



EQUESTRIAN CAMP GUIDE

VERSION 1.0



Established in 1974, welcome to one of the
largest equestrian communities in Queensland

Mudgeeraba Pony & Hack Club

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2 Why our camp is so popular

Our 3 Day Equestrian Camp has been a **much-loved club tradition for decades**. Generations of riders have attended — and we now have former campers returning with children of their own.

It is a tried and tested model, bringing together some of the **best coaches from across South East Queensland**, great catering and a supportive environment where every rider is encouraged to learn and have fun.

Most importantly, we see riders grow in skill, confidence and independence over just three days. New friendships are formed, challenges are conquered and **memories are made that last a lifetime**.

3 How to get a spot at camp

There are only 48 spots in the main camp program. Interest always outweighs spots.

We use camp to reward **members who go above and beyond** for the club.

3.1 How offers are determined

Around 4-6 weeks before camp expressions of interest (**EOI**) open. As they are expressions of interest, you are not guaranteed a place.

Once EOIs close, committee delegates organise the EOIs into groups, **based off extra support efforts**.

For example:

- Group 1: Major support efforts
- Group 2: Medium additional efforts
- Group 3: Low additional effort
- Group 4: No additional efforts, but a documented reason
- Group 5: No additional volunteer efforts

Offers are then given with group 1 as priority, group 2 as second, etc.

How many additional efforts are needed to fall into each group is depends on everyone else's efforts. For example, if you had 1 additional effort in 2025 you were in Group 2. In 2026, one additional effort would see you in Group 3.

If there are fewer spots available than EOIs in a group, the committee will typically consider:



- Whether there is a valid reason as to why you could not have helped more
- Whether you have ridden regularly at the club, and always help with required event duties as a rider

3.2 What is considered “additional support efforts”

Additional support efforts include (but are not limited to):

- ✓ Coaching, judging, course building, or other officiating (unpaid)
- ✓ Committee member duties
- ✓ Helping in the canteen at swap meet and other nonclub fundraising days
- ✓ Assisting at club events (including canteen) where you **are not riding**
- ✓ General maintenance assistance (fixing fences, mowing, etc.)

The following is **not considered** additional support efforts, **as these are requirements of riding at club events**:

- ✗ Event set up and pack down **where you are riding at the event**
- ✗ Event help including canteen, pencilling, marshalling, etc **where you are riding at the event**

4 What to expect at camp

Camp kicks off officially bright and early Monday morning, typically with a 7am rider debrief.

Each rider will be placed into a group of 3.

4.1 The lessons

From around 8am until 4pm, each group will spend 45 minutes in a lesson of each:

- Dressage
- Show jumping
- Cross country
- Special lesson – changes each day, generally unmounted

There are breaks for lunch, morning tea and afternoon tea.

4.2 The groups

The groups are decided by our chief instructors. While every effort is made to group friends together, unfortunately this can not always be achieved. Grouping 48 riders of similar ability is a difficult task, and please understand our volunteer chief instructors do their best.



4.3 Additional services

Sometimes, there will be body workers, bit or saddle fitters, etc., available to book while at camp (at an extra cost).

4.4 Horse yards

Yards around the grounds will be allocated and emailed closer to the camp date.

If you have more than one horse, you may need to bring your own yards for the second horse. We will let you know. **You must clean your yard before leaving.**

4.5 Hay and feed delivery

Club sponsor, **Nerang Stockfeed**, will deliver hay, feed, etc. to camp with **free delivery**.

4.6 Meals

You will need to **select your meals for camp before camp**. You will be emailed the meal selection form. Meals for one rider + one guardian are **included in the camp price**. **Additional family members are at an extra cost.**

Meals included are:

- Monday morning tea (not breakfast), lunch, afternoon tea and dinner.
- Tuesday breakfast, morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea and dinner.
- Wednesday breakfast, morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea.

Drinks are available for **purchase**.

All meals must be pre-ordered. There is no ability to order and pay for additional meals for visitors on the day.

4.7 Family night

On Tuesday night, we come together for some family fun!

The full range of activities will be announced closer to the date, but one of the main annual traditions is the **Belle Dwyer Memorial Dog Show Jumping!**

There is a **small dog** (14kg and under) category, and a **large dog** (over 14kg) category. The champion dog of each group **takes home a trophy**.

If **additional family members** will be joining us for **family night dinner on Tuesday**, please make sure to **let us know on your meal selection form**. You will need to **pre-pay for their dinners on the Monday morning**.



5 What is expected of you at camp

By attending camp, you agree to abide by these expectations:

- You **help with event set up on the Sunday** before camp
- You **help pack down before leaving** Wednesday
- You **help in the canteen 2 x per rider (if you have two children riding, that is 4 shifts in the canteen)**
- You ensure your **horse** has adequate access to **water and feed**
- You acknowledge that horses exert a lot of energy during camp, and generally **require more feed than normal**. It is ideal to have your horse have 24/7 access to hay when not ridden, however, subject to veterinary advice
- You must always abide by Pony Club Australia, Pony Club Queensland and Mudgeeraba Pony & Hack Club rules, by-laws and policies
- You must treat everyone with **respect and kindness** – horses and humans
- If you are leaving a lesson or not attending a lesson **you must let the coach know**
- Non-riders must not enter the coaching areas unless invited by the coach
- You must bring one **contribution to morning or afternoon tea** – a sign-up link will be emailed to you
- All persons **under 18 years must always have a parent/guardian on the grounds for the duration of the camp**. One parent/guardian may supervise up to 3 children including non-riding siblings who are on the grounds. The responsible parent/guardian must be recorded on the guardian register at the office.
- You **must pre-order all meals**, including for additional family members
- You must **bring your own plate, bowl, cutlery and cup**
- You must **clean your stall** of all manure and shavings
- **No smoking or vaping** is permitted anywhere on the grounds
- Always close the main gates behind you
- No mobile phone use by riders during lessons
- You take all reasonable direction from committee members
- If riding two horses, the same horse must remain in the same discipline each day
- Riders should ride at walk pace only to get to lesson areas
- **Check the camp facebook group regularly for announcements**
- **NO riding outside of lessons**



6 Camping

You can either:

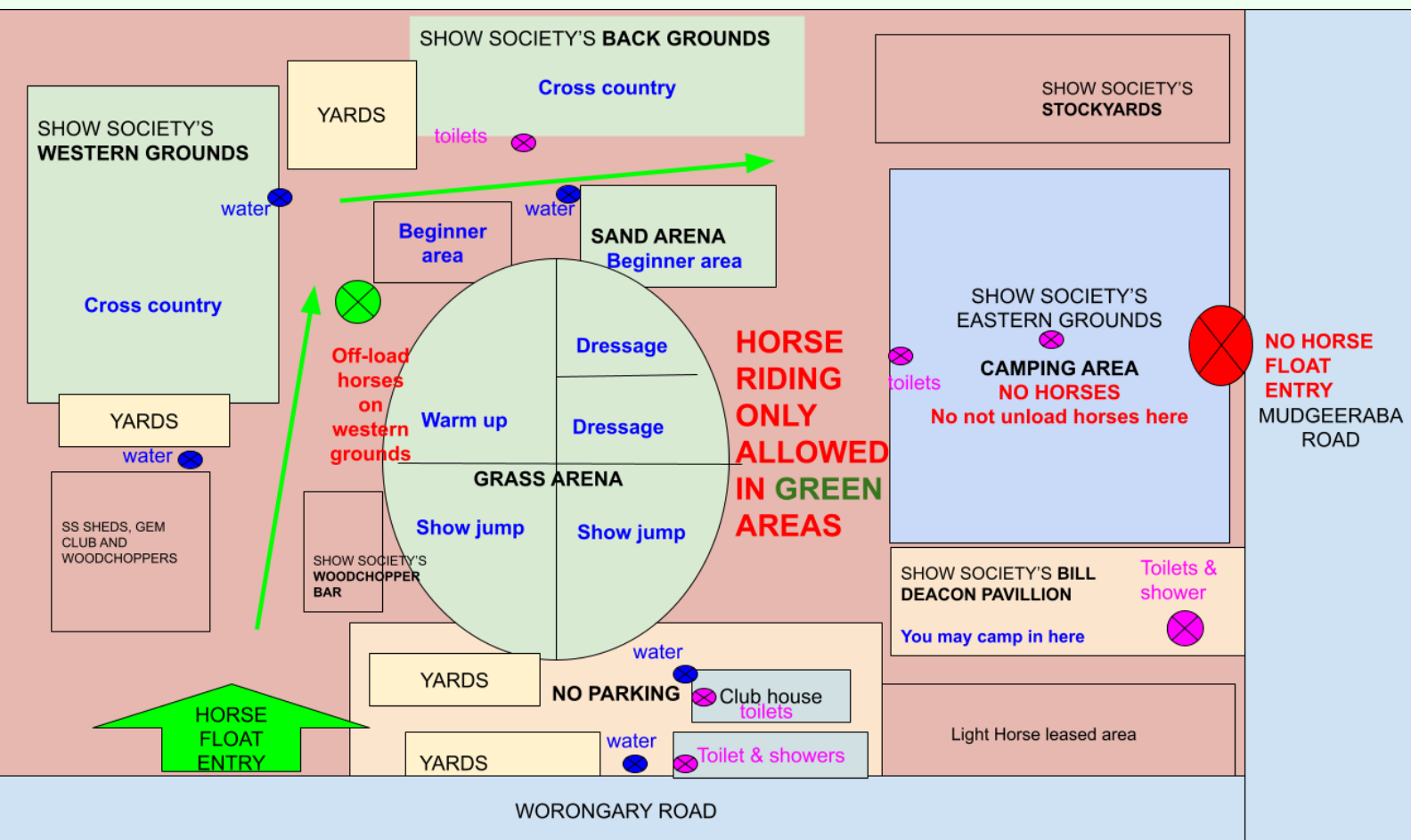
- Set up your camp on the eastern grounds, or
- Stay in the Bill Deacon Pavillion.

