

Musical Ride

The PCAV Musical Ride Teams Competition, which is held in conjunction with the State Games and Flat Teams Championship, commenced some time prior to 1980. Macedon's first team entry was in 1996 and has entered 9 teams since. In order to compete at the State level, the team must first qualify at the Central Zone Championships.

This competition, at first glance, is one that seems like a whole lot of fun and not too difficult. And whilst it is fun, it certainly is not easy and requires a gruelling training regime if success is to be achieved.

Macedon's early teams were in the period 1996 and 1998. At that time, the competition had a more "dressage, with musical background" feel to it. Teams rode in club uniforms and performed precision movements to music. At pony club level, there is no requirement for the advanced riding manoeuvres such as *piaffe*, *passage* and *renvers* which left many a team wondering what on earth they could do to win the competition.

Upon close examination of the competition rules, there was one key element that was missing from the routines and that was the 'fun' and 'surprise' element.

So, after a few years out of the competition, Macedon in 2002 launched a revolutionary approach to the competition with a very cheeky, fun spirited routine that **won the State Championships**.

The team enhanced their uniforms by wearing smiley faces on their 'seats' and wiggled them at the judges early in the ride as their official salute. The music compilation incorporated many changes with upbeat and off beat music from "Her Butt's Too Big", Beach Boys to Austin Powers among a few others and finally to the Dixie Chicks 'Sin Wagon' in which the girls finale was to jump off their horses to exit the arena, jumping in the air to click their heels together.



This routine had such an impact that the competition evolved to a new level over night.

The ensuing years saw all teams emerge with full blown costumes and many quirky, gimmicky, fun aspects to their ride. And now to 2011, where the competition has again turned back to riding as the main score separator as all teams are providing quality costumes and music productions.

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The Teams Honour Board is as follows:

2011 Performing "Hocus Pocus"

Sarah Clifford, Jayde Kirkham, Teegan Burke, Ashley Christie and Coach Norm Glenn - placed 5th at the State Championships



2010 Musical Ride State Qualifiers

Sam Adams, Olivia O'Riley, Sarah Clifford, Ellie Damrow and Coach Richelle Thompson



2008 - Performing a "Spanish" routine

Ellie Damrow, Eliza Griffin, Sam Adams, Caitlin Hennessey and Coach Katherine Mansus. Unfortunately had to scratch from the State Championships due to horse lameness.



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2004 - The younger team performed a "Wiggles" routine and placed 2nd at CZ champs and 5th at State Champs. Team: Ashley Prowse, Stephanie Hunt, Beth Lord, Kristy McMillan, Jessica Goldhahn and Coach Mel Werner.



The older girls team performed a "Putting On The Ritz" routine and placed 6th at Zone. Team comprised *Louisa Glenn, Rachel Kennett, Kirsten Goldhahn, Sarah Walker and Coach Norm Glenn.



2003 - "Mexicana Routine" - 1st at the Zone Championships. Unfortunately, Sarah Walker broke her leg between the zone and state competitions.

Fortunately, the team had practiced with an emergency rider Kirsten Goldhahn, who was able to step in at the last minute for the state competition.

It wasn't 'our day' at the state comp but the team, whilst unplaced, showed great team spirit.

The team comprised Melanie Werner, Sarah Wilson, Sarah Walker, Alexandra Chettle, emergency Kirsten Goldhahn and Coach Norm Glenn.



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2002 The STATE CHAMPIONS - performing "Your Bum's Too Big"

After four years, Macedon entered its third team in the Musical Ride competition with a "Fun Mix" routine and won the state championship.

The team members were Louisa Glenn, Stephanie Werner, Elizabeth (Lizzie) Cox, Jessica Hartup and Coach Norm Glenn.

The innovative (and cheeky) routine and performance of that musical ride changed the face of the PCAV musical ride championships. From the staid old 'dressage' style presentations, it gave the competition a look at the future direction. From there the competition quickly evolved into a fiesta of costumes and fun. Pictured below is the team at the zone championships where they placed second before winning at the state competition.

Below - 2nd at Zone, Winners at State Champs!



The cheeky salute to the judges with 'smiley' bums was a key feature.

1998 performing "Lion King"

The team performed to the music of "Lion King" placed 6th at the State Championships
Meagan Sutherland (Coach), Kate Ciesielski, Karinda Stokes, Serryn Tumber

1996 - Anthea Crebbin, Kate Ciesielski, Andrea Hopkins, Katherine Quinn and Coach
Catherine McLay Unplaced at State