

## Midland Zone Delegates Meeting - MINUTES

<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Venue: Maryborough Golf Club Optional meal 6.30
<b>Meeting Open</b>	7.40pm	
<b>Attendance</b>	Ararat: Helen Spencer	Bealiba: Faye Barnett
	Beaufort:	Bendigo:
	Castlemaine:	Charlton: Kay Blanchard
	Donald: apologies	Harcourt: apologies
	Horsham: Kylie Fiedler	Learmonth:
	Loddon:	Maldon: Megan Walmsley, Nicole Funston
	Mandurang Sth: Kira Chalmers	Maryborough: Linda Gerring, Bron Balssesty, Pat Hedger, Debbie Ruff
	Neangar Park:	Stawell: Apologies
	St Arnaud: apologies	Zone Bronwyn Cuthbertson, Debbie Weir, Nicki Chalmers, Julie Gould
<b>Apologies</b>	Peggy Mills (Harcourt), Narelle O'Callaghan (Stawell), Jill Marshall (Ararat), Carolyn Stephenson (Bealiba), Kylie Kirk (St Arnaud ), Ingrid Gould (Bealiba), Paris Room-Batters ( ), Jill McEwan (Donald)	
<b>Item</b>	<b>Action/Discussion</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
1. Confirmation of Previous Minutes	<b>MOTION 2024.12.01</b> That the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted at true and correct	Moved: Kira Chalmers Seconded: Kylie Fiedler
2. Business Arising	2.1 Section A & B combined zone events review	<i>No members from Section B present, combined Section A &amp; B to continue in 2024.</i> <b>ACTION:</b> review at December club delegates meeting 2025.
	2.2 Advanced First Aid Training	<b>ACTION:</b> Jill Marshall to forward list of participants to MZ treasurer for invoicing.
	2.3. MZ trailers permanent home	Roof constructed, yet to be installed gates x 2, key lock. Consideration of some form of security monitoring.
	2.4. Games Trailer	<i>Successful Sporting club grant for \$963 for games equipment</i> <i>Trailer offer to VERA inc. \$500 for 2<sup>nd</sup> hand tradies trailer. Jill Marshall, donation of sandblast and painting at cost of paint approx.\$200-300. Suggest orange trailer with black MZ decal at cost \$90 for 3 x 600-900mm. Total cost to MZ approx. \$900</i> <b>ACTION:</b> secretary to offer VERA \$500 for trailer purchase. <b>ACTION:</b> Jill & Bronwyn to purchase games equipment with grant.
	2.8 Safeguarding Children & Young Adults in Sport Induction Course	This course to be completed by 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan 2025 – by all club committee members and coaches at all clubs. <b>ACTION:</b> Bronwyn to forward information to all club emails to prompt clubs.
<b>3. Correspondence In</b>	Midland Zone	Approved program – D & SJ
	Midland Zone	2025 certificate dates
Clubs	Maryborough PC	2025 event nominations form
	Donald PC	Request for support to include older riders in Donald Show ring
	Ararat PC	Officials notification form – DC Jill Marshall

PCV	Update on coaching in Pony Club	Coach re-creditation, unqualified coaches declaration, SJ coach development and other coach development programs.
	Ararat PC training weekend	
	Tetrathlon State Championship 8 <sup>th</sup> December program	
	Good Sports Awards 2024 nominations closing	
	JustGo membership renewals, open 14 <sup>th</sup> Nov	
	2025 coach update – insurance	Compliance and excellence in coaching – PCA insurance obligations for coaches.
	AGM update – club delegate nomination form	
	2025 PCV membership fees – JustGo black out period	
	2025 State SJ & D date and venue and D tests	
Other	Osprey Sports – Club Partnership Program	
	AIS – 2024 sport volunteer of the year – last chance to nominate	
<b>4. Correspondence Out</b>		<b>Motion 2024.12.02</b> That the correspondence be accepted. Moved: Bronwyn Cuthbertson Seconded: Debbie Weir
<b>5. Reports</b>	<b>Action/Discussion</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
Treasurer	Report presented. See in appendix.	<b>MOTION 2024.12.03</b> That the treasurer report be accepted Moved: Debbie Weir Seconded: Nicki Chalmers
Zone Rep	Report presented. See in appendix	
Zone Chief Instructor	Report presented. See in Appendix	
Zone Examining Secretary	Report presented. See in Appendix	<b>Motion 2024.12.04</b> That Midland Zone increase the Certificate fee to reflect the PCV recommended fees of \$60 for C cert and \$80 for C*/K cert Moved: Kira Chalmers Seconded: Bron Ballesty Vote – against 2, for 13                      CARRIED
<b>6. Zone Events:</b>	<b>Action/Discussion</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
6.6 NCAS Training & Assessment Weekend	Held at Ararat PC, very successful.	See CI report.
6.7 Midland Zone Dressage & SJ Qualifiers Midland Zone SJ & Flat Team Shield	30 <sup>th</sup> Nov-1 <sup>st</sup> December - Nov – Section D @ Dunolly	Mixed reception to use of non PC grounds, host Section D feel grounds worked well. Consider 2 rings Show Jumping. Consider return to 2 day event for time management and horse welfare. Some draw confusion & delays between competition times. Communication with Event Secretary next year.
2025 event planning	Midland Zone Games/Flat/Musical/Pairs	Section D      27 <sup>th</sup> April
? review annual section calendar as	MZ Ride to Time Qualifiers	Return to 3 qualifiers. Bendigo x2, Avoca x1 dates to be confirmed
	Midland Zone Horse Trials	Section A      30 <sup>th</sup> March @ Charlton

combined events now occurring	Midland Zone AGM	Section C	15 <sup>th</sup> August
	NCAS Training & Assessment Weekend	Section A	request 3 <sup>rd</sup> November
	Midland Zone Dressage & SJ Qualifiers	Section C	13-14 December
	Midland Zone SJ & Flat Team	Section A/B	16 <sup>th</sup> August
	Midland Zone training days	Kylie Fiedler keen for clubs to suggest training needs and she will plan training day.	
<b>7. General Business:</b>	<b>Action/Discussion</b>	<b>Outcome</b>	
7.1	Congratulations to Ararat PC for successful grant application \$1.5million for roof and all weather surface arena.	Should take approx. 2 yrs to build.	
<b>Next Meeting:</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> February – via ZOOM		<b>Meeting Closed: 10pm</b>

Midland Zone Sections					
A	B	C	D		
Ararat	Charlton	Bendigo	Bealiba		
Beaufort	Donald	Maldon	Castlemaine		
Horsham	Loddon	Mandurang South	Harcourt		
Learmonth	St Arnaud	Neangar Park	Maryborough		
Stawell					
		2025	2026	2027	2028
Midland Zone Horse Trials		A/B	D	C	A/B
Midland Zone Dressage & SJ Qualifiers		C	A	B	D
Midland Zone Games/Flat/Musical/Pairs		D	B	A	C
Midland Zone SJ & Flat Team		A/B	C	D	A/B
Midland Zone AGM		C	B	D	A/B
Midland Zone NCAS Workshop		A/B	C	B	D
NCAS Training & Assessment Weekend		A/B	D	A	C

**\*\* Sections A & B combined for 2025 – review at December meeting.**

## Midland Zone Treasurer Report

**18<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

### Balance Sheet

Midland Zone Pony Club  
As at 16 December 2024

16 DEC 2024

#### Assets

##### Bank

Midland Zone	14,229.36
Midland Zone Term Deposit	10,254.80
<b>Total Bank</b>	<b>24,484.16</b>

# Profit and Loss

## Midland Zone Pony Club

For the period 8 October 2024 to 16 December 2024

8 OCT-16 DEC 2024

### Trading Income

Interest Income	0.44
Member Uniform purchase	120.00
<b>Total Trading Income</b>	<b>120.44</b>

### Gross Profit

120.44

### Operating Expenses

Certificate expenses - cards / discs	28.00
Consulting & Accounting	199.50
Equipment housing	13,627.54
Expenses occurred with SJ Trailer	223.53
Refund Deposit Fees	1,000.00
SJ & Dressage State Quals Expenses	356.87
Website expenses	302.50
<b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	<b>15,737.94</b>

### Net Profit

(15,617.50)

