

Midland Zone Delegates Meeting - AGENDA

Date:	Tuesday 18 th February 2025	Venue: online – zoom meeting
Meeting Open	7.36pm	
Attendance	Ararat: Jill Marshall	Bealiba: Julie Gould, Ingrid Gould, Faye Barnett. Carolyn Stephenson
	Beaufort: Bronwyn Cuthbertson	Bendigo: Jen Pollard
	Castlemaine:	Charlton:
	Donald: apologies	Harcourt: Peggy Mills
	Horsham: Kylie Fiedler, Emelia Sudholz	Learmonth:
	Loddon:	Maldon: Melissa Gillespie, Kylie Kirk
	Mandurang Sth: Nicki Chalmers	Maryborough: Linda Gerring
	Neangar Park:	Stawell:
Apologies	Debbie Weir (Bealiba), Jill McEwan (Donald), Helen Spencer(Ararat), Paris Room (MSPC), Bronwyn Ballesti (MSPC), Kira Chalmers (MSPC).	
Item	Action/Discussion	Outcome
1. Confirmation of Previous Minutes	MOTION 2025.02.01 That the minutes of the previous meeting be accepted at true and correct	Moved: Kylie Fiedler Seconded: Julie Gould
2. Business Arising	2.1 Advanced First Aid Training	<i>Jill and Deb to work together to invoice participants</i>
	2.2. MZ trailers permanent home	Very close to completion. Tradesman have had January off Awaiting quote for gates. Trailers currently remain at Julie's
	2.3. Games Trailer	
	2.4. Safeguarding Children & Young Adults in Sport Induction Course - online	? report in justgo on qualifications – if uploaded
	Steel posts and anchoring xcountry fences	Jumps cannot be constructed with steel posts. Anchoring still under discussion and awaiting further clarification.
3. Correspondence In		
	St Arnaud PC - no active membership	Club placed in recession, MZ to work with club to help re-establish.
Clubs	Neangar Park PC – events nomination	
	Horsham PC – flyer approval	
	Mandurang Sth PC – query re PCV events calendar and club HT date.	
PCV	Change our Game community activation grants program now open	
	Tetrathlon state championship – entries closing	
	2025 coaching, club checklist	
Other	Request for hire of MZ jump trailer from Girton Grammar for interschool SJ & D event 21-22 March 2025	Decision made to hire as mostly for PC members.
4. Correspondence Out	Email to all clubs – Safeguarding Children & Young Adults in Sport Induction Course – online	Motion 2025.02.02 That the correspondence be accepted. Moved: Bronwyn Cuthbertson Seconded:
	Email to all clubs - coaching, club checklist	

5. Reports	Action/Discussion	Outcome
Treasurer	No report received	
Zone Rep	Report read – see attached	
Zone Chief Instructor	Report presented. See attached	Call for new CIP members, encouragement to be spread across the clubs.
Zone Examining Secretary	Certificate assessment dates 26 th April 25-26 th October	Query that April date is the day prior to Team GFM qualifiers and asking too much of the riders & families. ACTION: move later into Saturday 3 rd May.
6. Zone Events:	Action/Discussion	Outcome
6.1 Midland Zone training days	Gear check accreditation day @ Neangar Park PC 22 nd March.	1030 start – online component to complete before attending
6.2 Midland Zone Horse Trials	Section A 30 th March @ Charlton	Section A planning – Horsham members to visit next week to tidy up along the course path to clear for mowing. Larger tree needing chainsaw. Charlton working on contract mowing 3 weeks prior to event. Xcountry course accreditation – may need some spare mims ? new mims in place MZ will organise accreditation – early march. Will have grades 6-1. Will use MZ dressage and SJ trailer
6.3 Midland Zone Qualifiers Games/Flat/Musical/Pairs	Section D 27 th April	Venue: Bealiba to host.
6.4 MZ Ride to Time Qualifiers	3 qualifiers. Bendigo x2, Avoca x1 29 th June 13 th July 10 th August	Racing Victoria involved. Plan to have coach to at least one qualifier in each zone.
6.5 Midland Zone AGM	Section C 15 th August	Mandurang South will host, working on guest speakers and venue. Nicki & Kira to confirm
6.6 Midland Zone shield SJ & Flat Team	Section A/B 16 th August	Venue: Horsham to discuss
6.7 Midland Zone Dressage & SJ Qualifiers	Section C 13-14 December	Venue - section clubs to discuss, to confirm in the next \$ year.
6.8 NCAS Training & Assessment Weekend	Section A 3 rd weekend November	Venue - ? Beaufort, to confirm after discussion with club members.
PCV State Games Training	16 th March – selection of State teams. Series of 5 days throughout the state – riders must attend at least 2 for selection.	@ Maryborough State games coaches present riders register in JustGo MZ coaches can attend.
7. General Business:	Action/Discussion	Outcome
7.1	By law discussion – review and updating.	Nicki to create list – TBC
7.2	Section Discussion – the MZ is aware that there are small clubs finding it difficult to contribute to MZ events as per the that	Encourage clubs to discuss possible changes to sections to support MZ events into the future.
MZ Dressage Trailer Comment from Bealiba PC	Recently used D trailer and noted has damaged equipment that cannot be used Has any replacement been considered	Maldon has previously identified that there appears to be a manufacturing fault as all damage in similar place in all equipment. Previous discussion with supplier – not willing to replace as claims poor management by users packing away wet

