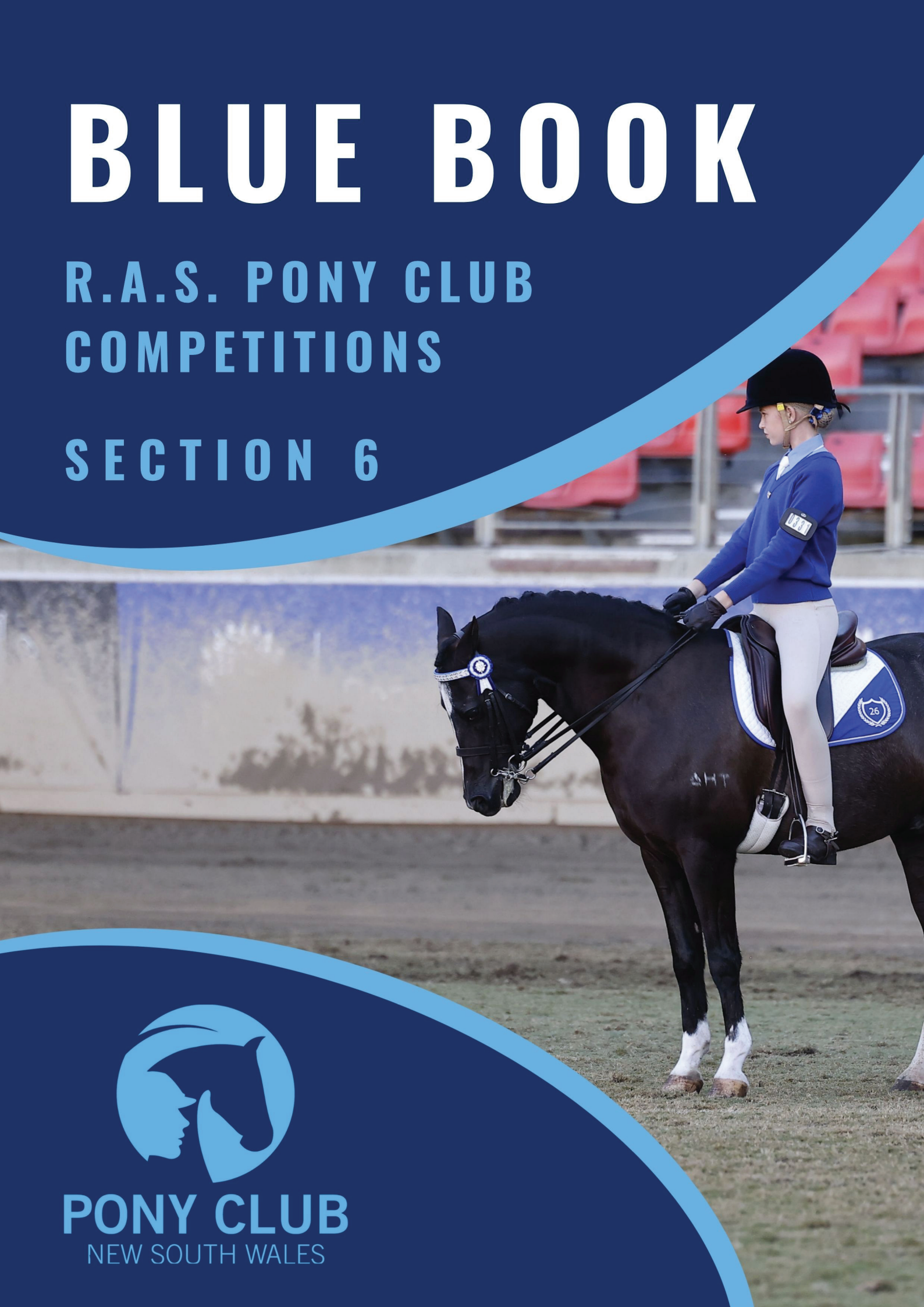
BLUE BOOK

R.A.S. PONY CLUB COMPETITIONS

SECTION 6



PONY CLUB
NEW SOUTH WALES

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. ENTRIES AND ELIGIBILITY 3
2. UNIFORM 3
3. TEAM MANAGER 3
4. RAS PROTOCOLS 3
5. GEAR CHECK 4
6. SHOW RIDING RULES 4
7. RIDER IN ACTION 5
8. AREA TEAM SPORTING 7

ENTRY TO R.A.S. PONY CLUB COMPETITION

1. ENTRIES AND ELIGIBILITY

All Pony Club events at the Sydney Royal Easter Show are conducted under Pony Club NSW rules in conjunction with Royal Agricultural Society (RAS) conditions.

