



SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

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**It's not the team with the best players that win. It's the
players with the best team that wins.**

- John Gordon

Courtesy – The 9th Chukka

From page 10

Thanks for the support

Mon., February 20, 1995

It was back on the bus again with the girls still vying for positions.

Stopping off in Hamilton for lunch and last-minute shopping we arrived at the Auckland travelodge around 6.30pm.

Ken Malcolm trekked along with us to take charge of our gallant little mini bus and trailer that carted us around for the three weeks in New Zealand.

Many thanks to Bev, our very capable coach, as always very organised and easy to get along with, showing that she has the expertise to be a great coach and, most of all, a great person on and off the field.

Also thanks to Keith, being his first international polocrosse tour away it must have been a real eye-opener for him having three weeks away with nine women (especially us), an experience all on its own.

To Sally a BIG thank-you for being a slave, our laundry lady, errand lady and for your endless restocking of supplies.

I'm sure all the girls agree with me when I say thanks very much, Sally!

I think in wrapping up, the drawing for the horses worked very well, much better than the pooling system in the past.

With a few alterations that have been recommended for the future, it should make for a very fair competition in any country.

The three weeks away was a wonderful trip, not only was the polocrosse great but the friendships between everyone was great, and I thank all the crew for two huge wins, we can't ask for more than that.

Reciprocal visit to US a success for juniors

After last year's successful Ryan Lynch Memorial Tour by players from the United States, a reciprocal visit of five weeks was arranged for a NSW junior team.

The team is now touring Colorado and Utah, playing with local clubs at weekend tournaments in Aspen and Durango.

Midway through the tour, Joy Poole, the coach of the NSW junior team in the US, has reported a win to the team she played with at the Durango Father's Day Tour-

nament.

Will Weston and Joy Poole, playing a horse called Air Raid, were in the team from Snowmass Mountain.

Will Weston is playing outstanding polocrosse and against the Durango Warriors they took out the B grade competition.

Katie Grimmond and Amy Thompson are playing well with Amy's loaned horse suiting her very well.

The first round for the NSW junior team at Durango was abandoned due to a

Rocky Mountain-style storm. Snow, lightning, and a down-pour washed out the morning's play.

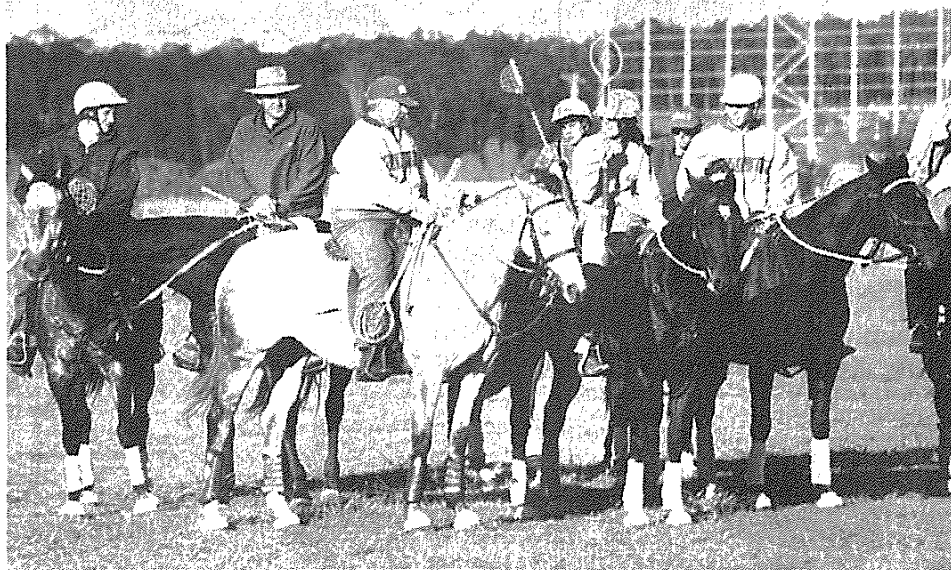
But as it is the long days of summer in the US, play continued until 8pm.

Joy Poole, with the NSW junior team, will be having a coaching day, and the team have found themselves invited to ride in the Durango Festival street parade.

More on the tour in the next issue of the 9th Chukka. (Photographs by Carol Garland.)



The NSW Junior Team to visit US: Will Weston, Dave Deutcher, Peter Blyth, Scott Sneddon, Amy Thompson and Katie Grimmond.



At the Dell Curtis Junior Coaching weekend, the NSW Junior Polocrosse Team, assisted by Graham Wilson, second from left, and Joy Poole, third from left, coach/manager for the team, got some excellent advice on playing in an international side.

Bradleys High Risers Continue to Soar.

Author – Chrissy Honeyman

At the annual Gulgong Polocrosse carnival Bradley's High Riders arrange our family team to play in honour of our brother, father and uncle, Bradley Edwards. This year I was out due to a back injury and my sister Yvonne Giffin had a late call up, much to her distress. (not being a regular rider and has not played polocrosse she was very nervous). Also, in the team Bradley's in order of photo, brother Paul Edwards, brother in law Brian Honeyman, daughter Emily Edwards, nephew Harry Giffin and Harry's wife, Emily.

Bradley was a Police Officer serving the people of NSW for over 30 years. He seen things that a lot of us thankfully don't have to face every day, as a result he suffered depression, anxiety and PTSD. We as a family and Brad himself reached out for support from community services and even though he was an intelligent and educated man he found the mental health system difficult to navigate as did we. Despite the fact Yvonne and I work in an industry that often refers to mental health services at times we could not get the help required to keep him safe and with us. In 2021 Bradley sadly succumbed to his demons and took his own life. He had begged for help that come too late devastatingly.

I started raising money to raise suicide awareness and support for people suffering what Bradley did and for their families. I have held an auction and Facebook fundraisers since the Gulgong Polocrosse commenced their family fun competition. Gulgong club generously donates their venue, assistance and support to allow me to do this much needed fundraising. The money this and last year has gone to the Black Dog Ride Charity.

This year I also choose to raise money for oesophageal cancer, which took the life of my father John Edwards. My dad battled this aggressive and somewhat rare cancer for around five years. I want to raise awareness and funds to support the Mark Grundy Oesophageal Awareness Group which assists people suffering and their families and offers education and awareness of the disease.

My niece, Jacqueline, husband Todd and their son Reggie, received amazing support from the Ronald McDonald House when Reggie was born extremely premature. Jac suggested we raise money for this charity as well to help people from the "bush" get additional support education and services when they have sick babies in children in hospital receiving lifesaving care.

I could not do this without my incredible sponsors; they blow me away each and every year with their kindness and generosity. I really can't thank them enough.

Firstly, a massive thank you to Angus Stewart for giving up his time to auction the items, he is funny, knowledgeable and an amazing man who ask for nothing in return!

The Berragoon ASH Stud are always willing to help out and this year was no different with the donation of a choice of their wonderful stallions. Thank you.

Dartbrook stud gave an incredible donation of a choice of stallion service from their beautiful stallions. Thank you.

Rosebrook Stud incredibly gave me a cash donation of \$1000.00, what champions thank you.

Clairdon ASH Stud donated a service to her beautiful black Stallion Chansit Rune, thank you.

Brendan Hart Breaking and Training donated two weeks horse education and in addition a one-on-one horsemanship school! Thank you so much Brendan.

Zach and Steff Cochrane from Zach Cochrane Breaking and Training generously donated a horse breaking, thank you both.

David Carauna of Giants Creek Leather Craft was amazingly generous offering up his amazingly handcrafted leatherwork. Thanks David just beautiful.

My other incredible donors included, Frank Power of Ray White Rural Wellington, Vanessa and John Scifleet, Coolah, Tasmanian Horse Transport, Trent Mortimer, April Leggett, Jen and Graeme Elford, Michelle Potter of B-Rank Western, Cheryl and Arch Anderson, Horseland Dubbo, Early Settler Dubbo, BCF Dubbo, Paul Edwards and Komatsu Newcastle, Stewart Sutherland and Tim Stevenson, Harry and Emily Giffin, and Tracey Gill. Just incredible, thank you all from the bottom of my heart!

To the bidders and under bidders' thanks so much, to Emily Edwards, Skyla Mulligan, Jack Spillane and Jacqueline Edwards you guys rock for your help and everyone else that helped make this all happen thank you.

I cannot give a total of funds raised yet as I still have my go fund me page open on my Facebook page, however I can say due to everyone's generosity, it is currently standing at around \$12000.00!! Again, thank you all, this really inspires me that so many people get behind me and my charities and the support is incredible.



"Every adversity, every failure, and every heartache, carries with it the seed of an equivalent or greater Benefit"

- Napoleon Hill

Carnival Wrap Ups

Cubbaroo Polocrosse Club

That's a wrap. What a massive year 2025 has been for the Cubbaroo Polocrosse Club! We welcomed new members Alexa Gordon, Harris Bourke, Agatha Burke, Lindsey Kennedy and Tara Galagher.

A few highlights from our season:

- Billy Brodigan playing at the Upper Hunter Show for New South Wales and beating Queensland for the series title.
- Edwina Keft playing in the Junior NSW 3 team at the Albury Autumn Classic taking out Winners in the junior Division 2 competition.
- Quirindi Under 21 Challenge, brothers Billy and Johnny Brodigan and Olivia Wilson playing in the JH stock horse team and being undefeated.
- Edwina Keft played in the NSW junior team at Warwick's Barastoc competition and narrowly going down to Queensland in the final.
- Mitchell Brodigan playing in the Narrabri 4WD Centre team at the Bunnan Masters Competition and finishing as runners up.
- Lexie Madden and Edwina Keft's team winning the C Grade division at the Narrabri Junior Classic.
- Cubbaroo taking out B Grade Runners up at our home carnival! John Brodigan, Mitchell Brodigan and Edwina Keft taking home Best 1,2 & 3.
- Cubbaroo winning the D Grade Competition winning the C Grade division at the Narrabri Junior Classic.
- Cubbaroo winning the D Grade Competition at Cassilis Club Championships with Billy Brodigan and Mitchell Brodigan winning Best 1 and 3, respectively.
- Edwina being selected to play for North West Plains at Perth Show in October. We wish her luck!