# Account Transactions

## Midland Zone Pony Club

For the period 8 October 2024 to 16 December 2024

DATE	SOURCE	DESCRIPTION	REFERENCE	DEBIT	CREDIT
<b>Midland Zone</b>					
9 Oct 2024	Spend Money	Xero Accounting	XEROAUSTRALIAPTY 0351048399 XeroAUIINV_QzmKxZuq	-	66.50
10 Oct 2024	Spend Money	Maryborough PC		-	200.00
19 Oct 2024	Spend Money	Maldon PC		-	200.00
25 Oct 2024	Spend Money	Julie Gould		-	223.53
1 Nov 2024	Receive Money	Interest		0.25	-
3 Nov 2024	Spend Money	Kira Chalmers		-	28.00
5 Nov 2024	Spend Money	Maldon PC		-	600.00
11 Nov 2024	Spend Money	Xero Accounting	XEROAUSTRALIAPTY 0359417879 XeroAUIINV_RBKDKcgA	-	66.50
20 Nov 2024	Spend Money	Eddington Engineering		-	13,627.54
21 Nov 2024	Spend Money	Computer Sashes		-	356.87
1 Dec 2024	Receive Money	Interest		0.19	-
9 Dec 2024	Spend Money	Xero Accounting	XEROAUSTRALIAPTY 0366867674 XeroAUIINV_RMYiAW9U	-	66.50
9 Dec 2024	Spend Money	Sixtyone Design		-	302.50
9 Dec 2024	Receive Money	Leah Pickering		120.00	-
<b>Total Midland Zone</b>				<b>120.44</b>	<b>15,737.94</b>
<b>Total</b>				<b>120.44</b>	<b>15,737.94</b>

## **Zone Rep Report – December 17th 2024**

This meeting marks a significant milestone—12 months since I presented my very first Zone Rep report, providing an excellent opportunity for reflection. The past year has been a whirlwind of learning and change within our zone, with challenges and mistakes along the way. However, I am gradually finding my footing and I'm incredibly grateful to be working with such a dedicated executive team, all of whom have the best interests of our zone at heart. Not all decisions they make are easy, and it's not always possible to please everyone. But I can guarantee that they consider all options and do their best to be fair and inclusive within the definition of the rules.

### **Zone Showjumping and Dressage Qualifiers – Dunolly**

The Zone Showjumping and Dressage Qualifiers took place on November 30th and December 1st at Dunolly. Despite testing weather conditions on Saturday, I'd like to extend my thanks to Section D for their hard work in setting up the event. Thankfully, Sunday brought much-needed sunshine, allowing us to enjoy a dry and successful day of competition. Congratulations to all the competitors who took part.

It's my pleasure to announce the following riders who have qualified to compete at Tonimbuk in February:

#### **Dressage**

- Grade 1: Brianna Ballesty – Maryborough
- Grade 2: Ingrid Gould – Bealiba
- Grade 3: Shayla Lister – Maldon, Lillian Stephenson – Bealiba, Hannah Creevey – Maldon
- Grade 4: Alice Hogan – Maldon, Tilly Favaloro – Bendigo, Leah Pickering – Maldon

#### **Showjumping**

- B Grade: Shayla Lister – Maldon
- C Grade: Harrison Wallks – Maldon, Ingrid Gould – Bealiba, Brianna Ballesty – Maryborough
- D Grade: Lily Gillespie – Maldon, Tilly Favaloro – Bendigo, Alice Hogan – Maldon, Caro Batters – Mandurang South

In sections where we don't have a full team, riders will be placed into composite teams by the organisers. I am also awaiting vet certificates from riders requesting exemptions, which may be added to the list. Once again, we have a fantastic group of riders flying the Orange and Black flag, and I wish them all the best for their upcoming competitions.

#### **Award of Merit Presentation**

During the qualifiers, I had the honour of presenting this year's Award of Merit to three exceptional young members: Nicole Catto and Ingrid Gould from Bealiba Pony Club, and Paris Fiedler from Horsham Pony Club. Each of these recipients has demonstrated outstanding commitment to their clubs and the zone, showing leadership, dedication, and a willingness to mentor others. They are fantastic role models, and it is vital we continue to nurture such members as they represent the future of our zone.

I also couldn't help but reflect on my own experience—20 years ago, I received my Award of Merit and here I am now. I have high expectations for these young leaders to continue growing and making an impact and maybe one of them will be our next Zone Rep!

Congratulations to Ararat Pony Club on Securing funds to build a covered arena on their club grounds. Also congratulations to Bendigo Pony Club as your new grounds are progressing well. I drove past the grounds on my way here tonight, and the facilities are looking absolutely amazing. What another fantastic facility for our zone.

The zone also secured a grant for \$1000 to put towards our games trailer!

