



Central Scenes

Central Zone Newsletter

August 2026

This year has again been cold and wet. Nevertheless, winter is nearly over and in Central Zone, riders have managed to attend numerous club, zone and state events, despite the conditions.

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 20, Central Zone was represented in the **PCV Games Champs** by 5 teams, Woodlands *Jets*, Woodlands *Warriors* (with the addition of a rider from each of Bullengarook and Whittlesea), Composite Riddells Creek/Bullengarook/Lancefield *Teal*, *Ham & Eggs*, Macedon/Gisborne *Ferrari Racers* and Composite Riddells Creek/Kilmore *Riddellmore*.

The Woodlands Jets were champions



Only one other team photo – the Ferrari Racers - but all teams had a great day and enjoyed the competition.

PCV Flat Teams and Musical Ride Champs. Sun June 21.



For the Flat Team of Four, our CZ Champion team Gisborne, comprised of Lily Goodisson, Georgina Kavanagh, Astin Leggett and Emersyn Craig, placed second.

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

Woodlands, with a colourful *Circus* theme. They were champions.



Riddells creek with a *Braveheart* theme. They placed 4th.



Overall, CZ were champions in 2 sections and 2nd in the third. A brilliant result for the zone.

Central Zone Gymkhana (Lowden Family Shield)

Held at Woodlands grounds on 2nd August, the weather remained fine and Woodlands PC did a magnificent job of setting up the venue for Showing, Games and Showjumping.

Before the presentations, the riders paraded in **fancy dress**. It was a very difficult task for the judges. They were judged in two sections, either group or individual and there were many creative and colourful efforts.





At the presentations in the club house, the games ribbons were presented first. 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.

The showjumping ribbons were presented next.

Sorry, no photos. The clubrooms were crowded and it was late in the day. Maybe next year we will be better organised.

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 again awarded to 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 fourth year in a row.



Riddells Creek placed second and Lancefield were third.



The A.V. Penna trophy was presented to the showing high point winners on the day.

This year it was closely contested and was presented to Jaxon Christian and Kendall Galea, who each finished the day on full points.

Kendall will hold the trophy until she passes it to Jaxon next February.

Prince Philip Mounted Games



Congratulations to Sigrid, Jack and Harry, all from woodlands, who have successfully secured their spot in the National Prince Philip Mounted Games Team for 2026!

Niree will coach the Senior team and Warwick will coach the Juniors.

They will head to the Northern Territory in September!

CZ Ride To Time Series

Congratulations to all riders who completed the 2026 Central Zone Ride to Time Series! We were overwhelmed by the support, with 13 riders competing in Round 1 and 13 riders in Round 2. What a fantastic turnout! Let's see if we can double those numbers in 2027! 🐾

Congratulations to Woodlands Pony Club on winning the Central Zone Shield.
2026 Overall Series Winners

Open: Harry Brennan – Woodlands Pony Club

Maiden: Bethany Cole – Kyneton & Woodend Pony Club



A huge thank you to **Racing Victoria** for organising the track and to **Kilmore Racing Club Inc** for supporting our riders and helping make the series such a success.

Thank you to everyone who participated, volunteered and cheered our riders on throughout the series. We can't wait to see you all back for an even bigger and better Ride to Time Series in 2027!

Central Zone August meeting.

This was held online on Thursday August 3. The minutes have been uploaded to the CZ website. The Zone Rep report from Jo-anna Brennan and ZCI report from Meaghan Sutherland are attached with the newsletter.

Clubs are reminded to complete a jotform (<https://form.jotform.com/252887115057058>) for their proposed event dates for 2026 by the October meeting. This allows time for clashes to be reconciled and the calendar finalised as far as possible by December.

Note that the address for submitting programs to the ZR for approval is www.programs.centralzonepcav@gmail.com The address on the jotform has an error.

Leonie Lang
CZ newsletter editor