

Copy for J Comm. etc.

THE GREAT MOUNTAIN PACKHORSE CHAMPIONSHIP

To be conducted by the Mountain Cattlemen's Association, Junction Plains, Saturday, 2/2/85.

Sponsored by: Bottrell Smith VPC, Dalgety-Farmers, Denny Strachan Mercantile, Elders, Tony Fountain, Gippeland & Northern, Mulqueeny & Co. and Brian Unthank & Co.

A commemorative bridle is being provided by Kelvin Bush.

Entry is open to members of the Mountain Cattlemen's Association (MCA) and the general public.

Each of the 4 branches of the MCA is asked to field a minimum of 2 entrants.

If less than 4 entrants compete the event will be cancelled and sponsorship monies returned.

Each of the 4 branches of the MCA will be provided with expenses of \$50 for one entrant and \$100 for 2 or more entrants to cover the cost of transporting horses, equipment and the load for packs. Where a branch has more than 2 entrants the disposition of the \$100 will be at the discretion of the president of that branch.

In the event that the branches do not field 8 entrants or if further sponsorship is obtained, travelling expenses will be allocated to members of the general public at the discretion of the host branch president but generally in order of time of nomination.

The Championship winner will receive \$100 plus the commemorative bridle.

A further prize of \$40 will be awarded for the entry judged to be the best pack outfit on the ability of the packhorse and pack to travel well, combined with the appearance of the outfit and sponsorship signs must be clearly visible. The winner of the Championship will not be eligible for this award.

Any further awards (eg. last to finish, child and pony pack, etc.) will be at the discretion of the host branch president.

The event will start at 5 pm on Saturday, 2/2/85 and nominations will be received post entry until one hour before starting time (subject to the discretion of the judge).

The event will take place on a course of probably less than half a mile as set by the host branch president on the day of the event.

Entrants will be advised of the course as soon as it is set and shall be free to walk it.

In general, 8 contestants will:-

1. Start at point A at crack of a whip.
2. Proceed a short distance (say 1 chain) to point B where their hack will be haltered beside their saddle and bridle.

3. They will saddle their hack and proceed at any pace to point C (say 100 yards) where their packhorse will be haltered. (say 100 yards)

4. They will collect their packhorse and proceed to point D/where their pack and load will be waiting separately.

5. The load (which must be provided by the contestant) shall consist of:-

- : 50 kg of any sort of feed (oats, dog tucker, salt, canned goods, etc. but it must be edible by something).
- : a sleeping bag or 2 blankets.
- : a quart billy (to finish on the outside).
- : 12 eggs (which must start whole).
- : a horse rug or similar waterproof.
- : 12 loose cans (empty or full).
- : the sponsor's sign as provided by the organisers.

(Note: when the load is finished the sponsors' signs must be clearly visible so each entrant will need hayband (or similar) and a pocket knife so that the signs can be attached to the outside. The signs will be approximately 2 feet by 1 foot 6 inches and of thick cardboard or similar. Organisers please note - only 8 entrants will carry sponsors' signs. If there are more than 8 entrants the balance will carry MCA signs or slogans of similar size and quality.)

6. After loading they will proceed at a trot to the finish (preferably through a patch of tight scrub).

7. If there are more than 8 contestants the host branch may declare heats and finals at any time.

Judges will note the order of finishing.

Any packhorse exceeding a trot between loading and the finish line will be disqualified.

Any pack not properly displaying signs will be disqualified.

The Chief Judge can require correct weight if he considers it necessary.

The Chief Judge will inspect the pack of the winning horse and if, in his opinion, the pack and load would travel well for 4 hours the horse first past the post will be declared the winner. (If not the second horse would be inspected and so on.)

The Chief Judge will then inspect the balance of the field and select the winner of the best pack outfit.

Other awards, if any, as decided by the host branch president will be awarded by the Chief Judge.

The judges' and branch presidents' decisions shall be final and unarguable. The idea of the event is to provide the public with entertainment and contestants must accept all decisions in good spirit.

Additional sponsors will be accepted prior to 1/2/85 provided they supply their own signs.

For any clarification of conditions prior to 1/2/85, contact Don Kneebone, RMB 400, Milawa, 057:273311, or Bill Fowell, 060.241811 (work) or 060:254268 (home).

Entries will be received by:-

- Graham Connley - Benambra
- Clive Hodge - Valencia Creek
- Graham Stoney - Mansfield
- Don Kneebone - Milawa

ENTRY FORM

I _____
of _____

M.C. Cup /

hereby apply to enter in the Great Australian Packhorse Championship to be held at Junction Plains on 2/2/85 starting at 5 pm.

I agree to abide by the rules and accept the judges' decision as final.

having inspected the course

I agree to enter the event entirely at my own risk and will not hold the organisers ^{or landowner} responsible for any loss, damage or injury that may occur to myself, my horses or my equipment.

Signed _____
(print name) _____
Address _____

Having inspected the course I agree to compete at my own risk and will absolve the organisers and landowner from any responsibility. I will not claim or be the subject of claims for any loss, damage or injury that may occur to myself, my horses or my equipment.

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THE MOUNTAIN CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

INCORPORATED

ENTRY FORM

I, _____

of _____

hereby apply to enter in the:- (tick whichever applicable)

* Mountain Cattlemen's Cup

* Great Australian Packhorse Championship.

to be held at Junction Plains on 2/2/85 starting at 5.00p.m.

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SIGNED:

(print name).....

ADDRESS:.....

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ADDRESS:.....

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