

**Mylor Valley
Pony Club
Information Book
2008-2009**



*Stirling Equestrian Park
Cnr Strathalbyn & Hooper Roads
MYLOR*

MYLOR VALLEY PONY CLUB

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To encourage young people to ride and learn to enjoy all kinds of sport connected with horses and riding.
- To provide instruction in riding and horsemanship, and to educate members in the proper care of their animals.
- To promote the highest ideals of sportsmanship, citizenship and loyalty, thereby cultivating strength of character and self-discipline.

CLUB UNIFORM

Helmets conforming to ASNZS3838.1999. Must be worn at ALL TIMES

Top Boots or Short Riding Boots.

Fawn Jodhpurs.

Green Saddle Blanket with Gold Binding + M.V.P.C emblem.

Official Uniform

Yellow "V" Neck Jumper with green stripe.

Green Tie

Yellow Shirt

If gaiters are worn they must be leather

Rally Uniform

Yellow Polo Shirt - Embroidered with "Mylor Valley Pony Club"

Green Windcheater - Embroidered with "Mylor Valley Pony Club"

Eventing

Cross Country Top - Green & Gold stripe rugby top

New and second-hand uniforms are available from the Club **Uniform Co-coordinator** at most rallies.

NB *Official Uniform must be worn at all Pony Club events. Either uniform can be worn at home rallies*

GENERAL ORGANIZATION OF THE CLUB

MEMBERSHIP

Members: A rider who is under the age of 17

Associate: A rider of the age of 17 or over and under the age of 21 years

Senior Member: A rider of the age of 21 years or over and under the age of 26 years

Adult Riding Member: A rider 26 years or older who will be a non-competitive member and who cannot take part in any official Pony Club competition other than one set down for this age.

Prospective Members - should attend one unmounted rally before applying for membership. For insurance reasons membership MUST be paid before riding at the first rally.

RALLIES

Rallies are held on the first and third Saturday of each month.

Sessions for adult riders are arranged as often as possible, subject to rider interest.

Riders are expected to be mounted and ready for gear checks at 12:30pm so that the instruction can begin at 1:00pm.

Rallies normally consist of two instruction sessions with a 15 minute break (afternoon tea) between each. Riders are divided into groups according to ability, and instruction is given on flat work, cross-country, show jumping, dressage and games. We also have a beginners group if required, to give new riders basic instruction.

Parents (or responsible adult) are expected to stay with children for the duration of the rally. Younger children especially, will need help with horses/ ponies before and in between instruction sessions.

Rallies normally conclude at 4:00 - 4:30pm

Instruction is given by the Club's accredited Pony Club instructors and Guest Instructors for special disciplines. All riders are encouraged to work towards Achievement Badges and Efficiency Certificates.

GEAR CHECKS

At the beginning of each rally, all riders and their mounts are inspected for safety, cleanliness and compliance with Pony Club correct gear.

An approved hard hat must be worn. If an approved hat is not available the rider will not be able to ride on that day, but they are welcome to stay and watch.

ATTENDANCE CARDS

Each horse and rider combination is issued with an attendance card, which must be presented at rallies so four qualifications can be recorded. (In order to compete in any Pony Club competition a horse and rider combination must have attended at least four rallies in a 12 month period.) Gradings are also entered on this card.

An attendance register is available in the club room to record attendances. **Please make sure you enter your name and your horse's name at the beginning of each rally** so Attendance Cards can be accurately updated. For more information talk to the secretary.

PARENTS / VISITORS

Everyone coming onto Pony Club grounds must have their names written in the attendance register for insurance purposes. This includes ALL visitors, parents, brothers, sisters, grandparents, friends' etc.

CLUB TROPHIES

The M.V.P.C. Turn-Out Trophy is awarded to the colour group that has scored the most points during the year at gear check.

The Jo Edwards Turn-Out Trophy is awarded the rider who is consistently well presented at rallies (a point system applied to each rally attended is used to calculate this)

Most Improved Rider Trophies are awarded to a rider from the junior, intermediate and senior sections.

Encourage Trophies are awarded to a rider from the junior, intermediate and senior section.

The Nancy Gower Perpetual Trophy is awarded by Mrs. Gower to the best conditioned Pony or Horse.

The Bronte Edwards Shield is awarded for service to the Club

The Jarrett Trophy is awarded to the rider who represents the Club the most in Pony Club competitions

The Dominique Evele Trophy is awarded to a riding member in recognition of their commitment to the Club

Efficiency Certificates

- D** Recommended minimum age of candidate - 8 years
- D Star** Recommended minimum age of candidate - 10 years
Pre - requisite - D certificate
- C** Recommended minimum age of candidate - 12 years
Pre - requisite - D certificate
- C Star** Recommended minimum age of candidate - 13 years
Pre - requisite - C & D certificates
- K** Recommended minimum age of candidate - 14 years
Pre - requisite - C & D certificates
- B** Recommended minimum age of candidate - 16 years
Pre - requisite - D & C certificates.
Although the K certificate is not a pre - requisite for the B certificate, the CIP strongly recommends that all riders complete K before B. The B certificate is a pre – requisite for selection for the Inter - Pacific Exchange.
- A** Recommended minimum age of 17 years Pre - requisite - D, C & B certificates.
The highest award of the Pony Club and provides a comprehensive examination in Horsemanship and Horse mastership for well trained and experienced riders.
- H** Recommended minimum age of candidate - 17 years
No Pre - requisite for certificates.
This test is intended to afford keen Associate and Senior Members a worthwhile certificate for efficiency in horse management.

ACHIEVEMENT BADGES

As well as Efficiency certificates the Pony Club Association of South Australia has introduced "Achievement Badges". These are awarded at club level and are aimed at filling in the gap that exists in the years between D & C certificates, and C & K certificates. Achievement Badges are available for Service to Clubs, Hunting, Polocrosse, Vaulting, Care of Saddlery, Grooming, Bareback Riding, Musical Ride, Orienteering, Prelim Riding, Tent Pegging, Camp Drafting, Clipping, First Aid, Show Grooming, Team Ride, Trial Riding and a 40km Distance Ride.

Both Efficiency and Achievement Badges are to be sewn onto the official yellow M.V.P.C. jumper.

PONY CLUB ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA (P.C.A.S.A.) AND THE SOUTHERN ZONE

Each Pony Club in the State is required to operate under the guidelines and principles set down by the Pony Club Association of South Australia. The State is divided into Zones, and each club within a specific zone has a delegate that represents their club at Zone Committee. Mylor Valley is part of the Southern Zone. The Southern Zone owns Monarto Equestrian Centre which is used for Pony Club Zone Camps, Zone events, State Competition and individual club activities.

HANDBOOK OF ZONE EVENTS

Each year the P.C.A.S.A. Southern Zone puts out a Handbook of events. Each member of MVPC is encouraged to purchase a Handbook.

The Handbook contains important information about Zone events including camps, instructors' schools and meetings.

It also contains details on how to enter events, some can be entered independently and some need to be entered through our Club Events Secretary.

You will also find a list of useful phone numbers of other club secretaries and their events.

General information about how the Zone operates makes informative reading and you will find that you will be referring to your Handbook again and again during the course of your stay with Pony Club.

The Club **Events Secretary** can answer any of your questions regarding entering events.



Georgina Kamm on Just a Rumour
MVPC Show Jumping Day 2008

MYLOR VALLEY PONY CLUB'S **COMMITMENT TO MONARTO EQUESTRIAN CENTRE**

Monarto belongs to each member of the P.C.A.S.A. Southern Zone and to all future generations of our riders.

It is essential to maintain and improve the Centre to preserve it for the future as well as keep it in top condition for today's riders to enjoy.

Take time to consider the Centre for its worth to you and your family, and more importantly to future generations of horse riders.

