

Annual General Meeting Agenda

Agenda for the Annual General Meeting of the Midland Zone of Pony Club Association of Victoria Inc.

Date: Friday 16th August 2024

Venue: Royal Hotel – Horsham

Time: 8.35pm

Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Annual General Meeting:

Motion 2024.1 That the minutes of the 2023 AGM be accepted at true and correct
Moved: Bronwyn Cuthbertson Seconded: Helen Spencer carried

Executive Committee Reports:

1. President's Report

Good evening to Midland Zone life members, special guests, club delegates and members.

Thank you for attending the 2024 Midland Zone AGM, where we look back and celebrate the clubs and members of the Mighty Midland Zone over the last 12 months.

It is also the night to elect office-bearers who take on the different roles that support the zone and ensure its ongoing viability for the benefit of all the members.

My personal thanks go to the outgoing executive committee.

Firstly, to Nicki Chalmers, who stepped into the casual vacancy of Midland Zone representative when my term was up at the end of October 2023.

At the time, I said that the Mighty Midland Zone could not be in better hands, and in the last 10 months, Nicki has done an excellent job in the role, bringing to it her years of pony club experience both as a riding member and as a past Chief Instructor and Examining Secretary.

Thank you, Nicki, for making space in your very busy life to take on the role of Midland Zone Representative on the PCV State Council. Thanks also to Nicki's sister, Kira, for stepping up to the important role of Examining Secretary.

Sincere and grateful thanks go to Peggy Mills, who at last year's AGM was renominated for the role of president, a role that she had held since 2020. However, ill health meant that Peg needed to scale back for a while, resulting in me filling the casual vacancy.

Julie Gould and Kylie Kirk, thank you both for your commitment to the roles of Vice President and Junior Vice President, respectively.

Debbie Weir has once again, as treasurer, done an outstanding job. Thank you for your diligence and for all the time you give to this job.

We are very grateful to Bronwyn Cuthbertson, who, as zone secretary, not only convenes the agenda for zone meetings but also takes meeting minutes and a myriad of other jobs, including updating our fabulous website.

Jill Marshall put in another great year as Midland Zone Event Secretary while simultaneously working on the family sheep farm. There is nothing truer than the saying "If you want something done, ask a busy person." Thank you, Jill.

These wonderful people all know and value the benefit of teamwork, which is vitally necessary in volunteer positions. There is no 'I' in team! Nor is there room for personal agendas. The majority vote rules. It's never personal.

The Midland Zone has benefited so much from the dedication of this great team over the last 12 months and beyond. The Zone is in a strong financial position and owns one of the best fully equipped dressage and also showjumping trailers in the state, if not the nation!

Thank you to outgoing Zone Chief Instructor Linda Gerring, who has held the role of MZ Chief Instructor since 2020, and to the members of the DCI/ZA Panel for facilitating all things coaching in the Midland Zone over the last 12 months.

Your commitment to coaching is greatly appreciated.

A warm welcome to Kylie Janestki, who nominated for the role of Midland Zone Chief Instructor for 2024–25.

Kylie brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the role, having ridden Grand Prix dressage along with her years of pony club experience as a riding member, as a DC, and as the mother of two very skilled equestrians, Paris and Asha Fielder.

This is my last report as President of the Mighty Midland Zone, as I am stepping away from Pony Club to explore other volunteer options.

My involvement with the Mighty Midland Zone has brought me so much joy over the last decade, with supporting our riders at many state events being a huge highlight.

Hosting the 2024 State Showjumping and Dressage Championships at Elmore during the last weekend in February was the icing on the cake.

The goal of the event committee was to host the best state event in the history of PCV, an event that would live forever in the memories of all who attended.

With the help and support of the members of the clubs of the Mighty Midland Zone, I am confident we achieved that goal. Grateful thanks to Dylan Mealmaker, who stayed on as Junior Vice President until the conclusion of the Championships to facilitate risk analysis for the event. Dylan's expertise in that role is unsurpassed, meaning we were all in very good hands.

I joined the State Council at the end of 2014, just as the push for governance change began. The new constitution was voted in by the members in 2019, supposedly as the way forward for Pony Club.

A skill-based board was going to support the members of Pony Club to a brighter future and a better experience for all members.

I am sorry to say that the current board, in my opinion, has not met those expectations, and this causes me grave concerns for the future of PCV.

My concerns include, but are not limited to, the fact that there is no regular communication from the current PCV Board.

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They have not had a current strategic plan since the end of 2022 so what are they measuring their decisions against? In fact, are they making strategic decisions? What are they doing about membership attrition, and retention?

