



Ballarat Pony Club

Welcome to Ballarat Pony Club “Come and Try” Rally information

The purpose of a Come and Try rally is to give you the opportunity to decide if Ballarat Pony Club is a good fit for you and your family.

Come and Try rallies are available for anyone aged 5 to 25 – whether you have never been to a Pony Club, you are looking to change clubs or you are coming from another equestrian group.

We can offer two Come and Try rallies within a Pony Club year (January 1st to December 31st).

Rallies are held on the first Sunday of each month except for January.

What does it cost?

\$10 insurance (if applicable – for those without equestrian insurance) PLUS
\$45 instruction

This amount is deducted from your membership should you join in the period between your first come and try rally and the next scheduled club rally (in the same PCV membership period)

Each rally has three x one-hour sessions, lessons commence at 9:30am and finish by 2:00pm.

What do I need to do?

Email our District Commissioner (DC) at ballaratponyclub@gmail.com to decide on a date. Please provide the following information in your email:

- Name of child
- Age of Child
- Horses name and size
- An indication of the experience level of the rider (can your child ride independently or on lead, can they walk trot and canter in a confined space/open area, do they jump, if so, what height etc). Please don't use terms such as “intermediate” or “advanced” as these mean different things to different people.

Once you have a confirmed Come and Try rally date, create a PCV account and pay for a Ballarat Pony Club Come and Try membership.

*** All riders under 18 must always be accompanied by a responsible adult ***

What to expect on the day:

- Grounds open at approximately 8:45am
- You may choose a yard for the day, or tie your horse to your float. Water is available
- Come up to the office (located in the clubhouse just up the hill) to sign the attendance books – one for riders and one for parent/guardian
- Present to gear check at 9:15am. Your child will undergo a check to make sure their gear is safe and complies with PCV rules. After gear check, the DC will talk to you and direct your child to a suitable group for the first session.
- Canteen operates for lunch – order lunches before 10:00am, cash only.

What to wear:

- **Approved helmet** (at least one of the complying standards: AS/NZS 3838, EN1384/VG01.040, ASTM F1163, PAS015. Manufacture date up to and including 2015, VG1, (helmets may carry both EN1384 & VG1 marks) Refer PCA 'Helmet Standards' notice January 2017 for full details.)
- Riding boots
- A medical arm band – available from any tack shop or the office – this holds information important in the event of an accident
- Neat riding attire suitable for the weather
- Cover all earrings and piercings with tape
- Sunscreen if necessary

What to bring:

- Saddle, saddle mounts and saddle cloth
- Bridle (must have a bit) and reins
- Water bucket
- Whatever your horse needs for health, safety and comfort – hay for lunch, an appropriate rug etc.

For First Timers:

- If you have never been to Pony Club before it can all be a bit daunting. We are here to help make the adventure fun and friendly so please email us if you have any concerns at all or talk to the DC, Chief Instructor or a committee member on the day
- Ballarat is a friendly club and you will soon meet riders/other parents in your group who will support you throughout the day
- After the rally let us know what you thought about the day and if you would like to be considered for membership.

See you soon at Ballarat Pony Club!

For any further questions or concerns please contact us via the website www.ballaratponyclub.com.au or at ballaratponyclub@gmail.com