

HELMETS

The following specifications have been laid down by the Standards Association of Australia:

Approved helmets must bear the specifications AUS/NZ 3838, EN1384 or ASTM F1163. Helmets bearing the older specification ASA 2063 or ASA 2063.3 ARE NO LONGER PERMITTED IN PONY CLUB.

Only helmet colours as accepted by Samford Pony Club are allowed.

To be effective, a helmet must fit correctly. To check for correct fit, place helmet on head and make any strap adjustments. Securely fasten chin strap. Grasp the helmet and try to rotate it to the front and the rear. A correctly fitted helmet should be comfortable and should not move forward to obscure vision or backward to expose the forehead.

The helmet is designed to absorb shock by partial destruction of the shell and liner. This damage may not be visible. Therefore, if subjected to a severe blow, the helmet should be destroyed and replaced, even if it appears undamaged.

UNIFORMS

The following is the official uniform which must be worn when representing the Samford Golden Valley Pony Club Inc. in competition. Pony Club uniforms can be purchased from the Uniforms Convenor. Please refer to the newsletter for contact details – as our convenor/s are volunteers, usually parents with children riding, a suitable time for purchase should be arranged. On occasions ordering is necessary.

FORMAL UNIFORM

White or black helmet (of approved specification) **see note below

Old Gold shirt

Dark green tie and tie badge (badge optional)

Bottle green jumper or vest with gold stripe (optional)

Fawn jodhpurs (fawn stockman cut trousers, slim fit, no pleats, may also be worn at gymkhanas, campdraft and mounted games – no other events)

Short jodhpur boots OR top boots OR gaiters with matching boots (refer to individual Rules of Competition books for exclusions) Boots should be smooth soled and have a low heel.

Gaiters must be worn with at least the exposed side of gaiter to be of full grain leather.

**When competing in a march past (ie J F Mc Gill Formal Day) all riders are to have a black helmet. The committee shall provide a helmet cover for use at the event if required.

MUSTER UNIFORM

White or black helmet (of approved specification)

SGVPC polo shirt

Fawn or green jodhpurs or bone stockman cut trousers (slim fit, no pleats, no denim)

SGVPC saddlecloth

Gold SGVPC sweatshirt (optional) or SGVPC rugby jersey

Short jodhpur boots OR top boots OR gaiters with matching boots (refer to individual Rules of Competition books for exclusions) Boots should be smooth soled and have a low heel.

Gaiters must be worn with at least the exposed side of gaiter to be of full grain leather.

Jewellery – Necklace and bracelet only allowed under shirt. Rings only allowed under gloves. Only sleepers or stud earrings (or that size and style) allowed.

NOMINATIONS

To attend an event riders must have attended two club musters in the 12 months preceding the event. (PCAQ rule effective from 2010).

There are three "Golden Rules" for attending outside events.

1. Nominations for Pony Club events must be made through the Club Nominations Officer (refer Office Bearers on front of Newsletters).
2. Individual/late nominations are not normally accepted by the Host Club. In the case where a late nomination is accepted SGVPC will levy an extra \$10- per rider. Host Club often levy extra fees for late nominations also.
3. Payment of nomination fees should be paid immediately upon receiving invoice.
 - a) direct credit (preferred option) to Samford Golden Valley Pony Club account no. 140302134 BSB 633-000 Bendigo Bank
 - b) Cheque posted to SGVPC PO Box 165, Samford, 4520 with copy of invoice or full details of payment
 - c) Cash by arrangement only – please contact the Treasurer

The preferred option when nominating is via the link on the website. Please ensure the email is headed with the Event Name and Location plus the Rider's Name. This is very important to assist the Nominations Officer and also to ensure your email is not deleted as spam. Unpaid nomination fees may result in no further nominations being accepted.

Event flyers and closing date for nominations will be advertised on the club website (date is up to a week prior to host clubs closing date). As we do not always receive flyers please also refer to PCAQ and Zone 1 websites for further events (links available from our website)

From the start of 2006, in dressage - horses will not be allowed to ride in a higher class than listed on their performance card.