Narrabri Polocrosse Club



Yet again, the Narrabri Polocrosse Club hosted another highly successful event, thanks to the tireless efforts of our dedicated members and invaluable volunteers. Countless hours went into preparing our fields and facilities to ensure they were in top condition, liaising with both international and state teams, and assisting with the coordination of the Junior Challenge teams.

Most importantly, an enormous effort went into securing sponsorships to support such a major event. With the generosity of more than 50 sponsors, the carnival was able to run smoothly and at the high standard our club is proud of. We sincerely thank every one of them for their contribution.

Thursday, 10th July, saw all our Quadrangular teams arrive for the horse draw, team practice, and the official welcome dinner. We were also thrilled to host a team of 10 players from the USA, who were horsed and billeted by Narrabri Club members and competed in the Junior Challenge Competition.

Friday night featured the exciting Quadrangular Games under lights, with live streaming by Joe McNally and commentary from the legendary Harry Kirk, alongside his co-commentator Oliver Greentree.

Saturday saw the Club Carnival running alongside our main event—the famous Narrabri Junior Challenge Competition—which welcomed 16 junior teams from across Australia and overseas.

That evening, spectators were treated to the Subbie Spectacular Exhibition and the finals of the Quadrangular Series. After a nail-biting three-way countback, the UK emerged as the overall winners of the series. Western Australia were runners-up, New South Wales finished third, and Queensland placed fourth.

Individual awards for the Quadrangular Series went to Tanaysha Thomas (Western Australia) as Best Female Player, and Will Sibley (Western Australia) as Best Male Player. Both received a limited-edition Bombers Gold-Headed Racket.

The weather was certainly on our side this year—a welcome change from the rain and freezing cold that often challenge us—making for perfect carnival conditions.

Sunday wrapped up the weekend with a fantastic day of finals in the Junior Challenge Competition and Club Carnival. The A grade NJC winners were Silver Hills with the runners-up being Mac Energy. Individual awards went to Storm Gould (Best Female Player) and Walter Greentree (Best Male Player), who each received a prestigious Bombers Gold-Headed Racket.

All in all, the 2025 Narrabri Carnival was a huge success. We sincerely thank everyone who attended from near and far—your support is deeply appreciated.

And finally, to all the Narrabri members and helpers: your hard work and dedication does not go unnoticed. Congratulations on delivering our most successful carnival yet!

Quambone Polocrosse Club

Quambone 2025 was another big carnival! Our small group couldn't see playing and running the carnival being possible, so we turfed the horses, took up the tongs and tools and turned it on for a great weekend of grass roots polocrosse!

33 fantastic teams from across the country and the ocean attended with the USA U16s squad, Victorians from Sale & Corio, Queensland's Dirranbandi and Goondiwindi just to name a few along with so many smiling faces both new and old!

It was a great weekend to see families playing together making the use of our multi-horse status with plenty of green horses getting about in the lower grades.

- Subbie comp Winners Gulgong gang, Runners Up Roo Rockets,
- Best & Fairest Sub Junior Max Hart of Corio whilst Ella Pryor Won Best Subbie of the Carnival.
- B Juniors Winners Narrabri & Gulgong Runners-up
- A Grade Juniors: winners USA U16s Global Trotters, Runners up Cubbaroo. Best & Fairest A Grade Junior was Will Schaefer.
- BEST JUNIOR OF THE CARNIVAL Hughie Anderson SALE (VIC)
- E Open: Lake George (Winners), Dunedoo(R-up) Charlie Spillane was the Best & Fairest.
- D Grade Gully 2 (Winners) vs Dirranbandi 2, Emma Gersch Best & Fairest award.
- C Grade The Wanderers Winners, Mendooran 2 Runners Up
- B Grade Open. Winners Lake George, Runners Up Sale/Corio, Best & Fairest Charlie Robinson-Smith.
- B Mixed Winners Gulgong 1, Runners Up Gulgong 2, Best & Fairest Rachel Hogden.
- A mixed; Winners Narrabri, Runners up Quirindi, Best & Fairest Player Pippa Cullen

The A grade Open was a repeat of 2023 between Quirindi and Dirranbandi. Amazing to watch and had everyone perched on the sideline's eyes glued to the field.

At the final bell Dirranbandi had the win over Quirindi with 13-8 the Score.

Dirranbandi's Seb McCracken was Best & Fairest Whilst Nick Perkins Reclaimed the Peter Cookson Memorial Trophy for Best Men's Horse & Rider of the Carnival.

Quirindi's Kyla Street Received the Jacinta Mallon Memorial Trophy for Best Lady Horse & Rider Combination.

Looking to next year we can't wait to celebrate 50 years of Grassroots polocrosse at QUAMBONE IN JULY 2026!



2026 Event Calendar

We are pleased to be able to provide the 2026 Calendar. It looks like 2026 is shaping to be a big year in Polocrosse with the calendar stretching from January through to September with the Nationals in Darwin being conducted in June. A website version can be found [here](#).

