

KILCOY PONY CLUB TURNS 50

On the weekend 22nd/23rd October Kilcoy Pony Club held its annual Campdraft & Gymkhana celebrating 50 years of great pony clubbing.

The inaugural meeting of the club was held on Sunday 5th November 1961, with the now patron John Youles named as one of the attendees. After an address by Mr Perc Lawrence from the Toogoolawah Club it was decided there was enough interest to form a club, which was formally named the Kilcoy & District Pony Club as a member of Zone 3. At this time the fees were set @Juniors 5/- nomination & 5/- subscription & Seniors 10/- nomination & 10/- subscription.

At this meeting Mr Rex Hughes was elected Chief Instructor & Mr Arthur Roberts as assistant but at the subsequent meeting it was decided that a 3rd was necessary & Mr G Smith was duly elected.

The first gymkhana was held on 29th November 1964 for which all the local business houses were approached for donations toward the prize money & 50 ribbons of each colour were ordered from Boys Pty Ltd, Maryborough. Admission for the day was 2/- for which you received a program. Entry fee was 5/- per rider. A raffle was held on the day – 1st prize was a donated sheep & “something else” was to be purchased for 2nd prize.

At a meeting 27-2-66 club transportation in the form of a hired truck was discussed & fees were set at \$1/horse & if a trip was more than 70 miles the fee was \$2 & the balance paid by the club. Although the fees have gone up this practice is still in place today. At this meeting it was also decided to write to PCAQ council requesting to change from Zone 3 to Zone 1. This action was subsequently followed by the formation of Zone 26 in 1971. At the inauguration there were 8 clubs in the zone & all would take a turn at running a zone gymkhana. Kilcoy gymkhana was set on the zone calendar on the 3rd Sunday in Oct.

1973 saw the commencement of the “horse, bridle & saddle” raffles run in conjunction with the Campdraft & Rodeo Assoc. as the clubs major fundraiser for a number of years. The pony club also organized & ran pony events in conjunction with the Campdraft.

At the annual meeting in 1974 affiliation fees were set at \$1.50 per member with no concessions.

Nominations for the gymkhana that year were set @\$1 / rider & gate entry 40c.

Kilcoy hosted the Interzone gymkhana on the 3rd Sept. 1978, the Zone Showjumping Championships 21st Sept 1980 & the State Sporting & Campdrafting Championships on the 9th Oct. 1983. The club became incorporated in 1983 & held its first Campdraft in 1995.

At the 25th anniversary the celebration cake was cut by the clubs then younger members at the time with original member Ron Dunning. Presentation of trophies was carried out by original President Lionel Craig.

At our 50th celebrations 4 of the original members Ron Dunning, Alan Thornton, Denis Pratten & Ian Thornton were on hand to carry out the presentations of the Campdraft prizes. The celebration cake was cut after the march past by the younger riding member -Amanda Mills, patron John Youles & original member Alan Thornton. Presentations for the gymkhana were carried out by original committee member/ long time president/ current patron - John Youles.

The cakes for both of these occasions were made by the award winning bakers the Coffee family, who were former members of the club –these were then shared by all.

A great weekend was had by all & we are looking forward to the next 50. HAPPY PONY CLUBBING-HAVE FUN.

