



TRAIL TALES

THE QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE AUSTRALIAN TRAIL HORSE RIDERS
ASSOCIATION

CLUB AND MEMBER UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2017

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Ken Lee – Regional Manager SA

Biosecurity – PIC Identification Codes

I have been asked to write some articles on Biosecurity and have decided to start with use of PIC codes as there was discussion about their need at the recent AGM.

In response to the federal legislation under the National Livestock Information Scheme (NLIS) each state has recently included horses in their state regulations. You should check with relevant state links below for the most up-to-date and accurate information

Use of PIC codes has been mandatory for livestock (cattle sheep and pig) properties for some time but as stated above only recently introduced for horses, mostly I guess, after the recent horse flu outbreak. Although they are mandatory in most if not all states (you will need to read your states regulations) they have not been policed but you may be asked for a PIC code when travelling away from your property at any time.

Use of PIC codes will allow horse owners to contribute to disease confinement and aid in reducing risks for illness and quarantine to all horses travelling in Australia. This is especially true for exotic diseases, zoonotic diseases and highly contagious outbreaks. It will also allow for government agencies to contact relevant horse owners in an outbreak. It may be mandatory for horse movements inter and intra state. This is particularly relevant for QLD horses. It may also be required if a veterinarian wishes to forward samples from your horses to a government laboratory for testing.

Consider an example where a multi-day event is staged in Victoria and horses attend from NSW, Qld and SA. If a disease outbreak occurred elsewhere in the state and was serious. It would be pertinent to determine what area the disease has been confined and to do this, data on recent horse movements would be fundamental to any decisions on future quarantines and movement bans. Attendees would also like to know if horses they have been in contact with have come from the infected area so they can take appropriate action. For these reasons your ride register would supply important information and the main reason ATHRA supports the use of PIC codes.

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Next issue: December 2017

What you can do to encourage use of PIC codes as a club is to use the latest Ride Attendance Form (available under forms and Info on the ATHRA web page) which includes a column for PIC's and to encourage members to mount their PIC code in their float or carry it at all times when travelling with their horses.

Costs vary from state to state and some states are free. Application forms are on line as are fees. Agistment properties must also have a PIC code but you should confirm this for your state.

More information

| | | |
|-----|---------------------|--|
| SA | PIRSA | SA PIC Codes for horses |
| VIC | Ag Vic | VIC PIC Codes |
| NSW | Local Land Services | NSW PIC Codes for horses |
| WA | Dept Ag | WA PIC Codes for Horses |
| TAS | DPIPWE | TAS PIC Code for horses |

Accreditation Courses 2017 & Cavallo Boots - Tony Hart National Accreditation Manager

Accreditation Report

The past 3 months have been a busy time for ATHRA Trainers. Courses have been held in Glencoe SA, Boolarra Vic, Blue Mountains NSW, Marburg & Canungra in Qld plus Serpentine in WA. Thank You to all of the Trainers who give up their time to conduct these vital and informative courses.

Unfortunately, two courses were forced to be cancelled, Bendigo in Vic & Cowra in NSW both were unable to obtain the minimum number of participants. (10) This is such a same as the enormous amount of planning and effort put in by so many to ensure a successful weekend is just wasted and it's such a great weekend not just about learning but also sharing. There is so much to be gained by your attendance.

The only additional course planned for 2017 is being held at Armidale NSW. The allocated Trainer is Pam Lamshed. The contact person from the hosting club NETR is Annie Sorrell, mobile number is 0401 977 645 and her email is annie@yourhorsepartnership.com

2018 Regional Managers Meeting and AGM

Dates 3-6 May 2018

The venue for the 2018 Regional Managers Meeting and AGM will be the Largs Pier Hotel in Largs Pier, Adelaide, South Australia. This is a great venue with all first-class facilities in a great location. The venue is a short 15 minutes from Adelaide airport.

Cavallo Boots Offer Report

Well ATHRA members have certainly embraced the Cavallo Boot Offer with gusto, after just 3 weeks additional stock was needed and even then, at the time of writing, those stocks had run out in some sizes. I am currently waiting on replenishment stocks arriving.

Thank You to all of those who took up this offer. The process is pretty simple, place your order, pay your invoice and receive your items.

Given the success of this initiative, I will be talking to Cavallo to see if we can run another campaign sometime in the future so stay tuned.

