

# COMPETITIVE TRAIL RIDING - *WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?*

The aim of Competitive Trail Riding (CTR) is to ride a course within a specified period of time and to score points by completing 10 judged 'challenges'.

A Competitive Trail Ride is a timed event but the pace is an average of 8 km per hour which allows riders to enjoy the scenery but the pace is faster than a pleasure ride in order to provide a test.

On trail there are a variety of 'challenges' where the rider and horse are judged separately. This makes Competitive Trail Riding a unique equine sport as no other discipline allows for the rider and horse to be judged separately. It's a REAL experience but it is not a life and death situation e.g. your horse may have difficulty at a particular judge section and score poorly but your riding ability may score high points.

Riders can camp over at the Ride Base on Saturday night OR arrive by 7 am on Sunday morning.

Upon arrival, each rider nominates with the **Ride Secretary** when maps of the trail, competition numbers and ride departure times are issued. From the time you nominate you are responsible for the care of your horse e.g. no one else can carry water for your horse, feed it, saddle it, strap it, etc.

Riders then present their horses to the **Horse Health** officials for a **preliminary veterinary check**.

All riders then attend the **Ride Briefing** when details of the trail and expected riding time are discussed. For those camping over, there is a Ride Briefing at 7 pm on Saturday night and for those arriving on Sunday morning there will be a Ride Briefing at 7.30 am to 8 am.

Competitors are timed out from the Ride Base and the course map, ribbons and arrows help define the track. The Judge Points are at random spots.

When riders return to the Ride Base they receive a time slip, which is a half hour later, to present their horse to the Horse Health Stewards for a **post-ride veterinary check**.

When riders successfully complete this final check they have completed the ride.

At approximately 3 pm on Sunday a Presentation of personal **Judges' Score Cards** (which are private) and **Completion Prizes** for every rider who successfully completes the ride are given out and place getters are announced.

Come along and enjoy a lovely 16 km ride which is suitable for all riding levels and ages.

**For more information on the Caboolture CTR on Sunday 31st January 2010, phone Ride Co-ordinator, Lorraine Decker on 5498 7202 Mob 0407 626 396 or Email: [dinkumdeckers@iprimus.com.au](mailto:dinkumdeckers@iprimus.com.au)**