

Pony Club Association of South Australia

Technical Criteria Document 2026

Patch: Pony Races - Strip

Name	Date
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Item	How the rider must present	C	NYC	Examiner's notes
Wear pony club uniform	The rider must wear official uniform; rally uniform allowed for their club and must be clean and tidy. Race Day is WHITE JODS			Encourage the CI to ensure the Rider is satisfactorily turned out before presenting
	Clean boots (as permitted by the PCA rules)			
	The helmet must be of current PCA standard and correctly fitted			
	Body Protectors must be of current PCA standard			
	Any jewelry must be as per the PCA Gear rules.			
Overview	Racing SA and Pony Club SA aim to offer a structured pathway for Pony Club members to experience pony racing safely, from taster days to actual race events. The program combines riding skills, horse welfare education, and Racing Industry insight.			Racing SA and Pony Club SA aim to offer a structured pathway for Pony Club members to experience pony racing safely, from taster days to actual race events. The program combines riding skills, horse welfare education, and Racing Industry insight.
Item	What the rider must demonstrate	C	NYC	Examiner's notes
Presentation	Horses to be presented clean & well groomed, Plaiting is optional			Visually clean & well presented
Ridden	Rider Age: 9–15 years Pony size: ≤12.2hh or ≤14hh Compliance with PCA Horse Welfare Policy weight ratios 15 seconds/ furlong			Successfully Riding the times. A safe, structured program with fun competition: rider closest to the set time wins (or just enjoy the challenge). 15 seconds/ furlong (200m)
Taster Day	What is a Taster Day			Learning to ride in a cross-country style (two-point position, bridging reins). Arena-based skill exercises, mechanical horse fun, and gymkhana-style activities. Pony control, stopping, and controlled cantering. Horse health education and talks from industry experts. Introduction to careers in the thoroughbred industry.

Stop Watches	Are they allowed?			Are allowed for training runs but not for competition
The reason for Pony Racing	Why do we need to know the speed? How long is a furlong?			15 seconds/ furlong (200m) Mastering this discipline not only helps improve performance in show jumping and eventing but also opens potential career paths in the racing industry as track riders and jockeys. And it's fun, & develops confidence
Race Day	Rider Age: 9–15 years Pony size: ≤12.2hh or ≤14hh Compliance with PCA Horse Welfare Policy weight ratios See attached			As per attached protocol. Rider Age: 9–15 years Pony size: ≤12.2hh or ≤14hh Compliance with PCA Horse Welfare Policy weight ratios
Examined By Clare Lindop/ Level 1 coach/Greg Bailey	Date			

Pony Race Practice / Training Days

- Riders attend practice days at racecourses to prepare for the Pony Race.
- Selection for the race:
 - Age: 9–15 years
 - Pony size: ≤12.2hh or ≤14hh
 - Must attend ALL training sessions
 - Compliance with PCA Horse Welfare Policy weight ratios
- Up to 10 riders per race selected from the training days.

Pony Club SA Pony Race Event

- Pony Club members showcase speed and safety on a real racecourse.
- Venues: Potentially Murray Bridge, Gawler, Morphettville, Pt Lincoln, or Limestone Coast.
- Racing SA provides support; Pony Club SA leads delivery of the event.
- Opportunity to highlight skills, horsemanship, and safe riding in a controlled competitive environment.
- Selection for the race: