



AUSTRALIAN CARRIAGE DRIVING SOCIETY INC.

ABN 28 794 114 302

ACDS Member Survey – Results

The ACDS member survey ran from November 2016 through until March/April 2017 and has yielded some interesting, and very useful data.

There were a total of 217 responses (215 online and 2 in hard copy), which represents over 25% of ACDS memberships when single and family memberships are taken into account – the response rate is a very reasonable result for this type of survey.

A full set of the survey data is published alongside this letter, however in summary, some of the key results are as follows:

- A majority of respondents were female, aged 40-64, with 5+ years or more driving experience. The proportions of responses by State generally reflected membership numbers in each State, though a slightly higher response rate from Victoria was evident.
- A large number of respondents indicated they participate in CDEs. This is perhaps not necessarily reflective of the broader membership breakdown as we understand it to be anecdotally, however probably reflects the long standing situation that CDE participants are often more inclined to be active in the management of the ACDS.
- Participation rates in various Activities was quite consistent across disciplines (with the exception of Endurance) with the most common rate of participation being 2-4 times per year.
- The size of horse / ponies driven by respondents was in order (largest representation to smallest): ponies 9.2hh and under 12hh; ponies 12.2hh under 14.2hh; horses over 14.2hh; and ponies under 9.2hh.
- The majority of respondents rated the ACDS Journal as very good or good, with some of our other methods of communication perhaps not viewed quite as positively (lower rates of 'very good' responses). Judging by a number of comments, our online presence may need further enhancement.
- A clear majority (68%) of respondents indicated they did not want the ACDS Journal to move to digital form, preferring to receive a hard copy instead. The majority (75%) also did not want to see the Journal go to a single-issue year book publication. There was a clear preference for the Journal to contain more educational information, but respondents were split equally on whether or not the Journal should contain more Club News content.
- Questions related to the effectiveness of communication and the management of the organisation yielded a range of responses but a common theme was that in many instances our methods of communication may not be as effective as we might wish. Important areas such as insurance, strategy, and the process of decision making within the organisation are seemingly not as well understood as they could be.

- Through the various opportunities for comment, a significant number of respondents expressed a strong desire to see more opportunities for training and instruction, and the need for this to be accessible and affordable.
- The question on whether members felt they were getting value for money from their membership produced an interesting result; whilst over 50% said yes, there was quite a large 'undecided' response of around 25%.

The above is just a summary of the data received, the detailed results and the accompanying comments provide a more in depth level of detail on how members view the ACDS, what it provides and how effectively it delivers for the membership. A very small number of the question-specific comments have been edited to remove some personal information prior to publication, however the crux of the particular comment remains.

Whilst the information gained from the Survey is all very interesting, it was always important that this exercise also had a purpose other than just collecting data - ACDS Federal Council will review the information and associated comments, with a view to addressing the key issues identified.

Sub Committees and State Branches will be encouraged to review relevant areas and take on board the feedback, so that we may further improve the organisation and the benefits of membership.

I like to think we can change positively the views of those 25% currently undecided!

I would like to sincerely thank those members who took the time to complete the survey – your contribution is important and highly valued, and will have a direct impact on the management of the organisation.

I would also like to thank Liz and Bruce Hammond for their contribution in setting up and managing the survey.

Brendan Dwyer
ACDS Federal President
May 2017

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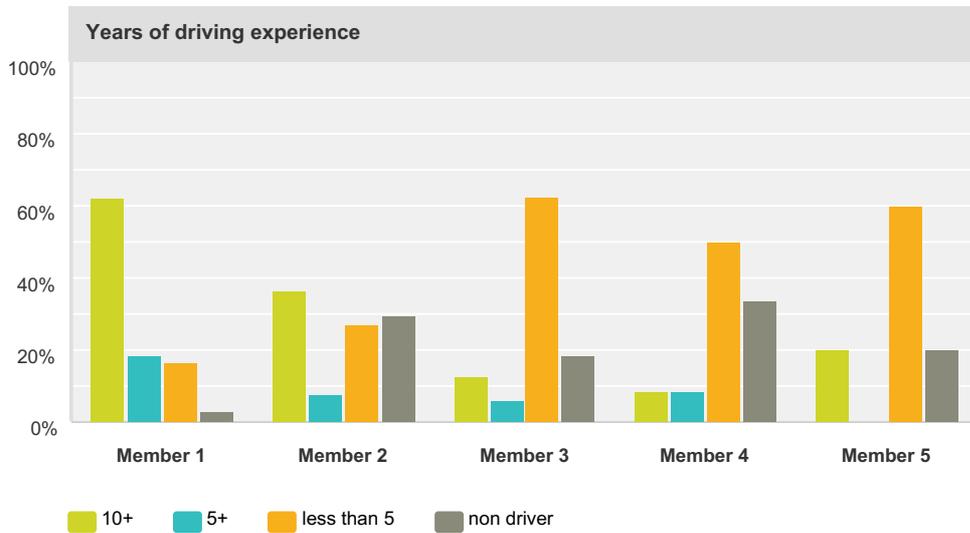
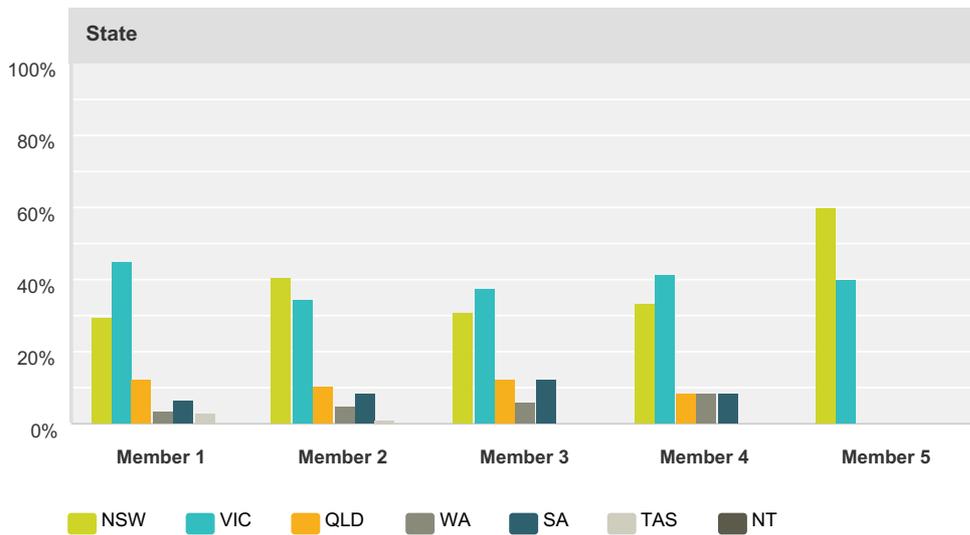
The opinions expressed within the survey summary data are those of the individuals concerned, and are not necessarily endorsed by, or the view of, ACDS Federal Council.

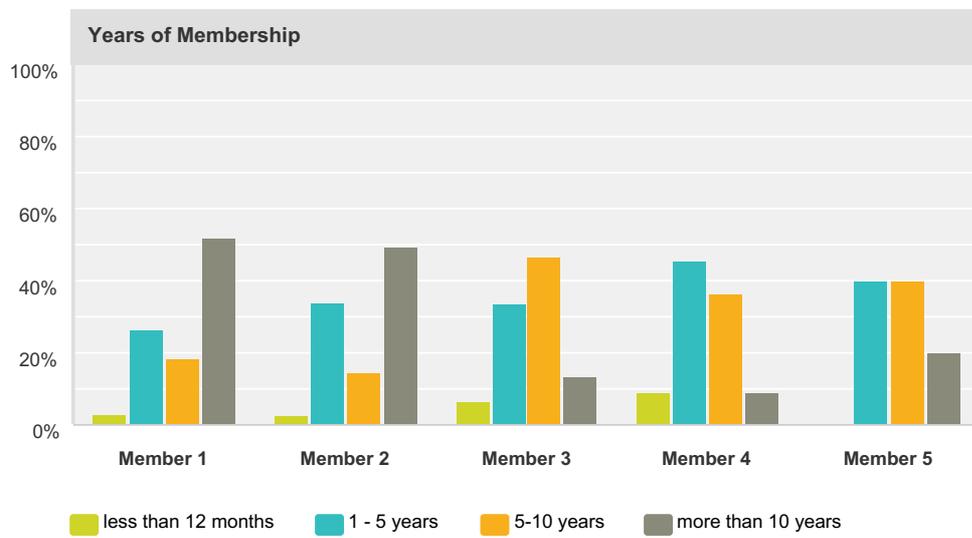
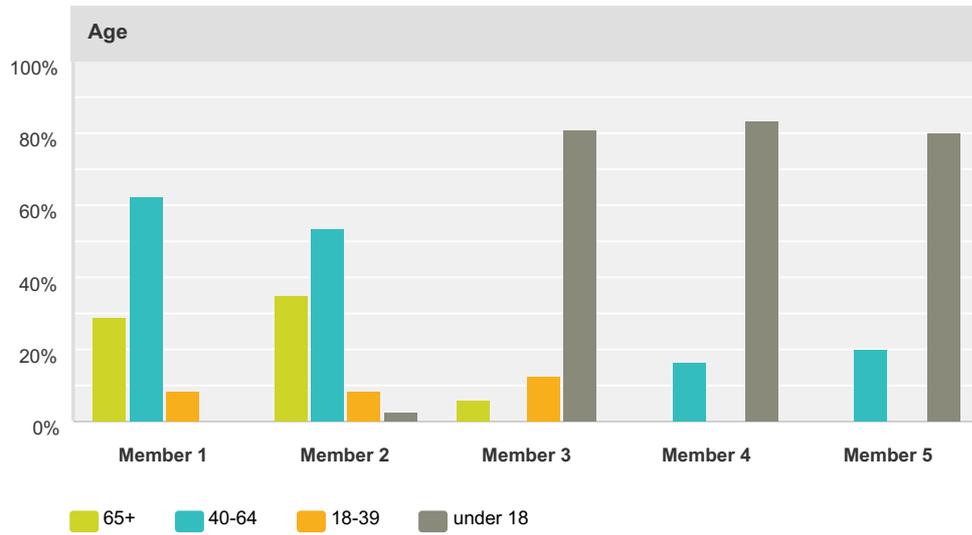
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Q1 For each ACDS member included in your membership please answer the following:

Answered: 216 Skipped: 1





Q1 For each ACDS member included in your membership please answer the following:

- Male member generally assists female member to drive.
- All good thank you.
- I wish I had known about the acds before then
- We are a 'family membership' with Mum a driver and official. Possible future junior driver (although he's not showing signs of wanting to drive at this stage...) Husband is non-driver but strong supporter and volunteer at events.
- Member 6 female NSW less than 5 under 18 1-5 yrs Member 7 male NSW less than 5yrs under 18 1-5yrs
- Member no 2 does not drive only grooms
- I have been driving horses for approx. 58 years.
- If "no personally-identifiable data is collected" then... there is no need to say "your personal details have not been shared with any third-party organisation" 2. We are 2017 - the header: "Australian Carriage Driving Society 2016 Survey" is fundamentally wrong
- No Comment
- I left the sport while studying as a teenager and establishing a career as a young adult. I have returned to the sport as an adult. If my years as a member as a child were included it would be well over 10 years membership.
- Officials membership only at the moment.
- Member 2 is not a driver, but is navigator and most valued member of our team.
- Could of had more on years of driving !!!
- Previous single membership Added 2 grandchildren (under 9 years of age) to membership this year so just learning to drive....and husband, I'm paying for it, might as well put his name on the form.
- More representation of the members, maybe a members rep on the federal committee As the members society it needs to be more inclusive
- 40 years + membership
- member 6 Male, NSW, <5years, under 18, 1-5 years
- Nil
- A good organisation to belong to.

Q2 For each member in this membership, please indicate any ACDS official qualifications that they hold:

Answered: 206 Skipped: 11

	Technical Delegate	Cones Judge	Show Judge	Dressage Judge	Course Designer	TPR Steward	ACDS Coach	Presentation Judge	None	Total Respondents
Member 1	17.48% 36	19.42% 40	15.05% 31	14.56% 30	19.42% 40	20.87% 43	0.97% 2	4.85% 10	61.17% 126	206
Member 2	10.13% 8	10.13% 8	6.33% 5	11.39% 9	8.86% 7	11.39% 9	0.00% 0	2.53% 2	77.22% 61	79
Member 3	0.00% 0	5.88% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	5.88% 1	5.88% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	94.12% 16	17
Member 4	0.00% 0	6.67% 1	0.00% 0	6.67% 1	6.67% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	93.33% 14	15
Member 5	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	11.11% 1	88.89% 8	9

Q2 For each member in this membership, please indicate any ACDS official qualifications that they hold:

- but am looking forward to member 1 gaining some qualifications
- Show driving has lapsed
- would like to become a dressage judge
- I have held all these qualifications over the past 25 years, but all of these qualifications will need to be updated. It has been a struggle keeping qualifications up to date. I do understand that the training material took time to develop and put together, but there are also problems with being permitted to put on training days - our club is definitely NOT the flavour of the month. other clubs have been given training days when we have been asking for 3 or 4 years to be able to put one on - I am VERY annoyed about this.
- Also a qualified 'EA National Level II' Driving Judge seeking FEI status shortly.
- I would like to train for cones and dressage, very hard being 3.5 hours from Melbourne and very few opportunities since I joined as a member
- member 6 none member 7 none
- Member 2 is a scorer for CDE's
- both doing Show Judge course in March 2017 :)
- what about Club positions = secretary, treasurer, newsletter, aren't these valuable?
- I'd be interested in being an ACDS official
- did the TPR course but have not used that qualifications in a stewarding capacity
- No ACDS qualifications, just a combined 50 years experience in driving, breaking to harness, RDA level 2 & Assessors qualifications, running a commercial wedding carriage enterprise, being registered HRV Rehomers, combined 50 years in the Saddlery industry & driving carriages in tourism & film industries.
- Also Show Judge Examiner
- I have pencilled for judges and been a steward at CDE for about 10 years
- Training should be more easier to obtain
- Did have TPR qualification but it has expired
- Have previously held two positions but got tired of competitor behaviour
- Member 1 held EA coaching quals in a different state but not ACDS or NSW EA
- Accreditation NCAS Coach (not recognised by ACDS!). This is recognised internationally, so why not the ACDS??
- Member 2 is working on TD and Course Designer.
- member 1 is club secretary/treasurer. Club office bearers should have been included on the list above.
- More training needs to be offered
- Plan to attain qualifications in the very near future
- Member 1 TPR for ridden endurance
- Have tried to become dressage judge but system not ready . Still wish to do this. Did tpr quals but not used recently.
- Member 6 none

Q3 For each ACDS member in this membership, please indicate which driving activities they participate in:

Answered: 210 Skipped: 7

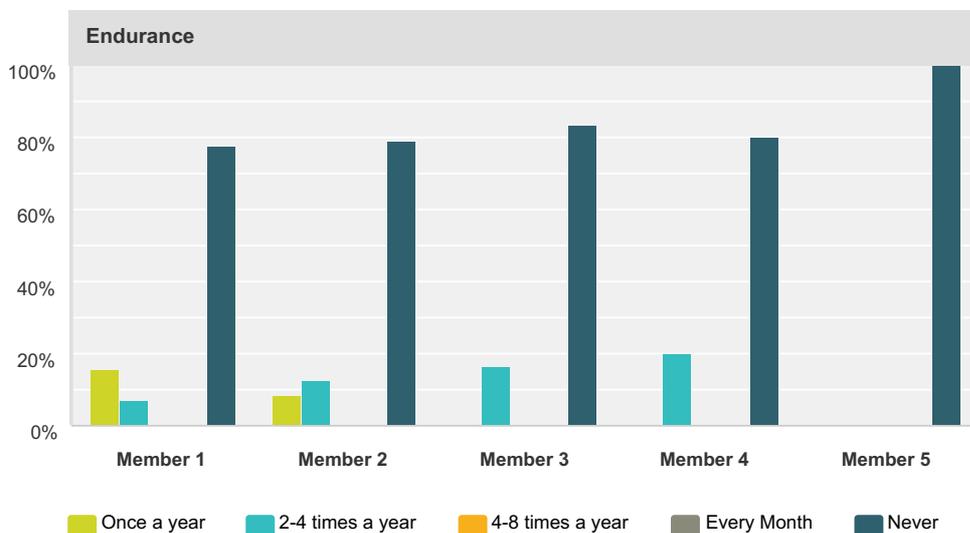
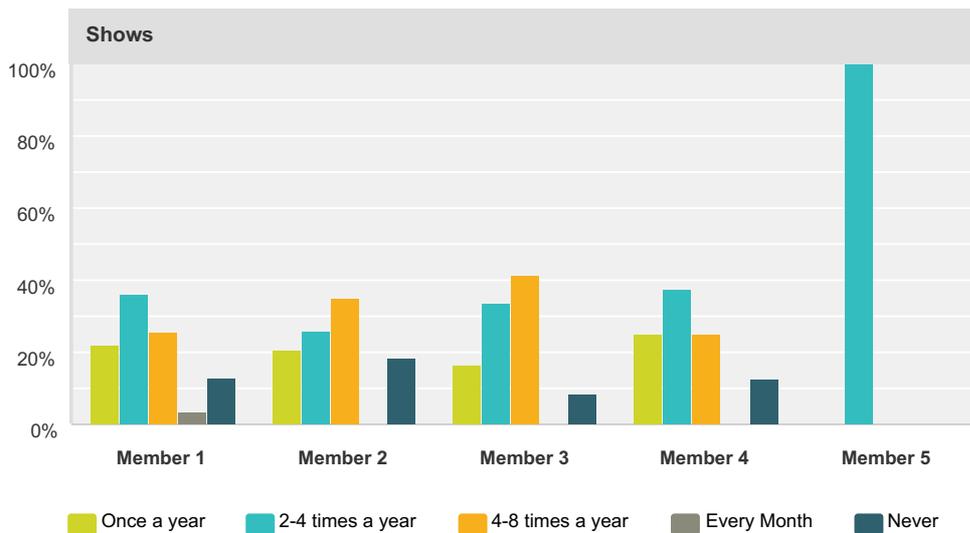
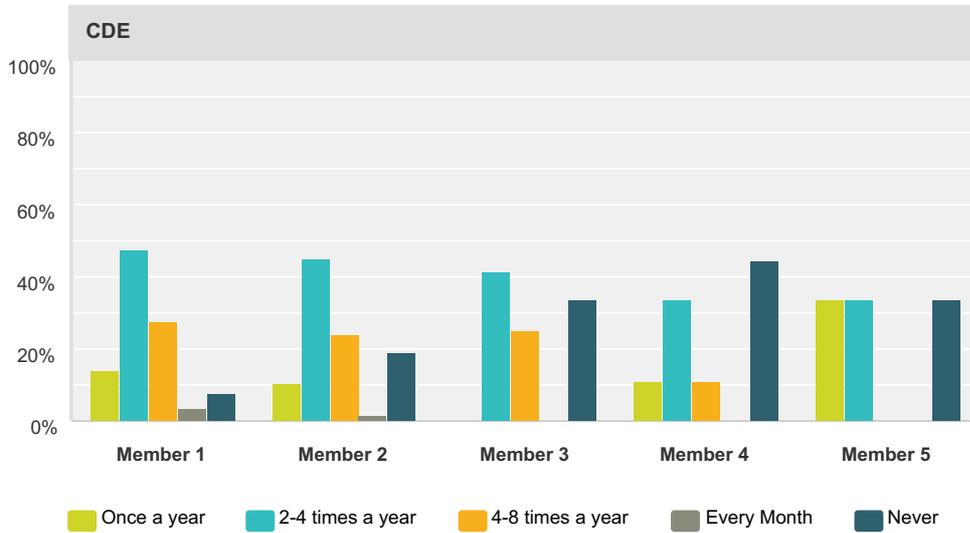
	CDE	Endurance	Shows	Pleasure Drives	Graded Dressage days	Club days driven	Club days social	Historical	Indoor Events	Total Respondents
Member 1	72.60% 151	9.62% 20	56.73% 118	69.23% 144	64.90% 135	88.46% 184	75.48% 157	11.54% 24	34.62% 72	208
Member 2	57.75% 41	5.63% 4	46.48% 33	60.56% 43	45.07% 32	69.01% 49	78.87% 56	15.49% 11	22.54% 16	71
Member 3	53.33% 8	0.00% 0	60.00% 9	66.67% 10	40.00% 6	66.67% 10	66.67% 10	6.67% 1	26.67% 4	15
Member 4	33.33% 4	0.00% 0	33.33% 4	66.67% 8	25.00% 3	41.67% 5	66.67% 8	0.00% 0	25.00% 3	12
Member 5	40.00% 2	0.00% 0	40.00% 2	80.00% 4	20.00% 1	60.00% 3	60.00% 3	0.00% 0	20.00% 1	5

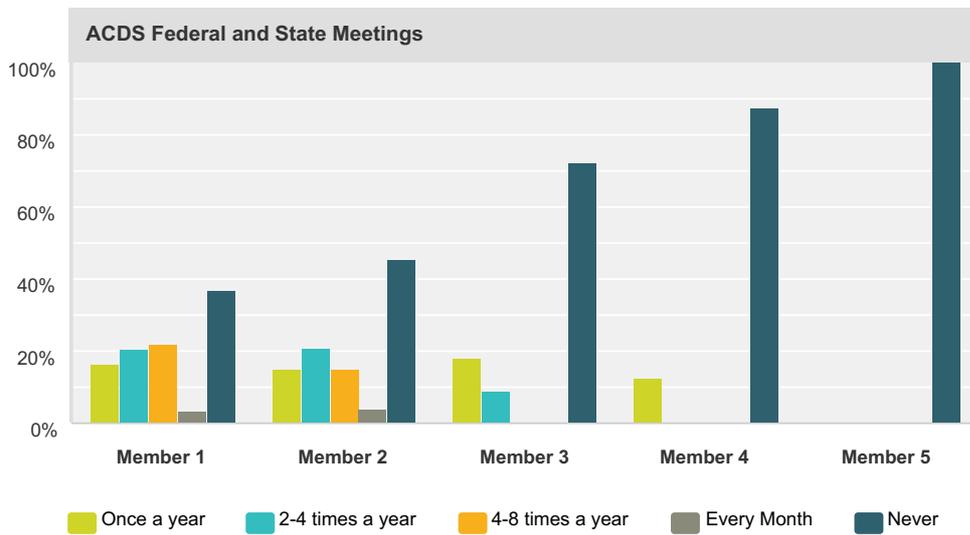
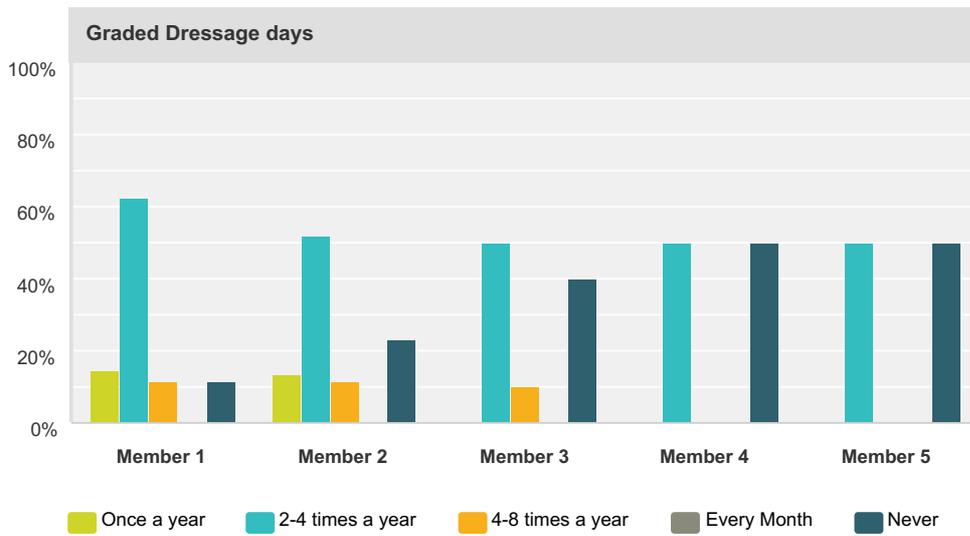
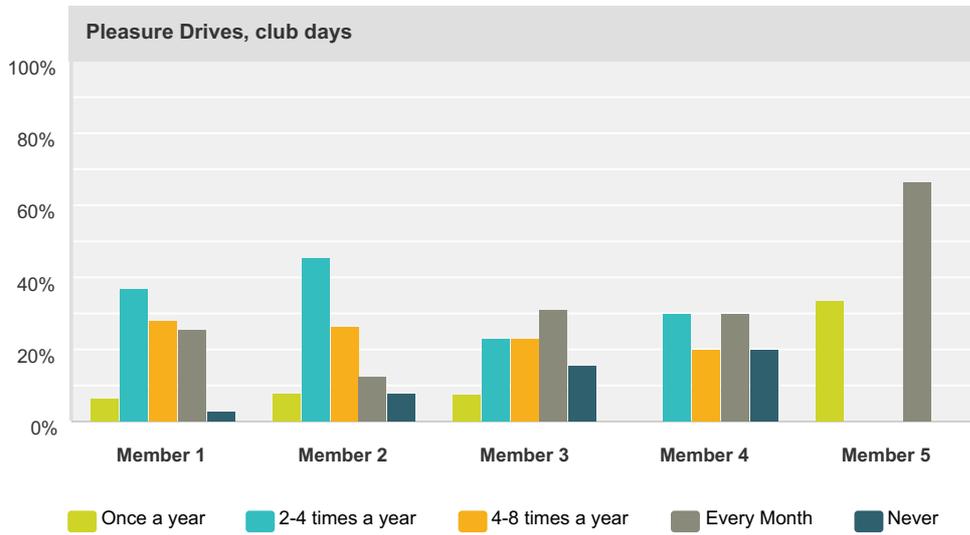
Q3 For each ACDS member in this membership, please indicate which driving activities they participate in:

- Pleasure
- I believe you should only compete once in a class at any event
- Participated in CDE for many years -not now we do not have graded dressage days in qld
- Would love to have arena driving
- Currently in an official and/or voluntary capacity only.
- Member 2 always comes along, as a groom, but has only chosen to drive at Indoor events
- most of the above
- I'm still just starting out and want to get going in nearly all types of driving
- due to circumstances i have not participated in any acds activities although I have wanted to do so.
- these are the events my club has but I'd like to have a go at some of the others but driving a Small Pony seems to disallow me from these events.
- member 2 non driving but helps member 1 in harnessing up etc etc etc
- none as a driver.
- I attend Agricultural shows to qualify for the Royal shows. I help out at Club activities eg pencil for dressage judges, attend working bees etc but I am more of a hard core showie so ACDS showing activities are not that interesting to me , sorry.
- Will compete at my first CDE in feb
- No longer driving but participate as an organiser, steward, scorer, set up equipment, risk manager
- I do not own a horse now but have always ridden. I had a horse when at school and competed in gymkhanas successfully, and was taught by the [REDACTED] at Mt. Waverley, who invited me to ride in the Royal Melbourne Show (I was not able to do so as my father wouldn't update my gymkhana gear). I have known [REDACTED] since 1972 and rode a number of her saddle horses and, since she took up driving again in more recent years, have had 18 lessons with [REDACTED] using [REDACTED], and one lesson with [REDACTED] (using her lovely pony) - so all lessons and pleasure driving with [REDACTED] in NSW, have been with very educated and well behaved harness ponies.
- Would love to see the local calendar reflect the cross discipline members wishes for shows and CDEs (for example) not clash... Eg Sydney Royal.
- did our first 3 phase with a mini this year...
- Member 1 is very interested in historical. Am not aware of any historical activities to attend.
- More clubs need to conduct events and activities
- new to competing, but starting out in the CDE, Indoor, so looking forward to more.
- VSE phase three only if ran with CDE Thank you for now allowing this
- Would love to do vse events, or mini marathons.
- Member 2 support crew.
- Not currently due to family commitment. Coming year will hoping to compete
- CDE - as a VSE driver!
- 2017 starting CDE and Indoor....
- Member 6 pleasure drives, club days driven, club days social
- Member 2 is the ground crew and only drives when required to assist with the pony in harness while member one is otherwise engaged.
- I would compete in Graded Dressage, but don't as lack of activities available. I hope that there will be organized dressage and indoor events and 3 phase events, ,in the near future in Tasmania.
- Have done all theses over the years

Q4 For the members in this membership please indicate how often they attend activities, each year:

Answered: 215 Skipped: 2





Q4 For the members in this membership please indicate how often they attend activities, each year:

- Driven dressage 2 to 4 times a year
- Endurance less than once per year. Also attend other organised competitive days such as 3-Phase driving, ungraded dressage and cones, novelty days.
- These are only ACDS organised days, we do lots of other shows and pleasure drives.
- would like to attend meetings but always in Melbourne, cant we have a phone or video link
- The Qld climate is anything but suitable for any equine activity, it's far too hot and humid for most of the year, and each year is getting progressively worse. As a result the season is very short, but you still have to feed and maintain you horses while waiting for the weather to cool enough to get started again, so the cost to benefit ratio is way too high. We are actually regrettably considering giving the game away altogether for that very reason, re-homing the horses, selling the gear (if you can) and finding something else to do. Also the distances for travelling in Qld is another disincentive as compared to say some where like Victoria. All these factors add to the cost, and most of the current membership is of the older generation, retired, pensioners and so on, so cost is a major consideration. We are of course talking about Queensland, not sure if any of these comments would apply elsewhere.
- Please note, we attend state bi monthly meetings, club meetings and the federal conference
- Very limited Vic to activities in Tasmania, Go to Victoria to help or groom average 1 per year.
- We attend when ever possible unfortunately there aren't too many up this way
- I would attend many more CDE's but regrettably there are very few held in this state
- most of the above
- Starting out, been a member less than a year
- Indoor series both members 8pa
- Just depends how many run in the year
- I had a go at endurance once but my small pony got too old to do it. I was told small ponies can't do cde and dressage.
- Please note we are out every w/e in show season but to Aggie shows
- I attend the activities as a groom and will not take my pony out on the club drives. I attend as I'm Secretary /treasurer and do the newsletter.
- I wasn't aware of endurance events in Victoria,. If they were available, I would attend/compete
- Federal conference does not offer the attendees much if anything There has been no feedback question raised from previous years conference
- Used to do a lot more but due to change of circumstances (divorce, drop in earnings) it's been significantly reduced over the past 2 years
- hope to do more if minis can do more and as I get another horse going and my kids grow!
- **OUR CLUB HOLDS VERY FEW RALLY DAYS**
- Graded Dressage not offered consistently or run according to the rules in SA
- Couldn't read the next one over
- member 1 and 2 attended a state meeting when it was logistically close. No one at that meeting showed any inclination to welcome us as new members of the ACDS and particularly as we were from a newly formed club. Disappointing. (federal have been very helpful to us when we started (new club), state not so helpful)
- Only recently commenced competing. Attendance at some activities will increase
- No CDEs have been held in WA for over a year
- Member 2 is long suffering husband and photographer... WE would participate in meetings but they are held 4-5hrs away.

- member 6 Pleasure drives/club days every month
- Member two is integral to member one being able to attend harness events. No endurance is conducted in Victoria at present.
- difficult choices
- More likely 15 to 20 including indoor series

Q5 For the Drivers in this membership please indicate the size of the horse/pony they drive. You may indicate more than one height.

Answered: 214 Skipped: 3



Q5 For the Drivers in this membership please indicate the size of the horse/pony they drive. You may indicate more than one height.

- I drive a 12.1 pony re CDE & a 12.3 pony re showing.
- Not currently driving due to judging and business commitments.
- In [REDACTED] the carriage horses are getting smaller and smaller all the time. Went to an event last year and saw the smallest horse I have ever seen, [REDACTED].
- Non- Driver
- I have no groom so a larger pony/ multiple is not an option
- member 2 non driver
- N/A
- Only competing with pony under 12hh
- Donkey
- This applies to my occasional pleasure drives with pony Music owned by [REDACTED]
- Mini, Shetland and Standardbred
- Maybe it should have read under a 121cm not in hands for the CDE horses / ponies
- The inclusion of the VSE needs to be fast tracked and the members need to be involved not just the federal committee
- Currently do not have anything to drive
- member2 is a non driver
- member 6 mini
- Member one is the primary driver of our one and only equine.

Pony team

Q6 For the drivers in your membership please indicate whether they drive single, multiples or both

Answered: 213 Skipped: 4



Q6 For the drivers in your membership please indicate whether they drive single, multiples or both

- working on a multiple
- I would like to compete with a pair but no classes in shows and to get qualified for CDE is ridiculous, not enough events this season to qualify, cant you just do a grade 4 with your pair and get assessed. You can do dressage and cones, so why not CDE??? I am happy to be assessed.
- Non-Driver
- member 2 non driver
- Used to drive 4 in hand. Due to lack of grooms and finances now driving single and tandem
- Bringing on a pair
- Basic training should be the given from federal to standardise this for new comers ie licence to drive (standardise this to all cloud from a federal level)
- Will be driving pair as well in the next couple of months
- member 6 single

Q7 How far are members of this membership prepared travel (one way) for individual activities:

Answered: 214 Skipped: 3

CDE					
	50 kms	51-200kms	201kms -400kms	over 401 kms	Total
Member 1	2.91% 5	33.14% 57	22.67% 39	41.28% 71	172
Member 2	0.00% 0	22.22% 10	31.11% 14	46.67% 21	45
Member 3	0.00% 0	22.22% 2	33.33% 3	44.44% 4	9
Member 4	0.00% 0	16.67% 1	33.33% 2	50.00% 3	6
Member 5	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	50.00% 1	50.00% 1	2
Endurance					
	50 kms	51-200kms	201kms -400kms	over 401 kms	Total
Member 1	25.71% 9	40.00% 14	14.29% 5	20.00% 7	35
Member 2	10.00% 1	30.00% 3	10.00% 1	50.00% 5	10
Member 3	0.00% 0	100.00% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	1
Member 4	0.00% 0	100.00% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	1
Member 5	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0
Shows					
	50 kms	51-200kms	201kms -400kms	over 401 kms	Total
Member 1	18.03% 22	50.00% 61	18.85% 23	13.11% 16	122
Member 2	13.89% 5	41.67% 15	25.00% 9	19.44% 7	36
Member 3	11.11% 1	44.44% 4	22.22% 2	22.22% 2	9
Member 4	16.67% 1	33.33% 2	16.67% 1	33.33% 2	6
Member 5	100.00% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	1
Pleasure Drives					
	50 kms	51-200kms	201kms -400kms	over 401 kms	Total
Member 1	31.97% 47	49.66% 73	12.93% 19	5.44% 8	147
Member 2	24.39% 10	41.46% 17	26.83% 11	7.32% 3	41
Member 3	0.00% 0	83.33% 5	16.67% 1	0.00% 0	6
Member 4	0.00% 0	75.00% 3	25.00% 1	0.00% 0	4

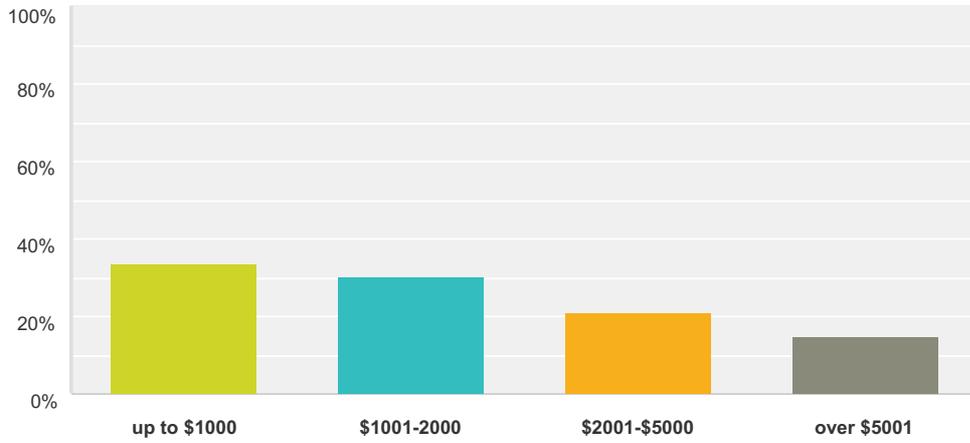
Member 5	50.00% 1	0.00% 0	50.00% 1	0.00% 0	2
Graded Dressage days					
	50 kms	51-200kms	201kms -400kms	over 401 kms	Total
Member 1	11.19% 15	55.22% 74	22.39% 30	11.19% 15	134
Member 2	14.29% 5	42.86% 15	28.57% 10	14.29% 5	35
Member 3	0.00% 0	66.67% 4	33.33% 2	0.00% 0	6
Member 4	0.00% 0	50.00% 2	50.00% 2	0.00% 0	4
Member 5	0.00% 0	100.00% 1	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	1
Social Club Days					
	50 kms	51-200kms	201kms -400kms	over 401 kms	Total
Member 1	41.29% 64	45.81% 71	11.61% 18	1.29% 2	155
Member 2	32.65% 16	38.78% 19	26.53% 13	2.04% 1	49
Member 3	0.00% 0	60.00% 3	40.00% 2	0.00% 0	5
Member 4	0.00% 0	75.00% 3	25.00% 1	0.00% 0	4
Member 5	0.00% 0	50.00% 1	50.00% 1	0.00% 0	2

Q7 How far are members of this membership prepared travel (one way) for individual activities:

- in reality we usually drive 300-400,
- Less than 50 kms if possible
- If member 1 doesn't go then none of the others go.
- Have travelled well over 400 km for endurance competition but have had to retire due to health reasons. Mainly travelling to shows for judging rather than showing myself, but hope to do more showing in the future.
- We live 60 kms from our Clubs venue, and have attended few pleasure drives and social club days as it is over an hour to get to the venue.
- I'd rather travel less kilometres because of the price of fuel.
- Member 2 just has to tag along with member 1 when needed!
- Have retired from driving apart from at home but attend events regularly mainly as organiser.
- There doesn't seem to be many CDEs run in my state Victoria
- The distances in SA to attend events are vast.
- From the data thus far, you will know who I am by now.
- Can read the last ones
- It would have been helpful on this question to say that a member was not willing to travel any distance as they are not interested in that particular activity.
- live to far away from Suburbia, or the bigger clubs, so have no choice but to travel, if want to compete. only new at it all, but will choose to do a competition every 2 month sorta thing.
- member 6 201-400kms

Q8 How much, on average does this membership spend a year to attend ACDS activities? (Include fuel, entry fees etc)

Answered: 208 Skipped: 9

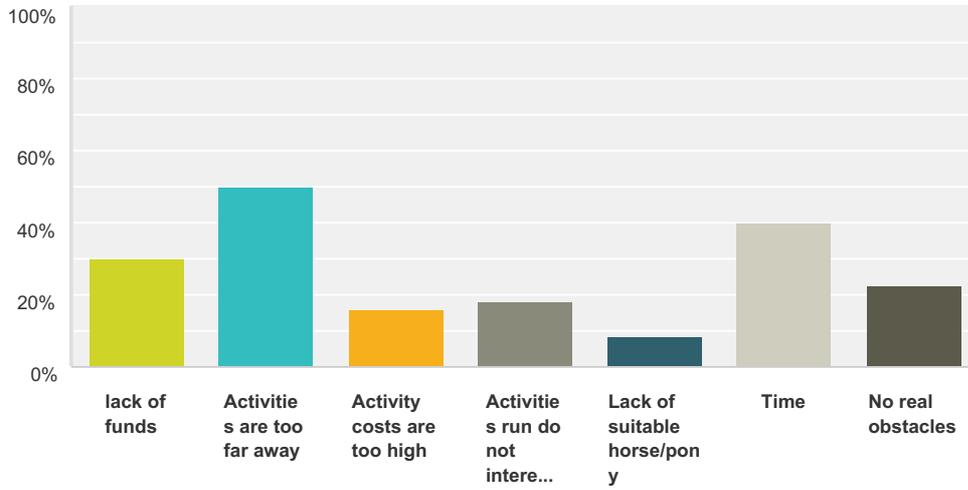


Q8 How much, on average does this membership spend a year to attend ACDS activities? (Include fuel, entry fees etc)

- this figure includes many working bees to help set up for club events that we attend, as well as donation of goods, vehicles, fuel etc to help events run.
- I included food and shoeing.
- Although not competing at present, we regularly support events through voluntary attendance in the capacity of official duties, voluntary assistance at events and financial sponsorship via our business.
- None of the above, much less than \$ 1000, say 3 to 5 hundred
- only guessing as I don't think I really want to know!
- as a single member I don't have much money to spend and costs do limit my activities
- Do not attend ACDS activities as they are too far away. Only go on Club drives.
- I'm not sure;
- Could be more
- Used to be happy to spend a lot more but finances are tight now
- Travelling to events, fuel, accommodation.
- This would not include feeding and preparation to compete and attend activities
- Rough guess
- travel is the big thing, as I say, too far away from the bigger clubs
- Depending on future events that include VSE
- Stewarding recently. Futuristically wanting to do more with competing. Also include grandchild in driving
- Ohh sxxx I don't want to know

Q9 What are the obstacles to attending ACDS activities for this membership? (you can choose more than one answer)

Answered: 205 Skipped: 12



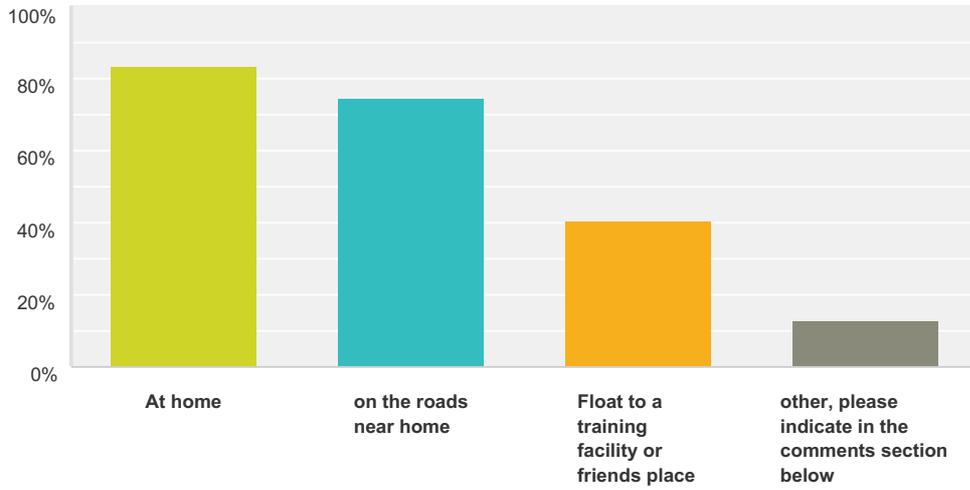
Q9 What are the obstacles to attending ACDS activities for this membership? (you can choose more than one answer)

- It can be hard to find a groom, as grooms can not be shared. if my husband is working then I can not compete.
- Clash of date with other activities not harness related.
- Lack of activities generally, and of my interest.
- Attend or compete at. I attend quite a lot of activities at clubs over 2hrs away from me but do not compete at any so far. Am looking at maybe doing some dressage and cones days next year.
- Priority is given to higher level events and unable to support club activities and training events.
- Other major issues would include not being able to share grooms, and drive multiple horses at one event like other horse disciplines.
- Not all cater for VSE
- depends where and what's happening with the family also amount of time required off from work. also some clubs have no consideration and will run a activity on the same day as a neighbouring club I have tried to speak to them about this being detrimental to both clubs, but they don't seem interested in working together.
- Mainly CDE enthusiasts with international competition experience and future aspirations. Desire to see the standard of the sport progress in Australia and not lag behind the rest of the world!
- too many now copying into the small clubs of EA and EA official events, loosing what ACDS was
- Distances too great and therefore costs are higher
- Other commitments like work and family
- Most of the activities are on the mainland and cost and time prohibitive
- as i am also an active rider i have to balance my time between the two disciplines
- My health limits both my training and competition.
- Horse to young for some activities.
- Lack of experience
- 1.Weather. 2. Horse may not be ready ie injured or lacking preparation. 3. Driver maybe unwell. 4. Transport maybe unreliable during lead up to and during period of events.
- Family and farm commitments, general exhaustion!
- We have a farm. Harvest is a very busy time on the farm and getting away to events in early November (NSW state champs) is like moving heaven and earth.
- I would like my club to be a bit more pro active in planning events - they don't seem to want to do a whole year calendar so planning to go to things gets very hard. The pleasure drives they are doing lately are not suitable for small ponies as they do over 40 km each day. I don't find it a pleasure flogging my animal to keep up with standardbreds.
- My age limits me with driving distance and physical capability
- Lack of competition, events not run to the rules, lack of good judges
- Work.
- I am new at these activities and so am reluctant to enter some events however I am very interested if the events are angled towards the size of my pony and my novice experience.
- Spent many years regularly competing in harness at CDEs and shows, and driving at club events including pleasure drives, but now prefer to give back to the ACDS by organising events and club days for the current group of drivers, and also judging. Happy to just drive my pony at home from time to time.
- when there are suitable venues in Central Victoria, which means more people can attend it makes no sense to have them at far ends of Vic, especially championships, the driven dressage champs are 4 hours drive away for me, it makes travel too much when cost of camping etc comes into play

- Not enough events run, this would give me an opportunity to choose
- Towing, and lack of grooms. I just bought a big horse to allow me to do endurance and long distance driving which is more prevalent in my area (North West NSW)
- You try paying to take a pair, let alone a team of four anywhere!!!
- young kids and having to go away for a few nights
- Lack of experience
- Too many rules, regulations & constraints put on organisation committees.
- restriction on mini ponies to participate in CDE activities for under 91cms based on ACDS discriminatory decisions. The pony is completely suitable
- Would attend more cde's if more were run in vic
- lack of fun and games..... either marathon type pleasure drives or hard nosed competition, neither are appealing to this membership
- Work very time consuming. However can see retirement. Yahoo.
- Rule regarding competing at CDEs with single before competing with multiples prevents competing in these events
- I would love to attend more dressage days but find the accumulation of points on all test driven over a weekend a bit of a deterrent when the limit is 10 points. you can easily have your self in the next division during the same season and even for the championships I believe.
- Have a mini, so only been to Huntly, 1st VSE ran, difficult to have VSE taken seriously ?
- Lack of inclusion of VSE classes
- Atm have a mini.
- I sometimes struggle to find a groom or helper and personally do not have the skills to go solo
- work commitments in the weekends
- Timing of activities
- Work commitments
- Past committee involvement causing problems and resolution process followed did not resolve issues regarding other members being blocked to join club. Unfriendly attitudes toward some people was not conducive to keeping members by overpowering members on committee
- Lack of properly run events, too many silly fun events with few rules
- Officially sanctioned ACDS Events for VSE !!!!!!!!!!!!!
- Time is as in time to get to the event ...
- Great dividing range!
- difficulty in obtaining a groom who can travel
- Activities clashing or too closely dated, sometimes only 1 week apart in areas that are close together.
- There is a lack of activities that interest me in the state and the cost of going across Bass Strait is prohibitive. in the vicinity of \$2500 +.return trip with no added event or other costs
- Activities clashing on the one date

Q10 Where do the Drivers in this membership train their horses/ponies. (you can choose more than one answer)

Answered: 213 Skipped: 4



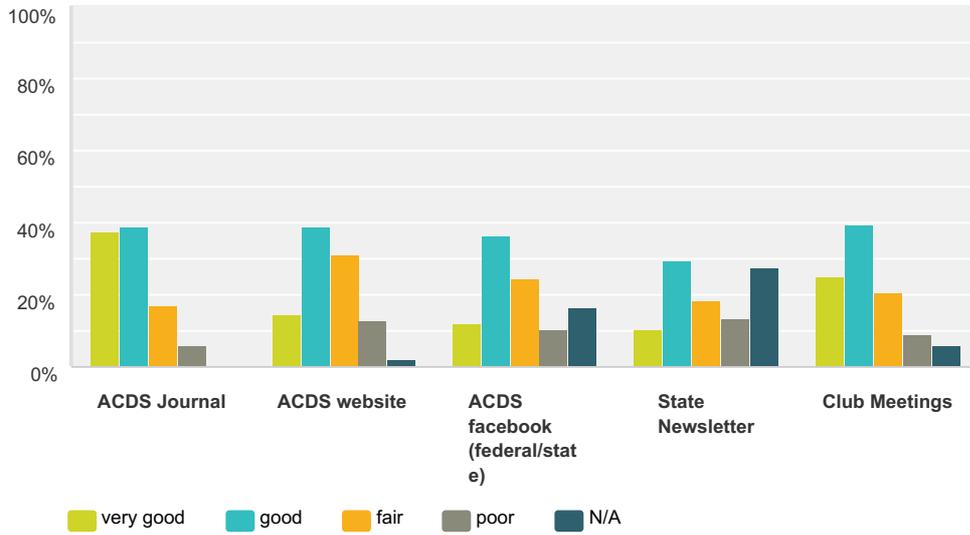
**Q10 Where do the Drivers in this membership train their horses/ponies.
(you can choose more than one answer)**

- local grounds
- At club
- Club grounds
- Club grounds
- At local showground or harness club grounds approx 100km away
- also at our club training and clinic days.
- club grounds
- Showgrounds
- Float to suitable locations for drives
- club days local rec reserve, float tom suitable training roads.
- When competing, driver seeks regular (monthly) training from a qualified driving coach OR ridden dressage coach (sometimes up to 2 hours away from home or via email / video critique).
- On club grounds
- roads now too dangerous, forestry too many bikes and not enough tracks for horses with sulkies
- Not much training required for pleasure driving.
- We also participate in as many schools and lessons as we can
- Non-Driver
- At the beach
- any place that we can train
- Club rallied
- currently no training as 1 horse is badly injured, don't have my float & my pony has no cart as I am trying to save for new shafts. also difficulty in getting horses onto the float in the first place. and i have no one to help with gates as I am on an agistment property.
- I float to friends places and we train together.
- Use our local club grounds also
- Will often go to the club grounds and practise not on a rally day etc. Local indoor arena for indoor exposure.
- club grounds
- I drive my pony in the bush and on roads. Husband is always with me.
- [REDACTED], and [REDACTED] have used these methods to train their horses and ponies
- I am fortunate to have lots of trails and a disused gold course adjacent to my property for driving
- At events and shows
- Local showground
- On 100km roads around my place - local show ground sometimes too with the local EA driving club
- Clubs.
- At monthly rallies, I take advantage of the club grounds to practice dressage as well as working around other horses in harness.
- local council designated areas for equine activities
- Schyville national park.
- Instruction clinics when offered at Bundanoon, Bungendore, Murrumbateman
- We float to dirt roads
- At shows
- On the property where the pony is agisted.
- At club practice days
- Events

- only a small club, one or 2 interested in showing, I'm not, no one really into activities, so having a smaller club, limits the knowledge to share.
- Club events
- at the club grounds and surrounding forest across the road from our house
- Was using local club grounds prior to club issues.
- not currently training
- club rallies, shows
- club grounds
- Local showground and reserves
- At venues where lessons are conducted
- Club grounds

Q11 As a membership please rate the following methods of ACDS communication.

Answered: 217 Skipped: 0



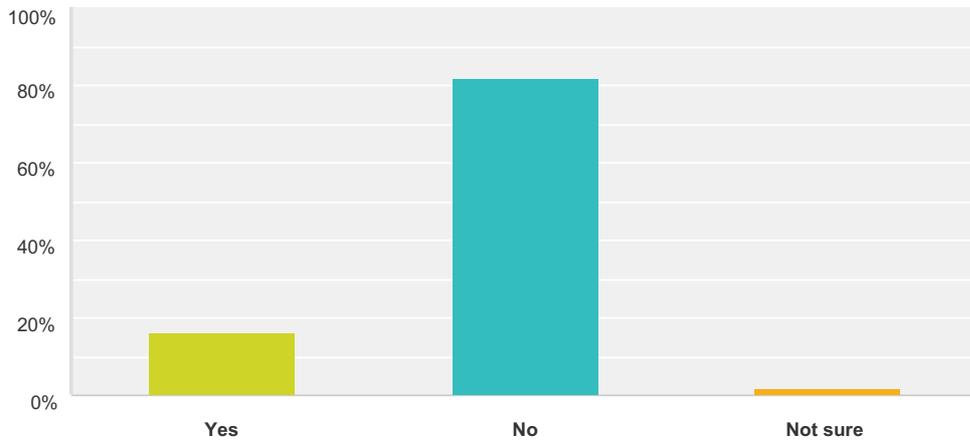
Q11 As a membership please rate the following methods of ACDS communication.

- Unfortunately by the time we receive the journal, many events have either closed or happened, yet the entry information is still in the journal. Can Federal, state and then clubs please be more proactive in forwarding event information such as how to enter etc. Not everyone is on facebook, personally i do not use it very often.
- News letter not posted out as a hard copy and irregular
- Would be nice if journal and newsletters were available online (similar to welsh action magazine).
- I have been bullied at meetings and was threatened with legal action if I disclosed an email of my grievances with the secretary at a meeting.
- There is no state newsletter however the vic branch website is great, in particular the calendar, it would be great if all clubs would put their events there not all do.
- The Journal is repetitive of State Newsletters - and therefore often old news. We believe the Journal (in its current form) to be an unnecessary expense for the society with funds required to produce it potentially being of better use elsewhere eg: towards training / education / sport development. If we 'must' have the Journal we think it would be more valuable to the membership if it was produced as either a 'bi-annual or annual' quality publication. It could highlight events, progress and so forth held across the nation with better coverage of each driving discipline in detail.(Let the State Newsletters and the internet cover the more frivolous stuff). 'Just because it happened doesn't mean it deserves to be in print!'... Just our opinion of course!
- Am not on facebook and never will be. This method of communication has been adopted at club level with no consultation of it's members.
- State website is excellent and always kept current. Calendar is fantastic.
- State does not put out a news letter
- Our club has a monthly newsletter which is very informative.
- Journal & State Newsletters are too repetitive Too much of the same content.
- we have said journal good. this was up to June 2016. we have not received a copy since. Website was good however find very little information there now. Dont use facebook. Knew nothing about this survey. Just happened to see comment on forum (1st entries for appr. 2 mths)
- it is January 2017 and we STILL do not have a state calendar the entries for the nationals are still not up
- The journal and state newsletter mostly features poorly written and uninteresting summaries of club days. This has no interest to me at all. I would prefer well written articles that were educational and informative.
- don't use facebook
- Never seen a state newsletter
- don't do facebook - but have no problems with anything else :-)
- club newsletters seem to be discouraged at my club - they don't put in many coming events the state newsletter at least has a calendar in it.
- Journal information is outdated by time received. Web site too hard to navigate. Facebook too much international content & other irrelevant info to scroll through to find up coming events etc. Focus should be on Australian content & schedules etc.
- I learn the most about the happenings through our Club meetings and rally days :)
- have not become familiar with the FB PAGE
- To be fair, we rarely have the time to attend club meetings. I think the State Newsletter is included in Club emails?

- Am not on Facebook but hear that it seems to get information across well. It has however been used to convey of some very unpleasant anonymous messages in the past and for this reason I won't support it on principle.
- I'm not very good at using Facebook but from what I do gather, it has a lot of information on it
- ACDS journal would look a lot better with some colour photos, perhaps dropping the paper quality (which is too thick in my opinion) would free up funds for colour printing, looks very drab with everything B & W
- Is there a state newsletter in Victoria
- Often information is out of date or incorrect on website / Facebook.
- I would prefer getting a digital copy of the Journal via email. If I had digital copies, I might refer back to them. As it stands, I generally look through the Journal once, then put in recycle bin.
- Too much international content & too many Posts to scroll through to find current information
- Modern day communication is instant, the lag time with Journals, newsletters and meetings cannot be as efficient.
- Web site needs to be updated more regularly. The journal information is out of date by the time it is received
- An enthusiastic member keeps us all informed.
- Sick of the same people in the journal.
- smaller club, so only very limited members attend, and I find not interested in my activities or they don't travel far to compete, so on my own
- I find the info in the [state newsletter] is often out of date and the photos small and grainy. I would be very happy to have it online and distributed by email.
- It is ridiculous that the state newsletter is printed and mailed. Membership fees and annual increases are a sore point to many members and a deterrent for existing and new members from joining. Wasting resources in this way is an absolute disgrace. It should be emailed or scrapped all together. It is full of photos of poorly fitted harness and bad driving. Horses/ponies on their forehead and driving with insufficient contact. This is the ACDS is not pony club!
- Unfortunately i am not finding this a very friendly environment atm. Conflict resolution is non existent from what i hear this is an issue in [REDACTED].
- Do not use website or facebook
- There is very little communication from our State Branch
- Journal is good, but the info is 3-4 months out of date, website is good some info hard to find Facebook is a good method of getting it out there What State newsletter.....meetings are the same as journal ..we use email, with a read tag so we know it has been opened
- ACDS FB page (federal) has huge potential to keep people informed of current issues facing membership. Although my concern with the FB page is that you are not required to be an ACDS member to contribute to the page. The website is good for information that does not change rapidly.
- No state newsletter that I am aware of but I do read the minutes from the meetings both state and local. The journal is hampered by the time frame of quarterly editions.
- Victoria Facebook is great
- Club news letter is good.
- Club meetings are held 2 hours away on a weekday night

Q12 Are your horses/ponies vaccinated against Hendra?

Answered: 211 Skipped: 6

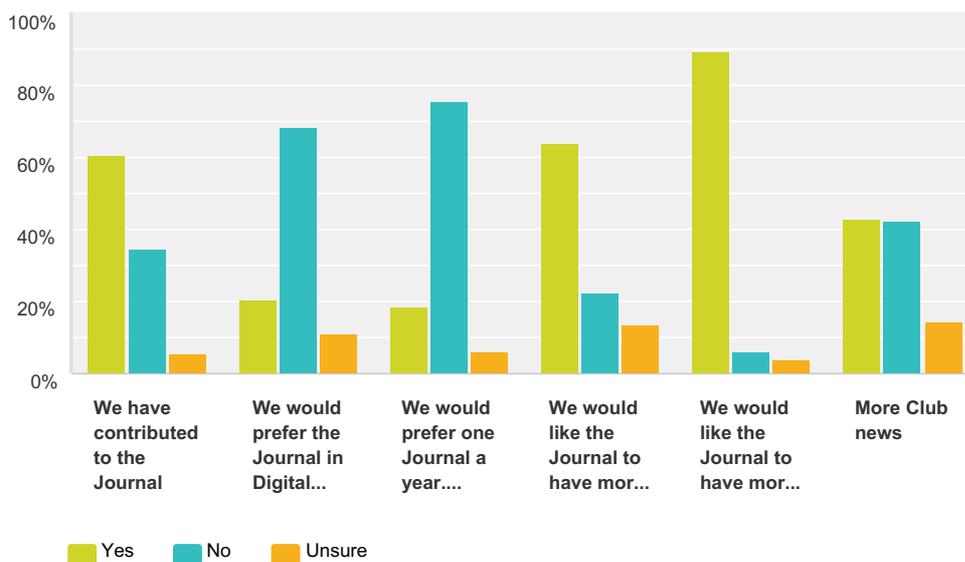


Q12 Are your horses/ponies vaccinated against Hendra?

- Two are and one yet to be done
- only one is
- The cost is seriously prohibitive when you have a number of horses
- Trending towards doing it.
- One is and one not, one only done as he was broken in in Qld and vet wouldn't attend if there was a problem.
- However, if I was competing towards northern NSW and beyond, I would possibly vaccinate against Hendra.
- Were but not now as the cost is ridiculous and proven to be safe for the horses, I know one person who lost their horse because of the Hendra vaccination.
- They were initially and had follow ups but no follow up injections in the last 18 months
- Should vaccination become rule we will not be members anymore.
- I'm not in a Hendra area so haven't felt the need.
- Do not travel outside of Victoria
- Though not in a Hendra high risk area, we do get flying foxes, and I believe that if there is a vaccine against Hendra, I should be using it, to protect myself as well as friends who feed my horses from time to time, and others such as vets and farriers. My horses have never had side effects.
- No applicable to me
- thinking about it
- We have one vaccinated because he went to Qld to be broken in and vet will only attend vaccinated horses
- Hendra vaccination is expensive and unnecessary in our area.
- we do not have it here in W-A
- Waiting to see how safe it really is
- Although I am considered to be in a high risk Hendra area, I enforce appropriate biosecurity measures. I was initially vaccinating, however, the tooing an froing about boosters ie. 6mthly v 12mthly has seen me stop vaccinating until its all sorted out. I cannot feasibly afford to vaccinate 7 horses, but I can ensure I am not exposed to their body fluids, which is the only method of horse-human infection.
- Pony that travels interstate (NSW & QLD) is vaccinated. Other horses are not.
- Pony was bought from Nth NSW and was vaccinated, no boosters have been given.

Q13 Please comment on the ACDS Journal.

Answered: 216 Skipped: 1



	Yes	No	Unsure	Total
We have contributed to the Journal	60.29% 126	34.45% 72	5.26% 11	209
We would prefer the Journal in Digital form.	20.39% 42	68.45% 141	11.17% 23	206
We would prefer one Journal a year. (summary of the year)	18.41% 37	75.62% 152	5.97% 12	201
We would like the Journal to have more information on carriage supplies	64.08% 132	22.33% 46	13.59% 28	206
We would like the Journal to have more carriage training articles	89.62% 190	6.13% 13	4.25% 9	212
More Club news	43.00% 86	42.50% 85	14.50% 29	200

Q13 Please comment on the ACDS Journal.

- I like the format of quarterly journals, however understand the costs associated with this. Perhaps if the ACDS moved to a digital format, people can still print off in colour etc, we may have more info quicker. We could then move to 1 or 2 printed journals a year.
- The club news is out of date, The Vale for deceased members should be similar in size not large for some a small for others Standardise that notice, and a human should be more than any animal
- With the present high costs, I would prefer not to have a journal and save \$60 or what ever the cost is, on membership fees.
- You cannot give more club news if the clubs do not submit Would like to see more showing and dressage photos
- Would prefer trying articles rather than gossipey stuff
- A six monthly Journal maybe?
- With so many Victorian members there should be more Victorian news
- Am dead against the journal going digital. Receiving the Journal hard copy is a symbol of getting something for your membership fee since most will never claim insurance and many do not compete it is the only tangible thing that some members ever get from the ACDS for their money. I think it would be a grave error on behalf of the ACDS Committee to change to an online Journal, membership wise.
- however that would mean our club would have to do something, so nothing will change
- Club news is always the same as state newsletter.
- love to receive the journal it is great and the people that put it together do a great job
- The journal should be more of a yearbook than currently is, with stories on our overseas competitors, current drivers, special horses and glossy photos.
- The Journal is repetitive of State Newsletters and therefore often old news. We believe the Journal has long been an unnecessary expense (and headache) for the Society. Funds required to produce the Journal could be used much more effectively elsewhere eg: promotion and public awareness of carriage driving, website overhaul and maintenance, training / education / sport development etc. (Surely by now the Society's needs warrant a paid media / public relations person - if only engaged on a casual basis). If we 'must' have the Journal we think it would be more valuable to the membership if it was produced as either a 'bi-annual or annual' quality publication. It could highlight major events (including the annual AGM & Conference) held across the nation with better, more in depth coverage of each driving discipline, too. Rather than collecting old magazines in a box - a quality, well produced annual could really be something to be proud of in your bookshelf! (Let the State Newsletters and the internet cover the more frivolous stuff). 'Just because it happened, doesn't mean it deserves to be in print!'... Just our opinion of course! The WEB SITE needs to become the MAIN method of information delivery for the ACDS. A complete overhaul is well overdue. It remains static for too long and needs to be revisited / re-prioritise its objectives. It should be the FIRST place potential new members look for information... It's current layout is clunky, outdated and uninviting - certainly not up to standard for a national organisation. It's truly not helping us to grow - in a media sense - and it would be the ideal place to engage current members with schooling/training and education articles. (Pick a topic and invite 'guest trainers' to deliver their advice and tips etc. on a MONTHLY basis!)
- Digital Form - 1 Yes & 1 No. 2. "Have Your Say" section - not vetted by Hierarchy
- In the past articles submitted have been heavily edited or not included
- Excellent amount of club news but could do with more training articles etc.
- Would like to know why we have not received Sept & Dec. 2016 copy of journal. Can information be put on website perhaps forum
- not the journals fault but limited news from WA

- Why do you bother repeating club news that is exactly the same as already published in the state newsletter? Why is the journal not used as an educational tool on the sport of carriage driving with more profiles on suppliers, leaders in the sport, horses, coaches. Or even training articles on how to drive better cones/ obstacles, how to get your horse fit, how to manage an horse to avoid injury? Anything would be better than repetitive club news! Aim for the journal to be a resource people want to retain, not a magazine people throw out once they have read what interests them.
- delivery of the Journal has been a bit off - I didn't get September issue and my friends didn't get December one - who do you complain to about this.
- Info is outdated by time received
- **MAYBE A LIST OF SUPPLIERS REGULARLY UPDATED**
- The Journal is generally a good mix of club news and other articles. Sometimes I feel there is too much room given to what is happening overseas. It is after all an Australian magazine. Some more articles on vehicles, harness, training etc would be good. Problem is - getting people to contribute articles.
- These are comments from a very minor player in the acds
- I love receiving the journal in the mail, digital would be sub par. Some colour photos to brighten up pages would be great. Carriage training, info type articles would be good, not just CDE rules, articles including different types of driving, how to hold team reins, things to improve a turnout on a low budget, dressage training advice, different breeds and their uses etc
- Less results from overseas and more local content about drivers and clubs There are many things that occur that Federal council do not see or hear about The quiet achievers are not seen or recognised. Vale in the journal need to be limited to a set size I have observed that there has been page after page about one member and a single column on others This may be a bit to the right of centre but I'm offering a view of the journal
- Would love the Journal to have more general information / historical / training articles. I have written a couple of general articles. A suggestion - can we contact breed organisations and get them to submit information on different breeds and their successes in harness ? I think one was done on Morgans, but we should be approaching breeds like Shetlands. Welsh, Arabs, Standardbreds, and getting them to highlight their breed in harness.
- Major portion of our membership fees are used to produce this journal and we did not even receive it last time! If it was digital and the fees reduced that would be fantastic! But not if the fees are not reduced...
- More club news, if the clubs are able to supply. That is, I wouldn't want to see any club news that is provided NOT used in the Journal.
- We think the Journal is OK
- News in journal is outdated by time received Journal should be optional for members
- profiles, comps where you can win a lesson with someone and article written about it, changing disciplines (have an eventer try carriage driving, etc)
- Local content needs to be increased, and also involve volunteers at events and activities
- Club news outside an article is often out of date and irrelevant.
- We seem to have the same faces in the journal. And some more than once in one journal.
- A vehicle and pony/horse for sale section would be great.
- twice yearly would be ok.
- as a newbie, and a smaller club, don't have much info, so the Journal is it. so love more training, and advice.
- Definitely enjoyed the training article in the last journal.
- In the current format, an annual journal would suffice. If there is some substance going forward, then quarterly would be beneficial. Club news is irrelevant. It is only interesting to those in the club or in

the vicinity whereby members partake in other club's events. Results, training days and a national calendar of events, as well as some interesting articles would be more beneficial.

- Most clubs have newsletters
- Older journals I have looked at were more human, and humorous and not so politically as they are now..ie caption this photo Also noticed photos in dec journal were from prof photographer all nice as long as the we are not paying for them.
- I regularly contribute to both the Journal and the State newsletter. The current editor does an outstanding job with both. I have Journals dating back more than 15 years, and i note that previously there was more instructional content which was of interest and benefited new comers. Currently, its almost cover to cover on show results which is not as much of interest to this membership. I think providing the Journal as a digital edition would mean a huge saving to the ACDS, however, would that saving be passed onto the membership? If so, I would seriously consider having a digital only copy sent out. I would prefer the current ACDS state newsletter (for NSW) sent out in digital format.
- as a new member I have found it hard to find info on the cones, dressage etc to see if this is something we would like to branch into.
- I like the journal however it could include more training advice, more historical articles and other articles of interest
- Would prefer the Journal twice per year with more involved articles regarding carriage driving

Q14 As a membership, please answer the following questions about the ACDS Federal Conference.

Answered: 205 Skipped: 12

Has attended the conference in the last 5 years?						
	Yes		No		Total	
This membership	44.39% 87		55.61% 109		196	

Thinks the Conference should be held-				
	Annually	Bi Annually	Not at all	Total
This membership	77.51% 131	20.12% 34	2.37% 4	169

Thinks the location of the Conference should be-				
	Same location	Moved from State to State	left up to organizers	Total
This membership	5.99% 10	61.68% 103	32.34% 54	167

Has been discouraged in the past from attending due to-						
	Cost	Distance	Program not appealing	Venue	Some/all of the above	Total
This membership	10.49% 17	18.52% 30	11.73% 19	3.09% 5	56.17% 91	162

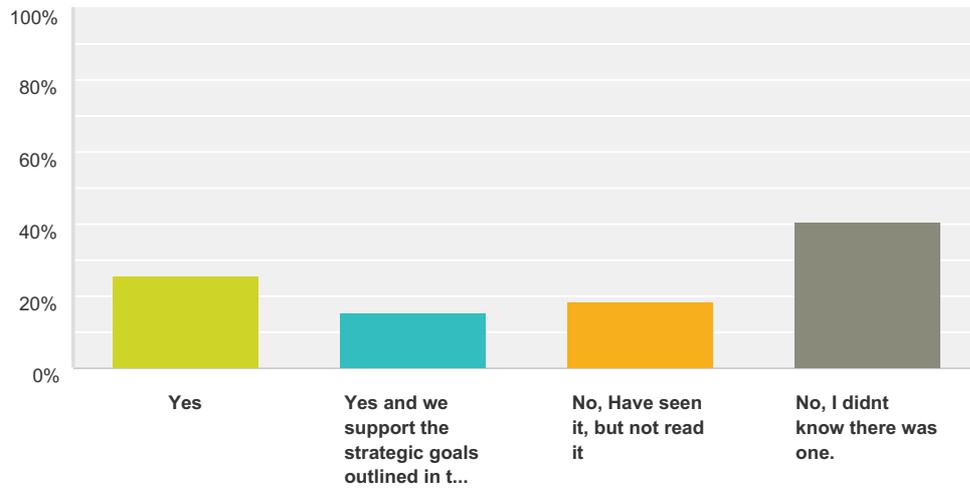
Q14 As a membership, please answer the following questions about the ACDS Federal Conference.

- work commitments
- We really like them - we find them informative and friendly. Maybe if you changed the name from conference to ... maybe seminar or something that describes the agenda better - the AGM is really only a minor part of the whole experience in terms of time and information and learning.
- Vote should be taken from the floor on dressage test to be driven in the coming season Have the members involved in the decision making, not those who pretend to be representing the members
- To me the cost of running them conference seems excessive in the budget. I really wonder how many members benefit, is it the same old group each year who attends and apart from a lovely social time, is it really necessary. Cut costs to members be reducing it or making it every two years.
- NON
- Time restraints prevent attending.
- sometimes cost, sometimes distance
- I probably wouldn't travel interstate for a conference, expense and time involved
- a central location would be acceptable
- We have an appreciation for the enormous amount of work involved in organising a conference of this size... We need to be thinking outside the square to keep it appealing to our membership. Sometimes we get stuck in a rut of delivering the 'same old, same old'... Do we even have to have the conference part EVERY year? Does it have to be in 'conference' form?
- Have not been discouraged. No option available in the choices.
- The annual conference is useful for networking and communication
- Also the date of the conference conflicts with other activities we attend during the year such as Football.
- I drive for reasons other than wanting to be involved in bureaucracy. I have no interest in attending meetings. I don't think anything could make me want to attend.
- cost and distance is an issue - being located in Tasmania EVERYTHING costs a fortune to get to the mainland
- Due to family problems have been unable to get to a conference but would like a bit more information about what happens at the conference earlier in the year so I can try plan on going
- Cost to attend interstate does not warrant attending. Should be moved around
- No content to encourage members to attend as their input is not noted & acted on
- and distance
- Have attended almost every Federal Conference since they started. Always find them very worthwhile and enjoyable, great discussions on knotty topics, very good for networking with others from around Australia, catching up with friends, and putting faces to names.. All members should be strongly encouraged to attend them. Should be rotated through the states from year to year. Lately they almost always seem to have been held either in VIC or in close proximity to VIC (except 2016 in Sydney) and ordinary members from other states mostly seem to consider them too far away to attend. We need to attract more of these sorts of members (mostly the newer, younger ones), to join the diehards who always go, and moving it closer to them every few years would help do this.
- not able to attend conferences as not affordable for me to travel
- Lack of interesting presentations Need more informative presentations Longer forums to discuss issues
- Never heard about a conference
- COST AND DISTANCE

- Conference does not offer enough forum time & members suggestions are not followed on with. Hierarchy making too many decisions & not allowing member input.
- Time of year . Always in the Victorian school Holidays , more cost in travel and venue and some work at that time every year .
- The use of electronic communication may assist people further away to attend, this would not be without problems.
- In its current form should not be held No real value is given to the members input No feed back give from the forums from the previous year A vote on items such as the dressage tests to be driven in the coming year may encourage more to attend should they feel they are part of the discussion process Are the federal branch members there for the members or their own gain? A state can have a view yet an individual or 2 will out vote a state. Members rep is needed an unbiased person to speak and vote on behalf of the members
- Cannot get time off work to attend.
- Have not attended in the past due to distance and the cost therefore of attending. While the program remains small annual conferences are brilliant. If the program increased in size requiring the conference to increase in length then bi-annual would be more appropriate.
- is it supposed to be Biennial (every 2nd year) or biannual (twice yearly) ? every 2nd year would be good, especially for the organisers.
- new to ACDS, sorta thought the Federal Con, was for the top heavy's in the Carriage world, not the little person....
- In the last box I have checked Distance (because I had to check something) although there should have been an option "doing something else at the time of the conference so could not attend".
- I was keen to attend the last conference- the speakers were relevant and very interesting but unfortunately the event clashed with a personal family event
- we have a very good person in our club that goes to them and give us all the info back
- Work commitments have prevented attendance
- I have not attended the last two Conferences, the Agenda did not interest me at all. This is a harness Association and the program of events are more to Pony Club level not adult harness drives. There needs to be more International guest speakers talking on driving, vehicles historical different harness used around the world. etc. not CDE. Defiantly NOT making halters (I taught 12year olds to do this). Showing videos of horse stuck in septic tanks etc. can be viewed on line anytime.
- As the Federal Conference is usually held in ES means an airtravel. The first thing I look for before deciding to go is how do I get there. Obviously the flight is to the nearest city but there needs to be transport to the venue
- I would encourage the ACDS to embrace technology and change the constitution to allow online meetings. Our club members would be interested in attending an online conference. Although there would be some logistics to organise, it would enable rural members to attend the conference, even if just by audio.
- Attended most in the last 15 years

Q15 This membership has read the ACDS strategic plan

Answered: 216 Skipped: 1

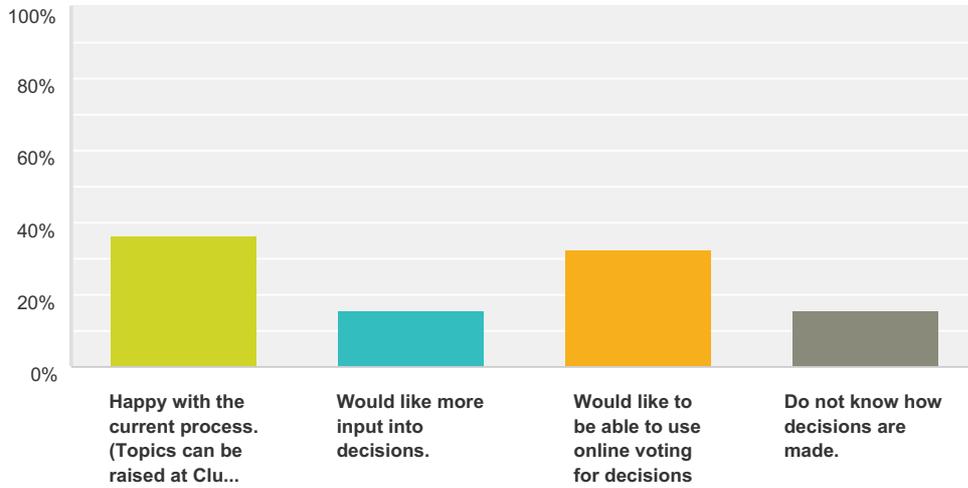


Q15 This membership has read the ACDS strategic plan?

