



Blue Bandage Polocrosse – Designed to introduce new players and welcome back former players to enjoy polocrosse in a fun environment.

Blue Bandage Polocrosse – Getting Started

**Come and try our new Non-Contact Blue Bandage Polocrosse.
We are all about having fun with your family and friends.**

- Learn new skills
- Improve on your horsemanship
- Learn to play polocrosse at your own pace.

Check your gear, ready to practice and play; - You will need

Your horse:

- ✓ **Horse:** Polocrosse horses come in all sorts of shapes, sizes and breeds. There is no right or wrong type of horse. It is however recommended they be over 11h. Most horses can play polocrosse. If you are concerned that your horse won't like it, Blue Bandage is the perfect way to introduce your horse. If your horse is having trouble taking the racquet or being around other horses our accredited coaches who will be working with you can give you some pointers that you can try on the day and practice at home.
- ✓ **Saddle:** Can be an English (flat/polo) saddle or a stock saddle, must have a breastplate. A combination girth/surcingle is recommended. *Roping saddles or those with a horn are not permitted.*
- ✓ **Bridle:** All horses must be played in a bridle with a bit in mouth and reins attached to the bit. Bits with protruding side bars cannot be used.
- ✓ **Reins:** Must be joined.
- ✓ **Bandages:** All four legs.
- ✓ **Bell Boots:** All four feet.
- ✓ **Other gear:** Martingales and head checks are permitted.
- ✓ **Tails:** If you want to plait the tail it will need to be secured otherwise unplaited and free flowing.

Unsure on how to bandage a horse, put a bell boot or a plait your horse's tail, that's ok with Blue Bandage Polocrosse there will be someone to show you how.

Yourself:

- ✓ **Trousers:** No uniform required when playing Blue Bandage Polocrosse.
- ✓ **Club shirt:** You can borrow or buy these from your club. If you decide to upgrade and play White Bandage Polocrosse you will need white pants and a club shirt.
- ✓ **Footwear:** Riding boots long or short.
- ✓ **Helmet:** Current Australian standard AS/NZS 3838 (2006 onwards), provided they are SAI Global marked. New Australian standard ARB HS 2012 provided they SAI Global marked 2.
- ✓ **Faceguards or mouth guard:** Mouth Guards and face guards are not compulsory for Blue Bandage players. However, Polocrosse Australia strongly encourage under 16 players to wear a faceguard.

- ✓ **Racquet:** Any length permitted, and you can borrow one from the club.
- ✓ **Spurs:** If using, no sharp rowels.
- ✓ **Whip:** If using, no longer than 100cm and must have a flapper.

Now you are ready:

- On arrival unload your horses and head for the Canteen/secretary's office. If unsure where this is, there is always a friendly face around to point you in the right direction.
- The registration is quick and easy you can do it before you come, or it can be done on the day. Visit our website; bluebandagepolocrosse.org.au
- Check out your state flyer contacts for the annual fees (Jan to Dec). The club may charge a small participation fee for the day (\$5 to \$20).
- Once the club has established how many players in the Blue Bandage for the day, you will be put into teams and coached through the games.
- All umpires are accredited coaches so if you feel your horse may need some help to adjust to the polocrosse racquet or being around other horses, we can organise the day to suit you and your horse's needs.
- In between your games you will be able get lunch from the canteen (or you can bring your own). There is also a bar on grounds for those over 18, so feel free to have a beverage at the end of the day and mingle.
- Blue Bandage will finish in the afternoon and you can go home or camp. If you decide to stay and camp the night, you will need panels or a yard, as Polocrosse horses are not allowed to be tied up at night. Also, no electric fences are permitted.
- There will be lots of people around to give you some help if you need any.
- Most carnival venues have some yards for use.

What else do I need to know?

- When you first arrive, white bandage polocrosse (full weekend competition) may have already started, don't panic!
- Blue Bandage is one day fun day for the family or individual. We have made the start time a bit later so it's easier to get organised on Saturday (or Sunday) morning.
- Blue Bandage is not the same as a come and try day, once a Blue Bandage member you can play all year at participating carnivals.

See you on the field.