

# MOUNTAIN CATTLEMEN'S CUP CHALLENGE

## OFFICIAL RULE BOOK

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*Winners Ladies Hayley Hinton, Open Daryl Baines Junior Katie Faithfull  
2019 Mountain Cattlemen's Cup*

*Image Yuri Kouzmin The Weekly Times*

Get Together  
Friday 10 – Sunday 12 January 2020  
Merrijig, Victoria

# WELCOME

Welcome to G2g Merrijig for all our new and returning Mountain Cattlemen's Cup entrants for 2020. The Committee has worked hard to prepare an enjoyable and fair challenge for all competitors, that draws on the riding and horsemanship skills displayed by mountain cattlemen and that fits with the space and terrain at McCormack's Park at Merrijig.

The Mountain Cattlemen's Cup Challenge will have sections for open, ladies, juniors and a special class for our cattlekids. There will be a separate rule book produced for Cattlekids. The Challenge has a number of elements to test the horse and rider combinations. The Committee wishes everyone the best of luck throughout the weekend. We hope you all have a safe and enjoyable time.

Winners Open Cattlemen's Cup Challenge		Winners Junior Cattlemen's Cup Challenge	
2019	Daryl Baines	2019	Katie Faithfull
2018	Troy Nicholls	2018	Josie Elliot
2017	Christopher Connley	2017	Mikayla Semmens
2016	Brett Lancaster	2016	Kelsie Lupsom
2015	Brett Lancaster	2015	Kelsie Lupsom
2014	Christopher Connley	2014	Tahnee Olsson
2013	Christopher Connley	2013	Tom Ford
2012	Christopher Connley	2012	Rose Wellesley
2011	Troy Nicholls	2011	Jye Hodgkins
2010	Neil Waite	2010	Marika Angrove
2009	Neil Waite	2009	Joanne Stevens
2008	Lincoln Adams	2008	Christopher Connley
2007	Lincoln Adams	2007	Christopher Connley
2006	Lincoln Adams	2006	Matt Maliki
2005	Steven Boulton	2005	Matt Maliki
2004		2004	
2003		2003	
2002		2002	Corey Ferrari
2001		2001	Brooke Dobson
2000	Rick Hodge	2000	
1999	Travis Kelly	1999	Adam McCormack
1998	Rick Hodge	1998	Melissa Connley
1997	Rick Hodge	1997	Luke Mitchell
1996	Tim Faithfull	1996	Luke Mitchell
1995	Tim Faithfull	1995	Derek Faithfull
1994	Ken Connley	1994	Tim Faithfull
1993	Peter Faithfull	1993	Tim Faithfull
1992	Chris Stoney	1992	Tim Faithfull, Wayne Lovick
1991	Chris Stoney	1991	Tarina Connley
1990	Peter Faithfull		
1989	Chris Stoney		
1988	Ken Connley		
1987	TBC		
1986	TBC		
1985	Ken Connley		
1984	Ken Connley		
1983	Ken Connley		
		Winners Ladies Cattlemen's Cup Challenge	
		2019	Hayley Hinton
		2018	Shea Reynolds
		2017	Carrie Jones
		Winner Cattlekids' Challenge	
		2019	Billy Phegan
		2018	Sarah Faithfull

# MCAV CATTLEMEN'S CUP CHALLENGE EVENT OVERVIEW

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## Preliminary Events

### Cattlemen's Mounted Whipcrack

Senior riders must attempt to crack whip targets at a canter, junior riders must attempt to crack targets at a trot. Points based on accuracy, time and horsemanship.

Cattle Handling – CHANGE IN EVENT STRUCTURE: This event now be run in a similar style to a working cow horse event, with each competitor given a single beast and required to work it in the arena.

Obstacle Course – competitors must negotiate a course with different obstacles designed to test both rider and horse. Competitors may have to complete sections of the course bareback. Points based on accuracy, negotiation of course and time. There will be a maximum time applied.

## Final Event

Mountain Cattlemen's Cup Bush Skills Race – demonstrating horsemanship and bush skills, riders will race over variable terrain, obstacles and hazards. The course will not exceed 2km. Competitors will receive points based on the position that the rider crosses the finish line. Points awarded are scaled depending on the place that each rider achieves.



