



# Watagan Equestrian Club

December 2013 Newsletter

[www.watagan.org.au](http://www.watagan.org.au)

## Watagan Equestrian Committee

**President** – Kellie Cuskelly

**Vice President** – Brett Warren

**Treasurer** – Marg Abbott

**Secretary** – Brooke Antees

**Dressage Co-ordinator** - Rochelle Lawson

**Sponsors** – Jackie Thompson



The WEC committee wishes you a  
*Merry Christmas*  
and a wonderful 2013



## From the Committee...

Dear Members and Supporters

Well, it's nearly the end of the year already.

It was a shame we had to cancel the last competition for the year on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November. With all the rain we had in the previous week, even though the day itself wasn't too bad, the grounds can get quite slippery after rain so it was agreed to call the day off rather than risk injuries to any person or horse. You should have all received your refunds from Nominate last week.

We have been liaising with the Cooranbong Equestrian Reserve Care and Control Committee along with Lake Macquarie Council to make some improvements on the grounds. We have applied for a club grant to improve the soil structure and enhance plant available nutrition with the aim to have a healthier soil and thicker turf so the water doesn't lie on top and become slippery. We are waiting to hear if we were successful before Christmas.

Next year we look forward to planning more dressage training days and hopefully combined showjumping days. As always the success of these days depends on who is available to help out both in organizing before the day and the running on the day. If you would like other activities included please let us know, and we welcome all and any assistance.

We enjoyed holding our first mini One Day Event training day in October at Hidden Valley this year and are planning on holding another one of these in 2014 subject to committee and venue availability.

Meanwhile if you feel you could assist our small committee in any way, please let us know. We will be having a Christmas get together on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December at Morisset Country Club and we look forward to seeing you all there – more details further in this newsletter.

*Happy Riding and have a Wonderful and Safe  
Christmas Holidays*



*Note: Dates and Details  
are subject to change,  
please check the website  
for up to date information.*

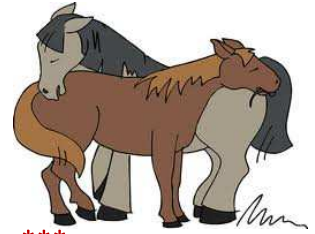
## WEC Calendar of Events 2014

- \* **Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February** – Cooranbong Equestrian Grounds  
Dressage Training Day – Closed Unrestricted and Restricted
- \* **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> March** – Morisset Showground  
Competitive/Closed Unrestricted Dressage Competition
- \* **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May** – Cooranbong Equestrian Grounds  
Dressage and Showjumping Training Day – Closed Unrestricted and Restricted
- \* **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July** – Morisset Showground  
Competitive/Closed Unrestricted Dressage Competition
- \* **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September** – Cooranbong Equestrian Grounds  
Dressage and Showjumping Training Day – Closed Unrestricted and Restricted
- \* **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November** – Cooranbong Equestrian Grounds  
Dressage Training and Protocol Day – Closed Unrestricted

# New Memberships due 1 January 2014

Watagan Equestrian Club memberships run from **1 January to 31 December** every year.

This means that all memberships expire this year and will need to be renewed early next year. Memberships are due on 1 January and you must be a member of either our club, or Equestrian Australia (EA) to participate in any of our Dressage, Show jumping or Event days for insurance reasons.



*\*\*\* Special deal for new members in 2014 \*\*\**

Usually the cost for yearly membership is \$30 per person or \$60 per family (consisting of up to 2 adults and up to 2 children) plus a one off \$20 joining fee.

If you are a new member and you join WEC before the end of January 2014 you can pay **half price joining fee**, so you pay only \$10 joining fee plus \$30 yearly fee.

*\*\*\* Chance to win for 'returning' members in 2014 \*\*\**

For those who are already members you do not need to pay the joining fee, only the \$30 yearly renewal.

**Everyone who refers a new member before 30 Jan is entered into a draw** for a chance to win a hamper worth \$50 full of Ranvet horse products including supplements and worming pastes.

Just e-mail us at [wec@live.com.au](mailto:wec@live.com.au) and let us know the name of the person you brought to the club. .

## Christmas Club Social Evening

As we were looking forward to our Christmas drinks and nibbbles after the November training day which was unfortunately cancelled, the committee decided to have a social get together on

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2013, from 7.00pm.**



This will be at Morisset Country/Golf club in Michael's café and bistro section to begin with (we may end up at the bar later in the evening). Please RSVP to our secretary Brooke at [wec@live.com.au](mailto:wec@live.com.au) so we can make a reservation for the correct numbers. Meal prices vary from \$8.00 to \$30.00 plus drinks. Come and enjoy a get together with your other club members and the committee and have a fun night out!

## Volunteer co-coordinator Position needs to be filled

Our small committee are already stretched to capacity and we desperately need a Volunteer co-ordinator to assist us for our training days. You don't need to be a committee member, and you don't have to come to meetings, you don't have to live nearby, you don't even have to be horsey - you just need to be a bit organised and have access to e-mails and a phone. You would be responsible for organising volunteers for our club days including gear checkers, scorers, pencilers, runners, setting up and taking down arenas. Without these jobs being filled, we can't run any days, so please help, this is YOUR club.



