

FLAT CHAT

The Newsletter of Dural & District Pony Club Inc



IMPORTANT DATES

November

28th/29th

Zone 23 Jamboree



Dural Pony Club
Calendar of Events 2009

Events at DPC Grounds shown in bold.

This calendar may change through the year. Check the most recent calendar closer to an event to confirm dates

NOVEMBER

28th/29th

Zone 23 Jamboree

DECEMBER

5th/6th

PCA State Show Riding Championships, Bingara. Entries close

For the latest information about Dural Pony Club, go to
<http://www.duralponyclub.com.au>

Keep looking at the Zone 23 website for regular updates:
<http://www.zone23.com.au>

For information and entry forms for PCA state events go to:
<http://www.pcansw.org.au>

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This is it! The last president's report of the year and time to reflect on the past 10 months; In short: it was interesting. I have learnt a lot about horses and I suppose even more about people with horses. It has been a good experience and I'd like to thank the committee members for their support. I hope that you, as the general members, do understand how much time and effort goes into Pony Club. The maintenance, the canteen, the rally days, competitions, renovations and repairs – everything that happens at DPC is initiated by a volunteer who donates his or her time to the cause and organises whatever it is. One such example is the FlatChat which has been put together by Joelle for the last year. She has done it without fail or complaint and I'd like to thank her very much for this.

Some people come and help without even having a child that rides. A shining example of this is Lorraine Carter. Last maintenance day when only the core helpers Shane, Geoff, Graeme and Dennis were mowing and cutting, the red Toyota rocked up and out came Lorraine: "Is there anything I can ride"? And ride she did!! It is the smiles on kids' faces when they ride and moments like this when one thinks that all the efforts are worth while.

A couple of weeks ago we held the closed sporting which was organised very efficiently by Vivian. A big thank you to all the helpers who turned up on Saturday to make the event look spectacular and to all the parents who helped on Sunday. It was a wonderful event. Unfortunately Claire came off her horse. It did not look like a hard fall but unluckily she has broken her shoulder and will be out of action for about six weeks. Claire I hope you'll have a speedy recovery and get back into the saddle sooner rather than later.

Robyn Plummer is not going to continue in her role as canteen co-ordinator. She has done an outstanding job over the last couple of years and the canteen has made a significant social and financial contribution to the club. To put it into simple \$ terms: Without the canteen's contribution, every member would have to pay an extra \$100.00 in annual membership fees. The canteen coordinator does not have to run the canteen every pony club day but will have to report to the committee on the results, organise the supplies and ensure the rostered mums and dads are lending a hand. It is roughly 20 Sundays per year and if we find a couple of parents who band together then it should not be a significant burden on each individual.

Our club captain Catriona is also not continuing in her role next year. Catriona has done an excellent job in organising club and zone events and ensuring we had a very challenging and well balanced program throughout the year. Despite all these rather time consuming activities Catriona has always helped out setting up and helping out at rally days, closed and zone competitions. Thank you Catriona.

Speaking of the committee; all positions of the committee are up for election at the upcoming AGM on December 6. If you would like to make a contribution in terms of a discipline co-ordinator role or a specific committee member role, please put your hand up. This is your chance to influence the direction your pony club is taking and to ensure your child has the experience you would like it to have.

See you at the AGM,
Andre

CLUB CAPTAIN'S REPORT

The last few months have been a flurry of activity with our riders going to many closed, state and zone events. It has been a great year and wonderful to see so many riders, some of them in their first year at Dural, competing at so many events.

The annual presentation of trophies will take place on December 6th after the AGM.

Each riding member who has been to at least 3 rally days will be recognised for their achievements throughout the year.

Please RSVP to let me know your child will be present so that they are not left out.

Would all parents/riders/grandparents/carers please fill out the attached form listing your riders' achievements and contribution to pony club for the past year and email me the information this week?

Even if your child has not been able to participate on horseback very often, could you list the ways that they have helped at pony club. Please help the instructors in this job by filling in the form.

Zone 23 Jamboree - 28th & 29th November at Castle Hill Showground.

