



# Central Scenes

## Central Zone Newsletter

August 2025

This year has again been cold and wet. Nevertheless, winter is nearly over and in Central Zone, clubs have managed to keep the events going, despite the conditions. We have had Gisborne's tetrathlon, Riddell Creek's eventing clinic and dressage day, the final RTT at Kilmore, President's Cup show jumping at Gisborne, Whittlesea and Bullengarook and Heathcote's Winter Woollies. .

At the end of June, the **PCV Games, Flat and Musical Ride Championships** were held at Bacchus Marsh. Not in our zone but a convenient neighbour.

On Saturday June 21, Central Zone was represented in the **PCV Games Champs** by 6 teams, *Woodlands Jets*, *Woodlands Warriors*, *Composite Riddells Creek/Bullengarook Teal*, *Ham & Eggs*, *Macedon* and *Composite Riddells Creek/Kilmore Riddellmore*.



The Woodlands Jets placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in a very close finish behind a crack NMZ composite team.





Woodlands Warriors placed 6<sup>th</sup> on a count back.



The composite Riddells Creek teams competed with spirit and enthusiasm.

**PCV Flat Teams and Musical Ride Champs. Sun June 22.**



For the Flat Team of Four, our Macedon CZ Champion team (for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row), comprised of Clara Greenwood, Phillipa Rushford, Olivia Logan and Bridget Zaltzev, placed second. Olivia generously stepped into the team when the 4<sup>th</sup> rider was injured in the games. Olivia and Phillipa also placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Pairs competition.



Central Zone was also represented by three teams from Riddells Creek: Miranda Byrne and Darcy Christian, Jaxon Christian and Cooper Owen and Eva Potesta and Chloe Quay.

For the Musical Ride, Central Zone was represented by teams from:



Woodlands, riding to the music from Beauty and the Beast. They placed 2<sup>nd</sup>.



Gisborne Footy Fever team. In true finals style, they broke through a banner at the start. They placed 4<sup>th</sup>.



Gisborne Teddy Bears who rode to their picnic with Mama Bear (coach Katrina McDougall) anxiously watching. The youngest team on the day.

### Central Zone Gymkhana (Lowden Family Shield)

Originally scheduled to be held at Whittlesea on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, after the very wet day at their show jumping the week before, the grounds were still too muddy, so the event was transferred to Lancefield at very short notice. Many thanks to the Lancefield committee for rising to the occasion to set up the grounds and provide a super canteen in short order. The early volunteer help on the day was also much appreciated.

The CZ executive (reduced to three) are congratulated for managing a successful event. Katrina, Maddie and Lisa ran around all day anticipating problems and ensuring that all was in order for the presentations at the end of the day. Thank you to Ami Munro for stepping up at short notice when a judge didn't arrive.

Before the presentations, the riders paraded in **fancy dress**. It was a very difficult task for the judges. Those that caught the judges' eye were Woody from Toy story, the Sesame St crew, the devil, the many minions (the entire Macedon club), Dorothy and the good witch from the Wizard of Oz and the superheroes, but there were many other creative and colourful efforts.





The games ribbons were presented first, while the showing scores were being tallied. To keep the classes small, there were 12 age groups. When the show rings finished, many of the riders had fun testing their skills at bending, leading and picking up Mugs and flags. Thanks to Sam Ferrari for organising and supervising the lanes, then giving out the ribbons. A lot of photos of happy riders, but they are all to be congratulated.





**Showing results.** Ribbons for the winners and placegetters in each class were presented in the ring. At the end of the day, points were collated for each club. There are two club shields. The **Russell Manton Shield** was awarded to host club Lancefield.



Large clubs have a significant numerical advantage so this shield is for smaller clubs. All of Lancefield's riding members attended. Maddie Manton talked about her father's enthusiasm for engaging young riders and his contributions to pony club when she presented the shield.

The **Lowden Family Shield** has been a tradition in Central Zone for many years. It evolved from the CZ Gymkhana when the Lowden brothers of Kilmore sponsored it for showing in the 1960's. Over years it has undergone various iterations, with handymount, games and then show jumping being included in the spirit of a traditional gymkhana. For the last 2 years, just showing results have been tallied, with games and jumping (when there is room at the venue) being offered as optional extras.



Gisborne were excited and proud to win for the third year in a row.

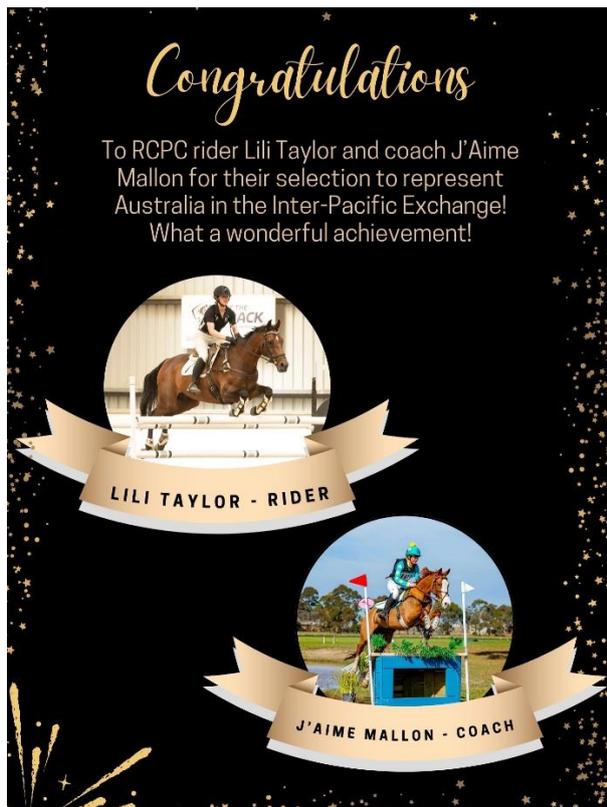


Woodlands placed second and Riddells Creek were third.



The A.V.Penna trophy was resurrected from the CZ archives in 2016, to be presented to the showing high point winner on the day.

This year it was closely contested and was presented to Amelia McDougall who was only 1 point ahead of Lilly Goodisson. Last year, Amelia and Alice Summers had equal points. Lilly received the top score in 2023. Amelia, Alice and Lilly are all from Gisborne.



Article via PCA newsletter:



**Meet the 2025 Inter-Pacific Exchange Team!**

The Inter-Pacific Exchange (IPE) is returning in 2025, bringing together top young riders from Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and the USA for a once-in-a-lifetime experience of international friendship, cultural exchange, and elite horsemanship.

We are proud to announce the Australian team who will represent our country on home soil:

**Riders**

- Matilda Seppelt – Londonderry Pony Club, NSW
- Britney Cooper – Leven Pony Club, TAS
- Caitlin Pritchard – King River Pony Club, WA
- Lili Taylor – Riddells Creek Pony Club, VIC
- Jade Binns (Reserve) – Lilydale Pony Club, TAS

**Coach:** J'Aime Mallon (VIC)  
**Team Manager:** Janet Hamblin (NSW)

This year's event will take place from 21 September – 5 October 2025 in Little River, Victoria, featuring a refreshed format that celebrates teamwork, emotional intelligence, and ethical horsemanship. Riders will be partnered with Off-the-Track Thoroughbreds for a two-week program culminating in the 6-Bar Challenge (1 Oct) and Nations Cup Tournament (3 Oct).

We can't wait to cheer on Team Australia as they represent Pony Club on the world stage!

## Other International travellers



Congratulations Woodlands Pony Club members Harry & Seren on your success on the world stage in Belgium 🇧🇪 Coached by Vic state games coach & Riddells Creek Pony Club past president Warwick Slade, the pair teamed up with riders from across Australia to form an under 18 mounted games team.

