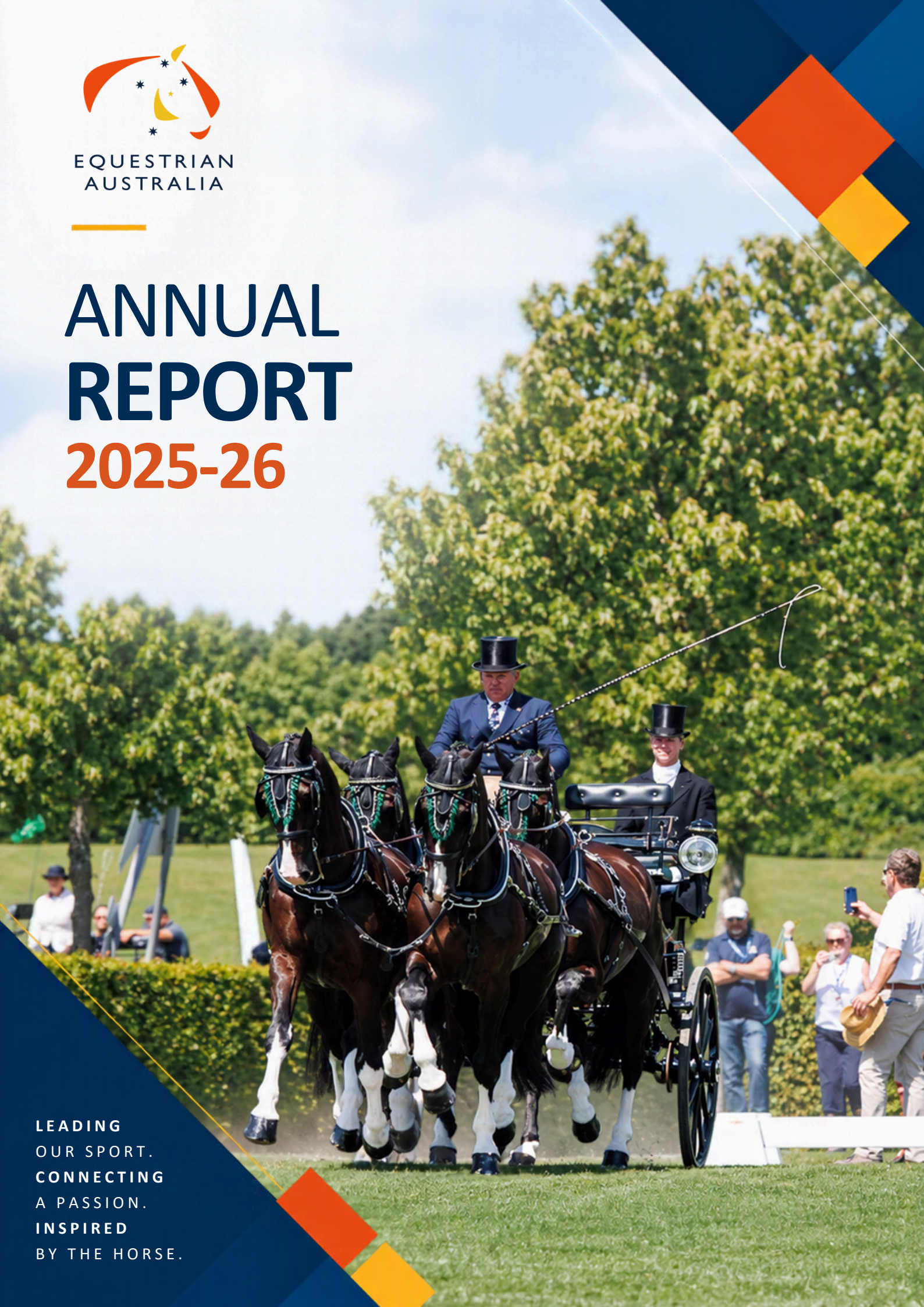
EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA

# ANNUAL REPORT 2025-26



**LEADING**
OUR SPORT.
**CONNECTING**
A PASSION.
**INSPIRED**
BY THE HORSE.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Equestrian Australia acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands across Australia where we are privileged to live, work and ride.

We recognise and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's continuing connection to culture and Country.

We pay our respects to the Elders past, present and emerging, who are the custodians of the stories, traditions, and culture of First Nations people.

We remember always, that this land was, and always will be, another's Dreaming.



# OUR VISION, PURPOSE & VALUES

## Vision Statement

A thriving and safe sport, uniting the equestrian community.

## Purpose Statement

Leading our sport. Connecting a passion. Inspired by the horse.

### VALUE 1: TEAMWORK

Teamwork means collaborating across clubs, disciplines, states, territories, and the broader equestrian community to achieve shared goals. In practice, we communicate openly, support one another, respect differing perspectives, and work harmoniously to strengthen and grow the sport together.

### VALUE 2: INTEGRITY

Integrity means doing what we say, acting transparently, and making ethical decisions in the best interests of the sport. In practice, this means being accountable for our actions, applying rules fairly and consistently, prioritising horse welfare, and maintaining the trust of members, participants, officials, volunteers, and stakeholders.

### VALUE 3: INCLUSION

Inclusion means creating a welcoming, accessible, and respectful environment where everyone feels a sense of belonging. In practice, we value all people equally, encourage participation from diverse communities, remove barriers where possible, and foster a culture where every member can contribute and succeed.

### VALUE 4: EXCELLENCE

Excellence means striving for continuous improvement, innovation, and high performance in everything we do. In practice, we embrace best practice, make courageous decisions for the long-term benefit of the sport, focus on meaningful outcomes, and pursue excellence from grassroots participation through to elite performance.

# OUR VISION, PURPOSE & VALUES

## Our 10-Year Strategy

Our values are the foundation of Equestrian Australia's Nationally Aligned Strategy and support the delivery of its three strategic pillars: Strong Foundations, Sustainable Growth and Excellence in Performance. By demonstrating Teamwork, Integrity, Inclusion, and Excellence in our daily actions and decision making, we create the culture needed to strengthen governance, grow participation, improve experiences for horses and people, and achieve long-term success across the sport.



PILLAR 1

**Strong Foundations**



PILLAR 2

**Sustainable Growth**



PILLAR 3

**Excellence in Performance**

## Towards Brisbane 2032

As we look towards Brisbane 2032, our values will guide how we prepare our athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, and horses while building a stronger, more connected equestrian community. Together, they will help ensure a lasting legacy for the sport across Australia.



**2026**

FEI World Championships Aachen 2026

**2028**

LA2028 Olympic & Paralympic Games

**2030**

FEI World Championships 2030

**2032**

**Brisbane 2032 Olympic & Paralympic Games**

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# YEAR AT A GLANCE

## A National Equestrian Community

Equestrian Australia is a national community connected by a shared passion for horses and equestrian sport.

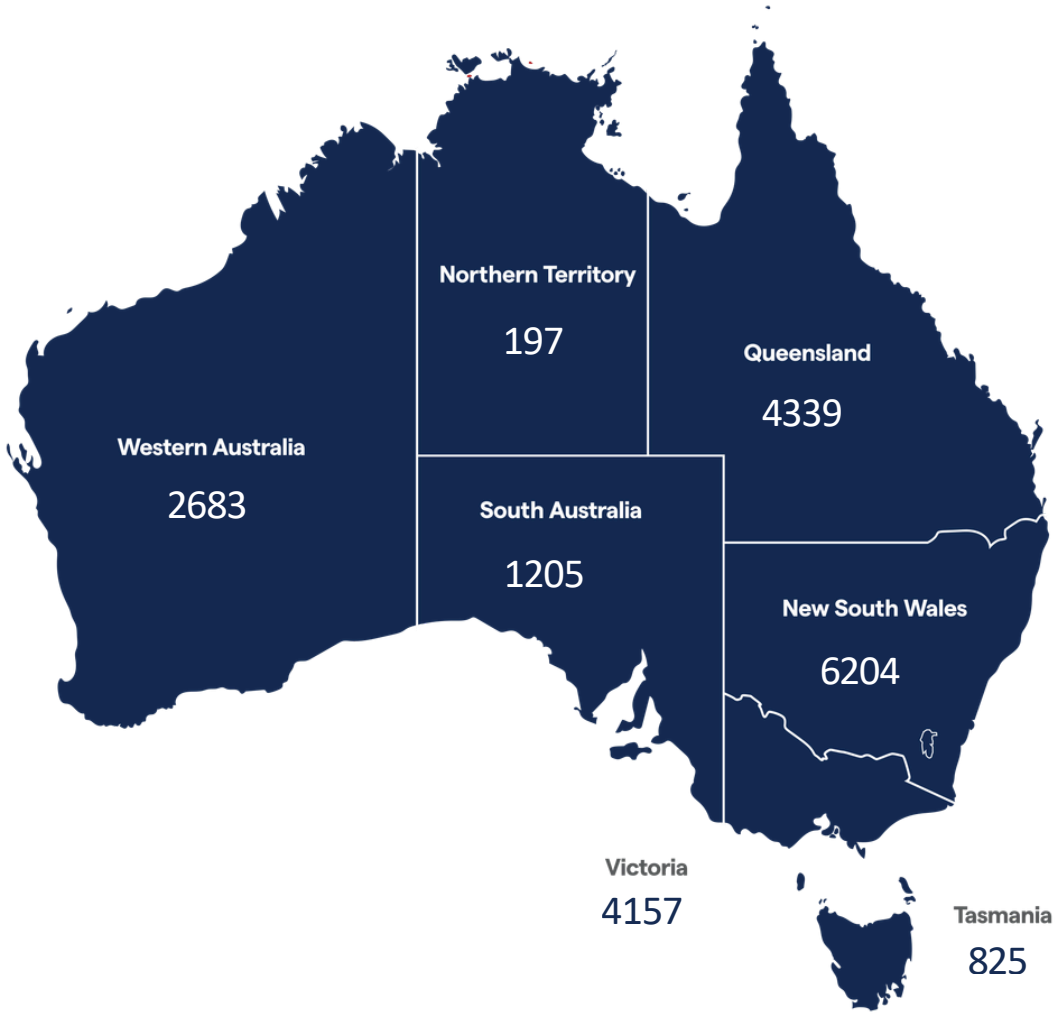
Across 2025-26, members participated through clubs, competitions, education, coaching, officiating and volunteering, while EA's digital channels continued to connect the community with information, opportunities and activity across the sport.

This snapshot captures the scale of that community and participation across Australia during 2025-26.

MEMBERS
19610

AFFILIATED CLUBS
651

EVENTS
321




## Membership across Australia

EA's membership community extended across every State and Territory, with 19,610 members recorded across the seven State and Territory organisations in the supplied 2025-26 data.

# YEAR AT A GLANCE

**1,061** TOTAL OFFICIALS IN 2025-26

### Officials

Officials play a vital role in the successful delivery of equestrian sport. EA recorded 1,061 officials nationally in 2025-26.

**799** TOTAL ACCREDITED COACHES IN 2025-26

### Coaches

EA recorded 799 accredited coaches in 2025-26. Coaches support athletes and participants across introductory, participation, competition and high performance pathways.

**321** TOTAL EVENTS IN 2025-26

### Clubs & Events

Clubs remain at the heart of equestrian participation, providing local opportunities for competition, education, volunteering and connection. The supplied State and Territory data records 321 events during 2025-26.

**102.9K** FOLLOWERS & SUBSCRIBERS ACROSS EA CHANNELS

### Digital Engagement

EA's digital channels connect the equestrian community with news, education, events, results and opportunities. As at October 2026, Equestrian Australia had more than 102,000 followers and subscribers across its digital channels.

# 10-YEAR STRATEGY PROGRESS

### Excellence in Performance Update

FY26 activities continued to support the strategic objective of providing pathway opportunities and preparing Australian athletes, coaches, officials and horses through world-class practices and processes. Focus areas included high performance pathways, coach and official development, competition delivery, and strengthening systems to support performance outcomes across all levels of the sport.

### Strong Foundations Update

Progress was made in strengthening governance, integrity, safety, horse welfare and organisational alignment. Continued focus was placed on creating clearer roles and responsibilities between Equestrian Australia and the State Branches, improving service delivery, and supporting clubs and members through nationally aligned approaches.

Significant progress was achieved through the implementation and ongoing enhancement of the EA Member Portal, providing a modern platform for memberships, horse registrations, accreditations, event management and member communications. Additional functionality introduced or progressed included digital membership services, family membership linking, club management tools, calendar integration capabilities and automated credential management. The website and digital communication channels continued to support improved member access to information and services.

### Sustainable Growth Update

FY26 initiatives focused on increasing participation, strengthening member services, enhancing education opportunities, supporting quality events, and improving organisational capability to support long-term growth. Growth activities sought to improve engagement across the equestrian community while building future sustainability.

Work continued to improve organisational clarity, define responsibilities and support nationally aligned service delivery. Strategic efforts focused on reducing duplication, strengthening decision making processes, and exploring models that support long-term financial sustainability and operational efficiency across the sport.

Communication activities prioritised transparency, member awareness and stakeholder engagement. Key initiatives included digital updates, website improvements, member communications regarding system changes, consultation activities and ongoing engagement with clubs, officials, coaches and participants to support strategic priorities and organisational change.

Consultation feedback continued to reinforce the importance of clear communication, strong governance, horse welfare, grassroots participation, education opportunities and improved member services. This feedback informed ongoing strategic initiatives, digital improvements and organisational planning activities.

# 10-YEAR STRATEGY PROGRESS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Excellence in Performance** | 🟡 **In Progress** | **Evidence**: Pathway and capability initiatives underway |
| **Strong Foundations** | 🟢 **On Track** | **Evidence**: Governance, integrity, safety and welfare programs progressing |
| **Sustainable Growth** | 🟡 **In Progress** | **Evidence**: Participation, education and member service initiatives continuing |



# CHAIR'S REPORT

Dear Members,

FY26 was a year of meaningful progress for Equestrian Australia as we strengthened the foundations for a more connected, sustainable and high-performing sport. Guided by our Nationally Aligned Strategy, the Board focused on governance reform, closer collaboration with State Branches, improved member services and responsible stewardship of resources. These efforts reflect our commitment to a thriving and safe sport that unites the equestrian community, while building the capability, confidence and shared direction needed for the journey towards Brisbane 2032 and beyond.

## Strategic Progress

FY26 represented another important step in delivering the objectives of the Nationally Aligned Strategy. Progress continued across the strategic pillars of Strong Foundations, Sustainable Growth, and Excellence in Performance, with a focus on strengthening governance, improving member services, enhancing stakeholder collaboration, and supporting long-term sustainability across the sport.

## Governance Reform Progress

The Board launched the Governance Workplan developed in response to the Australian Sports Commission Independent Governance Review. The Workplan establishes a clear roadmap for governance reform, focusing on strengthening accountability, improving organisational effectiveness, clarifying roles and responsibilities, enhancing decision making processes, and supporting a nationally aligned approach across the sport.

The launch of the Workplan reflects the Board's commitment to implementing contemporary governance practices and positioning the organisation for long-term sustainability and success.

## State Branch Relationships

Collaboration between national and state bodies continued to strengthen through the nationally aligned approach. Regular engagement supported greater consistency in member services, strategic planning, system implementation, communications, and shared priorities, reflecting a collective commitment to advancing the sport together.

A significant governance milestone was achieved at the 2025 Annual General Meeting with the formal recognition of the Northern Territory as a Branch. This change reflects the ongoing commitment to a nationally aligned structure and ensures representation of the Northern Territory within the governance framework of the sport. The amendment demonstrates the Board's commitment to ensuring that all members, regardless of location, are recognised and supported.

## Sporting Highlights

The year saw continued participation and achievement across all disciplines, supported by athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, organisers and clubs throughout Australia. Key highlights included the delivery of quality events, development pathway opportunities, and preparation of athletes and horses for future national and international competition.

# CHAIR'S REPORT

## Financial Position

The organisation maintained its focus on long-term sustainability by supporting efficient operations, responsible financial management, and investment in strategic priorities that strengthen services for members and the broader equestrian community. Financial decisions continued to be guided by the objective of creating a sustainable platform for future growth and performance. When the Board took office in December 2025, it placed a strong focus on reducing expenditure. With the support of management, costs were reduced by approximately $400,000, excluding High Performance.

## Acknowledgements

We acknowledge and thank our members, athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers, clubs, sponsors, partners, state branches, committees, staff and stakeholders for their passion, commitment and contribution throughout the year. The collective efforts of all involved in the sport continue to strengthen the equestrian community and support the ongoing success of the sport across Australia.

## Looking Ahead

Looking forward, our focus remains on delivering the strategic vision of a thriving and safe sport that unites the equestrian community. Through continued collaboration, strong governance, sustainable growth initiatives, digital transformation, and performance excellence, we will continue building a stronger future for the sport as we progress towards Brisbane 2032 and beyond.

**Nicholas Ballard**

Chair of the Board of Directors
Equestrian Australia Limited



# CEO'S REPORT

Dear Members,
Over the past twelve months, the EA Board and the Executive team have stabilised Equestrian Australia (EA) and the sport. This work has laid the foundation for the positive change that is essential for the long-term sustainability of the sport.

## ASC Review

In December 2025 the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) delivered the Equestrian Australia Independent Review (the Review) to the EA Board. The Review identified themes that required immediate action and a long-term focus by EA. The Review provided 43 recommendations across the themes of Governance, Risk Management and Integrity and Complaints Management. The intention of the Review was to ensure that EA has the appropriate governance structures and practices in place to deliver safe, inclusive and enjoyable experiences for participants, to achieve high performance outcomes, and to safeguard the future of the sport. The Review also noted that work on several recommendations had already begun or been completed.

## Governance Workplan

In response to the Review, EA agreed a Governance work plan with the ASC to deliver governance improvements over the next three years. Changes already made include a revised Board Charter and a co-designed Leadership Charter. The Leadership Charter has been signed by the EA Board and Management, every State Branch Chair and CEO, and the National Discipline Committee Chairs.

## Better alignment and cooperation with State Branch's

Over the last 12 months EA have undertaken significant stakeholder engagement with the State Branch Chairs, Boards and CEOs to better align our values, purpose and strategy between the organisations.

Development of the new **10-year Strategy** continues following two successful ASC-facilitated Strategy Workshops with the EA Board, State Branch Chairs and National Discipline Committee Chairs. The strategy will be launched in 2027. It will guide the sport's development and growth and help leverage the once-in-a-generation opportunities arising from hosting the Olympic Games in Brisbane in 2032.

While we have made significant advances, we remain focused on building strong relationships with State Branch Chairs, their Boards and CEO's and take a member centric approach to decision making.

## Integrity

Following extensive engagement with the State Branch Chairs, Boards and CEO's it was confirmed that EA will lead the national Integrity program.

We then undertook restructuring and increased the resourcing to the Integrity team which has reduced the number of Integrity complaints at the organisation for the last 6 years and reduced the time to completion of many integrity matters.

# CEO'S REPORT

The organisation also moved to a new reporting platform in March, and regular reporting has been provided to State Branches and will be made available to members moving forward.

We have worked with Sports Integrity Australia to develop a suite of policy documents to create a safe, welcoming and fair sport. These documents also provide consequences for people who attempt to harass, bully and intimidate members of the equestrian community or are found to have abused or mistreated horses.

We remain focused on reducing the current level of integrity complaints. To help prevent future complaints, we are also focused on developing and implementing the national education program and on the role, members play in creating a better, safer and fairer sport.

### Better communication with Members and Clubs

EA undertook an inaugural national Club and Member survey to ensure that we are listening to members, and this is informing the development of our new 10-year Strategy.

We have also focused on delivering better communications to our members and better profiled our high-performance team and athletes.

### NSO Recognition – An important milestone

I'm very pleased to report that the extensive work undertaken by EA over the last 12 months, but particularly over the last 7 months, meant that EA received confirmation of our National Sports Organisation (NSO) Recognition from the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) subject to continuing to meet all of the obligations of an NSO and, in our case, the Review.

Importantly, this allows EA to remain a National Federation of the FEI. We also received confirmation of our High Performance Able Bodied and Para funding for the next two years and we received a small increase in our Play Well funding. The NSO status confirmation and funding support demonstrates the growing confidence that the ASC and the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) have in our people, programs and organisation.

### Digital Transformation and Member Experience

One of the most significant pieces of work during the year was the launch and ongoing development of the EA Member Portal. As reported in the last Annual Report, EA selected JustGo to replace Nominate following an open and transparent tender process. The new platform provides a modern national system supporting memberships, horse registrations, accreditations, event management and member communications. Work during the year also progressed digital membership services, family membership linking, club management tools, calendar integration and automated credential management.

This was a major transition for the organisation and the wider equestrian community. We recognise that the change has not always been straightforward and the member experience, functionality and historical data has been impacted by the failure of Nominate to provide EA with the member data as it was required to do at the conclusion of its contract with EA. Our focus remains on securing your member data from Nominate and continuing to improve the system and the member experience. We will continue to report to members on our progress.

# CEO'S REPORT

### Financial Sustainability and Viability

The member survey indicated that members want to ensure the financial viability of the sport and the affordability of their participation in the sport.
EA's budget is in deficit this year because of the costs of launching the new EA Member Portal, legal costs associated with protecting and recovering member data held by the previous IT supplier and its Director. The deficit has been met from EA's cash reserves derived from the sale of the EA office premises, as set out in the Audited Financial Statements contained in the Annual Report.

The EA cash reserves constitute 3 months operating costs, which aligns with the Australian Sports Commission's recommendations.

Within the approved budget, we made changes to reduce the organisation's operational costs and create greater efficiencies for members. We also changed our insurance provider to address identified risks and provide a better experience for members. As previously reported, this change followed an Expression of Interest process.