January											
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	HV	WD	NNE	SH	State
5	6	7	8	9	10	11					Berragoan Incentive
February											
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	HV	WD	NNE	SH	State
9	10	11	12	13	14	15				SH Coaching & Presentation	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22					PANSWAGM
March											
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	HV	WD	NNE	SH	State
2	3	4	5	6	7	8					State Coaching Weekend
9	10	11	12	13	14	15			Valcha	Canberra	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22			Guyra	Burradoo	Upper Hunter Show
23	24	25	26	27	28	29			Inverell - Swan Cup	Milton	Tumbarumba
April											
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	HV	WD	NNE	SH	State
	1	2	3	4	5					Eurocoast	Sydney RAS
6	7	8	9	10	11	12					Albury Jnr Classic
13	14	15	16	17	18	19		Warren		Hall	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	Quirindi			Yass	
May											
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	HV	WD	NWP	SH	State
				1	2	3					Barastoc
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Muswellbrook			Bungendore	Wagga
11	12	13	14	15	16	17					Zone Champs Lake George
18	19	20	21	22	23	24			Galloping Gully	Braidwood	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31				Wollondilly	Holbrook Coona Expo
June											
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	HV	WD	NWP	SWS	State
1	2	3	4	5	6	7					Bluegale
8	9	10	11	12	13	14				Harden	Bluegale
15	16	17	18	19	20	21				Wagga (2nd)	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28			Galloping Gully (2nd)		DARWIN NATIONALS
July											
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	HV	WD	NWP	SWS	State
	1	2	3	4	5			Quambone			Barkool
6	7	8	9	10	11	12			Narrabri		Barkool
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	Central Coast		Cubbaroo	Juglong	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26				SWS Zone Carnival	
August											
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	HV	WD	NWP	SWS	State
31					1	2	Merriwa				
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Bunnan Masters				
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Cassilis				
17	18	19	20	21	22	23		Dunedoo			Club Champs -Dunedoo
24	25	26	27	28	29	30		Gulgong			
September											
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	HV	WD	NWP	SWS	State
	1	2	3	4	5	6		Mendooran			
7	8	9	10	11	12	13		Sydney Spring Carnival			
October											
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	HV	WD	NWP	SWS	State
12	13	14	15	16	17	18					PANSW Half Yearly

HORSE WELFARE

Update

We're excited to bring you a monthly horse welfare article featuring expert advice from our qualified veterinary specialist and newly re-appointed state horse welfare officer, Tom Burke. The NSWPA Board would like to sincerely thank Tom for taking on this role again in 2025. Each month, Tom will share valuable insights on horse care, health management, injury prevention, and key signs to watch for in your equine partners.

HOT TOPIC

Scientific studies focused on specific equine sports such as polocrosse are rare. Typically, when seeking ways to support polocrosse athletes, we rely on data extrapolated from more extensively researched disciplines like racing or eventing. Nevertheless, there is at least one notable study dedicated to examining the cardiovascular demands placed on horses during polocrosse competition. I thought it may be of interest to summarise the findings in this month's newsletter.

A study conducted on Australian Stock Horses and Thoroughbreds measured physiological responses during play using heart rate monitors and GPS tracking.

Key findings include:

- **Average distance per game:** 4.72 km; horses in attack (Position 1) covered the most (5.32 km).
- **Average velocity:** 11.53 m/sec; Position 1 horses reached higher speeds, up to 42 km/hr.
- **Heart rate:** Maximum recorded was 224 bpm; mean rates ranged from 119–150 bpm, similar between chukkas.
- **Energy expenditure:** Averaged 0.55 MJ NE/min, with Position 1 horses expending more energy than others.
- **Workload:** Energy used equates to about 1.9 times maintenance requirements, like NRC's "very heavy work" category.

Any opportunity to understand better how horses are responding to playing polocrosse should be explored. If you have any specific ideas, please reach out to your local horse welfare officer or myself. The more we understand the safer we can make the sport for horse and rider.

Thomas Burke

Study

(Buzas, Cawdell-Smith, McL Dryden, & Bryden, 2009)

Buzas, A. M., Cawdell-Smith, A. J., McL Dryden, G., & Bryden, W. L. (2009). Physiological responses and energy expenditure of polocrosse horses during competition. *Journal of Equine Veterinary Science*, 29(5), 303-304. doi:<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jevs.2009.04.009>

UMPIRING

Update

Welcome to our monthly umpiring article, where we keep you updated on the latest rule changes, clarifications, and key focus areas for officiating. Umpiring plays a crucial role in ensuring fair, safe, and high-quality gameplay, and staying informed benefits everyone— from players and coaches to officials and spectators. Each month, we'll cover important rule updates, common misconceptions, and tips to improve game management. Whether you're an experienced umpire or just looking to understand the game better, this newsletter is here to support you. Stay tuned and stay informed!

IN FOCUS - Rules 14d and 14e / 15b and 15c

The Umpires Committee have asked that we shine a light over rules 14(D) & (E) as well as 15(B) & (C).

Rule 14d - A player that doubles up in a team at the beginning of a tournament, must play as a number 2 (two) in the lower graded team; providing that no pool player is available to fill that position.

