

Hurstbridge & District Adult Riding Club

President's Report

Hello Everyone,

Keep hanging in there! You have all been doing a super job of stopping the spread of this devastating virus. I know that it has been an extremely stressful year, one that we could never have imagined ourselves to be in. Although rallies and events will be some time away, hopefully there will be some good news on the horizon soon with regard to at least being able to use our grounds once again for private training at least.

Whilst everything at club has come to a standstill, our Committee have been meeting face to face (when we were allowed) and via zoom of late. Two Committee members in particular have been busy applying for various government grants that have been on offer. Liane Hensell has been successful with her efforts in applying for the Community Sport COVID-19 Short-Term Survival Program Grant of \$1,500 and Sarah Ross recently put together a submission for the Community Shade Grants Program. We await the outcome of that grant and we are grateful to both these ladies for their efforts.

As with all of our other events that were planned for this year and cancelled, so too is our Dressage Jackpot which was to be held on 11 th October. We look forward to hopefully running our usual events next year.

Committee have created a new policy – HDARC “Riding at Club Grounds Policy”. You will find it attached to this newsletter. This Policy outlines strategies/ procedures to minimise risk and to keep our members safe whilst riding at our club grounds. Please familiarise yourself with this new policy.

I am sure you will recall that The Equine in Nillumbik Plan was adopted by Council on Tuesday, 23 rd June, 2020. In order to begin to address the Actions in the Equine in Nillumbik Plan a Working Group is needed to be formed. Nothing will come to fruition from the plan without a concerted effort from local clubs.



In this Issue:

NEW “RIDING AT CLUB GROUNDS” POLICY

An overview of the new policy around safe use of club grounds. Please read and familiarise yourself with its contents.

MEET YOUR COMMITTEE!

Get to know some of the members of your committee. Last you heard from Sheridan, this month we talk to Liane Hensell

A MESSAGE FROM OUR SPONSORS

In these trying times, ongoing support from local businesses is invaluable. Make sure you show them your support in return!



Is there a member who would like to represent our club and become involved in this working group? Please let me know if you are able to be that person.

As you know the HRC AV financial year runs from 1st November to 31st October. Our club's membership renewal process will once again be managed by Event Secretary. Early in October you will receive a personalised email directly from Event Secretary to renew your club membership. Please refer to the email sent out on 23 rd September, 2020 re HDARC Membership Renewal 2020/21 for details. If you have any queries with the online membership renewal, please contact our Secretary, Sharlene who will be happy to assist.

Please be aware that current membership and insurance expires on **31st October, 2020**, so to ensure that you retain your membership and insurance, fees **must be paid prior to this date**.

Our Annual General Meeting is to be held on Wednesday, 11th November, 2020 at 7.30 pm. Please mark this date in your diary. Due to the current COVID-19 restrictions on group

gatherings, it is necessary that our AGM is held electronically via Zoom this year.

In light of the lack of club activity this year due to COVID-19, there will be no presentation made of the Julie Garrett Memorial Award. We look forward to members being able to participate in club activities again next year at which time I am sure a suitable recipient will be nominated by their peers.

Based on the current COVID-19 Roadmap for Victoria, we are hopeful that "gathering rules" will be eased from 23 rd November, 2020. Let's keep our fingers crossed that we might be able to catch up in December.

Until then, stay safe and keep well.

Take care,

Mel Dawson





HURSTBRIDGE & DISTRICT ADULT RIDING CLUB (HDARC) RIDING AT CLUB GROUNDS POLICY

Hurstbridge & District Adult Riding Club (HDARC) want to keep all of its members as safe as possible when riding at our grounds both at rallies and whilst privately training.

All forms of equestrian activity involve some level of risk. Riding whilst there is nobody else at the grounds escalates this risk. If you were to come off your horse, there would be no-one there to help or to get help for you.

HRCVA and its insurers highly recommend that members refrain from riding alone.

HDARC Committee **do not advise riding alone at our club grounds. It's always safest to ride with someone else**, so ideally we would prefer that (as a minimum) **members ride as a pair**, so that you can look after each other if something goes wrong. If riding with somebody else cannot be achieved, and you choose to ride alone, it is your responsibility to ensure your safety by alerting someone that you are riding alone. **Always carry your phone on your person (best in silent mode) and make sure it is fully charged!**

Call/text a member of your family or a friend or club member who lives nearby and let them know that you are at the club grounds alone and planning to ride. Advise the time that you intend to start your ride and the time that you expect to finish. Call/text that person once you have finished your ride to let them know that you are safe.

Thanks to technology, there are other options available to assist your safety. Below are a few suggestions:

- **The Apple Watch Series 4** and higher has a fall detection feature that can summon help in an emergency. If the watch detects that you've fallen, it will display an alert, set off an alarm, and even tap you on the wrist. If you don't dismiss the alert, or the watch detects that you haven't been moving for a minute, it will automatically call emergency services and alert them to your location.
- **Equilab Equestrian Tracker** – has a GPS feature, it gives people you choose access to your GPS location as you ride in real time, alerts the person when you start and finish your ride and makes sure that you and your phone are moving.
- **Fall Safety Apps** – eg. **Horse Rider SOS**. If you fall off and stop moving the app will send a notification with your location to your designated emergency contact.

Always wear your approved helmet and safe riding boots.

HRCVA General Rule 9.2 now reads:

Insurance cover is voided if an accident occurs whilst mounted and the rider is not wearing an approved equestrian helmet with a fixed harness. Approved equestrian helmets must comply with the following standards: AS/NZS 3838 (AU), ASTM F 1163 (USA), PAS 015 (UK) and VG1 (Europe). The EN 1384 (Europe) standard is only acceptable for helmets which were manufactured prior to 2016.

Members are reminded that helmets should be replaced following a fall and that the generally accepted usable life of most helmets is 5 years. Please check the label in your helmet to ensure that it complies with the new rules.

Carry identification on your person – wear a medical armband.

When riding, the best place to stow your mobile phone is in a leg pocket (just for phones) in your jodphurs or in a pocket of a vest or jacket.

Finally - **Don't Push Your Limits** while you are riding alone. It is not a great idea to school over super high fences. Save these rides for the days when there are other people around. Make wise choices!

Stay safe and have fun!

HDARC Committee

March 2020

Rally Days

Rallies are typically run on the first and third Saturday of every month, and every Wednesday during school term

Payment

We have a 'pay as you ride' system. Regular rally lessons are \$25 each. Members must pay for their lessons in advance or on the day of their lesson via EFT. Please kindly reference the payment with the date of the rally and a surname so that it is clear to our treasurer what the payment is for. Example: 28/02 – Smith

Our banking details are:

Account name: Hurstbridge & District Adult Riding,

BSB: 633 000

Account No: 112 585 229

Riders who book in but don't show, are still asked to pay, unless that rider finds a substitute. Riders owing money for previous lessons are unable to book in to ride until paid up.

Guests

Only non-member riders who are insured with HRCav may apply to ride at clinics and rallies, for an additional guest fee of \$10 on top of the lesson fee, and a disclaimer must be signed. However, spectators are most welcome.

Groups

Dressage groups usually keep to a maximum of 4 riders. For safety reasons, jumping groups also have a maximum 4 riders. Thereafter riders are split into 2 groups or have private lessons.

For safety, jump lessons riders are matched by level not by time they wish to ride. Also for safety, riders late for jumping sessions may be declined to join the lesson.

On Wednesdays, groups are typically broken up as follows: Group 1 at 10.00am, Group 2 at 11.00am, Group 3 only if needed

On Saturdays, lessons start 10:30am onwards in Winter, and in Summer months they may start as early as 9am, depending on weather.

Booking

Riders of all abilities can book in for any rally, and we try to group by level and experience. Bookings should be made through Melissa Dawson for Wednesdays at melissadawson1961@gmail.com or Lisa Utting on lisauathome@gmail.com for Saturdays. **Bookings should be made no later than 8:30pm of the Sunday prior.** Riders without a booking may be declined a

Latest News & Updates!

- Memberships are due to expire on October 31. Make sure you have renewed your membership with Event Secretary prior to this date!
- We will keep you posted on any updates surrounding club ground use and rally days, but currently the club grounds are closed and all rally days cancelled
- The AGM is to be held on November 11 at 7:30pm via Zoom. All members are welcomed, and encouraged to join.
- There is a new "Riding At Club Grounds" policy, please familiarise yourself with it



HOW TRUE EQUESTRIANS PROTECT



What you thought 2020 would be like

MEET YOUR COMMITTEE!

INTRODUCING:

LIANE HENSELL



How did you first get into horses?

Age 7

Tell us a bit about your first horse:

His name was Turkeyman a little welsh x rig that used to mount the mares when we went to pony club and I nor anyone else COULD NOT STOP HIM was a bit of a problem!

Does anyone else in your family ride?

My sister

What's the longest spell you've gone without riding?

1 year

What has been your most terrifying horse riding experience?

Every time I get on Tana?

What are your horsey goals for the year?

Stay on

What are some things that you and your horse/s are currently working on?

Manners

If you could give younger you some advice, horse related or not, what would it be?

You're never going to be this young again, and I say that to my current self too

When did you join the committee?

4 years ago

Where did you grow up?

New Zealand

What's your occupation?

Own business www.organicorigins.com.au

How long have you been a member at HDARC?

10 years

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That's it for the month!

If you would like to have something raised or featured in the next newsletter, please email Shekiah Inglis at shkinglis@gmail.com

Hurstbridge & District ARC would like to acknowledge and thank the following businesses for their valuable support towards our events:

