



## DALBY AMATEUR PICNIC RACES HISTORY

### 1902 – 1959

The history of the Dalby Amateur Picnic Race Club dates back to early 1901, when a meeting of local pastoralists was held at Dalby's Royal Hotel, resulting in the first races being held on Easter Monday 1902 at the Dalby race track. This initial meeting, under the chairmanship of Mr. W. Grant, elected the club's first committee – president F. O Smith; vice-presidents W. Grant and A. McLeod; treasurer R. M. Morris; committee A. M. Ross, W. J. Vowles, R. Rodd, H. Franklin, H. de Stoker, D. J. Higgins and P. F. Dodkin. The honorary secretary was J. D. Ramsey. The register in the initial year showed 48 members who contributed £1/1 each.

The original members adopted a set of 21 rules, which have been added to and amended to keep up with the progress in racing and the changing nature of society in general. However, according to long time committee member and former amateur rider, Rowley Winten, the basic aims of the club remain the same.

In his words: *"The main object of the club which has stood since day one, is to promote, conduct and hold race meetings for the recreation and enjoyment of members, for the association of persons interested in or connected with horse racing, and for the improvement of the breeding of horses in Queensland"*.

The club has raced consistently since its inception apart from interruptions caused by significant world events, including the two world wars and the Great Depression. The club was in recess from 1916 – 1919 and in 1941 – 1945 due to the two World Wars and also in the years 1931 – 1933 due to the Great Depression, hence the meeting in 2012 celebrates the Centenary Meeting of the club.

Original race days were staged with grassfed horse that were 'paddocked', under strict conditions, on member's properties prior to the event and released to owners 10 days prior to the race day. All horses had to be the bona fide property of a member, or a station, the manager of which had to be a member for two months before the date of the meeting.

Strict rules also applied to riders – **Excerpt from 1949 DAPRC Rules**

*18. All horses to be ridden by members, sons of members under the age of twenty-one years, and honorary riders, who are permitted to ride by the committee.*

*20. All riders must appear in proper jockey's costume.*

  
**DALBY PICNIC RACES**  
 EST. 1902

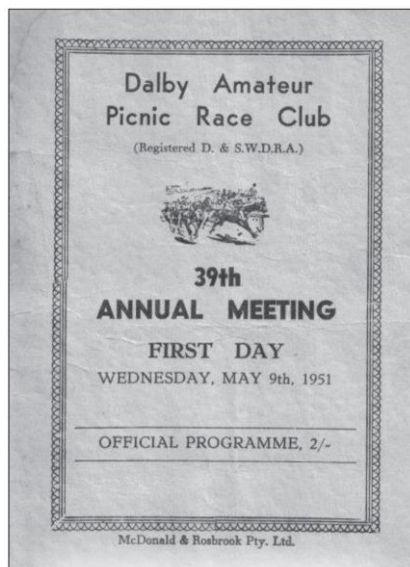
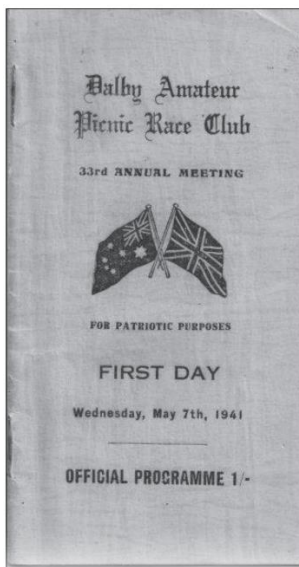
The Picnics was also the premier social event for the district. Members would invite friends from far and wide. Newspaper reports from 1930 describe patrons travelling from as far as Sydney. The week included a frantic round of dinner parties, the Calcutta, dinner dance and finally a formal ball. Members' wives spent many hours decorating St Joseph's Hall (where the Ball was first held), and later the Show Pavilion as well as the race marquee. Many local families followed the picnic race circuit throughout the region, attending meetings at Roma, Warwick, Bell, Burrandowan and Jandowae.

