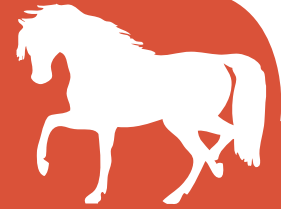


Waitara Pony Club Newsletter



OCTOBER 2010

Praise the sunshine. I'm am one happy lark at the moment. I have a paddock to ride in at last, the horse has had his cover off for multiple days in a row and is nice and shiny and clean... no more mud. I can probably say without a doubt every single one of us has had a uplift in our moods.

Coming up is Area dressage. Just to clarify for those who may not understand – the Championship tests – these are for those riders wanting a challenge, and will also be the tests that those wanting to trial at Area level to ride at the Dressage Champs in Taupo.

With the sunshine – I must also remind those with horses with white noses that zinc or sun block may be needed. Sunshades that can attach to the halter will also prevent sunburn on the white nosed horses. Oiling hooves is only going to get more important as the weather gets warmer and the ground gets dryer.

Pip Bint, President

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What are our riders doing now?

Central Makahu Sports day was on Saturday 9 October, with many Waitara Pony Club members there.

One of our members, Emma Mahony, got 5th in the 50cm SJ, 2nd in the 60cm SJ, and won both the Category A Showhunter events, so congratulations to Emma.

We have a busy few weeks coming up.....

Rally 5 is on October 31st. Morning rally starting at 9:20am for notices. Please make sure you let your group contact person (see the PC way) know if you are not going to be at the rally.

The **closed dressage and games** will be on Wednesday Nov 3rd. Keep an eye out for more information regarding this.

Rally 6 is on November 7th. This is the next outside instructors rally. Brenda Bellringer (dressage) Floss Hinton (SJ) and Holli Marshall (SH) will be instructing. The cost is \$10-00 per rider. You need to complete the form on the next page and return it by October 31st with the fee in order to attend.

So riders can get the most out of this rally it will run over the whole day. Rally groups C,D,E,F (see the PC way) will start at 9:20am and be finished around 12pm. Rally groups A and B will start at 12pm with games, followed by a dressage and SH lesson.

Lots of parents will be needed to help set up the SH course at 8:45am. Holli and Floss will also need help throughout the day to change the heights of the courses, pick up poles etc. Holli will need help to reset the SH course for each group. Rebecca will need help from the parents of groups A and B to set up some games at about 11:30am.

There will be a regular rally run for those who do not wish to have lessons. This will start at 12pm. Please let Rebecca know of your attendance to ensure that an instructor is available.

FOR SALE

Lessons & Arena Hire

60m x 20m all-weather arena; show-jumps; easy vehicle access; tie-up and wash-down area

Riding & horse mastership lessons: \$20

Arena Hire: \$5/horse

Nicola Ekdahl

752 2523

021 445 753

wade_nik@vodafone.co.nz

17 Thomason Rd

Egmont Village

WANTED

TB Broodmare

Something with nice paces and good to handle.

My contact numbers are 769 5328 (day) and 027 248 9007 (evening).

Claudia King

If you have any items you would like listed for sale or wanted you can contact me directly at melclark44@hotmail.com to have it listed in the monthly newsletter. Please have details and any photos in by the 16th of each month. Newsletters will go out around the 18th.

Waitara Pony Club

Rally 6, November 7 – group lessons

This form is to be filled in by riders wishing to attend rally 6 and have group lessons. A \$10-00 fee is payable for the lessons. Rally starts at 9:20am for inspection. Please read ALL information below.

Full name Age.....

Contact Phone

Email

Show Hunter Category *Please Circle*

Category A Category B Category C Hack

SJ Height

40cm 65cm 80cm 95cm+

Horses name Height

INFORMATION

- A normal rally will be run for those who wish to attend rally 6 but not the lessons. You must let Rebecca know if you plan to attend to ensure a WPC instructor will be available. This rally will start at 12pm.
- Regular rally **groups A and B** (see the PC way) who wish to have group lessons will start at 12pm and have a series of games, followed by dressage and SH lessons. Their rally will finish by 2pm. Please note the different start time for these groups.
- Groups will be divided based on certificate level and then SH category. Groups will remain the same for all lessons on the day. The organisers will try to accommodate all riders but you are not guaranteed the SJ height requested.
- All forms and fees must be received by **Rebecca by October 31st** (Rally 5). Late forms or forms without fees will not be accepted. No exceptions. No emailed or phoned entries.

Rebecca Dearden
68 Bayly St
Waitara

or drop to

Powerco(during work hours)
Level 2, Civic Centre
84 Liardet St, New Plymouth

This form MUST be filled in completely and submitted with the correct fee, to the appropriate person by the due date.

