



# The South African Pony Club

## REGIONAL YEAR END RETURN

FOR PERIOD 1<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2010 TO 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011

**REGION: KWAZULU-NATAL**

**Website Address:**

**No. of Active Branches:** 11

**No. of Active Centres:** Nil

<b>Number of Members for the 2010/2011 year</b>				
<b>Ordinary Members:</b>	<b>Boys</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>230</b>
<b>Associate Members:</b>	<b>Boys</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Assisted Members:</b>	<b>Boys</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Total Number of Members (Boys and Girls; Friends excluded):</b>				<b>270</b>
<b>Friends of Pony Club:</b>	<b>Boys</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>7</b>

<b>Membership Statistics</b>	
<b>No. of Members who Own/Lease their Horses/Ponies</b> By lease, we mean they have full access to their horses/ponies, not borrowed only for the duration of the rally/ies.	<b>155 inconclusive</b>
<b>Racial Statistics:</b>	
<b>No. of Members who are African (Black)</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Coloured</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Indian / Asian</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>European (White)</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>0</b>

## **REGIONAL CHAIRPERSON'S OVERVIEW:**

About a week before our Interbranch commenced in July 2011, Rob Pickard asked me if I would take on the role of Acting Chair of KZN PC following Jackie Smith's resignation. Thank goodness for the experience and sage advice from Jenny Thom in her position as Regional Secretary, and Leonie Botha, our Regional Treasurer! We managed to organize Interbranch in a very short time and a big learning curve!! We have continued in that vein, but are making copious notes along the way and many phone calls and emails seeking advice! If it is possible, we would like to request a full copy of the Pony Club rules as we are in great need of them!!

All the branches of KZN Pony Club have undergone change this past year. There are now 11 active Branches, Ashburton, Durban, Hammarsdale, Hillcrest/Waterfall, Hilton, Karkloof/Howick, Mt Edgecombe, Queensburgh, Shongweni, Summerveld and Zululand. Together these branches have a total number of 270 Pony Club members, 6 of whom are Development riders. Two of our branches closed during the early part of the year, namely, Yellowwood Park and Noodsberg. DC's are definitely finding the stress of running a branch taxing, and they are battling to find support from other parents within the branch. People are so busy that they do not like to take on further responsibilities. We do need to empower and equip our DC's as much as possible, so as to make their jobs a little easier. I would like to thank Jenny Thom, for the hard work she has put into developing a "DC Pack", available on CD or hard copy. This pack includes everything a DC needs. Well done and Thank you, Jen! Our exciting news is that we have 3 prospective areas, all very keen to start up new branches! We have been to visit one in Drummond. Alverstone is also keen to open a branch and so is Amamzimtoti. We will guide them through their decision-making and see if they are fully committed to the rigours of Pony Club!!

We are very proud to report back on a most successful trip to Ireland from 10<sup>th</sup> to 25th July this year, by 11 of our KZN Pony Clubbers! Two teams were selected, a Childrens' team consisting of Guy Houston, Liam Duffey, Jenny Barrett, Storm White and Patch Dillon. The Junior team was made up of Nicole Collocott, Melissa Tratschler, Keith Toucher, Bronwyn Smith, Rebecca Pinnell and Clive Hyde. I would like to read a report on this trip written by Alison Hyde, one of the mums who assisted with the tour. This trip continues KZN PC's relationship with the Iveagh Pony Club. (report) We have learnt much from this tour that will definitely be applied to any future tours. The cost of this trip was R106 578.70. Airfares were paid by individuals, and they all paid in money in Ireland towards living expenses. KZN PC sponsored them the profit from Interbranch 2010 and the profit of R9029.24 from the 2010 camp held at Ashburton.

Following our Regional AGM in November, I am delighted to welcome Charlotte Houston onto the committee as Vice-Chair. She is currently the new DC of Karkloof/Howick, our biggest branch. She brings with her a wealth of experience and knowledge from which KZN PC will definitely reap the benefits.

Lastly we are very happy to announce some special awards that, although the people concerned are not yet aware of them, will be presented at a special Awards Ceremony at our 2012 Interbranch Parade. (These will be announced at Interbranch 2012)

