



# *The Pony Club Association of N.S.W.*

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## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS 2020**

### **State Executive Positions to be elected at the March 2020 Council meeting**

- i) President
- ii) Vice President x 2
- iii) Treasurer
- iv) Council Representative x 2

### **Nominees for President**

#### **Nominees for President:**

**MR GARY HAMER**

To the members of PCA NSW State Council

In my time in Pony Club I have held the following positions at Club, Zone and State Level

Club Vice President,

Club President,

Club Senior Instructor,

Zone Chief Instructor

2017 – Council Representative to Executive

2018 – 2019 – Vice President PCA NSW

I have had a rewarding three years on the Executive thus far and would like to continue to strive to make Pony Club a welcoming and friendly environment for all our members. I feel we have much to achieve in making Pony Club a rewarding experience for our members, and volunteers at all levels. If re-elected I hope to continue to try to be fair, approachable to members and always work to make Pony Club, safe, fun and relevant to our members.

When I stood in 2019, I put forward the following as points I saw as important.

- Continue to look for ways to improve membership and broaden our membership base,
- Encourage the executive to look at ways to encourage more people to stand for executive positions,
- Encourage the running of State Events to be more in the control of the host Zone's and relevant Advisory Committees,
- Investigate the formation of a Junior Executive to give our riding members more of a say on the direction they wish to see PCA NSW proceed,
- Continue to create and promote a friendly and welcoming environment within the clubs, zones and events I attend.

Over the year membership did in fact increase though I am not taking credit for that, I do think it should remain a key focus of the Executive. We have seen many new people nominate for executive positions in 2020. New Advisory Committees have been formed, with many new faces on board. Hopefully this will lead to those positions taking ownership of their respective disciplines and championships. The Junior executive

has been formed and I look forward to working with them throughout 2020. I hope that Pony Club continues to be a friendly, fun and welcoming environment going forward.

Issues I see as important for 2020 are

- Financial Management of NSW PCA to ensure a financially robust and secure organisation moving forward.
- Constitutional Change, particularly in the issues of how members are included and covered within the constitution.
- Complaint handling and management. Complaint management is a massive commitment of time for both the Office and the Executive. I believe PCA NSW needs to look at the issues behind some of the complaints and the way they are handled particularly at Club and Zone Level.
- Addressing the mindset that seems to exist that Pony Club has too many rules, and that Pony Club has nothing to offer me/my child anymore.

Gary Hamer

### **Nominees for Vice President**

**Nominees for Vice President:**

**MR GARY HAMER**

As per President nomination

**Nominees for Vice President:**

**MRS AMANDA WUNDERLICH**

**Dural Pony Club**

**Zone 23**

To the Pony Club Council & Members,

Having been a member at pony club from 1987 to 1992, my children (now aged 9 & 6) and I have both been members of Dural Pony Club since they were 3 or 4 years old. When I was riding, my interests were equitation and eventing where I competed up to Advanced level and was selected for a number of junior squads, before shifting my focus to university. I continued as an EA instructor and rode track work for a few years while I was at University completing an Honours degree in Event Management & Sports Marketing in conjunction with a Diploma of Education.

I later completed an MBA in Marketing & Strategic Management and an Advanced Diploma in Public Relations as well as becoming an accredited PRINCE II Project Manager, PROSCI Change Manager and Six Sigma Black belt (process improvement). Throughout my career my passion has always been in events and sponsorship and I have been fortunate to work across numerous sports in the private, public and not for profit sectors including:

- Manager of Elite Sport for Surf Life Saving Australia
- Sponsorship & Marketing Manager for Surf Life Saving Australia
- Event Manager for Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority
- Sales and Sponsorship Manager for V8 Supercars
- Sponsorship & Events Manager for WesTrac (Caterpillar)
- Business Transformation Manger WesTrac (Caterpillar)
- Business Improvement Manager for Wilson Group;
- General Manager Marketing and Commercial for World Rally Championship in Australia (current role)
- Business Analyst Paynter Dixon (current role)

I currently hold my PCA NCAS level 1 and have been the ZCI for Zone 23 and Club Captain for Dural Pony Club since 2016. I am relishing being back in pony club and I hope that my children have opportunity to benefit from the same experience that I enjoyed when I was at Pony Club so many decades ago. Seeing firsthand the membership challenges facing Pony Club, my goal is to create an inclusive atmosphere that encourages participation across all levels and offers both children and parents a feeling of “belonging” and achievement, while create a platform for competition and developing valuable horsemanship skills. I also appreciate the importance of engaging & rewarding the volunteers as they are the backbone of the organisation.