We would love to see all our riders at this event. It is a memorable end of the year for the riders and many friendships are formed at jamboree, both from within our club and from other PC's in the zone.

The format and program will be different from past years. There will be four disciplines offered. As well as hacking, sporting and jumping, dressage will be introduced for the first time. Dural PC is organizing the dressage so we will need parents to help with arena set up on Friday, as well as marshalling and penciling on the weekend.

The final program will not be out until a couple of days before the weekend when entries have been received and compiled. At this stage it looks like hacking will be on Saturday and troopdrill on Sunday morning instead of Saturday.

YOU MUST GET JAMBOREE ENTRIES IN ON TIME TO REGINA BY THE 18TH NOVEMBER.

Regina must send all club entries to zone by the Friday. Because of the logistics of putting a program and dressage draw together, late entries cannot be accepted.

The entry form must be signed by our senior instructor, Mrs Carter, so bring your completed forms to the next rally day, this Sunday November 15th for her to sign. Send entries and cheques to Regina so that she can send them onto zone by the due date. Regina will only register your entry if it has payment included.

Make sure you include payment for entry fee and ambulance levy (all riders) - i.e if you are entering one rider it will cost \$55. It will be more if you want Bar BQ and stabling.

Please note that entry is to be sent to our club secretary, Regina Borg, with your cheque. Send completed entry and cheque made payable to Dural and District Pony Club Inc. by Tuesday 17th November to:

Mrs R Borg - Jamboree entries
4 Burrawang Drive
Nelson NSW 2756

Closed Dressage 18th October.

Karen did a great job re scheduling this event. It gave the riders who attended valuable experience under competition conditions.

	Under 11 years	11 & 12 years	13 & 14 years	15 years & over
Champion:	Laura S.	Phoebe S.	Claire W.	Joelle
Reserve Ch:	Caitlin B	Alana K		Elloise

Closed Sporting Results 1st November

Thank you to our sporting coordinator, Vivian, for running the day.

	Under 11 years	11 & 12 years	13 & 14 years	15 years & over
Champion:	Sammy C-B	Courtney	Imogen	Joelle
Reserve Ch:	Caitlin B.	Nicolette E	Jennifer B.	Elloise

Imogen and Courtney competed at **Zone sporting** which was hosted by FHPC in September. Courtney was reserve champion in under 11 years and Imogen came 3rd overall in the 13 & 14 years age group. Good work guys!

State Mounted Games - 4th, 5th October 2009

For the first time in living memory Dural Pony Club entered a team in State Mounted Games. It was held at Albion Park on the October long weekend. Team members, **Olivia W, Caz , Emily B., Courtney W and Imogen** performed very well in the extremely wet conditions gaining some good placings in heats. It was especially exciting for **Olivia W, Caz and Emily B.** as it was their first PCA state event.

Dural is down to host zone mounted games in 2010, so start practicing!!!

Zone 23 Show Riding - 11th October 2009

Dural riders were very successful at this competition taking out either champion or reserve champion in every age group. Full results are on the zone 23 website.

Open Rings - Congratulations to **Natasha S. and Phoebe S.** for winning Zone champion in their age groups and to **Jessica S and Tasha A.** for winning Zone Reserve Champion in theirs. It was a very close competition and **Laura S.** missed out on reserve on a count back while **Courtney** placed in many events in the huge 11 & 12 year age group.

In the intermediate ring Ashley won the point score for under 13's, Caz won the point score for 13 years and over and Belinda came 3rd overall.

Thank you to Ray for taking entries, scoring and getting results out quickly, Vicki for manning the office all day, the Kunz family and Vivian for helping with many different jobs throughout the day, to Deb and Joelle for stewarding, to Janne for running the working hunter class and as always to Robyn and the helpers in the canteen.

Team of four riders tryouts

Three Dural riders, together with a rider from Arcadia, were chosen to represent Zone 23 in the pony club team of four under 13 years at next year's Royal Easter Show in April, 2010. They are **Caitlin B, Laura S. and Phoebe S.**, and Rachael R. from Arcadia. They will be working very hard over the next few months.