PCV is currently without a general manager and has been for at least the last month. It is a rudderless ship. I could go on, but negativity is not what tonight is about.

However, I do believe questions need to be asked of the board, as the members of this wonderful association deserve better.

In closing, I congratulate the incoming executive committee. Thank you, Kaye Blanchard, for your faith in me when you asked me to take on the role of Midland Zone Representative in 2014.

I will forever value the friendships I have made over the last 10 years, and I am so grateful for all I have learned and for the opportunity to support the members of this wonderful Zone.

Thank you!

Sue Foley Midland Zone life member

2. Treasurer's Report

Balance Sheet

Midland Zone Pony Club

As at 30 June 2024

	30 JUNE 2024	30 JUNE 2023	30 JUNE 2022
Assets			
Bank			
Midland Zone	33,038.52	32,080.56	28,709.32
Midland Zone Term Deposit	9,392.13	28,536.04	28,486.60
Total Bank	42,430.65	60,616.60	57,195.92

Profit and Loss

Midland Zone Pony Club

For the year ended 30 June 2024

Trading Income	
Certificate - Rider Fee	1,160.00
Clinic	145.00
Clinic / Camp income	175.00
Event Income	2,912.61
Games Flat Musical Pair	2,003.00
Hire Deposit and Fee radio's	200.00
Hire Deposit and Fee's Dressage Trailer	600.00
Horse Trials	8,559.20
Interest Income	858.88
Loan Repayments from Clubs	16,393.00
Member Uniform purchase	1,080.00
Merchandise sale income	50.00
Ride To Time	(52.37)

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SJ & Dressage State Quals	5,360.00
State Event Income	47,309.86
State SJ & D Rider half fee	(634.00)
Team Champs	154.00
Zone Annual Fees	1,355.00
Total Trading Income	87,629.18
GROSS PROFIT	87,629.18
Operating Expenses	
Certificate - Judges Travel	169.00
Certificate expenses - cards / discs	24.00
Certificate Judges Cost	569.00
Clinic / Camp Expenses	320.00
Consulting & Accounting	723.90
Dressage Arena Insurance	808.00
Dressage Trailer Insurance	244.00
Dressage Trailer Registration	64.94
Equipment purchased	2,050.40
Event Costs	1,700.65
Executive payments	6,070.55
Expenses occurred with dressage trailer	1,363.00
G F M & P Expenses	3,600.00
General Expenses	197.00
Horse Trials Expenses	4,179.34
Insurance	849.00
Loan To Clubs	14,803.73
Refund Deposit Fees	200.00
Show jumping equipment	26,858.50
Showjumping and Flat Teams Event (August)	664.93
SJ & Dressage State Quals Expenses	4,129.29
State Event Costs	32,381.79
State HT Half Rider Refund	365.00
Team Champs Expenses	308.00
Website expenses	302.50
zone uniform purchase	2,668.60
Total Operating Expenses	105,615.12
NET PROFIT	(7,985.94)

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HORSE TRIALS

Midland Zone Pony Club

For the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024

DATE	DESCRIPTION	REFERENCE	DEBIT	CREDIT	RUNNING BALANCE
Horse Trials					
28 July 2023	Event Secretary – Entries		-	8,559.20	8,559.20
Total Horse Trials			-	8,559.20	8,559.20
Horse Trials Expenses					
6 July 2023	David Stammers - course accreditation		90.00	-	90.00
11 July 2023	Kerry Yean - first aid		200.00	-	290.00
11 July 2023	Sonya Taylor - First aid		200.00	-	490.00
28 July 2023	Event Secretary - Event sec expenses Entry & Times		466.29	-	956.29
28 July 2023	Event Secretary - Event sec Scoring		972.80	-	1,929.09
28 July 2023	Event Secretary - Peggy mills		180.00	-	2,109.09
28 July 2023	Event Secretary - Liz Ellerton		90.00	-	2,199.09
28 July 2023	Event Secretary - Steph Horton		125.00	-	2,324.09
28 July 2023	Event Secretary - Bianca Franklin		90.00	-	2,414.09
28 July 2023	Event Secretary - Jamie Thompson		150.00	-	2,564.09
28 July 2023	Event Secretary - Day insurance to PCV		100.00	-	2,664.09
3 Aug 2023	Race Day Medical - First aid		1,515.25	-	4,179.34
Total Horse Trials Expenses			4,179.34	-	4,179.34
State HT Half Rider Refund					
21 Mar 2024	Jill Marshall - State horse trials 2023		65.00	-	65.00
5 June 2024	Emelia Sudholz - x 2 rider refunds		150.00	-	215.00
13 June 2024	Mel Scoble - x 1 rider		75.00	-	290.00
13 June 2024	Mel Gillespie		75.00	-	365.00
Total State HT Half Rider Refund			365.00	-	365.00
Total			4,544.34	8,559.20	(4,014.86)

Midland Zone

State Showjumping and Dressage Championships Elmore 2024

Income	\$47,109.86
Expenses	\$32,381.79
Profit	<u>\$14,728.07</u>

3. Midland Zone Representative Report

Good evening, club delegates, members, life members, and special guests.