Area Games Teams

We want to encourage as many riders as possible to enter into teams to compete at Area Games hosted by Okato at Waitara PC on January 30th 2011. However, first we need to know whether you are willing to go on to Zone Games Finals at Clareville (Carterton) on April 2nd and 3rd 2011 if your team finishes in the top five placings. Those who do will be together in Trials teams and those who don't will be together in Fun teams. Either way, you can still ride in the Area's Mounted Games event, so please fill out the nomination form below and return with accompanying nomination fee (\$5-00) to Rebecca Dearden by November 20th.

The team/s of those riders who do want to go on to Zone Finals if they are successful at Area Trials will be selected over the next few weeks according to the criteria listed on this sheet, and riders will be expected to abide by guidelines set by Waitara PC and NZPCA.

The team/s of those riders who don't want to go on to Zone Finals can ride in the competition on the day as a fun team and are eligible for cups and ribbons, but will not travel to Clareville in April.

All riders are strongly encouraged to attend the Games practices to be held over the next few weeks to learn the rules and techniques of the Games being played, and to allow the selectors to form the Trials teams. If you're not there, it makes it hard to select you!

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Nomination form for Area Mounted Games event teams

Rider Name _____ DOB _____ Weight _____

Pony/horse's name _____ Age _____

Height (cm) _____

Do you want to go to Zone Games in Clareville if your team finishes in the top five placings? Yes / No
(If yes, you must get your parent's signature to confirm that they agree and support you.)

I/we agree that _____ can compete in a team that might travel to Zone Finals in Clareville in April 2011, that she/he will attend arranged practices & help with fundraising efforts, and will abide by guidelines set by WPC & NZPCA.

Parent's signature/s _____ Date _____

Return by 20/11/2010 to Rebecca Dearden with the required nomination fee. Only complete nominations including the fee will be accepted. c/- 68 Bayly St Waitara or catch her down at Pony Club most days.

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Weight for the rider and height for the horse needs to be supplied as NZPCA have a max weight to height ratio that must be adhered to, to prevent overly small ponies being used by older/taller riders.

Criteria for selection to Area Games teams intending to compete at Zone Finals

Selection of team/s will be made by two selectors nominated by WPC committee. This year Pat Perkins and Rebecca Dearden are our selectors. Composition of teams will also be influenced by the eight games being played, as a mix of fast and slow ponies may be preferable to all fast ponies, for example.

Criteria

1. Availability
2. Skill
3. Commitment
4. Team spirit
5. Knowledge of rules

Availability

Is rider available:

- (a) on date of Area Games?
- (b) on date of Zone Finals?
- (c) for practices prior to these two events?

Skill

Does the rider:

- (a) show good control of his/her mount?
- (b) show good control of own body movements?
- (c) show proficiency at all games?
- (d) vault (standing/running)?
- (e) show good control of equipment?

Commitment

Does the rider show:

- (a) a positive attitude?
- (b) the ability to listen and learn?
- (c) up at arranged practices?
- (d) willingness to assist with fundraising?

Team spirit

Is the rider able to:

- (a) work for the good of the team?
- (b) give support and encouragement to other team members?
- (c) stay calm and carry on when mistakes occur?
- (d) relate appropriately to other team members?

Knowledge of rules

Does the rider know:

- (a) the rules of each game being played?
- (b) the rules of Mounted Games generally?
- (c) how to care for his/her mount while away?

TARANAKI AREA PONY CLUBS

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY TO ZONE GAMES FINAL (2011)

1. The age of the riders will be as specified in the current NZPCA Games Rules.
2. The Area committee will approve the appointment of the Team Manager TM.
3. During preparation and for the duration of the Zone Games Finals, the team will be under the authority of the Team Manager.
4. Once selected, the team, parents, guardians, must abide by the rules of the Taranaki Area committee and those of the NZPCA Teams Mounted Games Rules.
5. Team members are required to attend meetings and practice sessions as arranged by the TM in consultation with the team, parents and guardians.
6. Team members unable to attend practices will inform the TM as early as possible
7. Should a team member not attend any practices they may forfeit their place at the discretion of the Team Manager, in consultation with the Area President and one other Area representative.
8. The Team Manager has the right to call for a veterinary or medical certificate if, in his/her opinion, circumstances warrant it.
9. Each team member shall pay all veterinary bills associated with their mount and will not hold the Taranaki Area responsible for any unforeseen mishaps that may occur.
10. At any time after selection of the team, the Team Manager, in consultation with the Area President and one other Area representative, may remove a team member for any of the following reasons:
 - failure to comply with any of the above conditions of entry.
 - failure to comply with NZPCA rules.
 - willful or persistent failure to observe the direction of the TM.
 - behaviour of team member or parent/guardian which is derogatory to the character of, or prejudicial to the interests of the team.
 - sickness of rider or unsoundness of horse.
11. Alterations to team members or mounts, must be approved by the Area president and the Area delegate to CoM, after which, the ZGF organising committee must be informed (rule 9).
11. If a team is withdrawn after selection, the Team Manager should notify the Area President in order that it's place may be offered to the next ranked Area team. The ZGF organising committee must be informed.
12. Team members will leave their own and their mount's accommodation in clean, tidy condition.
13. Team members will abide by the Fair Play Charter.