The RAS requires all details of horses and riders to be submitted via their portal in the entry process – any reserve riders or horses MUST be submitted prior to close of entries. Reserve riders will be refunded if they are not required but could be called up for team events at any time.

RAS Pony Club classes are open to riders aged 12 years and under 17 years as at the first day of the show.

Riders may compete on two horses however one horse per section applies. A different horse may be used for the Rider in Action to the horse used for the Show Riding.

All horses competing at the RAS are required to be microchipped and registered with the Australasian Animal Registry.

Entries must fulfil all requirements of financial membership to be accepted. Entries will be checked with Zones to ensure that combinations are of the required standard.

Rider and Horse Eligibility – refer to Section 4 for attendance and ownership requirements.

All competitors must participate in the Pony Club Parade which is held on the main Pony Club day at the show. The parade is scheduled in the lunch break. Competitors must be presented as for competition. Zone and Area banners are required.

It is the competitor's responsibility to be aware of due dates for booking accommodation/camping/parking. These can fill up quickly. Information is provided by both the RAS and Pony Club NSW by direct email, website information or Social Media posts.

2. UNIFORM

Uniform to be worn is dependent on the classes entered. For the RAS formal uniform is worn in each competition – this is shirt, tie and jumper.

Rider in Action – Club uniform

Show Riding – Zone uniform

Area Team Sporting – Area uniform.

3. TEAM MANAGER

A Team Manager is appointed for each Zone (for Show Riding) or Area (for Area Team Sporting). The Team Manager is to be a person nominated by that entity and is responsible to see that the team competes according to the conditions applicable to the event.

The Team Manager is required to coordinate their teams and training days, assist with queries and communications. At the show they must attend the Team Managers briefing, coordinate volunteers (required for Team Sporting) and prior to the official Gear Check they should check all gear and ensure that riders are in correct uniform.

Failure of competitors to comply with Pony Club NSW or RAS rules will result in disqualification from that competition.

4. RAS PROTOCOLS

The RAS is a huge event with many thousands of visitors daily. It is vital that all Pony Club competitors follow all direction of officials and volunteers.

Bump in and Bump Out times are necessary and must be adhered to. Competitors must thoroughly read information when planning their arrivals.

5. GEAR CHECK

All Pony Club riders and teams competing at the RAS are required to report to the marshalling yard for Gear Check at least 30 minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of the event. This will be carried out by gear stewards appointed by Pony Club NSW. Team Managers re to be present with the riders when gear check is being carried out.

Riders or teams who are not compliant with Pony Club NSW, Pony Club Australia and RAS rules will not be permitted to take part in the competition.

6. SHOW RIDING RULES

In Show Riding Classes at the RAS Zone formal uniform is to be worn. Pony Club NSW and Pony Club Australia rules apply with the following additions:

Whips may not exceed 75cm

Spurs must be no longer than 4cm and if a rotating disc it must be smooth and rotate freely.

Short/jodhpur boots are to be worn in all Show Riding classes as per the requirements for Junior Rider classes.

Exhibit numbers are allocated and riders wear these numbers on their arm – armband number holders are recommended.

Classes on offer (subject to change at the discretion of the RAS)

- Pony Club Rider under 11 years
- Pony Club Rider 11 and under 13 years
- Pony Club Rider 13 and under 15 years
- Pony Club Rider 15 and under 17 years
- Champion and Reserve Champion Pony Club Rider
- Team of Four Pony Club Riders under 13 years
- Team of Four Pony Club Riders 13 and under 17 years (riders under 13 years may ride up if required to form a team)
- Pair of Pony Club Riders under 13 years
- Pair of Pony Club Riders 13 and under 17 years (riders under 13 years may ride up if required to form a pair)
- [a] Pony Club Horsemanship – Rider under 13 years
- Pony Club Horsemanship – Rider 13 and under 17 years

Entries for individual classes are submitted via the RAS portal. It is the competitor's responsibility to ensure all details are correct and entries are submitted prior to the due date. Entries are submitted by closing date – stabling and accommodation requirements are indicated with entries but due at a later date.

Teams of Four and Pairs

Currently the Team of Four and Pairs entries are collated by Pony Club NSW. To enter Team of Four or Pairs a competitor MUST be competing in their Rider class. Zones must communicate their Team and Pair entries to the State office by the required date. The additional fees for these classes are then allocated to the competitor's RAS account for payment.

