

*Report from Zone Examining Secretary.
August 2009.
For N.M.Z. Annual General Meeting*

In the pony club year just completed the following 13 clubs have had groups present for their C certificate Test :

St Andrews	Upper Yarra	Lilydale	Mooroolbark
Kinglake	North Eastern	Hurstbridge	Wyena
Donvale	Kangaroo Ground	Yarrambat	Mt Evelyn
Seville			

A total of 74 C candidates have completed C tests.

There are also 14 candidates who have passed their written C test this pony club year but as yet have not been in a position to complete their ridden section.(ie lame horse, new horse, medical problems etc)

I would like to say thank you to St Andrews Pony Club for hosting a mixed C group in the holidays to allow riders who missed part (or all) of their practical riding to complete their C certificates.

Also the following 4 clubs have lodged applications for tests which are still to be held in September and October:

North Eastern, Kangaroo Ground, Eltham, Wyena,
making another 35 requests for C tests.

So in total we have therefore had $74 + 14 + 35 = 123$ candidates receiving instruction for C certificate this year.

I must add that I have enjoyed meeting all the candidates when they come to sit their written tests. Its always great to see “a somewhat different group of people” in here after sitting the test to those who have apprehensively arrived beforehand.

So we must congratulate all the NMZ riders who have gained certificates this year. We must also thank the people from each club who have been involved in facilitating the tests, including parents, D.C.s, instructors, certificates co-ordinators, and examiners.

We have also had two candidates who are working towards B certificate. Unfortunately due to the bushfires this year their program has been interrupted but we wish them success in following this up during the next pony club year. Although we have not had any candidates pass K this year we do have some riders currently working towards their K certificates. It often takes riders 2 or 3 years to complete options for this.

I must once again say a big “Thankyou” to the great group of examiners who give up their weekends and travel all over our zone to take C tests. Thank you to clubs who have looked after the examiners, set out equipment prior to their arrival, had pencilers ready to help them, and provided them with lovely lunches and morning teas. This all makes their job pleasant, and as I have said before we only have a limited number of examiners we must continue to be encouraging. **We need them.**

We must all remember to “Thank” and take care of all the wonderful ponies who make all of this possible for our riders.

A reminder again that clubs presently training C candidates should ensure that D & D* work is revised as some of this can be included in C –many activities seem so simple but often bad habits *creep in* without constant reinforcement!

For club C test organiser's information, the "The New Zealand Instructors Manual" and "Horsemastership for the Pony Club" are the two manuals still used by our zone for training and examining candidates. The Pony Club Vic "C" Certificate Manual and The Pony Club Vic "C" Efficiency Test Activity Sheets" are useful adjuncts to these manuals. They are part of the "C Kit". PCAV recommends that all candidates have a copy of the "C Kit" and most clubs ask candidates to purchase their own copy of "Horsemastership for the Pony Club."

Other information : North Metro Zone holds C tests at Pony Clubs throughout the year from February until the end of October.

PCAV has two set dates on which candidates may sit for written K tests. These are:

1st Saturday in July

1st Saturday in December

North metro Zone has two set dates on which candidates may sit for practical K tests. These are:

1st Saturday in April (2nd Sat if 1st clashes with Easter)

1st Saturday in September.

Please remember that applications **MUST** be on **official application forms** and submitted to the Zone Examining Secretary **two months prior** to these dates.

I would like to once again wish all riders, members and officials good luck for the coming pony club year.

Diane Baxter.

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