



## POLOCROSSE VICTORIA INCORPORATED

A0004665U

**President:** Matt Morgan

**Vice-President:** Johnny Zainia

**Executive Officer:** Michael Schaefer 0419039485

**Chief Umpire:** Tony Astbury

**Contact:** polocrossevictoria@gmail.com

**Website:** polocrossevic.org.au

### President's Address August 2022 update

Dear Polocrosse Victoria members.

The 2022 Victorian playing season is now behind us all and we can reflect on the many successful highlights including the Ballarat National Titles, followed by the Victorian Club Championships hosted by the Ballan Club, the QLD Barastoc Competition in May, and seeing four Victorian players make Australian Representative Teams including Corey Buys, Taylor Radford, Kim Templeton and Angus Templeton. An amazing feat as we are one of the smaller states.

Your committee has been working hard over the winter months to create several new events for the Spring of 2022 and the upcoming season in 2023, including securing access to Werribee Park Equestrian Centre.

The List for upcoming events and matters of interest include the following:

- Invitation to Adelaide Show. We have been invited to host a team to play at Adelaide Show on 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> of September. Noel Semmens is providing a Chukka, yet we still have 3 spots available to any player of any ability including a junior to join the team. It would be great to see Victoria play at the Adelaide show again. Any interest direct to myself on mobile 0427 518 077. We are hoping to fill these positions this week.
- We have been contacted by WA with regards to an Under 21 coaching/development weekend they are planning for 15/16 of October. Players who are interested would be billeted out with locals and be lent a horse for the weekend. The sides would all be mixed up pool sides and each one would have a coach. Can you let Hugh Armstrong know as soon as possible if any of you would be interested in this, mobile 0438 689 274.
- We are seeking expressions of interest for a Level One Coaching Accreditation for later this year. The syllabus has changed from past years and quite a bit can be done online meaning that we only have to have 1 day of face to face. Please let Hugh Armstrong know as soon as you can if you are keen.



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- Volunteers needed to help with Pony club coaching. There are a number of Pony clubs keen to have Polocrosse coaching at a rally with a very strong interest in Pony club Polocrosse for next year. I urge anyone who can spare a day to let Hugh Armstrong know so that he can organise a Pony club close to you. It generally involves a few hours on the first Sunday of the month.
- Following the success and popularity of indoor polocrosse at both Unicorn Park Ballarat and Benalla Equestrian Centre, we plan to host several Spring Indoor Polocrosse Chukka events. Our first Indoor event "Fast Fours" will be hosted at Werribee Park Equestrian Centre on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> of September. We have booked the WPEC indoor arena from 4 pm on Saturday afternoon through to 3 pm Sunday afternoon. Camping is available on Saturday night, with bar and BBQ. We wish to give the option to players new and old to play either Saturday night and Sunday, or just one of the days. You can play as many horses as you wish. We aim to make up chukkas of 2 players in a team, that play one four minute chukka. We aim to keep everyone saddled up and rotating through quickly with multiple chukka runs per team. We will match players of equal grading. We hope many friends and families can come and watch, enjoying the bar facilities and meal whilst watching the game. Any 2022 Financial member is welcome to participate including blue bandage. Check the Polocrosse Victoria Facebook site for details.
- Tony Asbury will be hosting an Umpire Coaching Clinic on October 29<sup>th</sup> at Ballarat, where participants will have the opportunity to have their Umpire Grading level assessed and increased. The coaching is open to all Victorian players interested in increasing their umpiring skills. Interested participants to contact Tony direct on mobile : 0419 353 151
- The state will be hosting an U21 Coaching Clinic with Sandra and Will Weston at Benalla Equestrian Centre on November 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>. This is open to every Victorian State player aged 16-20 years old. There is no charge for the clinic, with Polocrosse Victoria covering the cost and providing the meals. Every participant will receive \$100 toward travel expenses. This is a unique opportunity to spend some one on one time with two exceptional players and horse riders. All interested U21 players please contact Hugh Armstrong on mobile 0438 689 274.
- The Polocrosse Victoria committee wishes to introduce and trial an updated Tournament Grading System for 2023 to increase fairness, clarity and transparency in team gradings. The Victorian 2023 Polocrosse Season will be played under the following point cap system:



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- A Grade – 40+
  - B Grade – 31-39
  - C Grade – 24-30
  - D Grade – 18-23
  - E Grade – 12-17
  - F Grade 3-11
  - Sub-juniors
- The Australian Club Championships, Werribee Park, Easter 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> April 2023. Following discussion with Polocrosse Australia Board Members to host a national draw card event in Victoria similar to Barastoc and the Albury Junior Classic, it was decided Victoria would re invigorate the Australian Club Championships, and event not hosted since 1984. We wish to host a national event that is open to all players from all clubs within Australia. The event will be played under the point cap system described above. We will also be running a “Fast Fours” indoor Jackpot Competition in the evenings, adding to entertainment. To encourage competitors to travel to Victoria, the Australian club championships will be one three major carnivals played in a row in Southern Australia including:
    - 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> April (Easter 2023) Australian Club Championships Werribee Park
    - 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> April Victorian Club Championships (Gippsland zone)
    - 20<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> April Albury Junior Classic.

More details will circulated shortly.

- The Polocrosse Victoria AGM will be hosted on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November at Oscars Hotel Ballarat. Face to face only, no zoom. We are hoping as may people can make this as we have an exciting year ahead of us with many items to discuss. All input is valued.
- Player information update. We wish to keep all players and club secretaries informed of information and events. To do so we ask all members to check their contact details on the members database are correct and up to date including email and mobile phone numbers. This is important to check, as some of us including myself filled out details over a decade ago that have now changed.
- A draft 2023 playing calendar is described below. We wish all clubs to review these dates and communicate with the Committee through their Club secretaries their thoughts. We wish to lock the calendar by September 15<sup>th</sup> to provide all clubs and players plenty of time to plan their season. Only the first two tournaments will be multi horse.



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### ○ DRAFT 2023 TOURNAMENT DATES

- JAN 7-8                    NARACORTE
- JAN 14-15                NARACORTE
- JAN 21-22                GIPPSLAND (1 or 2 days multi horse)
- JAN 28-29                PORTLAND multi horse
  
- FEB 4-5                    SALE
- FEB 11-12                CORIO
- FEB 18-19                BALLAN
- FEB 25-26                GOULBURN VALLEY
  
- MAR 4-5                    MOOROODUC
- MAR 11-12                CASTERTON
- MAR 18-19                BALLARAT
- MAR 25-26                (1 or 2 days)
  
- APR 1-2                    TRAFALGAR
- APR 7-8                    AUSTRALIAN CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS (WERRIBEE)
- APR 14-15                STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS (GIPPSLAND OR OTHER)

I am available any time electronically or by phone to discuss the above points or any other matter in detail. Do not hesitate to call as I am open to advice and constructive criticism.

- Mobile 0427 518 077
- Email [mineralx@aapt.net.au](mailto:mineralx@aapt.net.au)

Regards

Matt Morgan  
President