All teams or pairs must consist of riders from the one Zone. If this is not possible and a combined Zone is required please apply to the Pony Club NSW office for Executive Committee approval. All Teams or Pairs must wear identical Zone uniform.

SCALE OF JUDGING POINTS FOR TEAM OF FOUR CLASSES

GEAR (to be judged on the basis of being clean, suitable and well fitting)	20 points
APPEARANCE (based on neatness and cleanliness)	10 points
TEAM WORK	70 points
TOTAL 100 points	

Emphasis is placed on riding ability, teamwork and the cleanliness and suitability of combinations.

The judge's attention is drawn to the fact that suitability and not uniformity is a prime requisite for mounts and equipment. This in effect means that teams comprising various coloured horses e.g. a chestnut, a bay, a brown and a grey would not be penalized in any way on this account. Snaffle bits, double bridles or pelhams are acceptable - points should NOT be deducted for different bits in a team.

A team may be asked to work in single file, half sections and sections. To work either rein at any pace or perform any other manoeuvre at the judge's discretion. This applies to the judging of Teams of Four or Pairs, at the RAS, all Agricultural Shows and Pony Club Competitions.

Horsemanship Class

The Horsemanship Class is a Show Riding event also showcasing all round Pony Club Horsemanship skills. The workout is published prior to the event and can include components such as mount/dismount including rein drill, bending race, opening a gate, a flatwork display, some small jumps.

Horsemanship Class numbers may be limited. Zones will be required to verify that entrants are capable to competing in this class and a draw will be published prior to the event. Draws must be strictly adhered to.

7. RIDER IN ACTION

The Rider in Action is open to all Pony Club members competing at the RAS. Entries are submitted by competitors prior to the close of entries via the RAS portal. Late entries will not be accepted.

Classes offered are:

- Rider in Action, rider under 13 years
- Rider in Action, rider 13 and under 17 years

Club formal uniform is to be worn. Tack should be predominantly black or brown leather – brightly coloured tack is not to be worn. Combinations should be clean and well presented – plaiting is not required for this class.

Pony Club NSW and Pony Club Australia Gear Rules apply. Protective boots may be worn. Maximum whip length 75cm.

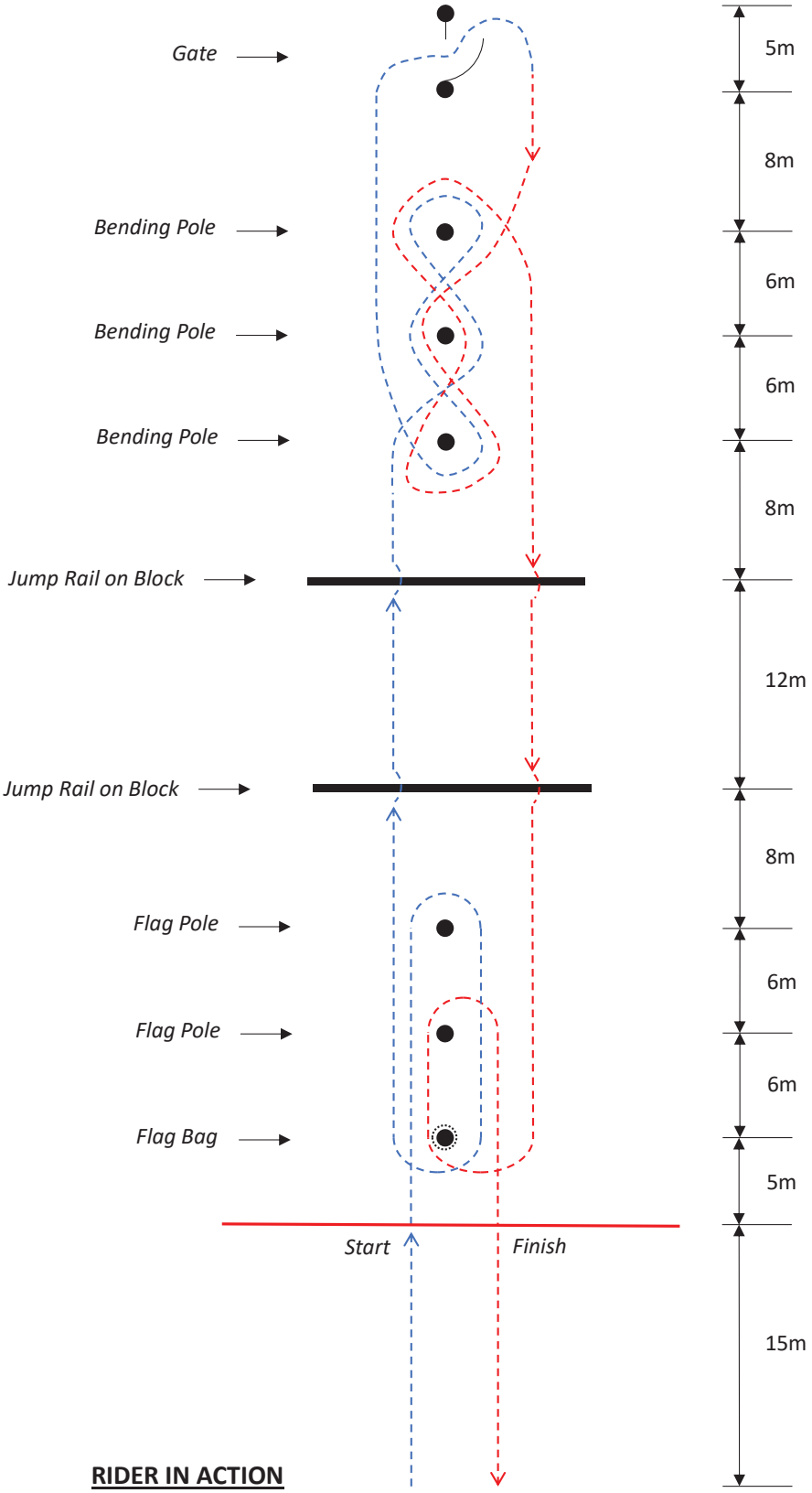
The pattern will be published on the Pony Club NSW website prior to the start of the show – an example is overleaf.