As the new Zone Representative for the Midland Zone of Pony Club, I assumed this role in November 2023. The mighty Midland Zone has been my home for the past 40 years, during which time I have served in various roles at both the zone and club levels. Just when I thought I had a solid grasp of pony club operations, taking on the Zone Rep role proved to be a steep learning curve—but one I embraced wholeheartedly. I am incredibly grateful to the executive committee for their unwavering support as I navigated these new responsibilities.

My tenure began during an especially busy period, coinciding with our zone's responsibility for hosting the State Dressage and Showjumping Championships in February. This event required significant coordination, planning, and teamwork within our zone. I extend a heartfelt thank you to the tireless members of the organizing committee, whose extraordinary dedication and teamwork were the backbone of the event's success. Their meticulous planning laid the foundation for a weekend filled with competition and camaraderie. Despite the challenges inherent in organizing an event of this magnitude, it was executed smoothly, with positive feedback from participants, officials, and spectators.

The parade was a resounding success, and it was wonderful to see the children fully embracing the spirit of the event. Special thanks to Steve Cox, Nirelle Summerville, and the amazing Zulu for providing outstanding entertainment, and to the Royal Hotel Horsham for sponsoring their presence.

This event would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of our volunteers. Their efforts in ensuring the event ran smoothly were invaluable. The efficient coordination of facilities, scheduling, and resources set a high standard for future events. And of course, congratulations to the riders who qualified—I may be biased, but I believe this was the best event ever!

February also saw the arrival of the Zone Showjumping Trailer, a magnificent asset for the zone that will support clubs and members for years to come. Moving forward, we plan to house these valuable assets at the Bealiba grounds, investing in a secure undercover area for their protection.

This year's zone horse trials were scheduled to be hosted by Sections A/B in Charlton. However, the course rebuild was again delayed by flooding, making it impossible to complete in time for the event. As a result, the decision was made to cancel this year's zone horse trials. We look forward to seeing this wonderful asset completed in the future.

****Rider Achievements:****

It has been another year of outstanding results for Midland Zone riders and teams.

The Ride to Time State Championships were once again held at Moonee Valley. Neve Campbell from Bealiba represented Midland Zone in the Maiden Section. Although Neve recorded impressive times at the qualifying events, she ultimately enjoyed the experience and had a fantastic time at Moonee Valley.

The Tetrathlon State Championships took place in December. Congratulations to Kian Blanchard from Charlton Pony Club and his horse Gjango for winning the title of Junior Male Champion. Kian also received the "Top Gun" award for the highest shooting score

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and recorded a personal best in swimming. Further congratulations go to Amalie Blanchard, riding Pieman, from Charlton Pony Club, who placed 2nd in the junior girls' division and also recorded a personal best in the pool.

At our very own Dressage and Showjumping Championships held in February at the impressive Elmore Equestrian Park, Midland Zone was well represented. Congratulations to all riders as well as our placegetters:

****Dressage:****

- ★ Paris Fiedler, Horsham Pony Club: 2nd in Advanced
- ★ Asha Fiedler, Horsham Pony Club: 4th in Grade 1
- ★ Ava Holland, Mandurang South Pony Club: 8th in Grade 3
- ★ Lilian Stephenson, Bealiba Pony Club: 3rd in Grade 4

****Showjumping:****

- ★ Holi Campbell, Bendigo Pony Club: 1st in B Grade
- ★ Shayla Lister, Maldon Pony Club: 7th in B Grade
- ★ Iris Sudholz, Horsham Pony Club: 4th in C Grade

****Teams:****

- ★ Grade 2 Dressage Team (Iris Sudholz, Brianna Ballesty, Holi Campbell): 8th place
- ★ Grade 3 Dressage Team (Ava Holland, Nicole Catto, Jasmine Wilkinson): 5th place
- ★ Grade 4 Dressage Team (Lilian Stephenson, Charlee Dowler, Chloe Bedggood): 7th place
- ★ B Grade Composite Showjumping Team (Shayla Lister, Holi Campbell): 1st place
- ★ C Grade Showjumping Team (Iris Sudholz, Natalie Marshall, Jasmine Wilkinson, Holi Campbell): 5th place

