



Lockyer Equestrian Group

Monthly Newsletter

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www.legs.org.au



(FT) Lyette Kellam and Glenore's Tectonic Groove at the Beyond Blue t-shirt hack day



(RIGHT) Lyn Robertson judges the beginner ponies with the help of Chantal Simpson

President's report...

Hello Members.

Welcome to the New Year at LEGs! It's great to see so many new and returning members, ready for another great year of competition in the Lockyer Valley.

The year has gotten off to a flying start with our inaugural LEGs T-Shirt Charity Hack Show and Open Dressage Competition, which proudly supported *beyondblue*. This day far exceeded our expectations, with overwhelming support from riders, from near and far, and lots of happy, smiling faces to be seen all day. We smashed our fundraising goal of \$1000, with a \$2000 donation to be made to *beyondblue* in due course. Huge thanks to everyone who came and helped, and donated their time for this worthy cause. Our competitions wouldn't happen without volunteers, and the club values every contribution.

We have had a few changes to our committee line up this year, details of which are available on the website. If at any time you wish to discuss any club matters, please feel free to approach a committee member or attend one of our meetings. They are held the first Monday of each month at the Marburg Hall, and are a great way to keep up to date and be involved with club matters.

I would like to wish everyone good luck in their new competition year, and I hope you are all able to reach your goals and perform your best all year.

Happy riding,

Sharon

Upcoming Events

March

20th - LEG's members dressage day, Gatton Indoor Equestrian Centre

April

4th – club meeting, Marburg Hall, 7.30pm

10th – LEG's members dressage day, Gatton Indoor Equestrian



WINNER: Supreme hack, Willowcroft Hot Topic, ridden by Kylie Barker.
Photos: Ali Kuchel Photography

Kylie too hot for hack day show

GATTON rider Kylie Barker has claimed supreme hack at the Lockyer Equestrian Group's t-shirt hack day, raising funds for Beyond Blue.

The club member, riding Shona Clarke's Willowcroft Hot Topic, was given the opportunity to ride "Ralph" after her new horse had to be retired before the competition.

"I was planning on showing her at the hack day," Kylie said.

"Shona let me ride Ralph instead."

Over the past six months, Kylie has ridden Ralph for Shona, taking him to local hack days and competing at LEG's dressage days.

She said prior to Shona owning Ralph,

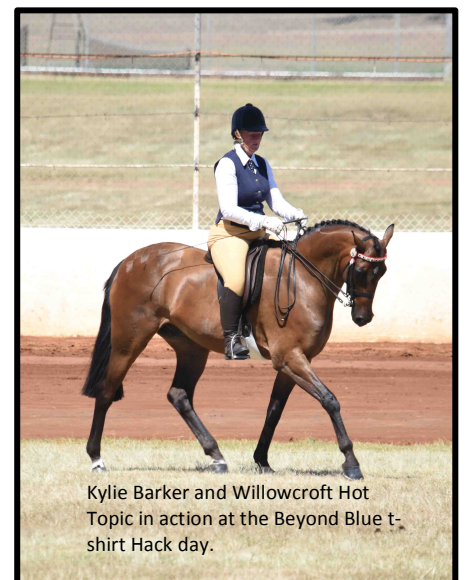
he had only ever been a show horse.

"But as I love dressage, we also decided to start him at some dressage comps to see how his education was progressing," Kylie said.

Ralph, a riding pony by Oakvale Serenade, has proved he's got what it takes in the arena and in the hack circles with his relaxed and laid-back personality.

Kylie said this year Shona is looking to take Ralph to the Ag shows and compete in dressage.

"I enjoy the support from LEG's and the competitors are always friendly and it's always a lovely atmosphere," Kylie said.



Kylie Barker and Willowcroft Hot Topic in action at the Beyond Blue t-shirt Hack day.

Horses graze for most of the day, keeping on top of their teeth hygiene is important

HORSES teeth are completely different to human teeth, and continue to erupt, as they grow older.

Maintaining their teeth not only helps with eating, but also riding comfort for the horse (and the rider!)

up twice per year.

Our friends are unable to tell you if verbally if they've got a tooth ache, so stay on top of their health to avoid unnecessary bills.

Benefits of EQ membership

HAVE you thought of registering with Equestrian Queensland, but not sure on what the deal is?

Equestrian Queensland (EQ) have a number of membership levels on offer and they run for a calendar year.

EQ offer Competitor, participant and supporter for riders, with the competitor and participant memberships coming with 24/7 personal accident and public liability insurance (for those who don't earn an income from equestrian activities).

To compete "competitively" horse and rider are required to be registered for dressage levels preliminary upwards, and for show jumpers, if competing over 1.05m.

In eventing, horses are only required to be registered when competing EvA95 or higher.

There are a number of benefits for being an EQ registered rider, including horse registration and biosecurity support.

Riders also have access to training, education and development opportunities as well as competitive rights in official and participant competitions.

For a senior competitor, EQ membership will cost you \$380, and \$255 if you're a junior.

As a participant (non-competitive events), the fee is \$195 for seniors and \$145 juniors.

A full life registration for your favourite four-legged friend is a one-off \$185. For more info contact EQ on 3891 6611.

First time competitors

OUR first LEG Member's Competition is fast approaching, and no doubt it will be the first dressage competition for some of our members. Here are some tips to help you navigate the day like a seasoned pro.

*Prior to the competition, have a read over the EA Rule book, to make yourself familiar with rules governing our sport, and to check your saddlery, equipment and outfit are legal. Some points to note: nosebands are compulsory, gloves are compulsory and whips must not exceed 120cm (horses) or 100cm (ponies) total length.
<http://www.equestrian.org.au/Dressage-rules>

*You are required to present to gear check prior to your test. Try to be there about 10-15min before your allotted time. It is a good idea to ask the gear check steward where the class is up to and who you follow, so you can be ready to go on time.

*In the event of a lot of scratchings, you may be asked to ride early to keep the competition flowing.

*The warm up arena can be daunting for some horses and riders, but try to remember the golden rule of passing left shoulder to left shoulder. If someone is in a faster pace, eg canter, then they have right of way and if someone is riding a lateral movement, then they take precedence over all other paces. Always move to the inner track if you are going to make a downward transition or halt, and try to keep your eyes up and be aware of other horses in the warm up arena!

*When it is your turn, you may start tracking around the outside of the arena once the previous horse has made its final halt and is exiting the arena. You should pass the judges car/table and the penciller will make note of your bridle number and identify you on the draw. Once the judge sounds their horn/bell, then you have 45 seconds to enter the arena.



How to amaze judges

ANY equine competition can get the nerves pumping, but dressage judge Jen Willis has some tips to help riders.

Tip 1: Offer to scribe - if you tell the judge who you are penciling for that you're interested in learning, we will explain what we are seeing and why we are marking the way we do. I have picked up many tips to improve my test riding by sitting in the car and seeing what judges see. You might even consider becoming a judge.

Tip 2: March on in walk - the walk needs to be a march with purpose on a long rein. Don't allow your horse to amble across while you think about what is for lunch on a loose rein with no contact! The walk has a coefficient of 2 – so don't throw away marks.