

Ride To Time **RULES**



Effective

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PONY CLUB
VICTORIA

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A great horse will change your life.... the truly special ones define it!

SECTION A - GENERAL INFORMATION

A.1. GENERAL RULES

These rules apply to all PCV Ride To Time competitions and are to be used for competitions conducted by member clubs, zones and PCV, and are to be used in conjunction with the Pony Club Victoria Bylaws [Rules Hub – Pony Club Victoria](#) and Pony Club Australia National Gear Rules. [POLICIES & RISK MANAGEMENT - Pony Club Australia](#)

Entering a pony club Ride To Time event constitutes acknowledgement that PCV rules apply and acceptance of these rules.

MEMBER – throughout the book the word ‘member’ refers to a person who is financial with a pony club affiliated or on probation with the Pony Club Victoria. Words importing the masculine gender only, are inclusive of all gender identities.

Ride To Time competitions involve competitors trialing over 1000m at racecourses or training tracks, aiming to ride the optimum time which is set according to the combinations grade.

Zones conduct trials where combinations participate in Maiden or Open grades.

The skill is based on the riding and timing skills of jockeys/trackwork riders.

Maiden optimum time is 120seconds over 1000m.

Open optimum time is 109 seconds over 1000m.

A.2. Grading & Eligibility

All combinations must be suitably graded.

Pony Club Victoria uses a grading system based on the ability of the horse and rider as a combination. Refer to [Rules Hub – Pony Club Victoria](#) for further information.

Ungraded combinations may not ride Hors Concours. Ungraded training may only be run at formally supervised training sessions/schools/clinics.

At their discretion, zone Ride To Time coaches, may make a recommendation to the Club DC for a combination to be upgraded or downgraded.

Any rider that is currently working in or has worked in the racing industry as a track rider and/or jockey, must ride in Open grade.

SECTION B – GENERAL RULES FOR ORGANISERS

B.1. Schedules

- B.1.1. All schedules/promotional information and entry forms must be pre-approved by the Zone Representative before being released. Refer to Pony Club Victoria bylaws and [Event Management – Pony Club Victoria](#), for these details plus other requirements for organising committees.
- B.1.2. The organising committee should publish a schedule of the competition not less than six weeks before the event. Schedules should state:
- a. Place and date of the event – with grades to be held.
 - b. Organiser's contact details including all phone numbers.
 - c. Closing date and conditions of entry.
 - d. Brief instructions on how to reach the venue for the competition.
 - e. Administrative arrangements, such as stabling and accommodation, if required.
 - f. Disclaimer of liability (see B.5.).
 - g. Organiser's reservation of right (see B.6.).

B.2. Entries

- B.2.1. Refer to C.3.1.e. and [Rules Hub – Pony Club Victoria](#) re multiple horses.
- B.2.2. A combination, which is re-graded after entries close, must be transferred to the appropriate grade if the organising committee can accommodate the entry.

B.3. Appointment of Officials

- B.3.1. All officials shall be appointed by the organisers. The officials for the event are as follows:
- a. Veterinary. Refer to [Minimum-Medical-Standards-for-Pony-Club-Guidelines-2023.pdf \(ponyclubaustralia.com.au\)](#)
 - b. Gear Inspection. Refer to the Pony Club Australia National Gear Rules found here [NATIONAL GEAR RULES - Pony Club Australia](#)
 - c. Medical / First aid. Refer to [Minimum-Medical-Standards-for-Pony-Club-](#)

- d. Ride To Time Coach. There must be a zone appointed Ride To Time coach.

Their duties are:

- a. To arrange rider briefing and supervision of the trials.
- b. To arrange timekeepers.
- c. To ensure the track is in order and that all officials are in place before the trials begin.
- d. To act immediately should a dangerous situation arise.
- e. To eliminate the combination if they are for any reason considered unfit to proceed.

B.4. Programs

B.4.1. Refer to rule B.1 and [Rules Hub – Pony Club Victoria](#)

B.4.2. All programs should include the following:

- a. Statement that the trials are to be held under the current PCV rules.
- b. Disclaimer of liability.
- c. Organising committee's reservation of right.