Although this falls outside the reporting period, I'm pleased to report that, EA we are looking at turning around the $850K deficit and are track to deliver a small budget surplus. This reflects detailed work on the FY27 budget with the State Branches, the Fees & Levies Committee, the Finance Risk and Audit Committee and the EA Board, together with organisational restructures, a change of insurance provider, the appointment of a new auditor and stringent cost controls.

### Thanks and acknowledgements

I would like to acknowledge the support provided by the Australian Federal Government and acknowledge our partnership with The Australian Sports Commission, the Australian Institute of Sport and our State Institute Partners.

I want to sincerely thank and acknowledge the State Branch Chairs, Boards, CEO's and staff together with all the volunteers, officials, and members who contribute so much of their time, effort and skill to support our equestrian community.

I would like to thank the Equestrian Australia Board, Board subcommittees and national Discipline Committees for their leadership of the organisation and for Equestrian in Australia.

Finally, I would like to thank my Senior Management Team and all the passionate and hard-working staff members of Equestrian Australian for their dedication and commitment to supporting and growing equestrian in Australia.

**Ben Houston**
Chief Executive Officer
Equestrian Australia Limited



# MESSAGES OF SUPPORT

## AUSTRALIAN SPORTS COMMISSION

The Australian Sports Commission (ASC) continues to drive Australian sport forward, helping it grow and deliver lasting benefits for communities across the nation.

From grassroots participation and community sport to high performance, we work alongside the sector to create positive environments where everyone can succeed.

We are committed to ensuring sport is safe, fair, inclusive and accessible, with every athlete supported to realise their full potential.

As we look ahead, we remain focused on ensuring Australians can access quality sporting experiences and that our sporting system empowers people to develop, achieve and perform at their best, both on and off the field.

This includes investing in athletes, coaches, officials and organisations through our grant programs, and helping young Australians experience sport for the first time through initiatives like our Sporting Schools program.

Through the Play Well and Win Well national sport strategies, we continue to build a stronger, more connected sporting system that expands opportunities for participation while supporting athletes to deliver elite performances in exceptional environments.

Our performances at the Milano Cortina Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games and Glasgow Commonwealth Games reflected the dedication of athletes, coaches, support staff and sporting organisations across the country, and demonstrated our collective commitment to win well.

Looking to the future, those same values will guide Australian sport through Los Angeles 2028, the French Alps 2030, the Amdavad Commonwealth Games and Brisbane 2032.

Supported by the Australian Government's recent $513 million investment in sport, we are helping athletes pursue success at the highest level while strengthening the systems, people and infrastructure that will support Australian sport for years to come.

This includes continued investment in the Para Uplift, creating greater opportunities and support for Para athletes across the country.

The AIS Podium Project is now underway, transforming the AIS campus through its most significant redevelopment since opening more than four decades ago. Backed by a $249.7 million Australian Government investment, the project will deliver contemporary facilities and support services that strengthen the AIS as Australia's home of high performance sport.

# MESSAGES OF SUPPORT

This includes a new world-class Testing and Training Centre, a 24/7 Indoor Sports Dome and Australia's most accessible athlete accommodation.

I am confident that our collective commitment to Australian sport will continue to strengthen communities, inspire achievement and create positive outcomes for generations to come.

## Kate Jenkins AO

Chair
Australian Sports Commission



# MESSAGES OF SUPPORT

## PARALYMPICS AUSTRALIA

The past 12 months have given us much to appreciate in Australian Para equestrian, from advances in classification and specialist equipment to the continued development of emerging Para athletes. Behind that progress is the dedication of people working to ensure the sport continues to grow, and our talent has every opportunity to succeed.

One particularly welcome development has been the introduction of specialist saddle fitting technology, supported by Paralympics Australia through the Para Sport Equipment Enhancement Program (PEEP).

The PEEP investment in a Tactilus Equestrics pressure mapping system offers valuable insights into how an athlete sits, moves and distributes their weight in the saddle. This information can help coaches make more informed decisions about equipment and training, benefitting riders at different stages of their careers.

We have also been pleased to assist individual athletes with specialised boots, adapted reins and other equipment. These are relatively modest investments, but each responds to a particular need and is aimed at a targeted performance outcome to ensure our resources stretch as far as possible.

Alongside these investments in equipment, it has been encouraging to see the continued development of classification expertise within Australian Para equestrian.

During the year, 44 athlete presentations for physical impairment classification took place across nine national and international events, while three new National Classifiers successfully completed their training requirements.

I also congratulate Susannah Neame on becoming a Level 2 International Classifier, a significant achievement that further strengthens Australia's expertise in the sport.

Shortly after the reporting period, Sharyn Gregory received the International Paralympic Committee's Classification Recognition Award. Sharyn has spent almost three decades contributing to Para equestrian, both in Australia and internationally, and has been generous in sharing her knowledge with others. Her recognition is thoroughly deserved, and I congratulate her warmly.

Australia's representatives at the 2026 World Para Dressage Championships in Aachen also deserve recognition, particularly Mietta Innes-Irons, the team's sole debutant at World Championship level. The experience gained by the entire squad will be valuable as Australia works towards qualification for Los Angeles 2028.

Beyond Los Angeles, the prospect of our home Paralympic Games in Brisbane in 2032 brings both excitement and responsibility.

The Australian Government's historic investment in Para sport, including the Para System Uplift, gives us an opportunity to address longstanding challenges and build a stronger sporting system for the years ahead.

# MESSAGES OF SUPPORT

For Para equestrian, making the most of that investment means recognising the particular demands of the sport, where an athlete's preparation is inseparable from that of their horse. Decisions about specialist equipment, expertise and athlete development must draw on the knowledge of those who understand those demands firsthand.

I extend my sincere thanks to Equestrian Australia's Board, staff and Para high performance program, led by Nick Hunter, for their dedication to our athletes. I also acknowledge Equine Pathways Australia and the many coaches, classifiers, volunteers and families whose contributions deserve our appreciation and respect.

Paralympics Australia greatly values its partnership with Equestrian Australia - we share a commitment to the continued development of Australian Para equestrian and to giving our athletes, coaches, grooms, other program contributors and of course, horses and owners, the support and engagement they require to achieve our shared ambitions.

With the foundations being put in place now for 2032, I look forward to building on that work together in the years ahead.

## Cameron Murray

Chief Executive Officer
Paralympics Australia



# MESSAGES OF SUPPORT

## AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

2026 has been a big year for the Australian Olympic Movement, and I want to start by thanking Equestrian Australia, its state branches and the wider equestrian community for everything you do for your sport and for the welfare of your horses.

For the AOC, the year began in February with Milano Cortina 2026. Having been Chef de Mission for six Australian Olympic Winter Teams, it was a particularly rewarding to see our Team win six medals, three of them gold, our best Olympic Winter Games result. That Team was also the first to benefit from the AOC's new $20 million Olympian Futures Fund, part of our $50 million commitment to Olympians through to Brisbane 2032.

In May, Member Sports endorsed our ten-year Strategy, A Decade of Opportunity, which puts Olympians and Member Sports at the centre of our work. In June, the Australian Government committed $513 million to sport, including record high performance funding for the next two years, and we launched our 'Stretch' Reconciliation Action Plan. We continue to build philanthropy opportunities and in 2027 we will launch the Green and Gold Fund to give sports, coaches and athletes further support in their Games preparation.

This year marked 70 years since the Melbourne 1956 Olympic Games, when Australia's quarantine laws meant the equestrian events had to be held in Stockholm.

In August, your sport gave us plenty to celebrate at the World Championships in Aachen. Australia secured a dressage team place for LA28, and Boyd Exell won his eighth consecutive individual Driving World Championship, adding team silver with Tor van den Berge. Congratulations to all of them.

Show jumper Molly Mooney has been selected to represent Australia at the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games, the first Olympic event held in Africa. She follows Jake Hunter, individual bronze medallist at Nanjing 2014, and Madeline Sinderberry at Buenos Aires 2018. Congratulations to Molly and everyone who helped her get there.

Riders of Molly's generation may get the chance to compete at a home Games in Brisbane 2032. Through Australia's Competitive Advantage, we are working with the AIS, Member Sports and our partners to make sure that opportunity leaves a lasting advantage for Australian athletes. Thank you to Equestrian Australia for being part of that work. I look forward to working with you in the years ahead.

### Ian Chesterman AM

President
Australian Olympic Committe

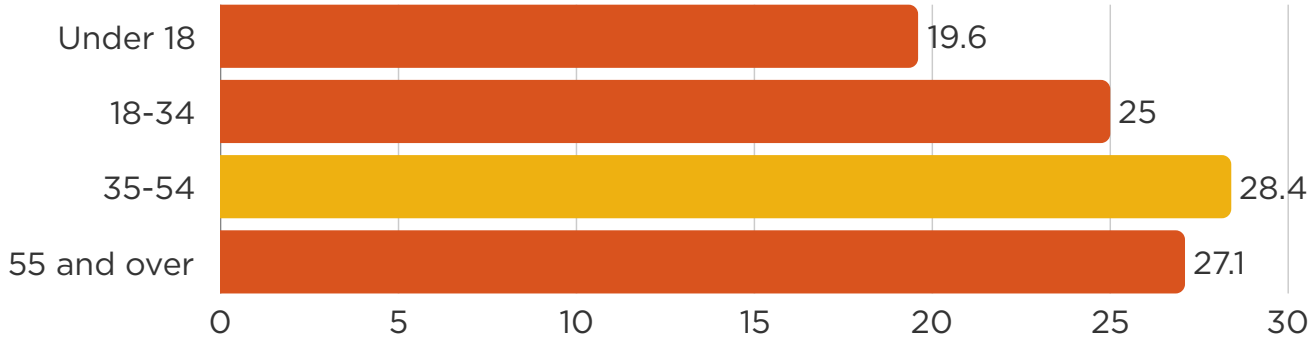


# MEMBERSHIP & PARTICIPATION DATA

| 39 | 2-90 | 17,063 |
|---|---|---|
| MEDIAN MEMBER AGE | AGE RANGE OF MEMBERS | MEMBERS WITH A RECORDED AGE |

## Age Profile

**1 in 5 members is under 18 · more than half are 35+**




## Recorded Gender



| 83.6% | 9.1% | 4.7% |
|---|---|---|
| WOMAN OR FEMALE | MAN OR MALE | OTHER RECORDED RESPONSES INCLUDING NON-BINARY 0.1% |

# OFFICIALS

Officials play a vital role in the successful delivery of equestrian sport at every level. Their knowledge, experience and commitment help ensure competitions are conducted consistently, fairly and in accordance with the rules and standards of each discipline.

Throughout 2025–26, Equestrian Australia continued to support the development of officials through education, accreditation and professional development opportunities. This included national and international education activities, facilitator development and the continued expansion of resources designed to support officials across the sport.

A particular focus has been on creating more accessible and consistent learning opportunities, including online education and resources that complement practical experience and discipline-specific development.

EA acknowledges the significant contribution made by officials across Australia. Many give considerable time and expertise to support events, athletes, horses and the broader equestrian community. Their continued development is an important part of maintaining the quality, integrity and sustainability of the sport.

### Officials by State

| State | Officials Numbers |
|---|---|
| New South Wales | 318 |
| Northern Territory | 15 |
| Queensland | 208 |
| South Australia | 81 |
| Tasmania | 79 |
| Victoria | 225 |
| Western Australia | 135 |
| Total | 1,061 |



# OFFICIALS

## Officials by Function

| Function | Officials Numbers |
|---|---|
| Dressage | 826 |
| Driving | 28 |
| Endurance | 16 |
| Eventing | 244 |
| Jumping | 416 |
| Measuring | 47 |
| Medication Control | 56 |
| Para Dressage | 110 |
| Show Horse | 187 |
| Vaulting | 21 |
| Total | 1,951 |

*Officials numbers by level function held, not unique individuals. Some officials hold dual or multiple qualifications and may therefore be counted in more than one function.*




## FEI Equivalency Progress

### FEI Jumping Stewards Course

The Sydney International Equestrian Centre hosted two FEI Jumping Steward Courses from 18–24 August.

The four-day FEI Level 3 Steward Course provided an excellent learning environment for Australian and American participants progressing to Chief Steward accreditation. All candidates successfully achieved their FEI Level 3 qualification.

The three-day FEI Level 2 Steward Course attracted 15 participants from Australia, New Zealand, the USA, Finland, Japan, Thailand and Singapore. The course included existing FEI Level 1 Stewards and four Australian National Jumping Stewards who progressed to FEI Level 2 through the equivalency pathway introduced in 2024.

# OFFICIALS

Both courses were led by Nigel King (HKG) and Charles Maudlin (IRL) and marked the first FEI trial of a hybrid delivery model, with Charles presenting remotely from Ireland throughout the seven-day program. The successful use of this format demonstrated the potential of technology to expand access to high-quality officials' education while continuing to strengthen Australia's Jumping Steward workforce.

### FEI Dressage Judge Course

The first FEI Dressage Judges Maintenance Course for Level 1–3 judges held in Australia since 2014 took place on 16–17 October at the Sydney International Equestrian Centre in conjunction with the Australian Dressage Championships.

Directed by Dr Hans-Christian Matthiesen (DEN) and Mary Seefried AM (AUS), the course attracted 16 judges from Australia, Japan, New Zealand and Chinese Taipei.

The first day focused on classroom learning, including an engaging presentation by Dr Matthiesen on horse welfare, social licence and the evolving role of judges. Participants also completed the Collective Evaluation System (CES) assessment using video analysis, supported by Daniel Gohren of Black Horse.

The second day featured practical live judging of the Grand Prix CDN and CDI-W Grand Prix, with Mary leading discussion and feedback to promote consistency and best practice in FEI dressage judging.

### FEI Eventing Officials Course

Equestrian Australia hosted two FEI Eventing Officials Courses from 20–23 November at the Sydney International Equestrian Centre, in conjunction with the Sydney International Horse Trials.

The Technical Delegates, Course Designers and Judges Course attracted 22 participants from Australia, the USA, New Zealand, Denmark, India and Finland. The course was delivered by FEI Course Directors Anne-Mette Binder (DEN), Stuart Buntine (GBR) and Kristof Verlinden (BEL).

An FEI Eventing Stewards Course, led by Philine Ganders Meyer (GER) with assistance from Johanna Crosby (AUS), was attended by 11 Australian officials.
Combining classroom learning with practical sessions, both courses enabled participants to refresh accreditation requirements, enhance their knowledge and progress their officiating pathways.

## National Re-Accreditation Activities

### Para Classifier Course

An EA Para Classifier Course was delivered as a joint initiative between Equestrian Australia’s Para Equestrian programme and Paralympics Australia, supporting new officials on their pathway towards EA Para Classifier accreditation.

# OFFICIALS

Led by Sharyn Gregory, EA and FEI Head Classifier, the course provided participants with a comprehensive introduction to the technical and practical foundations of Para Equestrian classification. Online learning sessions were complemented by two in-person modules at the Sydney International Equestrian Centre on 31 January and 1 February, giving participants the opportunity to consolidate their knowledge through discussion and practical application.

Four participants from physiotherapy and medical backgrounds took part in the programme, bringing valuable professional expertise and enthusiasm to the learning environment.

## Officials Facilitator Development

We delivered six online Officials Facilitator Training workshops, presented by Darryl Durham, with 107 Sport Education Facilitators participating.

The workshops focused on strengthening facilitation skills and promoting consistent delivery of Equestrian Australia's education programs, supporting the ongoing professional development of Officials Education Facilitators nationwide.

The growing library provides judges and educators with access to high-quality, sport-specific video examples that support consistent interpretation, discussion and decision-making.

Having a dedicated national education resource enables us to deliver more accessible, consistent and effective training, while supporting the ongoing development of officials across all levels of the sport.

## Educational Video Library

We continued to expand our Educational Video Library, with new resources being developed for Dressage, Eventing and Vaulting Judge education.

## Thank you

We extend our sincere gratitude to all our Officials for their unwavering dedication throughout the year. The success of our events is built on the foundation of your expertise and countless hours of commitment.

Your contribution is vital, without you, equestrian sport simply could not function.

On behalf of the organisation and the broader equestrian community, we thank you for the significant impact you make and the passion you bring to every event.

We also acknowledge the Equestrian Australia team and State Branches for its support in delivering official education, accreditation, professional development and nationally consistent resources throughout the year.

# COACHING

Coaching plays a vital role in the development, participation and long-term success of equestrian sport. Accredited coaches are an important part of creating positive experiences for riders, supporting athlete development and ensuring that horse welfare remains at the centre of participation. In the 2025-2026 financial year we had 799 EA Accredited Coaches delivering safe, effective modern coaching.

Together, these initiatives represent a significant step forward in developing a more connected, accessible and education-focused coaching environment, supporting coaches, participants and the broader equestrian community into the future.

### Key Coaching Initiatives

- ASC - Participation Learning Network - delivery to 130 delegates on the collaboration between PCA, RDAA and EA.
- Collaboration between EA, PCA and RDAA to map coaching qualifications, identify gaps and develop a RPL pathway to support coaches who wish to transition between the three organisations.
- CANTER CON – Significant planning and preparation was undertaken during 2025-26 for the joint coaches' conference delivered in collaboration with PCA and RDAA.
- Coaching Syllabus Review – Work continued on the review of lower-level coaching qualifications, with a phased approach to implementation.
- Adelaide International Equestrian Festival - Education Hub – Modern Equestrian Coaching – In conversation with Gary Lung, Will Enzinger, Amanda Ross and Ben Netterfield with 130 attendees.
- Review and redesign of EA's Sporting Schools program, incorporating consultation with teachers and subject matter experts. The revised program aims to increase children's participation in equestrian sport through a flexible delivery model, including classroom-based learning, teacher-led activities, optional school-based sessions and opt-in riding lessons.
- Design and delivery of National coaching courses released on the ASC EA Learning Hub.
- Implementation of the new IT system, including the development of workflows and processes to support coaching data management and accreditation pathways.
- Ongoing management and growth of the EA Accredited Coaches Facebook page, with membership increasing to 400 coaches.
- Sucessful transition of the National Coach Renewal process, from Nominate to the new IT system.



# COACHING

## Coach Numbers Breakdown by Level

| Breakdown per Level | Coach Numbers |
|---|---|
| CE | 86 |
| SSTA | 62 |
| Level 3 | 40 |
| Level 2 | 200 |
| Level 1 | 386 |
| Introductory | 103 |

*Coach numbers by level reflect qualifications held, not unique individuals. Some coaches hold dual or multiple qualifications and may therefore be counted in more than one level; the figures should not be added together to derive a total number of accredited coaches.*




## Coach Numbers Breakdown by State

| Breakdown per State | Coach Numbers |
|---|---|
| New South Wales | 305 |
| Northern Territory | 6 |
| Queensland | 177 |
| South Australia | 36 |
| Tasmania | 39 |
| Victoria | 147 |
| Western Australia | 89 |

### Coaching Framework Review Outcomes

The EA National Coaching Framework provides structured opportunities to continue learning and developing and this year EA National delivered training and assessment for 67 coaches including 10 Level 3 coaches, our highest qualification. Over 500 coaches attended coach updates either online or in-person and 426 delegates have completed professional development days on a variety of topics including the Education Hub at Adelaide Equestrian Festival, Frangible Fence Workshop at Werribee Park to name a few.

# COACHING

Professional development activities delivered during the year:

- L3 Assessments with passing their L3 qualification
- Fast Track course in NSW with 12 coaches qualifying at various Levels
- FEI Level 1 Vaulting Course with 18 passing the course
- EA Introductory Vaulting, Level 1 and Level 2 Course – 10 passing
- Coach Educator Upgrades 7
- Skills Specific Training Assessor Upgrades 10

## CPD Activities Delivered

The newly formed Participation Strategy places education at the forefront of its delivery, a key area of this work is the Sporting Schools program, an Australian Government initiative designed to help schools increase children's participation in sport. Coaching has been working with stakeholders on a new product that aligns with the school curriculum, providing an opportunity to bring equestrian sport into the classroom. Work has also continued on the ASC Equestrian Learning Centre, which has gone from strength to strength, with new and updated courses continuing to emerge. Further work has commenced to bring theory assessments, tests and quizzes onto the platform.

This will provide a more streamlined and accessible approach to education and assessment in the future, while also supporting a more consistent learning experience for coaches.

### Coach Updates Attendees:

- South Australia = 50
- Victoria = 15
- Tasmania = 45
- New South Wales = 44
- Western Australia = 25
- National = 335

### Other CPD Delivered:

- Frangible Fence Workshop = 67
- Nicola Wilson Coaches CPD = 57
- NSW – Coach Development Day = 100
- Victoria – Coaching Extravaganza = 15
- IGEQ – Online Webinar = 20
- NSW Coaches Compass = 37
- Adelaide Equestrian Hub = 130

## Coaching Education Initiatives

The Coach Review also remains ongoing, with work continuing to update resources and processes in line with the implementation of the new IT system. This is an important piece of work that ensures EA's coaching resources remain current, relevant and accessible, while also improving the overall user experience. The new-look resources are expected to be released later this year through a phased rollout, allowing resources to be progressively updated and introduced while supporting coaches through the transition.

## 2026 EA Accredited Coaches Conference

The collaboration with Pony Club Australia (PCA), Riding for the Disabled Association of Australia (RDAA) and Equestrian Australia (EA) has been well received by the Australian Sports Commission.

# COACHING

This collaboration has seen the three organisations work closely together across a number of initiatives, including Canter Con, the joint coaches' conference and qualification mapping. The organisations also worked together to deliver at the Participation Learning Network Conference (PLN), presenting to approximately 130 delegates representing more than 50 sports. This provided a valuable opportunity to share the collaborative approach being taken across the three Equestrian organisations and demonstrate how working together can strengthen education and participation pathways.

Canter Con the joint coaches' conference was a major milestone in the collaboration, attracting more than 350 delegates and bringing together coaches, educators and industry professionals from across the equestrian community. Significant planning and organisation took place throughout 2025–2026 in preparation for Canter Con and the success of the event demonstrated the value of collaboration, creating opportunities for the coaching community to connect, learn and share knowledge.

### International Partnerships

Our International Collaborations have grown stronger with representation at the IGEQ conference in France and IGEQ qualifications now embedded in the new IT Platform.

EA also continued to build international connections with coaches from Malaysia and the United Kingdom, creating opportunities to share knowledge and coaching practices, particularly in relation to horse welfare and the application of EA's national framework.

- IGEQ Conference – Australia represented in France for the annual conference.
- IGEQ implemented into the new IT Platform, so International Qualifications are recognised.
- Malaysian MOU continue to work with Malaysia.
- Hong Kong Jockey Club as part of Canter Con now building stronger connections.
- UK Collaboration – working with coaches form the UK to assist in the coach review documentation.

### Thank You

Equestrian Australia thanks all accredited coaches, coach educators and assessors for their continued commitment to developing riders, supporting positive participation experiences and promoting horse welfare. Their knowledge and leadership strengthen coaching pathways and help build a capable, connected and sustainable sport. We also recognise the Equestrian Australia team for its commitment to supporting coach education, accreditation, professional development and the ongoing development of coaching systems and resources.

# HEALTH, SAFETY & WELFARE

The February 2026 Health, Safety & Welfare review reaffirmed six national priorities: (1) implementation of coronial recommendations, (2) improved discipline-wide data collection and reporting, (3) Minimum Medical Requirements across all disciplines, (4) Serious Incident Management and Critical Incident Management frameworks, (5) member communications and education, and (6) horse welfare initiatives. Progress reported during 2026 showed that 25 of the 31 coronial recommendations had been fully implemented, with alternative approaches adopted for two recommendations and only two remaining behind schedule. The two remaining recommendations remain the priority for 2026-27.

### Incident Reporting Trend

Incident reporting continues to improve, providing a stronger evidence base for safety initiatives. The Q1 2026 dataset recorded 66 serious injury incident reports, compared with 41 reports in Q1 2025, representing a 61% increase in reports received. March 2026 accounted for the highest monthly volume (31 reports, 47% of the quarter). The increase is considered indicative of improved reporting and growing safety awareness across the network.

### Concussion Statistics

Concussion remains a key focus area. Analysis of serious injury reports identified concussions accounting for 11% of all reported serious injuries in Q1 2026, equal to the prevalence of sprain injuries.

During the year, EA continued implementation of concussion management processes, including automation of the Concussion On-Hold workflow through the membership platform to improve administration and participant compliance.

### Serious Incident Statistics

Competition environments continued to account for the majority of serious injury reports (50%). Show Jumping represented the largest discipline-specific share of reported incidents (48%). Fractures were the most common injury type (28%), and the Serious Incident Management Plan (SIMP) was activated in 15% of reported incidents during Q1 2026.

### Minimum Medical Requirements Pilot Outcomes

The Minimum Medical Requirements (MMR) initiative progressed from concept to operational testing during the year. A tiered model based on rider and participant numbers was accepted by Jumping and trialled through guideline implementation and stakeholder feedback. Outcomes informed the inclusion of Minimum Medical Requirements within the 2026 Sport Rules framework, establishing a more consistent national approach to event medical planning and response capability

# HEALTH, SAFETY & WELFARE

### Horse Welfare Initiatives

Horse welfare remained one of the six strategic priorities of the Health, Safety & Welfare Committee and directly supports the “Strong Foundations” pillar of the Nationally Aligned Strategy. During FY26, EA advanced the review of the National Health, Safety & Horse Welfare Policy framework, strengthened welfare expectations aligned with the FEI Code of Conduct, continued work on horse welfare monitoring programs and progressed education initiatives to support best-practice horse care and competition standards.

### Team Acknowledgements

Equestrian Australia extends its sincere thanks to those for their leadership and dedication in driving our health, safety and welfare priorities throughout FY26.

We also acknowledge the members of the National Health & Safety team, Health, Safety & Welfare Committee and our discipline safety representatives for their expertise and guidance. Finally, we recognise the event organisers, medical personnel, technical officials, veterinarians, volunteers and state branch stakeholders whose commitment on the ground has been instrumental in improving participant safety and horse welfare outcomes across the sport.



# INTEGRITY

## Strengthening Integrity Across Equestrian Sport

Integrity remained an important part of Equestrian Australia's commitment to providing a safe, fair and inclusive environment for everyone involved in equestrian sport. Throughout the year, EA continued to operate under the National Integrity Framework while strengthening its approach to complaints management, education, prevention and member awareness.

The Integrity Education Plan provides a structured approach to educating members and key stakeholders about EA's integrity policies and Sport Integrity Australia's independent complaints process. The plan identifies required and recommended education for different cohorts according to membership type and competition level.

## Integrity at a Glance

| | |
|---|---|
| Issues Submitted | 86 |
| Issues Closed | 62 |



## Integrity by State

| State | Number of Issues |
|---|---|
| NSW | 26 |
| SA | 17 |
| VIC | 16 |
| QLD | 9 |
| WA | 9 |
| National | 8 |
| TAS | 1 |
| NT | 0 |

*All integrity complaints are managed nationally by Equestrian Australia. The location recorded for each matter reflects the relevant State Branch, where applicable; matters not assigned to a particular State Branch, such as alleged social media conduct, are recorded as Equestrian Australia.*

## Complaints and Integrity Matters

During the year, the integrity system recorded 86 issues submitted, with 62 issues closed. Matters were recorded across the national equestrian network, with the largest numbers associated with Equestrian NSW, Equestrian SA and Equestrian VIC.

# INTEGRITY

These figures indicate the volume of integrity matters being managed but should not be interpreted as a measure of the integrity performance of individual State Branches. Reporting volumes can be influenced by a range of factors and do not, on their own, indicate the seriousness or prevalence of integrity concerns.

Alongside the management of individual matters, EA continued work to make integrity processes clearer and more consistent. Standard correspondence resources were developed for report acknowledgements, out-of-scope and field-of-play matters, complaint notifications, investigations and outcome communications.

EA also transitioned to a new integrity reporting system during the year. As the system becomes established, it will support more detailed and consistent reporting on the types of complaints received and the outcomes of matters, strengthening EA's ability to identify themes, monitor trends and inform future education and prevention priorities.

### A Nationally Consistent Approach

EA continued to consider how integrity services should be structured and funded nationally. The nationally managed model provides for complaints to be received and managed through the EA National Office, supporting consistency of process, procedural fairness and compliance with the National Integrity Framework.

### Education and Prevention

An important focus during the year was strengthening the preventative side of integrity. The Integrity Education Plan was developed with Sport Integrity Australia and sets out required and recommended education interventions for EA members. It includes tailored education matrices for athletes, coaches and support personnel, administrators, officials and volunteers.

The plan also establishes responsibilities for mandating, promoting and monitoring education requirements, with evidence retained to support assurance and compliance obligations. The plan is intended to be reviewed annually or as necessary to respond to evolving threats and new education resources.

Stakeholder consultation was undertaken to test whether the proposed cohorts and learning requirements were practical, identify gaps and build ownership among State Branches, disciplines and clubs before publication.

As EA moves into the second half of 2026–27, a new integrity education plan will be launched and communicated to members, supporting greater awareness of integrity policies, reporting pathways and expected standards of behaviour across the sport.

# INTEGRITY

## Building a Positive Integrity Culture

The work undertaken during the year reflects an important evolution in EA's approach to integrity. Complaint management remains essential, but protecting the sport also requires participants to understand expected standards of behaviour, know where to go when something is wrong and have access to practical education appropriate to their role.

The foundations established through the National Integrity Framework, improved complaint-management resources, nationally coordinated services and a structured education program provide a platform for continued improvement.

## Acknowledgments

Equestrian Australia acknowledges and thanks the Integrity team, together with our State Branches, committees and volunteers, for their professionalism and commitment to supporting a safe, fair and inclusive sport. Their work in complaints management, education, prevention and member awareness is vital to upholding the National Integrity Framework and strengthening confidence across the equestrian community.

## Looking Ahead

EA will continue working with members, clubs, State Branches, coaches, officials, volunteers and Sport Integrity Australia to strengthen awareness, improve understanding of reporting pathways and embed practical integrity education across the sport.

**H** | **HONESTY**
We are truthful and transparent in our actions and words.

**O** | **OWNERSHIP**
We take responsibility for our actions and their impact.

**R** | **RESPECT**
We value every individual and treat others with kindness and consideration.

**S** | **SAFETY**
Protect horse and rider — sound tack, fit horses, and no needless risks.

**E** | **ETHICS**
We do what is right, even when no one is watching.

# HIGH PERFORMANCE

## Building Towards LA28

The 2025-26 year represented an important development year for the Equestrian Australia High Performance Program as the focus moved firmly into the Los Angeles 2028 cycle.

Building on the foundations established following Paris 2024, the program continued to strengthen the systems, performance benchmarks and athlete pathways required to support sustainable international success. This included further work to define what world-class performance looks like across the disciplines and to provide athletes and support teams with clearer benchmarks as they progress through the national pathway. The second year of the LA28 cycle focused particularly on benchmarks, squad development and the What It Takes to Win work.

At the same time, preparations intensified for the 2026 FEI World Championships in Aachen. As the Championships were scheduled after the end of the 2025-26 financial year, this report reflects the preparation, qualification and pathway work undertaken during the reporting period rather than the Championship results themselves.

## Building the Performance Pathway

A major focus during the year was strengthening the pathway between developing athletes and international performance.

High Performance work included development of the Jumping Athlete Development Framework and the What It Takes to Win framework, with the objective of strengthening the structures supporting athlete progression.

State-based development also remained an important part of the pathway. In Eventing, the High Performance Program continued to support State Squad pathway programs, recognising the role State Branches play in developing athletes, horses and owners towards Australian team representation. The program was supported by the Australian Institute of Sport, with performance funding and educational pathway activity directed through State Squads.

National High Performance squads for Eventing and Para Dressage were announced in January 2026. The Eventing squad comprised 28 combinations, including 12 Podium Potential and 16 Generation Next combinations. Para Dressage recorded 22 squad athletes, comprising three Podium, two Podium Potential and 17 Generation Next athletes.

## International Performance

Australian athletes continued to deliver significant performances internationally during 2025-26.

In Eventing, Oliver Barrett and Sandhills Briar won the CCI5*-L at Adelaide in 2026, following their CCI4*-L victory at Sydney in 2025. Other recorded international wins included Andrew Hoy and Vassily de Lassos at Luhmühlen, Olivia Barton and Hollyander HG at Strzegom, and Kevin McNab and Faro Imp at Sopot.

# HIGH PERFORMANCE

At 30 June 2026, Oliver Barrett was ranked 34th on the FEI Eventing World Athlete Rankings and second on the FEI Eventing U25 World Rankings.

Australian Jumping combinations also delivered strong performances at home and overseas. The Australian Senior Green Team won the 2025 Trans-Tasman Test, taking two of the three legs, while Phillip Lever won the 2025 Australian World Cup League with 78 points, ahead of Jamie Winning on 77 and Billy Raymont on 76.

Internationally, Australia placed fourth in the CSI4* Nations Cup at Wellington in February 2026, while Thaisa Erwin recorded second place in the CSI5* Grand Prix at Wellington. At 30 June 2026, Edwina Tops-Alexander was Australia's highest-ranked athlete in the Longines Rankings at 149th.

### Para High Performance

Para Equestrian remained an important focus within the High Performance Program.

Strong performances were recorded across four CPEDIs in Australia as combinations worked towards selection scores for the 2026 Para Dressage World Championships in Aachen.

Australia was placed third in the FEI Para Dressage World Team Rankings, its highest ranking to date.

Australian athletes also held strong individual world rankings at 30 June 2026. Lisa Martin was ranked first in the FEI Grade V World Individual Ranking and eighth in the overall FEI Para Dressage World Individual Ranking. Bridget Murphy was fourth in Grade II, Dianne Barnes fourth in Grade IV, Claire Graham sixth in Grade III, Mietta Innes-Irons sixth in Grade V and Helen Batson seventh in Grade IV.

The broader Para pathway continued to benefit from collaboration across the Australian Para-sport system. The Para System Uplift and the collaboration between Equestrian Australia and Equine Pathways Australia remained important elements in strengthening classification, equipment access and athlete pathways.

### Performance Across the Disciplines

High Performance outcomes during the year extended beyond the Olympic and Paralympic disciplines.

In Endurance, Nikki Sample was the highest-ranked Australian athlete on the FEI Endurance Riders World Ranking at 30 June 2026, sitting 11th.

In Vaulting, Ginger Kennett was ranked 23rd in the FEI Vaulting World Cup Female Standings at 30 June 2026. Ginger Kennett and Corazan Gran, with lunger Benita Golze, also finished eighth at the FEI Vaulting World Cup Final at Opglabbeek with a final score of 7.348

# HIGH PERFORMANCE

Driving also produced an important international result, with Boyd Exell and Tor van den Berge competing as a two-person Australian team in the Nations Cup at CHIO Aachen in July 2025. Australia recorded 352.780, ahead of Germany on 367.290 and Belgium on 370.290.

### Preparing for the World Championships

Preparation for the 2026 FEI World Championships in Aachen was a major focus throughout the reporting period. Qualification performances, squad development, selection activity and campaign planning formed part of the broader pathway towards the Championships.

Endurance follows a separate championship pathway, with its 2026 World Championship scheduled for Butheeb (UAE) rather than Aachen.

### Partnerships and Support

The High Performance Program continues to be supported by organisations across Australia's national sporting system.

Equestrian Australia acknowledges the ongoing engagement of the Australian Institute of Sport in High Performance and athlete and pathway development.

The program also values its relationships with Paralympics Australia and the Australian Olympic Committee. These partnerships continue to support the broader performance environment as Equestrian Australia progresses through the LA28 cycle.

### Looking Ahead

The focus beyond 2025-26 is on converting the pathway and performance work undertaken during the year into international results.

The immediate focus is the 2026 FEI World Championships in Aachen, alongside the separate Endurance World Championship campaign in Butheeb (UAE). Beyond those Championships, Los Angeles 2028 remains the central performance target, with continued emphasis on athlete development, clearly defined performance benchmarks and sustainable pathways capable of supporting Australian combinations to compete successfully at the highest level.



# RESULTS & STATISTICS

## NATIONAL HIGH PERFORMANCE SQUADS

### EVENTING

| - | 12 | 16 | 28 |
|---|---|---|---|
| PODIUM ATHLETES | PODIUM POTENTIAL COMBINATIONS | GENERATION NEXT COMBINATIONS | TOTAL COMBINATIONS |

### PARA DRESSAGE

| 3 | 2 | 17 | 22 |
|---|---|---|---|
| PODIUM ATHLETES | PODIUM POTENTIAL COMBINATIONS | GENERATION NEXT COMBINATIONS | TOTAL COMBINATIONS |

## FEI WORLD RANKINGS (AS AT 30 JUNE 2026)

| ATHLETE | DISCIPLINE | RANKING/STANDING |
|---|---|---|
| Oliver Barrett | Eventing | 34th, FEI Eventing World Athlete Rankings |
| Oliver Barrett | Eventing U25 | 2nd, FEI Eventing U25 World Rankings |
| Edwina Tops-Alexander | Jumping | 149th, Longines Rankings |
| Nikki Sample | Endurance | 11th, FEI Endurance Riders World Ranking |
| Ginger Kennett | Vaulting | 23rd, FEI Vaulting World Cup Female Standings |

# RESULTS & STATISTICS

## PARA DRESSAGE WORLD RANKINGS

| ATHLETE | GRADE RANKING | OVERALL RANKING |
|---|---|---|
| Lisa Martin | 1st, Grade V | 8th |
| Bridget Murphy | 4th, Grade II | 23rd |
| Dianne Barnes | 4th, Grade IV | 26th |
| Claire Graham | 6th, Grade III | 26th |
| Mietta Innes-Irons | 6th, Grade V | 24th |
| Helen Batson | 7th, Grade IV | 44th |

## SELECTED INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL RESULTS

| DISCIPLINE | EVENT | COMBINATION / TEAM | RESULT |
|---|---|---|---|
| EVENTING | Adelaide CCI5*-L, 2026 | Oliver Barrett / Sandhills Briar | 1st |
| EVENTING | Sydney CCI4*-L, 2025 | Oliver Barrett / Sandhills Briar | 1st |
| EVENTING | Luhmühlen CCI4*-S, August 2025 | Andrew Hoy / Vassily de Lassos | 1st |
| EVENTING | Strzegom CCI4*-S, October 2025 | Olivia Barton / Hollyander HG | 1st |
| EVENTING | Sopot CCI4*-S, May 2026 | Kevin McNab / Faro Imp | 1st |
| EVENTING | Kentucky CCI5*-L, April 2026 | Sophia Hill / Humble Glory | 10th |
| JUMPING | 2025 Trans-Tasman Test | Australian Senior Green Team | Series Winner (2/3 Legs) |

# RESULTS & STATISTICS

## SELECTED INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL RESULTS (CONTINUED)

| DISCIPLINE | EVENT | COMBINATION / TEAM | RESULT |
|---|---|---|---|
| JUMPING | 2025 Australian World Cup League | Phillip Lever | 1st |
| JUMPING | CSI4* Nations Cup, Wellington, February 2026 | Australia | 4th |
| JUMPING | CSI5* Grand Prix, Wellington, February 2026 | Thaisa Erwin / Hialita B | 2nd |
| DRIVING | Nations Cup, CHIO Aachen, July 2025 | Boyd Exell and Tor van den Berge | 1st |
| VAULTING | FEI Vaulting World Cup Final, Opglabbeek, May 2026 | Ginger Kennett / Corazan Gran; Benita Golze, lunger | 8th |

### Para High Performance

Australian combinations competed across four CPEDIs in Australia while working towards selection scores for the 2026 Para Dressage World Championships in Aachen. Australia was placed third in the FEI Para Dressage World Team Rankings, its highest ranking recorded in the High Performance reporting supplied for the Annual Report.

### World Championship Preparation

Qualification performances, squad development, selection activity and campaign planning for the 2026 FEI World Championships in Aachen were undertaken during the reporting period. The Championships were held outside the 2025-26 financial year and their results are not included in this statistical summary. The 2026 FEI Endurance World Championship in Butheeb (UAE) also falls outside the reporting period.

# DISCIPLINE REPORTS



# DRESSAGE

## Year in Review

The Equestrian Australia Dressage Committee continued to support Dressage across participation, performance, competition, rules and officials pathways.

Riders pursued the qualifications required to attain a Minimum Eligibility Requirement for the Australian team for the 2026 FEI World Championships in Aachen, Germany. Australia's CDI organising committees provided significant support. Delivering these events requires substantial commitment from Organising Committees, sponsors, State Branches and volunteers.

The Committee continued building cohesive communication with members and State Dressage Authorities to create pathways at all levels. Communication with High Performance remained a priority, with work towards a National Dressage squads program expected to come to fruition later in 2026.

## At a Glance

- Updated EA Dressage Rules are scheduled to take effect on 1 January 2026.
- There were 248 steward and Technical Delegate functions across the listed categories.
- FEI youth categories at Australian CDIs included U25, Young Rider, Junior, Pony Rider and Children classes.

## Major Events & Milestones

The National Gold Performance Medals were presented at the 2025 Australian Dressage Championships, recognising riders who performed consistently at a high level.

Australia continued to benefit from a wide range of National and FEI competitions supported by volunteer committees, Organising Committees, sponsors and State Branches.

## Participation and Pathways

Amateur Owner Rider competitions continued across many States, while State leaderboards remained popular. Some States included AOR State Championships and annual AOR awards. Further growth is expected as the Australian National AOR Championships continue to be well supported.



# DRESSAGE

Youth-to-senior pathways remained a focus. FEI U25, Young Rider, Junior, Pony Rider and Children classes were established at many Australian CDIs, contributing to impressive world rankings among Australian young riders.

## Committee Update

The EADC welcomed two new committee members during 2026 and thanked outgoing members Julie Jones and Lisa Baker, together with co-opted member Aengus Wright, for their contribution.

The Committee continued to recognise the need for stronger communication with athletes, owners, officials, State committees and the wider community.



## Key Stats

| Dressage Judges by State | Judge Numbers |
|---|---|
| **State** | May 2026 |
| NSW | 253 |
| NT | 8 |
| QLD | 211 |
| SA | 76 |
| TAS | 65 |
| VIC | 187 |
| WA | 111 |

# DRESSAGE

| Dressage Stewards and Technical Delegates | |
|---|---|
| **Function** | **Total** |
| Technical Delegate | 33 |
| Dressage Steward L1 | 79 |
| Dressage Steward L2 | 80 |
| FEI Dressage Steward L1 | 4 |
| FEI Dressage Steward L2 | 12 |
| FEI Dressage Steward L3 | 5 |
| Para Dressage Steward L1 | 5 |
| Para Dressage Steward L2 | 24 |
| FEI Para Dressage Steward L1 | 3 |
| FEI Para Dressage Steward L3 | 3 |
| **TOTAL** | **248** |

## Looking Ahead

Priorities include implementing the updated rules, introducing the 2027-2030 national tests, continuing AOR and youth pathway development, improving communication and supporting the national officials workforce.

The Committee recognises the commitment of volunteer committees delivering National and FEI events and encourages riders benefiting from those opportunities to assist where they can.

## Acknowledgements

Equestrian Australia acknowledges EADC members for the many hours contributed, EA National Office staff for ongoing support, and the Organising Committees, sponsors, State Branches and volunteers who make National and FEI Dressage events possible.

## Committee Members

- Deborah MacNicol (Chair)
- Karma Wilson
- Toni Venhaus
- Maria Schwennesen
- Lee Howells
- Deon Stokes (Athlete Representative)

## Previous committee members during FY25/26

- Lisa Baker
- Julie Jones

# DRIVING

## Year in Review

Driving in Australia continued to thrive through the States, members and clubs, with activity ranging from grassroots participation through to international competition. The year also brought significant challenges for clubs and members, particularly the costs associated with providing and attending events.