- Skimmed through, not read thoroughly. Might do it soon though now that you've reminded me of it.
- and I strongly believe that the ACDS are limiting themselves of competitors thru not allowing groom sharing and multiple entries per event or even per class.
- Our elected members are doing what they can to achieve those goals... including providing this survey to gather feedback. Which is a first! Well done and thank you for the opportunity to have a say with a modern method.
- Support some of the goals but not all. Lack of consultation.
- I have no interest in the development of this side to the sport. I drive because enjoy spending time with my pony and the training that goes into competing. I have no interest in the sport beyond it being a hobby.
- is this downloadable? Didn't see it in the journal if its there (will read Decembers one again in case I missed it)
- I don't think most members know what Federal does - I haven't been able to access website for a while and non computer people don't seem to be catered for. at meetings we get told it will go to federal but we never seem to get any feedback.
- No definite ideas, did not lead anywhere.
- Brendan Dwyer spoke of the plan at the Victorian ACDS meeting not long ago
- Where is it located ?
- It seems to be over complicating the society in its running. Since the development of the strategic plan, rules have proliferated & unnecessary regulatory measures have been implemented, leading to decreased enjoyment & participation in the sport.
- I have struggled to even get a proper membership card
- There could be some more discussion on some of the strategic plan points
- However the rules and regulations across the sport are of an exclusionary nature. With the rapidly falling membership and participation a complete focus on regulations that include participation must be adopted.
- It is on the "to read" list
- Will find and read now I realise there is one
- Good to see a plan for the future. Without new members the society will not survive.
- more of the more of.. think more involvement of all members to achieve the goal, not a few....
- I would encourage the ACDS to honour their commitment to work with other recognised equine clubs, such as EA. Currently, I have a foot in both camps, and drive horses with both for different reasons and purposes. I think that EA and ACDS have much to offer their respective memberships.

Q16 Please indicate what this membership thinks about the current decision making process in the ACDS.

Answered: 207 Skipped: 10



Q16 Please indicate what this membership thinks about the current decision making process in the ACDS.

- Online voting
- The current process works ok. However, the decision making process for different decisions needs to be more transparent and laid out for all to see.
- and online voting
- I would also like to be able to use online voting for some decisions. Generally I am happy with the existing arrangements.
- I choose to go with the flow . .
- Would like to see issues voted on by members or discipline panels rather than Federal council when discipline based as FC are only a small representation of membership and may not be involved in that discipline or understand reasoning behind proposal. For constitution matters 100% FC vote.
- I believe some of the decision making is antiquated and out of touch with younger more progressive ideas and the evolvement of carriage driving internationally.
- I think you all do a great job and cop far too much rubbish from some members who I note are not putting their hands up!
- Current decision making process is too driven by personalities and therefore decisions are made by a few people. This results in decisions that benefit one or two people (or a group of friends) instead of the majority of members.
- Perception is that things just take TOO long.
- Decisions are being made without the proper process as set out above.
- Believe there are far too many rules restricting the ACDS as a society and its events. Seems ACDS is more concerned with making and creating more rules than actually improving the ACDS, club member numbers and increasing the number of activities available to members. each year there are less activities and competitions, the ones that are there are costing more and competitors get nothing in return. So instead of worrying so much about which new rules we can implement, perhaps greater concern to the decreasing number of events and club active members should be a priority. costs to participate in all/any aspects of carriage driving are increasing but the incentives and prizes for competitors is decreasing. How can we expect people to continue, standards to increase, new people to join, if there are no incentives to make the sport more professional and competitive.
- not happy with federal, too many EA conflict of interest and allowing EA with too much say and stepping in. EA and ACDS SHOULD BE SEPARATE, could loose me and other members because we have had enough
- have been chasing insurance information and still can't get answers - people say look on website but no all members can do this and even some with internet access can't download some of the documents - each club should be given one set of hard copy rules, regulations and insurance information.
- Can not agree with any of the above, decisions take too long to be made.
- There should be more information regarding pro's and con's of issues to all member, therefore if these were covered in more detail in the journal more informed decisions by members could be made.
- Members need to be consulted on issues
- Good process if it was followed.....SA does not even have discipline committees nor does it refer to other than "chosen ad hoc" membership....autocratic and not representative
- The trail of decision making from Club to Federal level needs to be clearer ie plans of action need to be sent to clubs re the process involved in awarding National Champs . There seems to be a lot of uncertainty about what the correct processes are, and also quite a bit of perceived 'red tape'. This can

very quickly dampen enthusiasm. Clubs need to be helped/ encouraged through these processes, not knocked back for failing to follow certain procedures.

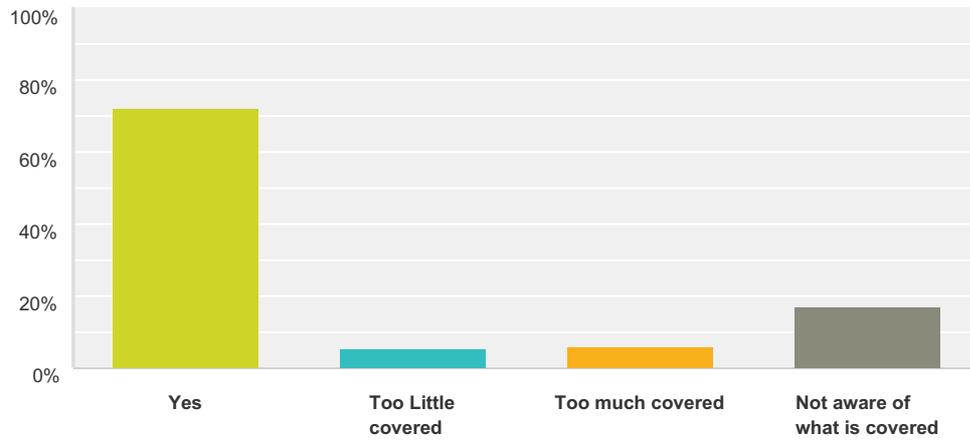
- I know there are strong thoughts on this by some members of the Victorian branch and would take their views for discussion
- More member input Online voting for decisions also
- Had a lot more input when I was regularly attending meetings
- Do not really feel that there is open and transparent communication between National and state committees - it appears decisions are made by limited number of people
- More for vse ponies in cde and pleasure drives
- Take decision to members not just hierarchy
- Far too top down, and driven by the insurers. Peripheral members seem very confused by what are CDE rules and what are overall ACDS rules. As a consequence many of these peripheral members leave due to the assumptions about "too many" rules.
- online voting would need security ie. membership no. password. many questions don't appear to travel up the line or get answers- no matter what level
- There is a minority of toffee nosed people in the hierarchy of the ACDS who think they "Have forgotten more than anyone else will ever know" and look down their noses at anyone trying to learn. If the ACDS wants to continue to grow and flourish, it must embrace, mentor and encourage newcomers. They may not start out with the knowledge or experience but they can have new and bright ideas, they may question existing procedure, if this ruffles old existing feathers and the new ideas are quashed the ACDS will eventually whither and die.
- Would like more input Question 16 does not allow multiple answer
- Travel remains an issue in terms of being to participate in decision taking and making. On line voting or perhaps live streaming should be considered as an opportunity to include.
- Would like more input into decisions AND be able to use online voting for decisions.
- Thank you so much to those who worked tirelessly to have sanctioned inclusion for VSE in phase three events in CDE programs
- The current process is sometimes slow and tedious but is democratic.
- We get no say, even by attending ■■■ branch meetings, the delegate only tells federal what ■■■ wants not what the branch wants. And federal council makes the decisions without discussion with the members it affects. Small states shouldn't have as much say as big states and should have no say on things they don't actually have much experience in.
- While the state and federal have been supportive some individual clubs have been very abusive to me and others. Therefore state and federal need the power to deal with individuals /club committees. I am personally grateful to those who did stand up for me during some very hurtful times. This is what helped keep me involved in the acds and carriage driving
- Federal Council need to know more what the general membership want. The constant attention to CDE what a very small percentage drive them is a waste of time. Clubs need to be supported more with funding of a Coach attend every club so that the average driver get something back from Federal.
- Decisions take soooo long to complete, discussion goes on forever and around in circles. Examples are CDE rule book and re-accredit of officials
- As it appears at present a few control the rules for the many....
- I would like the decision making process to be more transparent, probably with more effective use of the Journal or the state newsletter to discuss what is being put to meetings.
- It can be a convoluted process which can put people off. I have raised two issues and they have gone nowhere. Firstly, why can't we have entry forms which can be filled in online and sent via email rather than having to print, fill in, scan and resend. I have even offered to do the proforma templates. Secondly, we need an email protocol. Clubs should provide email acknowledgements for entries.

They also should provide entry numbers and starting times at least four clear days from the event being held, to allow for people who are travelling interstate to compete.

- people don't know
- Needs complete overhaul

Q17 As a membership are you happy with the current level of Insurance provided?

Answered: 210 Skipped: 7



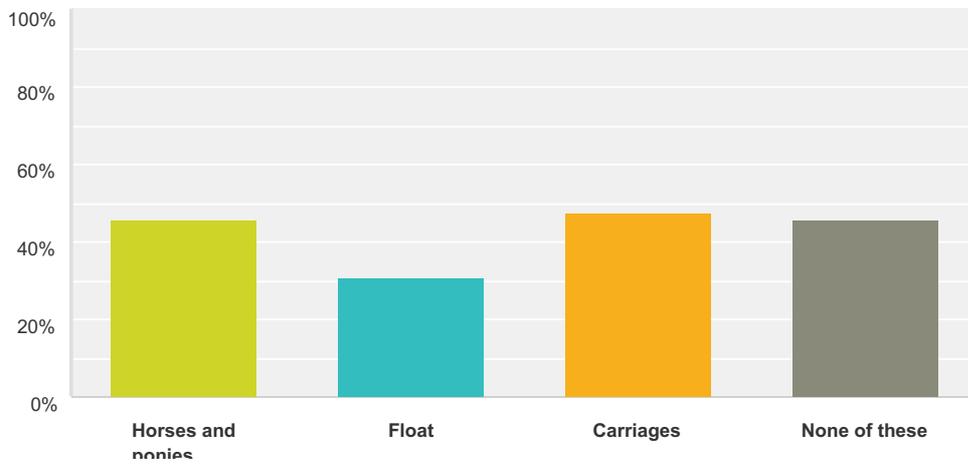
Q17 As a membership are you happy with the current level of Insurance provided?

- I love the insurance and well done to all who have negotiated this. My only issue is when people have accidents that are purely their fault, they then claim on the insurance and cost the rest of us. Can there be some at-fault clause or reduction etc.
- The cover has positive and negative
- Costs are very high and no claim bonus too high. How many members actually get to receive anything from this new policy?
- But wish all horse clubs would get together and combine the insurance costs. Pay one insurance which would cover us for all horse activities, which would reduce our memberships costs and increase club membership and income. i pay over a \$1000 a year in memberships and every club im a member of is only making \$0 to \$20 out of me, which means 95% of my membership is going to insurance, and at the end of the day i can only claim one insurance if something was to happen. the only people making money is the insurance companies.
- Not happy with the cost of membership which is being raised every year making it unaffordable for the average person
- Thank you
- way to expensive for some people, and that's y we are losing members.
- over covered /over priced considering we have to use our own insurance before accessing A.C.D.S the A.P.S.B use the same insurer and their membership fees are less than \$100 allow members to choose basic insurance then make extra available for those that want it at an extra fee
- The insurance is getting way too expensive and the excess is too high. I would be happy to take a lower coverage and smaller excess to have a cheaper membership. We are losing members due to cost.
- cost is making membership almost impossible to afford - a lot of what is covered is doubling up on personal cover, We have to have memberships in multiple clubs - unfortunately this is the one we will have to drop due to cost
- To expensive.....
- As a member of a dressage club (ridden) carriage driving and EA i feel we are paying too much for insurance across the board
- The major reason for being a member.
- still have unanswered questions about over 70 years old coverage, self employed cover, not employed cover. when you go to an event that has other coverage eg shows - which policy is claimed on - ACDS is 24/7 ? so when are you not covered??
- I believe so however I assume you only really know once you are making a claim.
- Difficult to get a clear understanding of what cover really is provided!
- As I do not take my pony out on club drives I only use my own insurance which is more than adequate also the excess is a lot cheaper.
- Excess is too high, should be around \$500
- I have had a catastrophic and shocking experience with the acds insurance [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] and for some reason, having followed all the legal requirements immediately when asked during the following years, received no insurance compensation. Because of the [REDACTED], I had to retire from [REDACTED]. I also say that there was no negligence by the organisers of the acds event - it was just an accident - and I see horse sport as being comparable to sailing or skiing, where you cannot possibly cater for every single thing that might happen.

- Not at all happy with helmet changes. I purchased a compliant helmet as per the new requisites, and then it was changed to add the kitemark which makes mine non compliant, not happy that it was changed after it had been communicated. I believe the insurance cost could be lowered if ACDS changed to ruling to a helmet needing to be worn at all times at ACDS events, I think the choice of being able to wear/not to wear makes our premiums too high and it is becoming increasingly too expensive for people to renew each year
- Can not seem to get a simple answer into coverage, much like the helmet debacle going on now. ??
- Fail to see the need to be compelled to take further insurance when we already have our own. It should be individual choice. It appears that the need to protect our insurers is dominating the introduction of new rules & regulations. This in turn is leading to decreasing membership due both to lack of enjoyment & increased costs.
- I have never received a copy of the insurance policy - this is an example of lack of transparency. It should be available on request and identified as mandatory upon first time membership application
- Individual insurance so doubling up.
- Yes BUT, Not SURE of what is covered. We are not privy the finer points that the insurer might impose on the cover. We never get to read the 'fine print' We as individual members should be issued with the salient points of the insurance and the product disclosure statement should be readily available.
- Insurance should be able to opt out with the supply of a member holding their own personal liability cover
- Far too expensive and no option to choose or opt out. Some people already have cover with other organisations. We don't need to pay for 2.
- sadly all the insurance makes all the sport harder to enjoy but we do need them
- The ACDS web page previously had FAQ's, which was removed 2 years ago when insurance providers was changed. Questions still remain unknown, such as if it is okay for an adult to wear a non-compliant helmet in a non-minuted activity (ie. at home etc).
- more info needed
- I am anti insurance as the majority of us are paying (dearly) for something we will never use. You have no box to tick NO!
- Is it necessary for ACDS to provide cover for private individuals?