#### **Key Updates from the Recent State Council Meeting**

- Rulebook Update: The rules are currently being reformatted for better accessibility and clarity. The Board is seeking input from a variety of people, ranging from newcomers to Pony Club to experienced experts. The rules committee has been disbanded, and it's unclear who will lead this process moving forward.
- Ready to Ride: The State Council has been discussing the "Ready to Ride" membership category. The Board has reviewed some key data and intends to redefine the category to better align with its original purpose. A sub-committee is expected to be formed to work on this in the near future.

- Cross-Country Fences: There's been some clarification around the use of steel posts for cross-country fences. The current rule states that steel posts cannot be used. This actually relates to the construction of fences, and at this time does not apply to anchoring. Further advice is being sought about minimum pegging standards for safety and standardisation, including materials and the required length of pegs.
- State Council Meetings: Moving forward, State Council meetings will be held on the first Tuesday of every second month, beginning in January. There will be two face-to-face meetings in 2025, scheduled for the third Saturday in March and the second Saturday in September. November's meeting will be moved to the second Tuesday due to Melbourne Cup.
- CI Panel Role Descriptions: The State Council and Board are reviewing the role descriptions of the CI (Chief Instructor) panel. I will be gathering feedback from our current panel members to help shape this discussion.
- National Championships: No new information has been released yet regarding dates or details for the 2025 National Championships. A Pathways Committee is being established to help move this forward.
- Coaching Rules: The new coaching rules have been published and sent out to members. Personally, I have some concerns about these rules, as they may limit the opportunities for experienced coaches to be involved and could unintentionally increase risks rather than reduce them. State Council discussed this at length and is seeking further clarification. It was noted that the new rules may result in less practice at the club level, potentially leading to unprepared riders at competitions. Grading also becomes an issue. We are preparing to send feedback to PCA requesting that they reconsider these changes.
- State Horse Trials: The State Horse Trials will take place on the third weekend of May at Rosedale.
- GFM (Games, Flatwork, Mounted Games): The GFM event will be hosted at Bacchus Marsh, though the date has yet to be confirmed.

As we approach the festive season, I want to take a moment to wish all members, supporters, coaches, and the executive team a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Your dedication to our zone and your ongoing support is truly appreciated. I look forward to another successful and prosperous year for the Mighty Midland Zone in 2025!

Thank you again for your hard work and commitment. See you in the New Year!

We held a very successful Coach Training and Assessment weekend in Ararat on 23rd and 24<sup>th</sup> November, seeing a lot of our coaches/parents coming for the gear check accreditation on the Sunday and some new coaches being assessed on the Sunday. We had two coaches still yet to submit their work books.

It's great to see with the implementation of the new insurance laws around coaches at Pony Clubs, we have had an influx of new coaching members.

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage all parents to become coaches at your Pony Club and that any coaches who have lapsed to please contact Kath at the PCV office to get you back on the registrar.

The recent Annual Report was sent out and PCV outlined a couple of issues.

1. to ensure that all clubs are uploading certificates to the JustGo system
2. to ensure that all clubs are following the syllabus and certificate work is not part of the rally plan

Particularly alarming in some cases is the possibility that clubs are not providing the true Ready2Ride experience - which ultimately provides the member with the E certificate. PCV know how many members are in that category, and the number of E certificate achievers in comparison does not correlate.

If clubs are running the R2R program, they must follow the requirements as set.

- Beginner membership - on lead or just independent
- Not able to compete in competition where events are graded - eg Dressage, SJ, HTs (including open). They must upgrade to junior to do this. Can compete in showing and games.
- Half day experience - those who continue to ride in afternoon (after participating in the morning R2R program) must upgrade to junior.
- Follow lesson plans as set. Some flexibility here - but if the club does not follow the lesson plans, the riders won't achieve the achievement ribbons and E certificate.

PCV are reviewing the R2R membership to manage some of the ways this membership is being abused by the clubs. PCV are expecting that the new R2R membership will be available from July 2025.

My aim is to approach when everyone is not too busy, some extra people to be involved on the CIP. I would like to get some training days throughout our zone next year and would like some feedback as to what topics are of interest to everyone out there.

Thanks

*Kylie Fiedler* - Midland Zone Chief Instructor

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In October we had assessment day with 3 C nominations. All 3 candidates passed on the day.

Thanks to Maryborough Pony club for allowing us to use their grounds, and to Trista for assessing the candidates.

The next round of C certificates will be around April 2025.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year, stay safe and see you all in 2025.

*Kira Chalmers*