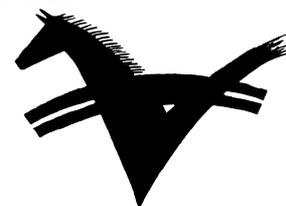


Pony Club Association of Victoria

**ABN 64 320 020 091
73-75 Mackie Rd
Mulgrave. Vic. 3170**



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 9th September 2012

Minutes

Held at the Quality Inn Baton Rouge
1233 Stud Rd, Rowville
Sunday 9th September, 2011 at 10.30am.

1. OPEN ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 10.30am

The President, Jan Faulkner, welcomed those attending the AGM and noted the Life Members present in Kaye Blanchard and John Barlee

2. PRESENT

People Present

John Barlee, Kaye Blanchard, Darrelyn Boucher, Bronwyn Bouchier, Peter Bouchier, Coral Byrne, Philip Cobbledick, Kammy Cordner Hunt, Robyn Coutts, Deirdre Davey, Pam Davey, Jan Dear, Jackie Dixon, Adrian Dowell, Jan Faulkner, Colin Faulkner, Alexia Feore, Graeme Johnstone, Pam Kalms, Vicki Kneeebone, Leonie Lang, Garry Lenne, Clare Lewin, Allan Moore, Peter Muirhead, Sue Muirhead, Rosemary Oram, Jim Page, Linda Smith, Anthea Sutherland, Suanne Waugh, Kate Wilson

Clubs Represented

Bacchus Marsh, Ballarat, Benalla, Berwick, Charlton, Cockatoo, Colac, Deniliquin, Dennington, Doongala, Findon, Gisborne, Kangaroo Ground, Little River, Mansfield, Mentone, Mooroolbark, Nunawading, Numurkah, Oaklands, Tooradin, Wyena,

3. APOLOGIES

Apsley Pony Club, Hamilton Pony Club, Aimee Cuthbert, Wayne Cuthbert, Ruth Feltoe, Jenny O'Sullivan, Rachael Edwards, Adam Kimpton, Jenny Walker, Fiona Matheson, Margaret Page, Barb Stewart, Pat Barlee, Angela King, Clarrie King.

4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES (18 September 2011 Minutes)

Moved: Anthea Sutherland

That the Minutes of the AGM held on September 19th 2011 be taken as circulated and read.

Seconded: John Barlee

Carried

Moved: Robyn Coutts

That the Minutes of the AGM held on September 19th 2011 be accepted as a true and accurate account.

Seconded: Linda Smith

Carried

5. APPOINT A RETURNING OFFICER

The attendees present appointed PCAV Treasurer as Returning Officer and that counting of votes commences.

Moved: Anthea Sutherland

That the PCAV Treasurer Pam Davey be appointed Returning Officer.

Seconded: Linda Smith

Carried

The counting of votes commenced for PCAV President- even years, PCAV Vice President – even years and Southern Metropolitan Zone Representative

Candidates for President – Philip Cobbledick, Kammy Cordner Hunt and Vicki Kneebone
Candidates for Vice President – even years - Coral Byrne and Vicki Kneebone
Southern Metropolitan Zone Representative – John Barlee and Sue Muirhead

Candidates nominated Deirdre Davey, Pam Kalms, Darrelyn Boucher, Allan Moore and Peter Muirhead as scrutineers.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer Pam Davey invited those present to read her report printed in the Annual Report. The 2011 – 2012 year has been one of continuing improvement in business principles and procedures, conservative spending and consolidation of reserves. PCAV is now in the position to reinvest back into the membership via projects identified in the strategic plan.

Moved: Philip Cobbledick

That the Treasurer's Report be accepted

Seconded: Darrelyn Boucher

Carried

7. PRESIDENT'S REPORT AND AWARDS

The President Jan Faulkner invited people to read her report printed in the Annual Report. She then gave a brief summary of some of the significant achievements and new initiatives introduced by State Council since 2000.

- For the first six or so years I attended meetings at PCAV headquarters in Warleigh Grove, Brighton – part of a rather old building, somewhat run down and rapidly proving to be too small for the increasing activities and services required for the members. It was however a wonderful asset for the Association as it was owned outright thanks to the foresight and generosity of previous Councillors.
- There were no computers, the data base was very basic, there was no website, no newsletter, no government funding to speak of, no State training etc, etc, but the office functioned well nevertheless.

