to support and assist clubs in areas of need and are certainly not a policing visit. Please take and use these as a positive step forward for our zone and your club.

This year has seen a number of changes implemented into the pony club world including the introduction of the new coaching memberships/registration and WWCC

processes. We need to be ensuring, and maintaining accurate records, that our coaches are registered with PCAV and help them through this process if required.

Another NCAS Training and Accreditation weekend was planned to be held at Stawell on the 18th and 19th of April. This date was earlier than usual, but was chosen to allow any level one candidate the opportunity to complete their assessment prior to the May closing date for the rebate. Unfortunately, with only two coaches registered for the day the decision was made to cancel this.

I would like to congratulate and thank those clubs holding competitions with a dressage phase, who have remembered to send me copies of dressage tests. While it is a PCAV rule that this be done, I personally understand that running an event can be an overwhelming task and this is just another thing to add to the list of things to do but it plays an important role in attempting to provide consistency within the zone. It has provided me the opportunity to have discussions with some of our judges and also begin to slowly build a dressage judges list. I would now like to see ALL clubs ensuring this is done as a matter of consistency.

Each round of C certificates often seems to present some confusion, last minute or late nominations. While I know this is my Chief Instructors report, having been in the role of Zone Examining Secretary also for numerous years now, I can quite easily recognise candidates who have not been prepared adequately. While for the most part, candidates are well prepared, I would like to see more uniform and consistent certificate and horsemastership throughout the zone. Certificate work should not be an ad hoc part of pony club life or "yet another thing we have to do". I really cannot stress enough the importance of the Syllabus of Instruction, which covers both the riding and horsemastership components of pony club. I would like to ask all clubs to take some time to reflect on their rally planning and instruction procedures and ensure that the Syllabus is being followed. Doing so ensures the certificate process fits in seamlessly. The new Certificate Information Resource Kit, which has now been sent out to all clubs, has been designed to help clubs organise their certificate program as well as provide an understanding of the C certificate process.

Again, thank you for your support during the last 12 months.

### **Zone Examining Secretary's Report as presented by Nicki Chalmers**

***Moved:*** Nicki Chalmers

***Seconded:*** Viv Cole

We have had another two rounds of C certificates this year. The first one was in April with 10 candidates successfully passing on the day. Another rider who was injured on the day of the ridden examinations successfully completed her examination at Riddells Creek Pony Club the following month. Our second round of C certificates was held in August, with 12 successful candidates.

I would like to thank our examiners this year – Nicki Chalmers, Trista Hoyland, Kira Chalmers and Angela Carter. I would also like to thank our host clubs Maryborough Pony Club and Horsham Pony Club.

No higher certificates have been completed within the last 12 months.

### **Event Secretary's Report as presented by Linda Gerring**

***Moved:*** Linda Gerring

***Seconded:*** Chelsea Gerring

### **Election of Zone Office Bearers:**

The President Linda Gerring declared all positions vacant and asked Faye Barnett to take the chair.

Only one nomination was received for each position. As a ballot was not required all nominations were accepted. The following members were duly elected:-

| <b><u>Position</u></b>     | <b><u>Nomination</u></b>                           | <b><u>Nominating Club</u></b> |
|----------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Zone President             | Linda Gerring                                      | Maryborough                   |
| Zone Senior Vice President | Debbie Weir  | Bealiba                       |
| Zone Junior Vice President | Viv Cole   | Stawell                       |
| Zone Secretary             | Debbie Ruff  | Maryborough                   |
| Zone Treasurer             | Christine Linton                                   | Maryborough                   |
| Zone Examining Secretary   | Nicki Chalmers                                     | Maldon                        |
| Zone Event Secretary       | This position will be filled by the Zone President |                               |

### **Election of Zone Junior Committee Office Bearers:**

No elections held as committee is in recess.

### **Zone Life Memberships:**

There were no life memberships awarded this AGM.

### **Zone Affiliation Fee:**

Zone Treasurer, Christine Linton, recommended through her report that Zone Fees should remain the same as in 2014-2015. The Zone Affiliation Fee of \$90 which comprises a \$50 Zone Fee and \$40 for two Zone Instructor Schools.

**Moved:** Christine Linton that total Zone Affiliation Fee for 2015-2016 to remain at \$90.

**Seconded:** Sue Foley....carried.

### **Zone Secretary's Honorarium:**

Zone Treasurer, Christine Linton recommend through her report that the Secretary's remuneration remain at \$700.00

**Moved:** Christine Linton that the Secretary's remuneration to remain at \$700.

**Seconded:** Sue Foley....carried.

### **Zone Event Fees**

Zone Representative, Sue Foley, would like to move that we set all Zone Event Fees for each event at the next General Committee meeting.

**Moved:** Sue Foley that we set the Event Fees at the next General meeting

**Seconded:** Debbie Ruff....carried.