The following additional items may be included:

- d. Judges, veterinary and medical officers.
- e. Brief rules and system of scoring.
- f. Advertisements, sponsors.

B.5. Disclaimer of Liability

The disclaimer of liability must be printed on all entry forms, schedules and programs:

“Neither the organising committee of this competition, clinic or activity nor the PCV accepts any responsibility whatsoever for any accident, damage, injury or illness to horses, riders, ground spectators or any other person or property.”

B.6. Reservation of Right

The organising committee reserves the right:

- a. To cancel any class or event,
- b. To divide any class,
- c. To alter the advertised times and/or,
- d. To refuse entry, with or, without stating the reason.

This reservation must be printed on all schedules and programs.

B.7. Insurance

Refer to [Rules Hub – Pony Club Victoria](#) and [Pony Club \(gowgatessport.com.au\)](http://gowgatessport.com.au)

B.8. Orders

Riders and owners of competing horses and their assistants must, under penalty of elimination, obey any order or direction given by any responsible official. All people on the grounds must be careful not to do anything liable to upset or hinder the process of the competition.

B.9. Queries and Protests

Refer to [Rules Hub – Pony Club Victoria](#)

B.10. Order of Starting

The order of starting will be drawn after the closing date of entries.

- B.10.1. The order of starting will be adhered to throughout the competition unless the organizing committee decides to the contrary. Competitors must, under penalty of elimination, be prepared to start at the times listed on the schedule, or as amended by the organizing committee.

B.11. Scorers and Scoring

- B.11.1. The organisers shall appoint competent people to carry out the scoring for the competition.
- B.11.2. Times to be recorded in min:sec:msec eg 1:59:22 = 1 min, 59 seconds, 22 milliseconds. Difference = Difference over or under optimum time and qualifier time.
- B.11.3. Zone qualifier results to be submitted to the State Ride To Time Coach / PCV Office on

the official Ride To Time score sheet within 48 hours of completion of the zone qualifier.

B.12. Results

- B.12.1 Results announced while the competition is still in progress are subject to confirmation. The time of posting must be written on the scoresheet.

B.13. Prize Giving & Zone Participation Award

Refer to [Rules Hub – Pony Club Victoria](#)

- B.13.1. The zone which achieves the most participation at their qualifiers will be awarded the Zone Participation trophy. This is presented at the State Championships event.

B.14. Recording Qualifications for State Championships

As per rule B.11.

B.15. Horse Welfare – Destruction of Severely Injured Horse

PCV follows the Pony Club Australia Horse Welfare Policy [PCA-Horse-Welfare-Policy-WEB.pdf](#)
(ponyclubaustralia.com.au)

- B.15.1. If a horse is so severely injured that on humanitarian grounds it ought to be destroyed, the following procedure will apply:
- a. If the owner or authorized representative is present, agreement will be first obtained by the official veterinary surgeon.
 - b. At state events, if the owner or authorized representative is not available, the PCV General Manager, or nominated representative acting on the advice of the official veterinary surgeon, may order the destruction of the horse.
 - c. At club and zone events, if the owner or authorized representative is not available, the Zone Representative, or nominated representative acting on the advice of the official veterinary surgeon, may order the destruction of the horse.
 - d. Before taking this action, the nominated representatives must satisfy themselves that every effort has been made to contact the owner.

B.16. Gear Check

- B.16.1. All competitors must present to the gear check official prior to competing, or risk elimination.

B.17. Rider Fall

All rider falls must be assessed by the appointed event First Aid Officer before the rider can proceed further in the competition.

