

Midland Zone Delegates Meeting - MINUTES		
Date:	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2025	Venue: online – St Arnaud The Farmers Arms, 18 Kings Ave, St Arnaud
Meeting Open	7.25 pm	
Attendance	Ararat: Helen Spencer, Jill Marshall	Bealiba: Julie Gould, Ingrid Gould
	Beaufort: Bronwyn Cuthbertson	Bendigo: apologies
	Castlemaine: apologies	Charlton:
	Donald: apologies	Harcourt: apologies
	Horsham: Kylie Fiedler, Emelia Sudholz	Learmonth:
	Loddon:	Maldon: Kylie Kirk
	Mandurang Sth: Kira Chalmers	Maryborough: Pat Hedger, Linda Gerring
	Neangar Park: Dee	Stawell: apologies
	Midland Zone: Kira Chalmers	
Apologies	Peggy Mills (Harcourt), Debbie Peter (Castlemaine), Jenn Pollard (Bendigo), Sue Harvey (Bendigo), Rachael Warren (Mandurang South), Narelle O'Callaghan (Stawell), Nicole Funston (Mandurang South), Mel Gillespie (Mandurang South), Debbie Weir (Bealiba), Faye (Bealiba), Carolyn Stephenson (Bealiba)	
Item	Action/Discussion	Outcome
1. Confirmation of Previous Minutes	<b>Motion 2025.04.01</b> That the minutes of the previous minutes be accepted as true and correct.	Moved: Linda Gerring Seconded: Nicki Chalmers
2. Business Arising	2.1 Advanced First Aid Training <i>Jill and Deb to work together to invoice participants</i>	<i>ongoing</i>
	2.2. MZ trailers permanent home <i>Awaiting quote for gates.</i> <i>Trailers currently remain at Julie's</i>	Quote for gates accepted. Awaiting installation.
	2.3. Games Trailer <i>Awaiting response from VERA trailer purchase</i>	? purchase equipment to national games standard vs Kay Irving games. Noted that PCV state games mixing standards. ? source from Warraks son who sells equipment for national games standards. <b>ACTION Linda G to share contact details with Jill for equipment purchase</b>
	2.4 By-law discussion – review and updating. <i>Nicki to create list – TBC</i>	Ongoing
	2.5 Section Discussion. PC promotion and membership drive.	Noted very good article about Donald PC, Midland Zone had local media article with horse trials @ Charlton
	2.6 Dressage equipment – maintenance/replacement planning. MZ not in financial position to maintain without \$ support.	Noted that the front storage area would benefit from labelled hooks to assist with pack up and equipment care. ? add divider to help with storage. Plan to add instructions for pack up to be in the trailer, add brush/towels to trailer Measuring wheel broken. <b>ACTION – Jill Marshall to purchase new measuring wheel.</b> <b>Motion 2025.04.02</b> That there will be a hire fee of \$100 taken from the bond of all MZ club, including MZ events on all MZ trailers to be put aside for equipment maintenance. Moved: Linda Gerring