Mountain Cattlemen's G2g Race Action 2020

Image: Yuri Kouzmin

# VET & GEAR CHECK

Friday 10 January 2020 | 3pm TBC

**Event Manager:** MCAV Horse Committee | **Vet:** to be confirmed

## Gear check

Judges are entitled to disqualify any competitor or direct them to replace any gear deemed to be unsafe or unsuitable.

- Horse to be presented to the gear check judge fully saddled including bridle and breastplate.
- Rider to wear helmet, vest (mandatory for junior riders only), stock whip, oilskin, etc.
- All gear must be in good, safe working order and must reflect the spirit of the Mountain Cattlemen.
- Gear will be checked on the appropriateness of use in mountain bush riding.
- All horses must have a breastplate fitted for the duration of the event.
- All riders must fasten a full-length oilskin to their saddle for the duration of the event (excluding any bareback components in the obstacle course).
- All riders must have fastened to their gear a leather stockwhip for the duration of the event unless required to be used eg in the whipcrack.
- Horses, saddles and breastplates presented during the Vet and Gear Check will be marked and the same gear must be used in all subsequent events over the course of the event (including the final event).
- All competitors must have 2 points of contact to hold the saddle secure (girth and surcingles in addition to the breastplate. Back girth will not be accepted).
- Standing martingales and/or tiedowns **must not be used** at any time.
- Helmets must comply with current Equestrian Australia standards and must not have been in an accident. Helmets must fit the rider correctly. Approved numbers:
  - ✓ Current Australian standard AS/NZS 3838 (2006 onwards) provided they are SAI Global marked.
  - ✓ New Australian standard ARB HS 2012 provided they are SAI Global marked.
  - ✓ Current American standard ASTM F1163 (2004a or 04a onwards) provided they are SEI marked.
  - ✓ Current American standard SNELL E2001.
  - ✓ Current British standard PAS 015 (1998 or 2011) provided they are BSI Kitemarked.
  - ✓ Interim European Standard VG1 (01.040: 2014-12) with or without BSI Kitemark.

## Dress code

- Approved smooth soled riding boots must be worn.
- Collared shirt with long sleeves and appropriate riding trousers.
- All riders must wear an Equestrian Australia Approved helmet at all times whilst mounted.
- All junior riders must wear a safety vest during the Bush Skills Race.

## Vet check – health and soundness of horse

- All horses must be free of any substance or drug that affects performance. The Committee reserves the right to test.
- Present unsaddled horse for vet check and standing heart rate measurement.
- Horses are to be fit and sound (eg not lame, girth-galled or saddle sore etc).
- The horse must be able to be led at a trot to the satisfaction of the Veterinary Practitioner, otherwise it will be disqualified.
- Should a horse be vetted out before the competition commences, the competitor may use a spare horse as long as it is presented to the vet for inspection prior to the completion of the Vet and Gear Check.
- Once the competition begins, the same horse must be used for all phases of the event.
- Any horse/s found to have a contagious disease will be subject to the rules of quarantine or removal from the grounds as determined by the veterinary practitioner.
- The Committee may require a vet check at the conclusion of the Race. Any horse that does not pass will be disqualified.

# CATTLE HANDLING

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*Event Manager: to be confirmed*

## Requirements

Competitors must show their horsemanship and cattleworking ability by completing a dry work pattern with a single beast.

Competitors are permitted 3 minutes to complete the task. This time frame will be confirmed before the event begins.

Should a competitor not finish before time finishes, all points will count up until the time mark.

## Rules:

The committee is currently finalising rules for this new phase of the event. This will be emailed to competitors shortly.