Australian Driving athletes competing internationally at FEI level continued to support the development of the sport at home. Boyd Exell, Tor Van Den Berge and Janelle Marshall returned to Australia to share their extensive knowledge and experience through well-attended clinics, providing valuable training and learning opportunities for Australian drivers.

## At a Glance

- Three States hosted Australian Certius Nations Cup events in 2025.
- Two EA National Athlete FEI 1* licences were approved in 2026.
- Australia won Nations Cup gold at Aachen in July 2025; Boyd Exell also won individual gold.

## Major Events & Milestones

Boyd Exell and Tor Van Den Berge competed at Aachen in July 2025, winning gold for Australia in the Nations Cup, while Boyd Exell also won individual gold. Both drivers and their teams were preparing to compete at the World Equestrian Games in August 2026.

Janelle Marshall competed at the World Single Championships in France in 2025 and the prestigious Live Oak FEI Level 3 CDE in Florida in early 2026, with plans also underway for the World Singles Championships in Germany in September 2026.

Two EA National Athlete FEI 1* licences were approved in 2026 for drivers beginning their international careers. Jane Howard from Queensland, training and competing in the United Kingdom, was working towards the 2027 World Pony Championships. Ned Andrews from Victoria was training with Boyd Exell ahead of his planned Driving debut at a 2* Horse Single event in Poland.

In 2025, clubs in three States hosted Australian events for the Certius Nations Cup:

- Equestrian Queensland: South Burnett Equestrian Group
- Equestrian Western Australia: Wheatbelt Regional Carriage Driving Club
- Equestrian New South Wales: Southern Highlands Carriage Driving Club
- Queensland drivers Corby Cunnington, Patricia Nolan and Hilary Stubbs travelled to the United Kingdom to compete on loaned turnouts.

## Significant Results

The Equestrian Queensland Driving Championships were hosted by South Burnett Equestrian Group in September 2025, with the club scheduled to host again in 2026.

# DRIVING

Judith Park Carriage Club registered its interest in hosting the Championships in October 2027. It is anticipated that Australia may also host its first FEI World Challenge event alongside the 2027 State Championships.

## Rules & Discipline Development

The EA National Driving Committee commenced reviews of the Driving Coach Resources across all levels, last reviewed in 2014, and the EA Driving Competition Framework, first released in 2022. On completion, the Committee intends to liaise with State Branches to increase officials training opportunities.

## Officials, Coaching & Education

In early 2026, Equestrian Western Australia hosted officials training that provided a fast-track opportunity for several existing accredited Dressage judges to become Level 1 Driving Judges.

Driving was represented at Canter Con in Victoria, where Jessica Meredith delivered a presentation to increase understanding of Driving and encourage general coaches to consider the Driving coaching pathway. Jessica is an EA Level 1 Driving Coach, a member of Equestrian New South Wales and ACDS NSW, and has more than 20 years of Driving experience across the United Kingdom, Europe and Australia.

Practical demonstrations were supported by ACDS Victoria, which provided drivers, carriages, horses and ponies.

## Committee Update

The EA Driving Committee welcomed Jane Paroissien, an EA Level 2 Coach and Trainer from Tasmania, to fill a committee vacancy in 2026.

The Committee explored collaboration with the Australian Carriage Driving Society Federal Branch on coaching, officials development and prospective joint activities at FEI level. The ACDS invited EA representatives to the Boyd Exell clinic in January 2026, providing an opportunity to network with Boyd and between the organisations.

Funding grants were secured for clubs in Western Australia and Queensland. Wheatbelt Regional Driving Club purchased competition equipment, while Judith Park Carriage Club, previously Jimboomba, received a Logan City Council grant supporting major facility and infrastructure upgrades.



# DRIVING

## Looking Ahead

Looking ahead, the Committee will continue reviewing the Driving Coach Resources and the EA Driving Competition Framework, work with State Branches to expand officials training opportunities, and progress collaboration with the Australian Carriage Driving Society. International preparation and emerging athlete pathways will remain important priorities.

## Acknowledgements

Equestrian Australia acknowledges the drivers, clubs, coaches, officials, State Branches and volunteers supporting Driving across Australia.

Particular thanks are extended to the Australian Carriage Driving Society branches that supported clinics, demonstrations and collaboration during the year.

## Committee Members

Wendy Bruszewski (Chair)
Mary Seefried
Suzan McDermott
Oliver Tester
Jane Paroissien
Corby Cunnington (Athletes Representative)



# EVENTING

## Year in Review

Eventing Australia continued to focus on safety, horse welfare, quality competition, education, participation and development of the next generation of athletes and officials.

Australia runs 24 FEI Eventing competitions annually, often using overseas officials to provide Australian riders and officials with exposure to a broader international knowledge base. The discipline continues to face the challenge of an ageing officials population and encourages those interested in beginning an officiating pathway to contact their State Branch or the Eventing Committee.

## At a Glance

- 24 FEI Eventing competitions are held annually in Australia.
- Five top-level CCI long-format competitions were held across mainland States.
- Three new Committee members were welcomed in 2026.

## Major Events & Milestones

The mainland States held five top-level CCI long-format competitions during the year.

- Wooroloo, Western Australia: Sarah Dawson and Imposing won the Duncan Equine CCI4*-L.
- Steelworks Construction Queensland International Event: Gemma O'Leary and Arnage Porsche won the CCI4*-L.
- Limitless Lodge Sydney International 3 Day Event: Oliver Barrett and the homebred Sandhills Briar won the CCI4*-L.
- Adelaide Equestrian Festival: Oliver Barrett and Sandhills Briar won the CCI5*-L; Australia won both the senior and young rider Oceania Championships.
- 4CYTE Melbourne International 3 Day Event: David Middleton and WEC In The Breeze won the CCI4*-L.

## Significant Results

Australian Eventing combinations recorded strong performances throughout the 2025-26 season, particularly at Sydney, Adelaide and Melbourne. The Adelaide Equestrian Festival's inclusion of the Oceania Championships provided an additional international competition opportunity.



# EVENTING

## Rules & Discipline Development

Updated National Eventing Rules took effect on 1 January 2026. Changes covered permitted whips, National Dressage provisions, calling dressage tests at participant-level competitions, Combined Training scoring, rider dress, Eventing Judge accreditation and dangerous riding.

Riders in EvA80cm competitions and below may carry a permitted whip or crop during the dressage test. Dressage tests may be called at participant-level competitions of 80cm and below, subject to specified conditions. Accreditation requirements for Eventing Judges were also updated and competition and officiating provisions clarified.

## Officials, Coaching & Education

The development of the next generation of officials remained a priority. The use of overseas officials across Australia's 24 annual FEI competitions provided opportunities for Australian riders and officials to gain exposure to a wider knowledge base.

## Committee Update

The Equestrian Australia Eventing Committee continued to meet throughout the year, progressing rules, officiating and other priorities supporting the effective delivery and development of Eventing. In 2026, the Committee welcomed Prue Barrett, Sharmayne Spencer and rider representative Sonja Johnson.

## Looking Ahead

Looking ahead, Eventing will continue to prioritise safety, horse welfare, quality competition and the development of athletes and officials. Particular focus will remain on strengthening the officiating pathway, supporting effective implementation of the updated National Eventing Rules and maintaining opportunities for Australian riders and officials to benefit from international expertise.

## Acknowledgements

Equestrian Australia acknowledges the athletes, horses, owners, coaches, officials, Organising Committees, State Branches and volunteers supporting Eventing across Australia.

The contribution of overseas officials to Australian FEI competitions and officials development is also recognised.

## Committee Members

Janet Houghton (Chair)
Diana Massey
Heather Ford
Lisa Gall
Nina Clarke
Prue Barrett
Sharmayne Spencer
Sonja Johnson (Athletes Representative)

## Previous committee members during FY25/26

Jade Findlay
Jamie Buckby

# INTERSCHOOL

## Year in Review

The 2025-26 year was one of collaboration and continued progress, with a focus on a consistent, inclusive and sustainable national Interschool program.

The Championships provide an important development pathway for young equestrians, fostering friendships, resilience, sportsmanship and pride in representing their State or Territory. The EA Interschool Trophy continued to recognise the achievements of smaller State and Territory teams.



## At a Glance

| 2025 Australian Interschool Championships | Officials Numbers |
|---|---|
| Athletes | 431 |
| Horses | 499 |
| State/Territory Teams | 7 |
| Disciplines | 5 |
| Classes | 702 |
| Dessage Test | 567 |
| Show Jumping Rounds | 716 |
| Eventers | 80 |
| Combined Training Classes | 137 |
| Show Horse Classes | 127 |

# INTERSCHOOL

The Championships were supported by accredited officials, coaches, volunteers and team personnel whose contribution is essential to safe, fair and positive competition experiences.

## Major Events & Milestones

The 2025 Horseland Australian Interschool Championships, hosted by Equestrian New South Wales at Sydney International Equestrian Centre, brought together riders from across Australia in Dressage, Eventing, Combined Training, Show Horse and Show Jumping.

The Harry le Bherz Perpetual Trophy was won by New South Wales. The EA Interschool Trophy, introduced in 2024 for teams with fewer than 50 riders using a handicap points system, was awarded to Western Australia.

## Participation & Pathways

The Committee continued strengthening collaboration between States, focusing on national consistency, equitable participation and sustainable delivery. The Championships provide national competition experience while supporting friendships, resilience, sportsmanship and State or Territory pride.

Development and piloting of the EA Interschool All Abilities Competition Framework, establishing a nationally consistent and inclusive competition pathway for students with intellectual, physical and developmental disabilities. The Framework supports ability-based competition opportunities, with a focus on accessibility, appropriate support and athlete progression.

Implementation occured across State Interschool Championships throughout 2026 establishing the pathway to the first National Interschool All Abilities Championship, scheduled for September 2026.

## Rules & Discipline Development

Following extensive modernisation of the National Interschool Rules in 2024-25, the Committee continued reviewing implementation and identifying areas for clarification or refinement.

- Improve consistency between State programs and the Australian Championships.

- Align Interschool rules with EA National Discipline Rules where appropriate.
- Review qualification, eligibility and competition requirements.
- Support Championship Organising Committees with national requirements.
- Continue development of All Abilities competition and its national framework.
- Recognise challenges faced by smaller and geographically remote States, particularly horse transport and pool-horse access.
- Strengthen communication between EA, State Interschool Committees and Championship Organising Committees.

## Looking Ahead

Priorities for 2026-27 include continued refinement of the National Interschool Rules, development of the All Abilities Framework and Guidelines, stronger national communication and consistency, and sustainable delivery of the Australian Interschool Championships.

# INTERSCHOOL

The Committee remains committed to equitable participation, clear competition pathways and a positive national pathway for young equestrians.


## Acknowledgements

The EA National Interschool Committee acknowledges the States and Territories and the countless hours contributed to organising competitions, together with the sponsors, volunteers, officials and parents who support young athletes.

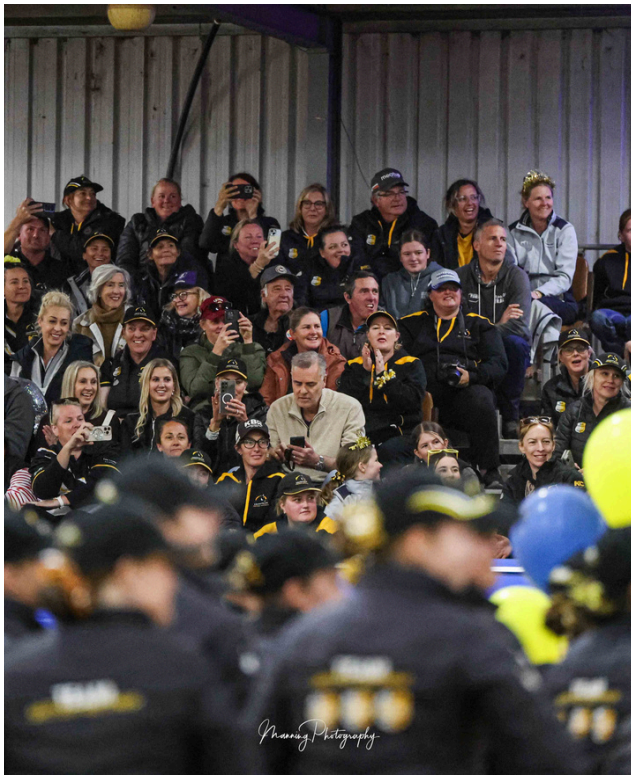

## Committee Members

- Corien Ridley (Chair)
- Julia Williams
- Sue Goldfinch
- Patrick Lowe
- Jo Humphries
- Kelly Ffrost (Para Representative)

## Previous committee members during FY25/26

- Leah Brown
- Emily Ballard
- Bridget Murphy (Para Representative)





# ENDURANCE

## Year in Review

The 2025-26 year was important for Australian Endurance, with strong participation at home and continued international representation.

A major highlight was the return of the Equestrian Australia National Endurance Championships after a five-year hiatus, hosted by Stirling's Crossing Endurance Club at Imbil. Emma Ireland and Kurrajong Revolution won following an exciting finish to the 160km competition.

Australian athletes competed across Europe and the Middle East, while Australian FEI events welcomed riders from New Zealand, Malaysia, the United Kingdom, Spain, France and the United States.

## At a Glance

- Four FEI rides were held across New South Wales and Queensland.
- The EA National Endurance Championships returned after a five-year hiatus.
- Two Australian young riders placed 10th and 15th at the FEI Endurance World Championship for Young Riders and Juniors.
- Four officials progressed their accreditation pathways during the year.

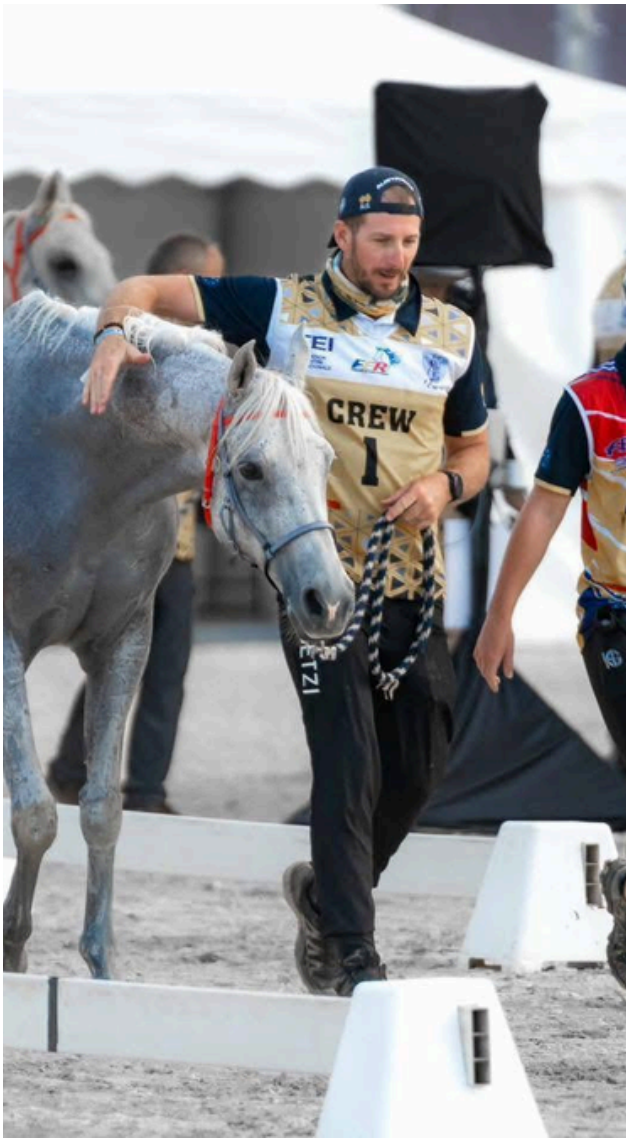
## Major Events & Milestones

Australian FEI Endurance athletes competed across France, Romania, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, Sweden, Spain, Germany, Belgium and Slovakia, gaining international experience, qualifications and results.

## Significant Results

Four FEI rides were held across Tooraweenah and Panuara in New South Wales and Imbil and Kilkivan in Queensland.

At the National Endurance Championships, Emma Ireland and Kurrajong Revolution won the 160km Championship in a gallop finish, with Catherine Bailey and Bullio Parabellum a close second.



# ENDURANCE

Poppy Kettlewell on Oso Irazu and Eadie McWilliam on Larntainey Silver Treasure represented Australia at the FEI Endurance World Championship for Young Riders and Juniors in Buftea, Romania, placing 10th and 15th respectively.

Australian-bred Bullio Quasillo, now UAE-owned, won the 2025 FEI Endurance World Championship for Young Horses in Jullianges, France.

## Rules & Discipline Development

Alongside other nations, including the United States and New Zealand, lobbying continued to permit compliant enclosures in lieu of stabling.

## Officials, Coaching & Education

A shortage of Australian accredited officials remains, but existing officials continued to maintain and upgrade their accreditations. Bob Locke, Allison Brown and Naomi O'Shaughnessy progressed to Level 2 Judge and Steward. With FEI assistance, Marylou Locke travelled to Europe to officiate and progressed to Level 3 Judge and Technical Delegate in addition to her Steward accreditation.

## Looking Ahead

Looking ahead, the Committee will continue supporting Australian FEI rides, strengthening the pool and accreditation of Australian officials, and advocating for practical competition arrangements, including the use of compliant enclosures in place of stabling. Domestic and international pathways for Australian athletes will remain a key focus.

## Acknowledgements

The EA Endurance Committee thanks ride organisers, clubs, sponsors, volunteers and officials. It particularly acknowledges Canobolas Endurance Riders Club Inc., Kilkivan Endurance Riders Club Inc. and Stirling's Crossing Endurance Club Inc. for hosting FEI rides during 2025-26.

## Committee Members

- Christine Stomps (Chair)
- Robyn Parnell
- Andrea Laws-King
- Marylou Locke
- Xanthe Webb
- Robyn Parnell (National Steward Advisor)

## Previous committee members during FY25/26

- Kristie Wright
- Sarah Parker
- David Urquhart (Athlete Representative)



# JUMPING

## Year in Review

The 2025-26 year saw continued development across Australian Jumping, spanning national competition, international pathways, athlete development, rules and officials education.

A highlight was the three-day-event Trans-Tasman series, described in High Performance reporting as a significant success with strong engagement from leading riders. Jumping also completed its What It Takes to Win framework and Athlete Development Framework, which progressed to the Australian Institute of Sport for review.

## At a Glance

| | |
|---|---|
| Jumping official functions | 416 |
| Members in officials education | 28 |
| FEI Level 2 course participants | 15 |
| Australian stewards progressing to FEI Level 2 | 4 |

## Major Events & Milestones

Australia maintained a program of FEI Jumping competition. The 2026 FEI calendar included events in Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland, including World Cup competitions. Sydney International Equestrian Centre hosted two FEI Jumping Steward Courses from 18-24 August 2025.

## Participation & Pathways

The Jumping Athlete Development Framework and What It Takes to Win framework were developed to strengthen athlete progression. Planning continued towards the 2026 FEI World Championships in Aachen. As the Championships were held after the end of the financial year, this report reflects preparation rather than Championship outcomes.

## Rules & Discipline Development

Considerable work was undertaken on the 2026 National Jumping Rules, including alignment with revised FEI Jumping Rules. The EA Board approved the rules for the 2026 season, except for proposed amendments to Officials Annex XI.



# JUMPING

## Officials, Coaching & Education

EA recorded 416 Jumping official functions, while 28 members participated in Judges' accreditation, upgrades and refreshers, Course Designer education, mentoring and practical development.

All candidates in the four-day FEI Level 3 Steward Course achieved FEI Level 3 qualification. The FEI Level 2 course attracted 15 participants from Australia, New Zealand, the United States, Finland, Japan, Thailand and Singapore. Four Australian National Jumping Stewards progressed to FEI Level 2 through the equivalency pathway introduced in 2024.

The courses marked the first FEI trial of a hybrid delivery model combining on-site and remote course delivery.

## Looking Ahead

The focus remains on strong national competition, athlete and official development, contemporary rules and education, and pathways from domestic competition to international representation. Continued investment in athletes, horses, officials, coaches and competition opportunities will support future championships, Los Angeles 2028 and Brisbane 2032.

## Acknowledgements

Equestrian Australia acknowledges the athletes, horses, owners, coaches, officials, Organising Committees, State Branches and volunteers supporting Australian Jumping.

Particular recognition is given to the participants and course leaders involved in the FEI Jumping Steward courses and officials education activities.

## Committee Members

Graeme Watts (Chair)
Brigid Willis
George Sanna
Peter Hurley
Caitlin Bolger
Tyrone Latham (Athletes Representative)

## Previous committee members during FY25/26

Brad Frankum
Anne Garner
Michael Archer
Krissy Harris



# PARA DRESSAGE

## Year in Review

The EA Para Dressage Committee's vision is to create a thriving and safe sport, uniting and growing the Para Equestrian community. The year saw continued maturation, steady growth in athlete participation, stronger international performances and inclusion of Virtus in planning.

The Committee includes club, official and athlete representatives, with athlete pathways and High Performance invited to discussions. Objectives and strategies were delivered through partnerships with Para High Performance, Dressage, clubs, members and the disability and inclusion sector.

## At a Glance

- Para discipline committees were established in South Australia, New South Wales and Western Australia.
- Victoria, New South Wales and Western Australia received grant funding to develop Para officials.
- The EA test review was deferred until 2028.
- A member survey is planned for 2026-27.

## Committee Values

- One Health, One Welfare: athlete and horse welfare are interdependent.
- Diversity and Inclusion: recognised and celebrated.
- Teamwork: collaboration, communication and respect.
- Integrity: fair, ethical and transparent.
- Excellence: across all levels of participation and performance.