		equipment. Has offered of discount for new purchases. MZ have already replaced 1 corner stand. Note – should be able to build 4 20x60 arena’s – letters and rails. Option - % of deposit be kept for ongoing replacement fund. Eg \$500 deposit, return \$400. MZ currently not in the financial position we have been in the past as no longer running big fundraising events.
Maryborough comment.	Congratulations to riders and clubs who have been finalists in the PCV awards this year	Online link for awards presentation
Around the Clubs		
Ararat	Members keen for C cert. Meeting with council, confident under cover arena to be completed by middle 2026. New R2R families sign up	
Bendigo	Yards and R2R area. Dressage arena starting this week. Fundraising for Xcountry course R2R large section of club	
Bealiba	D & SJ last weekend, date change – amazing attendance x 5 gd1, x 5 gd2 MZ trailer storage looks good. Building new area for young riders	
Beaufort	New R2R members, half day rallies only, riders very enthusiastic and progressing well.	
Horsham	Planning Novelties day 6 th April obstacle/games day	
Harcourt	Members working towards C cert. 1 st SJ on 23 march	
Maryborough	Started year with Beach camp at Beachport PC. Good interest in C cert. Working on teams for GFM	
Maldon	Recently completed 12 day yards, in the shade. Now just under 50 yards, 22 day yards specifically for horses. Funded from BB and adult riding club. Started year with half day rally, started 7.30 due to heat. Looking at similar membership numbers to 2025 with new membership	
Next Meeting:	Tuesday 8 th April – will be school holidays Face to face meeting – Venue – Julie & Kylie will confirm Venue at St Arnaud	Meeting Closed: 9.20 pm

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.**

****Zone Representative Report – 18th February 2025****

Welcome back to Pony Club for 2025! It's exciting to see so many clubs already kicking off the year with fantastic rallies. I look forward to a prosperous year ahead for all.

The competition season will officially begin next weekend with the State Dressage and Showjumping Championships at Tonimbuk Equestrian Centre. Best of luck to all the riders representing the Mighty Midland Zone! I can't wait to cheer on the teams.

I'm excited to announce Simon Devine as the new CEO of Pony Club Victoria. Simon attended our State Council meeting last week, where we were introduced. He's eager to focus on membership growth and retention. I hope his vision will bring strong support to rural areas, helping clubs thrive and grow in the years to come.

The Nationals Pathways Committee, tasked with redesigning the qualification process for Victorian members competing at PCA Nationals, has been approved. I've been appointed to represent the dressage discipline on the committee. If anyone has suggestions or feedback based on their experiences with nationals qualifications, I'd love to hear from you. For now, the process will remain the same as in previous years while the committee reviews it.