*Chris Connley, 2016 Cattle Handling Section*

# OBSTACLE COURSE

**Event Manager: Jack McCormack**

## Requirements

- Competitors are required to complete a set obstacle course designed to test both rider and horse, within a maximum time to be advised at event briefing.
- Time commences when you indicate to the judge that you are ready to start.
- There will be no time penalties awarded.
- There are 10 obstacles worth a maximum of 10 points each (total of 100 points available).
- Should two competitors receive the same score based on obstacles alone, the rider with the fastest course time will be announced the winner of the Obstacle Course.
- All riders must attempt each obstacle. If unsuccessful in the first try, riders have 2 attempts to correctly complete that obstacle.
- Riders must attempt all obstacles at least once.
- Should a rider not complete an obstacle correctly and not attempt the obstacle again, the rider will receive no further points.
- Riders must complete the course by themselves with no outside input.
- All riders will be walked through the course prior to their colour group commencing the course.
- Should a rider not complete the course within the maximum time, the score will be taken from points accrued to that point.

## Points

Scoring	Maximum points awarded per obstacle correctly completed
10 x obstacles	1 <sup>st</sup> attempt – 10
	2 <sup>nd</sup> attempt – 8
<b>Max possible points per course</b>	<b>100</b>



## CATTLEMEN'S MOUNTED WHIPCRACK

**Event Manager: to be confirmed**

### Requirements

- Open and Lady riders are to ride the course at a canter (minimum).
- Junior riders are to ride the course at a trot (minimum).
- Competitors must attempt to cleanly cut a set number of targets with a forward style cattlemen's crack. Whip must crack to achieve the points for that target.
- Only one attempt is permitted for each target.
- Competitors are not permitted to stop to attempt a target.
- Should a rider fall whilst completing the course, they must not re-mount and continue.
- Should a rider fall, all points will count up until the fall.
- Riders are not permitted to ride outside of the designated course boundary to cut or negotiate a target or obstacle.
- Should two riders achieve the same total score, the fastest time on the course will be announced the winner of the Cattlemen's Mounted Whipcrack.

### Mounted freestyle

- Competitors are to conduct a mandatory 30 seconds freestyle on their horse.
- Competitors may use two whips.

Freestyle is to be completed after the Whipcrack Course.

Scoring	Max points possible
Targets	60
Freestyle	20
Horsemanship	20
<b>Max possible points per course</b>	<b>100</b>



Tom Buckley, 2015 Whipcrack Course

# MOUNTAIN CATTLEMEN'S CUP MOUNTAIN BUSH SKILLS RACE

**Event Managers:** *To be confirmed*

## Requirements

- The Mountain Cattlemen's Cup Mountain Bush Skills Race is a high speed race designed to test both horse and rider and will not exceed 2.2km. All riders progressing forward into the Open Top 10, Ladies Top 10 and Junior Top 10 must be capable of mountain bush riding.
- There will be a number of obstacles that riders must negotiate to continue through the course. Should any rider not complete an obstacle fully, that rider will be eliminated from the race and receive zero points. Riders are permitted to attempt each obstacle a number of times until they competently complete that obstacle in order to continue on through the race. Riders representing at an obstacle must give way to an oncoming rider.
- Competitors must carry an oilskin secured to their saddle, must ride in the same saddle and use the same gear throughout the competition and carry a full length working stockwhip in their hand at all times.
- Riders **must not** wear spurs whilst competing in the race.
- Scores are determined by the position a rider achieves in the race. Should any rider cross the finish line 1<sup>st</sup>, however not complete an obstacle correctly, that rider will be eliminated and the next rider who crosses the finish line announced as the next highest scoring rider.
- All Top 10 Open, Top 10 Lady and Top 10 Junior riders will walk the course prior to the race being run.
- All Top 10 Open, Top 10 Lady and Top 10 Junior riders will carry their preliminary events scores forward into the race.
- The highest scoring rider (from the 3 preliminary events and race points combined) will be announced the Mountain Cattlemen's Cup Challenge Overall Winner in each category (Open, Ladies & Junior).
- All riders must be in control of their horse and demonstrate good horsemanship at all times whilst on course.
- Both start and finish lines must be crossed for a rider to achieve a place in the Open, Ladies and Junior races respectfully.
- Overtaking must be done only when it is safe to do so and judges will eliminate riders who put themselves or other riders at risk.
- If at any stage a rider falls from their horse, they are not permitted to remount and continue with the race. A fallen rider must lead their horse back to the start/finish line and will be inspected by the events first aid officers. If any fallen rider does remount/ continue with the race, they will be eliminated from the race and will receive no points.

