



# Hunter Valley Dressage Association Inc.

## COLLECTIONS

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2019

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### UPCOMING COMPETITIONS

3 November



**DRESSAGE**  
**Writing**

(CLICK HERE)

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Congratulations to all who came to compete at our HVDA Championships on September 22<sup>nd</sup>! Another calm, still day with just enough cloud cover in the morning to maintain a beautiful temperature for riding, and provide conditions for many partnerships to shine on the day. It was a very well supported competition with about 150 riders riding 350 tests.

Many thanks to our sponsors who provided funds for Champions' rugs and Reserve Champion saddle cloths and a range of product and vouchers for 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> placings in each event across a range of categories - Open, Amateur Owner Rider, Para, Youth, Junior and Pony placings. HVDA reserve funds also topped up the funds for the prize pool.

Thank you to our judges for your support and expertise in providing feedback to all riders as they progress with training themselves and their equine partners to develop their connection and athleticism following the dressage training scale. Spectators expressed their appreciation of the many combinations warming up in numbers, considerate of each other's presence and space, and showing excellent presentation and riding skills across the range of levels of development.

It is very pleasing to be able to follow the progress of a number of partnerships now moving into larger classes through Elementary, Medium, Advanced and Prix St Georges levels. Well Done, all of you! Thank you to Earl Olaisen for taking on the TD role for the day, and to Medical Officer, Graham Storer for managing 3 incidents very capably. Many thanks to our Rotary friends for their continued support in keeping us all well fed and watered, and our judges well provisioned over a long day.

I must pay tribute to our small, but dedicated committee who ensure the competition goes ahead: to Joyce and Suzie Laidler, who not only produced the draw, and updated scratchings and replacements until the very last minute, but stepped in to follow up with sponsors, to obtain prizes, embroidery and then calculate Champions on the day and organise the prize-giving at the end of classes at each level. To Ruth Byrne and Chris Sullivan who kept the scores flowing, along with help from Tammy Hodges and Renee Neal who put aside their riding for the day. To Di Stanley, still searching for pencillers (from afar) until the last minute.

It was a very Long Day for the committee! We urgently need more committee members if we are to spread the load and continue to run these competitions. Please come to our AGM at Maitland City Bowling Club on November 7<sup>th</sup>, and support your club by filling a support role on the day (6 days a year and 6 evening meetings.)

**Margaret Warwick**  
PRESIDENT  
**Hunter Valley Dressage Association**

*Member contributions to the HVDA Newsletter welcome! Send info to Tammy Hodges at [tammyleigh@live.com](mailto:tammyleigh@live.com)*

## member profile RENEE NEAL

**Name:** Renee Neal

**Age:** 29

**Family:** My partner, Sean, and our fur kids, 2 dogs, 3 horses and 9 chooks.

**Occupation:** Researcher and Patient Safety Consultant

**Favourite Discipline:** Dressage

**Horse(s):** Vinnie, my 6 year old Clydie x, Georgie my boomerang that has come back to retire and Bart, Vinnie's companion shetland pony.

**How long have you been riding:** Back at it about 5 years and rode for 10 or so years as a child/teenager.

**What made you start riding:** I just always loves horses, I used to beg friends and family with horses to let me ride them.



Renee Neal & Vinnie

I would draw them all the time and my parents finally made the foolish decision to buy me one at 13 and it stuck!

**How often do you ride:** When in a good routine 4 days per week. I am lucky Vinnie has always stayed sensible and progressed nicely with minimal work.

**What does your usual riding routine involve:** 3 days in the arena and a trail ride one or two days and a cavaletti session at least once a fortnight.

**Best Horse (ever) and why:** It's a tie, both my first horse banjo and my current horse Vinnie. Vinnie is my first young horse that I have had the joy of training myself and he just has such a great brain and great heart.

**Greatest Achievement/Proudest Moment:** Buying our own horse property and working so hard to improve it every day.

**Horse related goals for 2019, and into the future:** Sadly my horse riding goals have taken a drastic reform just this week. We had some tough news from the vet that Vinnie has an underlying condition likely present since a yearling which has started to cause him a little discomfort. So my goals now are to get him comfortable again and to stay sound enough that he doesn't need to retire just yet, if we can get back to our novice dressage next year and he can remain comfortable I will feel very lucky.

**Do you work on your own fitness and do you keep fit any other way?** If I have time I might do some balance and strength exercise at the gym but farm chores are the core of my workout regime!

