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FEBRUARY 1987

Dear Members and Non-Members,

Sunday 25th January was a successful start to the season with some twenty riders gaining valuable practise over a small course which was gradually raised each round.

Another similar day will be held on:

Sunday 22nd February

Freds Pass

There is an unofficial dressage day and Noonamah Pony Club on as well so we will commence at approximately 1.00 p.m. Jumps will start very low and be increased in size after each round - \$1.00 per person - as many rounds as you wish.

This will be followed by an Elementary/Freshmans competition which will be a simple jumping course with the jumps fairly low, giving inexperienced horses and riders a chance to compete in a casual atmosphere. Should a number of more senior riders be present, a separate event will be run for them also.

INDOOR JUMPING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Please note that discussion was held at our last meeting re swapping Day/Night Competition with Indoor Jumping Championships to enable people going to Alice Springs a chance to compete in the once yearly Championships. This will probably be held on Saturday 13th June - details to be advised later.

SHOWJUMPING IN 1987 - GENERAL COMMENTS

You have all probably heard various stories about what will be happening in showjumping in 1987. Here is the real story, although some details are yet to be finalised.

Juniors - Pony Club

A Pony Club grading system for Pony Club members (under 21 years) will begin operating this year. There will no longer be a junior grading system run by the DSJC. In the new Pony Club system there will be 5 grades - E, D, C, B and A. The heights for D, C, B and A are very similar to the old Junior D, C, B and A run by the DSJC. You will be graded by your Pony Club. The Pony Clubs will provide you with further details of this system.

EFA

There will be (at least some) official EFA showjumping this year. **Riders and owners must be members of the EFA, horses must be registered and have a show jumping grading card.** At present it is intended that all horses will start in D Grade, irrespective of any previous DSJC senior grading. It is also likely that events for ungraded, beginner horses will also be held for those who don't feel they are up to D Grade. Heights for the respective grades compare very closely with the old DSJC grades. There will no longer be a DSJC senior graded system. Handbooks and grading cards will be available from the EFA shortly - we'll let you know when. There is no age restriction on riders and no height restriction on horses for EFA jumping at the present time. Horses may jump both Pony Club and EFA, although it is likely that being graded EFA will affect the Pony Club grading of that horse.

How does this affect the DSJC?

The DSJC will no longer manage the grading systems. However, in all the competitions that we run we will cater for both Pony Club and EFA gradings. We will have reduced entry fees for our members, and still retain our high-point scores in both Pony Club and EFA grades for members only.

An important thing to remember as regards EFA showjumping, is that the EFA only acts as a policeman and manager of the rules and gradings. It does not run competitions in its own right. Therefore for showjumping to remain active, we need the DSJC to be active and keep running competitions and training schools. Support your club and support your favourite sport.

CORRECTION FROM LAST NEWSLETTER

There was an item in the last newsletter re Nomination of EFA instructor in jumping and coaching that will be run by the EFA that will be started this year. The comments against this item were included in the newsletter by mistake. The true story is that the scheme is a great idea and we hope that you will all support it in its first year of running. Coaching courses will be held by EFA nominated instructors in all equestrian fields and it is an excellent opportunity to have instruction from good people at minimal cost without organisation on your behalf.

MEMBERSHIP

Please note that membership is now due and membership forms were enclosed in your first newsletter. Many people complained last year they were not receiving newsletters and didn't know what was going on. This is mainly because they weren't members!! We have given everybody the opportunity to join and **as from next month newsletters will only be forwarded to current members.**

CATHY HAENSEL
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