

International Mounted Games Exchange 2015

I was lucky enough to have been selected earlier on in the year to represent Australia for the International Mounted Games Exchange for 2015.

On the 9th of July my journey began, where I set off to meet my 4 other team mates, coach and chaperone. We spent a couple of days in New South Wales, training and getting to know each other the best we could.

The day came that I had been waiting for, the big flight over to the United States of America. This was a big feat for me, leaving my family behind and travelling with people I met only days before, but it was also a great way to try something new and take a new adventure.

Once landing in America it was great meeting people from different countries, the opposing teams were Great Britain, Canada and America. The first week was just sightseeing, we stayed with several American families and seeing how they live everyday life which was a different but great experience at the same time. It was also great getting to know the different countries and how they live.

Our journey was coming to a close, but we had to do one more thing before we set off home, which was to show off Australia's talent and that we weren't giving up without a fight. Fair to say the competition was tight throughout the whole competition. The final scores were read out, America, 4th place, Canada, 3rd place, Great Britain, 2nd place, Australia 1st place. This made us International Champions for the International Mounted Games Exchange for 2015. We were so surprised but at the same time honoured to win.

My highlight of the trip would have to be meeting people living in another part of the world and seeing how they live everyday life. Throughout the trip I experienced how different people talk, eat and live. Yes, it was hard to leave my family and friends but once I was over there, I was too amazed by all the exciting things we did and saw to even get home sick. I would like to say to each and every one of you guys and girls who are given an opportunity like this to jump at it and experience it because this was definitely an experience that will stick with me forever.

I feel very honoured to not just have been able to represent my pony club or Tasmania but also Australia. I would like to take this moment to thank a few people in particular. To my wonderful family and friends, thank you for supporting and guiding me in the lead up and on this trip. Also another massive Kentish Pony Club for their donations and support. I would like to thank pony club Australia for organising such a successful event, also to my team mates, coach and chaperon. Finally, thank you to the entire community for all their generous support and donations. It's because of the excellent support from community my dream of a life time was able to come true.

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