

INTER-PACIFIC EXCHANGE

RULES & GUIDELINES

Updated 2003

1. AIM:

To create an opportunity for a cultural and sporting exchange amongst Pony Club members with similar interests in riding and horse mastership, from the countries bordering the Pacific ocean.

The Inter-Pacific Exchange to include friendly competitions and not be seen as a Junior Olympics.

2. PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES: (in order of rotational hoisting)

New Zealand	1989
Australia	1991
Canada	1993
Japan	1995
Hong Kong	1997
USA	1999
New Zealand	2001
Australia	2003
Canada	2005
Japan	2007
Hong Kong	2009

Since inclusion in 1977, Hong Kong were part of a Team called Far East Team made up of members from those countries in the Far east Area conference namely:

Hong Kong
Malaysia
Philippines
Singapore
Thailand.

As Hong Kong was the prime mover in organizing this team, in 1987 it was agreed that Hong Kong would be invited as a separate entity.

Invitations to be sent to all other countries in the far East region. A composite team from these countries would be accepted.

Great Britain was invited to take part in Exchanges as a "special guest nation". In 1991 they advised that they no longer wished to be included in the Exchange, as they preferred to take up opportunities for Exchanges in the Northern Hemisphere.

3. HOSTING:

Exchanges to take place on a bi-annual basis, if possible in the months of July/August.

The acceptance of an invitation by a Pony Club country automatically creates an obligation for that country to host an Inter Pacific Exchange in rotation.

Host country to supply suitable horses for riders, accommodation, traveling and hospitality to invited team members whilst they are in their country. These privileges are reciprocated as each country take their turn of hosting.

On 26/4/200 it was resolved that a "Land Fee: for each team member including the Chaperone & coach of **US \$200** to be paid in the host nations' currency prior to the Exchange. This amount to be reviewed as required.

Hosting should be organized by the host country in such a manner that additional financial requests would not be made to visiting nations. Exception: hosting countries to advise any sundry personal expenses that team members are likely to incur during the Exchange (e.g. laundry, admission fees etc.) well in advance of the tour.

4. LENGTH OF TOURS: Two weeks minimum to three weeks maximum duration

5. NUMBER OF RIDERS:

Team: a minimum of 5 riders and a maximum of 7 riders - to be invited at the host countries discretion. A Coach and Chaperone also to accompany each team.

Maximum flexibility be allowed to host countries within these parameters, when issuing invitations

6. ELIGIBLE TEAM MEMBERS:

Must be 17 years old at the start of the Inter-Pacific Rally but not to have had their 21st birthday before the first day of January in the year of the Exchange and must have passed their **B. Test** or equivalent.

Team members to be responsible young adults who are considered good ambassadors for their countries and who are willing to comply with the Rules and Guidelines as set down for the Exchange.

Visiting Nations are to notify the names of their team members to the host country at least two months before the Rally.

7. INVITATIONS:

To facilitate satisfactory contact, all communications **to be addressed to the National Office of each participating country.**

Invitations to be forwarded by the host country to participating countries **at least 12 months prior to the Exchange.** This should include the proposed dates of the Exchange.

Any special guidelines as required by the hosting country for a particular hosting (i.e. behaviour, alcohol, smoking, curfews etc.) should be made known to participating Nations at the time of the invitation.

Six months prior to the tour the host country to forward further information relating to the Exchange, including proposed itinerary and the number of homes where a team member would expect to be billeted.

A full itinerary and a list of Emergency telephone numbers to be forwarded to the visiting countries approximately **one month prior** to the commencement of the Exchange.

Invited Countries to forward to the host country, the names, sex, profile, photographs, airline, flight arrival times and departure times and any other information required, **at least two months prior to the commencing of the Exchange.**

All Teams to provide their own formal & informal uniforms and name badges for wearing during the Exchange.

Name Badges to be worn all the time as a courtesy to hosting members that they will meet when on tour.

Expected weather conditions to be notified with the invitation from the hosting country.

8. BILLETS:

Billeting is to be encouraged whenever possible, to promote social interchange and to allow the visitors to learn more of the culture of the country they are visiting.

The host Nation **MUST** notify the billeting families of any restrictions e.g. Alcohol, driving vehicles etc. applicable to the exchange.

Host countries should carefully screen all billeting families prior to arranging hosting.

Billeting families should be given a copy of the full Tour Itinerary so they will not duplicate outings for their visitors.

Suggested that team members from each country be billeted together as far as possible at the commencement of the tour, then mixed with other countries as the tour progresses.

Information should be supplied if any team members cannot speak English.

Billeting is preferred to rental accommodation. It may be necessary to arrange rental accommodation during the competition days.

Team members must stay with their allocated hosts (or allocated residences) for the total of the allocated hosting, except in a real emergency. At all times Teams must be under the control of their Chaperone & Coach and act at all times within the bounds of the rules set down for Inter-Pacific Exchanges.

Where convenient, Chaperones and Coaches to be billeted with team members for the purpose of supervision - not billeted separately.

9. HORSES:

Horses and all suitable gear is provided by the host nation.

Visiting Teams may bring their own identifying saddle blankets.

Horses of a comparable standard are divided into groups by the host nation. Coaches draw one horse from each group. The host nation will require some spare substitute horses in case of lameness etc.

A written "thumbnail" sketch of each horse should be made available to each Team Coach at the time of the "draw".

A horse **may not** be ridden by its owner.

Scheduled and timed practice sessions to be programmed for teams.

Each Coach is responsible for the Safety Gear check for his own team or allocated team.

A Coach & a Chaperone to be allocated to each Scrambled Team.

10. COMPETITIONS:

All events where applicable to be conducted under current F.E.I. Rules with any amendments as set out in the Inter-Pacific Rules (including gear, number of competitors in a team, equality placing etc.) to take precedence over the FEI Rules.