So, if a player is playing for two teams in the one carnival, the player MUST be number two in the lower graded team, however if there is a pool player who can fill the position, the player is not allowed to double up.

Rule 14e - A player that doubles up in the same team at the beginning of a tournament, must play as a number 2 (two) in one of the sections.

If a player is doubling up in the same team from the when the carnival starts, the player must play a 2 in one of the positions

Rule 15b – When a substitute player is played, the substitute player shall be equal to or less than the goal rating of the player being replaced.

When the substitute player is played, the player coming in must be an equal or lesser grading than the player that was replaced. A team cannot draft a gun player into play in place of a novice who may need to be substituted. The current grading list is available on the website and updated monthly.

Rule 15c - If a player that has already taken part in a tournament is unable to play for any reason, the player may be replaced by a member who by the rules is qualified.

The explanation is the same as 15b – equal or less grading as the player being swapped, guns for guns, novices for novices and in betweens for in betweens.

COACHING

Update

The Coaching committee has requested that all coaches be reminded that coaches are required to log their coaching hours.

It is a requirement that each coach logs minimum hours as per below:

- Level 1 coaches must log 24 hours in 4 years
- Level 2 coaches must log 48 hours in 4 years

Please note that due to covid all coaches expiry dates were extended, this means majority of our coaches accreditation is now overdue.

The committee will be going through and checking logbooks and those that have not logged hours will face losing their accreditation. Please have this done by 1st November 2025.

Below are instructions how to log hours.

Please also remember accreditations will only be renewed with the supply of a current Working with Children number. This is a requirement for renewal and is not a hard process. We have listed the steps below as well.

STEPS TO LOG COACHING HOURS

To update your coaching hours on the NSW Polocrosse on-line membership portal

1. Login
2. Click on "personal Functions
3. Click "View & Change Details
4. Then "Grades & History"
5. Go to "Coaches Log" at the bottom of the page
6. Click "Edit Coaches Log"
7. Add your coaching activity
& how many hours (Please log any form of coaching or Personal Coaching Development even non- Polocrosse hours)

The instructions to maintaining your coaching accreditation can also be watched on the tutorial below:



STEPS TO ACQUIRING A WORKING WITH CHILDREN NUMBER.

1. Log on to www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-for-a-working-with-children-check
2. Select the 'Apply online' button.
3. Complete the online form ensuring the name you enter matches your identity documents exactly.
4. Visit a Service NSW Centre to present your original identity documents and (if applicable) pay the fee.

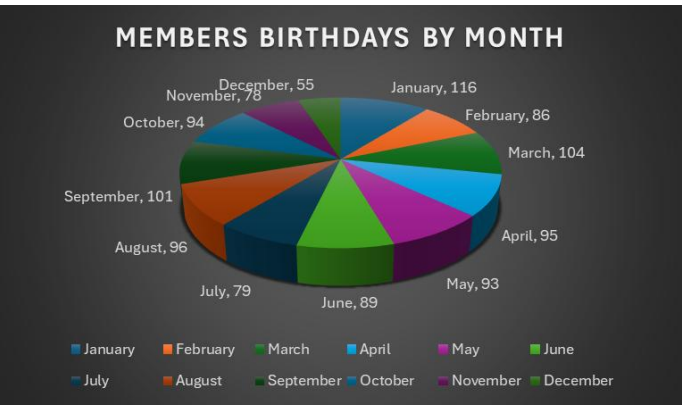
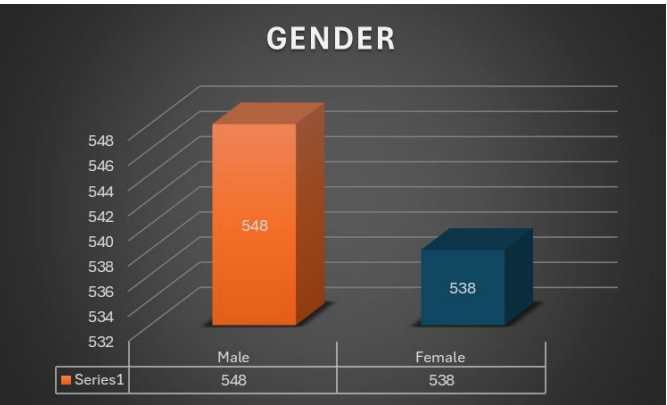
Note: Once you've provided your identity documents at the service centre, the National Police Criminal History check begins. This process can take up to 4 weeks.

The Data Centre – all about numbers

Each edition of this newsletter, we will be running the numbers on a specific topic. We all have assumptions and guess on how or what we think the sport is doing, however the data doesn't lie so we can get a clear picture of our current position.