The Dressage Judge Accreditation Program is almost complete and will be rolled out soon. Initially, using accredited judges won't be mandatory. However, one important point raised during discussions is that clubs should avoid using their own members or coaches as judges for club competitions. For fairness, we encourage clubs to source external judges for dressage events when possible. This ensures impartial feedback for competitors and helps promote fairness in the sport.

I'm also working on gathering feedback regarding coaching requirements and the declaration of unqualified coaches. If anyone has concerns or suggestions about the current Jotform process, please let me know as soon as possible so I can bring it to the attention of State Council. A document of recommendations will be drafted for the board.

At last year's State Council meeting, the issue of minimum ages for cross-country jump judges was raised. The decision has now been made: the minimum age for a cross-country jump judge is 16 years old, as it is an official duty, similar to coaches and gear checkers. This is an Australian-wide requirement, so please make sure this information is communicated to all members when organising events. This clarification will be published soon.

The review of minimum medical standards is still ongoing. Simon provided an update, confirming that he is working with the relevant officials to review the standards from a Victorian perspective. Once finalised, they will be passed on to PCA for further review. We expect the updated standards to be completed by the end of this year, but for now, please continue to adhere to the current requirements.

Racing Victoria is back on board with Ride to Time this year. They'll be providing prizes once again and will send coaches to at least one qualifier per zone. There may also be opportunities to bring in guest speakers, such as jockeys, depending on availability. Midland Zone has three qualifiers scheduled this year, which are now on the calendar. Riders need two qualifiers, so having three will provide flexibility in case a rider is unavailable on a particular date. Riders may attend any of the qualifiers, even those in other zones, and use their best two times. Additionally, our qualifiers will be trialled on Sundays this year to avoid clashes with other sports, so be sure to discuss this discipline with your riders now.

The State Horse Trials rules are being updated. Teams can now consist of riders from any grade, and all teams will be zone-based rather than club-based. Our Zone qualifiers will take place on 30th March at Charlton Pony Club Grounds. Sections A and B will collaborate to prepare the grounds and course. This will be the first time the new course, built in 2023/24 after the floods, will be used. Mark your calendars for this exciting event!

Unfortunately, St Arnaud Pony Club has been placed into recession due to a lack of financial members and an inability to meet operational requirements as per the PCV By-Laws. We hope to support the club in becoming operational again over the next 12 months.

In light of ongoing email issues, we will be transitioning to JustGo as the sole platform for sending important zone group notifications. Keeping multiple email lists up to date has proven challenging for our secretary, so moving forward, email lists will be based on the "roles" assigned to members in JustGo. This will ensure the correct people receive the right information quickly and efficiently. It is essential that clubs update their executive member JustGo profiles and ensure that their roles are listed correctly. This process will make communications smoother, so please update your information as soon as possible. If you need assistance in using the JustGo system to do so, don't hesitate to reach out to the PCV office. I ask that:

I ask that the "email club contact" role be assigned to the secretary (they may also be assigned the role of secretary) as this will be where correspondence to the club be sent;

And that the clubs delegates for zone meetings are assigned the role "Club delegate to zone."

Wishing everyone a fantastic and successful Pony Club year ahead!

Nicki Chalmers

****MZ Chief Instructor – report February 2025****

Welcome back to everyone for the start of 2025.

I attended the State CIP meeting via zoom on Wednesday 12 February and below are the topics of discussion to which I hope to work through with the Zone CIP

- It's evident that all zones and clubs need to be implementing the new Equitation Science language into our lessons.
- also need to be coaching higher level certificates within our club rallies and also running workshops for these.
- Upcoming State Workshops close to our zone that would be beneficial for all our coaches/DC's to attend are Central Zone 15/16 March at Riddles Creek, Barwon Zone 12/13 April at Barwon Valley PC, Wannon Zone 31 May/1 June and Northern Zone X Country course building for coaches on 14/15 June
- Monthly State Workshops via zoom are also on 20 Feb, 20 March, 17 April, 22 May, 26 June, 24 July, 21 August, 18 September, 23 October and 20 November. New coaches need to attend two of these before being assessed.

We have a Gear Check Accreditation day at Neangar Park Pony Club on Sunday 23rd March. Register via Justgo.

Hope to have a few more coach/candidate training days throughout the year.

Cheers

Kylie Fiedler