Q18 Would you be interested in additional insurance for (you may select more than one choice)-

Answered: 191 Skipped: 26



Q18 Would you be interested in additional insurance for (you may select more than one choice)-

- Please arrange for Affinity to write a blurb about what's on offer for the journal.
- Public Liability to be available
- as per above comments
- Have own insurance
- Maybe, depends on cost. Probably not.
- yes at the expense of the individual
- All of the above but at the individuals expense not everyone pays for the added cover.
- I would be interested in a quote
- Yes. We insure elsewhere with a broker but if we could get it through our ACDS membership, that would be perfect.
- I have my float and select horses insured. No need to double up on insurance and inflate membership prices more.
- Insured through other policies.
- Maybe the insurance should be taken out of membership fees and charges separately so you know the level of coverage. this would also make it easier to understand how much is spent on administration.
- Possibly for all listed, would need to understand what the offer involved.
- I am afraid that because of my bad experience with insurance, I have very very little faith in the behaviour of insurance companies.
- Fire, theft insurance for vehicles and floats would be great
- **SHOULD BE UP TO INDIVIDUAL PEOPLE IF THEY WANT THESE INSURED**
- These are all insured privately
- Would only put membership costs up.
- Maybe
- Members can source their own There are more important things to focused on than this
- Already far too expensive and intrusive
- I would be interested to know the costings of adding these to the ACDS insurance cover &/or having an option for these to be included or not included at each members discretion
- Perhaps depending on cost
- if so each person can do that themselves
- more info

Q19 As a Membership please rate the following services provided by the ACDS

Answered: 216 Skipped: 1

	Very Important	Important	Not Important	Total
ACDS Journal	52.56% 113	34.88% 75	12.56% 27	215
ACDS Website/Facebook	48.77% 99	39.90% 81	11.33% 23	203
Insurance	76.06% 162	20.19% 43	3.76% 8	213
Family Membership	57.89% 121	30.62% 64	11.48% 24	209
Coaching and Instruction	68.25% 144	26.54% 56	5.21% 11	211
Club/State structure	52.15% 109	41.15% 86	6.70% 14	209
ACDS Conference	21.90% 46	58.57% 123	19.52% 41	210
Variety of activities available	72.17% 153	26.42% 56	1.42% 3	212
General Information eg Risk Management	50.49% 104	42.72% 88	6.80% 14	206

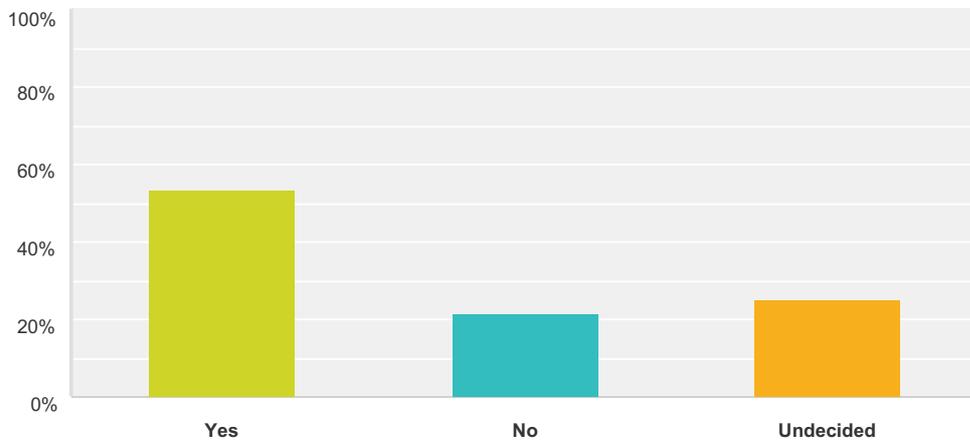
Q19 As a Membership please rate the following services provided by the ACDS

- It needs to be easier to find out if instructors are insured/ qualified etc. I think we should only be using qualified/ ACDS accredited/ insured instructors.
- Most club activities geared towards galloping CDE. Not all people want to go galloping around obstacles. Some more on historic carriages, presentation, stories from past about wonderful carriage businesses, overseas places to buy historic or modern carriages & harness.
- Coaching scheme is poor It has been set up as who is popular at the time, not based as a true education training system
- Never seen any coaching and instruction provided by ACDS at our club!
- I think the ACDS is trying hard to provide a range of services that appeals to the majority.
- The website is important to me not facebook
- More work needed in regard to coaching / training.
- while I love the cde's, I think we need to encourage clubs to hold low level events as that is where new drivers start.
- 1. Insurance should be handled by Insurance Specialist - not just Executive members 2. Coaching & Instruction - very poorly handled by ACDS 3. Conference - needs complete overhaul
- website only NOT FACEBOOK
- Is all information being put on facebook. Would like all information on website
- WA is very much on its own, never go to fb, don't start me on insurance,
- Facebook should have been separated from website. I rate facebook as a very bad move by Federal.
- We should never get to the point where if you can't access a computer you can't find anything out. the journal club contacts need checking more often as there was details for my club took two years to change and is still wrong.
- The ACDS website is extremely important, but not very user-friendly. For instance there is no obvious link from the state page back to the National website, and a search facility on the pages would be useful.
- risk management, as per my above comments re: use of helmets Whether federal like it or not, VSE driving is the new thing, and a good way to bring more members to clubs, and new rules need to be implemented so that they can be included in events, not just as an afterthought. They need to be welcomed and encouraged to compete, people that are discouraging it need to wake up to themselves and stop living in the dark ages, it was proven at the Huntly CDE that they can kick it with the big ponies. (I am not a VSE driver, just my opinion)
- Coaching is a big issue, there seems to be no basic structure and these seems to be based on personalities Politics even in carriage driving Webb sites need to be updated more often
- We need to really get on top of risk management and horse welfare. I would like to see helmets compulsory for ALL events, and have all members read and sign off on risk management policies as part of their annual membership forms. I still see experienced members walking off leaving horses without bridles tied to floats whilst still put to carriages. If we don't already have one (I've never seen it) we need to have an animal welfare policy in place including the vets checks used for CDEs and Enduros, and the purpose of the whip. PETA and friends want us gone !!
- It would be nice to see the ACDS loosen the purse strings and fund the states to provide further coaching and improve the sport rather than grow the club coffers... ??
- Coaching accreditation process not equitable or transparent. NCAS is not recognised by ACDS & the ACDS system still has its own 'jobs for the boys' system, where done people are automatically accepted without going through due process.

- 'Variety of activities': I would like to see more support for non-competitors. Some of our club members don't compete, and feel 'left out'. Perhaps some type of incentive or reward program to encourage pleasure drivers to work their horses year round?
- The info in the journal could easily be reported on the Facebook page or via an email....it seems like an extravagant expense for the organisation.
- I find the journal has old news and very little interesting carriage driving information.
- you have neglected to include communication to ALL members, not everyone is on the internet or Facebook due to poor services in their area, don't assume everyone has access
- There seems to be a distinct lack of basic coaches. the part in between beginner drivers and tertiary level ACDS activities (cde's, dressage show driving etc) No list of coaches to perfect the perfect pleasure pony!
- Conference in its current form is a waste of time
- Over governance and restrictions placed by insurance are taking all of the fun out of carriage driving
- ACDS Coaching and Instruction - Completely lacking in expertise - Would like more member input into decisions AND be able to use online voting for decisions.
- As our peak body the ACDS and it's activities are very important & all at federal level are doing an amazing job
- Affordability and variety that's inclusive of the no use driver is very important
- Risk management should start looking at vehicle weights and suitability for the purpose.
- The journal is a nice to have, but it is important that good business sense prevails in it's production. It is expensive and this cost should be reviewed on an ongoing basis. Perhaps 2 substantial issues per year would be better.
- How many of the people chosen to coach coaches are actually out there actively competing successfully. The saying "Those who can do, do. Those who can't teach" is extremely relevant in the ACDS. This statement is relevant for most of the judges and officials also.... this is a huge negative in the ACDS. Many members have left the ACDS, because they are being constantly criticised by people who don't know what to do/ how to do it themselves!!
- club/state structure is not working very well in WA. There needs to be more dedicated coaching and instruction and respect for coaches
- Once again I have to choose between Very Important, Important and Not important. What about the middle ground?

Q20 Does this Membership consider it is getting 'value for money' as a member of the ACDS?

Answered: 215 Skipped: 2



Q20 Does this Membership consider it is getting 'value for money' as a member of the ACDS?

- I am new to Harness but have been member of pony club and Ridden horse clubs such as EA. Similar value for money there too. Especially when you are relying on volunteers for most areas.
- Yes and no!
- New to this sport , Not much in SE QLD , and does concern me I may have invested in carriage , with nothing to do in my state. Have 3 competition to go too and all down south.
- If an area only has a few members and not much in the way of events then membership will disappear
- At present, yes. If I were a non-competitive driver I would have to question my motive for being a member. Maybe for the insurance cover? If it is just for being in a club to drive with other club members on pleasure and social drives, then that could be done without being affiliated with the ACDS and without paying the high membership fees.
- We have to go with whats on offer.
- insurance too expensive
- I think our membership is way TOO expensive. mainly due to insurance cost.
- Not enough activities for under 9.2hh. And CDE compliant vehicles are hard to find for under 9.2hh hence CDE's are not an option. Lack of lesson time at club rallies.
- the 'money' is too much - the events are fine
- Local club does very little driving, and when they do they tend to go to another club grounds for training days.
- On a whole, it is value for money for me. However, I think the definition of " family" membership is a bit limited and should include extended family members who are under 18, even if they don't live under the same roof (eg niece/ nephew). Often it is grandparents, aunts and uncles who encourage a young person's driving.
- Horse sports are expensive across the board. We choose to be involved with driving at a relatively top level so the expense associated with it is expected - no matter what level you choose to be involved.
- Yes
- Needs more work done in regard to Insurance
- Not entirely sure what I am getting, it is very difficult to find information on the website
- membership costs are too high
- This is the most expensive club I belong to also the hardest one to find answers with I don't know how much is spent on insurance so how can I value the rest of my expenditure.
- Very expensive compared to other insurances and groups
- I have been told that insurance is a major component of the membership, and it is good value. The cost is far higher than Pony Club or Adult riders, who offer many more events, including instruction, than acds does. I hope that I never have to make an insurance claim, but do not understand why fees are so much higher than other horse based societies.
- I have pretty specific needs not necessarily shared by others so I am used to DIY Professional development.
- Personally, I think our membership has become exorbitant. I do think our Horse Insurance is still reasonably good value though.
- Very good value in comparison with other sporting clubs, especially if you belong to a club which runs many activities, and also are in a position to attend events run by other clubs. The Journal, state newsletter and in some cases, a regular club newsletter, all add value to the membership apart from the driving and social activities.
- Due to high insurance excess
- I think the ACDS should be involved in things like insurance as they are virtually impossible to challenge due to the costs involved
- as per my above comments re: use of helmets vs insurance premiums
- Feel supported with my carriage driving.

- More member involvement
- Absolutely. It's cheap insurance and a great magazine.
- I feel that the membership is too costly and the ACDS are missing out on other interested potential members who belong to other societies.
- need to learn more about insurance covered to answer this
- I realise that most of the money goes to insurance. Personally, I don't think that the printed Journal is good value for money.
- We need to encourage new members not discourage them with more and more rules and regulations. Unfortunately the cost of insurance these days has made the membership fees very expensive for some which deters a lot of prospective members.
- Not enough events to go to. Few and far between.
- in some respect, insurance yes, support all the way to club level - no; willingness to listen to a member's idea - no;
- could be better
- Not currently however that is governed by choices I am making as to my level of participation.
- Becoming extremely expensive
- Most definitely
- Depending on terms inclusion/exclusions of the insurance
- There is a need to combine insurances availability ... as doubling insurance costs with other memberships are killing the sport.
- Club contact with members is poor.
- but think we as members should have more say in the rules etc
- I am predominantly a member of the ACDS as it provides insurance cover under a family membership, and enables me to drive at my local club outings. Not much is provided to new members in the way of instruction or assistance, unless the member is interested in competition.
- Yes, however with no local events currently on in my area (I am working with the club to assist in an active , regular club calendar) I often need to travel large distances to attend things, taking more time off work and spending more money on fuel. It is an expensive hobby, receiving regular journals etc helps create the feeling that I am getting something for my membership
- need more info and starter/taster days.
- There is not a lot of option, if you want to compete you have to belong.
- This is because of the extensive insurance cover for individual drivers at home or out.

Q21 What additional Services or resources would you like the ACDS to provide?

Answered: 96 Skipped: 121

#	Suggestion	Date
1	More information concerning insurance sent to all members. eg full details on cover, company etc. Insurance is teh major concern in our Club.	4/27/2017 8:22 PM
2	More CDE'S	4/23/2017 11:24 PM
3	The ability to subscribe to email reminders for events on the calendar	4/11/2017 11:13 AM
4	Can SA feature more on the website please. Especially in view of the Nationals in 2017	4/3/2017 9:45 PM
5	More show training	4/3/2017 9:36 PM
6	please let everyone know what is and what isnt covered by ACDS insurance cover	4/3/2017 5:59 PM
7	More hands on instruction i.e. more club days , more social occassions e.g. Visiting coaches for lessons in a variety of sports not just CDE & make it a social weekend - camping e.g. at a Showground??	4/1/2017 1:10 PM
8	Federal or state ? Or is this question local clubs to supply	4/1/2017 8:50 AM
9	I don't have any suggestions. I am an aged member and enjoy club driving days.	3/31/2017 4:58 PM
10	Some -how to harness up u tube clips.	3/31/2017 4:37 PM
11	More support for clubs running national events, both financial and personal.	3/31/2017 4:12 PM
12	Indoor competition and courses in QLD	3/31/2017 3:26 PM
13	more publicity - maybe add more feature events at other main stream equestrian events	3/31/2017 1:11 PM
14	Assistance with Australian coaches and coaching clinics.	3/30/2017 4:03 PM
15	That club members taking photos also include people just not having such a good day . we all try so hard . Thank you .	3/29/2017 6:07 PM
16	Help with enough money to be able to hold a good event that benefits members.	3/28/2017 10:47 PM
17	more schools	3/25/2017 7:49 PM
18	I have found the Federal and State branches to be very approachable on any question.	3/24/2017 11:51 PM
19	Affordable driving lessons. Pony clubs offer free training for members at rallies so ACDS could too	3/23/2017 9:54 PM
20	Things should be available in digital format so it can be downloaded it need be.	3/11/2017 3:05 PM
21	More events suitable for VSE	2/28/2017 9:48 PM
22	update the graded dressage system	2/28/2017 5:45 PM
23	To put a stop to some long time power hungry members who beleive they are above the ACDS and running their own agendas, as well as bullying some members.	2/23/2017 4:23 PM
24	Hard Question, I do struggle to find my way around the website, grading lists etc, could this be made more used friendly?	2/15/2017 8:30 PM
25	more assistance with encouraging novice drivers	2/13/2017 12:40 PM
26	Regular, On-line Training / Schooling Articles from ACDS qualified coaches and/or obliging international trainers! Like Hardy Zantke!	2/13/2017 10:25 AM
27	Welcome to new members - ACDS has no expectations of Driving Proficiency with new members	2/11/2017 3:23 PM
28	advocacy to government to limit the use of drones and model aircraft in close proximity to driven equines	2/11/2017 9:25 AM
29	more training opportunities, not just the top instructors, regular instruction with local good coaches	2/9/2017 8:43 PM
30	More support for the smaller clubs to be able to host events	1/27/2017 1:55 PM
31	More instructions days	1/23/2017 3:09 PM
32	Coaching and Training by properly qualified persons	1/21/2017 2:17 PM
33	More regular lessons be available, say, fortnightly or monthly at reasonable cost.	1/20/2017 10:30 AM
34	more training/coaching	1/16/2017 12:51 PM

