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Newsletter 20

June 2009

## NT Pony Club Championships 2009

The NT Pony Club State Championships took place on the Queen's Birthday Weekend at Fred's Pass. DHPC had a few problems getting three teams together this year. Isabelle Florance unfortunately took a fall at training and broke her collar bone, which effected all three of our teams. Cassie successfully persuaded three of our year 12's into competing on at least one day ( inspite of exams looming after the weekend) and Rachael bravely took on jumping on her Dad's polocrosse horse. As it was we still only managed to field a team of four for the jumping.

For the last few years the Championships have taken place at the Showgrounds. Personally I prefer that venue as it lends a real sense of occasion to the event but the 2009 Championships were a huge success inspite of the change of venue. Each club takes on an aspect of the Championships, eg DHPC organised the dressage ( booking the interstate judges, organising flights, accommodation, pick up from the airport, setting up the dressage arenas, organising the paperwork, draws and scoring. The whole weekend went very smoothly with only a couple of hiccups .

The weekend started with the Prince Philip Mounted Games—disaster struck the Katherine Pony club big time with team members coming down with a nasty stomach bug. There were four teams competing for the title of champion . Every team put in a good effort and many of the races were close run and exciting. However in spite of having some relatively inexperienced riders on the team ( this was Emily and Dusty's first outing at mounted games) we did have Leanne and Ellie who are very experienced and skilful mounted games riders, so DHPC romped home to victory. Well done riders!

It was then a bit of a mad rush for two of our riders to change mounts and prepare for the dressage. Thank you to Danielle Brown for coming to Emily's rescue when she was trying to plait Casper's unruly main ( and thank you to Lorraine for attempting to plait Casper's forelock). Justine arrived in the nick of time to warm up after a four hour maths exam—perhaps almost beyond the call of duty so big thank you for your wonderful team spirit Justine!! Everyone rode really well but a special mention must be made of Sally Shaw who scored an amazing 72% in her first ever dressage test. Well done Sally—I hear you are off to the next dressage competition. Jackie will be over the moon.

DHPC came first out of all the Darwin Teams—well done DHPC! Our average score for all our riders was over 60%

The dressage judges went to Alice Springs the following weekend to judge the Southern Leg of the NT Championships.

Sunday morning saw the action starting bright and early for the show jumping—two rounds of Equitation ( like a dressage test over jumps—were the rider is scored on position, hands, effectiveness of aids, leg position etc0. Two Equitation judges travelled up from WA to judge this section of the Champs. Equitation is new to the NT and proved challenging to our local riders who had never done it before. The judges were very good and explained what they were looking for, which certainly made things easier. Our show jumpers did well, considering some of the riders inexperience and the club gained a fourth place in the Northern Leg of the Equitation Championships. The Equitation judges also went to Alice Springs the following weekend.

A big thank you must go to Jackie for doing the bulk of the organising for the Dressage, to Nik and Cassie for not only marking out the dressage arenas but also the mounted games for Katherine Horse and Pony Club. Thank you to Sam and Lorraine for stepping up and being lane stewards for the mounted games, Cassie for gear stewarding for the day, Jenny Jones and Jude Florance for pen-cilling, Vannessa Lines for coming down every Wednesday and coaching our dressage team, Natalie Bell for coming down and coaching the games team twice a week , to Cassie for coaching the show jumping team and to everyone else who played a part in making the 2009 NT PC Championship such a successful event for the club.

# PHOTO GALLERY



DHPC PRINCE PHILIP MOUNTED GAMES TEAM  
 2009 STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS  
 COACH : NATALIE BELL  
 SHANNON FLORANCE, ELLIE DAVIIES EMILY  
 PALMER RACHAEL PENDENNIS



DHPC DRESSAGE TEAM  
 2009 STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS  
 COACH : VANESSA LINES  
 EMILY PALMER, JUSTINE BURGESS, RACHAEL  
 PEN-DENNIS CHLOE KLEINE, SALLY SHAW

DHPCSHOW JUMPING EQUITATION TEAM  
 2009 STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS  
 COACH : CASSIE HALL  
 SHANNON FLORANCE, RACHAEL PEN-DENNIS  
 CHLOE KLEINE, SALLY SHAW  
 (sorry no photograph as I was running dressage judges around)

## “We Are The Champions”

### Celebration BBQ

Thursday 2 July

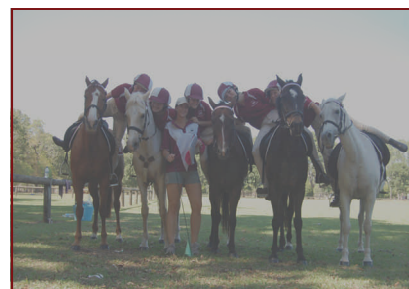
DHPC Grounds

6pm

*Come along and help the Club celebrate  
 winning **Champion Pony Club**  
 at the **NT Pony Club Championships** for  
 the second year running.*

*The club will supply the meat and soft  
 drinks but can everyone please bring a  
 salad or dessert.*

*Can you please let Jane know if you are  
 coming to make the catering easier—  
[kjanepalmer@bigpond.com](mailto:kjanepalmer@bigpond.com)*



## CALENDER OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

SUN 28TH JUNE	LATE JUNE COMPETITION
SUN 5TH JULY	DRESSAGE COMPETITION DSJC COMPETITION
FIRDAY 10TH JULY—12TH JULY	SHOW JUMPING CLINIC
14TH JULY—18TH JULY	KATHERINE SHOW
23 JULY—26TH JULY	ROYAL DARWIN SHOW
8TH 9TH JULY	NT DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS NT SHOW JUMPING CHAMPION- SHIPS
22/23 AUGUST	NHPC GYMKHANA