The Zone Committee is committed to upkeep and improve our Centre, and they need our help to do it.

All Pony Clubs in The Southern Zone - and that includes Mylor Valley - are committed to a set number of working bee hours, i.e. four hours per registered member, that's four hours for every member of our club.

It is our responsibility to ensure that we meet this commitment to Monarto. Every working bee hour that is allocated to Mylor Valley is levied against our Club and we are presented with an account. Members who attend working bees at Monarto are working off the amount that Mylor Valley owes, and we can reduce this amount by donation of specified equipment, or pay by the \$ value.

All families are asked to make a commitment to spend at least four hours at club organized working bees at Monarto, or pay the levy \$ value. The choice is yours. Talk to anyone on the committee for more information.



Gawler River ODE 2008 – Sarah Ashcroft on Amazon Delta

PARENT INVOLVEMENT AT THE MYLOR VALLEY PONY CLUB

The Pony Club movements very existence depends on the close involvement of parents in many areas, and this includes Mylor Valley. Help is needed right through the club from administration and involvement at Committee level to helping out with afternoon teas and ground maintenance.

Parents, like new riders at Pony Club can sometimes feel daunted by all the activity, to the point that a small group of dedicated adults can invariably carry the greater part of the heavy workload. We don't let this happen at Mylor Valley. All new members are welcomed into the Club and parents are encouraged to stay for the duration of the rally to watch and encourage their children and help out with any small duties that keep the Club running smoothly.

Like other youth organisations the aims of Pony Club go beyond riding and horsemanship and the sphere of influence extends into the wider community. So, far from being a drain on your time your involvement at Pony Club is a shared experience with your child.

Non-horsey parents may feel that without equestrian skills they are of limited use to the Pony Club. In fact nothing could be further from the truth. There is lunch and afternoon tea to be prepared and served, newsletters to be typed, equipment to be maintained and positioned, grounds to be prepared and maintained and many administrative duties to be performed.

Professional people with specific skills are always in demand, so please let the club know if you are an accountant, carpenter, cook or whatever.

For those parents with some knowledge of horses, rally days will be when you are most in demand, helping to organise activities, supervising, instructing.....the list goes on.

Over time you may decide you may wish to increase your level of involvement and join the ranks of the Pony Club's Instructors. If you feel this is an area that you may wish to contribute, talk to the Chief Instructor and they will be more than happy to point you in the right direction and share the teaching load.

The instructors are of course the most noticeable adults at Pony Club. Unpaid for their work, they are generally highly skilled yet receive precious little thanks for the many hours they spend not only teaching at rally days but preparing for classes, organising groups and providing help to gain Certificates and Achievement badges.

Parents of course should take an active interest in what their children are taught and the manner in which instruction is given. If you believe there is a problem with instruction, then there are steps that should be followed if you wish to make your feelings known. It is inappropriate for a parent to interrupt a lesson. Rather you should wait until it has concluded and the instructor is free to discuss the matter with you. If you are talking to the instructor and you are still not satisfied the Chief Instructor or a member of the Executive should be consulted.

The bottom line is, the more you can become positively involved in your child's Pony Club and the greater the commitment you can make to Mylor Valley and the Zone, the better chance of your child's experience at Pony Club being maximized.

SPECIAL EVENTS AT MYLOR VALLEY PONY CLUB

Apart from the regular rallies twice a month, Mylor Valley also has special Guest Instructors who visit often. Special instruction may include areas such as dressage, show jumping and X - country, or preparation for showing. More diverse interests may also be explored such as endurance riding and tent pegging. Information style sessions are also a feature and topics could include care of horses feet, horse and pony nutrition and a visit from a horse dentist.

Mylor Valley also runs an unofficial Grade 5 Encourage ODE each year. This is a very popular event both with children and adults alike and is an ideal introduction to one-day-eventing in a non-threatening atmosphere.