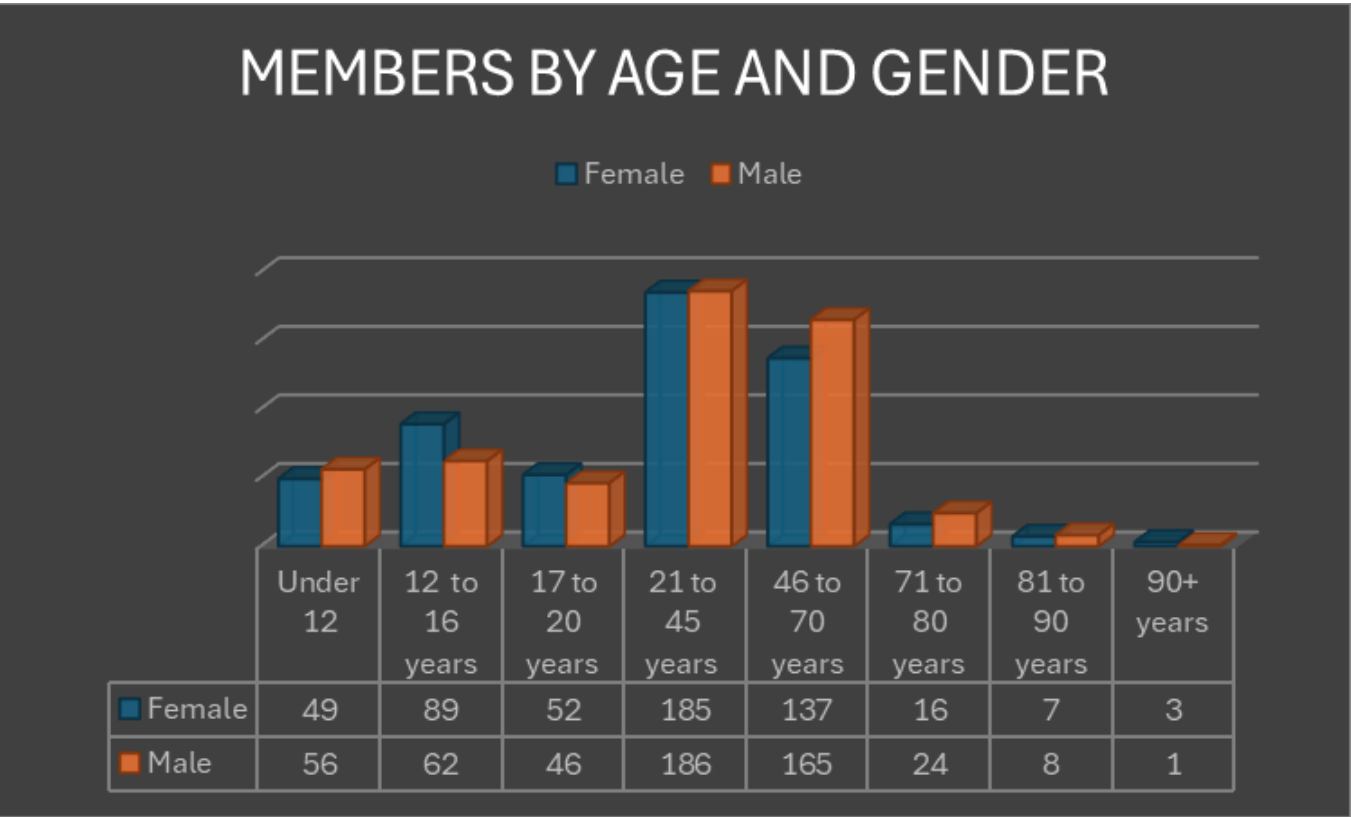
This month we jump into membership numbers and some interesting, and quirky facts that may surprise some.

Financial members across the state – 1086



Youngest member – 228 days old

Least youngest member – 30339 days old (83 years)



Flick to the noticeboard to find the most popular male and female first names.

Clue – It's not Apple (Paltrow), Kanye (West), X Æ A-12 (Musk), Bear (Winslet), North West (Kardashian), Moon Unit (Zappa) or Daniel.

An outsider's opinion.

As a newcomer to Polocrosse, I recognize that I don't yet have the depth of knowledge that many others in the sport possess. Polocrosse is a complex and multi-layered game, and I understand that gaining a full appreciation for it takes time and experience. However, I bring with me a long-standing background in sport, having spent many years at the forefront of many sporting associations and my experience is not clouded by long-standing assumptions, past grievances or internal politics.

That said, I'm always open to learning from those with more experience and different perspectives. So each edition, I will share my thoughts on something Polocrosse, you may like it, you may not however I welcome the discussion.

My favourite saying in the whole world is: ***"If you always do what you've always done, you will always get what you've always got."*** I think Henry Ford may have coined it, but I learned it from my old man, which is a bit ironic, because he's a Holden man through and through and hasn't changed his mind on that since he bought a baby blue '56 FJ as a younger man.

So, what has that got to do with polocrosse?

Well, here's the thing: since getting into this sport, I've had plenty of people far more experienced and knowledgeable than me tell me things like *"but that's how we've always done it"* or *"no Dan, this is the way we did it last time."*

Take multi-horse events as a simple example. I've heard arguments both for and against their introduction into the sport. Some people embrace them, wanting them at more (if not all) carnivals, while others avoid them like one should my wife's lasagna. Either way, the important part is this: every opportunity for change should be considered and weighed and not discounted because it is different.

I don't have a strong opinion either way on multi-horse, other than believing that if something is the way forward, it shouldn't come at the expense of the past. The middle ground is where the real answer usually lies. But this article isn't really about multi-horse events. It's about change and progression. And in polocrosse, there's plenty of opportunity to explore doing things differently.