6.1 When you can set up camp

You can set up your camp **from Sunday** however, **only after event set up is completed**. You **must help** with event set up or you will not be welcome back to camp.

You will be emailed the event set up time closer to the date.

6.2 Ground map



7 Camp check list

7.1 Pre-camp checklist

- ☒ Make sure your **horse is adequately fit** – we would recommend riding no less than 3 times a week in the month leading up to camp. **You would not run a marathon without training – please do not expect the same of your horse.**
- ☒ Make sure your horse has recently seen the **farrier, body worker** and you have done **FEC with your vet** to determine if they should be wormed.
- ☒ Make sure you are available **Sunday** for event **set up**
- ☒ **Pre-order all meals**, including additional family members
- ☒ **Sign up** for 2 x **canteen help shifts** per rider (e.g. if you have 2 riders, then that is 4 shifts)
- ☒ Sign up for what your **contribution for morning/afternoon tea** will be
- ☒ Consider whether you should place an order for hay, feed, bedding, buckets, etc., from Nerang Stockfeed.
- ☒ Join the **camp facebook group** (this will be emailed to you or you will be invited once you have paid for camp)
- ☒ **Check you own or can borrow an approved cross country body protector**

7.2 Packing checklist – rider

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☒ Approved cross country body protector | ☒ Flip flops to protect feet in showers |
| ☒ Helmet | ☒ Warm clothes |
| ☒ Riding gloves | ☒ Pyjamas |
| ☒ Riding clothes for 3 days (uniform not required but must be sun-safe. No singlets) | ☒ Sunscreen |
| ☒ Socks and underwear | ☒ Hat |
| ☒ Riding boots | ☒ Toiletries |
| ☒ Casual, comfy footwear | ☒ Towel, wash cloth |
| ☒ Casual, comfy clothes | ☒ Plate, bowl, cutlery and cup |

7.3 Packing checklist – bedding

- | | |
|--|--|
| ☒ Air mattress, swag or stretcher bed if staying in pavilion | ☒ Sleeping bag/extra blanket |
| ☒ Pillow | |



7.4 Packing checklist – additional items

- ☒ Camping chair
- ☒ Cart/trolley
- ☒ Phone charger
- ☒ Bike/scooter (you MUST always wear a helmet)
- ☒ Tap head - helps access all water points on show grounds.

7.5 Packing checklist – horse

- ☒ Saddle(s) (dressage, jump)
- ☒ Saddle pads for 3 days (no club uniform required)
- ☒ Bridle, martingale, breastplate etc
- ☒ Halter and lead (plus a spare!)
- ☒ Rugs
- ☒ Grooming kit
- ☒ Large water bucket
- ☒ Feed & hay for 3 days (**you may need to feed your horse extra**)
- ☒ Shavings for yard
- ☒ Rake & manure bucket

8 Cross country body protector

Pursuant to the **Pony Club Australia National Gear Rules**, all riders MUST wear an approved body protector when attempting cross country obstacles:

1.04 Body protectors

For fitting of body protectors, see **Appendix 9**.

Permitted in all disciplines.

They are **mandatory** when jumping fixed obstacles (Group B disciplines) for all ages and grades.

They are also mandatory for Ride to Time and Speed to Safety in Group B. Body protectors must be equestrian make and of standard:

- BETA:2009 or BETA:2018 – Level 3 or
- EN13158:2009 and EN13158:2018 – Level 3

It is recommended body protectors be replaced every five years. The 2009 Level 3 models (produced until 2018) are permitted **until 1st January 2027** if in good condition. After a fall, inspect it for any damage. If the foam is dented, it should return to its natural shape within 30 minutes. If it does not, it is recommended you replace it as the impact absorption qualities may have decreased.



1.04 Example of a body protector (front and back)



1.01 Examples of air vests

11 Quick ref: A (Rallies) B (Cross country) C (Dressage) D (Showjumping) E (Working Eq) F (Gymk/Showing) G (Costume) H (Quiz & I (Mounted Games, Campdrafting, Tent Pegging, Stockman's Challenge, Novelties, Horseball and Polocrosse)

9 Version history

VERSION	DATE	CHANGE
1.0	26 August 2026	
1.1		•