An Official Show jumping Competition is held at the Mylor Community Oval. This is a great day held usually at the beginning of the year.

The annual Christmas Party and Break-up incorporates the end of year Mylor Valley Gymkhana. This is a fun day for all members and may even include a visit from Father Christmas. Gymkhana events with ribbons for everyone and a special event for parents make this day lots of fun.

Other special activities that may be included in the rally program are a ride in the forests (possibility of gaining Trail Riding Achievement Badge), rally at Monarto (incorporating Monarto working bee), Pony Club camps and other special events.



Roskhill ODE 2008 - Ebony Ackland on Solar Eclipse

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Approved Helmet (**ASNZS3838.1999**) (*see club uniform information*) must be worn while riding.

Suitable riding boots must be worn - smooth soled elastic sided short boot, or top boots.

Horses must be tied up using halters, and the lead rope is not to be attached to the rail without binder twine.

A warm up area will be designated by the instructor. This is the only area to be used for this purpose, under the supervision of an instructor.

A horse 3 years of age or under is not to ridden on the Pony club grounds.

No responsibility will be taken by the Club for injuries to the horse or rider. Any fall or injury must be recorded in the incident report book.

No stallions are permitted on the Club grounds.

No littering. No offensive language

Riders must inform instructor if changes in mount are made, or a rider wishes to leave the grounds early.

A red ribbon must be worn on the tail of a horse that is prone to kicking

The committee has the right to decide on participation of any member if deemed necessary.

Tie up areas must be clean before leaving the grounds.

You must walk your horse around the grounds unless instructed to do otherwise by the instructor.

It is good manners to thank the instructor, particularly if he/ she are visiting.

Horses are not permitted in spectator area in front of clubrooms.

You must help tidy and put equipment away before and after each rally.

You must inform the instructor if you plan to bring a riding visitor to a rally.

The Chief Instructors decision is final and must be respected and supported at all times.

Offensive or disrespectful behaviour will result in expulsion from the group and a request to leave to grounds.

MYLOR VALLEY PONY CLUB

ALL MEMBERS COMMITMENTS

We ask that your membership of Mylor Valley Pony Club includes a commitment undertaken by each family to complete the duties as listed below, or pay the additional Roster Commitment Levies in lieu of hours to be worked.

Lunch and Afternoon Tea Roster

To attend two rallies per year and supply and serve lunch and or afternoon tea to the members and assist the Canteen Coordinator as directed. (You will be required to supply lunch and or a cake, biscuits, or other food suitable for afternoon tea).

Club Working Bee

To attend at least four hours over one or two programmed Club Working Bees per year under the direction of the Grounds Coordinator.

Monarto Working Bee

To attend at least four hours at the annual Mylor Valley Working Bee at Monarto, under the direction of the Grounds Coordinator and Monarto Management Committee.

Each family will be supplied with a copy of the above rosters. Roster days may be swapped with other families, but the originally rostered family will be charged with the levy if the roster commitment is not met.



**Meredith Taylor on Ace Mc Cool
MVPC SJ Day 2008**

MYLOR VALLEY PONY CLUB
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES 2008 - 2009

Riding Member

(Under the age of 26 years)

\$180

Sub-Junior Member

(Under the age of 8)

\$165

Second & Subsequent Child

A \$15 reduction in the applicable subscription

Adult Riding Member

(over age of 26)

\$50

Half Yearly Fees for New Membership

(Commencing after 1st January 2008)

Riding Member \$100

Sub-Junior Member \$85

Second & Subsequent Child \$15 reduction in the applicable subscription

Adult Riding \$30

Monarto Working Bee Levy.

\$20

PLEASE NOTE - IMPORTANT

If you are unable to meet the required commitments as out lined under All **Members Commitments** you will be invoiced for the appropriate levy.

- Lunch/ Afternoon Tea Roster Levy \$20.00
- Club Working Bee Levy \$20.00

Any queries please see the Treasurer

email enquiries@mvpc.com.au