Because let's be honest: this is the best sport most people have never heard of.

I don't claim to have the answers, but I do know this: change is inevitable. If we don't adapt, the world around us will change anyway and we risk being left behind. That doesn't mean throwing everything out and starting from scratch. That's not change; that's a reset. Instead, it's about looking at where we are, seeing what opportunities are in front of us, and asking:

- How can we do things differently?
- How can we do things better?
- How can we do things in a way that aligns with the world we live in today?

It's about thinking outside the square. Being deliberate in finding change rather than waiting for the sport to naturally evolve. We don't have time to just wait. We need to find ways to adapt polocrosse to a short attention span, social media savvy, time poor society that is usually sporting a dodgy mullet, a lacklustre moustache, maybe coloured hair and that many piercings that they can pick up FM radio.

Cricket managed it with 20/20, and it's been a booming success. AFL tried a similar experiment, and it failed miserably. But the point is, they were willing to challenge the good in search of the great. Maybe, just maybe, that's exactly what polocrosse needs too. Perhaps we need to build change into what we do, developing new concepts while still honouring what got us here in the first place.

By all means change, however the DNA of what we do must remain unaltered.

It's a fine balancing act, but trying new things is the only way to discover our true capabilities. If we continue doing only the familiar and the easy, we'll always know what to expect. It'll be okay, but not exciting, not memorable, not different. Just okay. And in my world okay is not good enough.

You've read my position. Where do you sit upon the change divide? As always, let's keep the conversation going. Send me your feedback, and we'll include it in the next newsletter just as we did with the feedback from the last article.

Everyone is entitled to an opinion. What's yours?

Daniel Gatt (SEO – NSW Polocrosse)

Feedback

We always welcome feedback and comment to anything in the newsletter. Here is some of the comments we received from our August efforts. The last newsletter can be found [here](#)

In regards to an outsiders opinion.

"There are failures in our sport that need urgent attention, we cannot waste anymore time.

With fragile membership numbers it is important we do everything possible to encourage people to continue to participate, clubs are the heart and soul of this sport, they are the boots on the ground that do all the heavy lifting.

It is extremely important club Polocrosse thrives; we need to assist and encourage clubs to host carnivals, unhindered, and with the ability to maximise all their hard work!

We disagree with the assumption that additional pathways to representative Polocrosse will grow the sport; our view is that there is already too much representative Polocrosse, that being either The World Cup, Nationals or Barastoc. Grassroots Polocrosse must be the beneficiary of any decision making or concept changes.

It has always been our belief that the sport rests in the hands of the younger membership/players of all clubs and zones, those talented young players and role models aged between say 18-35 years. The sport will only survive with them participating; both on and off the field ... we need to encourage them, assist them and mentor them as best we can"

Steve (extract from response)

*The recent PANSW newsletter is an embarrassment to NSW Polocrosse!
Since when does the seo get to put his opinion out there? He is a paid 'penciller', who is NOT doing his job, and sorry, I'm afraid his opinion should not be put in the Newsletter.....*

*The attendance graph Someone should have 'saved' his butt before that was published!
Like I said it's a joke..... Albury didn't even run in 2024, that was Holbrook on the same date 🤡 so without understanding how they differ, and just grabbing figures, and we pay him to do this?????*

Great newsletter Daniel! I like the new format, and the content was spot on – Kylie

Great newsletter. Thanks for all the work you are doing !! Good stuff. – Jo

Thanks Daniel. Great newsletter – Lyn

Hi Daniel, Great job on the newsletter ! - Jo

We continue to welcome and invite your feedback. We also welcome your suggestions, solutions and ideas on any matters within the sport or this newsletter that you would like to see.

CARNIVAL FACES AND PLACES









2025 ASHS STATE POLOCROSSE AWARDS



Australian Stock Horse
SOCIETY

DIVISIONS



ROOKIE HORSE: Ladies & Mens



OPEN HORSE: Mens, Ladies, Juniors

Recognising & Rewarding Excellence



Open to all competition eligible, registered ASH!

**All team wins and Horse and Player prizes received during
the 2025 season are counted.**

Nominations Close: 30 November 2025

For more information please
contact Head Office

Nomination Form: ashs.com.au

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday all those members celebrating a birthday in September.

Christine Andrews
Damian Baxter
Sonya Blake
Simon Bouwsema
Jaya Braddick
Dustin Bradshaw
Jan Burbidge
Tammi Callaghan
Cleo Carter
Ben Caruana
Grant Clarke
Thomas Cutler
Cameron Cutting
Daniel Daley
Sam Darmody
Ray Davis
Rodney Debritt
Michael Denison
Darcy Dickinson
Tony Donnelly
Fraser Donnelly
Paul Edwards
Jenny Falkiner
Joanne Finlayson
Sarah Finlayson
Cohen Ford
Tara Galagher
Amy Glasgow
Katie Glasgow
Abbott Grills
Thomas Grills
Hayden Grumley
Neisha Hetherington
Jade Hooke
Billy Howes
James Hughes
Erin Hulford
Edwina Keft
Jackson Keir
Ian Keith
Harley Kenney
Selina Kerin
Clancy Knight
Amy Lyons