## Participation & Pathways

Increasing awareness and accessibility for Para riders in grassroots sport remained a key objective.

Work commenced on harmonising Virtus with EA and FEI requirements, including rules, tests and judges' qualifications. Nicole King was recruited from the Virtus community to advance this work.

Another objective is ensuring facilities, equipment and coaching are fully inclusive for riders with disabilities.

## Rules & Discipline Development

The Committee continued providing States and clubs with guidance and resources to support equal access to information. South Australia, New South Wales and Western Australia established Para discipline committees.

The Committee noted the importance of a more accessible EA website and accessible information formats. The EA test review was deferred until 2028. A policy for appointment of international officials to ground juries was completed.



# PARA DRESSAGE

## Officials, Coaching & Education

Grants were offered to all States for inclusion initiatives, including State-based annual awards for Para and Virtus athletes. Victoria, New South Wales and Western Australia received funding to help develop Para officials.

The review of Para Dressage officials education commenced with judge assessment tools and processes. Training videos were commissioned and work began on an education package for officials.

## Looking Ahead

The Committee aims to create positive first experiences and eliminate participation barriers. Greater club involvement, identification of potential committee members and member surveying form part of this work. A member survey is planned for 2026-27.

## Acknowledgements

Equestrian Australia acknowledges Para and Virtus athletes, horses, families, clubs, coaches, officials, classifiers, State Branches and disability and inclusion partners.

The Committee also recognises the stakeholders supporting participation, accessibility, education and performance pathways.

## Committee Members

- Lisa Baker (Chair)
- Jane Ventura
- Veronica Steward
- Felicity Weal (Athlete Representative)
- Nicole King (Virtus Representative)

## Previous committee members during FY25/26

- Sue Cunningham
- Noella Angel



# VAULTING

## Year in Review

The 2025-26 year was marked by progress across competition, international representation, coaching development and preparation for major championships.

Ginger Kennett was invited to represent Australia at the FEI Vaulting World Cup Final at Sentower Park in Opglabbeek, Belgium, on 29-30 May 2026. The campaign provided international experience and formed part of the pathway towards the 2026 FEI World Championships.

At the Australian Vaulting Championships, a squad achieved its Minimum Eligibility Requirement and an additional individual female vaulter achieved an MER, bringing the total in that category to two at that point in the campaign.

## At a Glance

| | |
|---|---|
| Vaulting official functions | 21 |
| FEI Level 1 course participants passed | 18 |
| EA Vaulting course participants passed | 10 |
| FEI Solidarity scholarships | 2 |

## Major Events & Milestones

The Great Southern CVI and Inter-Pacific Cup were staged at Sydney International Equestrian Centre from 12-15 March 2026. The FEI calendar included individual, junior, children, youth, squad and World Cup classes.

The national leaderboard continued to recognise performances. A minimum of three scores is required for individual national awards and two for the squad award, with results accepted from Australian and overseas competitions.

## Participation & Pathways

Two successful FEI Solidarity applications provided CHF5,000 scholarships to support overseas campaigning in 2026 before the World Championships.

Planning and qualification for the 2026 FEI World Championships in Aachen continued. Team selection and Championship results fall outside the reporting period.



# VAULTING

## Officials, Coaching & Education

Education and capability development remained a focus. Eighteen participants passed an FEI Level 1 Vaulting course and 10 passed EA Introductory, Level 1 or Level 2 courses. EA recorded 21 Vaulting official functions.

The Educational Video Library continued to expand, including resources for Vaulting judge education.

## Looking Ahead

Priorities remain athlete and horse pathways, coach and official development, stronger domestic competition and international experience. Collaboration across clubs, State Branches, the national discipline committee and EA will support participation and a pathway from introductory Vaulting to international representation.

## Acknowledgements

Equestrian Australia acknowledges the vaulters, horses, lungers, coaches, officials, clubs, State Branches and volunteers supporting Vaulting in Australia.

The contribution of participants and educators involved in coaching courses, officials development and the Educational Video Library is also recognised.

## Committee Members

Natalie McNeil (Chair)
Gillian Burns
Karen Ford
Eliza Wark-Chapman
Poppy Loveland
Tegan Davis (Athletes Representative)



# SHOW HORSE

## Year in Review

The Show Horse community continued to compete actively despite a challenging operating environment, including fuel-related pressures and the costs associated with attending the range of competitions available.

Each State conducted its National qualifying State Titles with good attendance. The EA National Show Horse and Riding Championships returned to Werribee Park after three years in Sydney, with almost every State fielding full teams.

## At a Glance

- The EA National Show Horse and Riding Championships returned to Werribee Park after three years in Sydney.
- Each State conducted National qualifying State Titles.
- The 2026 rules expanded the officials authorised to issue warning cards.
- The Committee transitioned to a skills-based National Discipline Committee structure.

## Major Events & Milestones

The return of the EA National Show Horse and Riding Championships to Werribee Park was a major milestone. The Committee acknowledged the Sydney Committee for hosting the previous three years and the Victorian Committee for delivering the 2025 Nationals and the next two years under its current tenure.

## Participation & Pathways

State committees continued to deliver National qualifying State Titles, supporting the pathway to the EA National Show Horse and Riding Championships. Good participation was recorded, while almost every State fielded a full National Championships team.

## Rules & Discipline Development

A number of amendments were made to the 2026 Show Horse Rules. The officials authorised to issue warning cards were expanded.

The rules clarified whether a horse competes as a Show Horse or Show Hunter. Competitors must decide at the beginning of the year and cannot change during the calendar year.

Work also continued to ensure judge selection for State Titles and Nationals is open and transparent, giving competitors confidence there is no outside influence.



# SHOW HORSE

## Officials, Coaching & Education

Increasing the Show Horse judges pool and the number of accredited officials was identified as an important priority. The National Committee intends to initiate development programs.

## Committee Update

The EA Show Horse Committee transitioned to a skills-based National Discipline Committee structure. Danielle Beattie and the Committee Chair were the first applicants appointed through the new format. As State representatives complete their terms, vacancies will open and interested people will be invited to apply.

## Looking Ahead

Priorities include increasing the pool of judges and accredited officials, continuing the skills-based committee transition and maintaining transparent judge-selection processes. State qualifying competitions and the National Championships remain central to the national structure.

## Acknowledgements

Equestrian Australia acknowledges all State committees for delivering events and State National qualifying titles. Particular thanks go to the Sydney Committee for hosting the Championships for the previous three years and the Victorian Committee for delivering the 2025 Nationals.

## Committee Members

- Darryl Hayes (Chair)
- Fiona McIntrye
- Rebecca Fedrick
- Kym Brajkovich
- Tania Hay
- Mark Kiddle (Athlete Representative)

## Previous committee members during FY25/26

- Peta Daffurn
- Alyson Emery



# GOVERNANCE REPORTS

### Building Stronger Foundations

Strong governance is fundamental to the long-term sustainability of Equestrian Australia and the confidence of our members, State Branches, partners and stakeholders.

Throughout 2025-26, EA continued to strengthen its governance systems, with a focus on clearer roles and responsibilities, stronger policy and accountability frameworks, integrity, risk management and greater alignment across the sport.

An important measure of this progress is EA's assessment against the Australian Sports Commission's Sports Governance Standards.

### Governance Maturity Continues to Improve

| | |
|---|---|
| 2026 Overall Score | 3.40 |
| 2025 Overall Score | 2.86 |
| 2024 Overall Score | 3.17 |
| 2023 Overall Score | 2.59 |

EA achieved an overall governance score of 3.40 out of 4 in 2026, compared with 2.86 in 2025, 3.17 in 2024 and 2.59 in 2023. This is EA's highest overall score across the four years of data provided.

The detailed scorecard on the following pages presents EA's 2026 result against each standard and the expected score contained in the supplied assessment data.

### Areas of strength

The 2026 assessment recorded full scores across a substantial number of individual standards, providing a strong basis for EA's continuing governance improvement program.

- Values and culture: Code of Conduct, Defined Values and Behaviours, and Demonstrated Values and Behaviours.
- Engagement and collaboration: Member and Stakeholder Engagement Plan, Board Engagement and Member Collaboration.
- Board composition and capability: Board Skills and Diversity Matrix, Director Independence, Appointment of Directors, Elected vs Appointed Directors and Governance Education.
- Governance framework: Legal Entity, Director Term Limits, Director Eligibility and Board Charter.
- Accountability and oversight: Finance, Audit & Risk Committee, CEO Eligibility, Conflict of Interest and Governance Reporting.
- Integrity: Anti-Doping Policy adoption and implementation, Integrity Policy adoption and implementation, Reporting Integrity Concerns, and Handling Complaints and Disputes.
- Board processes: Board Meeting Agenda, Board Meeting Minutes, Financial Delegations and Non-Financial Delegations.

# GOVERNANCE REPORTS

### Opportunities for Further Improvement

The assessment provides a transparent roadmap for continuous improvement. Priority areas include operational planning, roles and responsibilities, resource alignment, diversity and inclusion goals, director induction, Chair evaluation, risk management, integrity education, Board and CEO evaluation, the Board meeting schedule and succession planning.

### 2026 Sports Governance Standards Scorecard

| Principle | Standard | EA Score | Expected Score | Assessment |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **The Spirit of the Game - values driven culture and behaviours** | 1.1 Code of Conduct | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| | 1.2 Defined Values and Behaviours | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| | 1.3 Demonstrated Values and Behaviours | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| **The Team - aligned sport through collaborative governance** | 2.1 Member and Stakeholder Engagement Plan | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| | 2.2 Board Engagement | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| | 2.3 Member Collaboration | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| | 2.4 Member Collaboration | 3 | 3.33 | **Focus area** |
| **The Gameplan - a clear vision that informs strategy** | 3.1 Strategic Plan | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| | 3.2 Operational Plan | 2 | 4 | **Focus area** |
| | 3.3 Roles & Responsibilities | 1 | 4 | **Focus area** |
| | 3.4 Resource Alignment | 2 | 4 | **Focus area** |

# GOVERNANCE REPORTS

| Principle | Standard | EA Score | Expected Score | Assessment |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **The Players - a diverse board to enable considered decision making** | 4.1 Board Skills and Diversity Matrix | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| | 4.2 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Goals | 2 | 3.50 | **Focus area** |
| | 4.4 Director Independence | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| | 4.5 Appointment of Directors | 4 | 3.50 | **Meets expected** |
| | 4.6 Elected vs Appointed Directors | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| | 4.7 Governance Education | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| **The Rulebook - documents outlining duties, powers, roles and responsibilities** | 5.1 Legal Entity | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| | 5.2 Director Term Limits | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| | 5.3 Director Eligibility | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| | 5.4 Director Induction | 3 | 3.50 | **Focus area** |
| | 5.5 Board Charter | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| **The Playbook - board processes ensuring accountability and transparency** | 6.1 Finance, Audit & Risk Committee | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| | 6.2 Chair Appointment and Evaluation | 3 | 4 | **Focus area** |
| | 6.3 CEO Eligibility | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| | 6.4 Conflict of Interest | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| | 6.5 Governance Reporting | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |

# GOVERNANCE REPORTS

| Principle | Standard | EA Score | Expected Score | Assessment |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **The Defence - a system which protects the organisation** | 7.1 Vulnerable Persons and Children | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| | 7.2 Development of Risk Management | 3 | 4 | **Focus area** |
| | 7.3 Implementation of Risk Management | 3 | 3.50 | **Focus area** |
| **The Best and Fairest - a system for ensuring integrity** | 8.1 Anti-Doping Policy Adoption and Implementation | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| | 8.2 Integrity Policy Adoption and Implementation | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| | 8.3 Integrity Education Plan | 2 | 4 | **Focus area** |
| | 8.4 Reporting Integrity Concerns | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| | 8.5 Handling Complaints and Disputes | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |

# GOVERNANCE REPORTS

| Principle | Standard | EA Score | Expected Score | Assessment |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **The Scorecard - embedded systems of internal review and improvement** | 9.1 Board Evaluation | 1 | 4 | **Focus area** |
| | 9.2 Board Meeting Schedule | 3 | 4 | **Focus area** |
| | 9.3 Board Meeting Agenda | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| | 9.4 Board Meeting Minutes | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| | 9.5 Financial Delegations | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| | 9.6 Non-Financial Delegations | 4 | 4 | **Meets expected** |
| | 9.7 CEO Evaluation | 3 | 4 | **Focus area** |
| | 9.8 Succession Planning | 1 | 4 | **Focus area** |

### Looking ahead

EA will continue to use the Sports Governance Standards as a practical framework for improvement, with particular attention to the areas identified through the assessment.

The objective is not simply to improve a score. It is to ensure that EA has governance arrangements that support clear accountability, effective oversight, sound decision-making and long-term sustainability for the sport.

# STATE BRANCH REPORTS



# NEW SOUTH WALES

EQUESTRIAN
NEW SOUTH WALES

## Year in Review

2025–26 was a year of significant activity, change and continued investment in the delivery of equestrian sport across New South Wales. Throughout the year, Equestrian NSW remained focused on supporting members, clubs, disciplines, officials, coaches and volunteers while progressing the priorities of the Equestrian NSW Strategic Plan 2025–2030.

A major operational focus was supporting members and clubs through the transition to Equestrian Australia's new JustGo membership platform. The change required a substantial commitment from the Equestrian NSW team, particularly in assisting members, clubs and event organisers to navigate new processes and resolve system issues. Despite these challenges, our staff continued to deliver the organisation's extensive program of events, education, member services and discipline support.

A highlight of the year was the continued growth and success of the NSW Interschool program, providing young riders with opportunities to compete, represent their schools and their State, develop friendships and build leadership skills within the sport.

The NSW State Interschool Championships once again brought together riders from schools across metropolitan and regional NSW, competing across Dressage, Jumping, Eventing, Combined Training and Show Horse. Beyond determining State Champions, the Championships provide an important pathway towards national competition and are a major gathering point for the NSW school equestrian community.

In September 2025, Equestrian NSW hosted the Australian Interschool Championships at Sydney International Equestrian Centre, bringing together the best school-aged equestrian athletes from across Australia. Held from 24–28 September, the Championships were one of the largest equestrian events conducted at SIEC during the year, attracting 431 athletes and 499 horses, with 702 competition entries, 567 dressage tests and 716 jumping rounds delivered across the five-day event.

# NEW SOUTH WALES

The Championships utilised much of the Sydney Olympic equestrian venue and provided young riders with the experience of competing at the home of the Sydney 2000 Olympic equestrian events. Importantly, the event was about much more than results. State team activities, ceremonies and team-based competition created a strong sense of belonging, while senior athletes were provided with opportunities to lead and support younger team members.

The event demonstrated both the depth of junior equestrian participation nationally and the importance of Interschool competition as a pathway into the wider sport.

Equestrian NSW continued its significant investment in the delivery of sport through Dressage NSW, Eventing NSW and Jumping NSW, together with direct delivery and support for Interschool, Show Horse, Para Equestrian, Vaulting, Coaching and Amateur Equestrian activities.

This partnership between Equestrian NSW, our discipline organisations, affiliated clubs and volunteer committees remains fundamental to providing a broad range of participation and competition opportunities across the State.

Our commitment to participation and member experience continued through the Equestrian Experience Days program. Developed following feedback from members, the program has now supported more than 20 clubs to provide welcoming and accessible equestrian activities in metropolitan and regional communities.

Equestrian NSW also hosted a Members' Day at Sydney International Equestrian Centre, providing members with opportunities to ride on the Olympic Arena, experience cross-country, participate in dressage protocol sessions, try polo and access other equestrian activities in a relaxed and inclusive environment.

The development of young athletes remained an important focus. Equestrian NSW continued its work on athlete pathways and the implementation of the FTEM framework, supported discipline pathway programs and progressed a Future Champions pilot designed to provide talented young riders with access to experienced coaches and mentors. The Interschool program complements this work by creating an accessible pathway through which young equestrians can move from school-based participation into club, State, national and potentially international competition.

Horse welfare and the social licence of equestrian sport remained central to our work. Equestrian NSW commenced the Two Athletes – One Future horse welfare education initiative, bringing expert speakers and practical information to members and reinforcing our shared responsibility for the wellbeing of both horse and rider.

Officials, coaches and volunteers remain essential to the sustainability of equestrian sport.

# NEW SOUTH WALES

Equestrian NSW continued to invest in education and accreditation opportunities, including support for officials' training and maintenance requirements, coach development activities and initiatives aimed at making education more accessible through online and video-based resources. We also recognise the extraordinary contribution of the hundreds of volunteers who deliver competitions, education and community activities across NSW each year.




Investment in facilities was another positive development. Equestrian NSW welcomed the NSW Government and Office of Sport investment in upgrading the Olympic Arena and Arena 2 at Sydney International Equestrian Centre to world-class standards. As the venue of the Sydney 2000 Olympic equestrian competition, SIEC remains the home of equestrian sport in Australia and an important venue for Interschool competition, FEI Eventing, World Cup Jumping and international-level Dressage.

Throughout the year Equestrian NSW also continued to strengthen organisational governance, committee structures and collaboration across the sport. We remain committed to working constructively with Equestrian Australia, our discipline organisations, clubs, schools and the wider equestrian community to create a sustainable, welcoming and successful future for equestrian sport in New South Wales.

| NSW | Officials Numbers |
|---|---|
| Member Numbers | 6204 |
| Club Numbers | 171 |
| Total Events | 271 |

# NEW SOUTH WALES

## Major Achievements

- Successfully hosted the 2025 Australian Interschool Championships at Sydney International Equestrian Centre, attracting 431 athletes, 499 horses and 702 competition entries from across Australia.
- Delivered 567 dressage tests and 716 jumping rounds as part of the five-day Australian Interschool Championships program.
- Delivered the NSW State Interschool Championships, providing competition across Dressage, Jumping, Eventing, Combined Training and Show Horse and selecting riders to represent NSW nationally.
- Continued development of the NSW Interschool State Team program, with an increased focus on student leadership, teamwork and mentoring of younger athletes.
- Continued implementation of the Equestrian NSW Strategic Plan 2025–2030, with a focus on horse welfare, participation, pathways, officials and volunteers, facilities and organisational sustainability.
- Supported the delivery of Dressage, Eventing and Jumping through substantial investment in the three NSW discipline organisations.
- Expanded the Equestrian Experience Days initiative to more than 20 affiliated clubs across NSW.
- Delivered an Equestrian NSW Members' Day at Sydney International Equestrian Centre.
- Progressed athlete pathway development through FTEM mapping and the Future Champions initiative.
- Launched the Two Athletes – One Future horse welfare education initiative.
- Continued significant investment in officials' education, accreditation and development.
- Delivered coach education and professional development activities, including the annual Coach Development Day.
- Welcomed major NSW Government investment in upgrades to the Olympic Arena and Arena 2 at Sydney International Equestrian Centre.
- Strengthened committee governance, role clarity and meeting management across Equestrian NSW committees.
- Provided extensive member, club and event organiser support throughout the transition to the JustGo membership and administration platform.

## Key Events

Equestrian NSW hosted a total of 271 events across the 2025/26 season, reflecting the breadth and depth of equestrian sport throughout the state. Dressage led the calendar with 194 events, underlining its strong participation base, followed by Jumping (29) and Eventing (26). The season also featured seven Show Horse events, six Vaulting events and six Interschool competitions, which continue to provide a vital pathway for young riders.

# NEW SOUTH WALES

Rounding out the program were two multi-discipline events and one Para Equestrian event, showcasing the diversity of opportunities available to riders of all ages, abilities and disciplines across New South Wales.

## Programs Delivered

- NSW State Interschool Championships
- 2025 Australian Interschool Championships
- NSW Interschool State Team Program
- Interschool Student Leadership and Team Captain Program
- Equestrian Experience Days
- Equestrian NSW Members' Day
- Two Athletes – One Future Horse Welfare Webinar Series
- Future Champions athlete pathway pilot
- Athlete pathway and FTEM development
- Officials education, accreditation and maintenance support
- Coach Development Day and ongoing coach education
- Para Equestrian participation and development initiatives
- Amateur Equestrian participation programs
- Show Horse events and championships
- Vaulting development activities
- Discipline support programs for Dressage NSW, Eventing NSW and Jumping NSW
- Club and affiliate support and education
- Governance and committee development program

## Acknowledgements

Equestrian NSW extends its sincere thanks to the NSW Office of Sport for its continued support and investment in equestrian sport across the state. We also acknowledge the dedication and hard work of our discipline partners, Dressage NSW, Jumping NSW and Eventing NSW, whose commitment to delivering high-quality competitions and development opportunities is central to the growth of our sport. Finally, we recognise the ENSW Board and Committees for their leadership, expertise and countless volunteer hours, which continue to guide the organisation and strengthen the equestrian community throughout New South Wales.



# QUEENSLAND

EQUESTRIAN QUEENSLAND

## Year in Review

The 2025–26 year has been one of increased focus on supporting our affiliated clubs and event organisers on the ground, guiding members and staff through the national transition to the JustGo platform and continuing to advocate strongly for the development of the Toowoomba Showgrounds as the proposed equestrian venue for the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Alongside this, EQ has maintained its ongoing focus on education, safety and welfare, and support for clubs and volunteers across the state, and has developed a new Strategic Plan to guide the organisation through to 2030.

### *Supporting Affiliates to Deliver Key Events*

Recognising the increasing regulatory, insurance and operational demands placed on volunteer-run clubs, EQ significantly increased the level of direct support provided to affiliates in delivering their key events throughout 2025–26. This included:

- Additional hands-on guidance and event-planning support for clubs and discipline committees preparing to run competitions, camps and championships.
- Practical assistance navigating governance, risk management and compliance requirements associated with event delivery.
- Continued support for major state events across disciplines, building on the strong platform of recent years.

This increased level of support reflects EQ's commitment to ensuring events continue to be delivered safely and sustainably, notwithstanding the growing pressures facing volunteers and clubs.