To my mind the relocation of the PCAV headquarters from Brighton to Mulgrave has been perhaps the most important achievement during my time. Following the purchase and refit, the new "Irving House" was officially opened in August 2008 and again it is a debt free asset of the Association with space to suit requirements for many years to come.

- The outbreak of Equine Influenza in 2007 had an enormous impact on the horse industry throughout Australia and the future was far from clear for many months. The level of responsibility shown by all those connected with the industry in Victoria was amazing and as a result the State remained EI free and without restrictive Government legislation. The Pony Club community took their commitment seriously and adhered to the strict guidelines recommended by the DPI and 'bio-security' became a common phrase on all competition forms. I was so proud and grateful to everyone for their positive response to this crisis. As a consequence the EADRA (Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement) was signed after much negotiation between Government and the horse industry, including PCA and PCAV, and legislation was finally passed through the Senate in 2011.
- The terrible bushfires of 2009, the floods of 2011 and not forgetting the prolonged drought, took their toll on membership but we were able to offer assistance to all affected members. The office co-ordinated the Bush Fire Relief Funding with funds generously donated by clubs and individuals as well as the State Government. Our focus was on funding, which was used mostly for stock feed, as it would have been impossible to handle distribution of donated goods and equipment.
- Police Checks were introduced followed by the Working With Children card which has become a State Government requirement for all adults who work with children. This is issued on a five year cycle and I note that many cards may be due for renewal

In no particular order, other initiatives include:-

- The Inter Zone Teams Challenge event for Grades 3 & 4 – very popular.

- Uniform additions including polo shirts, vests and jackets in Club and Zone colours.
- Medical armbands and the colour co-ordination with the annual membership card.
- Development of Risk Management policies, implementation and checks. OH & S has become part of our responsibility to our members. A formal grievance procedure has been developed and a Member Protection Officer appointed.
- A MOU has been signed between PCA and EA aimed at developing a closer working relationship – we are the best “grass roots” supply they could ever hope for as evidenced by the selection of an ex PCAV rider in the Showjumping team at the recent Olympic Games. James Patterson-Robinson was a member of Barwon Heads Pony Club for many years. Also Angela Darby was still a member of the Drysdale Leopold PC when she was selected to compete in the Beijing Olympics four years ago, in the Modern Pentathlon – two of the many people we are immensely proud of.
- Sports CONNECT in partnership with RDA is also an important program of the PCAV.
- After much work we have implemented protection of our intellectual property with copyright on all our publications and registration of our unique horse tick logo.
- In the field of training, the introduction of NCAS accreditation for Preliminary and Level 1 coaches has been a major undertaking along with State Training workshops and clinics. The continual revision and updating of all the manuals, rule books and Certificate workbooks is an essential part of the organisation. The Shop is the source for all our resources and is an important service for members.
- Communications have leapt into the 21st.century with websites, email, facebook, twitter, texting, Youtube, ipods and ipads etc. – not forgetting clouds !!! For young people and many oldies these developments have revolutionised communication and as a youth organisation we must learn and embrace these changes. I think that the PCAV magazine “Making a Difference” is our most valuable asset for providing information to all of our members – it is tangible and appealing with quality articles and photos.
- The decline in membership numbers is of a constant concern and not just to PCAV. There are so many more demands and expectations on the time of both children and their parents. To this end we have endeavoured to attract and keep members with less stringent attendance requirements, 24/7 insurance, raising the leaving age to 25 and just this year, giving clubs the option of having adult riding members. Of course our primary focus will always be that we are a youth movement.
- Generous Government funding, primarily through Department of Sport & Recreation and earlier, Vichealth , we have been able to establish and continue these ambitious projects. We are very reliant on this funding and I would like to highlight and acknowledge the work that Clare Lewin, our EO, does in applying for these grants.
- Running a sporting organisation the size of PCAV takes a quite a deal of time and effort on the part of those elected **volunteers** who comprise the State Executive and Council. The Council meets five times a year and the Executive an additional five times usually three weeks prior to the Council meeting. Our aims, plans and goals are set out in the Strategic Plan, based on a three year cycle with amendments made annually. With one full time employee and four part time employees, I think the association is managed and run extremely efficiently on behalf of all the members.
To this end I was amazed and a little disappointed to read an email circulated accusing the movement of “languishing” and inevitably heading toward insolvency.....!!!”
- In doing a little research, I happened to read my first message in the “Making A Difference” magazine as State President in September 2006. - when I said “I was looking forward to the challenges of keeping the movement relevant to the 21st Century whilst maintaining those most important aims and objectives, established by Miss Kaye Irving”.... over 50 years ago.

