

Corio Polocrosse Club



Newsletter
March 2011

Hi everyone,

This newsletter is coming out a little bit late, mostly due to our carnival being last weekend & I have not had time to tap anything out, so my apologies.

There has certainly been a lot happening over February, with several carnivals being attended by Corio members across S.A. & Vic.

THE CURSE OF WOODY.

Probably the member who had the biggest month was Phil "Woody" Porter, who unfortunately ended his polocrosse year most unceremoniously with a spectacular tumble off Jerry** who he was doubling up on for Kim Saltmarsh, & had been involved in a crush the day before & was concussed. Jerry** was gassed out of the lineup first ball in & was obviously feeling his oats & the stiff Ballarat breeze & dropped his head a number of times in a fashion that resulted in a broken leg in two places for poor Woody who was rushed to hospital with the ambo's & went into surgery that night to be put back together again.

This was not the first incident for Woody this month, with quite an eventful trip to YP on the 12th – 13th of February in which he was paired with a horse called Bullseye (Woody & Bullseye – geddit?!!) & whom Woody felt such a connection with, that he took him to the bar that night for a few. Apparently Woody & Bullseye were somewhat celebrities on the Peninsula, with grooms bustling to strap Bullseye between chukkas & after the games. Lucky Woody. However, Shane Rowland, who was also in attendance, was not one to let Woody get a big head & although some details are fuzzy, I can tell you that Woody ended up in the bin, head first, not once, but twice. Don't be fooled kids, that Rowly is stronger than he looks. Unlucky Woody. As a result of this, Woody was quite stiff & sore with a bad back for the following couple of weeks, but we were unaware that the worst was yet to come for poor old Woody!



In all seriousness, I would like to wish Phil, on behalf of the Corio Polocrosse Club, the speediest of recoveries & we all hope that he is back on his feet (or at least his crutches) at polocrosse sometime very soon. Get well soon Phil! We are all thinking of you. I'll save a space on the side lines for you.

FYI - Jerry ** is sorry. He just prefers girls.

*** name has been changed to protect identity.*

Club Carnival 2011

Our big weekend (42 teams) was the 5th & 6th of March at Ballarat. I have to admit, I saw hardly any of the games, but I must congratulate our all conquering E grade again, who won through easily to the final & completed a fantastic weekend by beating the Pool 1 team in the final on Sunday morning. Well done to all members, everyone pitched in & helped & the success of the tournament is a credit to our club. Good work. The following is a full list of the winners & grinners;

E Grade.

Corio d Pool 2

Best No 1 – Pierce Sheahan (Corio)

Best No 2 – John Faure (Corio)

Best No 3 – Pete Halloran (Corio)

Best Pony – April Brinkman (Pool 1)

D Grade.

Bluegate Pool d Corio

Best No 1 – Ian McLeod (Corio)

Best No 2 – Jack Plant (Bluegate Pool)

Best No 3 – Mark Evans (Corio)

Best Pony – Merylyn Semmens (Sale)

C Grade.

Goulburn Valley d Corio

Best No 1 – Dave Crommelin (GV)

Best No 2- Sally Dobinson (GV)

Best No 3 – Wheel Barra (Corio)

Best Pony – Dave Crommelin

B Grade.

Trafalgar 38 d Corio

Best No 1 – Kim Templeton (Traf)

Best No 2- Pat McMahon (Traf)
Best No 3 – Phil Porter (Corio)
Best Pony – Kim Templeton (Traf)

Junior 2
Green d Purple
Best No 1 – Emma Gersch
Best No 2 – Tiarna Evans
Best No 3 – Jaymie Falconer

Junior 1
Orange d Yellow
Best No 1 – Tom Jolly
Best No 2 – Dale Galvin
Best No 3 – Tess Armstrong
Encouragement Award – Georgia Watkins
Overall Junior Best Pony – Kelsey Rowland “Kelshar Hogan’s Quickstep” (Corio)

A Grade.
Rosedale d Corio
Best No 1 – Luke Lossberg (Sale)
Best No 2 – Ricky Henry (Corio)
Best No 3 – Michael Semmens (Sale)
Best Pony – Michael Semmens “Roseridge Roxette” (Sale)

Best Presented Team – Trafalgar 38 (B Grade) Buster Jolly, Kim Templeton, Pat McMahon, Mick Brown,
Bill Rolfe & Josh Robson.

Champion Australian Stock Horse- Jon Hart “Edenhope Spinnaka” (Corio - A Grade)

Champion Pony of the Carnival – Erica Mitchell “Remix Glimpse” (Jugiong – A Grade)

Mick Jarmain also announced the Juniors selected for the Albury Classic in Albury on the 23rd & 24th of April. Several of our Corio Juniors were selected (marked in italics), so a big congratulations to them. The teams are the following;

Under 12's
Tayla Falconer
Jaymie Falconer
Aylsha Forrest
Dale Galvin
Blake Radford
Tristan Cooper
Coach – Lee Kelly

Under 16 Mixed 1st Team
Taylor Radford
Kelsey Rowland
Tess Armstrong
Elliott Avis
Jess Kelly
Zac Vines

Coach – Steven Owen

Under 16 Mixed 2nd Team

Laura Beer

Sharlee Rowland

Cassie Malady

John Jolly

Adam Galvin

Tom Dobinson

Coach – Craig Cameron

On a more sobering note, several of our club members, plus many players from other clubs were the victims of theft over the course of the weekend, which is hugely disappointing. Cash was what was mostly went missing, but 2 fully kitted out vet boxes also went missing. This occurred on both the Friday & Saturday night. I would like to think that it was not a “polocrosse person”, but an outsider. However if anyone has ANY information in regards to this, please let Denis Richards, or Mick Jarmain know as soon as possible. The VPA is fairly keen to catch up with the culprits.

Club Fees

If you paid full fees of \$420, please let me know the following ways you would like to be reimbursed;

- 1) Direct debit (in which case please email me your details)
- 2) Purchase playing shirt for discounted price of \$10
- 3) Purchase saddle blanket for discounted price of \$40
- 4) Cheque

You have until the 21st to let me know your preference - after then I will send out cheques to those I have not heard from so the matter is settled.

Club Merchandise

New shirts arrived last week & were available at Portland. If you need one, let me know. We are also out of saddle blankets & they are currently on order.

Playing Shirts: \$30.00ea

Saddle Blankets: \$60.00ea

Fly's Coaching Corner!

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With one Saturday nibbles & dribbles session still to come to complete the line up series, I thought I might see if I can't tie it all together.

As I have said before, the line up is the most repeated set play in the game, so it is important to get it right & it is **important to have a plan before the game.**

THE NUMBER 1.

As Stevie said, he prefers to set up to **jump around the front of the line up** & I believe this is the best & first option. It puts the goal thrower on the goal side of the line up and in a good position to attack the opposition if they happen to get the ball. All in all, **a positive & proactive move.**

THE NUMBER 2.

For the No. 1 to have the confidence to do this, they must have the **confidence in their No. 2 to be able to jump forward** if the ball drops to the front of the line up. The No. 2 therefore must have a tractable pony & be ready to jump forward to get a ground ball. **They must also be ready to turn out of the to back** up the No. 3 if the ball goes over his/her head. The No. 2 should start the game going for the catch, however if the No. 3 is capable of winning the ball at the back of the line up then another good plan is for both the No. 1 & the No. 2 to "go for the wood" & let the ball fall out the back.

THE NUMBER 3.

As Harty said at Ballarat, **No. 3 must always set up to turn out of the line up.** They must try to dominate the opposition No. 3 from the start & be very strong & proactive about their set up. Games can be won & lost at the back of the line up & the **No. 3 must be vocal at all times**, letting their team mates know what is going on & in between chukkas, they need to be the ones **suggesting a change of game plan if the present one is not working.** If the No. 3 is getting beaten then, as Harty said, a couple of things can be tried. One may be to lengthen the line up. For this to work, the No. 2 must drag the their opponent back also. Another option can be for the No. 3 to get into position first & hold this position firmly. Or, alternatively, come in last, or even a combination of both. **Communication & planning are the key.**

Watty is going to talk about lining up as a No. 2 at Rosedale Carnival so if anyone needs any help or suggestions, catch up with Stevie, Watty or Harty or myself.

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'Til then, GO CORIO!

Cheers, Hugh.

Welcome

A couple of new members have joined the club this month;

Joe Baker, who is from QLD, is studying in Geelong & plans to play a couple of carnivals with us over the course of the next couple of months. Serena O'Brien, from WA, is visiting for the next 6 weeks, helping Harty work some horses whilst I am "incapacitated" & playing a few games also. Please make the effort to introduce yourselves & make Joe & Serena welcome.

The Month That Was....February

February started with a wet weekend at Sale in which Corio won the B grade, with the following team; Kristy Cooper, Kim Saltmarsh, Brad Cooper, Tess Armstrong, Michael Schaeffer & Hugh Armstrong. Brad Cooper picked up Best B Grade Player & Kim Saltmarsh was also in the individual prizes winning Best B Grade Horse on Terry (not to be confused with Jerry** of the above story).