Congratulations to all Midland Zone riders who qualified and attended the State Horse Trials in Finley on the weekend of May 11th and 12th. Despite a wet and dismal first day, our riders and support crew maintained their spirits and made the most of the event. By the end of the weekend, the weather had improved, making for a lovely conclusion. Special congratulations to:

- ★ Iris Sudholz, Horsham Pony Club: 1st in Grade 2 on her dressage score, 2nd individually in Section 4B
- ★ Ingrid Gould, Bealiba Pony Club: 3rd in Grade 3
- ★ Grade 4 TEAM (Charlotte Evans, Iris Sudholz, Lily Gillespie, Zeva Missen): 6th overall

The Games Flat and Musical State Championships were held once again at Bacchus Marsh on June 22nd and 23rd. Congratulations to:

- ★ Bealiba Brumbies Games Team (Nicole Catto, Charli Catto, Ella Parker, Violet Stephenson, Zeva Missen, Maddi Corcoran, Alyssa Corcoran): 3rd place
- ★ Bealiba Pair, Black Beauty and Ginger (Nicole and Charli Catto): 4th place
- ★ Maryborough Team of 4 (Matilda Burke, Makayla Cocking, Renae Neilsen, Brianna Ballesty): 2nd place
- ★ Bealiba Team of 4, Bealiba's Twisted Sisters (Nicole Catto, Charli Catto, Violet Stephenson, Lillian Stephenson): 3rd place

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- ★ Maryborough Musical Team, Wizards of Hogwarts (Matilda Burke, Makayla Cocking, Renae Neilsen, Brianna Ballesty): 2nd place

This year also brought international success for Midland Zone members. Congratulations to:

- ★ Kian Blanchard from Charlton Pony Club, who competed in Ireland as part of the PCA International Tetrathlon Team.
- ★ Emily Marshall from Ararat Pony Club, who travelled to China in May as part of the PCA Showjumping Team. I look forward to hearing about her adventures this evening as one of our guest speakers.
- ★ Charlotte Stewart from Charlton Pony Club, who was selected for the Senior Prince Phillip Games Team and competed in New Zealand. Congratulations, Charlotte—your commitment to the games discipline is outstanding.

The PCV annual awards finalists were announced this week. Congratulations to Maryborough members:

- ★ Lisa Streeter & Mallory Walker: Best Achievement of a Rider Over 25 category
- ★ Rebecca Kendt: Best Achievement by a Rider Aged 18-25 years category
- ★ Maryborough Club: Club of the Year category

Wishing them all the best of luck.

The last 12 months have seen many changes in the zone executive. On behalf of the Midland Zone, I'd like to take the time to thank each of them for their commitment and enthusiasm toward their clubs and the zone.

It was with sadness that we acknowledge the resignation of Peggy Mills as Zone President late in 2023. Her contributions, knowledge, and long-time support of the zone are deeply appreciated. We are fortunate to have Peggy continuing on the DCI/ZA panel at the zone level and continuing her dedicated role at Harcourt Pony Club.

October marked 9 years of tenure as Zone Rep for Sue Foley. Her dedication, passion, and commitment to the Mighty Midland Zone and the grassroots nature of pony club are qualities I admire greatly. Sue's encyclopedic knowledge of pony club and her advocacy for a better pony club experience for every member are deeply appreciated. I am incredibly grateful for her ongoing support as I settle into this role and for her belief in my abilities. We were fortunate to have Sue fill the casual vacancy of President in Peggy's absence.

Dylan Mealmaker advised of his resignation from his role as Zone Junior Vice President in February. I would like to thank him for his time and support in the role, particularly his expertise in risk management. We were most fortunate to have Kylie Kirk take on this casual vacancy. Thank you, Kylie, for stepping into the role and supporting the zone at the executive level.

With my new responsibilities as Zone Rep, the Zone Examining Secretary Role was left vacant—a role close to my heart that began my journey at the zone level. Although I could not pinpoint the exact year I was first nominated, I know it was around 2009, making it at least 15 years. Certificate examinations have always been one of my favorite tasks, offering the opportunity to get to know riders, celebrate their strengths, support their development, and witness their pride upon successfully mastering a certificate. I thank Kira Chalmers for stepping up to fill this vacancy. Kira brings many years of experience in

assessing and supporting riders through their certificate journeys and has slipped into the role seamlessly.

Thanks to Julie Gould, Vice President, and Debbie Weir, Treasurer and Bronwyn Cuthbertson, Secretary, for their continued commitment to pony club. These ladies contribute greatly to the zone executive, their clubs, and their communities. They are strong role models, and I truly appreciate their ongoing support to the zone.