- A rider fall release form must be completed. [Rider-Fall-Release-Form-2019.pdf \(ponyclubvic.org.au\)](#)
- See the PCA minimum medical standards for first aid requirements pertaining to event. [Minimum-Medical-Standards-for-Pony-Club-Guidelines-2023.pdf \(ponyclubaustralia.com.au\)](#)
- An incident report must be completed. [INCIDENT REPORTING - Pony Club Australia](#)

B.18. Eliminations

B.18.1. General Eliminations/Disqualifications

No	Rule	
1	A.2.	Failure to be eligible as a graded combination.
2	B.3.1.b.	Competing when using non-approved gear.
3	B16.	Failure to undergo a gear check before competition.
4	B.3.1.	Failure to obey orders/directions of officials.
5	A1.	Riding over, on or near the racetrack except when competing.
6	B.15.	Abuse of horse as per PCA Horse Welfare Policy
7	B.15.	Doping of any horse and/or rider taking stimulating or calming product in any shape or form
8	B.15.	If the horse is so lame and the jury of appeal decides that the horse shall not continue, the competitor will be eliminated.
9	B.17.	Fall of rider anywhere on venue resulting in unconsciousness or concussion. Failure to submit a signed 'Fall of Rider' release form after a minor fall anywhere on the venue.

B.19. Inspection of the Track

- B.19.1. Prior to any Ride To Time qualifier, an appointed PCV official must inspect the track and supporting infrastructure and declare it to be safe and fit for purpose.

SECTION C – STATE CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

C.1. General Information

The Championships are usually held on the first Saturday of September at Moonee Valley Racing Club. Each zone may enter one combination for each Open and Maiden category.

C.2. Pony Club Victoria Ride To Time State Championships

This competition is for individuals who are members of a club affiliated with Pony Club Victoria.

C.3. Qualification Requirements

- C.3.1. Any rider wishing to compete in the PCV Ride To Time State Championships must qualify according to these conditions:
- a. Combinations must be qualified in either Open or Maiden grades.
 - b. Combinations can record one qualifying time, per zone qualifier, per day.
 - c. Combinations can only ride a maximum of 3 x 1000m consisting of a familiarization round, practice round and a qualification round at any qualifier.
 - d. Riders must have achieved the C Certificate (unless exempt as per bylaw 34.11.a) by 1st August of the year the rider qualifies for the State Championships.
 - e. Only one horse/rider combination may compete at the State Championship event.
 - If a rider qualifies on more than one horse and is accepted by PCV as a finalist, should their no.1 horse not be available, the position at the state final is offered to the next qualified combination in the relevant zone.
 - Second and subsequent horses a rider has qualified on will then be eligible as per their qualifying position.
 - f. Each zone will endeavor to provide riders with at least two qualification events. If a zone is unable to do this, riders will be required to travel to another zone to compete.
 - When riders compete outside of their 'home' zone, the combinations qualification is recorded by the zone coach and provided to the State Ride To Time coach.
 - Combinations may compete in any zone to obtain a qualification.
 - There is no limit to the number of qualification events a combination can

enter.

- g. Combinations must attain a minimum of two qualifications in the calendar year, to be eligible for consideration to ride in the State Championships.
- h. Final approval to compete in the State Championships must be provided by each combination's Zone Representative.
- i. Combinations that have competed in the State Championships at Maiden grade and ride within 2 seconds of the optimum time, shall be upgraded to Open grade for subsequent years.
- j. Combinations that have competed in the PCV State Championships in Open grade, must remain in Open grade for subsequent trials.

C.4. State Championship Announcements

C.4.1. The announcement process is as follows:

- 1. Ride To Time zone coaches will submit results to the PCV State coach after each qualification event is complete.
- 2. At the conclusion of all zone qualification events, the PCV Ride To Time committee will verify all results.
- 3. Finalist details are forwarded to the PCV Zone Representative for approval.
- 4. Pony Club Victoria officially announces finalists and notifies successful riders of their selection to the State Championships.

C.5. General Rules for Zone Qualifiers

- C.5.1. Each zone may conduct its own zone final to be held at their local racetrack. This can be counted as a state qualifier event should it fall within the eligible qualification dates as set by PCV.
- C.5.2. Each zone may conduct a zone series. Zone series winners are not automatically qualified for the PCV State Championships.



**“Safety does not
come with luck.
It has to be
prepared!”**