



# PCA News

November 2017

**PONY CLUB**  
AUSTRALIA

## Vale Gillian Rolton OAM



Gillian Rolton was Patron of Pony Club Australia, but meant so much more to everyone. We pay tribute to her life and contribution to sport in Australia, and especially to Pony Club.

Gillian's story was the embodiment of "A life with horses starts here". She talked her non-horsey parents into getting a horse at the age of 10, and then she was off. Her career went from rider, to elite competitor, Olympian, coach, official and administrator over the next 50 years. It is no surprise that the PCA Award for Pony Club alumni is named the "Gillian Rolton Award".

Gill was interested to assist those to take the pathway from enjoying riding at Pony Club to high level competition through EA, but also took great delight in listening to Pony Club members proud of a good dressage test, a clear round or a much-loved horse. "Fred" and the Olympics was a tale we never tired of hearing.

Gillian would regularly attend Pony Club events just because she found out they were on and she had a free day. She will always be remembered for her courage, care, smile and dedication to animals and equestrian sport. Our warm wishes to her husband Greg and family.

PCA Director, Judy Pitt, PCASA  
President Greg Bailey and Pony Club  
members at the memorial service for  
Gillian Rolton on 27th November 2017



# 2018 International Teams

2018 will be the biggest year yet for international teams in Pony Club.

International Mounted Games is in the UK. PCA will send a team of 5 riders aged under 16 years at 1.1.2018 and a coach and a team manager.

States nominating a rider for the 2018 team are - WA, Victoria, NSW, NT, SA

Tetrathlon is in USA. PCA will send a team of 4 males and 4 females with C certificate and capable of jumping 90cm, aged between 16 and 21 years at 1.1.2018. Contact your state office to find out about selection protocols for nominations from your state. PCA will select a nationally representative team based on merit and performance against the PCA National Tetrathlon rules. There will be both a coach and a manager for the Tetrathlon team.

It is very exciting this year to send our first team to France for showjumping competition. Contact your state office to find out about selection protocols for nominations from your state. The team will be 4 Riders with B certificate and aged 17-19 years at 1.1.2018 and 1 coach/manager. PCA will select a nationally representative team based on merit and gender balance.

Australia has been invited to send a Polocrosse team to compete in the UK. PCA is urgently seeking interest from across Australia. The team can be up to 8 riders – 4 aged 15 years or under at 1.1.2018 and 4 aged 16 – 21 years at 1.1.2018. The team would travel with both a coach and a manager.

Applications for coach and manager roles are invited from across Australia. The application form is on the PCA website. Follow this link.

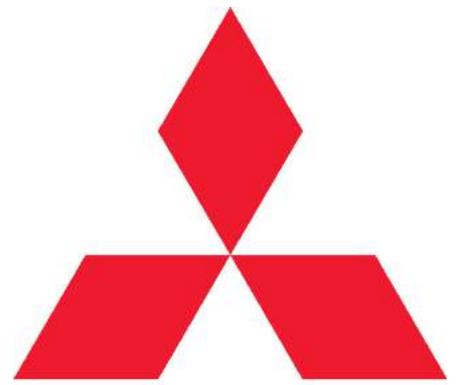
The Coach and Manager roles are awarded to Pony Club members with the requisite experience, personal attributes and skills. PCA is committed to selection based on merit, and to succession planning in these national leadership roles. A person cannot fulfil an international team role more than 3 times. The coach or manager cannot be related to a team member.

Applications from across Australia are encouraged and close on 10th February 2018.

You can make a tax deductible donation to support Pony Club's international teams through the Australian Sports Foundation



# MITSUBISHI



## MITSUBISHI MOTORS

At Mitsubishi Motors, we're thrilled to jump on board as the official vehicle partner for Pony Club Australia for the next three years and we'd love to reward eligible members with an exclusive offer.

If you're a Pony Club member or affiliate member, we'd like to reward you with National Fleet Discount across the range of new Mitsubishi vehicles. National Fleet Discount delivers exclusive pricing normally only reserved for large organisations.

Since 1917 Mitsubishi Motors has been at the forefront of technological innovation and our vehicles have been tested and triumphed in some of the most gruelling and toughest terrain on earth including the Dakar rally. As we continue to move forward, pushing the boundaries of innovation, you can rest assured your Mitsubishi has been built for the time of your life so that you can focus on riding.

As the SUV Experts we know that towing your horse float is different to any other type of towing. So we have tested out the most popular tow cars in a horse towing test.

See how the Pajero, Triton and Pajero Sport stack up and which SUV is right for your stable. [Click here](#)

To access this offer, please download the application form from the PCA website and have it endorsed by PCA or your state office.

For full offer terms and conditions, please contact your local Mitsubishi Motors dealer.



