

12 MAY 2020

BULLETIN – Coaches and Clubs | Coaching Membership 2020/2021

The Finance and Risk Sub-Committee was formed by State Council to assess the Association's financial situation, in response to the impact on our activities caused by COVID-19 restrictions in the current State of Emergency.

In addition, the sub-committee is tasked with assessing risks to the Association and its members.

In February State Council passed its 2020/2021 budget, due to take effect from July 1, and one of the items considered by State Council was the removal of the \$25 membership cost to coaches who are paid to instruct.

The removal of this membership cost was made pre-COVID-19, and at the time it was unfunded. This reflected a priority of State Council to support and encourage paid coaches to continue to work within our clubs.

With a forecast reduction in membership due to COVID-19, the Association for this year cannot afford this significant loss of income from our paid coaches without impacting coaching services.

The Association invests heavily in providing coach support and education which is funded by riders' fees, and prior to February, partly funded by paid coaches. This is an unacceptable risk financially and operationally.

The Finance and Risk Sub-Committee have considered that, at this time, coaches who receive income from Pony Club members should contribute to supporting the coaching aims of the Association and the Sub-Committee have retained the \$25 membership fee for paid coaches, due from 1 July 2020.

To offset the re-instatement, coach membership will now be 18 months, extended from 1 July 2020 to the 31 December 2021 for no extra cost.

This equates to \$1.60 per rally over 18 months.

At this critical time, paid coaches should share in the financial contribution to coaching development - riding members should not fund this alone.

Coaches who volunteer their services to our clubs will continue to be provided membership at no cost and this ensures that membership for coaches remains the cheapest amongst the major Pony Club states in Australia.



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Membership charges will be reviewed later in 2021.

POLICY ALIGNMENT

This decision aligns to the following terms of reference set by State Council for the Finance and Risk Sub-Committee:

2. To put in place policy and process to maximise membership retention.
5. To ensure the cash position of the Association is improved and viability of the operations of the Association are maintained
6. To make and implement financial decisions to improve the financial viability of the Association.

Rick Gill

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Mailing List (as per MyPonyClub)

- Current coaches (as recorded in Trybooking for 19/20)
- Club Secretaries
- Club email
- Zone Secretaries
- Zone email
- State Council