35	I still don't know what helmet shall I get and yes I did read the article about the helmets and now I am even more confused	1/12/2017 3:34 PM
36	Training programs and some funding for same.	1/11/2017 9:07 AM
37	As a novice driver I can't find anywhere to get lessons	1/10/2017 11:54 AM
38	Focus on more instruction to improve all aspects of driving skills	1/9/2017 5:18 PM
39	Would the ACDS consider ordering compliant helmets for individual sale to same individuals trying to make sense of what brand and models are compliant?	1/9/2017 9:18 AM
40	Raise the level of general/basic driver instruction across clubs with minimum standards. not just current focus on coaching of officials.	1/9/2017 8:04 AM
41	more instruction	1/8/2017 10:04 AM
42	More activities for small ponies	1/7/2017 11:12 PM
43	Our sport needs public promotion that is modern in nature not so traditional.-too slow and not exciting enough to watch.	1/7/2017 8:57 PM
44	More subsidised events or training at state level	1/7/2017 11:58 AM
45	more coaching and instruction in all aspects of art of carriage driving	1/7/2017 10:59 AM
46	More on showing at Royal level - but realistically recognise that this is a pretty niche area	1/6/2017 5:45 PM
47	More articles on training methods, etc. in the Journal rather than lots of photos.	1/6/2017 4:45 PM
48	More availability for coaching clinics (to encourage more people to be qualified to steward / judge etc)	1/6/2017 3:44 PM
49	Each club to have a trained accredited safety official to approve turnouts at every activity	1/6/2017 11:16 AM
50	From club level.. an activities agenda compiled by all members at the beginning of the year for that year.	1/5/2017 7:47 PM
51	More ACDS run shows	1/5/2017 4:45 PM
52	see above	1/5/2017 2:39 PM
53	The ACDS should be following FEI weights with Carriages in CDE. Too many carriages being used for purposes they weren't designed for. Too light for the job	1/5/2017 12:31 PM
54	Exec. Council rep attend club meetings to explain suggested policies	1/4/2017 11:28 PM
55	VSE to be included in more activities	1/4/2017 10:00 PM
56	The committee does a great job. I know you guys are probably feeling a bit bruised after the helmet confusion, but I found a helmet easily enough. Stand firm on the safety stance. You all do a fantastic job and should be proud of yourselves.	1/4/2017 4:28 PM
57	The clubs need more support & encouragement	1/4/2017 10:00 AM
58	More coaching assistance	1/3/2017 8:38 PM
59	More Insurance flexibility - perhaps a compulsory component and optional components to cater for individuals	1/3/2017 4:36 PM
60	TRAINING AND INSTRUCTION AT A CLUB LEVEL	1/3/2017 3:10 PM
61	Please see comment under 19 above.	1/3/2017 1:31 PM
62	proper CDE events for mini ponies/horses less than 91cms to address the growing demand	1/3/2017 10:09 AM
63	Little ponies on the increase so would like to see them better catered for.	1/2/2017 4:32 PM
64	More information for new members & training before driving at events	1/2/2017 4:29 PM
65	More training opportunities, that don't cost the earth.	1/2/2017 4:12 PM
66	More instruction courses for Novice drivers. Basics are not being taught to the beginner drivers.	1/2/2017 3:00 PM
67	a fair evaluation of ideas from members/clubs - not just ignore or put them down	1/2/2017 1:06 PM
68	Young beginner driver instructional manual.	1/2/2017 12:46 PM
69	A basic introduction to the sport ie licence to drive	1/2/2017 12:41 PM
70	More instruction of tuition via journal or website with instructional video.	1/2/2017 12:13 PM
71	None if it is going to increase membership.	1/2/2017 11:42 AM
72	list of people available/qualified to teach driving for each state	1/2/2017 11:20 AM
73	More coaching and instruction, the restriction on paying members coaching (volunteers who are paid costs only) for their expertise means that 'the best available' is not available to members.	1/2/2017 10:25 AM

74	More interaction with the EA body.	1/2/2017 9:20 AM
75	some learn to drive days organised by the ACDS	1/2/2017 8:23 AM
76	more open traing days, for Newbies..... not just those who can afford to go to the big names. gotta help us newbies get going, at afordable prices, so we can get involved. then as we gain momentum, we can do more.	1/2/2017 7:27 AM
77	Vehicle weighing for CDE	1/2/2017 7:17 AM
78	Combine ACDS / EA insurance for dual members ... this would save heaps	1/2/2017 6:56 AM
79	I would like to see some resources channelled into developing a much higher standard of marathon obstacle at events. This could be tagged as a \$ for \$ grant so that clubs could apply for say \$5000 but must also put \$5000 of their club's funds into improving marathon obstacles. Detailed plans would need to be submitted and follow up to check that building did actually occur. With careful planning we could really develop some state of the art obstacles.	1/2/2017 6:14 AM
80	Vse	1/2/2017 5:46 AM
81	International instructors please for the general membership not just CDE	1/2/2017 5:42 AM
82	Better information from the FB page	1/2/2017 12:38 AM
83	Improvement in club communication	1/1/2017 11:19 PM
84	officials not allowed to stay at a drivers house to cut accomadation cost to the club ?	1/1/2017 11:09 PM
85	More training with qualified instructors	12/28/2016 3:56 PM
86	A Coach that is qualifies in driving to attend every club on their rally days. So that there is a more even contrubution of learning.	12/28/2016 1:31 PM
87	training manual/guidelines	12/21/2016 5:32 PM
88	Simplification of CDE rules	12/20/2016 8:05 PM
89	data bank of other members willing to B&B horse and humans that are travelling	12/20/2016 10:36 AM
90	More emphasis on coaching	12/15/2016 7:44 PM
91	promotion and training of grooms - older, active people who are not constrained by work, family etc	12/15/2016 2:34 PM
92	Find some way to encourage an increase in membership of younger people perhaps retired Three Day Event Riders and Showjumpers Etc.	12/15/2016 1:14 PM
93	Training programs and some funding for same.	11/29/2016 5:40 PM
94	Easier access to good coaches	11/14/2016 1:36 PM
95	Pursue the right to run FEI events	11/10/2016 1:27 PM
96	maybe more surveys for specific disciplines as gives all members the chance to give their point of view	11/10/2016 12:34 PM
#	Suggestion	Date
1	More pro formas for event management and planning	4/11/2017 11:13 AM
2	Different venues for club days.	4/1/2017 1:10 PM
3	My true feeling is that there should be one governing body for all disciplines of horse sport. Members pay one insurance to this body eg EA and then a small amount to local club for running costs etc. So ACDS and EA should amalgamate and cut the red tape, interest groups etc etc and reduce costs for members.	3/31/2017 4:12 PM
4	Long term, if it would ever happen - but combined driving as an olympic discipline??	3/31/2017 1:11 PM
5	if there is any way possible of lowering the cost of membership ? so us poor people can afford to rejoin each year.	3/28/2017 10:47 PM
6	more money to run events	3/25/2017 7:49 PM
7	Mentors available for beginner drivers	3/23/2017 9:54 PM
8	Improve the information and navigation on the Web site	3/11/2017 3:05 PM
9	For those in positions of power to be held accountable by the ACDS when they do the wrong thing.	2/23/2017 4:23 PM
10	less of a personality driven organisation - too many decisions are not made for the benefit of the majority	2/13/2017 12:40 PM
11	Lack of organised Driver Training for ALL disciplines	2/11/2017 3:23 PM
12	Sponsored invitational charity driving events. Our best representatives competing for community development.	2/11/2017 9:25 AM
13	more oppportunity to train in cones and dressage judging, have been promised cones course instruction for a long time and it hasn't happened	2/9/2017 8:43 PM

14	More say in what happens at a meeting in stead of finding out after the event when something which effects us all has been decided and we didnt even know it was on the table.	1/27/2017 1:55 PM
15	More social drives	1/23/2017 3:09 PM
16	Articles of Interest in Journal not just results etc.	1/21/2017 2:17 PM
17	More clinics for information on all topics of carriage driving.	1/20/2017 10:30 AM
18	a calendar that comes out early enough to plan your year	1/16/2017 12:51 PM
19	membership data base for all members to view on website.	1/11/2017 9:07 AM
20	We need some carriage driving schools (Actual establishments) where people can get instruction, learn, to drive, get problem horses dealt with, get info on harness and carriages. Not sure how this will ever happen.	1/9/2017 5:18 PM
21	Will the ACDS recognise that not everyones ambition is to represent Australia? Some of us are happy poking around having fun.	1/9/2017 9:18 AM
22	come and try events for CDEs and Dressage	1/7/2017 11:12 PM
23	Support ACDS members going overseas to compete.	1/7/2017 8:57 PM
24	Maybe the setup of some Harness teams? Similar to the dressage / SJ / Eventing and Showing squads. Could be showing, dressage & cde squads, or teams for newcomers? Bimonthly lessons etc in rotational locations.	1/6/2017 3:44 PM
25	Each event OC to be responsible to provide trained stewards (not on the day training)	1/6/2017 11:16 AM
26	More activities tailored for mini ponies .	1/5/2017 7:47 PM
27	More inter club pleaser drives	1/5/2017 4:45 PM
28	A formalised training / accreditation programme. I know there is one in the pipeline but we need to get this fast tracked.	1/4/2017 4:28 PM
29	Senior members should receive more recognition for their contribution to carriage driving	1/4/2017 10:00 AM
30	More encouragement to diversify the sport rather than encourage endless single horse/pony classes	1/3/2017 8:38 PM
31	Scrap the Journal - go to 100% digital on website like BHTA - more timely, better pictures and give a home printout option	1/3/2017 4:36 PM
32	training program through grant allocation to encourage more qualified carriage educators	1/3/2017 10:09 AM
33	States with majority membership should have more input in running than smaller membership states as descision occur which some states does not affect but have same vote as a state which it affects.	1/2/2017 4:29 PM
34	More information for beginners and low level events. eg one day events.	1/2/2017 4:12 PM
35	progressive instruction from beginner adult driver to safe driver and equine at pleasure level.	1/2/2017 12:46 PM
36	It's time to move more into the online environment with links to all kinds or related instruction/ handy hints/ skill development eg pinstripping etc.	1/2/2017 12:13 PM
37	More driving clinics /training days	1/2/2017 11:20 AM
38	Be more inclusive of VSE across the disciplines. On the drawing board I know, but, the process needs to be pushed ahead.	1/2/2017 10:25 AM
39	more frequent lessons	1/2/2017 8:23 AM
40	access to learning days, information days, for newbies.	1/2/2017 7:27 AM
41	Safety checks on vehicles intermittently	1/2/2017 7:17 AM
42	ACDS to join NCAS .. for coaching	1/2/2017 6:56 AM
43	Training	1/2/2017 5:46 AM
44	More information on training (horse & driver)	1/2/2017 12:38 AM
45	Simplification of CDE scoring system	12/20/2016 8:05 PM
46	training for new judges and delegates ..held outside the cities	12/20/2016 10:36 AM
47	How can we tap into the youth that are so plentiful and keen in mini trots?	12/15/2016 7:44 PM
48	coaching days held at various locations	12/15/2016 2:34 PM
49	A good survey - has taken 6 minutes to complete	11/10/2016 12:34 PM
#	Suggestion	Date
1	Insurance - as per my comment earlier	3/31/2017 1:11 PM

2	ACDS needs to stop senior members back stabbing other members when they were NOT present at meetings etc.	2/23/2017 4:23 PM
3	encouragement if an experienced driver or club wants to put on something to encourage others	2/13/2017 12:40 PM
4	More inclusion for all disciplines - not just CDE	2/11/2017 3:23 PM
5	A list of members willing to provide temporary equine, canine and/or human accommodation.	2/11/2017 9:25 AM
6	more financial support to small clubs that take on events	2/9/2017 8:43 PM
7	Maybe equipment which could be borrowed or hired from the ACDS so smaller clubs can hold events with the right safe equipment	1/27/2017 1:55 PM
8	More help for newly interested ones	1/23/2017 3:09 PM
9	Better governance of clubs may be needed. I am aware some 'odd' things are taking place in my club, but personally don't wish to pursue it. ACDS may need to remind club secretaries and treasures of the transparency required?	1/9/2017 9:18 AM
10	basic articles about what CDEs and Dressage involves - copy of dressage tests?	1/7/2017 11:12 PM
11	More information from the Federal Council to all members about ongoing discussions not just the final outcomes which you may agree / disagree with but have no input until after the decision has been made.	1/7/2017 8:57 PM
12	ACDS pay for training non-members as stewards for any discipline.....without them we're buggered!	1/6/2017 11:16 AM
13	More learning opportunities for the new members and these opportunities tailored to the size of the equine involved.	1/5/2017 7:47 PM
14	Schools	1/5/2017 4:45 PM
15	Improving the federal website.I don't find it very user friendly or useful	1/4/2017 4:28 PM
16	Obtain the services of Warwick Schiller.	1/2/2017 12:46 PM
17	Introductory/ Beginner training days should be compulsory annually (or bi-annually) in each state, this is probably more important than Dressage or CDE Clinics.	1/2/2017 10:25 AM
18	Compulsory publication on ACDS website of CDE results	12/20/2016 8:05 PM
19	either ph link up to state meetings, or shift them round the state...	12/20/2016 10:36 AM
20	Are we over-regulating our sport/hobby out of existence? Are CDE entry numbers these days an indication of this?	12/15/2016 7:44 PM
#	Suggestion	Date
1	Federal to be more open to members suggestions and expertise	2/11/2017 3:23 PM
2	help to get judges and trainers into rural areas	2/9/2017 8:43 PM
3	More support from state and federal level for all clubs. Please get off your pedestal and see what is happening at the club level, you might be very suprised how enthusiastic and wonderful your fellow members are.	1/27/2017 1:55 PM
4	More advertising where we can purchase products and lessons	1/23/2017 3:09 PM
5	If you keep introducing more rules to CDE, you will lose entrants as people do it for fun, not for another level of stress in their lives.	1/9/2017 9:18 AM
6	Address welfare issues on long drives and pleasure drives that do big kilometers in a day	1/7/2017 11:12 PM
7	Introductions at club level to 'a career pathway' for learning and the different opportunities for competing.	1/5/2017 7:47 PM
8	Get more involved with beed groups. We should be working with harness racing and SPPHA in particular to transition ex-racers to pleasure horses. An animal welfare win-win all round	1/4/2017 4:28 PM
9	Reduced biased against VSE's	12/20/2016 8:05 PM