(a). A **Scrambled Teams One Day Event** competition for the "Kangaroo Cup" to be the first competition conducted.

Countries with insufficient grounds to hold a cross country phase may substitute another phase. Alternatively they may hold a Scrambled Teams Combined Training Event

To determine team scores, the best individual scores of two less than the number of riders in each team will be totaled. If there is a tie, the next best score in the team will be used to break the tie.

(Being scrambled team competition, there is no actual Cup for the winning team).

(b). The main competition is a Nations Cup Showjumping Event. The winner holds a perpetual shield trophy for two years.

This event to be held over **two rounds** over the same course. The second round may be raised. **The best four individual scores in each round will count.**

In the case of equality of faults between two or more teams for **first place**, all members of these teams will take part in a jump-off over a reduced course in which the obstacles may be increased in height or spread. If there is still an equality of faults: the four best the total time taken for these four best rounds in the jump-off will be the deciding factor.

To avoid equality for minor positions, the time for both rounds should be taken. A countback on the total time for the best 4 riders in the second round will decide placings. If there is still an equality for minor placings, the total times for the best four riders in each round will be added to decide the placings.

The Nations Cup Showjumping event is held after the One Day Event.

(c). A third competition of the host countries choosing may be held.

Information on the type of event and the rules, to be supplied to all participating counties well before the Exchange.

(d). All competitions including the selected Dressage Test to be advised in writing to invited countries **at least 6 months** in advance of the proposed Inter-Pacific Exchange.

(e) 26/4/2000 Resolved that Horse Management is not part of the Scrambled Teams or Nations Cup competitions

(f) The coach & Chaperone of the team **MUST** have access to the barns L(stables) and their riders at all times during and prior to the competition.

11. TESTS & FENCE HEIGHTS:

Suggested: Dressage to be at Preliminary level

Fences not to exceed 110 cms. The final decision on heights must be governed by local conditions, the terrain and weather.

12. SUBSTITUTE OF RIDERS BY A COMPETING NATION: (during the tour)

Acceptable reasons:

1. An injured rider
2. A rider who becomes ill
3. A rider requesting compassionate leave.

Once a substitution has been made, the original rider cannot be re-instated.

13. SUBSTITUTE OF HORSES:

Unsuitable mounts may be substituted (if extra horses are available) at any time up to 24 hours prior to the competition.

Teams and mounts must be declared on the morning of the day before the competition (24 hours).

If any Hosting Nation is unable to provide sufficient horses for any event, the host country's team will be the team with insufficient horses.

14. LIAISON PERSONNEL:

Hosting countries should appoint a Liaison person in addition to Team Coach & Chaperone for the purpose of liaising with the visiting nations during their tour & competitions. This should be a person who is **not** a member of the host country's Team, and to whom everyone could turn if they have problems.

15. INTERNATIONAL MEETING:

One only official International Meeting for the purpose of discussing the current and forthcoming Exchanges to be arranged during each Exchange.

Important matters such as Rule Changes should be notified in advance and agendas provided to the National Secretariats' of the incoming countries.

The host country to appoint a Chairman (preferably the National Chairman of the Host country) and an official Secretary to take the minutes at the Official Meeting.

Minutes of the official International Meeting held during an Exchange to be forwarded to the National Secretariat of all participating countries **within 6 weeks of the holding of such meeting.**

Coaches & Chaperones may wish to hold any number of unofficial meetings to discuss day to day programs etc. during the currency of the Exchange.

The host country to act as Secretariat of the Exchange and will hand over to the next host country on 1st September, following their hosting of the Exchange.

16. OFFICIAL INTER-PACIFIC EXCHANGE LIAISON OFFICE:

For the continuity of Inter-Pacific Exchanges, the Australian National Office was appointed (1987) as the liaison agency for all future Inter-Pacific Exchanges.

(This decision was taken in view of Australia helping to initiate the original Exchange and being the only country that has attended every Exchange since the inception of the competitions and as a result holds a complete set of records).

Countries undertaking hosting may request any assistance or information required from the Australian National office.

Information on Rules, hosting etc. to be made available on request to all participating countries.

Original Inter-Pacific Rules & Guidelines to be updated from time to time as per motions documented in International Meeting minutes

(Australian National Office :Telephone 61 07 55361330. Fax 61 07 55361265)

The Australian National Office to keep an Official file of past Inter-Pacific Exchange and additionally to collect as much information as possible relating to the History of the Inter-Pacific Exchange.

Each participating country's National Office is to be encouraged to archive their own records and meeting minutes from each Inter-Pacific Exchange, for their own reference.

17. SUPPORTERS:

Any persons (parents etc.) traveling to support their Team, must understand that they are **not part of the official Tour and may not take part in any of the tour including accommodation and arranged outings etc. Supporters may not be included with Team transport to venues.**

Supporters to be invited to attend the official competitions only.

18. SAFETY & INSURANCE COVER:

Every reasonable precaution should be taken to ensure the prevention of accidents and the personal safety and well being of all Team Members.

All participating teams are to be adequately covered by Public Liability, Personal Accident and Travel Insurance applicable in the hosting country, before they leave their home country. Coaches & Chaperones should also hold Professional Indemnity cover.

19. ALCOHOL & TOBACCO:

Alcohol to be discouraged. If alcohol is permitted strict adherence to the laws of the host country should be observed.

It is recommended that any consumption of alcohol should be strictly controlled and limited to official functions only.

For health reasons, sporting teams should abstain from tobacco smoking.

Illegal drugs are not permitted under any circumstances.

20. LUGGAGE:

26/4/2000: Resolved that each Team member to be limited to one soft bag and one backpack/haversack type bag. This excludes bags with saddle blankets or any horse gear.