On the 13-14th of Feb, a contingent of Corio players made the trip to Yorke Peninsula for a bachelor's weekend, which was apparently a lot of fun, but unfortunately Corio was not in the velvet this time. YP showed their usual hospitality & Matty Bowman was good enough to lend some horses to our players that flew in for the weekend, including the famed Bullseye. The Corio team included; Ricky "The Big Fella" Henry, Phil "Woody" Porter, Pete "Maddog" Halloran, Shane "Rowly" Rowland, Damian "Keety" Keets & Glen "Burns", well, Burns. We need to think of a better nickname for Burns. Anyway, apart from the bin incident & a near miss in Woody's gooseneck on the way into Adelaide, as far as I am aware a fantastic time was had by all.

On the 19th & 20th, most of the club made the trip too Moorooduc for the weekend, & a couple of stragglers went the opposite direction to Adelaide. Both carnivals copped a fair bit of rain, but luckily neither was canned. Moorooduc's fields were quite wet, with players having to navigate a few slippery spots & large lake-like puddles. Kim Saltmarsh held a comp for the Intermediates, which was a great success & a credit to her – well done Kim. Corio managed to make a few finals here which was exciting & Kim Saltmarsh made it two out of two, picking up Best Overall Pony on Terry (once again, not to be confused with that rogue, Jerry**) & picked up a service to Marriott's East Lynne Fox. Quote of the weekend: *"Anne, do you want me too take my pants off? Marlene always makes me take my pants off."* – who else but Unit, at the first aid after going toes up in the B grade final.

Over the weekend of the 26th & 27th, Corio fielded 5 teams (great roll up) & had a fantastic weekend, with a number of our members being in the velvet for team & individual awards. It was also the first outing for the Australian Team representing Australia at the World Cup. The facilities, as usual were fantastic & the fields were a credit. Well done to the E grade who won – Pierce Sheahan, Tayla Falconer & Johnny Faure played an absolute blinder in the final & with a bit of strategy by Boyd Falconer they managed to knock off Sale. The Corio Juniors (Jaymee Falconer, Mitchell Ladhams & Tiarna Evans) also picked up the team prize. The B grade just missed out on winning a very exciting final by only one goal. Our A Graders had a good weekend as well, only just missing out on the final. They managed a win against Jugiong on the Saturday morning (The "Woody curse" struck again; Jon Hart came under a bit of friendly fire from Woody along the 30 yard line, with Woody accidentally rolling both Harty & his ride in the 3rd chukka! But all involved came out okay & except with maybe a little bit of a performance from Harty, played on without any drama), but unfortunately suffered a loss at the hands of the very handy & experienced Australian Team. At the end of the weekend Corio took away the following individual prizes;

Junior Best No 1: Tiarna Evans
Junior Best No 2: Mitch Ladhams
Junior Best No 3: Jaymie Falconer
Junior Best Pony: Jaymie Falconer

E Grade Best No 3: Pierce Sheahan

D Grade Best No 1: Sharlee Rowland

A grade Best No 3 (Barry Sobey Award): Jon Hart

A grade Best Pony: Jon Hart

Well done to these players, well deserved. See the Facebook page for more photos of the weekend.

Quote of the Month

"Ride like the wind, Bullseye!!"

Ok, I didn't actually hear anyone say this; however when Woody rode Bullseye into the bar, surely someone would have? Or whilst galloping down the field at YP goal ward? It's appropriate.

"Surely he will be right to come down & have a drink with us tonight?"
BJ Porter, Sunday afternoon of Woody's accident.

Upcoming Carnivals

12th & 13th of March – Casterton
19th & 20th of March – Rosedale @ Ballarat

This carnival will also have a specialized 'Ladies' competition in the same vein as the Intermediate & Junior Competitions have been held. More information will certainly follow for this one, so lady players in the club, keep your eye out. This will be a great opportunity to play against other women for a weekend – there will be some great match-ups, no doubt.

19th & 20th of March – SA State Champs @ Adelaide
26th & 27th of March – Trafalgar
26th & 27th of March – Naracoorte

Good luck to all of those traveling to Casterton this weekend. Remember to get your name into Brad by the Monday evening before a carnival either by text (0418 179 538) or email (b_kcoop@bigpond.net.au), so teams can be selected on the Tuesday night & entered.

Waivers

Thanks to those who have sent in their Waivers, but I am still waiting on a few. Please get them back to me ASAP.

Get Well

As well as having Phil on the sidelines for a considerable amount time, Kim Saltmarsh also took a bit of a beating at our Carnival, suffering bad concussion after being crushed putting her head over the ball in her 1st game on Saturday morning. Kim has been in & out of hospital for tests etc, but looks to be on the road to recovery now. Feel better soon Kim!

That's all folks!