The Rider in Action is a timed event.

Penalties incurred:

- Knocking a peg – elimination
- Knocking a jump rail – elimination
- Error of course – elimination

Note: Riders under 13 years do not need to close gate.



RIDER IN ACTION

8. AREA TEAM SPORTING

Open to riders 12 years and under 17 years on the first day of the Show.

Entries are submitted via the RAS Entry Portal once selections have been completed. Area Representatives must also submit team member names and horse names to the Pony Club NSW office for cross checking that all entries have been submitted correctly.

Each Area must appoint a Team Manager and must provide 2 volunteers to assist with the running of the day. Team Manager contact details are required to be submitted to Pony Club NSW.

Areas consist of the following Zones

Area 1: Zones 10, 19, 22, 23, 26

Area 2: Zones 5, 7, 24, 25

Area 3: Zones 8, 9, 13, 15

Area 4: Zones 3, 4, 6, 17

Area 5: Zones 2, 11, 12, 20, 21

Area 6: Zones 14, 16, 18, 27, 28

Zones in any given area are required to liaise and arrange a selection process for a Team Sporting team to represent the Area. All rules must be adhered to at selections. One horse, one rider applies

Each Area may enter one Team Sporting Team of five horse and rider combinations with two reserve horse and rider combinations. If a horse and/or rider is unable to take part in the competition their place in the team is taken by the first reserve horse and rider combination and so on.

In the event that an Area cannot supply a full team then a replacement team will be selected from the reserves nominated from all Areas. This is to ensure that a minimum of 6 teams compete at the Royal Easter Show.

RAS Team Sporting Rules

The RAS Team Sporting is held in the Schmidt arena – dimensions of games may be adjusted to suit the size of the arena.

No coloured plastic bridles or gear is to be worn in the arena. Use of leg protection is optional however if boots or leg protection is worn by horses then the same colour boot/leg protection must be worn.

Area Formal Uniform is to be worn, shirts must be tucked into rider's jodhpurs/riding trousers during competition RAS events for Team Sporting. Sporting riders are permitted to wear fawn, bone, white or oatmeal riding trousers designed specifically for riding or labelled stockman cut, moleskin or similar appellation, the top of which should be at the rider's waist and the length of which shall be such that when mounted the top of the riders boot shall be covered. Riding Trousers may not be worn with long boots. Team hat covers must be worn. Unclean gear or unsuitable/ incorrect uniform will not be permitted on the field of play.