		Seconded: Helen Spencer      carried
<b>3. Correspondence In</b>		
Clubs	Learmonth PC – club officials update	Nominated DC – Kerry Farrell – approved
	Maryborough PC – event alteration – date unchanged, event format change from Horse Trials to Dressage Jackpot & Combined Training	
	Charlton PC – confirmation of fee structure for MZ HT event	Day yard \$10 (20 available) Camping/vehicle \$5 Entrant facility fee \$5
PCV	M3DE group ticket booking promotion	
	JustGo to be used for all zone-club communications	All clubs MUST ensure exec and club roles accurate in the system – if clubs having difficulty with this please contact MZ exec.
	Pony Racing Australia – registrations open in feb for march event.	
PCA	Integrity News April – child safety, education, grassroots coaching webinar, Club incorporation/constitutions, governance checklist.	
	New PCA website launch – new resource hub for rules, policies, handbooks, risk management, coaching, syllabus etc	
	Integrity News March – national integrity policies, e-learning course – safeguarding children & young people in sport.	
	JustGo – new Reporting Interface & Report creation Module – user guide provided	
	Syllabus of instruction and Proficiency Certificates significance for rider eligibility for PCA Nationals year	
<b>4. Correspondence Out</b>	JustGo – MZ updated calendar to all current financial members.	
	All clubs – club delegates meeting notification.	
	Letter to VERA – trailer purchase offer	<b>Motion 2025.04.03</b> That the correspondence be accepted Moved: Bronwyn Cuthbertson Seconded: Kira Chalmers
<b>5. Reports</b>	<b>Action/Discussion</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
Treasurer	HT financial report not yet finalised. Acc balance as of 2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2025: \$17338.12	
Zone Rep	Report read, see attached	
Zone Chief Instructor	Report read, see attached	
Zone Examining Secretary	Report read, see attached	
<b>6. Zone Events:</b>	<b>Action/Discussion</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
6.1 Midland Zone training days	Gear check accreditation day @ Neangar Park PC 22 <sup>nd</sup> March.	Very successful - noted in ZCI report Future goal is to repeat in each MZ section, next planned @ Donald.
6.2 Midland Zone Horse Trials	Section A      30 <sup>th</sup> March @ Charlton	Review – successful event, Charlton course looking good for first use since grant completion and great assess for MZ.

		<p>Massive effort from clubs to setup and run event.</p> <p>Noted Gd4 water jump eliminated most of field. <b>ACTION: discussion with Jarrod to modify ?</b> remove pole and widen obstacle.</p> <p>Great to see former Charlton members participating. Rant well with good timing for end of day. Generally felt unrushed throughout the day.</p> <p>Volunteer sign up seemed to work well, with request for all riders to nominate jobs. This had developed improved relationships with members. Raffle for volunteers successful</p> <p>Financial outcome not yet finalised, but should be around \$2700</p>
6.3 Midland Zone Qualifiers Games/Flat/Musical/Pairs	Section D 27 <sup>th</sup> April @ Bealiba	<p>Program to be forwarded to clubs this week. ? who to be games Marshall.</p> <p><b>ACTION: Linda Gerring to contact state games coaches ?</b> anyone available.</p> <p>Plan to add games teams marshall to support games judge.</p> <p>See BA 2.3 re equipment.</p>
6.4 MZ Ride to Time Qualifiers	<p>3 qualifiers.</p> <p>29<sup>th</sup> June @ Bendigo</p> <p>13<sup>th</sup> July @ Avoca</p> <p>10<sup>th</sup> August – cancelled as too late for state event nominations</p>	<p>Venues confirmed for MZ qualifiers</p> <p>Plan to utilise R2T clinic at Horsham on 10<sup>th</sup> May as third qualification date for MZ.</p>
6.5 Midland Zone AGM	Section C 15 <sup>th</sup> August hosted by Mandurang South	<p>Venue: National Hotel Complex</p> <p>Guest Speaker to be confirmed.</p> <p><i>Nicki &amp; Kira to confirm</i></p>
6.6 Midland Zone shield SJ & Flat Team	Section A/B      16 <sup>th</sup> August	
6.7 Midland Zone Dressage & SJ Qualifiers	Section C      13-14 December	Venue - section clubs to discuss, to confirm next meeting.
6.8 NCAS Training & Assessment Weekend	Section A      3 <sup>rd</sup> weekend November	Venue - ? Beaufort, to confirm after discussion with club members.
PCV State Games Training	16 <sup>th</sup> March @ Maryborough.	<p>Successful Day, inclusive for all members, experienced and beginning. Supplied own trailer with games equipment. No active coach training, but beneficial for coaches to observe. PCV plan to alternate 5 zones each year to bring games coaching to all zones.</p>
<b>7. General Business:</b>	<b>Action/Discussion</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
7.1	Safeguarding Children & Young Adults in Sport	<p>Reminder that all club exec and coaches must have completed the online course.</p> <p>All club members and regular club attendees 18yrs and over must have current WWCC.</p> <p>Encourage all regular attendees to be on JustGo.</p> <p>? clubs finding uploading WWCC/child safe standards completion to JustGo challenging. JustGo can supply list of those with uploaded qualifications via VicDirect.</p>
7.2	SJ trailer requires spare tyre	<b>ACTION: Julie to purchase appropriate tyre.</b>