### *JustGo Membership and Administration System Transition*

EQ dedicated substantial staff time and resourcing this year to supporting members, clubs and officials through the national transition to the JustGo membership and administration platform. We acknowledge that the JustGo system still requires substantial improvements to meet the needs of members and affiliates, and we continue to work with EA to support this development. This support included direct assistance to clubs and individual members experiencing transition issues, refined internal processes to manage the increased volume of enquiries, and ongoing advocacy to EA for system improvements to address usability and functionality issues identified during the rollout. EQ remains committed to working constructively with EA to ensure JustGo delivers the intended improvements to the member experience.

# QUEENSLAND

### *Club Connection Program*

During the year, EQ launched a new Club Connection program, engaging directly with affiliated clubs across the state through structured research interviews to better understand club operations, member experience and the club–EQ–EA relationship.

From the first round of consultations, the program has already generated improvements to support clubs with incident reporting, EQ Sport Development Fund processes and volunteer succession planning, with a further round of interviews planned to ensure findings reflect all regions and disciplines across the state.

### *Facilities and Infrastructure: Toowoomba Showgrounds and Brisbane 2032*

EQ continued its strong and sustained advocacy for the Toowoomba Showgrounds as the proposed venue for equestrian disciplines at the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. This has included ongoing engagement with local and state government, venue partners and industry stakeholders to progress planning and build the case for investment in a facility that would deliver a lasting legacy for equestrian sport in Queensland.

### *Education, Safety and Welfare*

Alongside this year's increased operational focus, EQ maintained its ongoing programs supporting coach, official and volunteer education and accreditation across disciplines, and continued to work with clubs and officials to promote best-practice safety standards and horse welfare across all equestrian activities.

### *New Strategic Plan 2026–2030*

During the year, EQ developed a new Strategic Plan 2026–2030 to guide the organisation's direction to the end of the decade. The plan sets out EQ's vision, mission and purpose and is structured around three pillars aligned with Equestrian Australia's Nationally Aligned Strategy — Strong Foundations, Sustainable Growth, and Excellence in Performance — so that state and national priorities reinforce one another. It sets clear 2030 targets across membership growth and retention, volunteer and official development, non-membership revenue, member satisfaction, delivery of priority state facilities projects, and a fully integrated digital member experience, with progress to be tracked through annual operational plans, bi-annual Board and public reporting, and a formal mid-term review in 2028. The priorities set out below reflect the first year of implementation under this new plan.

This increased level of support reflects EQ's commitment to ensuring events continue to be delivered safely and sustainably, notwithstanding the growing pressures facing volunteers and clubs.



# QUEENSLAND

| QLD | Officials Numbers |
|---|---|
| Member Numbers | 4339 |
| Club Numbers | 219 |
| Major Events | 11 |

*Looking Ahead: 2026–27 Priorities*

- Continuing to strengthen direct support for affiliates delivering events, as regulatory and operational demands on clubs and volunteers continue to grow.
- Ongoing advocacy for improvements to the JustGo platform to enhance usability for members and clubs.
- Sustained advocacy for the Toowoomba Showgrounds as the Brisbane 2032 equestrian venue, and progression of the EQ Facilities Strategy more broadly.
- Strengthening safety and horse welfare initiatives, including expanded resources and training for officials and event organisers.
- Supporting participation and development pathways from grassroots through to high performance sport

## Key Events

Equestrian Queensland delivered a strong calendar of key events across 2025 and 2026, headlined by the 2026 Festival of Jumping, which attracted 767 horses and 3,859 entries, and the 2026 Jumping Queensland State Titles with 1,539 entries.

Other major highlights included the 2025 Jumping County Championships, the 2025 Dressage State Championships and Brisbane CDI, the 2026 Interschool State Championships, and the 2025 QI3DE and Eventing State Championships. The program was rounded out by the 2025 Show Horse HOTY, the Show Horse Queensland Newcomer HOTY, and the 2025 Vaulting and Driving State Championships, before the season was celebrated at the 2025 EQ Annual Awards.

## Major Achievements

- The SaddleFitter Brisbane CDI
- Festival of Jumping
- QI3DE
- Warwick Horse Trials CCI
- Fig Tree Pocket Equestrian Group CCI
- TEG CCI

The delivery of international-level events in Queensland provides members with valuable opportunities to compete, officiate and participate at the highest level without travelling interstate or overseas. These events strengthen athlete and official development pathways while showcasing Queensland's capability to host international competition.

## Programs Delivered

- **Jumping** - Jumping Judges' accreditation, upgrade and refresher education; Course Designer education and development; mentoring and practical development opportunities at major competitions (28 members)

# QUEENSLAND

- **Dressage** - Judge seminars and education across accreditation levels; Steward induction and refresher training; rules updates; regional education; practical examinations, mentoring and judging development opportunities (180 members)
- **Show Horse** - Judges seminars and rules updates; accreditation and refresher education; Judge Mentor pathway; practical judging development opportunities (40 members)
- **Coaching Intensives and Assessment Clinics**; Introductory and Level 1 Horse Management, Riding and Coaching pathways; Coach Update and Professional Development programs (22 members); Coach Educator and SSTA development (6 members); Sport Development Funding supports the EA coaching education and official education and accreditation.

## Acknowledgements

Equestrian Queensland extends its sincere thanks to the EQ Board, Emily Coggan, Gary Lung, Karim Cham, Peta Fielding, Naomi Lane, Dave Holland and Danea O'Keeffe, for their leadership and commitment throughout the year, and to our dedicated staff, Samantha Duffy, Tarni McCormack, Melinda Robinson, Jodie Daly and Sandi-Leigh Norris, whose professionalism and teamwork underpin EQ's success.

We also acknowledge the Equestrian Queensland Sport Committees and our affiliated organisations for their tireless work in delivering competitions and opportunities across the state.

Finally, to our officials, volunteers, coaches and members, your passion and contribution remain the driving force behind Equestrian Queensland's progress as we continue to build a stronger, safer and more connected equestrian community.



# WESTERN AUSTRALIA

EQUESTRIAN
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## Year in Review

2025-26 was a year of achievement, growth and continued development for Equestrian Western Australia, with strong performances in the competition arena complemented by progress across membership, regional servicing, club development and the State Equestrian Centre.

Membership reached a new record, closing the year at 2,683 members. This milestone reflected continued participation and engagement across Western Australia and demonstrated the strength of a community made up of riders, coaches, officials, volunteers, clubs and supporters.

Western Australian athletes continued to make their presence felt nationally. Approximately 35 riders represented WA at the 2025 Australian Interschool Championships, where the team proudly secured the Equestrian Australia Interschool Trophy, awarded to the state with the highest cumulative rider points among teams of fewer than 50 riders.

WA Eventing riders also enjoyed significant success on the national stage, including strong performances at the Melbourne International Three Day Event and Adelaide Three Day Event. Charlee Morton-Sharp claimed first place and Ruby Rae second at Melbourne, while Emily Gray achieved second place at Adelaide. WA's vaulters similarly impressed at the 2025 National Vaulting Championships, with nine athletes competing and Imelda Alembick and Zara Detogni securing first place in the Preliminary Pas de Deux B.

A particularly proud moment for the WA equestrian community came in June when Sharon Jarvis was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) in the King's Birthday Honours, recognising her outstanding service to equestrian sport and pioneering contribution to Para Equestrian competition.

Closer to home, the State Equestrian Centre continued to serve as the heart of equestrian sport in WA, hosting a diverse calendar of competitions, championships and education opportunities. Major events included the Barbagallo Maserati Indoor Grand Prix, Dressage WA State Championships, Interschool WA State Championships and Show Horse WA Horse and Rider of the Year, alongside masterclasses featuring international and elite equestrian talent.

Work also continued to strengthen the future of the SEC, including progression of the SEC Business Case, roof repairs, electrical upgrades and investment in a rainwater reclamation system. These projects continued the important work of maintaining and developing the state's premier equestrian facility.

# WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Supporting clubs and regional members remained another important focus. EWA recorded 92 affiliated clubs in 2025, evenly distributed between metropolitan and regional areas. The Club Development Manager role provided increased support to clubs, while a new Club Forum, monthly club communications and the Regional Servicing Program created further opportunities for education, information sharing and development.

Delivered in partnership with the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism and Sport and Milne Feeds, the Regional Servicing Program brought rider clinics and coach and official development opportunities into regional communities. The Regional Advisory Working Group also provided an important mechanism for regional voices to help shape future EWA activities and services.

Across the disciplines, development pathways continued to grow. Dressage WA delivered one of its largest State Championships in recent years, with strong participation and the further inclusion of Para Dressage and Virtus competition providing expanded opportunities for athletes.

The achievements of 2025 were underpinned by the contribution of EWA's volunteers, officials, coaches, committees, clubs, members, families, staff and commercial and government partners. Their collective effort continues to strengthen equestrian sport across Western Australia and provides a strong foundation for the years ahead.

## Key Events

Equestrian Western Australia hosted a strong program of key events throughout the season, with the State Equestrian Centre at the heart of the calendar. The Interschool WA State Championships attracted 170 riders across 634 classes, while the Barbagallo Maserati EWA Grand Prix was held in conjunction with the EWA AGM. The Dressage WA State Championships and the Show Horse WA Horse and Rider of the Year were further highlights, and the State Equestrian Centre also played host to two masterclasses, led by Jenny Gerke and Jayden Brown, and Boyd and Silver Martin. The season was celebrated at the EWA Annual Awards Night at The Ritz-Carlton, Perth, attended by 300 guests.

| WA | Officials Numbers |
|---|---|
| Member Numbers | 2683 |
| Club Numbers | 92 |
| Major Events | 5 |

## Major Achievements

- Record EWA Membership - 2,683 Members
- WA Wins the Equestrian Australia Interschool Trophy
- Outstanding National Eventing Results

# WESTERN AUSTRALIA

- Vaulters Shine at National Championships
- Sharon Jarvis Awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia
- Continued growth of WA's Club Network
- Expansion of Regional Servicing across Western Australia
- Progress on the future of the State Equestrian Centre

## Programs Delivered

*EWA Junior Equestrian Development Squad*

EWA's High Performance program continued to strengthen athlete pathways across Dressage, Eventing, Jumping and Para Equestrian in 2025. WA riders achieved strong results at state, national and international level, supported through squad training, coaching and development opportunities. The program continued to foster emerging talent while supporting established athletes to pursue higher levels of performance.

## Coaching and Officials Pathways

EWA continued to strengthen coach and official education and development, supporting accreditation pathways and ongoing professional development across WA.

A range of workshops, seminars, assessments and updating opportunities helped build the capability and confidence of the people who underpin safe, quality equestrian sport.

This investment continues to grow WA's network of skilled coaches and officials while supporting sustainable participation and competition across the state.

## Club & Regional Development

In 2025, Equestrian WA launched its Regional Servicing Program, in partnership with the Department of Creative Industries, Tourism and Sport and Milne Feeds, to strengthen support for regional riders, clubs, coaches and officials. Focusing on the Great Southern, Peel and Wheatbelt, the program delivered six rider clinics providing 121 lessons to 67 horse and rider combinations, alongside four coach and official development days supporting accreditation, assessments, course design and cross-country education. Fifteen EA Accredited Coaches, three Coach Educators and two Official Mentors travelled from Perth to support regional participants. Three online club development workshops were also delivered in partnership with CLUBMAP and Starick, reaching 33 clubs and covering committee structures, modern funding and respectful relationships. A new Regional Advisory Working Group provided valuable local insight to help guide and improve the program, which will continue to expand its reach across regional WA.

## Acknowledgements

Equestrian Western Australia extends its sincere thanks to the EWA Board for their leadership and guidance throughout the year: Anne Wilkins (Chair), Rory Hovell (Vice Chair), Roslyn O'Halloran (Finance Director), and Directors Kelly Kent, PollyAnn Huntington and Michael Dagostino.

# WESTERN AUSTRALIA

We also recognise our dedicated staff, whose professionalism and commitment underpin EWA's success: Madison Treloar (State Manager and Marketing & Partnerships), Meredith Tenger (Membership & Standards Officer), Kaeleigh Brown (Sports Development), Camille Vermeil (Club Development), Liesl van der Merwe and Gabriela Beliti (Accounts), Sharna Keys-Fernihough (Customer Service), Nicole Kopke (Events & Bookings) and Marina Hibbitt (Facilities).

Our thanks go to the State Discipline Committees and their Chairs for their tireless work in delivering competitions and development opportunities across the state: Bella Robson (Dressage WA), Jacinta Withoud (Eventing WA), Sophie Parkes (Jumping WA), Eileen Morris (Show Horse WA) and Rebecca Thomas (Coaching WA).

Finally, we acknowledge the ongoing support of our stakeholders and sponsors, with particular thanks to the Department of Cultural Industries, Tourism and Sport for its continued investment in equestrian sport in Western Australia.



# SOUTH AUSTRALIA

EQUESTRIAN
SOUTH AUSTRALIA

## Year in Review

The 2025–26 financial year was a period of significant activity, reflection and progress for Equestrian South Australia (ESA), as the organisation continued to support the delivery and development of equestrian sport across the state while navigating a changing national sporting environment.

Throughout the year, ESA remained focused on supporting its members, clubs, disciplines, officials, coaches and volunteers, whose commitment continues to underpin equestrian sport in South Australia. Across Dressage, Eventing, Jumping, Show Horse, Interschool, Vaulting, Para Equestrian and the broader equestrian community, participants continued to represent South Australia with distinction at both state and national level.

A key focus during the year was strengthening governance and organisational transparency. ESA continued its work to improve governance practices, policies and decision-making processes, while also undertaking a governance self-assessment in conjunction with the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing. This process provided an important benchmark for the organisation and identified opportunities for further improvement.

ESA also increased communication with members during the year. Board meeting summaries were made publicly available to provide greater visibility of key decisions, financial matters, policy discussions and organisational priorities. In June, ESA launched its first quarterly Board Member Newsletter, providing another platform to keep members informed about developments across the organisation and its disciplines.

The broader relationship between the states and Equestrian Australia was another important area of focus. ESA welcomed EA Chair Nick Ballard and CEO Ben Houston to engage directly with the Board regarding the future direction of the sport and the role of state branches within a more connected national structure. ESA also continued working through the requirements associated with the National Integrity Framework, with representatives participating in education and briefings involving the Office for Recreation, Sport and Racing, Sport Integrity Australia and the National Sports Tribunal.

# SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Financial sustainability remained an important focus throughout 2025–26, with ESA continuing to balance the cost of delivering quality services and opportunities with the need to keep participation as accessible as possible for members. Changes to national fees and levies were carefully considered as part of the annual membership pricing process, with the ESA Board electing to absorb a portion of the increase to help reduce the impact on South Australian members. ESA also worked collaboratively with Equestrian Australia to support members experiencing financial hardship and to ensure appropriate options were available where required.

Supporting the sustainability of clubs and competition remained equally important. Initiatives such as the 2025 Eventing Assistance Grant provided direct support to affiliated clubs conducting official EA and FEI horse trials, helping reinvest participant levies back into the sport at grassroots level.

The achievements and contributions of the South Australian equestrian community were celebrated through the annual ESA Awards, which recognised outstanding performances and service across the sport and attracted record ticket sales.

Behind every competition, program and achievement are the volunteers, officials, coaches, committee members, club administrators, families and supporters who contribute countless hours to equestrian sport.

ESA sincerely thanks everyone who contributed during 2025–26, together with its discipline committees, Board members, staff, Equestrian Australia and government and industry partners.

As the financial year concluded, ESA was well positioned to build on this work and enter its next period with a renewed focus on strong governance, financial sustainability, improved member engagement, horse and participant welfare, participation growth and ensuring equestrian sport remains accessible and sustainable for future generations.

| SA | Officials Numbers |
|---|---|
| Member Numbers | 1205 |
| Club Numbers | 36 |
| Key Events | 12 |

## Major Achievements

- Two riders awarded gold performance medals at the National Dressage Championships
- SA Team finished second at Melbourne International Horse Trials at the CCI2*
- Most successful representation at the Australian National Vaulting Championships, SA Virtus rider in Australian Team at Virtus, team won silver medal

# SOUTH AUSTRALIA

## Programs Delivered

- Dressage – Celebration of Dressage created to acknowledge SA's Dressage volunteers, supporters, riders, sponsors, officials and high achievers. Active squad programs, introduction of Youth & Emerging Talent Squads. Youth Development Clinic open to all disciplines.
- Eventing – Active Squad programs. Gillian Rolton Youth Development Award
- Vaulting – Successful Clinics
- Interschool – Introduction of Program held at the Adelaide Royal Show
- Para – Introduction as a separate Discipline Committee, following the introduction at EA level. ESA Para DC included Virtus riders as part of their scope. Successful State Para Championships run by the new DC for the first time.
- Jumping – Active squad and open clinics
- Multiple successful Dressage Judges Clinics with interstate guests
- Variety of Stewards Clinics
- Jumping Judges & Official Courses & updates
- Coaching hosted the 2026 Coaches Update in conjunction with the Adelaide Equestrian Festival




## Acknowledgments

Equestrian South Australia extends its heartfelt thanks to the many volunteers whose time, energy and generosity make our sport possible across the state. We also acknowledge the dedication of our Discipline Committee members, whose expertise and commitment continue to drive the delivery of competitions and development opportunities for riders at every level. Finally, we thank Tinesha and Michelle from Equestrian Australia for their outstanding work in supporting the onboarding of the JustGo program, helping to ensure a smooth transition for our members and clubs.



# VICTORIA

EQUESTRIAN VICTORIA

## Year in Review

Throughout 2025-2026, Equestrian Victoria remained focused on delivering value for members while supporting the continued growth and development of equestrian sport across the state. Through collaboration with clubs, volunteers, officials and stakeholders, the organisation strengthened participation opportunities, enhanced major events, invested in future leaders and continued to advocate for the needs of the Victorian equestrian community. These efforts have helped position the sport for continued success and sustainability in the years ahead.

A key focus for Equestrian Victoria this year was strengthening support for major events through closer collaboration with organising committees. This approach aimed to enhance the experience for competitors, officials, volunteers, sponsors, traders and spectators alike.

Over 190 events ran across the state, providing opportunities for riders of all levels and disciplines to develop skills, progress through performance pathways and engage with their local equestrian communities. Significant events on our calendar included: MI3DE, DJWTS, Dressage Festival, Barastoc Horse of The Year, Interschool State Championships, Australian Youth Championships, Jumping State Titles, EV Annual Awards, Victorian AOR Championships, EV Spring Horse Trials and the Summer Show.

Equestrian Victoria continued to facilitate Racing Victoria Off The Track Program funding, enabling affiliate and EV events to showcase thoroughbreds and provide these horses with opportunities for a successful second career after racing.

Whilst membership numbers for the 2025-26 period were slightly down, participation at major events such as the Dressage Festival experienced strong growth in competitor numbers compared to the previous year. Our squad programs continue to show consistent participation.

Equestrian Victoria is proud of the progress made in building stronger partnerships with both our fellow state branches and the national body. We will continue to build on this and work collaboratively to ensure an improved member experience.

# VICTORIA

The new EA JustGo platform was introduced and like any system transition, it presented some challenges for members and staff alike. Throughout the year, the EV team worked closely with EA to minimise impacts, support members and advocate for ongoing system improvements. We thank our members for their patience, understanding and kindness during this process.

Engaging young members remains a key focus for Equestrian Victoria. The Young Ambassador Program develops leadership skills, encourages broader involvement in the sport and fosters connections across disciplines. Our ambassadors supported clinics and squads, supported other young athletes at competitions and the program helps foster the next generation of volunteers. We congratulate our 2025 ambassadors,

Kiera (Eventing), Darcy (Para Dressage), Molly (Dressage), Ella (Show Horse) and Malikah (Jumping), on their outstanding contributions. Kiera reflected on her experience “The Young Ambassador Program has pushed me outside my comfort zone and given me the confidence to turn ideas into action. It has been so rewarding, bringing people together, creating new opportunities and connecting with people across the sport”.

### Key Events

Equestrian Victoria delivered a vibrant calendar of key events throughout the season, with eight major competitions attracting more than 2,500 entries combined.

The EV Spring Horse Trials led the way with 479 entries, followed by strong fields at the Interschool State Championships and the Dressage Festival, each drawing 420 entries. The Barastoc Horse of the Year, Jumping State Titles and Melbourne International Three Day Event were further highlights, alongside the Australian Youth Championships and the AOR State Championships, showcasing the depth of talent and participation across all levels of equestrian sport in Victoria.

| VIC | Officials Numbers |
|---|---|
| Member Numbers | 4157 |
| Club Numbers | 91 |
| Major Events | 8 |

### Major Achievements

- Significant events: MI3DE,
- DJWTS, Dressage Festival,
- Barastoc Horse of The Year,
- Show Horse Nationals,
- Interschool State Championships,
- Australian Youth Championships,
- Jumping State Titles,
- EV Annual Awards,
- Victorian AOR Championships,
- EV Spring Horse Trials,
- EV Summer Show

# VICTORIA




### Programs Delivered

- Young Ambassador Program,
- Squads - Eventing (271 participants), Showjumping (121 Participants), Dressage (46 participants)
- TMA Funded initiatives including free first aid & Official's upskilling.
- Off The Track Program funding.

### Acknowledgments

Our clubs and committees across all disciplines remain the backbone of equestrian sport in Victoria. The dedication of volunteers continues to be central to delivering competitions, programs and experiences for members across the state. Equestrian Victoria sincerely thanks all volunteers for their time, commitment and passion, and will continue to invest in education and accreditation opportunities to support clubs and organisers.

To all members who have been involved in our sport whether volunteers, parents, competitors, leisure riders, coaches, officials, spouses, sponsors, committee members or visitor to one of our events, we recognise your involvement and thank you for joining us for another year.

Looking ahead, Equestrian Victoria remains committed to growing participation, supporting excellence, strengthening clubs and ensuring a sustainable future for equestrian sport across Victoria.