**Other Hobbies/Interests:** Do horse people have time for other hobbies?!? My dogs, and planning home improvements are where any of my free time is spent.

**Favourite Food/Restaurant:** Potato. Anyway, anyhow, it's the best.

**Favourite Movie:** Rocky Horror Picture Show

**Favourite Saying/Quote:** Love the horse first and the sport second.

**Most admired person/people:** I feel lucky I have many amazing, strong people around me but my number one is my mum. She made so many sacrifices and still does to give me the best life. She is smart, she is kind and she is tough, you don't want to mess with her. All of these things she has given me

**Something most people don't know about you:** I am an open book. I talk too much and I tell everyone, everything. What you see is what you get!



# member profile MELODEY BEASLEY

**Name:** Melodey Beasley

**Age:** 16

**Family:** Mum, Dad, 2 older Sisters and twin Brother

**Occupation:** Stable hand

**Favourite Discipline:** Dressage

**Horse(s):** Iona Park Cosmic Jive (Summer), Chelleason Picasso's Gold (Picasso)

**How long have you been riding:** 8 years

**What made you start riding:** My love for horses

**How often do you ride:** Whenever I get the opportunity to.

**What does your usual riding routine involve:** Riding to music is a must! Starting with lots of stretching exercises, long rein work, then go onto our frame work, lots of flexion and transitions to keep my horses thinking, then end with long rein work.



Melodey Beasley & Summer

**Best Horse (ever) and why:** My best horse Honeywood Tiana ( Jellybean ) I sadly do not own anymore but she taught me so much about my riding and how to work as a one with your horsey partner to achieve the best team you possibly can together!

**Greatest Achievement/Proudest Moment:** Would probably be when I purchased my Newest horse Summer.

**Horse related goals for 2019, and into the future:** I would love to be able to compete my new mare in an Elementary test by the end of the year.

**Do you work on your own fitness and do you keep fit any other way?** Not really, I do some dancing on the side.

**Other Hobbies/Interests:** My Horses and work take up the majority of my time so when I have the rare day off I like to dance, listen to music or sleep.

**Favourite Food/Restaurant:** I love pretty much any foods I am able to eat.

**Favourite Movie:** Not really sure I have one

**Favourite Saying/Quote:** "Effort makes you. You will regret it someday if you don't you your best now".

**Most admired person/people:** I really admire my coach as she is always thinking of others and willing to give to anyone who may need it. She truly is inspiring to me, and I wish to ride like she did some day.



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## HUNTER VALLEY EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

### RIDING LESSONS with SHAUN FRANCE

EA Level 3 Dressage Specialist Coach & EA Coach Educator  
Available for Lessons to Riders at all Levels



cost • \$77 per hour

phone/text • 0407 200907

email • [shaun@hunintervalleyequestriancentre.com.au](mailto:shaun@hunintervalleyequestriancentre.com.au)

location • 2 Black Hill Road, Black Hill

## ENTER OUR NEXT COMP

3 November 2019

[Online Entry](#)

[Paper Form](#)

## ONLINE MEMBERSHIP

Share your next day out competing at Hunter Valley Dressage



#hunintervalleydressage

## COMMITTEE 2019

### HONORARY PATRON

Lois Howe

### PRESIDENT

Margaret Warwick

### VICE PRESIDENT

Joyce Laidler

### TREASURER / PUBLIC OFFICER

Chris Sullivan

### GROUNDS COMMITTEE

Chris Sullivan

### SECRETARY Ruth Byrne

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Tammy Hodges

### EVENT SECRETARY

Joyce Laidler & Suzanne Laidler

### PENCILLER COORDINATOR

Di Stanley

### HVDA PHOTOGRAPHER

Jody M Photography

### JUDGES SECRETARY / JUDGES FOLDER

Kerry Sullivan / Krystal Taylor

### JUNIOR/YOUTH COORDINATORS

Karen Graham, Krystal Taylor

### MINUTES SECRETARY Suzanne Laidler

### MEMBERSHIP Joyce Laidler

### PRIZES & TROPHIES / POINTSCORE

Renee Neal

### FACEBOOK/PUBLICITY

Jody Millward, Renee Neal

### CHIEF STEWARD / SAFETY OFFICER

Outsourced

### ARENA MAINTENANCE Vicki Ireland

### SPONSORSHIP Suzie Laidler

### WEBSITE COORDINATORS

Tammy Hodges, Joyce Laidler,  
Suzanne Laidler

### GENERAL COMMITTEE

Megan Taylor

Thank you to our  
**SPONSORS**



**Hunter Valley**