Thank you to the Midland Zone's DCI/ZA panel. This panel offers decades of knowledge and experience. They are wonderful mentors and support for all riders and our clubs.

The Zone Chief Instructor appointments occur in June each year. Kylie Fidler stepped into the role, being the only nominee for 2024, bringing with her a wealth of experience and passion. I am confident that her leadership and organisation skills will inspire and elevate our clubs' activities and programs.

I extend my thanks to Linda Gerring for her service as Chief Instructor over the past several years, all while she held responsibilities at club level as a DC. We wish her the best, and although choosing not to re-nominate as Chief Instructor, hope to see her remain on the DCI/ZA panel as a valued contributor.

And in true style, Jill Marshall has continued utilising her brilliant organisation skills as Zone Event Secretary. Our zone events would not come together without her get-things-done attitude (all while herding sheep).

I extend my appreciation to the hardworking committees of each and every club. As we know, pony club is entirely run by volunteers. Thank you to the dedicated DCs, club committees, and officials for all their hard work and the countless hours they put into making their clubs vibrant and fun.

This year has been a challenging one for our zone, with several long-serving committee members and volunteers retiring from their roles. Their experience, knowledge, and support have been invaluable, and their absence will be deeply felt. However, I am confident that with the continued dedication and passion of our members, the Midland Zone will continue to thrive.

Moving forward, my focus as Zone Rep will be on supporting our clubs to grow and thrive, ensuring that we continue to offer our members the best possible pony club experience. I look forward to working closely with all of you in the coming year.

Thank you once again to all who have supported me in my new role. It has been a privilege to serve as Zone Rep, and I am excited about the year ahead.

Thank you.

Nicki Chalmers

4. Midland Zone Chief Instructors Report

As, I have only just stepped into the Zone Chief Instructor role a couple of weeks ago, I do not have much to report.

I do have a list of 20 training coaches for our zone in which I have emailed them and awaiting responses from most as to whether they are continuing or not.

We have the State Coach Training and Assessment weekend coming up on the 23/24 November, in Ararat, for all to attend.

I look forward being able to fulfill this role.

Kylie Fiedler

5. Midland Zone Examining Secretary Report

Over the past 12 months we have had successful C and C Star candidates within our Zone. In total, we have had 21 members successfully complete their C certificate over the past 12 months, in addition we have had 2 riders complete their c* certificate. Thanks to Bealiba Pony Club for hosting certificate assessments. It's great to see clubs welcoming others and building the connections and community within the zone.

The next round of C certificates will open in September with the assessment in October. I would like to encourage all clubs to be building certificate work into their rallies regularly and encouraging all coaches to be referring and linking to it in all disciplines. This aspect of the syllabus has now been in place for a while but assess are finding riders are still unsure.

I also want to let DC's who may be on the newer side to their role, that while the C certificate does have a set format there are always ways to accommodate riders with different needs. Riders who may have physical or intellectual needs that don't suit the standard format, we have ways to work around this. Please contact me in advance so that we can make a plan to suit each rider's needs. This also applies to lower-level certificates. Support can be given to clubs with alternative assessment methods where needed.

If anyone is unsure of how to go forward with this, please reach out to me.

Kira Chalmers

Election of Executive Members

All Executive Positions declared vacant.

Nominations received

Executive position	Nominated	Nominated by
President	Peggy Mills** Harcourt PC	Bronwyn Cuthbertson Sue Foley
Senior Vice President	Julie Gould Bealiba PC	Faye Barnett Debbie Weir
Junior Vice President	Kylie Kirk Bealiba PC	Julie Gould Debbie Weir
Treasurer	Debbie Weir Bealiba PC	Faye Barnett Julie Gould

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Secretary	Bronwyn Cuthbertson Beaufort & District PC	Helen Spencer (Ararat) Casee Anderson
State Representative	Nicole Chalmers Mandurang South PC	Rachael Warren Nicky Dowler
Examining ⁱ Secretary	Kira Chalmers Mandurang PC	Rachael Warren Nicky Dowler
Event Secretary	Jill Marshall** Ararat PC	Sue Foley Nicki Chalmers

** nominations taken from the floor on the night.

General Business:

1. Review and confirm Midland Zone fees for following year.
Motion 2024.2 That the Midland Zone fees to clubs be increased to \$100/year.
Moved: Sue Foley Seconded: Helen Spencer carried

GUEST SPEAKERS

Asha Fiedler – Horsham PC, Emily Marshall – Ararat PC, Iris Sudholz – Horsham PC

Next AGM: 3rd Friday August 2025

Meeting Closed 9.51pm