Although not a pony club competition, the riders all actively participate in pony club rallies and ride in the Kay Irving and Prince Philip games competitions each year. Zone rep Jo was there to wave the CZ banner whilst supporting our riders.



Pony Club Australia announced that the team who will represent Australia at the 2025 PCIA International Mounted Games Exchange in the UK this July will be coached by Dan Foster, with our own zone president, Niree Weybury as manager. Dan & Niree were honoured to present the rosettes to Woodland Pony Club mounted games team at the JCD Pony Club Championships in the

UK. The riders were excited to hear about Woodlands Pony Club in Australia. There are 28 teams of riders 11 years & under - what a competition.

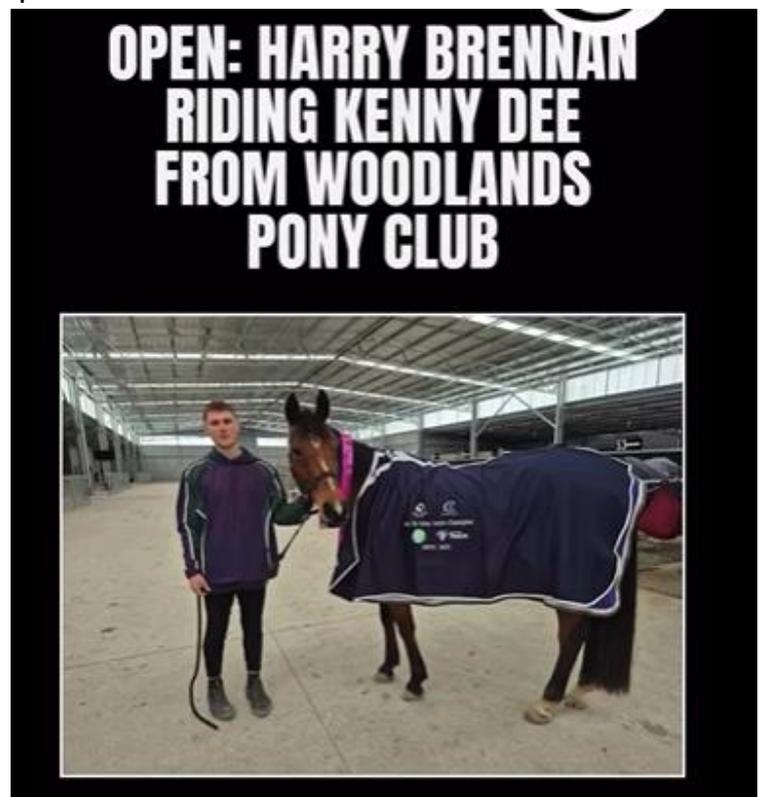
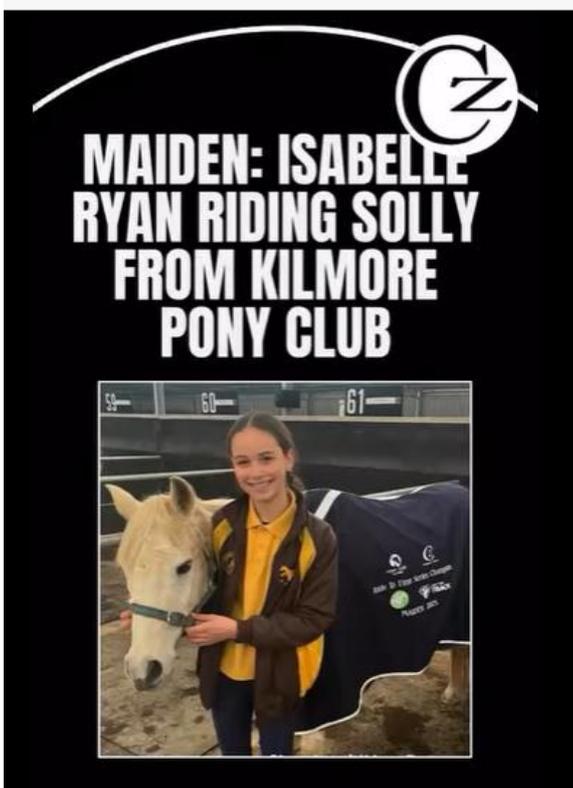
### CZ Ride To Time Series

This year, 2 qualifiers were held for the Ride To Time Series, with 8 riders from 4 clubs trying out.



The club placings were 1. Woodlands 2. Kilmore 3. Riddells Creek 4. Whittlesea

Riders compete in either the Maiden or Open classes. Individual winners in Central Zone are:



**Vale Edna Barclay, Joyce Williams and Mike Smith**

This past year has seen the passing of 3 memorable people who have made great contributions to clubs and central zone.



This tribute to Edna Barclay was posted on the Riddells Creek Facebook page.

Here she is shown with other long-standing members of the pony club.

A memorial was held on Nov 6 2024

Today we take thanks for having Edna Barclay as a member of our club for the last 60 years. As a Life Member Edna was there when we emerged as a Pony Club and continued to attend events, awards nights and rallies to the present day. Presentations will be different without Edna front and centre, though she will always be with us. Thankyou



Central Zone wish to extend their condolences to the Williams family on the passing of Joyce on May 6 2025. A big part of Kingston Pony Club and Central Zone for many years. Joyce will be fondly remembered for her extensive understanding of the rule book and her willingness to help anyone within the pony club community.

Here she is as Kingston team coach.



Mike Smith passed away on August 11, 2025. He was DC of Gisborne PC 1981-1986, 1988 and President of Central Zone over a similar time period. (Do we have archives for CZ somewhere?) Mike was instrumental in the move of Gisborne PC to new grounds at Robertson Reserve, in 1983, and the erection of the first clubrooms, as well as a toilet block. (He definitely didn't enjoy digging the hole for the old dunny.) He cut the cake to celebrate the opening of the new clubrooms in 2021.

As President of Central Zone, he presided over zone meetings in Edie Thomas's shearing shed, where plans were made for CZ events and riders' participation at State Champs. Mike had a special interest in show jumping and promoted Hunter Seat Equitation. He also organised eventing clinics in the zone.



In these photos from the Gisborne PC archives, Mike is with the trophy winners at the breakup gymkhana, Sandra Bubeck, James Lang, Kimberley Griffiths and Tom Reade. In a tribute to Mike, Tom has written “ No-one will truly understand the effect Mike has on my confidence as a show jumper and rider in general. I owe a lot of my enjoyment as a rider to him. He was a superb club leader.” Would that all riders remember their DC this way. Mike also planned to retire in 1986 and was presented with a commemorative plaque. However, he did a “Nellie Melba” in 1988 for another year.

### **Central Zone August meeting.**

This was held online on Thursday August 3. The minutes will be distributed when available. The Zone Rep report from Jo-anna Brennan and ZCI report from Meaghan Sutherland are attached with the newsletter.

James Lang talked to a slide presentation about the “optimum time” issue of F and G grade scoring, which generated a great deal of discussion. Since finishing pony club, James has continued to compete in show jumping and has progressed to World Cup events. He is also an accredited EA judge and course builder, so he has insights both into the special needs of pony club and the ethos of FEI rules. Clubs asked for a copy of the slides. However, James felt that the commentary was also important, so will prepare a presentation for distribution. Delegates were invited to discuss the propositions raised within their clubs, with a view to possible actions to be discussed at the October meeting.

Clubs were reminded to send their proposed event dates for 2025 to Leonie Lang ([leonie.lang284@gmail.com](mailto:leonie.lang284@gmail.com) ) by the October meeting. This allows time for clashes to be reconciled and the calendar finalised as far as possible by December.