I am extremely proud of what has been achieved over the past 12 years and I am full of confidence in the future of the Pony Club association of Victoria.

My sincere thanks to, firstly, Clare for her leadership, support and attention to all aspects of the work entailed as Executive Officer. She is assisted by Vicki, Suanne, Kate and Diana and they all contribute above and beyond expectation, with efficiency, good humour and loyalty.

To my fellow Executive members and State Councillors, I can only repeat my most grateful thanks for your support, guidance and friendship over the past years.

To the Chief Instructors, DCI's and ZA's , thank you for your continued contribution to the teaching and development of our riders – you are the backbone of the movement.

Finally to all the members and their families – thank you for making me feel welcome where ever I have been attending an event – my favourite part as President.

And finally again – thank you to Colin, my non- horsey husband for being my greatest support and sounding board !!!!

Thank you all for listening.

Jan Faulkner
PCAV President 2006 - 2012

PCAV Life Membership Award - Vice President Philip Cobbley presented Jan Faulkner with a Life Membership in recognition of her years of service to PCAV. Philip gave a summary of Jan's contribution to PCAV which began at Ballarat Pony Club as a parent followed by Barwon Zone Secretary, PCAV Vice President and finally six years as President.

The award was received with acclamation. Jan thanked PCAV for the huge honour bestowed upon her

8. COACHING DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Coaching Director, Kate Wilson, invited people to read her report printed in the Annual Report.

Kate made mention of the continuing success of the State Training Workshops and encouraged people to travel outside their Zones to attend these days as they offered a great opportunity to gain new skills and networking opportunities. NCAS Accreditation has slowed now that the initial funding has finished and the scheme has become user pay. Assessments are being carried out at Zone level rather than club by club. Interested coaches are invited to contact their Zone or the PCAV State Office.

PCAV has facilitated two training workshops the biannual DCI/ZA workshop, the second the Pony Club Australia National Coaching Conference. Both workshops had training sessions run by Vicsport presenters, based around mentoring and facilitation. PCAV looks forward to continuing the partnership with Vicsport and developing more training opportunities.

Racing Victoria Ltd through Lisa Coffey has begun a new partnership with PCAV which includes the reintroduction of the Speed to Safety program. There have been Zone training sessions at racetracks across the state as well as some learn to track ride sessions at clubs. Riders attending the qualifying days had the opportunity to book a place in the final at Moonee Valley on August 25th.

Kate thanked the Chief Instructor's Panel, Council and office staff for their advice, support and assistance in her first year as Coaching Director.

She also thanked the State level Presenters and Assessors for the work they do around the State.

9. EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Executive Officer Clare Lewin invited people to read her report printed in the Annual Report. Clare explained that the year had been another busy one with the hosting of the Equestrianlife Pony Club Australia National

Championships. In effect hosting an event of this magnitude had taken a year in preparation and finalisation which meant that some projects are yet to be completed or have been delayed.

The State Council initiatives in introducing new membership categories have added a new complexity to the annual membership renewal process which will be further refined next year.

Eleven Clubs have indicated they will adopt the Adult Riding membership category and to date there are 22 Adult Riding members. Interestingly despite an increase in the fees with the introduction of the 24/7 personal accident insurance there has been a 1.45% drop in membership at September 1st compared to a 4.9% drop for the same period in the previous membership year.

PCAV received \$40,000 in funding from the Sport and Recreation Victoria which has enabled continued support of training of coaches and volunteers and allowed us to produce the MAD magazine. A further \$5,000 was received under the Significant Sporting Events program for the hosting of the National Championships.

Clare thanked the staff in the office for their hard work and dedication. State Council, CIP, sub committees and volunteers for their commitment to Pony Club in Victoria.

Moved: Kaye Blanchard

That the President's, Coaching Director's and Executive Officer's reports be accepted.

Seconded: Darrelyn Boucher

Carried

10. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

a. President

Nominations received by due date;

- Philip Cobbledick
- Kammy Cornder Hunt
- Vicki Kneebone

b. Vice President – even years

Nominations received by due date;

- Coral Byrne
- Vicki Kneebone

11. ELECTION OF ZONE REPRESENTATIVES

a. Nominations received by due date

- | | | |
|-------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| i. | Barwon Zone | – Deirdre Davey |
| ii. | Central Zone | – Leonie Lang |
| iii. | East Gippsland Zone | – Mathew Gault |
| iv. | Midland Zone | – Kaye Blanchard |
| v. | North Eastern Zone | – Adrian Dowell |
| vi. | Northern Zone | – Rosemary Oram |
| vii. | North Metropolitan Zone | – Linda Smith |
| viii. | South Metropolitan Zone | – John Barlee
Sue Muirhead |
| ix. | Wannon Zone | – Anthea Sutherland |
| x. | West Gippsland Zone | – Darrelyn Boucher |

As there were three nominations for President, two for Vice President and two nominations received for Southern Metropolitan East Zone the positions were declared vacant and an election was held by mail prior to the meeting. The postal and hand delivered votes were tallied by the Returning officer and the following candidates were elected.

President – Kammy Cordner Hunt

On the announcement of the position of President Vice, President candidate Coral Byrne withdrew her nomination

Vice President – Vicki Kneebone

Southern Metropolitan Zone Representative – Sue Muirhead.

Jan Faulkner congratulated the newly elected State President Kammy Cordner Hunt and presented her badge

CLOSE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 11.45am

12. OPEN CONFERENCE

Jan Faulkner opened the conference and gave an overview of the afternoon stating how it is really positive to have input and feedback.

Item 1- Julie Pitts – Mentone Pony Club

Appropriateness of the title “Pony Club Association of Victoria”

A Letter received suggesting that Pony Club denotes small riders on ponies and is not appropriate and can cause embarrassment for older riders.

Comments from the floor

- Could be called Pony & Horse Club
- Those that were committed to ride at PC did not care what it was called
- Hold a competition to rename the organisation
- Pony Club is a word wide “brand”, the biggest association of riders in the world
- Originated in the UK when riders under 16 rode ponies
- When selling raffle tickets and trying to get sponsorship often more successful if for young riders

Item 2 – Sue Muirhead – Mentone Pony Club

That consideration be given to recognizing riders who achieve 20 or more continuous years of membership to PCAV.

- Individual clubs already recognise service within the club – Berwick PC recognises 5,19 and 15 years
- Would need to consider attendance at rallies as part of the award
- A strict criteria would need to be developed

Questions from the floor

National Championships 2013

- to be held in WA at the State Equestrian Centre at Brigadoon
- NMG riders would be taking their own horses
- Council plan to have selectors and coaches named in November and long listed riders by March 2013. This will allow riders to fund raise and plan. Rider squads would also take place in the lead up with the coaches who will travel with the Teams
- More information on travel and costs would be made available at the November PCA meeting
- Riders will need to be made aware of the importance of preparing their horses for long range travel. Information will be made available

13. GUEST SPEAKERS

Lisa Coffey – Workforce Development Officer Racing Victoria Ltd

Lisa spoke about the success of the revitalised Speed to Safety partnership between PCAV and RVL.

The collaboration between RVL and Moonee Valley Racecourse was very well received and they are keen to make it part of the same race meeting on an on-going basis. It was interesting to note that other than one race held by the Arabian horse society Pony Club riders are the only non-thoroughbred group that has been allowed to use the track.

She also talked about the opportunities that exist within the racing industry for employment. These ranged from track riding through to lawyers at RVL.

Kammy Cordner Hunt – Chief Instructor North Eastern Zone

Kammy spoke about how she worked with the NEZ DCI/ZA panel and encouraged riders in the Zone to undertake Efficiency Certificate Assessments beyond the C Certificate. The Zone had not had any higher Certificate riders in 20 years. The journey was not always easy and sometimes the outcome had impact on the riders and their achievements outside Pony Club. Kammy also presented a paper on assessing candidates for their certificates which will form the basis of on-going discussion at the CIP

14. CLOSE CONFERENCE 2.00pm

Jan Faulkner closed the conference and thanked everyone for coming and wished them all an enjoyable year in pony club.