I'd like to acknowledge the wonderful work of the EV team and thank them for all they do for our sport. Their dedication, professionalism and effort is greatly appreciated by us all.



# TASMANIA

EQUESTRIAN TASMANIA

## Year in Review

It has been a year of steady progress and genuine challenge for Equestrian Tasmania (ETAS).

### *Membership and Community*

ETAS worked hard to keep state fees as low as possible while remaining viable.

One of the most significant undertakings this year was the transition of our membership system from Nominate to JustGo. As the state's only employee, managing this changeover alongside day-to-day operations was genuinely challenging, but we feel we continued to support members and clubs throughout this process. We wish to acknowledge the patience our members, clubs, and volunteers showed throughout the process. Their understanding made a difficult transition manageable.

### *Governance*

The Board commenced a comprehensive suite of governance documents addressing the Australian Sports Commission's Sport Governance Standards. Financial oversight was strengthened through regular Board attendance by our volunteer bookkeeper, and ETAS maintained a gender-diverse board (40:40:20) throughout 25/26. This work directly targets the Game Plan framework.

### *Discipline Highlights*

Dressage Tasmania, Eventing Tasmania, Jumping Tasmania, Show Horse Tasmania and Interschool Tasmania, along with their associated clubs and committees, held a full calendar of competitions, championships, clinics and development days statewide. The North West Zone ran a seamless State Dressage Championships, Jumping Tasmania's four branches kept grassroots and elite pathways running statewide, Eventing Tasmania held a High Performance development Squad, Show Horse Tasmania's training days continued to grow in popularity, reflecting strong member demand, and our Interschool team represented Tasmania with distinction at the Australian Championships in Sydney.

A standout achievement this year was Georgia Elias, who capped off an outstanding season across multiple disciplines. Georgia was crowned Eventing Tasmania's Senior Athlete of the Year and Horse of the Year (Silverwoods Aussie Pride), claimed the 1.30m Jumping Championship, featured in both the High Performance and Rising Talent State Squads, and was selected for the Australian U25 Oceania team competing in Adelaide.

# TASMANIA

She was also profiled by Active Tasmania as part of a Women and Girls in Sport campaign showcasing the connection between horse and rider. Georgia's achievements reflect the depth of talent our development pathways are producing and are a real credit to Tasmanian equestrian sport.

Coaching Tasmania delivered a strong professional development program funded by Active Tasmania, and the Tasmanian Equestrian Centre saw meaningful infrastructure improvements, including new yards and accessibility upgrades.

## Looking Ahead

With governance documentation nearing completion, a new membership system now operational, and strong performances across every discipline, ETAS heads into 2026/27 well-placed to build on this year's foundations. Thank you to our Board, volunteers, coaches, officials and members for everything you have given to Tasmanian equestrian sport this year.

## Programs Delivered

- Dressage Tasmania
- Eventing Tasmania
- Jumping Tasmania
- Show Horse Tasmania
- Interschool Tasmania

| TAS | Officials Numbers |
|---|---|
| Member Numbers | 825 |
| Club Numbers | 30 |
| Key Events | 12 |

## Acknowledgments

Equestrian Tasmania extends its sincere thanks to all members of the ETAS Board for their leadership, guidance and commitment throughout the year. We also acknowledge the Sport Discipline Committees, whose dedication and expertise are central to delivering competitions and development opportunities across the state. Finally, we recognise our volunteers and officials, whose generosity, time and passion continue to be the backbone of equestrian sport in Tasmania.



# NORTHERN TERRITORY

EQUESTRIAN
NORTHERN TERRITORY

## Year in Review

The 2025-26 year marked an important milestone for equestrian sport in the Northern Territory, with Equestrian Northern Territory formally recognised as a Branch of Equestrian Australia at the 2025 Annual General Meeting. The change strengthened the Northern Territory's place within EA's national governance framework and supports participation and collaboration across all jurisdictions.

Throughout the year, the Northern Territory's equestrian community continued to be supported by a dedicated network of members, clubs, officials and volunteers. The supplied annual report data records 197 members, 12 clubs, 15 officials and two major events, demonstrating the contribution of a relatively small but active equestrian community.

Competition remained an important focus, with the NT Dressage Championships and NT Show Horse Championships identified among the Territory's key events for the year.

Northern Territory members also represented the Territory beyond local competition. Brooke Morley won the Emerald Series at the Australian Showjumping Championships in 2025 and was nominated in two categories at the NT Sports Awards. The NT Interschools team represented the Territory at the 2025 National Interschools competition, while Michael Duckenfield represented the NT at the National Show Horse Championships.

Development of the equestrian workforce also remained part of the Territory's contribution to the national sport, with six EA accredited coaches recorded for the Northern Territory in the 2025-26 coaching data.

Equestrian Northern Territory acknowledges the officials and volunteers whose time, expertise and commitment make competition and participation possible across the Territory. Their contribution remains essential to maintaining opportunities for members and supporting the future of equestrian sport in the Northern Territory.

## Key Events

- NT Dressage Championships
- NT Show Horse Championships

## Major Achievements

- Member Brooke Morley won the Emerald Series at the Australian Showjumping Championships in 2025. She was also nominated in two categories at the NT Sports Awards.
- The NT Interschools team represented the NT proudly and successfully at the National Interschools competition in 2025.

# NORTHERN TERRITORY

Member Michael Duckenfield represented the NT at the National Show Horse Championships with success in 2025.

| NT | Officials Numbers |
|---|---|
| Member Numbers | 197 |
| Club Numbers | 12 |
| Major Events | 2 |



## Acknowledgements

Equestrian Northern Territory extends its sincere thanks to all of our officials and volunteers, whose generosity, time and dedication are essential to the running of our sport. Without their ongoing commitment, our competitions and events simply would not be possible, and we are deeply grateful for the vital role they play in supporting equestrian sport across the Territory.



# OUR PARTNERS

Equestrian Australia gratefully acknowledges the organisations that work alongside us to support the governance, integrity, development and international participation of equestrian sport in Australia.

These relationships provide important expertise, guidance, resources and opportunities that strengthen our organisation and support athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers and the wider equestrian community.

### Australian Sports Commission

We acknowledge the Australian Sports Commission for its continued support of Equestrian Australia and Australian sport.

During the year, EA continued working with the ASC on governance improvement, including a structured Governance Workplan developed to address recommendations arising from the ASC governance review. We value the ASC's role in supporting stronger governance and sustainable national sporting organisations.

### Australian Institute of Sport

We thank the Australian Institute of Sport for its ongoing engagement with EA's High Performance program and athlete and pathway development. During the year, EA's Jumping What It Takes to Win and Athlete Development Framework work progressed for AIS review, illustrating the connection between national pathway development and the broader Australian high-performance system.

### Sport Integrity Australia

Sport Integrity Australia remains an important partner in EA's work to create a safe, fair and welcoming sporting environment. EA works with SIA through the National Integrity Framework and integrity education. EA's education planning provides for collaboration with SIA in the development and implementation of the education plan, while SIA provides access to integrity education materials and promotional resources.

### Australian Olympic Committee

We acknowledge the Australian Olympic Committee and our shared commitment to supporting Australian equestrian athletes on the Olympic pathway. EA's regulatory framework recognises the AOC's role in Olympic participation requirements, including the AOC Team Agreement and Olympic commercial requirements for athletes. As the sport continues its journey towards Los Angeles 2028 and Brisbane 2032, we value our connection with Australia's Olympic movement.

### Fédération Equestre Internationale

We acknowledge the Fédération Equestre Internationale as the international governing body for equestrian sport and for its role in supporting the development and international participation of Australian equestrian sport. The relationship extends across international competition and regulation as well as education and development. During 2025-26, Australia hosted FEI education opportunities, including Jumping Steward courses, strengthening pathways for Australian officials.

# OUR PARTNERS

**Thank you**

Equestrian Australia sincerely thanks the Australian Sports Commission, Australian Institute of Sport, Sport Integrity Australia, Australian Olympic Committee and Fédération Equestre Internationale for their contribution to Australian equestrian sport.

Their support and collaboration help EA strengthen the foundations of our sport, develop our people and pathways, uphold integrity and governance standards, and connect Australian equestrian sport with the national and international sporting community.



# FINANCIAL COMMENTARY

The organisation recorded a deficit of $848,218 for the year ended 30 June 2026, compared with a deficit of $538,826 in 2025. The FY2026 deficit was attributable to EA's general operations, with the High Performance program recording a break-even result after the allocation of corporate support costs.

The result was primarily driven by a significant decline in membership revenue, together with committed expenditure associated with the new national IT system. These pressures were identified through the organisation's financial reforecasting during the first half of FY2026.

In response, EA undertook a comprehensive review of expenditure and prioritised the continuation of essential services to members. However, the scope for further savings during the year was constrained by an already limited level of discretionary expenditure and existing contractual and operational commitments.

Following the reforecast and expenditure review, operational expenditure in the second half of FY2026 was approximately $426,000 lower than in the first half of the year. This reduction was achieved through:

- Eliminating all non-essential travel and discretionary expenditure;
- Reassessing and reducing commitments to external consultants and contractors;
- Reducing staffing levels and freezing recruitment until FY2027; and
- Deferring other planned capital projects.

During the year, appointments were made to the Financial Risk & Audit Committee and the Fees & Levies Committee, strengthening oversight of financial performance, fees and funding arrangements. EA also continued to work collaboratively with the State Branches to improve transparency and develop more sustainable funding arrangements across the sport.

EA acknowledges that the organisation has recorded deficits over several financial years. Restoring financial sustainability remains a key priority, with a focus on aligning expenditure with available funding, strengthening revenue, maintaining appropriate financial oversight and continuing to deliver essential services to members.

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Equestrian Australia Limited

Financial Report
for the Year Ended
30 June 2026

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Directors' Report

### DIRECTORS

The directors present their report, together with the financial statements, on the company for the year ended 30 June 2026.

The following persons were directors of the Company during the financial year and up to the date of this report, unless otherwise stated:

| Director Name | Appointed / (Ceased) |
|---|---|
| Nicholas Ballard | 15/11/2024 |
| Jade Findlay | 25/09/2025 |
| Nicola Rockwell | 24/11/2025 |
| Brett Cantle | 24/11/2025 |
| Bradley Frankum | 21/12/2025 |
| Martin Silk | 16/07/2026 |
| Jacob McLoughlin | 16/07/2026 |
| David Miles (Zac) | 30/11/2022 / (19/11/2025) |
| Elizabeth Ballantyne (Jane) | 24/05/2023 / (19/11/2025) |
| Wolf-Christian Bennecke (Chris) | 24/05/2023 / (19/11/2025) |
| Femmegje Hundertmark (Maggie) | 13/05/2024 / (01/12/2025) |
| Rhett Oliver | 09/10/2023 / (22/01/2026) |
| Ellen Lyons (Stephanie) | 09/11/2023 / (08/06/2026) |

Details of each of the above directors' qualifications, special responsibilities and experience are set out in the Director Information section.

### COMPANY SECRETARY

The Company Secretary is Holly Noue (née Fulker).

### PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activity of the Company remained unchanged and was that of being the National Sporting Organisation (NSO) for Equestrian sport in Australia, recognised by the Federation Equestre International (FEI), Australian Sports Commission (ASC), the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) and Paralympics Australia (PA).

These activities support the Company's objectives by providing a nationally coordinated framework for the participation, administration, development and promotion of equestrian sport in Australia.

### COMPANY OBJECTIVES

In accordance with the Equestrian Australia Constitution, a summary of the core objectives are as follows:

- create in conjunction with the Branches a uniform entity through and by which Equestrian sport in Australia can be encouraged, conducted, promoted and administered and to be the governing body of Equestrian sport in Australia;
- represent and act on behalf of, and in the interests of, the Branches and the Participating Members in all matters pertaining to Equestrian sport at a national and international level;
- select and manage Equestrian sport teams and individuals to represent Australia in international competitions and events inside and outside Australia;
- encourage, conduct, promote, and administer Equestrian sport throughout Australia, through and by the Branches for the mutual and collective benefit of the Participating Members and Equestrian sport;
- act in good faith and loyalty to ensure the maintenance and enhancement of the Company and Equestrian sport, its standards, quality and reputation for the collective and mutual benefit of the Branches and the Participating Members and Equestrian sport;

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Directors' Report

- co-operate with, and promote mutual trust and confidence between the Company and the Branches and between the Branches themselves in pursuit of these objects;
- promote the economic and sporting success, strength and stability of the Company and each Branch and to act interdependently with each Branch in pursuit of these objects;
- promote the health and safety of riders, horses, officials and other individuals participating in Equestrian sport in any capacity;
- establish and conduct education and training programs for riders, coaches, judges, officials, support personnel and staff in the implementation and interpretation of Equestrian sport rules and standards and any of the policies, codes of conduct, protocols and principles which are formulated, adopted or implemented under the Object in Rule 2(w);
- formulate, adopt, implement and observe appropriate policies, codes of conduct, protocols and principles, including policies, codes of conduct, protocols and principles in relation to member protection, equal opportunity, equity, anti-doping, sports medicine, integrity, corruption, health, safety, junior and senior programs, infectious horse diseases and such other matters as arise from time to time as issues to be addressed in Equestrian sport;
- represent the interests of the Participating Members and of Equestrian sport generally in any appropriate forum including representations to government on issues facing the Equestrian sport industry;
- encourage and promote performance-enhancing drug free competition;
- give, and where appropriate, seek recognition for athletes, officials and other individuals participating in Equestrian sport in any capacity to obtain awards or public recognition; and
- undertake and or do all things or activities which are necessary, incidental or conducive to the advancement of these objects.

All objectives of Equestrian Australia are outlined in the Constitution.

### STRATEGY

The Company seeks to achieve its objectives through the governance and administration of equestrian sport nationally, working collaboratively with State Branches and discipline committees, delivering participation and development programs, maintaining appropriate safety, integrity and welfare frameworks, and supporting high-performance pathways and Australian representative teams.

### DIRECTOR INFORMATION

The details of each Director's qualifications, special responsibilities and experience are set out below.

***Nicholas Ballard – Chair***

With a lifetime of experience in the equestrian industry as a competitor, owner, parent, official, and volunteer Nicholas is dedicated to giving back to this vibrant sport.

From 2021-2024, Nicholas has proudly served on the Equestrian Queensland (EQ) Board, including as Vice Chair in 2021 and Chair from 2022. This role has allowed Nicholas to build effective and lasting relationships that foster the sustainable growth of our community.

*Nicholas' priorities include:*

- Supporting affiliated clubs and event organisers
- Empowering EA-accredited officials
- Championing EA-accredited coaches
- Developing our athletes

Nicholas was elected to the Board on 15 November 2024 for a term of three years.

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Directors' Report

**DIRECTOR INFORMATION (cont'd)**

***Nicola Rockwell – Deputy Chair***

Nicola is a participant in AOR dressage along with being a parent of a child who competes at an FEI level in Dressage and Eventing and lives in the Hills District of Sydney.

In her extensive tenure on sporting committees, encompassing both equestrian and baseball organisations, she has played a pivotal role in facilitating substantial growth. Nicola's contributions have been instrumental in increasing participation rates and fostering financial growth through strategic sponsorship acquisitions. Through leadership and dedication, she has consistently elevated clubs to new heights, fostering a culture of excellence and achievement.

In addition to Nicola's involvement in sporting committees, she has had the privilege of serving as the CEO of Rockwell Information Services, a successful software company for the past 20 years. During her tenure, she has overseen the company's evolution, shaping it into a recognised industry leader. Nicola's responsibilities have included strategic planning, team leadership, and the development of innovative solutions that have propelled the company to unparalleled success.

People management is a cornerstone of Nicola's leadership philosophy. Over the years, she has built and nurtured high-performing teams that are both inspired and committed to our collective mission. Her approach emphasises collaboration, talent development, and fostering a culture of innovation and continuous improvement.

Nicola has substantial experience in online learning and compliance. This unique combination of expertise has equipped her with the ability to ensure that strategic direction and compliance considerations are seamlessly integrated into all stages of planning. This approach ensures that her company remains not only innovative but also compliant with regulatory and industry standards.

Nicola was elected to the Board on 24 November 2025 for a term of two years.

***Jade Findlay***

Jade Findlay is a very experienced Event rider who has competed at 4 and 5* consistently for over 20 years. She has produced horses competitively and had great success winning at 4* level as well as representing Australia in 2019. She still rides at 4* today with a group of nice younger horses in her competition string.

She runs a very successful Thoroughbred business with her husband, with over 140 horses in her care at Hannover Lodge in Wilberforce.

Her experience across multiple businesses, sitting as a director, holds her in good standing, with experience in strategic planning, HR, training, conflict resolution, and safety processes and procedures.

Jade was appointed as the Athlete Director on 25 September 2025 for a term of three years.

***Brett Cantle***

With more than three decades of active involvement in equestrian sport as a competitor, coach, educator and administrator, Brett Cantle is deeply committed to the sport's ongoing development, safety and professionalism. Having evented successfully to 4* level and competed in Jumping and Dressage, he brings a comprehensive understanding of equestrian pathways from grassroots participation through to elite performance.

As the former Chair of Equestrian Queensland and Eventing Queensland, Brett led both organisations through periods of strategic consolidation and cultural renewal, with a clear focus on member engagement, transparency and alignment with national objectives. His leadership emphasised strengthened governance, improved communication, and the development of sustainable systems that support long-term growth.

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Directors' Report

### DIRECTOR INFORMATION (cont'd)

***Brett Cantle (cont'd)***

In addition to his equestrian leadership roles, Brett has more than thirty years' experience as a senior primary school teacher, developing strong skills in leadership, communication, curriculum design and staff development. This education background complements his governance approach, combining role clarity, structure and inclusion to build environments where people and organisations can thrive.

Brett is a Level 2 Eventing Specialist Coach and EA Coach Educator, passionate about developing pathways that uphold high standards of coaching, rider development, welfare and performance. He believes the Equestrian Australia Board plays a pivotal role in setting the culture and strategic vision for the sport, and he is committed to contributing to a unified, transparent and forward-looking national body.

Brett was elected to the Board on 24 November 2025 for a term of three years.

***Professor Bradley Frankum OAM***

Professor Brad Frankum OAM brings a rare combination of distinguished medical leadership and lifelong equestrian commitment to the Equestrian Australia Board of Directors. A Consultant Clinical Immunologist and Allergist, Brad has built an exceptional career in medicine and higher education, including serving as Deputy Dean of Medicine at Western Sydney University.

His governance credentials are extensive. Brad served as Chairman and President of the Australian Medical Association NSW (2017–2018) and as a Board member of South Western Sydney Local Health District (2011–2018), developing deep expertise in strategic planning, financial oversight, and complex organisational change.

Within the equestrian community, Brad's dedication spans decades. He has represented Australia internationally in showjumping, served as a member of the Equestrian Australia National Jumping Committee and as its Chair throughout 2025, and previously served as Board Director and Chair of Equestrian NSW (2021–2024). He operates a training and competition facility in Orangeville, New South Wales.

Brad was appointed to the Board to fill a casual vacancy, effective December 2025, and will serve until the 2026 Annual General Meeting.

***Martin Silk GAICD***

Martin brings extensive senior leadership experience in ethics, compliance, enterprise risk and technology across multinational pharmaceutical and medical technology organisations. His career includes leadership roles with Astellas, Novartis and AstraZeneca, and he currently works in Ethics and Compliance for Abbott across Australia and New Zealand.

A Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, Martin has led regional compliance programmes across Asia Pacific, developed enterprise risk frameworks adopted globally, and overseen significant technology and organisational change. He brings a practical approach to governance, with a focus on integrity, accountability and clear decision-making.

Equestrian sport has been an important part of Martin's family life through his wife Katrina's active participation and two of his three daughters' involvement in riding. His experience as a parent and supporter provides an appreciation of the commitment required from riders and families, and the importance of a well-run, safe, sustainable sport.

As an Equestrian Australia Director, Martin aims to apply his professional experience and family connection to strengthen governance, support transparent communication and build member confidence. He is committed to the sport's long-term sustainability, horse welfare and participant safety.

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Directors' Report

### DIRECTOR INFORMATION (cont'd)

***Jacob McLoughlin***

Jacob McLoughlin has been involved in equestrian sport for much of his life, as a rider, volunteer and an official. That involvement gives him a practical understanding of the sport and the people who make it run.

Jacob is a lawyer with a strong background in governance, regulatory compliance, litigation and commercial law. He is currently employed by a major general insurer, working directly with senior executives and the Board on governance frameworks and other strategic initiatives.

Jacob has also previously served as Director and Company Secretary of Pony Club Australia, and Secretary of Pony Club Queensland. He has experience at grassroots level as a member of management committees and event organising committees, giving him direct insight into the governance and membership challenges facing sporting bodies.

***Zac Miles***

Zac was elected to the Board on 30 November 2022 for a term of three years.

Zac's term concluded at the 2025 Annual General Meeting, and did not seek re-election.

***Jane Ballantyne***

Jane was appointed to the Board on 24 May 2023 for a term of two years.

Jane's term concluded at the 2025 Annual General Meeting, and did not seek re-appointment.

***Chris Bennecke***

Chris was appointed to the Board on 24 May 2023 for a term of two years.

Chris's term concluded at the 2025 Annual General Meeting, and did not seek re-appointment.

***Maggie Hundertmark***

Maggie was appointed to the Board on 13 May 2024 for a term of three years.

Maggie resigned on 1 December 2025.

***Rhett Oliver***

Rhett was elected to the Board on 9 October 2023 for a term of three years.

Rhett's position was considered at the Special General Meeting held on 18 December 2025. ASIC records his cessation as a director effective 22 January 2026.

***Stephanie Lyons***

Stephanie was appointed to the Board on 9 November 2023 for a term of three years.

Stephanie's position was considered at the Special General Meeting held on 18 December 2025. ASIC records her cessation as a director effective 8 June 2026.

