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1 MAY 2020

IMPORTANT - CHANGES TO THE PCV MEMBERSHIP YEAR

COVID-19 has introduced many challenges for members, clubs, zones and the state association, one of these challenges may be a reduction in membership renewal which means reduced income for clubs, zones and the state association.

As a membership-based organisation this issue requires some consideration and innovative thought.

Having consulted with your club through surveys and speaking with you one-on-one we understand the challenges and Pony Club Victoria has been working hard on alternatives.

A new cost structure for membership has been developed that will maximise membership renewals at club level by making the upfront costs for members as minimal as possible.

A 6-month membership for clubs and PCV will replace the usual 12-month membership and will apply from the 1 July 2020 and expire 31 December 2020. This effectively halves the upfront cost for renewing and new members.

The Pony Club Victoria membership charge will be:

- \$76 for Junior Riders (plus the PCA fee)
- \$86 for Associate and Adult Riders (plus the PCA fee)

Pony Club Victoria has absorbed an increase of 7% from our insurers in setting the 2020 membership charges.

The breakdown for the 6 months to 31 December are:

Member Category	PCV Fee (inc GST)	Insurance (inc GST)	Total PCV Fee (inc GST)	PCA Fee (inc GST)	Proceeds to PCV (ex GST)
Junior Member	\$66.56	\$9.44	\$76.00	\$6.88	\$60.51
Associate/Adult	\$72.10	\$13.90	\$86.00	\$6.88	\$65.55

From 1 January 2021 the Pony Club Victoria membership year will revert to a 12-month membership aligned to the Calendar Year. This brings with it other benefits including aligning to Pony Club Australia and the major pony club states; aligning to our insurers billing cycle which will save members money; and avoids inconveniencing members who may age out of a competition after the traditional end of a Financial Year on June 30.

Pony Club Victoria is well-aware clubs have different running costs and our clubs are best placed to ensure they are financially viable. We know that clubs are currently looking to reduce the cost of re-joining/joining their club as a result of this current situation.

WHAT DOES MY CLUB NEED TO DO?

Decide how to charge your club fee to members, Pony Club Victoria highly recommend that:

- Club fees should be set at an amount that covers fixed costs such as water, rates, electricity or general maintenance
- Costs such as rally fees are not charged at membership renewal but collected at each rally for the remainder of 2020

Clubs, as always, can set their fees as they deem appropriate; these recommendations are made to help reduce costs for members on renewal for this half year.

BUT HOW IS OUR CLUB GOING TO GET ITS FEES?

- For the remainder of 2020 we recommend clubs to opt for a user pays system, a charge per rally, some clubs do this already.
- MyPonyClub Event Manager can be used to collect fees per rally, it is a tool free for clubs to use and will help with this style of fee collection with the bonus that it will assist your club with record keeping too!

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER THIS 6MTH MEMBERSHIP PERIOD?

- Pony Club Victoria will offer a 12mth membership in 2021 turning the membership year from the 1 JAN 2021 – 31 DEC 2021.
- Clubs can set their fees in any way that best fits collection of club membership.

CREDIT/DEBIT PAYMENTS TO BE THE ONLY PAYMENT OPTION FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

In these difficult times it is essential to have the most efficient and cost-effective processes in place. There are significant financial costs in processing manual invoicing; for club volunteers and the state office. Online processing makes more effective use of volunteer and staff time, allowing volunteers and office staff to be more productive – and your money is in the bank almost immediately. All clubs will be switched on for credit/debit payments only, to streamline administration of membership.

WHAT IF OUR MEMBERS DON'T HAVE A CREDIT OR DEBIT CARD?

- MyPonyClub offers payment by either credit or debit cards so you don't need to have a credit card to pay online, however if you still have members who don't own a debit or credit card here are some solutions to managing online payments.
- Members can obtain a prepaid debit card. Australia Post and various banks offer these they operate on the VISA system but require the user to put their funds into the card therefore the user can only spend what they put in.
- Clubs can obtain a prepaid debit card from Australia Post to pay on behalf of members who are not on the credit/debit system. Members then EFT or otherwise pay the club.

[Click here for more information on prepaid cards.](#)

Pony Club Victoria is not "the state office" it is everyone involved with Pony Club in Victoria, and together we have been doing a fantastic job of being innovative and running an assortment of fun and educational activities for members. It is with some pride that our members have so far totally embraced and actively engaged in all these activities to ensure the health and vitality of their organisation. Just like AFL football and other sporting codes, our members are sticking by their teams, and we need our members to continue to stick by their clubs and their Pony Club Victoria by renewing membership.

We are in this together, so let's make sure we work together to create a strong Pony Club resurgence once we can get moving following COVID-19 restrictions!

QUESTIONS AND QUERIES!

Please contact the PCV State Office with any questions or concerns your club may have regarding this information or for assistance with setting fees if required. A video tutorial will be released to help club officials set up their MyPonyClub Club database ready for this 2020 membership year.

PCV STATE OFFICE

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