In the meantime, you can still order Cavallo Boots, Fly Mask, Gel Pads and Pastern Wraps directly from me. I will be posting a new order form onto the ATHRA website with the new prices. Stay Tuned!



26 June 2017

Peter Keir

Dear Peter

I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the ATHRA Board to thank you for the dedication you have shown in the role of ATHRA trainer over the many years.

The Board understands and respects the reasons for your decision to step down and we all wish you the best in health for your ATHRA 'retirement'. I am sure the decision was not made lightly.

Replacing you will be difficult, your experience, character, friendliness and sense of humour that was infused into your accreditation presentations made you extremely popular. You made the participants feel relaxed, letting them enjoy the process and ultimately providing ATHRA with positive feedback from all those that attended.

The other trainers have benefited from your experience and knowledge and your mentoring ability has left ATHRA with a great team of trainers and an accreditation process that is industry 'best practice'.

You have made a lot of good friends at ATHRA and whilst we will not see you in front of the classroom we will still look forward to your company out on the trails.

Best wishes for the future

Vince Sherry

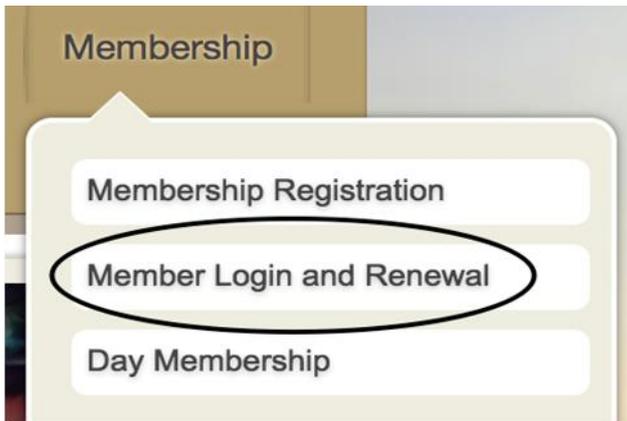
ATHRA General Manager

On Behalf of the ATHRA Board of Directors and Executive

**Why it's important to join ATHRA on time.
Now it's easy with online membership registration.
Membership fees are due 1 January 2018 (you can join or renew anytime from 1 October 2017)**

ATHRA annual membership fees are due each year on the 1st January. With the introduction of online membership registration this is now easier than ever. Every member of every club nationally has the ability to join ATHRA online 24/7.

If you are a renewing member just go to www.athra.com.au then select membership from the top right-hand side of your screen. Then select 'membership login and renewal'. You will need your membership number and email address (if you do not have your email then use your club name) (see attached photo).



All your membership records are stored here and can be edited by you if required.

Why you need to join by the due date:

-) ATHRA provides the best equine insurance available for just 28 cents per day
-) 24/7 Public Liability Insurance for private riding as well as on sanctioned rides
-) Personal Accident Insurance on all sanctioned ATHRA rides
-) Access to information from the website www.athra.com.au (go to 'Forms and Info')
-) ATHRA subsidized accreditation available for all members
-) Training and education from leading horsemanship trainers
-) Access to many of the countries National Parks due to ATHRA's Code of Conduct and environmental rules
-) Ability to ride with clubs all over Australia and join in on many ATHRA events and charity rides
-) Great merchandise offers from our extensive list of partners

YOUR 2018 CHECK LIST

- ✓ HORSE
- ✓ SADDLE
- ✓ FRIENDS
- ✓ ATHRA MEMBERSHIP

NOW YOU ARE READY TO

GO FAR AND RIDE



9 August 2017

Retailers advised not to horse around with unregistered veterinary chemical products

Retailers are advised to use caution when stocking veterinary chemical products for use in or on horses, following Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) concern that a number of natural horse products may not be registered.

According to APVMA CEO Dr Chris Parker, the regulator is seeing a number of veterinary chemical horse products claiming to be natural, organic or chemical-free on the market that are not APVMA registered and are therefore illegal to import, possess, advertise and supply.

“The definition of a veterinary product is broad and inclusive under Australian law. This means both natural and man-made substances are regulated by the APVMA if they claim to have a therapeutic effect on an animal.