STRANGLES

Cause

Strangles is the most important infectious disease affecting horses. It is caused by a bacterium, *Streptococcus equi*.

Signs

Swollen lymph glands that may burst



Pus discharge from nostrils

Typically, horses suffering from strangles have pus discharging from the nostrils and swellings (abscesses) forming in the lymph glands under the jaw. These abscesses often burst and exude a thick yellow pus. Affected horses can have fever, be depressed and may stop eating.

Most animals recover, but horses that contract even a mild case of strangles must be isolated and removed from training or heavy work for up to 3 months. In some cases the infection can cause chronic illness or even death.

Epidemiology

Strangles is very contagious, especially with foals, spreading easily from horse to horse and often leading to large outbreaks with many horses affected. It is spread in the discharges (pus) from the nose and burst abscesses. Objects such as water troughs, feed buckets, brushes, reins and other equipment, if contaminated with infected pus, can also spread the disease. Recovered horses can spread the disease for up to eight months, even though they can appear clinically healthy and normal.

Immunity

In common with other respiratory diseases, such as canine cough and feline respiratory disease, immunity is short lived and incomplete. In fact 25% of horses infected with strangles do not appear to develop immunity. This makes it very difficult for a vaccine to provide complete protection and it is not claimed that the vaccine is an absolute preventative. However, field experience has shown that vaccination can control the disease by reducing the degree of clinical disease and reducing the number of horses affected.

Treatment

Penicillin is the antibiotic of choice against *S.equi*. Abscesses may need to be opened and drained and good supportive care is vital for recovery.

Control

It is strongly recommended that all horses be included in a regular program of vaccination. It is particularly important that booster doses be given prior to periods of greater risk of infection, such as the breeding or performance season. Pregnant mares may be vaccinated up to two weeks before foaling.

Consideration should be given to vaccinating high risk horses (eg. brood mares, stallions, performance, pony club, racing and eventing horses) every six months. In the event of an outbreak of strangles, horses should be segregated into three groups and handled as follows:

- (a) Those affected by the disease should be treated, but not vaccinated
- (b) Horses with no known contact with the disease should be vaccinated immediately
- (c) Horses known to have been in contact should be observed for seven to ten days and vaccinated only if they have a normal temperature and show no clinical signs of the disease.

STRANGLES - QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Why vaccinate?

Vaccination provides the best possible protection against strangles which is the most important infectious disease problem for horses.

Does the vaccine provide 100% protection?

Field experience suggests that a full and regular program of vaccination for all horses will usually control or very markedly reduce the incidence and severity of strangles. However it is not claimed that the vaccine is an absolute preventative. Vaccination will reduce the spread in an outbreak with less horses affected by strangles and those that do show signs have a milder disease with shorter recovery and possible protection against spread through the body.



Thus, vaccination has good benefits and is the best protection possible. It should be pointed out that there are other diseases, caused by different organisms, which may be confused with strangles.

Can the vaccine be used during an outbreak?

Yes. In the event of an outbreak of strangles, horses should be segregated into three groups, Those affected by the disease should be treated, but not vaccinated. Horses with no known contact with the disease should be vaccinated immediately. Horses known to have been in contact should be observed for seven to ten days and vaccinated only if they have a normal temperature and show no clinical signs of the disease.

Does the vaccine cause reactions?

Like a number of other vaccines, Equivac-S or Equivac 2 in 1 can cause some local swelling at the site of the injection, especially if injected subcutaneously and not intramuscularly. Provided the injection has been carried out aseptically, any swelling should disappear in a few days.

What is the vaccination schedule?

When horses and foals are vaccinated against strangles for the first time, they require a primary vaccination course consisting of three doses of Equivac-S or Equivac 2 in 1. The three doses are given with an interval of two weeks between injections. Booster doses should be given at least annually and six-monthly revaccination should be considered in circumstances where the risk of infection is known to be high.

What are the signs of strangles?

Typically, horses suffering from strangles have pus discharging from the nostrils and swellings (abscesses) forming in the lymph nodes (glands) under the jaw. Most animals recover, but horses that contract even a mild case of strangles must be isolated and removed from training or heavy work for up to 3 months! In some cases the infection can cause chronic illness or even death.

How is the vaccine administered?

The vaccine is injected intramuscularly. The most convenient site for injection is the centre of the side of the neck. The needle can be attached to the syringe and then administered to the horse. Alternatively, the needle may be inserted into the muscle and then the syringe attached and the vaccine injected.