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International Teams 2018

Team members

Representing Australia as a member of a Pony Club Australia national team is a great honour and achievement. PCA regularly sends teams to compete in Mounted Games, Inter-Pacific Exchange, Tetrathlon and Quiz. New for 2018 will be a showjumping team going to Normandy, France and a Polocrosse team going to the UK.

2018 will see four teams away.

Team members for **Mounted Games** in the UK are nominated from State Pony Clubs on a rotational basis. In 2018, the IMGE team of 5 riders will be made up of a person from NSW, SA, Victoria, NT and WA, aged 15 or under at 1/1/2018.

Team members for **International Tetrathlon** in USA will be selected from nominations from all states. There will be a male and female team from Australia with 4 riders aged 16 – 21 years at 1/1/2018.

The 2018 team for **France** will have 4 riders with their B certificate and aged 17 – 19 years at 1/1/2018. The team will be selected from nominations from all states with no more than one rider from a single state.

PCA has been invited to compete in **Polocrosse in the UK**, and is seeking nominations for a junior team of 4 (aged 15 and under) and a senior team of 4 (aged 16-21).

Team members are required to:

- Act as ambassadors for Pony Club and Australia
- Agree to abide by the Code of Conduct and Member Protection Policy
- Cheerfully participate in all activities pre-departure and on tour
- Provide details to Pony Club Australia and the team Coach and Manager promptly when requested, such as biographical information, medical certificate, photos and uniform sizes
- Follow instructions from the team Coach and Manager at all times
- Refrain from smoking or drinking alcohol whilst on tour

Parents of team members

Some parents might elect to travel at the same time as the team. Parents are not part of the tour group and must not interfere with their child's participation, or the authority of the team Coach and Manager.

Parents are required to:

- Inform PCA if they will be in the destination country at the same time as their child
- Sign the parent's code of conduct



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Team Coach and Manager

It is a big responsibility and privilege to accompany a PCA team. Responsibilities commence from the date of your appointment and conclude some time after your return. The Coach and Manager roles are awarded to Pony Club members with the requisite experience, personal attributes and skills. PCA is committed to selection based on merit, and to succession planning in these national leadership roles. A person cannot fulfil an international team role more than 3 times. Applications from across Australia are encouraged.

The direct costs of your travel (airfare from closest capital city, tour costs, uniform, insurance) will be covered.

The Coach or Manager cannot be related to a team member (e.g. parent, step-parent, guardian, sibling).

The Coach and Manager work as a team, to ensure that the riders/competitors have the best, safest and most successful experience possible, whilst upholding the impeccable reputation of Pony Club Australia.

Duties and responsibilities include:

- Liaising with team members from the date of appointment, to build team cohesion, assist with pre-departure training plans
- Communicating with and becoming known to the parents of team members prior to departure
- Collating orders for uniforms and liaising with suppliers and PCA
- Using the network of past Coaches/Managers and PCA to ensure that all queries about the role are answered prior to departure, and that there is continuous improvement for the international team program – i.e. make suggestions for the future
- Keeping track of and returning all PCA items such as flags, bibs, helmet covers etc
- Purchasing supplies for the team if needed whilst on tour
- Posting to a dedicated Facebook page daily whilst on tour so that a record of the tour and the team's experiences are shared with the Pony Club community
- Taking and providing to PCA a series of quality, high resolution photos suitable for print and social media, and as a historical record of the event
- Writing a formal tour report suitable for inclusion in the Annual Report
- Writing a report for the PCA board detailing issues, observations, risks and areas to be addressed in future
- Communicating directly with PCA and the team member's parent in the case of emergency or incident (in accordance with the Emergency Management Plan). Assist the parent to make an insurance claim if needed.