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Directors' Report

### MEETINGS OF DIRECTORS AND TRAVEL EXPENSES

Board meeting attendances and details of payments made in respect of the Chairman and each of the Directors for travel costs incurred in attending board meetings, general meetings, and in connection with the company's business undertaken at the request of the board is as follows:

| | Eligible to Attend | Attended | $ | Purpose |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Nicholas Ballard | 12 | 11 | 4,502 | Board & Sub-Committee Meetings, Strategy Workshops, Adelaide Festival. |
| Jade Findlay | 10 | 9 | 965 | Board & Sub-Committee Meetings, Strategy Workshops. |
| Nicola Rockwell | 7 | 7 | 933 | Board & Sub-Committee Meetings, Strategy Workshops. |
| Brett Cantle | 7 | 7 | 867 | Board & Sub-Committee Meetings, Strategy Workshops. |
| Bradley Frankum | 5 | 4 | - | N/A |
| Martin Silk | - | - | - | N/A |
| Jacob McLoughlin | - | - | - | N/A |
| Zac Miles | 5 | 4 | 715 | Board & Sub-Committee Meetings. |
| Jane Ballantyne | 5 | 5 | 758 | Board & Sub-Committee Meetings, Strategy Workshops. |
| Christian Bennecke | 5 | 4 | 84 | Board & Sub-Committee Meetings. |
| Maggie Hundertmark | 6 | 6 | 84 | Board & Sub-Committee Meetings. |
| Stephanie Lyons | 7 | 7 | 1,321 | Board & Sub-Committee Meetings. |
| Rhett Oliver | 7 | 3 | - | N/A |

Directors donate their time to the organisation and do not receive any Directors' fees. Since the previous financial report, Directors have not received or become entitled to receive any direct benefit by reason of a contract made by the Company.

### KEY PERFORMANCE MEASURES

The entity measures its own performance through the use of both quantitative and qualitative benchmarks. The benchmarks are used by the directors to assess the financial sustainability of the entity and whether the entity's short-term and long-term objectives are being achieved. Such measures are reviewed by the directors annually.

### REVIEW OF OPERATIONS

The net deficit for the year ended 30 June 2026 was $848,218 (2025: net deficit of $538,826).

### FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The financial statements are presented in Australian currency. The Financial Statements were authorised for issue by us on 26 October 2026.

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Directors' Report

### DIVIDENDS

The Constitution of the Company prohibits the payment of dividends. No dividends were paid during the year.

### ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS

The Company is not affected by any significant environmental regulation in respect of its operations.

### MATTERS SUBSEQUENT TO THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR

No matters have impacted the financial statements subsequent to year end.

### SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN STATE OF AFFAIRS

In the opinion of the Directors, there were no significant changes to the business of the Company that occurred during the financial year.

### INDEMNIFICATION OF OFFICERS AND AUDITORS

Every person who is, or has been, an Officer of the Company, are entitled to receive the benefits of an indemnity contained in the Constitution against liabilities incurred by them in their respective capacities in successfully defending proceedings against them. During or since the end of the financial period, the Company has paid premiums under contracts insuring the Directors and officers of the Company. No indemnities have been given or insurance premiums paid, during or since the end of the financial year, for any person who is or has been an auditor of Equestrian Australia Limited.

### PROCEEDINGS ON BEHALF OF COMPANY

No proceedings have been brought on behalf of the Company with leave of the Court under section 237 of Corporations Act 2001 (Cth).

### MEMBERS GUARANTEE

The Company is limited by guarantee. Under the Constitution, each Voting Member undertakes to contribute an amount not exceeding $1 to the property of the Company if it is wound up while they are a member, or within one year after they cease to be a member.

At 30 June 2026, the Company had 19,610 Voting Members, comprising 7 Branches and 19,603 Participating Members. Accordingly, the maximum aggregate amount that members may be required to contribute is $19,610.

### AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

The Auditor's Independence Declaration as required under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) is included after this report.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors:

Board Chairman: ..... N. Ballard
Nicholas Ballard

Date: 26 October 2026

Director: .....
Nicola Rockwell

Date: 26 October 2026

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Statement of Surplus or Deficit and Other Comprehensive Income for the Year Ended 30 June 2026

| | Note | 2026 $ | 2025 $ |
|---|---|---|---|
| Operating Revenue | 2(a) | 9,212,087 | 9,092,745 |
| Other Revenue | 2(b) | 246,141 | 311,981 |
| **Total Revenue** | | **9,458,228** | **9,404,726** |
| Employee Benefits Expense | 3(a) | (3,847,793) | (3,472,273) |
| Depreciation of Non-Current Assets | 7(a) | (19,092) | (10,791) |
| Operating Expenses | 3(b) | (2,486,622) | (3,031,829) |
| Administrative Expenses | 3(c) | (3,952,939) | (3,428,659) |
| **Total Expenses** | | **(10,306,446)** | **(9,943,552)** |
| **Surplus or Deficit Before Income Tax Expense** | | **(848,218)** | **(538,826)** |
| Income Tax Expense | | - | - |
| **Surplus or Deficit After Income Tax Expense** | | **(848,218)** | **(538,826)** |
| Other comprehensive income for the year (net of tax) | | - | - |
| **Total Comprehensive Income for the year** | | **(848,218)** | **(538,826)** |

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STANNARDS

**Auditor's Independence Declaration under Section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001**
**To the Directors of Equestrian Australia Limited**

As auditor I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2026 there have been:

- no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to this audit; and
- no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to this audit.

Stannards Audit Pty Ltd

**Stannards Audit Pty Ltd**
Authorised Audit Company No. 571846

**James Dickson**
Director
Melbourne, Victoria

Dated: 26 October 2026

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Stannards Audit Pty Ltd ABN: 24 683 552 874
Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Statement of Financial Position as at 30 June 2026

| | Note | 2026 $ | 2025 $ |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Current Assets** | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 4 | 4,408,319 | 4,653,482 |
| Trade and other receivables | 5 | 32,043 | 308,215 |
| Other current assets | 6 | 970,827 | 382,657 |
| **Total Current Assets** | | **5,411,189** | **5,344,354** |
| **Non Current Assets** | | | |
| Property, plant and equipment | 7 | 21,847 | 16,568 |
| **Total Non Current Assets** | | **21,847** | **16,568** |
| **Total Assets** | | **5,433,036** | **5,360,922** |
| **Current Liabilities** | | | |
| Trade and other payables | 8 | 1,017,835 | 1,410,500 |
| Employee benefits | 9 | 144,043 | 97,424 |
| Contract liabilities | 10 | 3,355,163 | 2,094,671 |
| **Total Current Liabilities** | | **4,517,041** | **3,602,595** |
| **Non Current Liabilities** | | | |
| Employee benefits | 9 | 35,993 | 30,107 |
| **Total Non Current Liabilities** | | **35,993** | **30,107** |
| **Total Liabilities** | | **4,553,034** | **3,632,702** |
| **Net Assets** | | **880,002** | **1,728,220** |
| **Members' Funds** | | | |
| Accumulated surplus | | 880,002 | 1,728,220 |
| **Total Members' Funds** | | **880,002** | **1,728,220** |

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Statement of Changes in Equity for the Year Ended 30 June 2026

| | Reserves | Members' Funds | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| | $ | $ | $ |
| **Balance at 30 June 2024** | **1,431,514** | **835,532** | **2,267,046** |
| Transfer to retained surplus | (1,431,514) | 1,431,514 | - |
| Dividends paid or provided for | - | - | - |
| Surplus / (Deficit) attributable to members | - | (538,826) | (538,826) |
| **Balance at 30 June 2025** | **-** | **1,728,220** | **1,728,220** |
| Dividends paid or provided for | - | - | - |
| Surplus / (Deficit) attributable to members | - | (848,218) | (848,218) |
| **Balance at 30 June 2026** | **-** | **880,002** | **880,002** |

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Notes To and Forming Part of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2026

### 1 STATEMENT OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

**Basis of preparation**

The financial statements cover Equestrian Australia Limited ("the Company") as an individual entity. The Company is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The financial statements are Tier 2 general purpose financial statements prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the Corporations Act 2001.

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is the Company's functional and presentation currency.

**Use of estimates and judgements**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenses.

The significant areas of judgement and estimation are the recognition of revenue and contract liabilities in relation to grants and funding arrangements.

**Revenue and other income**

The Company recognises revenue in accordance with AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers and income in accordance with AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities, as applicable.

*Membership fees*

Membership fees and related contributions are recognised as revenue over the period in which the related services are provided.

Amounts received in advance for services to be provided in future periods are recognised as a contract liability or income in advance and recognised as revenue when the related services are provided.

*Grants and funding*

Where a grant or funding arrangement is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations, revenue is recognised as those performance obligations are satisfied.

Amounts received prior to satisfying the relevant performance obligations are recognised as a contract liability.

Where an arrangement is not enforceable or does not contain sufficiently specific performance obligations, income is recognised when the Company obtains control of the funds, unless another liability is required to be recognised.

*Sponsorship*

Sponsorship revenue is recognised in accordance with the terms of the relevant agreement as the associated performance obligations are satisfied.

Amounts received in advance are recognised as a contract liability until the relevant obligations have been satisfied.

*Donations and other contributions*

Donations and contributions that do not contain sufficiently specific enforceable performance obligations are recognised as income when the Company obtains control of the funds.

*Interest income*

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method.

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Notes To and Forming Part of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2026 (cont'd)

### 1 STATEMENT OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES (cont'd)

**Revenue and other income (cont'd)**

**Financial instruments**

Financial assets comprising cash and cash equivalents and trade and other receivables are measured at amortised cost, with receivables subject to the expected credit loss requirements of AASB 9 Financial Instruments.

Financial liabilities within the scope of AASB 9, principally trade and other contractual payables, are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

**Contract liabilities and income received in advance**

Amounts received before the Company has satisfied the relevant performance obligations or provided the related services are recognised as contract liabilities or income received in advance.

These amounts are recognised as revenue when the relevant performance obligations are satisfied or the related services are provided.

Certain funds held by the Company are subject to restrictions or conditions imposed by funding agreements or other arrangements that limit their use to specified purposes.

Restricted or quarantined funds are separately identified in the relevant notes to the financial statements where material.

The existence of a restriction does not, by itself, result in the recognition of a liability. A liability is recognised where the terms of the relevant arrangement give rise to an obligation that meets the recognition requirements of the applicable Australian Accounting Standard.

Revenue associated with restricted funding arrangements is recognised in accordance with the Company's revenue recognition policy above.

**Income tax**

No provision for income tax has been recognised as the Company is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

**Comparative information**

During the current year, the Company reviewed the presentation and classification of comparative amounts in the financial statements to better reflect the nature of the underlying transactions and to align the prior-year information with the current-year presentation.

As a result, certain comparative amounts have been reclassified within the financial statements and related notes. These changes are presentational in nature and have no impact on the previously reported result, net assets, total cash movement or closing cash balance.

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Notes To and Forming Part of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2026 (cont'd)

| | 2026 $ | 2025 $ |
|---|---|---|
| **2 REVENUE** | | |
| **(a) Operating Revenue** | | |
| Membership & Affiliation Income | 2,079,854 | 1,071,085 |
| Horse Related Income | 68,757 | 70,368 |
| Coach Accreditation Income | 245,915 | 238,828 |
| Officials & Coaching Development | 85,422 | 80,856 |
| Sponsorship & Event Income | 5,736 | 11,196 |
| Grant Program Income - High Performance | 4,200,154 | 5,145,051 |
| Grant Program Revenue - Other | 95,000 | 105,000 |
| Insurance Fee Recoveries | 1,848,137 | 2,001,949 |
| FEI Fee Recoveries | 497,251 | 267,685 |
| Swabbing Recoveries | 85,861 | 100,727 |
| | **9,212,087** | **9,092,745** |
| **(b) Other Revenue** | | |
| Bank Interest | 158,449 | 54,811 |
| Other Revenue | 87,692 | 93,341 |
| Gain on Disposal of Assets | - | 163,829 |
| | **246,141** | **311,981** |
| **3 EXPENSES INCLUDED IN PROFIT OR LOSS** | | |
| **(a) Employee Benefits Expense** | | |
| Salaries & Wages | 3,297,072 | 3,110,196 |
| Employee On-Costs | 520,160 | 305,697 |
| Other Staff Costs | 30,561 | 56,380 |
| | **3,847,793** | **3,472,273** |
| **(b) Operating Expenses** | | |
| Travel & Accommodation | 619,318 | 958,074 |
| Horse & Veterinary Costs | 274,620 | 869,088 |
| FEI & International Fees | 406,222 | 384,970 |
| Events & Sport Development | 231,782 | 222,789 |
| High Performance & Pathways Investment | 678,690 | 410,113 |
| Grants & State Development | 275,990 | 186,795 |
| | **2,486,622** | **3,031,829** |
| **(c) Administrative Expenses** | | |
| Marketing & Communications | 108,912 | 60,210 |
| Membership & Governance | 53,504 | 50,641 |
| Occupancy Costs | - | 22,666 |
| Professional Services | 1,176,892 | 903,510 |
| Other Administrative Expenses | 99,290 | 119,647 |
| Insurance | 1,847,061 | 1,961,470 |
| Technology & Communications | 667,280 | 310,515 |
| | **3,952,939** | **3,428,659** |

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Notes To and Forming Part of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2026 (cont'd)

| | 2026 $ | 2025 $ |
|---|---|---|
| **4 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS** | | |
| **Current** | | |
| Bank Account - General Account | 397,206 | 685,022 |
| Bank Account - Reserve Account | 3,894,956 | 3,936,508 |
| Debit Cards | 115,589 | 30,867 |
| Other Cash Equivalent | 568 | 1,085 |
| | **4,408,319** | **4,653,482** |
| **5 TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES** | | |
| **Current** | | |
| Trade Receivables | 32,043 | 285,978 |
| Provision for Doubtful Debts | - | - |
| | **32,043** | **285,978** |
| Other Receivables | - | 22,237 |
| | **32,043** | **308,215** |
| **6 OTHER ASSETS** | | |
| **Current** | | |
| Prepayments - Other | 586,318 | 382,657 |
| Prepayments - High Performance | 384,509 | - |
| | **970,827** | **382,657** |
| **7 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT** | | |
| Computer & IT Equipment | 98,786 | 78,030 |
| Less: Accumulated Depreciation | (76,939) | (61,462) |
| | **21,847** | **16,568** |
| **Total property, plant and equipment** | **21,847** | **16,568** |

**(a) Movement in carrying amounts**

| | Computer & IT $ | Total $ |
|---|---|---|
| **Balance at the beginning of year** | 16,568 | 16,568 |
| Additions | 24,371 | 24,371 |
| Disposals | - | - |
| Depreciation Expense | (19,092) | (19,092) |
| **Carrying amount at the end of year** | **21,847** | **21,847** |

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Notes To and Forming Part of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2026 (cont'd)

| | 2026 $ | 2025 $ |
|---|---|---|
| **8 TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES** | | |
| **Current** | | |
| Trade creditors | 909,734 | 1,009,372 |
| Other payables and accruals | 108,101 | 401,128 |
| | **1,017,835** | **1,410,500** |
| **9 EMPLOYEE BENEFITS** | | |
| **Current** | | |
| Annual leave | 144,043 | 97,424 |
| Long service leave | - | - |
| | **144,043** | **97,424** |
| **Non-Current** | | |
| Long service leave | 35,993 | 30,107 |
| | **35,993** | **30,107** |
| | **180,036** | **127,531** |
| **10 CONTRACT LIABILITIES** | | |
| **Income in Advance** | | |
| High Performance | 3,281,855 | 1,649,965 |
| Other | 10,101 | 361,199 |
| | **3,291,956** | **2,011,164** |
| **Quarantined Funds** | | |
| Making Eventing Safer Fund | 15,207 | 25,207 |
| World Championship Jumping Riders Levy | 48,000 | 58,300 |
| | **63,207** | **83,507** |
| | **3,355,163** | **2,094,671** |

**11 NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

**(a) Reconciliation of Cash**

Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the statement of cash flows is reconciled to the related items in the statement of financial position as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Cash at bank | 4,408,319 | 4,653,482 |

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Notes To and Forming Part of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2026 (cont'd)

| | 2026 $ | 2025 $ |
|---|---|---|
| **11 NOTES TO THE STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS (cont'd)** | | |
| **(b) Reconciliation of Net Cash provided by Operating Activities to Operating Profit (Loss) after Income Tax** | | |
| **Surplus or Deficit After Income Tax Expense** | **(848,218)** | **(538,826)** |
| *Non Cash Flows in Operating Profit:* | | |
| Depreciation expense | 19,092 | 10,791 |
| (Gain) / loss on sale of non current assets | - | (163,504) |
| Interest income classified as investing activities | (158,449) | (54,811) |
| *Change in Operating Assets & Liabilities:* | | |
| (Increase) / decrease in receivables | 266,921 | (79,390) |
| (Increase) / decrease in other assets | (581,500) | (179,367) |
| (Decrease) / increase in creditors and accruals | (404,685) | 158,960 |
| (Decrease) / increase in provisions | 46,373 | (32,207) |
| (Decrease) / increase in deferred income | 1,280,792 | 1,399,071 |
| **Net cash from / (used in) operating activities** | **(379,674)** | **520,717** |
| **12 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT** | | |
| **Financial assets** | | |
| *Held at amortised cost* | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 4,408,319 | 4,653,482 |
| Trade and other receivables | 32,043 | 308,215 |
| | **4,440,362** | **4,961,697** |
| **Financial liabilities** | | |
| Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost | 950,059 | 1,052,823 |
| | **950,059** | **1,052,823** |

### 13 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

At 30 June 2026, the entity has no capital commitments.

### 14 EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO THE BALANCE DATE

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year, which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Company in subsequent financial years.

### 15 ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY

The organisation is dependent on federal government funding to operate many of its services. The risk of loss of these funding streams is considered to be material to the organisation. This risk is managed through a range of complementary strategies but cannot be totally mitigated. The major risk management strategies are:

(i) The Company pursues diversification of the Company's income stream through implementing new projects such as seeking new sponsorship partners in the future.

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Notes To and Forming Part of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2026 (cont'd)

| | 2026 $ | 2025 $ |
|---|---|---|
| **16 AUDITORS' REMUNERATION** | | |
| **Audit of the financial report** | | |
| Stannards Audit – FY26 audit | 16,500 | - |
| SW Audit – FY25 audit (Incl. fee overruns) | - | 31,452 |
| | 16,500 | 31,452 |
| **Other services** | | |
| Assistance with compilation of the financial report | 1,500 | 3,900 |

### 17 REMUNERATION OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

Any person(s) having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the company, directly or indirectly, including any director (whether executive or otherwise) is considered key management personnel.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Key management personnel compensation | 1,190,894 | 926,181 |
| Headcount | 6 | 13 |

No remuneration was paid to the Directors.

### 18 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Transactions between the Company and its key management personnel are disclosed in Note 17.

During the year, the Company incurred legal fees of $146,142 with Colin Biggers & Paisley (2025: $121,191). Rhett Oliver, a director of the Company during FY26, was a partner of Colin Biggers & Paisley during the period in which he served as a director.

The amount disclosed above represents legal services provided while Colin Biggers & Paisley was a related party of the Company.

There were no amounts outstanding in relation to these transactions at 30 June 2026.

### 19 CONTINGENT ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

*Legal Proceedings*

The Company is involved in disputes arising from its activities. The outcome cannot presently be determined with sufficient certainty. Based on the information available at the date of this report, the Directors have not recognised a provision in respect of these matters. The Company may incur further legal costs and, depending on the outcome of these matters, may be required to make payments or be entitled to recover amounts.

The Directors do not consider it appropriate to provide further detail while the matters remain ongoing.

*Insurance – Personal Accident Policy*

Under the Company's personal accident insurance arrangements, a further payment of up to $150,000 may arise, depending on claims development. Conversely, the Company may recover amounts already contributed but ultimately not required to meet claims.

At 30 June 2026, neither the additional contribution nor any recovery could be determined with sufficient certainty and, accordingly, no liability or asset has been recognised.

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**Notes To and Forming Part of the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 June 2026 (cont'd)**

## 20 COMPANY DETAILS

Equestrian Australia Limited
Level 1, 165 Phillip Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## CONSOLIDATED ENTITY DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

The Company is not required by the Australian Accounting Standards to prepare financial statements in relation to a consolidated entity. Accordingly, section 295(3A)(a) of the Corporations Act 2001 does not apply to the Company.

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Directors' Declaration

The Directors of the Company declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 and:

a. comply with Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001; and

b. give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2026 and of its performance for the year ended on that date.

2. In the Directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

3. In the Directors' opinion, the Consolidated Entity Disclosure Statement for the year ended 30 June 2026 is true and correct.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

Board Chairman: .....
Nicholas Ballard

Date: 26 October 2026

Director: .....
Nicola Rockwell

Date: 26 October 2026

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STANNARDS

**Independent Auditor's Report**
**To the Members of Equestrian Australia Limited**

**Report on the Audit of the Financial Report**

***Opinion***

We have audited the financial report of Equestrian Australia Limited (the Entity), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2026, the statement of surplus or deficit and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information, the consolidated entity disclosure statement, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Entity is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

a) giving a true and fair view of the Entity's financial position as at 30 June 2026 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and

b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations regulations 2001*.

***Basis for Opinion***

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Entity in accordance with the independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* ("the Code") that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Corporations Act 2001*, which has been given to the directors of the Entity, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

***Other Information***

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Directors' Report for the year ended 30 June 2026, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STANNARDS

***Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report***

The directors of the Entity are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the ability of the Entity to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at: http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Stannards Audit Pty Ltd

**Stannards Audit Pty Ltd**
Authorised Audit Company No. 571846

**James Dickson**
Director
Melbourne, Victoria

Dated: 26 October 2026

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EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA

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