7.3	MZ branded jumps in disrepair, some split and broken poles, 7 poles need replacement	<b>ACTION: Julie to organise purchase.</b>
7.4	Discussion post HT for ongoing use of Charlton grounds.	Nicki & Kira discussing using for MZ clinics
<b>Around the Clubs</b>		
Ararat	Area for covered arena being surveyed and soil testing undertaken. Are trying to organise a games team.	
Beaufort	All Ready2Ride members, not ready to attend GFM day.	
Bealiba	Proud of riders at state events. Club camp coming up.	
Bendigo	Our building update has made little progress since the last meeting, apart from the Dressage arena being almost complete. We are still waiting on our club rooms to be moved to our new grounds!	
Castlemaine	Have riders who attended Games training day at Maryborough and expressing interest in MZ games event.	
Charlton		
Donald	In contact with Kylie Feidler, keen to host clinic late in the year	
Learmonth	Nicki in contact and to attend next online club meeting. Utilising other clubs for qualified coach at rallies. Planned shared rallies.	
Loddon	New members attended Chear check day and HT.	
Harcourt		
Horsham	3 new coaches signed up. Paris organised fun day stockmans/SJ/obstacles day, successful fundraiser. Dressage/CT in August. Planning HT later this year, date to be confirmed.	
Maldon	Last rally included clinic – 36 riders attending.	
Maryborough	Xcountry course maintenance being undertaken. Saturday and Sunday rallies – upto 47 riders. Ready2Ride membership moving into junior memberships. Adult riding membership upto 23. Adults encouraged to ‘give back’ to the club, some registered as coaches. Submitting Telecom grant to improve internet access at club rooms to support coach learning at the club as many cannot access online learning resources easily at home.	
Mandurang South	Working on HT in June, Alan Mitchell clinic in May. Regular C&T members at rallies. Pleased to have member accepted into PCA leadership program	
Neangar Park		
Stawell		
<b>Next Meeting:</b>	<b>Tuesday 10th June – Online</b>	<b>Meeting Closed: 9.43 pm</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.**

## State Dressage and SJ

I had the absolute pleasure of attending the State Dressage and Showjumping Championships at Tonimbuk on the 22nd and 23rd of February. While our zone may not have come away with an abundance of prizes, I was incredibly impressed by the consistency and quality of riding demonstrated by our riders. In my view, it was the strongest overall performance I've seen from our zone at this event.

I would like to congratulate all riders for their excellent horsemanship and their kind, sympathetic approach to riding. It was a fantastic event overall and a great reflection of the talent and sportsmanship within our zone.

## Ride to Time Update

Ride to Time dates and venues have now been finalised with a slight adjustment to our original schedule.

Unfortunately, this year all qualifiers need to be completed by the first weekend in August, which meant our original August date was no longer suitable.

The State Ride to Time Committee is running a Coaches Workshop on May 10th at the Horsham track and has kindly agreed for this day to also serve as a Zone qualifying date.

The full list of Zone qualifying dates is as follows:

- May 10 – Horsham
- June 29 – Bendigo
- July 13 – Avoca

This spread offers good geographical coverage across the Zone and provides three opportunities for riders to qualify – they only need to attend two, but the third date offers flexibility for those with clashes or other commitments. Additionally, two of the dates fall on Sundays, helping to avoid conflicts with other weekend sports.

## Zone Horse Trials

The recent Zone Horse Trials were a great success. The grounds and the cross-country course looked fantastic, and it was wonderful to see Charlton's course back up and running after the floods. This has taken a lot of work, and it's a credit to everyone involved – it's a great asset to our Zone.