This period in the club's history could certainly be included in the club's "glory days". In 1959 the Dalby Benefit Race Club produced a book titled "Peeps into Dalby's Glorious Racing Past" which noted –

*"Racing folk attribute the honour of the largest and most financial amateur racing club in Queensland to the Dalby body.*

*The old tradition of amateur riders and "picnic" grassfed horses has been maintained, and they are so good that they can go further afield and win.*

*Features of the club's doings are the large fields and the brilliant social events."*



**WINNERS DALBY A.P.R.C. BRACELET**

**ONE MILE AND A QUARTER (CORNFED)**

1908	Miss O'Brien's Highland Boy, 11.12	Time 2.18 4/5
1909	Mrs. E. G. Bloom's Shrew, 10.0	Time 2.23
1910	Miss F. Morris' Miracle, 10.11	Time 2.24 2/5
1911	Mrs. T. Connelly's Rawson, 10.12	Time 2.18 1/5
1912	Mrs. T. Connelly's Cavity, 10.7	Time 2.17 3/5
1913	Mrs. Hanley's Habana, 10.12	Time 2.24 1/5
1914	Mrs. S. A. Taylor's Blue Quilt, 11.5	Time 2.17 4/5
1915	Mrs. S. A. Taylor's Blue Streamer, 10.5	Time 2.18
1920	Mrs. S. A. Taylor's Ross Rifle, 10.0	Time 2.26
1921	Mrs. N. R. Fogarty's Ross Rifle, 10.8	Time 2.16 1/5
1922	Mrs. S. A. Taylor's Glenross, 10.2	Time 2.16
1923	Mrs. S. A. Taylor's Glenross, 11.8	Time 2.15
1924	Mrs. L. W. Harpham's Lady Caro, 11.4	Time 1.46 1/3*
1925	Mrs. W. K. Thompson's Black Stripe, 10.4	Time 2.20
1926	Mrs. C. P. Murray's Modest Favourite, 11.9	Time 2.12
1927	Mrs. L. W. Harpham's Gordon Blew, 10.4	Time 1.45 2/5
1928	Mrs. F. A. Bowman's Faristan, 10.6	Time 1.44
1929	Mrs. J. Sparkes' Kenil Led, 10.0	Time 1.43 4/5
1930	Mrs. S. A. Taylor's Doubletuss, 10.0	Time 1.44
1934	Mrs. Tom Kennedy's Waiweer, 10.10	Time 1.51 2/5
1935	Mrs. J. Henderson's Bay Tanya, 10.0	Time 1.43 4/5
1936	Mrs. E. P. Henderson's Bay Tanya, 10.13	Time 1.46
1937	Mrs. Roy Winton's Ross Veil, 10.2	Time 1.45 2/5
<b>ALTERED TO 9 FURLONGS FROM 1938</b>		
1938	Mrs. J. D. Allen's Ross Cannon, 11.6	Time 1.57 3/5†
1939	Mrs. C. O. Frith's Forty Bob, 11.6	Time 1.59
1940	Mrs. Roy Winton's Country Gossip, 11.2	Time 1.57 1/5
1941	Mrs. C. O. Frith's Wallet, 11.3	Time 1.58 4/5
1946	Mrs. M. A. Winton's Midwinter, 10.10	Time 1.59 2/5
1947	Mrs. C. O. Frith's Donette, 10.0	Time 1.57 1/5
1948	Mrs. G. P. Warby's Pugnacious, 11.0	Time 1.59
1949	Mrs. M. Russell's Miles Scandiah, 11.10	Time 1.58 3/5
1950	Mrs. W. J. Warby's Stromboli, 10.2	Time 1.58 1/5
1951	Mrs. G. A. Warby's Stromboli, 11.4	Time 1.59
1952	Mrs. W. J. Warby's Ostilla, 10.0	Time 1.56 1/5
1953	Mrs. W. J. Warby's Boy Foot, 10.5	Time 1.59
1954	Mrs. A. G. Adam's Rimming, 10.11	Time 1.55
1955	Mrs. E. V. Comerford's Junborough, 10.0	Time 2.1
1956	Mrs. G. A. Warby's Nizadan, 10.5	Time 2.7
1957	Mrs. E. V. Comerford's Junborough, 11.4	Time 1.53 2/5
1958	Mrs. G. F. Warby's Panama Jack, 11.9	Time 1.57
1959	Mrs. J. A. Comerford's Rimford, 10.13	Time 1.57 3/5

**Image (left):** 1941 Racebook Cover

**Image (middle):** 1951 Racebook Cover

**Image (right):** Bracelet Results 1908 – 1959