From the start of 2006, riders are required to take their PCAQ membership card with them to all events that they attend. They will be required to show these to the event organisers before commencement of the event.

Parents of all riders competing at Pony Club events are usually requested to assist in conducting the event by acting as pencilers or stewards. As a general rule, one parent per every three riders from the Club will be required to assist (refer to specific nominations forms).

PERFORMANCE CARDS

Graded Performance Cards are required for horses ridden by members aged 13 and under 26 years who compete in OFFICIAL competitions. Cards are available through the Club Secretary. **Please note it is the horse that is graded, not the rider. In showjumping, pony and galloway horses now must have performance cards.**

An "Application to Register a Horse" form (refer back of this booklet also available on PCAQ website) should be completed and handed to the Club Secretary who will arrange for it to be processed by PCAQ. Performance cards cost \$5.50 each. It is important that all details of the horse, including past owners and EFA details, where applicable, are recorded. Please allow ample time for these applications to be processed.

ALWAYS TAKE THE RELEVANT PERFORMANCE CARD TO AN OFFICIAL EVENT. THE ORGANISING COMMITTEE MAY PREVENT A RIDER FROM COMPETING IF A PERFORMANCE CARD IS NOT PRESENTED.

The organising Secretary of an official event is responsible for entering points/wins on Performance Cards.

Points are recorded as follows

- Showjumping - recorded to 3rd place
- Dressage - recorded to 6th place, but only if a rider obtains 55% or more.
- Combined Training - recorded to 5th place
- ODE - Improvers & Restricted Novice recorded to 3rd place
Novice/Open recorded to 6th place

If a Performance Card is lost or destroyed, the Club Secretary can arrange a replacement, at a cost of \$5.50 per card. Ungraded Performance Cards are available for Sporting & Campdraft. These Cards are used for the selection of Interstate Teams.

PCAQ MEMBERSHIP CARDS

As of 2001, all PCAQ members, including non-riding members, have been issued with a membership card.

It is important that riders take these membership cards to competitions along with their Performance Cards (if applicable), as a PCAQ Official may at any time, ask to see proof of PCAQ membership. A receipt is suitable while awaiting issue of your card.

ZONE 1 EVENTS

Queensland is divided into 26 zones and Samford Golden Valley Pony Club is within Zone 1. Zone 1 run several events during the year and members are encouraged to attend. End of year awards are presented for individual and club results. It is a Zone 1 rule that all riders must stay for presentation of ribbons/trophies at events (It is also a courtesy to do so at all events). Please ensure that you are wearing your full uniform with ties neat and shirts tucked in for presentations. Failure to stay can have riders excluded from Zone 1 events for 12 months.

EVENTS - WHAT IS A....?

To compete in any of the following events, You must be a financial member of SGVPC, wear the correct full competition uniform (see the Uniform section) and nominate through the Club's Nomination Officer. You also must have attended two club musters in the preceding 12 months. Ribbons are usually awarded to 4th or 6th place, and trophies are also usually awarded. Nomination cost may vary, but is usually around \$15 – to \$20- per rider. Competitions begin around 8.30am, and finish well after lunch.

The following is a guide only. If you require clarification, please ask an Instructor. ANY GEAR NOT LISTED IN THE PCAQ UNIFORM & SADDLERY RULES FOR GEAR CHECK BOOK **IS NOT PERMITTED**. Relevant rule books are available in print form from PCAQ or electronically from the PCAQ website.

GYMKHANA

Gymkhanas are usually fun days, although they are still very competitive. They are sporting days where most events are run against the clock. Trophy/ribbon presentations can be mounted or unmounted, and ribbons are usually awarded to 6th place in each event.

ONE DAY EVENT (ODE)

Dressage/Cross Country/Showjumping

This is the Pony Club equivalent of a Three Day Event. Overall penalty points are tallied and ribbons/trophies awarded on all three phases collectively, not for each phase. The first phase is a Dressage test. Refer to the section on Dressage for further information.