## Timebanking – Give an hour, receive an hour

As a way to demonstrate that we value volunteer effort at events, WEC has registered as an organisation with Timebanking. Individuals can register online ([www.timebanking.com.au](http://www.timebanking.com.au)), claim the hours that they volunteer for WEC and then 'spend' those hours. You can request a range of services from other timebankers in your area, such as: tutoring, cooking, singing lessons, yard work, dog walking, transport, horse minding.

The WEC code for claiming hours is TBAU003689. If you know someone who could benefit from some community help, let them know that they can volunteer for WEC and receive credit through Timebanking to receive some help.



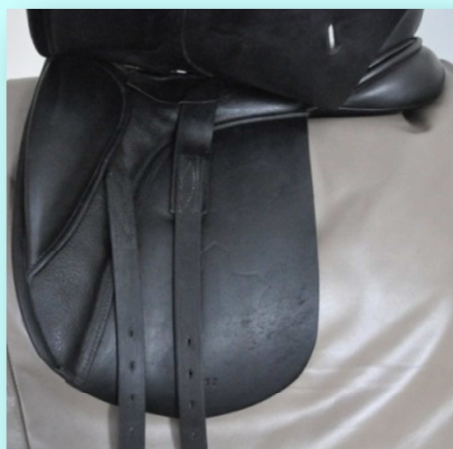
## *Dressage/show saddle for sale*

Black, beautiful leather, great condition, extremely comfortable saddle that puts you in a perfect position. Average size knee rolls, lovely saddle to ride in.

PJ saddles are made by Paul Jones in Birmingham, England from Sedgewick English leather with a synthetic tree. The saddle gullet size can be adjusted.

16 ½ inch seat, great dressage saddle and many are also used in the show ring as they are small and neat. Medium gullet, has fit all my horses from Thoroughbred, Warmbloods, Stockhorse and Clydie cross. Always kept indoors, covered and oiled.

Paid \$2,400 from Horseland Dural, now selling \$950.00 ono which is a bargain as it is in almost new condition. Call 0418 114 200 or e-mail [marg@sherwoodpark.com.au](mailto:marg@sherwoodpark.com.au).



**Leather Lungeing roller**

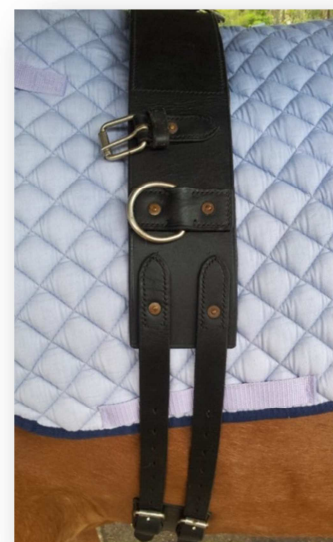
**\$50 ono**

**Includes girth**

**Excellent condition**

**Call/text Rochelle**

**0428 428 220**



## Dress requirements for a training day?

We often are asked this, and although we do include it on the front page of our draw, people seem to still be unsure, so we thought we'd include a few corrections and suggestions in the newsletter. The photos on the right were all taken at our training days and all show riders with the correct gear on, including white/beige jodhpurs and saddlecloths, collared shirts and gloves with correct saddle, bridles, boots and helmets. Well done guys!

So, as per our Conditions of Entry:

**\* DRESS** – *Appropriate approved equipment for both horse and rider must be worn at all times when either mounted or handling a horse. A 'training day' is practice for the real competitions, so general EA rules still apply. This includes approved bridles, saddles, helmets, boots and gloves.*

*For Training days riders do not need to wear jackets but must wear a collared shirt such as a polo shirt, no singlets or sleeveless tops. Jodhpurs and saddle cloths should be white or beige. Plaiting is optional.*

So what are 'approved bridles, saddles, helmets, boots and gloves? To find this out you need to go onto the Equestrian Australia website, go to 'Sports' tab and then scroll down to the 'Dressage rules'. There are 10 pages of allowed helmets, bits, bridles, saddles and saddlecloths, spurs, whips, coast etc and a few pages of things 'not allowed at any venues'. Most of these rules are for the safety of the riders and to protect the welfare of the horse.

In general for a dressage training day up to Elementary level if you wear a collared shirt (any colour), gloves (any colour), white or beige saddlecloth and jodhpurs, riding boots (can be long or short, black or brown – if gaiters are worn with short boots they must be full grain leather on the outside and match the colour of the boots), and an approved safety helmet (black, brown or blue) you will be fine (and look wonderful).

For your horse, you'll need a dressage or all purpose saddle (black or brown), a snaffle bridle (black or brown) with a dropped, cavesson, flash or crossed noseband with a snaffle metal bit (or metal covered with rubber or latex, but not solely rubber). Whips cannot be longer than 1.2 m and spurs must also meet the compliance regulations.

If you have any questions about these you are welcome to contact us.



If you have anything you would like to add, or advertise in this newsletter, please e-mail [marg@sherwoodpark.com.au](mailto:marg@sherwoodpark.com.au)