Having held the role of Vice President of PCANSW for the past year it has become clear how many opportunities there are to continue to build on the success of Pony Club in NSW. I would like to further develop opportunities to invest in the skills of our coaches, team managers, judges and officials, and to draw on the significant knowledge and skills of our older members and broader pony club community. Empowering our discipline committees to develop their portfolio, will enable the executive team to seek feedback from our members and develop a strategic plan that would increase the engagement participation across all levels of riding.

I see so many opportunities for Pony Club to grow and build loyalty with its members, and whilst I am acutely aware of challenges that equestrian sports face in Australia (land availability, cost of horses, safety etc), I am optimistic about the future of Pony Club and strongly believe it is an essential grass roots platform for the sport. I would like to utilise my 25 years of national and international experience in the sporting and corporate sector and be a member of the team that guides Pony Club NSW on the next stage of its journey to ensure the success and longevity of the Association, allowing future generations to enjoy the great experiences pony club offers to its members.

Regards,

Amanda Wunderlich

**Nominees for Vice President:**

**MR LANCE SYME**

I have been involved on boards and committees for the past decade, I feel I have a broad range of experiences on these boards and committees. Each organisation brings its own characteristics that need to be understood and examined in order to determine the best way in which to represent the members and maintain and/or establish appropriate levels of corporate governance.

I have previously been the President of the Cobbitty Pony Club, and the current Vice President of The Oaks Pony Club, where I have also previously been the Club Senior Instructor for 2018 and 2019.

I have been on the Zone 10 Committee for a large portion of the last 5 years.

I have acted on the Executive Committee of Australia ICOMOS between 2012 and 2014. Australia ICOMOS has national exposure and reports to ICOMOS in Paris. Within the ICOMOS Framework I am also a member of the Convening Committee of the Australia ICOMOS National Scientific Committee on Intangible Heritage. I have been appointed by the NSW Minister for Energy and Environment to Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Advisory Committee for the past 2 years and will continue in this role until 2022.

I currently run a professional services consultancy in the areas of Archaeology, Cultural Heritage Management and Heritage Advice. As part of this I am frequently interacting with local, state and Federal government and interpretation on government guidelines and policy. I also am responsible for the management of personnel interstate.

Many of the committees and boards I am a member of had members spread across Australia and the world. As a result, I am very familiar with the use of video conferencing and different web-based platforms to facilitate training, record keeping and information dissemination.

As you can see from my profession, I have the deepest of respects for heritage and traditions, however I also recognise the need for innovation and early adoption in order to gain advantage a competitive advantage. It is the tension between these two areas that I feel PCANSW struggles with almost daily. I am willing to serve on the Executive Committee should I be elected.

**Nominees for Vice President: MRS SARAH WOODHOUSE**

### **Application for a position on the PCANSW State executive**

#### **INTRODUCTION**

My name is Sarah Woodhouse and I have been a member of Pony Club since I was five years old. I grew up in Norfolk in the United Kingdom and my local Pony Club was the West Norfolk Branch and I was lucky enough to be able to represent my club, district and country in equestrian disciplines. Currently I am a beleaguered sheep farmer, which is a lesson in resilience. I have worked in the Human Resources and Risk Management areas for companies such as Bega Cheese and David Jones. I went to University in Edinburgh – which is probably why I live in warm Australia, and I was lucky enough to take a double first with Hons. in Medieval History and Arts. This is not at all useful with sheep, but it does mean I can get a job done.

I moved to Australia in 1988 and soon joined the Cooma Horse and Pony Club and not very long after that I was recruited by Neville Summerill to be his Deputy ZCI, and for the last 26 years (I am so old!!!) I have been the ZCI for Zone 18. This has been extremely rewarding in many areas but core to my love of Pony Club has been the joy in coaching young riders to love, care for and attempt to excel in their chosen disciplines. If their chosen discipline is riding at home poking about the paddock, well that to me is equally as valid as those that aim for Olympic recognition.

#### **PCANSW – HOW I SEE IT**

I do believe that Pony Club has such a tremendous role to play in the early development of our young riders and it is often a key community sporting group. Its core business is to deliver a safe program of horsemanship and coaching that encourages a love and understanding of horses with an ability to care for them, and therefore develop the riding skills required to become a horseman. This is not meant to sound blasé or even blah blah!! I genuinely think that offering good quality all round coaching, with club/ zone/ state/ national and international competitions alongside a strong community focus will mean our association stands a chance of continuing and strengthening.

As a group of Volunteers anyone working for their local club or in a zone or state position has a large amount of their free time taken up with “pony club”. Being part of this association is rewarding, it can also be exhausting and exhilarating (often at the same time). I would like to contribute more into the organization by offering my services to the Executive. I suppose I think it’s about time I helped out, as well as maintain my current involvement.

I will offer the association, integrity, experience, knowledge, fairness, impartiality and a belief that Pony Club is still relevant in today’s ever-changing environment. The horses and ponies really do need Pony Club, we are the ones that promote health and well-being and most clubs still have very experienced horsemen (usually women!!!) to help advise newcomers on their new purchase. How many times have you heard the comment, “my daughter loves horses so we bought her a pony and we know nothing about them” That always brings a sinking feeling, it is usually followed by the thought what have they been sold.

We are needed, it is changing, and we do need to change, in conjunction the technology, the thinking and the membership backgrounds. The values shouldn't change we must maintain a high level of safety for people and ponies, we must remain courteous to others, and promote good horsemanship at all times.

So whilst most of NSW has had a horrible time recently, with fires, devastation, drought and despair I still believe we can help by keeping our clubs going, supporting our instructors – this is key to any clubs success, and offering activities and competitions relevant to our organization. We can provide fun, coaching, humour, and a chance for the parents/cares to watch their children enjoy themselves on their ponies careering around the pony club grounds with their friends.

Thank you.

**Nominees for Vice President: MRS HILARY FLETCHER**

**Skills & Abilities** Confident horse person, with over 40 years' experience owning and riding my own horses.  
Pony Club riding member  
Pony Club parent for 10 years

**Relevant Experience** Life Member of Canberra Lakes Pony Club (Zone 16)

- I joined Canberra Lakes PC as a young rider in the 70s. I competed in mostly zone events as in those days my parents couldn't afford much more.
- My daughter was also a member of Canberra Lakes PC at the age of 7 when she commenced riding her first pony. We went to many Zone, State and Nationals events where she represented NSW in Eventing at the Nationals before taking time out to commence her University studies.

Positions held

- Committee member for Canberra Lakes PC
- Horse Welfare Officer
- Instructor
- Senior Instructor
- Zone 16 Chief Instructor (2017-2019)
- Currently Deputy ZCI as part of our Zone mentoring program to encourage new 'blood' into our executive

I am still actively competing in dressage. I find this helps me to maintain my knowledge and competencies current.

I volunteer at our local SJ Club and have assisted in pole picking, course building and Stewarding. I have also completed a Level 1 Judging Course with Michael Archer in July 2017.

**Education** Higher School Certificate – many years ago!  
Bachelor of Science – Forensic Investigation  
Diploma of Management  
PCA NCAS Preliminary Coach

**Communication** I have good communication skills, I have assisted in numerous mediations where conflict in PC. An example was when I was asked by a 13 yr old girl at the 2019 Zone 16 Camp to assist her in a bullying issue she was experiencing

with her Troop Leader. I was able to achieve a mutual outcome by mediation with the 13 yr old and her troop leader. I actively listened to both sides of their argument and mediated an outcome whereby both parties 'gave' a little to enable an outcome that allowed them to continue to remain in the troop and acknowledge that their behaviour contributed to the cause yet could also contribute to the successful outcome of the dispute.

## **Leadership**

I am a retired Police Officer of 34 years' service. I have developed good leadership skills and am a confident independent person. One of the more relevant roles I performed was Officer in Charge of the AFP Mounted Cadre. Part of my role in this position was to provide leadership to a team of mounted police riders and the horses. This included producing and delivering Operational Order for large community events. I also lead the team of horses and riders for ceremonial events including Governor General escorts, Anzac Day parades, Police funerals and community events where the mounted Sections was deployed.

## **References**

Gary Hamer  
Jane Frankum

## **Nominees for Treasurer**

### **Nominees for Treasurer:**

### **MRS CAROLE HODGES**

Carole Hodges The Hatch Zone 9

I grew up with horses in my life and the passion for these lovely animals has increased over the years. When my daughter mentioned her desire to ride horses, I immediately joined her up to Pony Club as a 9-year-old. She participated in all facets of pony club at Club, Zone and State events up until she turned 25. I have been a member Zone 9 Pony Club Association for the past 23 years as member of Port Macquarie, Hastings District & Telegraph Point Pony Clubs.

I have held the position of Club Secretary or Treasurer for Port Macquarie, Hastings and now Telegraph Point Pony Club. I have held my Level 1 Instructors certificate for the past 21 years and have been the Zone Treasurer for Zone 9 for the past 14 years. Since 2014 I have also been scoring at the majority of State Championships.

I thank PCA of NSW in nominating me for two awards in 2017 which I was successful in winning, Sports NSW – Community Sports Administrator of the Year and Pony Club Australia – Volunteer of the Year.

In 2019 I became the PCA NSW State Treasurer and I believe I have assisted the Office with MYOB and processing the BAS for the Association. I would like to continue in this role and to assist the Association with the Financials of the Association.

I have accepted the nomination of State Treasurer and believe my Accounting and Bookkeeping experience will assist me to perform this role.

## **Nomination for Council Representatives**

### **Nominees for Council Representative:**

### **MR GARY HAMER**

As above for President and Vice President

**Nominees for Council Representative:** **MRS AMANDA WUNDERLICH**

As above for Vice President

**Nominees for Council Representative:** **MR LANCE SYME**

As above for Vice President

**Nominees for Council Representative** **MRS SARAH WOODHOUSE**

As above for Vice President

**Nominee for Council Representative:** **MRS HILARY FLETCHER**

As above for Vice President

**Nominee for Council Representative:** **MRS CAROLE HODGES**

As above for Treasurer

**Nominee for Council Representative:** **MRS CLARE MARTIN**

To the members of NSW PCA State Council,

I come from a family that has been continuously involved in pony club since 1948 when my mother began riding with Merriwa Pony Club and then took on other roles within the club until my sisters and I began competing. My children have been members since age 4 and all three are still competing (aged 16 – 20) at club, zone, state and (as of last year) National level.

My children also actively compete outside of pony club, as do so many of our members, and I am acutely aware of the wide-ranging options available to equestrian kids today. I see this as one of the challenges that pony club must address if we are to stay relevant and retain/grow our membership.

I have executive experience and currently hold roles within our zone and club. I also have business and financial experience having run my own business as a Chartered Accountant for the past 26 years.

I believe that I can bring to the Executive and Pony Club NSW a blend of the old; knowledge of how things have been done in the past, and the new; an outlook that is open to new ways of approaching things.

Clare Martin, Merriwa Pony Club, Zone 7.

## **Representatives from the Zone Instructors Committee to the State Executive Committee to be filled for 2020 – to be elected at the March 2020 Zone Chief Instructors Meeting**

- i) Chairman of Chief Instructors
- ii) Zone Chief Instructors Representative.

### **Nominee for Chairman of Zone Chief Instructors Committee**

#### **Nominee for Chairman of Zone Chief Instructors Committee: MS JULIE MORGAN**

Zone 8 Gurley

Having been Vice President for four years and then switching to this role last year was certainly the right decision for me personally as my main interest in Pony Club is actually the kids learning to care for and ride their horse, not so much administration. I have enjoyed the last twelve months watching over the riders and guiding them through their successes all year including the Nationals last October.

There certainly has been a learning curve attached to the past twelve months and I have done my best to keep on top of things. I have made myself fully available to each and every one of you for any inquiry you may have had and or any guidance required in many different situations. I would be happy to be your representative and continue in this role for the next twelve months and believe I still do have an ongoing and positive contribution to make.

I have been a continuous member of Pony Club for over 40 years. After completing my junior years at Pony Club, I then moved into the instructional side and became an instructor. I currently hold a Level 2 Instructors Certificate and Level 2 Examiners Certificate in the old system and a NCAS Preliminary Certificate as well as a NCAS Level 1 Certificate. I coach all disciplines at Pony Club, and I am a qualified judge in most disciplines. I am also a qualified NCAS Assessor, hold a current First Aid Certificate and am a qualified MPIO.

I have held many positions in Pony Club throughout the years and accepted the job as Zone 8 Chief Instructor 9 years ago. In that time, I have run many Instructor Schools, Regional Schools, State Championships and have Team Managed at all levels.

My background is in farming however I spent many years in hospitality and travel thus enabling me to gain great organisational, administrative and communication skills. I have worked for myself most of my life which has also enabled me to gain good management and financial skills as well.

I work for many volunteer organisations holding different positions at times. My passion in life is horses and have taken part in the running of many different horse events over the years and still ride competitively today.

I strongly believe in the Pony Club movement and it is the best place for children to learn to ride and go on with their chosen discipline to the highest level or just for their own pleasure, have fun and make lifelong friends.

In this ever changing and demanding world I will do my best to keep my finger on the pulse. Thank you to all those who have supported me throughout 2019 and I would be very appreciative of that support and consideration again for the role in 2020.

Kind Regards  
Julie Morgan.

## **Nominee for Chairman of Zone Chief Instructors Committee: MRS SARAH WOODHOUSE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

My name is Sarah Woodhouse and I have been a member of Pony Club since I was five years old. I grew up in Norfolk in the United Kingdom and my local Pony Club was the West Norfolk Branch and I was lucky enough to be able to represent my club, district and country in equestrian disciplines. Currently I am a beleaguered sheep farmer, which is a lesson in resilience. I have worked in the Human Resources and Risk Management areas for companies such as Bega Cheese and David Jones. I went to University in Edinburgh – which is probably why I live in warm Australia, and I was lucky enough to take a double first with Hons. in Medieval History and Arts. This is not at all useful with sheep, but it does mean I can get a job done.

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Thank you.

## **Nominee for Zone Chief Instructors Representative**

### **Nominee for Zone Chief Instructors Representative: MS FIONA PENNELL**

Fiona Pennell

Coonamble Pony Club Zone 4

I have been involved within Pony Club most of my life since starting at an early age. I am a Level 11 Instructor and Examiner in the old system of instruction, and I am also a NCAS level 1 instructor.

I have been the Senior Instructor at Coonamble Pony Club for the past 13yrs, I was Deputy ZCI for Zone 4 for 3yrs, and then in 2013 I became ZCI for Zone 4. Since becoming ZCI I have organised regional schools and instructor schools that are available through NSW PCA and also help with the organising and running of zone events such as our jamboree, showjumping, sporting and Campdraft, Show Riding and Dressage.

I have been an assistant Technical Delegate for State Sporting on a couple of occasions and for the past 5years I have been Technical Delegate for State Campdrafting and Team Penning.

PCA Nationals 2019 I was on the organising committee and I was the Technical Delegate for the Tetrathlon. Whilst being on the Executive as Vice President for 2years, and the last 12months as Zone Chief Instructors Representative to Council I was proactive within my role, attending the 2019 PCA Nationals and State Events and State Camps.

I am involved within the Pony Club movement because I enjoy being able to help riders succeed in their chosen discipline and also to see children learn to ride and enjoy themselves.

Away from Pony Club I compete at Campdrafts, I am interested in the Racehorse Industry and have been for many years, as my grandfather and my father were Racehorse Trainers.

I work in Administration for the Dept of Education.

Yours sincerely

Fiona Pennell