## REGIONAL EVENTS

### INTER-BRANCH / INTER-REGIONAL COMPETITION:

<b>Date of Show:</b>	12 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> July 2011	
<b>Venue:</b>	Durban Shongweni Club	
<b>Number of Classes Run (Inter-branch):</b>	29	
<b>Number of Classes Run (Inter-regional):</b>	4 (Dress), 5 (Equitation), 5 (SJ) total =14	
<b>Number of Riders Participating:</b>	166	
<b>Number of Entries:</b>	331	
<b>Judges' Names (Inter-branch):</b>	<b>Dressage</b>	
	Under 10	Nadine Parker
	Children Novice	Nadine Parker
	Children's Inter	Denise Graham
	Junior Novice	Ros Hill
	Junior Novice	Bridget Donnellan
	Junior Inter	Sue White
	Junior Open	Sue White
	<b>Equitation</b>	
	Under 10	Sue Sadler
	Children Novice	Nadine Parker
	Children's Inter	Belinda Buys/Jackie Pappas
	Children's Open	Belinda Buys/Jackie Pappas
	Junior Novice	Nadine Parker
	Junior Inter	Belinda Buys/Jackie Pappas
	Junior Open	Belinda Buys/Jackie Pappas
	<b>Show Jumping</b>	
	Under 10	Rene' McEwan
	Children Novice	Rene' McEwan
	Children's Inter	James Naysmith
	Children's Open	James Naysmith
	Junior Novice	James Naysmith
	Junior Inter	James Naysmith
	Junior Open	James Naysmith
<b>Judges' Names (Inter-regional):</b>	<b>Dressage</b>	
	Justin O'Reilly	
	<b>Equitation</b>	
	Jenni Wylie	
	<b>Show Jumping</b>	
	Jennifer Russell	
<b>Income:</b>	R 110,765.00	
<b>Expenditure:</b>	R 107,749.65	
<b>Profit (Loss):</b>	R 3,015.35	

## Overview

Our Interbranch was very successful with all our 11 branches participating and 166 riders. Two branches, Noodsberg and Yellowwood Park closed during the early part of 2011, so they were not at Interbranch. It was run at the Durban Shongweni Club from 10 to 15<sup>th</sup> July. Following Interbranch we sent a survey out to all our members and their families to ask their opinions of Interbranch. We thought it would help to bring costs down by changing it to a 3 day show, but were met with great opposition. We then tried to remove Eventing, the idea being to have it at a different time of the year with the correct eventing dressage tests, but this was also vetoed. People felt they were prepared to pay one amount for everything, and that more separate events would prove too costly. For many riders, Interbranch is the one and only time that they have an opportunity to event.

Our under 10 class, running for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year, was very well supported. It is really great to see the enthusiasm and the number of riders at this level. All levels competed in 5 disciplines: Dressage, Eventing (not the u10's), Jumping, Equitation and Jumpkhana. Due to Children's Champs and our teams in Ireland, we were not able to offer Eventing at an Open level. This was a cause for concern as the few Open riders we had, had to ride Intermediate level. This certainly skewed our final results and caused upset amongst the competitors. (This had not been our decision).

Each branch was responsible for organizing one of the Disciplines. Some branches worked together. There is such expertise out there amongst the branches, that each discipline was expertly organized! The spirit was high and was not even dampened by the driving rain on the last day during Equitation.

The committee learnt a great deal from this experience and made copious notes as to ways in which the running of Interbranch could be improved upon! We are in the process of creating an Interbranch committee, with people directly responsible for certain things, so as to make the organization more efficient. Unfortunately, I didn't see much of the riding, as I was so busy appeasing unhappy parents. I feel that the emphasis on Team has diminished in importance and it has become more about the individual. We are determined to change this, as Pony Club is essentially about team participation.

Our 2011 Interbranch had 331 entries and cost R107 749.65 to run. KZN PC made a profit of R3015.35. We battled to collect in our monies for Interbranch from the branches, so will set rules in place that if entries are not paid prior to Interbranch, that branch will not be allowed to participate. We also became involved in issues within the branches, ie parents pulling children out the night before the competition started and refusing to pay the entries. We have learnt from this and realise the Branch, not Regional, is directly responsible for sorting it out.

There has been concern that the individual costs of attending Interbranch are too great, so we have been making suggestions that Branches follow the lead that Summerveld have taken in solving this issue very ably through monthly fundraising. We have also brought this matter to the attention of DSC who will look at creating a special Pony Club menu as we feel their food prices are so high.

<b>KZN PONY CLUB INTERBRANCH</b>								
<b>CLASS NUMBERS</b>								
<b>DRESSAGE</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
C under 10					12	30	30	
C Novice	47	46	47	34	50	54	53	
C Intermediate		17	23	12	21	21	6	
C Elementary	7	6	6	6	2	6	0	
J Novice	60	34	32	24	36	38	49	
J Intermediate		23	29	25	31	28	10	
J Elementary	18	20	9	1	9	11	4	
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>161</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>152</b>	
<b>EVENTING</b>								
C Novice	33	15	38	21	25	38	40	
J Novice	36	13	21	15	25	25	34	
C Intermediate	5	13	12	10	11	9	6	
J Intermediate	12	7	16	18	16	18	9	
C Open	3	2	8		3	3	0	
J Open	3	4	8		6	6	0	
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>89</b>	
<b>EQUITATION</b>								
C under 10					11	31	28	
C Novice	33	35	34	30	36	31	42	
C Intermediate	36	13	22	14	31	25	11	
C Open	6	5	8	4	3	10	4	
J Novice	37	25	25	17	28	26	29	
J Intermediate	19	25	21	25	27	23	18	
J Open	10	9	11	4	8	22	5	
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>137</b>	
<b>JUMPKHANA</b>								
C under 10					10	35	29	
C Novice			39	29	43	32	45	
C Intermediate			26	14	24	34	13	
J Novice			22	20	32	26	33	
J Intermediate			22	14	17	25	25	
<b>Sub Total</b>			<b>109</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>145</b>	
<b>SHOWJUMPING</b>								
C under 10					11	34	30	
C Novice	40	34	36	32	52	34	45	
C Intermediate	9	19	24	18	29	22	14	
C Open	6	4	10	3	6	13	5	
J Novice	42	29	21	16	41	35	37	
J Intermediate	21	29	23	27	31	23	20	
J Open	11	9	19	9	15	13	6	
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>157</b>	
<b>TOTAL ENTRIES</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>311</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>331</b>	
<b>Total Children</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>97</b>	
<b>Total Juniors</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>69</b>	
<b>Internationals</b>		<b>11</b>		<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>	
<b>Total Competitors</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>177</b>	

### **INTER-BRANCH MOUNTED GAMES COMPETITION:**

Date of Competition:	
Venue:	
Number of Branches Participating:	
Number of Teams Participating:	
Judges' Names:	
Income:	
Expenditure:	
Profit (Loss):	

Very sadly KZN did not have a Mounted Games competition during the course of this last year. We tried to make a date for it during the latter part of the year, but we could not gather the necessary support. It is going to be held in April 2012.

## **INTER-BRANCH QUIZ:**

Date of Competition:	13 <sup>th</sup> July 2011
Venue:	Shongweni Club House
Number of Branches Participating:	7
Number of Teams Participating:	16
Judges' Names:	Kathy Kemlo
Income:	No charge
Expenditure:	
Profit (Loss):	

This competition was held during one of the evenings during our 2011 Interbranch. It was run by Hammarsdale Pony Club. We included a Hotdog evening and there were no costs involved.

## **PAYMENT LEVIES TO SAPC 2011**

Date	Time of Debit	Result	Amount(R)	From account	Payment Reference
2012-01-27	23:30:00	2012-01-27	23:30:00	SUCCESSFUL	13,200.00

## **OTHER REGIONAL EVENTS:**

### **A and B test Camp 17-23 December 2011**

During December, Charlotte Houston and Louise Toucher hosted a very successful A and B camp held on Louise's farm near Midmar. They hosted 16 candidates, 15 for the B camp and Megan Marr for the A camp. Two of the girls came from Western Cape. These girls need to be commended on their behaviour and the way in which they fitted into a strange environment so easily. They were real ambassadors for their Region!

This was the first time that Charlotte and Louise have offered this camp, and I have managed to persuade them to make it a regular event, and to open it up to all Regions. Besides the tuition and Seminars, of which the Pony Clubbers had plenty ( they each had 2 lessons daily), it is an opportunity for the older Pony Clubbers to meet and interact with each other. The most exciting part for me, as an observer, was to see that the examiners were giving the candidates lessons every day, and thus were able to form very sound opinions about each person's riding ability over a 5 day period.

The B test questions were carefully compiled by Shirley Weatherhead, our Regional Testing Co-ordinator. She worked closely with Lindsay. Shirley advised Louise and Charlotte from the planning stages as to how the camp and the testing should be run, and the instructors were passed by Troye Kernick, the co-ordinator of the KZN SANEF modules.

We are still compiling the report to request Lotto assistance for all the Seminars that were held.

12 people rode the ridden test – 10 passed (5 with honours) and 2 failed – Karen Minett and her assistant judges all said they were very impressed with the standard of riding.

14 people sat the horse care exams – 7 passed, 4 have only 1 supp (conformation) and 3 failed. Examiners, including Vet and Farrier, were very impressed with the standard of horse care knowledge. Many received honours passes in subjects. The 4 who have the conformation supp. passed in January. This means that 11 of the 14 have their B test horse care by the end of Jan 2012.

Having experienced my first testing situation of this intensity, there are criteria and specific steps that need to be discussed at a forum such as this, and put into place as many unexpected so-called 'grey areas' have arisen:

1. What criteria does the candidate need to have fulfilled in order to be a good candidate to pass.
2. The logistics of having a camp going directly into a test situation –how do you choose?
3. The positive aspect of 'continual assessment' which took place over 5 days, giving the Examiners a true reflection of each candidate's riding ability and their ability to look after their horse. Should this become standard?

We are very proud of the calibre of camp that Charlotte and Louise provided, and we commend them on their diligence and careful planning and energy that went into a camp of this nature. Louise had her home overrun by 16 teenagers, for a week! Charlotte never saw her family for a week! Notes have been taken on how to "do it better next year", ironing out all the 'first time' issues. The exciting part is that these 2 ladies are prepared to do this annually!



## **Tour to Ireland July 2011**

We are very proud to report back on a most successful trip to Ireland from 10<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> July this year, by 11 of our KZN Pony Clubbers! Two teams were selected, a Children's team consisting of Guy Houston, Liam Duffey, Jenny Barrett, Storm White and Patch Dillon. The Junior team was made up of Nicole Collocott, Melissa Tratschler, Keith Toucher, Bronwyn Smith, Rebecca Pinnell and Clive Hyde. I would like to read a report on this trip written by Alison Hyde, one of the mums who assisted with the tour. This trip continues KZN PC's relationship with the Iveagh Pony Club. (Report in bold below) We have learnt much from this tour that will definitely be applied to any future tours, especially with the selection of teams and the need to fundraise. The cost of this trip was R106 578.70. Airfares were paid by individuals, and they all paid in money in Ireland towards living expenses. KZN PC sponsored them the profit from Interbranch 2010 and the profit of R9029.24 from the 2010 camp held at Ashburton.

### **KZN PONY CLUB TRIP TO IRELAND – 10<sup>TH</sup> JULY TO 25<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2011.**

11 pony clubbers and 4 adults left a cold Johannesburg for a very wet and cold Irish summer. During the 1<sup>st</sup> week the group was accommodated in self-catering cottages. This was great, as many of the riders were acquainted, but did not know one another very well, so they were able to build up a good team spirit. The weather turned sunny and warm. This week was spent sight-seeing and trying out horses which seemed to be plentiful. Iveagh Pony Club parents would pull up with their trucks with horses for the KZN riders to try out most afternoons, they were fantastic. On Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Suzie held a Derby at her property so that the KZN riders could get a chance to ride the chosen horses before the big event. A course had to be built for the Derby so the riders had the opportunity to assist with course building and moving big solid jumps. Despite some complaints, the job got done. Although the Derby Day was delayed a few hours due to heavy rain, the show went on in the pouring rain. Many of the Iveagh Pony Club members turned up for this show and KZN Pony Club team took 1<sup>st</sup> place.

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> week the KZN riders were hosted out to Iveagh Pony Club homes which was a fantastic experience for all to see how the other half live without grooms, domestic workers and labourers on the farms. The Pony Clubbers assisted with all these duties, as well as riding their selected horses and also doing other activities like having fun. On the Tuesday we took a train ride to Belfast where we had a bus tour of Belfast. It was very interesting to see all the religious politics painted over the town walls, the dock where the Titanic was built and many other sites. On Thursday afternoon the riders were taken to walk the cross-country and show-jumping courses. The cross-country course was very basic and quite short but considering that all 3-phases were been ridden in one day, this was a good option for the horses. On the Friday, with the sun shining, many horse trucks arrived at the show, where about 180 Pony Clubbers participated. What we all found amazing was that in between classes the horses were loaded into the truck or horse box and had to stand there until the next class. Most of our riders started out with a good Dressage Test with Keith Toucher taking the Trophy for the 'Best Dressage score' of the day. The Intermediate Team – 100cm consisting of Keith Toucher, Liam Duffy, Patrick Dillon and Bronwyn Smith took 3<sup>rd</sup> place which was fantastic seeing as they were riding strange horses. Even though the other teams did not get placed, this was an experience that was well worth being part of.

The last two days were filled with plenty individual activities and collecting all the riders together for the long flight home. They might have been tired but they were all very happy and full of life-time memories of a wonderful experience!

## BRANCH STATISTICS/OVERVIEW

Branch Name	No. of Members	No. of Rallies Held	No. of Efficiency Tests Run	No. of Achievement Badges Run	No. of Regional Events Attended	EXCO Vist
Ashburton	19	14	3 (*19)	3 (*34)	1	JMT - AGM
Durban	15	10	2 (*12)	NIL	1	JMT visited early in the year to help.
Hammarsdale	14	4	NIL	NIL	2	L Macleod- AGM
Hillcrest	21	9	1 (*9)	NIL	2	
Hilton	15	8	3 (*6)	NIL	2	
Karkloof/Howick	51	NIL	NIL	NIL	2	C Houston -DC
Mt Edgecombe	17	5	4 (*10)	11 (*44)	2	L MacLeod/JMT - AGM
Queensburgh	18	3	3 (*6)	NIL	1	
Shongweni	38	17	5 (*33)	8 (*38)	2	No AGM
Summerveld	29	6	2 (*12)	9 (*58)	2	L MacLeod/JMT - AGM
Zululand	33	NIL	2 (*13)	8 (*54)	2	
<b>* candidates</b>	<b>270</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>120</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>19</b>	