Up-coming zone events

AUGUST	
Sat 2	<b>Riddells Creek Eventing Clinic</b>
Sun 3	<b>CZ Gymkhana – Lowden Family Shield @ Whittlesea PC</b>
Thurs 7	<b>Central Zone Meeting 8pm via ZOOM – ALL CLUBS TO SEND 1 Rep</b>
Sat 9	
Sun 10	<b>Bullengarook Show Jumping Day (Presidents Cup Qualifier)</b>
Sat 16	
Sun 17	<b>Heathcote PC Winter Woollies</b>
Sat 23	
Sun 24	<b>Kilmore PC CTD</b>
Sat 30	
Sun31	<b>Melton PC and Open Show</b>
SEPTEMBER	
Sat 6	<b>Riddells Creek Dressage Championships</b>
Sun 7	<b>Fathers Day</b>
Sat 13	
Sun 14	<b>Riddells Creek PC and Open Show Jumping (Presidents Cup Qualifier)</b>
Sat 20/Sun 21	<b>Werribee Pony Club and Open Horse Trials</b>
Sun 21	
Sat 27	
Sun 28	
OCTOBER	
1-5	<b>PCA National Champs @ Werribee</b>
Sat 4	<b>Melton PC and Open SJ Day. (President’s Cup Qualifier)</b>
Sun 5	
<b>Thurs 9</b>	<b>Central Zone AGM and General Meeting 8pm Ross Watts Hall, New Gisborne – ALL CLUBS TO SEND 1 Rep</b>

Leonie Lang  
CZ newsletter editor

Central Zone Representative Report

August 2025

**Zone Events**

Thankyou to all clubs that have volunteered to host 2025 events

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug Lowden Shield
- 30<sup>th</sup> Nov Fimister Shield @ Glenlyon

**2025 Nationals – October 2025**

Congratulations to all riders that have tried out for PCA Nationals. At the time of writing my report the teams haven't been announced. I am aware that some decisions that have been made with the selection process have not been well received, and I assure you a number of these decisions did not come from the state council, they were done outside of this.

**Congratulations**

**Inter Pacific SJ**

Congratulations to Lili and J'Aime from Riddles Creek, who have been selected for the Australian team, this is honor and recognition of your tireless work. We are all behind you!

**Lowden Shield**

I cannot attend the Lowden Shield this year, as most of you know my son Harry is competing in Belgium and we fly out on the 3<sup>rd</sup> August. I will be watching the results, so to whomever won the shield Congratulations! Not all clubs have the ability to move a rally day and declare zone events a rally, to those that were able, thankyou for moving the mountain and being in a position to support the shield.

**Games Flat Musical**

What a fantastic weekend, I was extremely proud of the CZ Clubs, not just in results but in the way they represent CZ, its always a pleasure to be around you all. As expected, CZ did exceptionally well and are true team supporters.

I encourage all clubs to look to 2026 and work to create more teams in all disciplines, please lean on us as your zone to train or group you into a team. The event is my favorite because it's a team event.

**Ride to Time**

The CZ Ride to time program was restarted this year, which 2 rounds held. This means that the CZ Club shield was also back in play. Congratulations to

- 1 Woodlands Pony Club
- 2 Kilmore Pony Club
- 3 Riddles Creek Pony Club
- 4 Whittlesea Pony Club

Ride to Time is NOT pony racing and is in a controlled environment, it helps riders in so many ways. I encourage you all to get behind the 2026 season, which I am already planning.

**Justgo**

Further to my June report, we are currently setting up two forms in justgo

1. Equipment booking requests
2. Date/Calendar requests.

We are currently in testing with these forms.

**Dressage Series**

CZ will coordinate a Dressage series to go inline with the presidents cup idea, it will run across multiple events and the top rider/s will go to state, with the balance to come from the qualifier.

Central Zone Representative Report

August 2025

Stay tuned for full details, rules etc.