State Show Riding

Best wishes to Caitlin B. who is entered in State Show Riding to be held at Bingara on the 5th & 6th December. This is Caitlin's first PCA state event. Have a safe journey and good luck!

Proficiency Certificates

D and D star testing took place on the 20th September. Congratulations to the successful candidates who should have received a certificate and an embroidered patch to display on their sleeves.

Area 1 Horsemanship Awards Saturday 5th September

On Saturday the 5th September the SUPREME SASHES HORSEMANSHIP AWARDS was held at Londonderry Pony Club.

Natasha S. and Courtney W. represented Dural and the girls performed very well.

The competition covers all areas of pony club riding and horsemanship including rein drill, mounting and dismounting, presentation, loading a horses onto a float, leading another horse whilst mounted, showjumping equitation, mounted games, bareback and a workout on the flat. This event is one of the longest running PCA events still going. It has been running for about forty years (I competed in it when I was at pony club!) Start practising all the skills now so that Dural has some entrants for next year.



How to get the most out of pony club next year

At the end of the year we look back on what the children have done and achieved throughout the year. To be successful at pony club the single most important thing is for your child to come along to pony club as often as possible and to participate in all the activities. Just to get horse and rider to the grounds can be an achievement in itself! The services of a professional instructor will certainly help a lot too, as we do not have the time or resources at pony club to give all but the most basic individual instruction.

We have instructional days before each closed event (weather permitting) to give the riders a brief introduction to the type of competition and rules of that competition. It is most beneficial to come to these rally days, and indeed necessary if your child has not done that type of competition before, so that they go in prepared and knowing clearly what they have to do. Much of this information is also available in The Blue PCA Handbook and the PCA of NSW book called 'Riding', both available through PCA.

Many of our riders gain experience by competing at events outside pony club as well as at our closed events. The interschool events are an excellent place to learn as you can often choose which level suits your child. The main thing is to keep trying and the benefits will eventually follow.

Thankyou to all our instructors who have given their time this year to help our children, especially to Lorraine Carter and her husband Tom, who are extraordinarily generous with the time and effort they put into Dural Pony Club for our children's benefit year after year.

Good luck to all the Dural riders who are going to the Zone 23 jamboree, it is fantastic that so many of you are *having a go* and representing your club at this event and I hope you really enjoy it and have fun!!!

Catriona Sviderskas (Club Captain)
svidr6@internode.on.net

Flashback to 2003 – Valentines Day Gymkhana



NOTICE BOARD

CANTEEN ROSTER

Thank you to those who completed their canteen duty this year. Your help and support was invaluable to the efficient running of the canteen. Thank you again.

CLOSED SPORTING

Thankyou to Vivien for organising the Closed Sporting on the 1st of November- the day was heaps of fun and all the kids had a blast. Thanks to the parents and kids who helped set up and pack away everything too.



Thanks to Liane and Jane Wilcox for being our photographers for the day

CONGRATULATIONS, ASHLEIGH!

Ashleigh started vaulting this year in February. She had previously done gymnastics but then gave it up to concentrate on vaulting. And she has done extremely well. She has featured in local newspapers "Hills Shire Times" and "The Land".

She attended the State Competition, which was only her 2nd competition, in May and won her "D" grade.

She then went to South Australia for the Nationals in October, again competing in "D" Grade and placing 4th. Because of this win, she is moving up into "C" Grade when she competes this Saturday at Horseworld.

We wish her all the best for this weekend and all her future endeavours. Well done Ashleigh!

Happy Birthday!

November

2 nd	Sammy C-B	9 years
13 th	Harriet T	14 years
15 th	Abby G	11 years



Editor's Note:

I will not be taking on the role of Flatchat next year due to my study commitments. It has been fun and a great experience doing it this year and it really is a position in which you learn a great deal. If you are interested in becoming the Editor of Flatchat next year, please make it known to the committee. You are only required to gather information and present it, put a few pictures in and write a few editorials. I have found it to be both rewarding and fun.

Joelle