The event was hosted by Charlton and Sections A/B, and a special thank you goes to Charlton, Horsham, and Ararat Pony Clubs for their outstanding efforts in preparing for the event. Thanks also to the smaller clubs who lent a hand – every bit of help is appreciated.

## Club Engagement & Zone Awareness

In recent conversations with clubs, I've become aware that with new faces in executive roles, not everyone is fully familiar with how the Zone operates. I've arranged to attend some upcoming meetings with smaller clubs to help build relationships and improve understanding.

I'd like to reiterate that the clubs and the Zone are not separate entities – the clubs make up the Zone. The Zone Executive is comprised of representatives from the clubs who are voted in by the clubs. Like any committee, it's a democracy. If you're unhappy with something or unsure about decisions, I strongly encourage you to get involved or at least participate in discussions. This helps ensure you're informed and understand all sides of an issue before passing judgment.

## Congratulations

A huge congratulations to Bendigo Pony Club on winning PCV Club of the Year. Bendigo has been on an incredible journey, securing and developing new grounds – a massive undertaking behind the scenes on top of normal club operations. Their dedication to building the club's future is commendable, and they are truly deserving of this award.

A special mention also to DC Jen Pollard, who made the trip to Tonimbuk to accept the award on behalf of the club.

Also, congratulations to Helen Spencer, winner of Best Achievement by a Rider Over 25. Helen brings a wealth of experience, is a fantastic role model, and it's inspiring to see her riding alongside younger members. We are very lucky to have both Bendigo PC and Helen representing our Zone.

### Administrative Reminders

A reminder was sent last week asking clubs to update their executive and zone delegate information in JustGo. Please ensure these records are current and that outgoing committee members are removed, especially following your club AGMs. With the recent email issues, JustGo remains the best platform for ensuring communications reach the correct people.

### State Horse Trials

The next State event is the State Horse Trials at Rosedale on May 17th and 18th. Qualified riders will soon be able to send through their proof for verification. Once verified, they will receive the entry link. Entries close on May 4th.

*Nicki Chalmers*

## **MIDLAND ZONE Chief Instructors Report April 2025**

I have been attending various coaching/assessment days myself which has resulted in becoming a state Co-assessor after attending Riddles Creek Pre-B Assessment and Assessment weekend which co-incided with Coach Training and Assessment Weekend also.

1. **Certificate testing.** We have our next C certificate assessment day coming up on 3 May at Mandurang South Pony Club 4 assessments to be done.
2. We had 16 participants in our Gear Check Accreditation day on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March at Neangor Park Pony Club. Once again I'd like to thank Neangor Park Pony Club for allowing us to use their grounds for this and the all the riders for coming along for our coaches. Thanks again to Linda Gerring for her brilliant facilitating of this course.
3. There are various coaching days coming up just outside our Zone for anyone interested in attending. We do not always have to attend things within our zone. These include 5/6 April in Toongabbie for a SJ Course Building and Groundwork day. April 12/13 in the Barwon Zone, they have Inclusion, Gear Check Accreditation, Safeguarding and Coach Mentoring. Wannon Zone have on the 31 May and 1 June, Gear Checker, safeguarding, inclusion and mentoring. Followed by coach assessments on the Sunday. June 14 and 15 at Shepparton will be another coach mentoring and assessment weekend. June 28/29 at Shirley Heights will be another, yet to provide details.
4. We welcome 3 new members to our Chief Instructors Panel – Jen Pollard from Bendigo Pony Club, Corrine Leahy from Stawell Pony Club and Jenna Cole, (yet to send form in). I thank these members for coming on board and look forward to working with them to get more coach/certificate training days out there in our zone.

Cheers

*Kylie Fiedler*

MZ Chief Instructor

## **ZES report 08/04/2025**

Our next round of ridden C certificates is on Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> of May, for which we have 5 candidates nominated.

The next round of ridden assessment for certificates will be in October 2025.

I would like to encourage all clubs to continue to build certificate work into their rallies regularly and encourage member to work towards obtaining their certificates.

*Kira Chalmers*