The Pony Club Pajero went to Toowoomba for the 2017 Nationals



## Position Vacant @ PCA

Pony Club Australia has a vacancy for a part-time Administration Officer.

Details are on the PCA website. Applications close 15th January 2018.

<http://www.ponyclubaustralia.com.au/About/PositionsVacant.aspx>

INSIDE  
**SPORT**



**CAS**  
Confederation of  
Australian Sport

Pony Club Australia is a supporter of the 2018 Clubbies Awards.

Nominate your club, coach, administrator or volunteer.

The Clubbies are not for the club or coach with the biggest trophy cabinet. They aim to reward those who are the first to set up and the last to go home - the local legends who inspire with their passion, commitment and vision for club sport.



BEST CLUB  
BEST COACH  
BEST STALWART  
BEST SPORTS ASSOCIATION  
BEST MASTERS PERFORMANCE  
BEST ADMINISTRATOR  
BEST FACILITY



Details on how to enter are here

<https://www.insidesport.com.au/clubbies/nominate>

Supported by Inside Sport magazine, Sportscover and the Confederation of Australian Sport.

Entries close 30 January 2018.

## Pony Club Quiz

Pony Club Australia is thrilled to convene a new working group to develop resources and promote Quiz across Australia.

Members of the working group are

- Coaches of the 2014 and 2017 International Quiz team - Helen Wilkinson and Kim Ward
- Team members of the 2014 Quiz team - Natasha Williams and Phoebe Wilkinson
- State Coach and Quiz advocate - Ann Olsen

PCA looks forward to more quizzing at camps, rallies and competitions.



# Next Generation of Pony Club Leaders

*Pony Club Australia sponsored 7 Pony Club members to participate in the 2017 ASC Women Leadership in Sport program, and we have been following their progress.*

## Natasha Williams, Western Australia

The WLIS program was great as I got to meet and work with young women who are leading the way in Pony Club. Being a part of the group has allowed us to collaborate and problem-solve with many different perspectives brought into consideration. It empowers us to make a change as you know you have support of others. The workshop itself challenged me to think about the way I view people across all contexts - the reasons they may be the way they are and how they see things differently.

Throughout 2017, I have been lucky enough to have been offered a number of opportunities with Pony Club Australia, Pony Club WA and my local Pony Club – Riverside Park Pony Club. I have been a member of Riverside Park Pony Club since 1996 and have been Chief Coach in 2015 and 2017. Throughout this time I have represented my club, zone, state and country. Since completing my final years as a riding member in Pony Club I have obtained my Level 1 PC NCAS qualification and enjoy teaching all aspects of riding and horsemastership. I have been a member of the State Coaching Panel for two years and I am lucky enough to work with a number of likeminded people who focus on improving outcomes for all members.

My goals for the future include continuing my role within the State Coaching Panel and developing my coaching skills. Since being a member of the International Quiz team in 2014 I have always been passionate about getting the discipline of Quiz developed in WA. In 2018 I look forward to igniting this passion in developing Quiz with Pony Club members across the country.



*Congratulations to Natasha and Elisha. They both got engaged on the same weekend this month on opposite sides of Australia !*

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## Elisha Hodgson, Queensland

The best thing about completing the Women Leaders in Sport Program was meeting other like-minded people who had similar interests and passion for improving the Pony Club movement. I could see some of the challenges that are currently facing other states and we could share our ideas on how we can overcome them or improve the practices within my local club and state.



I was able to identify some of the differences between Pony Club at the state level and the everyday running of clubs (i.e. membership fees, Rally/Muster Day structures, paid or non-paid coaches etc). Taking the good points and the bad points and understanding these challenges has allowed me to implement some of the changes in my club. For example I have started an award for the volunteer of the month in order to encourage participation, and have been assisting my club to ensure that there are open lines of communication, and worthwhile roles for volunteers.

The program also allowed me to understand my strengths and weaknesses as a leader, build my confidence and help provide strategies to improve my own personal qualities in every day life.

Pony Club has given me lots of opportunities. I have been riding for over 19 years and have my B certificate. Recently I competed at the National Championships and came 4th in the showjumping and was part of the winning senior Quiz team. In October I convened a huge equestrian event for the Gold Coast Community with over 150 participants from beginner, interschool, Pony Club and international/world cup riders.

I have started coaching at my property in Tallebudgera, and am sitting my instructor's course this month.

My goals for the future are to continue teaching my students; to provide more opportunities for riders within my local community to compete at prestigious events; and to continue enjoying riding whilst managing a full time career as a lawyer at OMB Solicitors, Southport.



*Congratulations to Natasha and Elisha. They both got engaged on the same weekend this month on opposite sides of Australia !*