Position achieved	Maximum points available
1 <sup>st</sup>	150 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	120 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	100 points
4 <sup>th</sup>	90 points
5 <sup>th</sup>	80 points
6 <sup>th</sup>	70 points
7 <sup>th</sup>	60 points
8 <sup>th</sup>	50 points
9 <sup>th</sup>	40 points

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

“Bush Race Meeting means a meeting on a day or on consecutive days at which a mountain race or a flat race is conducted which is not bound by the rules and regulations governing the Australian Racing Board, Racing Victoria Ltd and Harness Racing Victoria” (Code of Practice for the Welfare of Horses at Bush Race Meetings, DELWP).

### Riders

1. All adult riders competing in the Open or Ladies Cup must be a paid member of MCAV.
2. Any rider under the influence of drugs or alcohol must not, and will not be permitted to take part in the event.
3. A rider must not ride dangerously, compromise the welfare of a horse or another competitor.
4. Any rider who has a fall from a horse whilst in warm up or competing must have a medical examination and be declared fit to ride by the designated first aid officer before riding in any further events during the weekend.
5. All riders must treat the animals they interact with humanely and obtain prompt veterinary assistance if a horse or any other animal they are in charge of becomes ill or injured.

### Gear

All gear, including helmets, will be inspected at the compulsory Vet and Gear Check prior to commencement of the event and must be in good repair, properly fitted and must not cause discomfort or injury to the horse. See Gear Check section.

In addition:

1. All horses that are shod must have correctly fitting shoes. Shoes must not be worn, have nails protruding or clenches risen. Toe grabs must not be used.
2. All bandages must be stitched. Velcro fastened boots must be taped for the Bush Skills Race.
3. Spurs must not be used in the Mountain Cattlemen's Cup Bush Skills Race. Spurs are permitted when completing the 3 preliminary events (cattle handling, obstacle course and whipcrack).
4. Riders are **not** permitted to use their stockwhip in the Mountain Cattlemen's Cup Bush Skills Cross Country Race.
5. Riders must have a stockwhip secured at all times during all phases of the event (cattle handling, obstacle course, whipcrack and race) and are permitted to use it when required or as directed with good horsemanship as a guideline. Riders may elect to hand carry their whip but it is not compulsory.
6. Riders must secure an oilskin to their saddle for the duration of the event.
7. Riding crops are not permitted at any time.

### Other

1. All competitors must hold a current Ambulance Membership cover and must be a member of the MCAV.
2. All competitors must indicate they have read and accept the Acceptance of Risk on the online Entry Form. This is a form to be downloaded and signed by a parent or guardian if the competitor is under the age of 18.
3. Entries will be taken from October 14, with preference given subject those outlined in point 35, Competition rules.
4. All competitors are to treat Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria Committee Members, Horse Event Coordinators, Judges, Stewards, Volunteers or any single person associated with the coordination of the event with respect at all times.

## Prizes

There will be a sash presented for the winner in all Cattlemen's Cup sections – obstacles, whip crack, cattle and the Race. The Cup will be awarded to the overall winner, with placings to third, along with a cash amount.

## COMPETITION RULES

Any Competitor or Member using electronic technology to defame the Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria, the Annual Get Together, Cattlemen's Cup, Volunteers, Staff, Stewards, Judges or other Competitors will be disqualified from the Mountain Cattlemen's Cup Challenge and this will affect future inclusion in the event.

The Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria endeavour to hold a fair and enjoyable event for all competitors; however it is understood that changes may be made to the event at the last minute to ensure the riders and competing horses' safety. All competitors acknowledge when they enter the event that they will accept any and all changes and decisions made by the Central Council Committee or MCAV Staff, Volunteers, Vets, Stewards or Judges.

