



**Litchfield**  
**Horse and Pony Club**  
Proudly Present the  
**2019**  
**BUNYIP HUNT**

**Date:** Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2019

**Future Dates:** 23 June, 24 August and 4 September 2019.

**Venue:** Elizabeth and Peters property, from the scenic banks of the Finnis River to the flood plains and paper bark forests, only a 45 min drive from Noonamah.

**Time:** 0830am for team brief with a 0900am start.

**Cost:** Short Course approx 1 hour - \$15.00

Long Course approx 2 hours - \$20.00

*\*Please note there will be a day membership fee of \$20.00 for non-Pony Club member which will need to be done online prior to the event.\**

**Facilities:** Toilets are available at the house, where the Start/Finish line will be located.

**Camping:** There is camping available for those that would like to have a peaceful night under the stars.

**Yarding for Horses:** There is a big share paddock for horses or bring your own portable fence panels/electric fence system.

**Getting to the Venue:** Sweetwater Bend is on Fogg Bay Road 1km passed Sand Palms Roadhouse. You will see a Tyre and a sign "Section 9" on the left.

Turn left at the sign drive approx 1 km on a good dirt road to a large white gate, this is locked over night and unlocked at 0730am in the morning. Follow the road approx 4km and follow the signs to the parking/camping area.

**Equipment:** All competitors will be required to carry their own water while competing. Water is available but please note this is river water that is potable. Every competitor must wear a riding helmet approved for use in Australia and enclosed foot wear. If you own a hand held two way radio please bring it with you.

**Prizes:** Ribbons for Short and Long Course from First to Sixth place.

**Spectators:** Spectators can view the hunt from either the start/finish line or anywhere along the course. The club will provide a fruit platter and invite everyone to bring a picnic lunch and socialise after the Hunt is complete.

**Quad Bikes:** If anyone has a quad bike and would like to bring it along, Peter will be doing a guided tour of the property away from the actual Hunt for safety reasons.

*\*Please note this is not an official part of the Bunyip Hunt and is not endorsed by the club it has been offered as something for non-competitors to do while riders are out competing\**

**Safety Brief:** There will be a safety brief for riders conducted at 0830 for competitors, this is for rider safety and horse welfare, please note no horses are to be at the brief for safety reasons.

### Horse Welfare and Rider Safety

1. Safety of riders and welfare of horses is of prime consideration of all people bringing their horses to Sweetwater Bend. Please obey all instructions by the race organiser. Any actions by persons deemed by the race officials or organiser to be dangerous to the safety of riders or the welfare of the horses will result in the person being asked to leave the property.
2. There will be a safety brief and race information at 0830, strictly no horses at the riders brief, they are to be left tied to either your float or a tree in the shade.
3. Riders must provide shade and water to their horses whenever the horse is not being ridden.
4. For safety reasons no Stallions or colts are not permitted.
5. Riders ride at their own risk, acknowledging that riding horses is a dangerous sport which can result in serious injury to rider/and or horse. Riders and guardians of Junior Riders must be aware that there are no near by ambulance services.
6. The Bunyip Hunt involves riding over uneven terrain with unexpected hazards, including soft ground, wild pigs, wallabies and other horses appearing suddenly. It may not be suitable for you or your horse, especially if you have any concerns that your horse may shy or get out

of control. Please contact the organisers if you have any concerns about you or your horse.

7. This is a fun competition and riders are expected to behave courteously toward fellow competitors. If anyone comes across a rider in difficulty or a loose horse, must offer assistance. The riders may recommence their race taking note of their time assisting and this time will be deducted from their final time.
8. If you wish to pass another group of riders, please call out to gain their attention and give them the opportunity to pull over and allow safe passing of horses. Please slow down and avoid upsetting their horses.
9. Always pass riders travelling in the same direction on their right side and pass to the left if travelling in the opposite direction.
10. No alcohol is permitted as this is a pony club event.
11. If you have access to a hand held two way radio please bring it along. Where we can we will have one two way with each group as an added safety feature.

## Race Rules

1. Competitors must ride in a team of two.
2. There must be an adult with each junior team, or an experienced rider with an inexperienced rider. If you do not have a team member then organisers will sort you a team.
3. Riders must stay on the tracks and not head off cross country.
4. Start times for teams will be staggered 2 minutes apart.
5. There will be a marked 50m exclusion zone either side of the start/finish line this will be walk only as there will be a number of other riders and horses in the immediate area including young children.
6. Teams must be ready to go 5 min prior to the start.
7. Most of the race can be completed at a trot. Cantering is permitted in areas deemed safe
8. Race track will be clearly sign posted. A series of questions or tokens will need to be collected as you pass checkpoints. One token per group to be collected.
9. You will not need to dismount to collect tokens, if you drop any please be courteous, pick them up and place back in the container.

10. The central driveway is only to be ridden on in the event of getting lost or crossing as part of the course. Remember there may be vehicles on the main driveway/access road.
11. Both members of the team must cross the finish line to be deemed eligible for points and placings.
12. Ribbons from first Place through to Sixth Place.
13. If a competitor withdraws from the race, the organiser must be informed as soon as possible.
14. All decisions by the Race Officials and Organisers are final.