



# DC DIARY

It has been great to see lots of our members out competing in the last month. Congratulations to members who have been in the placings and also to everyone for having a go. We have had a lot of new grade 5 riders out there doing really well and I've heard comments that Mansfield has some really good riders. You are making us proud. Check out our website for results in the photo gallery.

For those who are just starting out and even those who are seasoned campaigners, there have been some issues at events that I'd like to point out to everyone to ensure you have the best day possible and don't end up not being able to ride or being eliminated on a technicality.

**CHECK YOUR CARD BEFORE YOU GO**—make sure that you are graded on the horse that you are taking to the event that you are entered in. You must have attended at least two rallies on that horse and 5 rallies in total in the preceding 12 months. If you are unsure whether your card is correct then please contact me. Also ensure that your card is in your glove box before you leave. When you get to the event the first thing to do is hand your card in at the Secretary's Office and collect your number.

The only person who is allowed to ride or lunge the horse that is entered is the rider, parents are not allowed to ride or lunge their child's pony at any Pony Club competition. If you do your child may be eliminated.

Make sure you wear your medical armband at all Pony Club competitions. Dressage, showjumping, horse trials, gymkhanas, showing, and at Pony Club rallies.

If you have long hair be sure to put it in a bun, especially when riding a cross country course. Sometimes the jump judge misses your number as you are coming towards the jump. If they can't see it as you leave the jump because your hair is over the number you may not be recorded as having jumped the jump and face elimination. I was jump judging on Sunday at Shepparton Horse Trials and this happened twice so I had to write notes on my score sheets saying that I didn't get the number. In both cases the rider had their hair tied in a hair tie but it was still hanging down their back making the number impossible to see as they were cantering away.

When watching your child (or friends) make sure you don't yell out to them as it may be construed as giving assistance. This could also result in their elimination.

Ignorance of the rules is no excuse so make sure you read up on them before you go so that you don't accidentally do the wrong thing and ruin what should be an exciting and fun day out.

I look forward to seeing you at our rally on Sunday if you can make it, otherwise good luck to those who are competing at Barry Hillier Horse Trials and would someone please take some photos and send them to me?

Kerryn