“The market for veterinary horse products has expanded in recent years and many new products marketed as natural, organic, or chemical-free may not have been assessed by the APVMA,” Dr Parker said.

“It’s a concern because some of these products claim to have a therapeutic effect or enhance the physical qualities of horses, but have not been independently assessed to confirm they are actually safe or work as claimed.

“Businesses have a duty of care to make sure the veterinary chemical products they promote and supply in Australia are registered.”

To raise awareness of the requirements for veterinary chemical product registration, the APVMA is running a targeted campaign to inform Australian retailers of their obligations and help consumers recognise a registered veterinary chemical product before purchase.

Both retailers and consumers are encouraged to check product labels for an APVMA approval number.

Dr Parker also cautioned against buying veterinary chemical products directly from overseas.

“Just because a product is registered for use in another country, does not mean it’s legal to import, supply and use in Australia,” Dr Parker said.

If you have bought a product that you think should be registered but doesn’t have an APVMA approval number on the label, please contact the APVMA at compliance@apvma.gov.au or call 1300 700 315.

Learn more about natural veterinary horse products and your responsibilities at www.apvma.gov.au/horse-products and [communications resources](#).

Further information: APVMA Media | 0467 726 486 | media@apvma.gov.au

Breakaway Trail Riding Club Qld – Challenge and team penning – Mez Green Regional Manager

The Trail Ride Challenge in July at Calen was proudly sponsored by Barb Colby. The 27 participants had 7 challenges to complete under lights:

1. Open and close the gate whilst mounted on horseback
2. Ride to the mailbox shake the box and deliver to Barb
3. Canter on the right lead
4. Reverse the “L”
5. Cross over a 3-day old smelly Cow Hide
6. Walk the bridge
7. Weave the 4 witches’ hats

Thank you to Barb, Merv and Chris Colby for all the effort designing, building, sponsoring and running the event, we greatly appreciate your time and effort! Well done participants!



Thank you to the Simpson family for preparing and hosting Team Penning at your brilliant venue Calen, the Laird family for cattle supply and Pearce Colby for adjudicating each run – great work!





A huge thank you to ATHRA for granting the collars for cattle, they made a bright, visual impact! Melissa McKewen thanks for meeting everyone with the attendance register whilst Mez sorted cattle out with Leon and Jan. Carol Simpson again baked beautiful Anzac biscuits, chocolate slice and fresh scones for afternoon tea. Over and above thank you so much we loved the event!!

And we extend a warm welcome to our **9 new members!** Kim Smith, Scott Dawes, Dylan Dawes, Harrison Dawes, Brielle Laird, Sue Burston, Mal Burston, Troy Russell, Rod Streeter **We look forward to seeing you at future events!**



Biosecurity Laws & your responsibilities – issues all clubs and members should know

Alan Salter - Regional Manager/Insurance Coordinator

Soon to be released National Laws may impact on clubs riding/camping on private properties, so is an appropriate time to talk about **biosecurity legislation**, both existing, and soon to be introduced. National Biosecurity Legislation applies to us all, and all too often, members are ignorant of the law, or choose to ignore their responsibilities under the law.

For many years it has been a legal requirement that individuals in every State and Territory have **a PIC number** for the properties on which they graze horses and other livestock. Many ATHRA members have made a conscious, (and I believe irresponsible), decision to ignore their obligation to apply for a PIC number, and they are at risk of prosecution.

A Property Identification Code (PIC) is the eight-character alphanumeric code allocated by the Department of Agriculture or equivalent authority in each state and territory, to a property used for agricultural purposes, (this includes grazing or agisting horses).

The purpose of property identification is partly for tracing and controlling disease, but also assists in locating properties and owners that have livestock in the event of an outbreak of an emergency animal disease, or **EAD**, (which threatens the welfare of your horses).

Under the law, horse owners (in all States of Australia) with horses on their own property, and owners of properties where horses are agisted, must also have a PIC. There is absolutely no cost associated with applying for, or receiving a PIC, so there is no reason responsible horse and property owners should not apply.

You can do so on line, or download an application form, or contact the PIC Helpline on 1800 678 779 to have a form mailed to you.

The current version of the ATHRA Ride Attendance Register, (found on the website), includes a column for participant's PIC Codes. I encourage members and clubs to make a conscious effort to utilize this, as this information will be invaluable, (and a time saver), for club officials in the event of an outbreak of an EAD. Each State Department of Agriculture or equivalent Department has comprehensive information on their websites.

New law regarding "Farm Biosecurity Plans" to be introduced on 1st October 2017

New (Australia wide) laws requiring property owners to have a "**Farm Biosecurity Plan**" in place, will **apply from the 1st October 2017**.

There is no onus on ATHRA clubs to assist in formulating these plans, but a Farm's Biosecurity Plan may impact those who camp or ride there. Members riding or camping on private property should be aware that you may be asked to comply with that particular farm's *Biosecurity Plan*, as a condition of access or use of the property.

Most of us will remember the inconvenience and fuss caused by the outbreak of Equine Influenza in 2007, so it is important to note that all ATHRA clubs should have their own *Biosecurity Plan* in the event of an outbreak of an emergency animal disease. The above information is there to assist; and there is ample information available on the various state and territory government websites.

I encourage all clubs to read the available material and to consider these issues. Biosecurity can affect all activities, venues or properties which have horses present. Better to have a Club Biosecurity Plan in place, and be prepared for an unexpected outbreak of an EAD, than to find your club at a ride or venue in the middle of an outbreak, with no plan of action.

If clubs or ride organisers suspect a horse at a ride or event is displaying symptoms of an infectious disease, they must take immediate action. Advice is available 24/7 by contacting the National Emergency Disease Watch Hotline 1800 675 888. Further information can be gained by going to

<http://www.farmbiosecurity.com.au/about/emergency-animal-diseases/>

Information detailing ATHRA's Biosecurity Policy Statement, a Guideline document to assist your club in preparation for an outbreak of an EAD, The Horse Health Declaration, and biosecurity guidelines for Queensland horse owners can be found at www.athra.com.au, under the Biosecurity tab.

I urge all members to apply for their PIC number (if non-compliant); and encourage all clubs and members to become familiar with their Biosecurity responsibilities, and to have an understanding of issues, including where to source information when necessary.

Ride with Pride



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This event is fully catered with nightly entertainment

17/3 - 24/3/2018

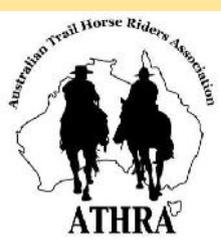
The Bulls Run

Wagga Wagga NSW

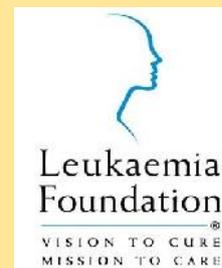
For more information, visit www.ridewithpride.com.au or Contact:

Tony Hart: elaine.tony1@bigpond.com Tel: 0419 303 047 or

De'hanne Keir dehannekeir@bigpond.com Tel: 0413596547



All profits from the ride will be donated to the Leukaemia Foundation



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\$120



ATHRA lovely wool saddle blankets \$130



Spring Jackets with the ATHRA logo \$85



ATHRA black or navy suede Caps \$20



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ATHRA black or navy Caps \$20



ATHRA shirts huge range from RB Sellars Price Varies



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Skye Park Rugs Price varies



ATHRA Belt Buckles \$180



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There is an additional fee for postage and handling for items sent out.

Contact merchandise@athra.com.au Mob: 0403 121 448

ATHRA's Business Partners offer great discounts and services to members

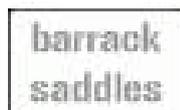


AFFINITY INSURANCE offers a range of discounts to ATHRA members on all of their insurance needs, whether they be horse or float, Public Liability or Personal accident. Contact Affinity direct to discuss.

www.affinityib.com.au



AUSTRALIAN NATURAL HORSEMANSHIP (Ken Faulkner) offers ATHRA members a 10% discount on all events including Horsemanship Courses, Demonstrations and Special Events throughout Australia. www.australiannaturalhorsemanship.com



BARRACK SADDLES offer ATHRA club members a discount of 5% off the full price of all Barrack Saddles and products, Contact Richard and Lucy Barrack (03)54234224 or 0427778555 to discuss your individual saddle needs. www.baracksaddles.com.au



CAVALLO provide members with significant and varying discounts on their merchandise and a discount coupon with each years' membership.

cavallo@athra.com.au



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Contact the ATHRA Merchandising Manager for special ATHRA discounts

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