SEPTEMBER

Nathan Maher
Amy Manwaring
Todd Martin
Clinton Matthews
Joseph Melbourne
Beau Moore
Alicia Murphy
Patrick Newberry
Paul OConnor
Laura OLeary
Zoe Owen
James Papworth
Adam Petherbridge
Adriana Pietsch
Joe Power
Aaron Power
Gary Reid
Joseph Ryan
Tim Salway
Marlee Schwager
Leonie Scifleet
Rhys Smith
Oliver Spoor
Andrew Stanton
Wayne Stevenson
Tye Stewart
Hayden Tarlinton
Breanna Turley
Marty Turton
Ryan Veer
Lucy Wade
Steven Wall
Kersten Wall
Nick Walton
Michelle Wamsley
Bruce Warburton
Douglas Webb
Irene Webb
Kerrie Webb
Bruce Webb
Alex Willey
Abbey Wilson
Joshua Woodward
Darby Woodward
Katie Yeo
Skye Yeo

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Stacey Allen
Mitchell Anderson
Fiona Anderson
Lucy Baker
Keeley Barrett
Tom Bartlem
Lexi Bayley
Anna Benson
Dion Benson
Stanley Bowd
Mitchell Brodigan
William Brodigan
Kristy Bullen
Glenn Campbell
Clare Campbell
Tori Carter
Aaron Clarke
Jill Clarke
Luke Clarke
Colless Coombes
Daniel Cooper
Abbey Cross
Zane Cuell
Veronica Cuffe
Billie Curtis
Florence Davey
Emily Dickson
Ellena Dickson
Makayla Elford
Matthew Falconer
Tim Finlayson
Phillip Frewen
Carolyn Garland
William Golby
Emily Greenslade
Matthew Grills
Alik Hall
Hayden Hall
Rachael Hogden
Baillie Howes
Callum Hughes
Rachel Hughes
Hugh Hunter
Lucy Hunter
Cindy James
Max Johnstone
Bailey Jones

OCTOBER

Brittany Jones
Daniel Jones
Ivy Jones
Mitchell Keith
Willow Kenney
Brianna Kirby
Angus Knight
Kimberley Lewis
Maisey Maher
Annah Maybury
Joanne McFayden
Luka McLachlan
Ruth Mcrae
Sharnie Moran
Jade Murray
Maximilian Nell
Charlotte Neville
Georgia Neville
Alec Newberry
Kaylie Newton
(Philip) Bruce Nixon
Matthew North
Darcy O'Sullivan
Marty O'Sullivan
Robert Patterson
Fred Peeck
Maxyne Prothero
Aleana Riley
Jessie Ross
Hanah Rudd
Amy Rue
Peter Ryan
Darcy Schwager
Maya Scott
Charlie Spillane
Brett Stackman
Zoe Stevenson
Erica Stuart
Oscar Thomson
Linda Townsend
Chloe Tunnicliff
Sophie Tunnicliff
Vern Wakefield
Larissa Wall
Brock Watterson
Morgan Webb
Campbell Williams

NOTICE BOARD

HALF YEARLY

October 18, 2025

We take this opportunity to advise that the 2025 Half Yearly meeting will be conducted at Club Mudgee on the 18th of October 2025.

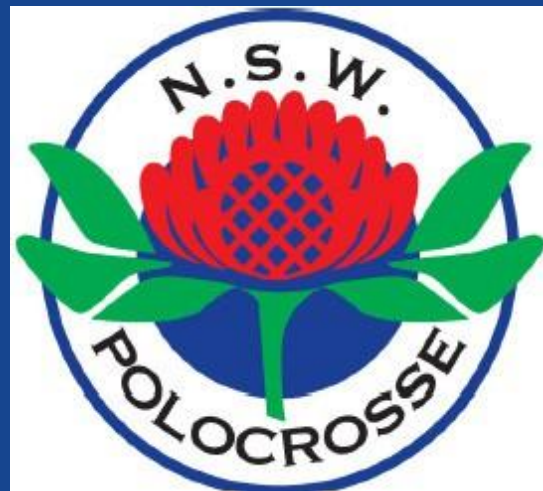
Doors will open at 9am for a 9.15am start and all members are invited to attend.

We ask that any issues wanting to be discussed are provided to seo@nswpolocrosse.com.au by no later than 10th October 2025 so we can ensure that we are able to have the information on hand to provide the answers to the agenda items.

A light morning tea will be provided.

Club Mudgee

99 Mortimer Street
Mudgee NSW 2850



DATA CENTRE – NAME GAME

What are the most popular first names in our sport (allowing for spelling variations)?

Thomas leads the way for the men with 13 in the ranks, or 2.3 Tommys for every 100 fellas. For the ladies, we have 14 Emilys representing 2.6% of all female members.

DAD STYLE HORSE JOKES (don't blame us)

A man took his pony to the doctor complaining that the pony has a sore throat. The doctor said: "It's OK, he is just a little horse."



0407 207 649



www.nswpolocrosse.com.au



seo@nswpolocrosse.com.au