

PONY CLUB VICTORIA

ABN 6432002009

STATE COUNCIL MEETING REPORT



Meeting Date: Tuesday 7 April 2020
Location: "Irving House", 73-75 Mackie Rd, Mulgrave. VIC (Online meeting)
Commencement Time: **10 AM**

In Attendance –

Online: Peter Favalaro (PF) - President, James Lang (JL)– Vice President, Linda Smith(LS) Vice President, Helen Simmons (HS) – Treasurer, Ian Don (ID) – NEZ, Beth McCann (BM) – NMZ, Jan Calaby (JB) – BZ, Leonie Lang (LL) - CZ, Jan Bromwich (JB) - EGZ, Sue Foley (SF) – MZ, , Shari Mawson – Cannon (SMC) – NZ, Carol Rotherham (CR) – SMZ, Lisa Hocking (LH) – WGZ,

Mulgrave: Rick Gill (EO)

Due to COVID-19 travel restrictions this meeting was held by teleconference.

A request to allow hoof boots in Dressage was referred to the Rules Committee for recommendation back to State Council.

A perpetual trophy in honour of Jan Dear has been created with the TET Committee to decide on the conditions of awarding.

To deal with the fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic Directions from the State Government, a Finance and Risk Sub-committee has been formed. This sub-committee has been delegated powers from State Council to make decisions and act on them quickly given the changing nature of the pandemic and Directions from government. These decisions will be to ensure the association has sufficient cash flow in the short to medium term and will be assessing all options open to it, as well as to put in place a strategy to assist clubs to be best placed once the pandemic is over.

One of the immediate tasks will be to implement a 6 month membership period to lower the cost of membership renewals. This will be developed over the next few weeks. More information will be forthcoming in relation to other strategies involving improved efficiencies to save money and time for clubs, members and PCV as they are more fully developed.

Governance Update

The Governance Committee has met recently and further refined a draft. The Committee has requested final comments by State Council after Easter for consideration by the Committee with a view that the draft will be released to members for comment shortly thereafter.

COVID-19 Update

The response to COVID-19 has been very well handled by all involved. Communication to our members has been very well received. There has been very little complaint about the severe curtailing of activity, with most calls requesting clarity or for assistance with special circumstances. Everyone from individuals, to clubs, to zones, to the State Office and our committees have done their part to comply with Directions, and to put in place strategies to keep members engaged. This engagement is the best way to maximise retention once the pandemic eases. It is very encouraging how the character and values that underpin PC have come to the fore. Sales of certificate manuals have doubled and it is now necessary to ship twice per week. This is also a positive sign that members are waiting out the pandemic and an indication of membership renewal.

PCV has applied for all the government assistance that is open to it. This should be an enormous help in coming months.

Unfortunately the fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic has meant tightening expenditure at PCV to only those essential to be able to minimally operate. This has meant we have now lost the services of our long standing membership officer Vicki Jans who has been with us for 15 years. This is a very sad loss to PCV and members. Other staff have had to reduce hours. All staff are working from home with a minimal presence in the office to perform work that can't be performed online. Phone numbers remain the same, but please be patient.

EO to obtain direct advice on exercising horses outside of where it is kept through DHHS (Note: direct advice has been obtained which is that DHHS do not consider riding of horses as exercise in terms of a valid reason to leave your home). Members are encouraged to obtain their own advice from DHHS as the situation changes daily.

Nationals 2021 Selection Criteria – deferred

The Nationals committee will make a presentation at a late date on new selection criteria.

Calendar Dates 2021

The State Dressage and Showjumping committee and the Horse Trials committee are to advise preferred dates for 2021 to allow selection for the Nationals later that year.