All competitors will abide by the following Competition Rules:

1. The event will be run over three days including Vet and Gear Check on Friday.
2. The Committee reserves the right to make changes to the program in the event of extreme heat by altering ride times, durations and/ or cancelling event sections. No refund will be given.
3. Entries will be taken from October 14, with preference given subject those outlined in point 35, Competition rules.
4. Riders must accept any decision made on the appropriateness/fitness of a horse to compete by the Event Veterinary Practitioner.
5. Scores may be awarded in the Vet and Gear Check, but will not form any part of the total aggregate scores used to determine the Top 10 Open, Top 10 Ladies or Top 10 Junior Riders.
6. Open and Lady riders must be 18 years and older on the Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January. Junior riders must be between the ages of 14 and 17 on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January. The parent or legal guardian must sign the Acceptance of Risk for the Junior rider to be eligible to participate in the event.
7. All Junior riders must wear a safety vest when competing in the Bush Skills Race. It is recommended that all Senior riders wear a safety vest during the Bush Skills Race.
8. All Open, Lady and Junior competitors must wear an Equestrian Australia Approved Helmet at all times whilst mounted. See Gear Check.
9. Each competitor is permitted one and the same horse for the duration of the event.
10. Riders must be experienced and accomplished competitive riders with an appropriately trained horse capable of undertaking the challenging conditions of Mountain Bush Racing. Chief judges of each of the pre-race stages, in consultation with Horse Committee, have the authority to eliminate any rider from competing in the race if they feel that the skill of horse and rider together is not at standard and would be potentially unsafe.
11. Riders must conduct themselves in a fair and friendly manner towards all Staff, Volunteers, Judges, Vets, Stewards and other Competitors at all times.
12. Riders must accept any and all changes made to the event as necessary as set out by the MCAV Cattlemen's Cup Challenge organisers. Riders must accept any decision made in regards to scores and rules/regulations by the Judge and/or Stewards of the MCAV Cattlemen's Cup Challenge.
13. Should a rider's horse become ill or injured, competitors must seek the necessary veterinary assistance as soon as reasonably possible. Payment of the necessary veterinary services is the rider's/horse owner's responsibility.
14. Any animal deemed unfit or at risk by the MCAV Cattlemen's Cup Challenge event organisers, or the MCAV Veterinary Practitioner will not be permitted to continue in the competition. All decisions are final and no competitor is permitted to enter into any discussion once a decision has been made.

15. Mistreatment or cruelty to any animal in the competitor or another's care will result in the person/s responsible being asked to leave the event immediately and not invited to attend the event again. Other penalties may include: disqualification, loss of points and/ or any prize money awarded.
16. All Open and Lady Cattlemen's Cup riders enter with the intention of riding in the Open or Lady Final should they progress through to the Top 10 Open or Top 10 Ladies.
17. All Junior Cattlemen's Cup riders enter with the intention of riding in the Junior Final should they progress through to the Top 10 Juniors.
18. All riders will be notified of their acceptance into the Cattlemen's Cup. Any rider put on a waiting list will also be notified. Anyone not accepted will receive full refund.
19. All competitors must have current Ambulance Cover to ride in the Mountain Cattlemen's Cup
20. All competitors must register at the Riders Registration which takes place before 4pm on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at the Event Secretary's Office.
21. All competitors must attend the Riders Briefing which takes place on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Times will be confirmed.
22. Any Open, Lady or Junior rider who elects not to ride in the final event must notify the Horse Event Organisers as soon as practically possible after the Top 10 Open, Top 10 Lady and Top 10 Junior announcement on Saturday night.
23. A competitor who makes the Top 10 (in any category – Open or Ladies) may not pull out of the Final and then elect to ride in the Rusty Connley Memorial Race. The only reason that the Horse Events Committee will allow a rider who is in the Top 10 (in their adult category) to ride in the Rusty Connley Memorial Race is if their riding horse is injured and they have a second horse which can be ridden in the Rusty Connley Memorial.  
They will then be disqualified from the Top 10 and the 11<sup>th</sup> Rider in their category (Open or Ladies) will be elevated into the relevant Top 10.
24. All riders enter at their own risk with no responsibility accepted by the Mountain Cattlemen's Association of Victoria for riders, livestock or property.
25. Any and all decisions made by the Judges, Vets, Central Council Committee or Horse Event Organisers are final and any discussion will not be entered into.
26. Any rider or support person (family member, friend or associate) found interfering with judging, scores, event equipment, livestock or other competitors will be asked to leave the event immediately and will forfeit any prize/s or points awarded.
27. The MCAV reserves the right to vet check any horse post event of the bush skills race. If the horse is found to be unduly stressed by the veterinary officer on the day, that horse will be eliminated.
28. In the event of a tie for first place in the Open, Ladies or Junior Cattlemen's Cup, the winners will toss for prizes and the prize money will be split between the two competitors.
29. Each of the 3 preliminary events will be judged individually with the Top 10 highest scoring Open, Lady and Junior riders going forward into the Open, Ladies and Junior Mountain Cattlemen's Cup Bush Skills Race held on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2020.
30. Presentation of Finals prizes will take place after the final event on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2020.
31. Scores awarded for each of the preliminary events will be posted as soon as possible after completion of that event.
32. Any genuine dispute must be lodged with the Horse Event Organisers within one (1) hour after all preliminary event scores are posted on Saturday afternoon and within 30 minutes of the Race on Sunday. Genuine disputes should be in writing and addressed to the Horse Events Committee and incur a fee of \$50. Should the Committee find that the dispute is genuine and in favour of the disputing rider, the fee will be refunded.
33. Consumption of alcohol/drugs and smoking is not permitted whilst competing or during the presentation of awards.
34. A lady aged 18 years or older may elect to enter into either the Open or the Ladies challenge, however is not permitted to change categories during the event regardless of what position they may hold in the overall standings.
35. Refunds /scratchings - Scratching will incur a 20% administration fee. Any scratching after Friday 3rd January 2020 will not receive a refund unless accompanied by a vet or doctor's certificate or at the Central Council's discretion. No refund available after Thursday 9 January 2020.
36. Criteria for acceptance. All entries must be done online. All competitors must be financial members of the MCAV (Associate or higher). This can be done via the website [www.mcav.com.au](http://www.mcav.com.au). If you are having trouble, enlist help. As a last resort please contact the MCAV office for assistance on 03 5779