**State Events 2026**

State SJ & Dressage in Wannon Zone – potentially Warrnambool

State HT in Barwon Zone – Colac confirmed

Dates and details TBC

**PCA/PCV Rules and guidelines**

Since the beginning of 2025, I have been watching several events in the zone being run outside PCA/PCV rules, however the program has correctly outlined the requirements. There are significant insurance issues around the outcomes of these events. Examples

- SJ running with the wrong number of efforts and course guidelines
- Led riders being graded
- Led riders being led over fences – at height
- Riders on a lead being led incorrectly to the gear rules.
- Unregistered coaches teaching max height jumping
- Clubs that meet the criteria to have a level 1 instructor onsite, but do not.

Not only are clubs allowing riders to put their insurance at risk, but the club is also putting their insurance at risk.

To assist in bringing everyone's knowledge up to speed, we will be running a day for the club executives to ask questions, meet and greet others in the zone doing the same roles and run training sessions, including justgo training.

Stay tuned for dates and details.

**Programs**

Programs will still be able to be approved while I am away, I will check from time to time.

Further to my February 2025 report

All programs should be sent to [programs.centralzonepcav@gmail.com](mailto:programs.centralzonepcav@gmail.com)

These are to be sent a min of 2 weeks prior to your event and your event is not approved until you receive a confirmation email. Programs will be approved in 24-48 hours. (give or take overseas times)

**October Zone Meeting - Onsite**

As mentioned in prior months we have moved the Zone meeting in October to the 9<sup>th</sup> (not the 2<sup>nd</sup>), as it is in the middle of Nationals and I am sure we will all have some part to play or want to watch while its in Victoria.

Thanks Jo

0408 300 824



### August 2025 CZ CI Report

- Inter Pacific Exchange being hosted in Melbourne Late September early October. Pre requisite for nominating is to have B Certificate. Riders will rider unfamiliar horses in a Nations Cup format Showjumping competition. Lili Taylor from Riddells Creek Pony Club has been selected to ride for Australia and J'Aime Mallon (Riddells Creek Pony Club) has been selected as the Australian coach.
- Currently in the UK we have Dan Foster (Coach) and Niree Weybury (Manager) representing Australia at the International Mounted Games Exchange. They look to be having a wonderful time and look forward to seeing them home with some amazing stories.
- National Selections
  - Ballarat Pony Club 13<sup>th</sup> July
  - Central Zone was represented in all disciplines, our riders did really well
  - Future Nationals selections need more preparation and a clear process/ pathway for selection.
  - Selections went out to riders this week and whilst I would love to write everyone here, I do not have the teams list, so will wait patiently for those to come out before reporting all the Central Zone riders who have been selected.
- 2026 State Championships
  - Dressage & Showjumping is in Wannon Zone venue to be advised
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## 1. ZES Report

ZES Report August 2025

Jayde Kirkham PH: 0409 002 164

Hi everyone!

C Certificate Assessment – Sunday 12th October @ Woodlands PC.

- Entries open now!
- Entries close 28th September
- o No late entries accepted
- C in the morning
- D and D\* in the afternoon
- o Anyone is welcome to come along and see how the D and D\* assessments are run.
- o Good opportunity if you are not sure how to assess D/D\* at a club level
- o Or if you are struggling to fit assessment days into your regular rally planning!
- Please pop these into your calendar now and plan to get riders ready for this!
- Please try and attend assessment days in our zone rather than other zones (it makes it a lot easier!)
- Info about certificates and assessments: <https://ponyclubvic.org.au/certificates/>
- Bookings via JustGo
- o Sign into just go first, and then follow this link.
- o <https://pca.justgo.com/workbench/public/events?ref=1EA0089259ACC737BA1F0945EEF6A369EC1224D5>
- o Alternatively, search “Central Zone - C, D and D\* Certificate Assessment – Spring” in event section on JustGo

REMINDERS:

- Both D and D\* certificates are prerequisites for the C certificate.
- Riders must ride a qualified horse for the assessment – e.g. have attended 2 rallies
- Riders must register for the assessment days before the closing date (not after!).

Thanks J

Jayde