Team Managers are not permitted in the playing arena except for presentation. Team Managers are responsible for their team behaviour whilst at the RAS,

Prior to the commencement of the events the Team Manager must supply a list of their team members to the scorer for use of the commentator during the event. The Team Manager's contact details are supplied to Pony Club NSW who will submit to RAS.

The fifth rider must remain in the marshalling area when not competing.

Riders waiting to enter the playing area must not interfere in any way with other riders and must at all time remember they are on public display and must sit astride their horses in a tidy and horseman like manner.

Pony Club Australia Integrity Policies Apply - Code of Conduct and Welfare Policy apply – horse abuse or bad language will result in that rider being eliminated and banned from subsequent races. Hitting the horse with any equipment will incur disqualification. In the event that the team only has 3 riders, the team will be eliminated. No protest will be permitted.

If a rider is injured after going through Gear Check and is deemed by the attending medical officer as being unfit to continue the team may compete with the remaining four riders.

Riders may only rider in one team and may only ride one horse in that team. Horses must be ridden by the riders as nominated.

All races will be run as times heats with the best three times going into the finals. First, second and third points will be awarded from the final. Fourth, firth and sixth place are awarded points from the timed heats.

Points Awarded – these points are accumulated to determine the final placing.

First	6 points
Second	5 points
Third	4 points
Fourth	3 points
Fifth	2 points
Elimination	0 points
Fail to Finish	0 points

Races

Each race will be played with 4 riders. Rider 1 will ride first, complete their section of the race. The second rider will start when the first rider has completed their race. There are no handovers or need to tag the incoming rider. Crossing the line prematurely will result in disqualification, unless the rider returns and re□crosses the line. The time of the final rider crossing the line will be the finishing time.

The order of the games races will be decided by the Technical Delegate, and may be changed due to conditions.

Races to be notified each year.

- 3 Mug Race
- Team Flag Race
- Team Bend Race
- 5 Flag Race
- Sword Race
- Straight Barrel
- Fishing Race
- Balloon Race
- Pyramid Race
- Bottle Exchange Race

Qualifying Times

3 Mug Race:	120 sec
Team Flag Race:	48 sec
Team Bend Race:	90 sec
5 Flag Race:80 sec	
Sword Race:	120 sec
Straight Barrel:	110 sec
Fishing Race:	160 sec
Balloon Race:	110 sec

Teams must be able to provide their qualifying times for at least 5 of the 8 races.

Refer Section 14 Team Sporting for game rules.

Technical Delegate

A technical delegate (TD) will be appointed by Pony Club NSW for the event. An Assistant TD may also be appointed. The TD is responsible for the event and all decisions regarding the conduct/ outcome of each race. The TD will consult with the appropriate linesman, starter, timekeeper, scorer etc. when necessary.

No Protests are permitted, however the TD may permit a re-run of a race.

Time

The Scheduled start time for the Team Sporting event is notified by the RAS each year. The full timetable is available on the RAS website.

All teams are required to report to the marshalling area at least 30 minutes prior to the scheduled starting time of the event for gear inspection. This is carried out by appointed Pony Club NSW officials. Team managers are to be present when gear check is carried out.

Volunteers Required

- Marshalling within the warm-up arena - RAS with assistance from Areas (3 personnel required)
- Marshalling within the playing arena to be by Areas (1 required)
- Timers for the 3 lanes will be volunteers from Areas (3 required)
- Starter to be supplied by Pony Club NSW
- Scorer will be supplied by Pony Club NSW
- Commentator will provide a running commentary to keep the crowd informed.
- Results of each final will be announced and a progressive score will be updated.

Each Area team is required to supply two volunteers on the day to assist with timing, line stewarding, as a marshaller for the warm up area and for setup and equipment crew.

Competition Information

Each competitor must keep to his/her own lane.

If at the starters & TD discretion, a false start is declared, riders will be recalled by whistle or bell. All riders, having completed their race must leave the area of play in a straight line from their starting box and not cut across other lanes even if the riders in those lanes have finished.

Riders waiting to enter the playing area must not interfere in any way with the other riders and must at all times remember that they are on public display and must sit astride their horse in a tidy and horseman like manner.

The fifth rider when not competing must remain in the marshalling area.

Schooling on the course is not permitted

Finals

If all three teams are disqualified in the final for infringement of the rules, the placings will be determined by the times taken in the qualifying round.

If one or two teams are eliminated in the final those teams will be placed 2nd and 3rd according to their times in the qualifying round.

Teams which do not reach the final will be placed according to their qualifying round time.