1747 or email [secretary@mcaav.com.au](mailto:secretary@mcaav.com.au). You can also contact our events co-ordinator Judy Dixon on 0418 324 146.

37. Open Riders. Entries capped at 30. Two categories – First category: Mountain Cattlemen leaseholders, family and direct employees able to be vouched for by the leaseholder, past winners and last year's finalists. Second category: Open riders who do not fit the first category. If either category is unfilled, it may be filled by those in a waitlist. Riders accepted in each category in order of entry.
38. Age for Junior Category. Junior riders must be 14 and under 18 on the competition start date of Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Total entries capped at 15. The top 10 placed riders will be eligible for the race. If anyone withdraws, the next qualified person may replace.
39. Ladies competitors are 18 and over on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020. Total entries capped at 15. The top 10 placed riders will be eligible for the race. If anyone withdraws, the next qualified person may replace.
40. Rusty Connley qualification. Any Open or Ladies competitor who misses out on their Cup Race Top 10, are eligible to compete in the Rusty Connley Memorial Race. It will be run over the same course and to the same rules as the Cup Riders. This race is not open to juniors nor to separate registrations. The race is limited to 10 – preference given to Open riders before Ladies.



*Daryl Baines, in front and winner of the 2019 Mountain Cattlemen's Cup Photo: Yuri Kouzmin*

## MCAV HORSE EVENTS TEAM

Vet and Gear Check	MCAV Horse Committee
Cattle Handling	TBC
Obstacle Course	Jack McCormack
Mounted Whipcrack	TBC
Race	
Horse event coordinators	Judy Dixon
Event Coordinator	Cass McCormack
Vet	To be confirmed

## MAJOR SPONSORS

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Events such as the Get together (G2G) could not happen without the support of generous sponsors. We thank and acknowledge their contribution and encourage you to support them with your purchasing decisions in return.

Full list of sponsors on [www.mcav.com.au](http://www.mcav.com.au) and this is updated as the sponsors come on board.

## FURTHER INFORMATION:

For any further information, to have your questions answered or for problems please contact either the MCAV office via email at [secretary@mcav.com.au](mailto:secretary@mcav.com.au), or the horse events co Ordinator Judy Dixon on 0418324146.