This is followed by the Cross Country course comprising 20 – 25 jumps. A time limit applies and time penalties are awarded for exceeding this. Penalties are given for the 1st and 2nd refusals and elimination for the 3rd refusal at any one jump. You are also eliminated for errors of course. Mud maps of the course are supplied. You are allowed to walk the course on foot before the event starts. You do not have time, when on horseback, to read a map, so you must be very sure you know the course beforehand! Jumps are numbered, with a particular coloured number for each grade, and you should always jump with a white flag on the left and a red flag on the right of your jump.

Showjumping is the final phase. All competitors jump the same course, however the heights are changed for each grade.

If you are eliminated in any one phase of the competition, then you are automatically eliminated from the whole competition.

DRESSAGE

A Dressage Event consists of one or more tests (normally the competitors ride 2 tests) between individually mounted riders performing specified Dressage Tests to PCAQ rules, according to the level attained by the horse (not the rider). Gradings are Preliminary, Novice, Elementary, Seniors (over 25 years). Age groups also apply ie. under 11 years & 11 to under 13 years. Riders must ride in their correct grade only and riders 13 years and over should present Dressage Performance Cards. Tests are set by the organising committee. Two Judges are used and their scores are averaged. A horse must obtain at least 55% of the total possible marks to be eligible for a variation in grading. Some rules are:

SHOWJUMPING

A showjumping competition is one in which the combination of horse & rider is tested under various conditions over a course of obstacles. It is a test intended to demonstrate the horse's energy, skill and obedience in jumping, and the rider's horsemanship. If a competitor makes certain errors such as knocking down an obstacle, exceeding the time limit, jumping the incorrect obstacle, or the horse refuses to jump etc, penalties are incurred. The rider completes two or three separate courses, which are numbered consecutively in the order in which they must be jumped. Combination obstacles carry only a single number, followed by a letter designating the order in which they are jumped, eg. 5a, 5b.

COMBINED TRAINING

Combined Training is a two phase competition: Dressage and Showjumping, in that order. The same horse and rider must complete both phases, and elimination from one phase involves elimination from the whole competition. Some points to note:

Grading - horses will have both a dressage and a combined training grade.

Dressage tests are judged under PCAQ Dressage rules, with the exception that callers and whips are not allowed. Refer to dressage section for more information.

Jumping tests consist of one round of the course, judged under PCAQ rules. There will be approximately 8 to 12 numbered obstacles in a timed course.

PRESENTATION OF HORSE & RIDER

The following is a guide to what Judges look for in a Presentation Class:

HORSE

- Conformation or past injuries should not affect the judging
- A healthy, glossy, well-groomed coat should have a slight edge over a clipped horse (if all else equal).
- A correctly plaited mane and tail should have a slight edge over hogged/natural mane & trimmed/pulled tail (if all else equal). Tails to be plaited correctly (end of plait tucked away and not hanging down).
- Number of rosettes on neck should be an odd number with the forelock making an even number. Rosettes should be in a straight line.
- No ribbons in mane & tail. False tails are acceptable.
- Horse should be clean around mouth & tail.
- Hooves should be painted or oiled only on the wall and not the sole. Excess hair can be trimmed from the fetlock and coronet band.
- Ear hair of unclipped horses trimmed level with edge of ears.

GEAR

- No extra marks for new or expensive gear, but whatever the rider has, it must fit correctly and be clean and well cared for.
- If the horse is competing in boots/bandages, these must be worn for presentation and applied correctly. Bridles must be correctly fitted and sit straight, with all keepers in place. Bits must be clean and buckle holes free of grease.
- Girth must be tightened properly and if buckling under the saddle flap, a buckle guard must be in place.

RIDER

- Rider must look neat & tidy (shirts tucked in, helmets clean, ties correctly knotted, boots polished, no coloured socks)
- Rider's hands must be clean, or must be wearing gloves (black gloves only, no white or coloured gloves)
- If hair touches the collar, it must be contained in a hairnet.
- A necklace or bracelet is allowed only UNDER the shirt.
- A ring may be worn UNDER gloves.
- Only stud or sleeper earrings are permitted.
- Make-up used on horse and/or rider must not be overdone.