

## President's Report January 2017

### Bulahdelah Dressage Club Inc.

Another year over. Many thanks to this wonderful committee for making sure our club continues to run. All committee members have taken on extra duties since I have had less time for the club. I'm sure all members of the club are as appreciative of your efforts as I am.

Competitions have been small but as Liz tells us, we don't want big competitions as we don't have the manpower to run larger days. These small ones suit us beautifully.

This last year we relaxed/changed our Hendra virus policy for unvaccinated horses while still maintaining safety for our judges and gear stewards, congratulations to those who attend meetings for finding this compromise. We hope we never need to worry about a quarantine situation at Bulahdelah but at least we have discussed it and are prepared.

Working equitation has become popular with members and we are working towards working equitation days/competitions in 2017. We are accumulating equipment and have training days planned. This is another example of ways our committee are attempting to rejuvenate the club, keep horses fresh and bring new members into the club. Well done to Muriel, Liz, Jo and Sheila.

We finally received our replacement arena cones, many thanks to Polvin Fencing who stepped up and dealt with the previous seller and made sure we finally had satisfaction and undamaged cones. We were so grateful they were the first place we went to when we wanted higher letters. We now have 3 sets of highly visible letters that look great and can be seen by the judges and riders.

As so often happens, we have some changes to our core group. Our pencillor coordinator, Angie, is leaving the area. Her happy smile, hard work and enthusiasm will be missed. Thank you, Angie, and good luck with your new home. Keep riding! We will also miss Tempe of the short legs and rounder proportions. I'm not sure who Liz will tease now. Hopefully Meryl will heal up and can attend competitions again, we are thrilled to have her back at the club.

As always, Helen has been our regional delegate and does a fantastic job. She keeps us up to date with EA news, manages our dates and adds in some judging for us. We really do appreciate all the behind the scenes work that she does for us. And she rides!

We still have a good working relationship with the Lion's Club, the team can just about run themselves when it comes to putting up arenas and we are happy to donate money to a local organisation, this arrangement will continue this year.

Dressage was not needed at the Bulahdelah Show this year and I think we all breathed a sigh of relief. We like to promote our sport but it is hard work.

We are still needing more helpers on the day of competitions, if anyone has ideas of how to achieve this please let us know. We are looking at cancelling the canteen as I can't be in 2 places at once. Pencillors or canteen workers or both would make a huge difference to our motivation to continue the club.

Finally, and as always, many thanks to Leo. He has not done as much this year as I have been trying to get him to take some time for himself. He had a couple of competitions off so he could go to the footy, clearly his priorities are different to ours but he has more than earned it.

Many thanks everyone and Happy New Year, Kerry