



EQUESTRIAN  
AUSTRALIA

# 2010

# ANNUAL REPORT



# FACTS & FIGURES

## EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA

### BOARD

Paul Cargill – Chair  
 Natalie Nichols – Vice Chair  
 Robynne McTaggart  
 Graeme Bowker  
 Graham Sharley  
 Mary-Louise Ganter  
 William Fell  
 Niki Chapman – Athlete Director

### NATIONAL OFFICE

Grant Baldock – CEO  
 Tracey Lesslie – Operations Manager  
 Marina Northcote – Accountant  
 Nicola Turner – Publicity & Promotions  
 Felicity Dubois – Administration

### HIGH PERFORMANCE

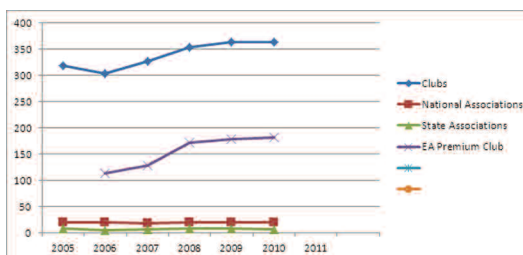
Brett Mace – High Performance Manager  
 Michelle Battams – Dressage, Para Equestrian and International Events  
 Mandy Stephens – Jumping and non-Olympic disciplines  
 Camilla Mowbray – Eventing, Interschool and Clinic delivery

### EDUCATION

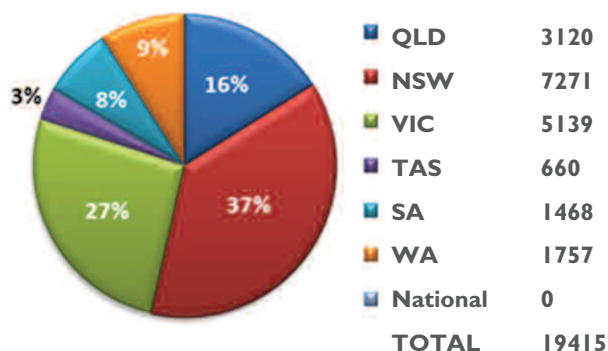
Ben Harris – Education Manager  
 Leanne Kingsbury – Insurance & Education  
 Rebecca Willis – Coaching & Officiating

## EA Clubs and Associations

Clubs insured with EA: 356  
 No. of 'EA Premium Clubs': 182  
 National Associations insured: 21  
 Clubs EA insured for the first time: 28



## EA Membership By State



## By Category

Hon. Life	45
Life	203
Senior	8335
Junior	5145
Associate	2646
Recreational Senior	984
Recreational Junior	539
Senior Show Horse	842
Student	77
Owner	0
Officials	575
Supporter	22
Newsletter Only	2
Guest Competitors	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19415</b>

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Cover picture: Boyd Exell on his way to Australia's first World Equestrian Games Gold Medal.





Australian Government  
Australian Sports Commission

## Message from the Australian Sports Commission

It is an honour to serve as the new Chair of the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) Board at this challenging and exciting period for our national sporting system.

The ASC and national sporting organisations (NSOs) have long spoken of a shared ambition to strengthen relationships between all system partners involved in Australian sport.

Aligned with this ambition, the Australian Government is now encouraging a whole-of-sport reform agenda, aimed at establishing a more collaborative, efficient and integrated sports system.

Through new direction for sport 'Australian Sport: the Pathway to Success', the ASC will work closely with sport to achieve its main objectives; boost sports participation and strengthen sporting pathways while striving for international success.

The reform agenda seeks for the ASC to assist to provide stability and support for all sporting organisations in their pursuit of a shared, common purpose; creating a better sporting pathway for all Australians, from the grassroots up.

The ASC will implement the new direction, and this includes collaboration with all NSOs to allocate a record amount of new sports funding – committing an extra \$195 million over the next four years.

This funding is in addition to the current ongoing baseline funding for NSOs. Also, the ASC will assist sporting organisations with access to coaching and officiating programs, governance support, planning and education opportunities and assistance with becoming more inclusive – particularly in the areas of Indigenous sport, sport for people with a disability, sport for people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and women's sport development programs.

This is the first time key sport partners, such as state and territory institutes and academies of sport and state and territory departments of sport and recreation, have collaborated on a Commonwealth funding decision in the interests of Australia's sporting future.

This is an exciting time for all of us involved in Australian sport. With significant new funding from the Australian Government, sports will be better positioned than ever before to lead the drive for higher participation levels and strong success on the sporting field by promoting the unique nature of their sport, creating a legacy and a lasting impression for communities across the country.

The ASC will continue to work with all NSOs, the state and territory institutes and academies of sport and state and territory departments of sport and recreation, reinvigorating access to, and participation in, sport across the community and driving Australia's continued sporting success.



The Hon. Warwick Smith AM  
Chairman  
Board of the Australian Sports Commission



For over a year leading up to the 2009 AGM, the focus of Equestrian Australia and its Branches had been all about the relationship between them. The Branches took the initiative of amending EA's constitution and as a consequence provided a framework by which EA and its Branches could move forward into 2010 in a co-operative spirit and with a view of EA delivering services to the wider membership and the Branches at levels not previously seen.

As a consequence of this new spirit of reform and service delivery, the Branches elected a new Board in October 2009 and mandated that the Board find a new CEO for EA and develop a new strategic plan, have it adopted by all EA stakeholders and then drive home its implementation. Finally, Branches expected that their concerns and frustrations over the development of a seamless and effective information technology system for EA be addressed.

After an exhaustive process, the Board appointed Grant Baldock, a professional sports administrator, to the role of CEO. Grant's profile within the Equestrian community is now well known, but in short, he came from a senior management career in Surf Life Saving and Swimming, he is relatively youthful, had significant major event and associated media experience and had a track record of working co-operatively in a Branch structure not dissimilar to EA.

As Grant joined EA, the previous CEO of the post-Sydney Olympic era, Franz Venhaus, retired. Much has been written and said about Franz in recognition of his service to EA and equestrian sport and he was a worthy recipient of EA's highest service award, the Order of Merit at the 2009 Awards Night. Again, on behalf of the Board and members, I thank Franz and his wife Toni for their dedicated service over many years and particularly over the last decade.

One of the clear directions for the new CEO was to improve the level of communication between EA and the Branches and develop a reserve of Goodwill. I am pleased to note that a regular face to face and telephonic dialogue with Branches has been implemented by the CEO and information is flowing and trust is being established.

In June, the strategic planning seminar was held and as a result, a set of objectives and planning priorities were developed for EA and the Branches with virtually unanimous agreement from all forum participants. The implementation of those seven objectives and priorities now form the core basis for EA operations and EA's management now reports to the Board against those objectives and priorities.

IT remained a key strategic issue for EA, re-affirmed by stakeholders in the strategic planning seminar, and the CEO in conjunction with the Board's IT sub-committee (Natalie Nichols, Graeme Bowker and Mary-Louise Ganter) immediately got down to the task to implement the IT strategy. The independent assessment phase as to need and recommended hardware and software is well underway and 2011 should see the project delivered. It is recognised that this project is one of the most significant undertakings that EA has been involved with expectations are high as to the outcome.

EA's role not only involves dealing with domestic matters but there are also many international factors facing EA as a member of the FEI. In November 2009, I attended the Federation Equestre Internationale (FEI) General Assembly in Copenhagen. The key topics of the GA were NSAIDS, the relationship between the Asian Federations (of which Australia forms part) and the European Federation which manifested itself in a discussion over Olympic qualification for Jumping.

Jumping qualification remains an issue for East Asia and although as a result of the recent WEG, Australia has qualified for the 2012 Olympic Games, we continue to show solidarity with them. Fostering better and closer relationships with East Asia is a key plank in EA's international strategy

Near to complete consensus has been built by Animal Health Australia among the key components of the Australian horse industry to the meeting of the Federal Government's requirement of a whole of industry response to the funding of the government response to any future emergencies arising from incursions of exotic horse diseases. It is now hoped that the Federal Government will take on board the recommendations of AHA on this matter and our members, as part of the horse industry, can take comfort that in the event of future incursions of disease, prompt government response action will be forthcoming.

Government further touched on EA over the course of the year as we, along with other sports, jockeyed for additional funding offered via the Australian Sports Commission (ASC). Pleasingly, EA came out with a substantial increase of \$750,000 per annum over the next five years which takes the total high performance funding to over \$2,000,000 per annum. The job in front of us now is the development of a well thought through program for the acquittal of these funds.

Finally, I wish to mention Australia's performance at the World Equestrian Games in Kentucky which I had the good fortune to attend. On the whole, members should be pleased with the efforts of Australian athletes. They represented us well and their demeanour and behaviour cast them as worthy ambassadors of EA.

Development of such a wide range of sports is challenging for EA as the elite athletes at all stages of their development need access to best of coaching, administrative support, competition and officials, especially at home in Australia but also overseas. With the ASC, we will be reviewing our high performance structure as a result of what has been learnt at WEG and in answer to the expectations now placed upon EA.

EA now has clear priorities which it is working towards across the organisation. It is against these markers that they and the executive under the CEO will be held accountable. The prognosis for 2011 is very positive and I have little doubt that when the 2011 Annual Report is delivered to members, they will see that EA is well down the new path that has been set and is achieving the goals expected of it.

Paul Cargill  
President, Equestrian Australia



# CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

**This is an exciting time for equestrian sport in Australia and it is with great pride that I present the 2010 Annual Report for Equestrian Australia (EA) Limited. The past year has been filled with great success both on and off the sporting arena, with the organisation coming together as one sport to take stock of our past and develop a new direction designed at growing the sport.**

Since becoming CEO in April 2010, it has been both an exciting and challenging time as we look to take the sport to the new heights. Building on the strong foundations that has made equestrian what it is today, I believe the next five years will see the largest growth, across all areas of the sport, that EA has experienced in recent year

## **A united vision to grow the sport**

In June 2010, all levels of the sport came together to reflect on the organisations strengths and achievements and to determine a clear direction for our sport in the future. Several drafts were developed and consulted with all State Branches, discipline committees, athlete representatives and other key stakeholders, with the final version launched at the EA AGM in October 2010.

The new strategic priorities 'Creating our future' provides a clearly articulated direction for the sport for 2011-2016 and beyond. There are seven clear objectives for the whole sport that aims to create a unity of purpose for everyone involved in equestrian and help to position equestrian well within an increasingly competitive sport and entertainment market.

The below strategic priorities clearly outline where the energy and resources will be targeted in the future:

- Create a national, contemporary approach to membership which is attractive to clubs, spectators, supporters, fans and other equestrian groups.
- Develop a fully integrated national high performance pathway from talent identification through to elite competitors.
- Introduce equestrian as a curriculum option to all Australian schools.
- Package and promote Equestrian Australia's offering to raise awareness of the sport amongst corporate businesses, primary industry and the general public.
- Stream live feeds of equestrian sporting events and results.
- Proposed hybrid versions of the sport to grow the spectator and participants base.
- Develop a nationally synchronised multi-sport annual calendar of events which features an iconic event.

I would encourage all members and those interested in our sport to visit our website to view our strategic priorities in action and how we plan to achieve these goals.

## **Diversifying revenue streams**

Throughout the year EA engaged a sponsorship and marketing consultant to conduct an audit of the sport's current sponsorship properties, opportunities for the future and how we could diversify our revenue streams to become less reliant on Government in the future.

As such, a full commercial strategy has now been developed across the areas of sponsorship, online merchandise, event registrations as well as the implementation of a Patrons' Club.

While EA continues to receive strong support from our existing sponsors, Horseland, AON, Kentucky Equine Research and Ridley Agriproducts, we want to create more opportunities to expand our current sponsorship framework. EA has reviewed all existing programs and new initiatives and has in place a full suite of sponsor properties for potential partners.

Based on the success of other sporting organisations, EA has formed a plan to implement a Patrons' Club that will ask those either directly or indirectly involved in the sport to play an active role in helping achieve real outcomes. Financial members of the Patrons' Club will be responsible for choosing one or more key projects that fit within EA's strategic priorities and the funds directed to the particular program.

One of the advantages of EA's new information technology overhaul (see below for more details on this project) will be the inclusion of an online event registration system and online capabilities to launch EA merchandising, which will inject profits back into EA to directly benefit the sport and its members.

The next twelve months will focus on implementing the full commercial strategy and laying the foundation for future growth as a sustainable business.

## **Collaborative approach to industry issues**

After an extensive consultation process the Australian Government together with major livestock industries agreed that the horse industry will be admitted to the Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement. This ground-breaking agreement will provide greater certainty in rapidly mounting a response to a future exotic disease affecting horses.

Equestrian Australia, through Animal Health Australia and together with the Australian Racing Board, Harness Racing Australia and the Australian Horse Industry Council, welcomed the endorsement of all signatories to the EADRA.

Under this agreement, the Commonwealth Government is committed to underwriting the industry's share of the costs of an emergency response, enabling swift and effective action to control and eradicate a disease threat. The organisations representing a clear majority of horse owners reached an agreement about an acceptable funding mechanism to meet industry's share of the costs of an emergency response. The arrangement outlines a levy will only be imposed after an actual disease emergency when the response is finished.

The 2007 equine influenza outbreak showed how an exotic disease incursion can have widespread consequences for all sectors of the horse industry. This agreement is an important step in providing a greater level of protection and certainty for all horses and their owners.

## **Commitment to success**

We were proud to send a strong Australian team to the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games (WEG) held in Kentucky, USA – the first time the event was staged outside of Europe. It was the most successful WEG campaign the Aussies have ever undertaken, with Australia recording its best results in Dressage and Jumping..

Our very own Boyd Exell achieved something that no other Aussie has done before and that is he won individual gold medal at WEG and became the World Champion of Driving for 2010.

Australian Dressage rider Brett Parbery has made history finishing ninth in the Grand Prix Freestyle riding Carolyn Lieutenant's Victory Salute. This is the first time an Australian has ever made it through to the prestigious Freestyle at a World Championships let alone finish in the top 10. With the Dressage team finishing eighth overall, this was the best result ever achieved by the Australians.

The Australian Jumping team has delivered Australia's best-ever World Championship performance. The team of Edwina Alexander (Cevo Itot du Chateau), Chris Chugg (Vivant), James Patterson-Robinson (Niack de L'Abbaye) and Matt Williams (Urleven Van De Helle) finishing in 7th place.



WEG was by no means the only success the Aussies experienced internationally, with strong results achieved by many of our country's top riders. I congratulate all our athletes, coaches and owners on another successful year of competition. another successful year of competition.

## Increased Government support

Equestrian Australia was able to secure an additional \$1 million in funding through the Australian Sports Commission which will go directly back into supporting national programs. EA's strong reputation in delivering quality sporting outcomes was key to securing this additional funding which will primarily support the role out of the new high performance strategy along with additional funding for participation.

For the role out of the high performance program there is an additional \$750,000 per year that will support the implementation of the national pathways program which is a collaborative approach to developing our current and future world class combinations, not only with our State partners, but also between our disciplines.

After submitting a joint proposal with Pony Club Australia, EA was successful in securing an additional \$250,000 in participation funding. The joint initiative between the two organisations will look at ways the two bodies can work together to create a seamless membership transfers. The funding will also be used to redevelop EA's current membership framework.

## Equestrian's information technology evolution

EA endorsed the overhaul of its current information communication technology (ICT) platforms that will deliver real benefits back to our members, create increased organisational efficiencies and will underpin and assist in delivering on all the strategic priorities.

The project was endorsed by the Board in 2010 and is due to start phase one roll out during 2011 and will feature a new membership portal, automated enrolment system (for event registrations, results and other event management functionality) as well as online television streaming capabilities.

The new online platforms will be owned and operated by Equestrian Australia and is set to revolutionise how we operate as a national sporting organisation as well as deliver significant financial returns directly into the sport.

## 2011 agenda

- Delivering across all areas of the strategic priorities at all levels of the sport
- Roll out of the new ICT platform to support all strategic objectives
- Redefining and implementing a new membership structure
- Roll out of the new High Performance strategy
- Working collaboratively with Pony Club on the new initiative
- Implementing the new commercial strategy including secure new national sponsors, developing new online revenue streams
- Established Patrons' Club
- Successful staging of the inaugural Equestrian Grand Final as part of EQUITANA.

Grant Baldock, Chief Executive Officer

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA WOULD LIKE TO  
ACKNOWLEDGE THE SUPPORT OF ITS PARTNERS:

## Program Partners



**Australian Government**

**Australian Sports Commission**



AUSTRALIAN  
OLYMPIC  
COMMITTEE



AUSTRALIAN  
PARALYMPIC COMMITTEE



## National Sponsors



## Australian Equestrian Team Sponsors



Thanks to the photographers: Franz Venhaus, Peter Jones, Derek O'Leary, Rachel Smith, Main Event Photography & Alicia Birch, Diana Black, Andrew Lindsay, [www.inmotionphotography.ifp3.com](http://www.inmotionphotography.ifp3.com)

# EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The complete Financial Report for the year ending 30 June 2010 is available from the EA website [www.equestrian.org.au](http://www.equestrian.org.au).

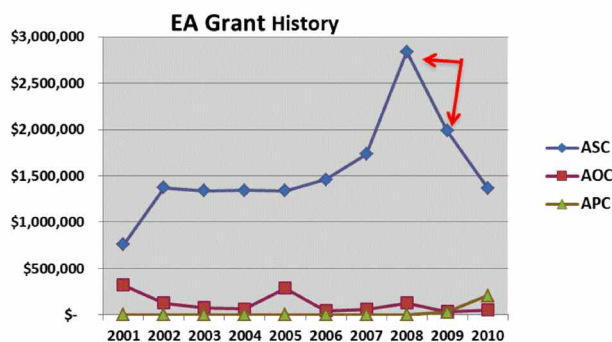
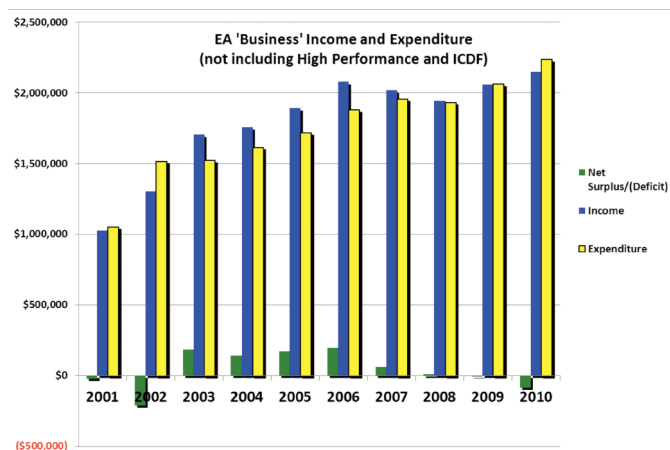
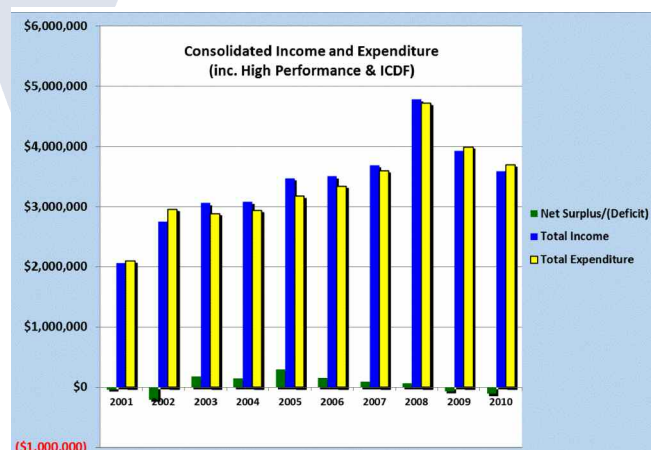
## Select Equestrian Australia and then Reports & Plans.

The principal activity of the company in the course of the financial year remained unchanged and was that of being the National Sporting Organisation for Equestrian Sport in Australia, recognised by the FEI, the Australian Sports Commission and the Australian Olympic Committee.

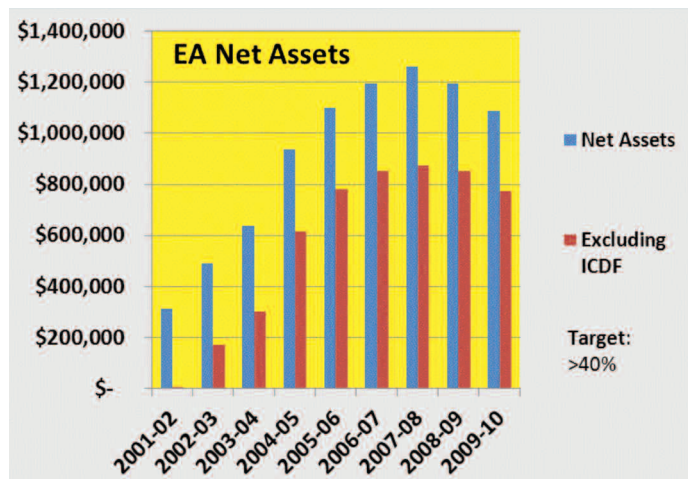
The operating deficit incurred by the company during the year was \$109,859 (2009: \$66,086 deficit)

The company at an extraordinary meeting on 5 September 2009 agreed to move from a company limited by shares and guarantee to a company limited by guarantee. Additionally, the constitution was amended to increase the number of directors from 5 to 7 amongst other changes

Below are some graphs that provide an overview of the developments over the last ten years.



The area identified by arrow denotes where additional Government Olympic funding was received following EI.







## REPORTS FROM THE DEPARTMENTS & DISCIPLINES



# HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM REPORT

**There were two significant highlights in the High Performance (HP) Program during 2010.**

**The World Equestrian Games (WEG) held in Kentucky was the major focus and commitment, while the Federal Government's additional funding to sport in the May budget provided a wonderful opportunity for sport to revitalise their HP plans leading into the 2012 and 2016 Olympic Games in London and Rio respectively.**

**2010 also saw the retirement of long serving National Eventing Coach Wayne Roycroft, who not only had significant input to Australian Equestrian Teams and the High Performance Program, but also made his mark on the international stage as Chair of the FEI Eventing Committee for nine years. We all wish Wayne the very best for the future and thank him greatly for his contribution to the development of the High Performance Program and the success of Australian Olympic Teams.**

## **Additional High Performance Funding**

Following the Federal Government's announcement of additional funding to sport, National Federations were invited to submit 'bid' applications for this additional High Performance funding. The EA High Performance bid focussed on the following key programs and was consistent with what the Federal Government had identified as important to the future direction of sport in Australia :-

1. National Pathways Program
2. Fully Integrated National Coaching Structure
3. European Competition and Training Base
4. Increased Veterinary Support
5. Elite Horse Owners Program

The funding submission totalled \$1.8 million.

The Australian Sports Commission advised Equestrian Australia that additional funding of \$750,000 will be provided to the HP Program commencing in the financial year 2010/11. This was to be primarily directed towards the National Pathways and National Integrated Coaching Structure. The APC subsequently advised EA that they provide an additional \$150,000 p/a towards the Para-Equestrian Program.

The National Pathways will focus on the overall development of the athlete pathway from talent identification through to the elite level. This will revolutionise the way the HP program is delivered across all disciplines and will provide further support to our Olympic and Paralympic disciplines as they continue to increase our level of success at major international competitions. The Integrated National Coaching Structure will not only support the National Pathways Program, but will also support the respective national teams to achieve medals at the major championships.

## **World Equestrian Games OVERVIEW**

The 2010 WEG campaign was a monumental undertaking by all concerned. As one of only three countries to field a team in all eight disciplines, it was a huge commitment by everyone just to get to Kentucky, especially with the complexities of horse transport and quarantine. This presented the team with many challenges and while not everything went to plan, we can be pleased with the fact that we took 35 horses and over 120 accredited team members to the Games. EA as a National Federation can feel very proud of the achievement ahead of other leading equestrian nations.

I would like to acknowledge the effort and commitment of the wonderful support team that also contributed to the success of the team. From the Assistant Chef de Mission, the Chefs d'Equipe, Coaches, Vets, Farrier, Physios, Stable Manager, Media and EA staff and just as importantly, the families and horse owners who offer never-ending support.

The Australian Team was very well supported in Kentucky due to the very vocal band of Australian supporters who turned up en-masse in Kentucky. The support was greatly appreciated by the team and we should feel very proud of the fact that Australia was the second highest buyer of tickets other than the hosts ('neighbours' Canada being the highest) despite having the furthest to travel of all other established Equestrian countries.

While thanking the team and our supporters, we cannot forget the support we receive from the Federal Government through the Australian Sports Commission, the Australian Olympic Committee, the NSW Institute of Sport and the Australian Paralympic Committee, all of whom provide the greatly appreciated financial support that makes these campaigns possible. Further to this, we very much value the support of the Equestrian Australia Team sponsors Horseland and KER-Ridley for their contribution to our campaign.

## **WEG RESULTS**

Of the 58 participating nations at the 2010 World Equestrian Games, Team Australia was one of only three nations to field a team in all eight disciplines (the others were Germany and the USA). Australia achieved its best-ever results in Dressage and Jumping and fielded its first-ever teams in Vaulting and Reining. It was the first time Para-Equestrian had been included in the World Equestrian Games.

Great Britain topped the medal table with 19 medals, 9 gold, 7 silver and 3 bronze, with World Champions in Para-Equestrian, Eventing and, for the first time, Vaulting.

Germany was second winning 14 medals, 5 of which were gold. Then The Netherlands with 5 gold and a total of 9 medals, USA was next winning 8 medals. Australia finished 11th winning one gold (Driving) and two bronze medals (Para-Equestrian).

## **ENDURANCE**

Of the 100 horses from 18 nations that started the 160km long course there was a 55% completion rate which was the highest-ever at a World Games.

Representing Australia was Norbert Radny (WA) Matthew Sample (Qld) and Penny Toft (Qld). The majority (around 75%) of the horses are pure-bred Arabians, however Penny's horse Don is a New Zealand Station-bred. Don was the only Australian horse to complete the event, finishing in 44th place.

Matt and Norbert's horses were vetted out along the way. There were five compulsory stops for the veterinarians to check the horses' fitness to continue, and any horses deemed to have metabolic or soundness issues were not allowed to continue.

The UAE team dominated, winning the gold with a combined time of 23:53:36, which was nearly 55 minutes faster than silver medallists France (24:49:46), while Germany surprised the world by claiming the bronze medal (25:34:16).

The individual gold medallist was Maria Mercedes Alvarez Ponton (ESP) on her horse Nobby.



## REINING

It was the first time Australia had fielded a Reining team at the World Equestrian Games. The team consisted of Warren Backhouse, Martin Larcombe, Shauna Larcombe and Warwick Schiller.

The team finished 11 of 13 teams. A highlight was that two Aussies made it to the individual final. Martin gained automatic qualification for the final after a good result in the first round of competition. Warren, who did not make the top 15 cut off in the first event, qualified in the second qualifier to join his teammate in the 21 horse final.

The USA team dominated the Reining events winning the team gold for the third consecutive time in the Reining Championship. USA also won the gold and silver in the Individual title. Tom McCutcheon took the gold, Craig Schmersal won the silver and Canada's Duane Latimer won the bronze.

Belgium won its first Reining medal by taking the team silver whilst Italy claimed team bronze.

## DRESSAGE

The Australian Dressage Team achieved its best-ever WEG result finishing 8 out of 14 teams.

In the Grand Prix Brett Parbery and Carolyn Lieutenant's Victory Salute did a great test to score 70.085%. Lyndal Oatley (Potifar) and Rachael Sanna (Jaybee Alabaster) performed well on the first day of team competition scoring 65.574% and 68.809% respectively. Unfortunately, 2008 Olympic representatives Hayley Beresford and Relampago do Retiro were eliminated from the competition.

The team competition was won by the Dutch with best performances by Edward Gal on Moorlands Totilas (84.043%), Imke Schellekens-Bartels and Hunter Douglas Sunrise (73.447%) and Hans Peter Minderhond on Exquis Nadine (72.255%). Great Britain won the silver medal and Germany won the bronze.

Both Parbery and Sanna qualified for the Grand Prix Special which was another great result for Australia. Rachael finished the test with some good work and a respectable 67.00% for 27th place.



Lyndal Oatley, Rachael Sanna & Hayley Beresford

In the freestyle, Brett and Victory Salute made history by being the first Australian to qualify for the GP Freestyle finishing 9th with a score of 72.125%, the highest score ever awarded to an Australian at either a World Equestrian Games or an Olympic Games. It was a sensational effort against the best 15 horses and riders in the world.

Edward Gal and Moorlands Totilas representing the Netherlands were the gold medallists. Gal and Totilas scored 91.80% to claim their third gold medal of the Games. The silver went to Laura Bechtolsheimer and Mistral Horjis (GBR) 85.35% (their third silver medal for the Games) and bronze was Steffen Peters on Ravel (USA) 84.85%.

## EVENTING

A series of misfortunes fell upon the Aussie Eventers at the WEG. The first of which was superstar Kirby Park Irish Jester's withdrawal from the team after becoming travel sick in quarantine in Los Angeles.

### Dressage

American-based reserve combination, Peter Atkins and Henry Jota Hampton, were called upon to fill the 6th position available to Australia. The team consisted of Paul Tapner on Inonothing, Stuart Tinney on Vettori, Sonja Johnson on Ringwould Jaguar and Sam Griffiths on Happy Times. Peter Atkins on Henry Jota Hampton and Christopher Burton on Holstein Park Leilani represented Australia as individuals.

Paul Tapner and Inonothing were the trailblazers for the Australian Team and put together a professional test for 43.8 and 15th position. Stuart Tinney and Vettori also put in a good Dressage performance. They scored 47.2 penalties and were placed 30th going into the cross-country. Chris Burton on Holstein Park Leilani scored 52.3 for the their Dressage test and were in 47th place going into Cross Country phase. Sonja Johnson on Ringwould Jaguar were on 48.80 penalties and in 34th place heading into Cross Country. Sam Griffiths on Happy Times was the final of the Aussie Team to ride his test for a score of 40.8 for 10th place and the best score for the team.

The Aussie team finished the Dressage phase on 131.8 and in 4th place..

### Cross-country

Paul Tapner on Inonothing incurred a stifle injury on course and retired from the competition. Inonothing has subsequently had a surgery to remove a chip from his stifle and is expected to make a full recovery. Stuart Tinney and Vettori finished clear of jump faults and just 0.4 time faults added to his score. He climbed up to 13th position. Sonja Johnson and Ringwould Jaguar also came home without jumping faults and 7 time faults placing her 26th. However, back at the stables it became evident that Jag had a puncture wound which caused a joint infection. He needed to be treated at the nearby Veterinary Clinic and was therefore withdrawn from the competition. Sam Griffiths and Happy Times had 20 penalties at fence 7 and then fell at fence 8, hence elimination. With this fall, the Australian Team was eliminated. Peter Atkins had a clear round with just 2.8 time on 9-year-old Henry Jota Hampton improving his position after Dressage from 71st to 34th. Christopher Burton and Holstein Park Leilani were given 20 penalties at fence 5, the first water jump for crossing their tracks and then incurred a further 20 penalties at the coffin combination (fence 7b). 40 faults and 20.8 time put Chris into 51st place after the cross-country.

Whilst the German team dropped from first to fifth, Michael Jung (GER) retained the individual lead on La Biosthetique-Sam FBW, followed by William Fox-Pitt (GBR) on Cool Mountain. Rebecca Holder (USA) and Courageous Comet went into third position.

### Jumping

First into the Show Jumping arena for Australia was Chris Burton and Holstein Park Leilani. Chris had one rail and 5 time penalties. Next in for Australia was Peter Atkins on Henry Jota Hampton and he jumped a clear round. Stuart Tinney and Vettori entered the arena in 12th place and with a clear round moved up to 8th place!

Team Results: 1, Great Britain 139.40; 2, Canada 151.50. 3. New Zealand 154.8

Individual results: 1. Michael Jung La Biosthetique-Sam FBW 33.0 (GER), 2. William Fox-Pitt Cool Mountain (GBR) 42.00, 3. Andrew Nicholson Nereo (NZL) 43.5

The Aussie results: Stuart Tinney 8th, Peter Atkins 24th and Chris Burton 48th.



# HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM REPORT

## JUMPING

The Australian Jumping team delivered Australia's best-ever World Championship performance at the 2010 World Equestrian Games with a 7th place finish.

The team of Edwina Alexander (Cevo Itot du Chateau), Chris Chugg (Vivant), James Paterson-Robinson (Niack de L'Abbaye) and Matt Williams (Urleven Van De Helle) were placed 14th after the first round of competition, a speed class. Australia's first rider was Chris Chugg who had a time of 80.41 seconds but had 4 seconds added for one rail down.

Next out was Matt Williams who had a foot on the water for a total score of 87.07.

Edwina Alexander and Itot went round the track with great accuracy and at the same time the clock stopped at 74.02 secs the rail on the last fence hit the ground adding a further 4 seconds to the time, leaving Edwina and Itot in 18th position.

James Paterson-Robinson had three rails to be placed further down the field.

In second round the team propelled themselves up the ladder into 7th and qualified for the Team Final competition, in which the top 10 nations compete for the team medals.

Of the 27 nations in the second round, Australia (along with Belgium and Sweden) had the best team score of the day with just 4 faults. Of the 119 combinations to start, just seventeen jumped clear rounds and two of them were from Australians, Chris Chugg and Edwina Alexander.

This achieved both of the goals set by the team. Firstly, to get to the top 10 at the World Championships, and secondly to qualify the team for the London Olympic Games in 2012.

Chris Chugg, Glossodia NSW, gave the team a great start with a clear round aboard Vivant.

Matt Williams, who had just 4 faults in the first round, incurred 16 penalties on Urleven Van De Helle.

This was followed by an exceptional clear round by the experienced Edwina Alexander.

Australia needed Patterson-Robinson and the 9-year-old Niack De L'Abbaye to have no more than 4 faults to get through to the final. James rose to the challenge to jump a very good round with just one fence down, catapulting Australia into the chase for the medals.

Australia was sitting on a score of 21.87, just 4.07 penalties behind the competition leaders Germany and less than one rail from the silver medal position (which at that stage was Brazil on 18.49). There are only 6 penalties between 1st and 10th. Scores are carried over into the final.



## The Team Final

In their first-ever Team Final at a World Championships the Australian team was within reach of a medal, with just six points separating the top ten teams.

Australian Champions Chris Chugg and Vivant had one hiccup and knocked down a plank fence for 4 faults.

25-year-old Matt Williams was next to ride for Australia. Matt thrilled Australian fans with a clear round.

Edwina Alexander and Cevo Itot du Chateau had an uncharacteristic 8 faults.

Final rider for Australia was James Paterson-Robinson and the 9-year-old Niack De L'Abbaye incurred 8 faults. Australia finished with a total of 33.87 faults and 7th place.

The German team, who started the night in the lead, produced three clear rounds and one four fault round (their discard score) to be the convincing winners of the Gold Medal on 17.80 penalties. The silver medal went to the French team on 24.32 and Belgium won the bronze on 24.70 faults.

## Individual Final

The first of the final two qualifying rounds for the Individual Jumping Championship included the top 30 placed riders from the first three qualifying rounds started in seeded order – Australia's Edwina Alexander 11th and Chris Chugg 12th to go. Edwina was carrying 11.38 penalties and Chris 10.58.

Edwina finished in 13th place overall – the highest placed female with just 3 rails down all competition.

Chris Chugg and Vivant were next, with just 4 penalties and finished in 19th place in the round. In the overall Jumping Individual Championship Chris and Vivant placed 21st.

Final Results: Gold Philippe Le Jeune (BEL) 0; Silver Abdullah Al Sharbatly (KSA) 8; Bronze Eric Lamazem (CAN) 9; Fourth Rodrigo Pessoa (BRA) 12.



## VAULTING

Like Reining, Australia was represented by its first-ever Vaulting team at a World Equestrian Games.

It marks a milestone in the development of the sport in Australia. The team brought together vaulters from three States who trained through the National Equestrian Centre in Canberra over the last three years to achieve World Championship standard.

The WEG team consisted of Rebecca Hillman, Lee Briggs, Lani Maher, Sarah Leadbeater, Joanne Lee, Jamie Hocking and Ruth Skrzypek with Jess Mazlin and Sally Briggs. The team was coached by Bronwen Lowe.





and Tristyn Lowe and were lunged at WEG by Tristyn, previously, Australia's top female international, individual competitor.

The horse, Hudson a Californian based U.S. Shire-Warmblood cross, was arranged with the support of his owner Jill Palmer and was one of two, leased for training purposes and to ensure a reserve horse was available.

The Team finished in 10th place and therefore met its objective of placing in the top 10!

Krystle Lander, 22, competed as an individual for Australia. This was also Krystle's first time competing at the World Equestrian Games.

Krystal placed 27th in the both the Individual Compulsory test and the Freestyle test.

This achievement sets a firm foundation for Australia being able to field a full complement of vaulters both team and individual for future World Equestrian Games.

## PARA-EQUESTRIAN

Para-Equestrian Sharon Jarvis won Australia's first medal at the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games.

Jarvis and her 14-year-old gelding Applewood Odorado (Odie) won the Bronze medal in the Grade III Individual Championship test. The Gold medal was won by Hannelore Brenner (GER) who is also the reigning Paralympic Champion. Annika Dalskov (DEN) won the Silver.

Two days later Sharon did it again, winning another Bronze medal this time in the Grade III Freestyle test.

The Freestyle podium was a repeat of the Individual Championship. Once again the gold medal was won by Hannelore Brenner (GER) and Woman of the World scoring a huge 79.200%. Brenner is also the reigning Paralympic Champion. Annika Dalskov (DEN) and Preussen Wind won the silver with 75.400%. Sharon Jarvis and Odie scored 74.700% (receiving 80.00% from one judge).

Grace Bowman on Kirby Park Joy was 'oh so close' to winning a medal in the Grade II Individual Championship test. Grace and Kirby Park Joy did a fantastic test to finish 4th (with Germany's Angelika Trabert) on a score of 67.143% just 0.095% behind the Bronze medallist.



Grace Bowman & Kirby Park Joy

The medals were won Petra Van De Sande (NED) Gold 69.238%, Britta Naepel (GER) silver 67.905% and Caroline Neilsen (DEN) 67.238%.

The Individual Championship test Grace scored 66.571% to finish in 7th place. Grade II was the biggest grade with 18 competitors.

Nicole Kullen (Grade Ib) riding Nikshar Nomination scored 60.727% for 8th place in the Team Test. Nicole finished 16th in the Individual Championship with 58.696% and 15th in the Freestyle with 61.550%.

Kate Doughty rode in the Grade IV on Heatherton Park Al Capone. In the Individual Championship the pair finished 16th scoring 59.742% and

then finished 12th with 68.950% in the freestyle. The winner was Sophie Wells (GBR) on an impressive score of 78.500%.

The Team medallists were; Gold Great Britain 440.376; Silver Germany 420.337; Bronze Denmark 418.389. The Australian team finished 10th.

Equestrian Australia acknowledges and thanks the Australian Paralympic Committee for their support of the Para-Equestrian Athletes at the 2010 Alltech World Equestrian Games and the Para-Equestrian High Performance Program.

## DRIVING

The highlight of the Games for the Australian Team was the Gold Medal performance by Boyd Exell in the Combined Driving.

Boyd is the current FEI World Cup Champion

Achieving the best possible start to his event, Boyd received the highest-ever mark awarded for the Dressage phase of a four-in-hand Combined Driving competition.

Boyd and his spectacular team of four (mostly) German-bred horses scored 30.8 penalties, receiving numerous 10s from the judges.

Gavin Robson was sitting in 12th place individually on 55.30 penalties after the Dressage and the AUS team of Boyd and Gavin in 3rd

Achieving the top time at a number of obstacles, Boyd held his lead over Ijsbrand Chardon (NED). His total penalties were 130.52 compared to Ijsbrand's 132.24.

Australia's second entry Gavin Robson also did well with his young team of horses was placed 17th after the Marathon with 181.47 penalties. Australia dropped to 4th in the Team competition.

Boyd Exell and his team carried their lead right through the final test of the Driving Event, the cones obstacle driving.

Driving a careful and steady round with no balls down in front of a packed Driving Stadium Exell won Australia's first WEG gold medal. He finished on 134.04 ahead of silver medallist Ijsbrand Chardon (NED) (135.24) and Bronze medallist Tucker Johnson of the United States (150.06).

Tucker Johnson led teammates Chester Weber and James Fairclough to the team silver medal (330.92).

Chardon, a four-time individual world champion, led the Netherlands to the team gold medal (279.77), Germany moved up to the bronze medal (322.20) Australia finished 5th.

Boyd Exell won the 2010 World Games as the only Australian gold medallist.

Brett Mace  
High Performance Manager



Boyd Exell

# EDUCATION DEPARTMENT REPORT

## Coaching

With the removal of the final assessment process for Level 1 and Level 2 courses, more emphasis is being placed on Coach Educator/SSTA training and re-accreditation. There were 5 courses were conducted between in 2010, and a further 7 courses are planned prior to the end of September 2011 across most states. Due to the re-accreditation cycle and CE/SSTA numbers across states, course delivery is now being planned on the basis of meeting the needs of each state, instead of alternating between states each 2 year period.

To help candidates and coach educators adjust to the course without the final assessment and based on candidate feedback, the workbooks are being reformatted to help the candidates navigate through them more easily. The assessment slips have also been modified to provide more feedback from the coach educators to the candidates to enhance the learning process.

## Officiating

Several FEI courses and workshops for officials across a range of disciplines in 2010.

January - Carriage Driving – 23 attendees

May 21-23 - FEI Jumping CD Level 2/3 Pilot update (1st one run in the world) – 10 attendees

May 24-29 - FEI Jumping CD Level 1 Course – 13 attendees

June 11-14 - FEI Eventing Officials Course– 19 attendees

There is also an FEI Endurance course on 15-17 October

The Education Department is also working closely with the National Discipline committees with regards to the education and continued accreditation of officials. New processes related to pathways, updating, assessment and advancement of officials are being reviewed, developed and implemented.

The pilot National Stewards Course run in November 2010 at Equitana was a success and the feedback from the candidates was overwhelmingly positive. It was intentionally run as a cross discipline course and this was met with enthusiasm by the candidates and indicates that aspects of the coach and official pathways that are common and generic can be offered successfully in a cross discipline manner. The success of this course also means we can establish a pathway for Stewards education which we are working with the FEI to fit into their revised pathways that were announced in 2010.

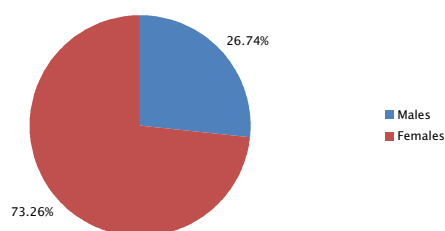
Table 1: Total numbers of officials

Total Registered Persons	1492
FEI Accredited Official Registered Positions	226
Total Registered Officiating Positions	2287

Distribution of Officials by State



Ratio of Male to Female Officials



Number of Officials by Discipline

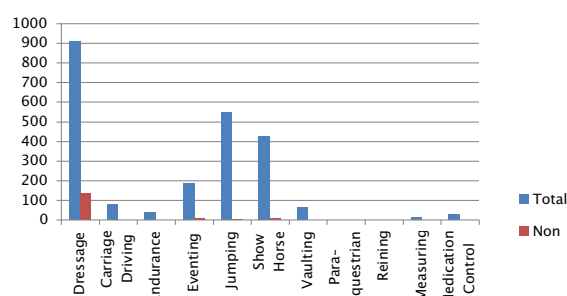


Table 2: Total (n=226) FEI Official Registrations as a function of Discipline and Official Role for updating cycle 1 April 2008 to 30 December 2010

	Dressage	Carriage Driving	Endurance	Eventing	Jumping	Vaulting	Para-Equestrian	Reining
Course Designer		1		12	21			
Judge	10	5	12	17	21	2	1	
Technical Delegate		3	7	18				1
Steward	15	3	9	19	20	1		
Vet	5		9	8	6			

Table 3: Total (n=2062) EA Official Registrations as a function of Discipline and Official Role for updating cycle 1 April 2008 to 30 December 2010

	Dressage	Carriage Driving	Eventing	Jumping	Show Horse	Vaulting	Other
Judge	707	31	3	257	426	12	
Course Designer		17	48	220			
Judge Educator	36						
Judge Mentor	131						
Lunger						49	
Steward	4		4				
Technical Delegate		19	55				
Measuring							13
Medication Control							30



## Education

As part of a NSW Sports Federation initiative the EA education programs in Horse Riding and Horse Management at Introductory level were being mapped across to the National Training Package in the VET sector. This process resulted in guidelines for implementation. A \$10K grant obtained in partnership with ENSW will now allow us to expand this mapping across our range of courses and set up the process allowing EA coaches, officials and potential candidates to do their training through the TAFE sector and get recognised for it. Additional funding possibilities through the Department of Education and Training are also available through accessing the National Training Package.

The National Education Conference is in the early stages of planning. The intention is to set dates in early August and promote this across industry and also to NZ and Malaysia for people involved in Equestrian Sport and the general horse industry to look at bigger picture ideas, not just another method of getting Equestrian education to a group of people.

The department is also expanding to look at broader options in relation to offering our programs more formally in the school environment, and also in the Vocational Education and Training sector. There are several benefits to members and the community if we are able to integrate into these formal education areas including access to more funding (for the organisation and individuals), increased delivery opportunities and access to training.

The education department is also looking to enhance the communication with members and is now providing updates on the EA Facebook page. Additional communication avenues through the Ethos publication, Ethos online, email contact and the website will also continue in an attempt to keep people informed.

## Additional Funding

Four funding applications for specific projects were submitted in the second half of 2010 of which 3 were successful with a total of \$275K additional funds being granted to the education department:

Australian Sports Commission – Participation Funding \$250,000

Australian Olympic Committee National Activities Funding \$15,000USD (to develop and run a new High Performance coaching course)

NSW Department of Sport and Recreation \$10,000 (Alignment and implementation of mapping to training package)

These grants will enable several of the projects intended for 2011 to be implemented and provide a significant boost to improving the education opportunities for EA members.

## Other

An online survey of coaches and officials was conducted in September 2010 to help identify various demographic information and also where there are strengths and weaknesses in the education programs for both of these groups. There was a good response rate was good, 220 coaches (approx 25%) and 178 officials (approx 14%). More importantly, statistical analysis of the frequency of responses as determined by state and also coaching level compared to the database information indicates our observed sample is a very close representation of the entire demographic, enhancing the validity of the data and the ability to make correct interpretations from this sample. The data was analysed and also

compared against a similar survey conducted in 2008. The results both confirmed observations and also provided some direction in relation to components of the education programs. A summary of results and findings is available on the EA website. Further surveys will be conducted into 2011 for a range of planned initiatives.

The Memorandum of Understanding for the delivery of coach education was successfully resigned with the Malaysian Equine Council in December. The relationship is strong and EA is looking to expand the ability to offer training to Malaysian Coaches, and also officials. Expanding to have agreements with other countries in the region is also being explored.

## Future Planning

Ongoing work in the department will be based primarily on the new strategic priorities developed in 2010. The core business of coach and official education will continue with these strategic priorities guiding this. Additionally a range of initiatives are being planned to enhance how members of EA get access to information and training. More detailed information on the future direction of the education department can be found on the EA website (need where it is located).

The current pathways for most roles in coaching and officiating have been identified. This will provide a sound base for evaluating the efficiency and effectiveness of the system during 2011.

EA will become a member of the International Council of Coach Education (ICCE) in 2011, an international body working to improve the quality of coach education and promote and elevate coaching to be recognised as a profession. It is hoped this may be one catalyst in broadening the perspective of our coaches and officials to the world of coaching outside of equestrian to enhance the overall quality of our coaches and officials.

## Staff Changes

2010 saw some changes to the staff of the education department. Ben Harris commenced as the NEM in June, joining Rebecca Willis who had kept the department running after the departure of Nathan Holman. Leanne Kingsbury also joined the department as part of a restructure of roles within the organisation. Her additional support will be a great benefit in the overall workload capacity of the department.

Ben Harris  
National Education Manager



# AUSTRALIAN DRESSAGE COMMITTEE

## New Grading System

A new and much needed grading system was approved by the State Dressage Authorities and will be implemented on 1/1/11. There was much interest by the riders prior to implementation and contact people in each State were appointed to handle the queries. Once riders knew more the system has been very well received by the riders. It is a much fairer system based purely on percentages gained and no longer on percentages and placings. This will make for a level playing field across the country and will certainly help the riders in regional areas who in the past were disadvantaged by the previous system.

## New Dressage Tests

The ADC introduced new Dressage tests effective from 1/7/09. In conjunction with release of the new tests the ADC also introduced a Dressage Test Book that contained all the new tests along with diagrams of the actual movements for each test. These booklets have been sold with money raised being set aside for future dressage projects..

## Dressage Performance Medals

To recognise outstanding Dressage performances the Australian Dressage Committee has introduced a special Medal System. National Dressage Performance Gold Medals are now awarded to horse/rider combinations who obtain the following in the current year:

- Novice or Elementary level - 3 performances of 75% or more at each level
- Medium or Advanced level - 3 performances of 70% or more at each level
- PSG or Inter I (small tour) - 3 performances of 70% or more across the small tour
- Inter II or Grand Prix (big tour) - 3 performances of 70% or across the big tour

The qualifying period is from the closing date of entries for the Australian Dressage Championships up to and including the next closing date of entries for the Australian Dressage Championships (e.g. 16/9/09 to 15/9/10).

The first medals were presented at the Welcome BBQ held in conjunction with the 2010 National Championships.

## FEI Judges

Most of our FEI judges attended the FEI Judges Seminar in Stuttgart in December 2009 in order to maintain their accreditation.

The following judges have all had judging appointments overseas between 07/09 and 09/10:

- Mary Seefried – FEI 5\* - Malaysia, Japan, New Zealand, USA, The Netherlands, Austria. Mary is one of the judges for the World Equestrian Games
- Maria Schwennesen – FEI4\* - USA, Malaysia, New Zealand
- Susie Hoevenaars – FEI4\* - Sweden, Russia, The Netherlands, Germany (Aachen CDIO), Luxembourg, Japan, Spain and China. Susie is also our representative for the Asia Pacific Region on the Board of the International Dressage Officials Committee (IDOC).
- Virginia Creed – FEI4\* - Korea. Virginia has also been appointed as an FEI mentor to conduct shadow judging for FEI candidates
- Irene Bakels-Noreen – FEI3\* - Malaysia
- Ricky MacMillan – FEI3\* - New Zealand, Japan, Austria

Further to the mention of IDOC above many of our Dressage Officials – Judges and Stewards – are now members of this important international committee.

## New International Events in 2011

Three new FEI International events will be held in 2011 – a CDI2\* in Orange, NSW (February), a CDIW in Victoria at Boneo Park (March) and a CDIW in conjunction with the Melbourne 3DE (June). This will give our FEI combinations further opportunities to compete at international events and therefore qualify for various other events such as the Pacific League World Cup and Olympic Games.

## A&B Exams

These exams are now coordinated by the ADJC and conducted annually at the Australian Championships in Sydney in October and at the Dressage Festival at Werribee in December. In 2009 the following passed their A level exam – Deirdre Stock, Beth Turner, Nell Marsham, Lisa Baker and Hannie Byrne.

The following passed their B exam – Sue Scaysbrook, Merril Howie, Vicky Newham, Heather Buckland and Anne Hall.

## FEI Fast Track System for FEI Riders & Level 2 Dressage Coaches to Become Judges

This system was expanded to not only include qualified FEI riders but to also include NCAS Level 2 Dressage coaches. The process was streamlined to make the process speedier. I am pleased to report that a total of 8 FEI riders/Dressage coaches have taken the opportunity to enter this system. Of this number 4 have completed the process and are now D (Medium) level judges and 4 are currently in the throes of completing the process. I look forward to seeing them successfully complete this training and swelling our judging ranks.

## Rule Book

Several amendments to the 2008 Dressage Rule Book were implemented from 1 January 2010 in addition to those implemented on 1/1/09. More changes and a new rule book incorporating all changes since 1/1/08 will be available from 1/1/11. Hard copy of the rule book, in loose leaf form, will be available from the National Office for a fee..

## Wings for WEG

In April 2010 the Australian Dressage Committee (ADC) established what we called 'Wings for WEG' which was a fundraising activity specifically set up to raise money to assist our Australian Dressage Team with the huge expense of flying horses to WEG. At the time that this was set up we (the ADC) were advised that there was going to be shortfall for this expense and that the riders would have to contribute towards the transportation of their horse. However, this turned out not to be the case and EA funded all the transportation costs in getting the horses to WEG and back again from whence they came.

'Wings for WEG' was established to sell Dressage supporters clothing. The fund was initiated by the ADC with a generous start up fund by a couple of people, who have since been repaid, in order to get it off the ground and purchase the first lot of merchandise. To manage this fundraising for us we were very fortunate to be able to secure the super services of Sicca van Schaardenburg who has done a great job and continues to do so.

Thanks also go to Fiona McNaught and Sicca, both in Victoria, for organising and running a very successful dinner/auction which raised a significant amount (approx \$25k) for the cause. This was very well supported by the wider Dressage community.

The ADC donated money from 'Wings for WEG' direct to the riders and grooms to the tune of \$5000 for each rider and \$1000 for each groom – a total of \$24k – to assist with the 'hidden' expenses that few of us would even know about.

The ADC will continue to raise funds to assist future overseas campaigns to the Olympics and WEG events.





## 2009 World Young Horse Championships – August 2009

Two horses were selected by the Australian Dressage Selectors for the 5 year old category at the World Dressage Young Horse Championships which was held 5-9 August, in Verden, Germany and they were Kristy Oatley and her stallion Swagman 2 and Robert Schmerglatt and the mare Fonteyne owned by Linda and Beau Dowsett. Congratulations to both parties on their selection.

## Australian Dressage Championships – October 2009

This event is getting bigger and bigger and in 2009 we saw some great performances by up and coming young horses. A total of 256 horses entered. While not all entrants could be accepted the event organisers made an effort to accept as many as possible this year with a maximum of 35 competitors accepted for all competitions from Novice through to PSG. The highest number of entries was in the Medium Championship with an extremely strong line up of horses.

As is the usual practice an FEI CDI-W was also held in conjunction with this event. Our visiting international judges all enjoyed the event and we saw FEI 5\* judges Stephen Clarke and Axel Steiner hand out MES scores (64% or more) to Victory Salute and Regardez Moi. Port Said 10 received an MES from Stephen. Brett Parbery and Victory Salute won in fine style the GP with 68.255% and the GP Freestyle with 74.55%.

## Pacific League World Cup Final – December 2009

Once again this event was held in Victoria at Werribee in conjunction with the Dressage Festival. International judges Cara Witham FEI 5\* from Canada, Uwe Spenlan FEI 4\* from Germany and Helen Hughes-Keen FEI 3\* from New Zealand were members of the Ground Jury along with our FEI 4\* judges Susie Hoevenaars and Jill Cobcroft.

Brett Parbery and Victory Salute took back to back honours with a score of 68.38% in the Grand Prix and 75.3% in the Freestyle earning them the right to represent Australia at the FEI World Cup Final held in Germany in April 2010.

## FEI Dressage World Cup – April 2010

Australia was strongly represented by Victory Salute (owned by Carolyn Lieutenant) and ridden by Brett Parbery. This combination put together a great Grand Prix test to score 67.021% and placed 11 out of 15 and then went out in the Freestyle for a score of 70.550% to improve his placing by 1 to 10th. Well done Brett.

## Dressage with the Stars – April 2010

This was another very successful event where we saw Jaybee Alabaster (owned by Bev Edwards) and ridden by Rachael Sanna take out the honours in the GP with 68.255% and the GP Freestyle with 73%.

## Sydney CDI3\* - May 2010

The Sydney CDI3\* just keeps getting bigger and bigger. Toni Venhaus and her dedicated team of volunteers once again showcased Australian Dressage to the fullest extent. The Ground Jury consisted of no less than four FEI 5\* judges, three FEI 4\* and one FEI 3\* judge. A total of 185 horses and 135 Australian riders entered the event along with 12 foreign riders from Japan, Canada, Great Britain and New Zealand.

This event was the final qualifying event where horses could achieve the MES (Minimum Eligibility Score) from a visiting FEI 5\* judge for them to be eligible for selection for the World Equestrian Games.

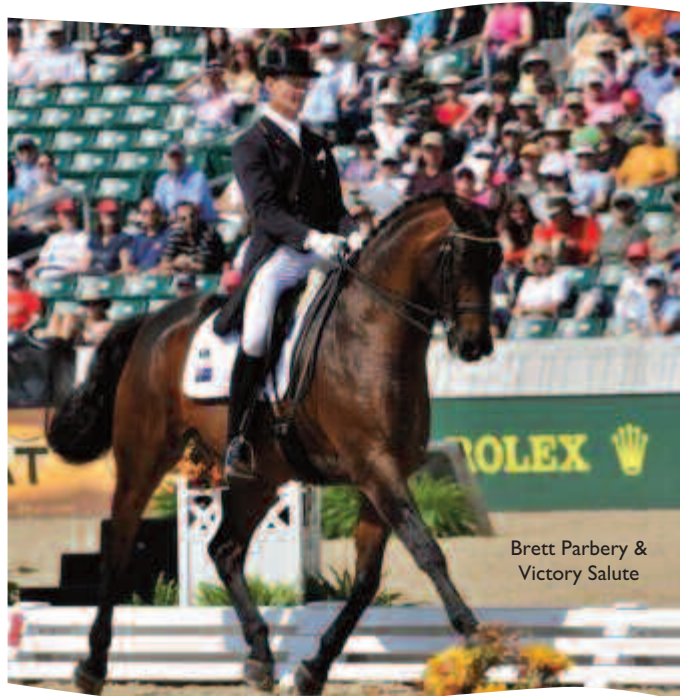
I am pleased to report that Rozzie Ryan on Jive Magic (owned by Heath and Rozzie Ryan), Rachael Sanna on Jaybee Alabaster (owned by Bev Edwards) and Charlotte Pedersen on Come to Me (Owned by Lady Susannah Clarke) all obtained MES scores by visiting FEI 5\* judges.

## World Young Horse Championships – August 2010

Australia was presented by Robert Schmerglatt riding Fonteyne who placed 26th in the 1st qualifier and 15th in the Small Final – Well done Robert.

## WEG Campaign

Australia fielded a very strong Dressage team to represent Australia at the World Equestrian Games held for the first time outside of Europe in Lexington, Kentucky.



Brett Parbery & Victory Salute

Our national selectors selected Victory Salute and Brett Parbery, Jaybee Alabaster and Rachael Sanna, Hayley Beresford and Relampago do Retiro and Lyndal Oatley and Potifar to represent Australia and what a fantastic job they did too.

Both Jaybee Alabaster with 68.809% in the GP and Victory Salute with 70.085% in the GP both made the 'cut' by being in the top 30 from the GP to go forward to compete in the GP Special.

In the GP Special, Jaybee Alabaster scored 67% Victory Salute scored 72.167% and placed 9th. The top 15 from the GP Special went forward to compete in the GP Freestyle. This was a first for Australia to have a combination qualify for the GP Freestyle at WEG.

In the GP Freestyle Victory Salute and Brett scored 76.35% and finished overall 9th. A fantastic effort.

Overall the Australian Dressage Team finished in 8th place.

**All in all 2009 and 2010 has been a great time for Australian Dressage.**

Lesley Sullivan

Chair ADC

24 October 2010

# AUSTRALIAN JUMPING COMMITTEE

## *Annual Report – 2010*

During 2010 Australian show jumping has flourished once again both here and abroad. What was particularly heartening was gaining our second major Championship top 10 placing, when our Team was 7th in the World Equestrian Games, following on from our 7th place in the 2008 Olympics.

Our High Performance Program is on track thanks to the funding received from the Australian Sports Commission. Considering the number of better financed Jumping teams that finished behind us at WEG, it is clear that the committees established programs are producing the results we aim for.

This High Performance Panel has been together since I took over the NJC Chair following disappointing results at the Athens Olympics, and the improvement in performance by Team Australia since then has been considerable. The icing on the cake was gaining our qualification for the team for the 2012 Olympics Games at WEG, a major feat in light of the increased difficulties of qualification due to the FEI increasing the number of countries in our Group. Great performances from all our riders, Edwina Alexander, Chris Chugg, James Patterson-Robinson and Matt Williams, plus of course our very successful Chef d'Equip, Stephen Lamb, who has now gained worldwide respect in this role.

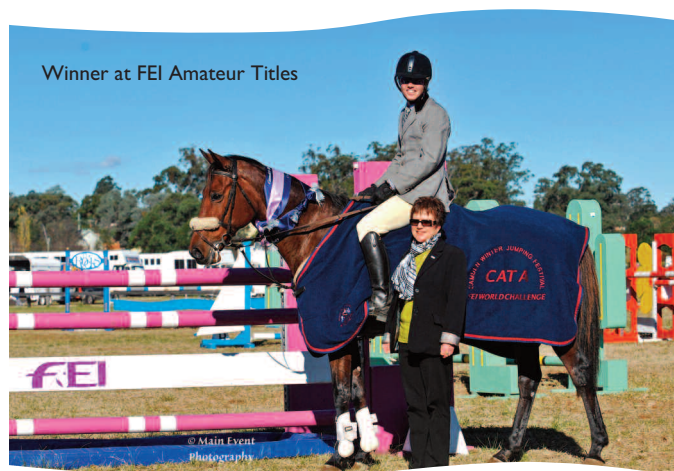


Domestically our sport is thriving, with record numbers of competitors in just about every State. There are a couple of challenges that continue to face this discipline. We are still struggling to secure major sponsors for events such as our National Championships and World Cup circuit. The other challenge is still trying to encourage more people into the sport to take on the roles of Judges, Course Designers and Stewards, these numbers going nowhere near matching the amount of people who wish to be competitors. The proposed Grand Final event at Equitana should give our sport some much needed wider exposure to the general public.

The National Championships were once again conducted by the ACT Show Jumping Club, who catered for enormous numbers, and ran an excellent show. Senior Champion was veteran George Sanna, but the outstanding performance was that of Tom McDermott, son of 1988 Olympian Greg McDermott, who won both the Junior and Young Rider titles on different horses. Tom also performed with great distinction at the inaugural Youth Olympics conducted in Singapore, an event that used horses sourced in Australia. Thankfully the 2011 National Championships are already in the planning process, and will be conducted at Dubbo in October with the convenor being Edwina Mitchell.



NJC is also endeavouring to tailor our shows and grading systems into something that is more user friendly for competitors, administrators and horse development. To this end, a Working Group was put together comprising me as NJC Chair, Peter Cooke, Graeme Watts and John Vallance as show organizers/course designers, Anne Garner as a prominent judge and show organizer, and Colleen Brook as Rider Representative. We conducted an initial meeting in February, and produced a pathway plan which is receiving a lot of welcomed feedback from all over the country. At last we have peoples' attention, and from the quality received so far, I believe a lot of excellent ideas will be taken on board by the Working Group before any final decisions are made at the end of this year.



I feel very privileged and rewarded by the continued support and encouragement I receive in this job, but could not possibly do it without the help of the outstanding committee that I work with, plus the invaluable assistance of the National Office, and I must particularly single out Brett Mace, Mandy Stephens and the new kid on the block, Grant Baldock. I am exceedingly grateful to all of you, as well as the many thousands of people who continue to help our sport grow and flourish.

Vicki Roycroft.  
National Jumping Committee



# THE WORLD CUP COMMITTEE

## Annual Report – 2010



### Review 2010 Season

Welcome to the 2011/12 FEI World Cup season in Australia. What a first class performance by Chris Chugg and Vivant at the 2010 World Cup Final in Geneva, they really demonstrated just how much patience and persistence is required at this level. Congratulations also to Brook Dobbin, the winner of the Leading Rider Award of the 2010 Australian League of the FEI World Cup, with 100 points. He has elected not participate in the Final later this month in Leipzig however, Australia will be represented by Edwina Alexander.

The riders who dominated were; Brook Dobbin with 2 wins, 2 seconds, and 2 thirds, Billy Raymont 1 win, 2 seconds and 4 thirds, Cathy Graham 1 win, 1 second and 2 thirds (from 5 starts), Jamie Kermond 2 wins and 1 third (5 starts), and Becky Allen with 2 wins and a second (5 starts).

The difficulty of combining the needs of the Australian World Cup competitions to deliver both a developmental and high performance role in alternating years does mean that the winner in every Olympic or WEG year will have qualified over courses not quite as demanding. 2010 was just that – the combinations aspiring to compete at Kentucky were out of the country and so the World Cup Committee determined that the year would be designed to allow many more horses and riders to build with the competition and reach their potential. The Course Designers were specifically requested to make sure the courses were less technically demanding and set to encourage first and test second.

The 2010 FEI Australian World Cup Jumping season did provide opportunities for many people to be involved with the sport at its top level in this nation. There were 281 entries at 13 qualifiers, averaging 21.6 per event, which is a vast increase from 2009 when there were 165 entries for 11 qualifiers, averaging 15, and up on 2008 when there were 262 entries at 15 qualifiers, an average of 17.5 per event. Many horses and riders had their first World Cup start. Thankyou to each Organising Committee for making the competitions possible.

There were 6 different Presidents of a Ground Jury, and 19 other EA/FEI judges who completed those Ground Juries. Eight Course Designers were used, and 7 FEI Stewards. Four officials from overseas were invited to our WCs, Mrs Margareta Wetterberg from Sweden, President GJ at Gawler and Adelaide, Mr NY Ho from Singapore, Pres GJ at Sydney (December), and Mr Kevin Hansen, New Zealand and Mr Leopoldo Palacios, Venezuela who course designed at Brisbane and Sydney respectively. Anne Garner presided over 5 Ground Juries and Leeson Sirett designed 4 courses.

It was very good to have Brisbane and Tonimbuk back staging WCs; Brisbane with a very exciting class under lights and in front of a full capacity audience of at least 25000 people, and Tonimbuk in Victoria also very well received, with several riders from Queensland and one, the winner, Anna McGregor from WA.

The World Cup Committee met formally in August 2010 and January 2011 to consider the conduct of the 2010-11 season. There was also considerable effort put in by all Committee members at different times of the year to cover a range of immediate issues. All matters were resolved swiftly and appropriately.

### The coming season - 2011

Australia has qualified for a team position at the London Olympic Games in August 2012. This is not only exciting for our sport at all levels, it also means that the World Cup competition can continue to contribute to the development of horse and riders and officials who have aspirations of competing on the international stage. 2011/12 season will see another solid series of competitions commencing in Sydney at the Easter Show and finishing at the Championships in Sydney in December as follows:

Sydney Royal	20.04.11	Melbourne Royal	02.10.11
Sydney SIEC	08.05.11	Shepparton	12.11.11
Toowoomba	07.08.11	Wodonga	19.11.11
Brisbane Royal	17.08.11	Sale	27.11.11
Caboolture	21.08.11	Tonimbuk TBC	03.12.11
Gawler	28.08.11	Sydney SIEC	11.12.11
Adelaide Royal	09.09.11		

One aspect of conducting the World Cup Qualifying events in Australia is that they maintain contact with the FEI with rider rankings, qualifications for Officials and, in selected outdoor competitions, the opportunity to contribute to a horse and rider Minimum Eligibility Standard (MES). Under the FEI rules, to obtain a MES, the World Cup class conducted outdoors must meet specific criteria. Riders must have completed the first round of two MES prescribed World Cup competitions with a score of zero penalties to achieve their MES.

For shows conducting World Cup Qualifiers and meeting these conditions, the EA High Performance Program is contributing \$2,000 to the event, as this will assist towards our London Olympic Games program. We anticipate that events at Sydney Royal, Toowoomba, Adelaide and Melbourne Royals, Sale and Sydney SIEC will be in this group and expect to receive an offer soon.

The cost of conducting events and running the World Cup competition in Australia continues to escalate however the FEI competition franchise fees will stay at \$1,800 per event in 2011. The Rider Levy will remain at \$50 per horse for each event. There have been some considerable discrepancies in the entry fees charged and so the World Cup Committee has agreed that the entry fee is to be a maximum of \$60 where prize money is \$5,000 to \$6,000. Where prize money is in excess of \$6,000, entry fees can be up to 1.5% of the class total prize money.

FEI registration has been mandatory since 2006 for riders and horses taking part in international competition. and all FEI registrations will have to be completed prior to competition. If a registration is not done prior to the competition, the entry at the event will not be accepted by the FEI and the rider or the horse will not be authorised to participate in the competition.

The League Winner will be invited to participate in the 2012 Final and up to \$15,000 will be available to assist towards the travel costs associated with flying to the northern hemisphere. Again this season, the World Cup Committee will award prizemoney to the top 3 riders at the completion of the season: 1st \$5,000, 2nd \$2,000 and 3rd \$1,000.

Safety is the number one priority for everyone involved in our sport and as of the 1st January 2011 the World Cup Jumping Committee has adopted a First Aid Policy requiring the presence of a first aid post with at least one paramedic (who is capable of basic life support and able to give some medication), or level two, or above, ambulance officer, at all World Cup Jumping fixtures. In the event that the medical personnel leave the venue, the event must be halted until such personnel return.

# THE WORLD CUP COMMITTEE

## Annual Report – 2010

2010 season had a designated Rider Representative available at each World Cup qualifying event and this appears to be working very well for both Organisers and Riders.

The World Cup Committee is moving to make some additional changes to the competition over the coming seasons including:

1. Appointment of a Technical Delegate for each event with significantly more emphasis on the surface and footing, initially this will be a coordinated role between the Course Designer, Mandy Stephens at EA National and a WC Committee member.
2. The FEI World Cup provides an excellent opportunity for jumping Officials to develop and maintain their credentials and comprise a vital part of our sport. The FEI has also introduced a new and rigorous system for official Course Designers(CD) to maintain their accreditation. In order to provide opportunities to accommodate these requirements, the WCC supports a policy that a CD is limited to being the CD for only 2 World Cup events in any one season in Australia. The status of Assistant CD is now recognised and also used for accreditation purposes and it is requested that all WC events formally appoint one and up to 2 Assistant CDs per event. These appointments will be at their own expense, however normal volunteer support should be provided.
3. Timing Equipment remains on the agenda as something Australia needs to fit into specific FEI requirements, however due to the expense and an ongoing technical debate, the FEI has provided Australia and New Zealand with a dispensation to continue using the FarmTek equipment where necessary.
4. Over time the FEI breakaway cups have tended to become worn and the required pressure holding the cup and rail had decreased, reducing the holding ability on the rail and therefore creating an unfair situation.
5. It is the intention to raise the minimum prizemoney for the 1012/13 season to a minimum level of \$7,500. This will add pressure to the already tough ask of finding funds, however the minimum of \$5,000 has been in place for well over a decade and we need to maintain some degree of growth in this area.
6. The WCC will again look to review the dates calendar to try and reduce the 'log-jam' of competitions during October to December. Our earlier efforts were met with significant challenges however, in the interests of providing a well balanced calendar for competitors.
7. Anne Garner, the Convenors representative on the WCC Committee, is currently drafting a Guide for Organisers – we are hopeful this will be available a little later in the year. There is much experience available for conducting WC events and we would like to make the task for new Convenors one of succession and learning rather than 're-invention'.

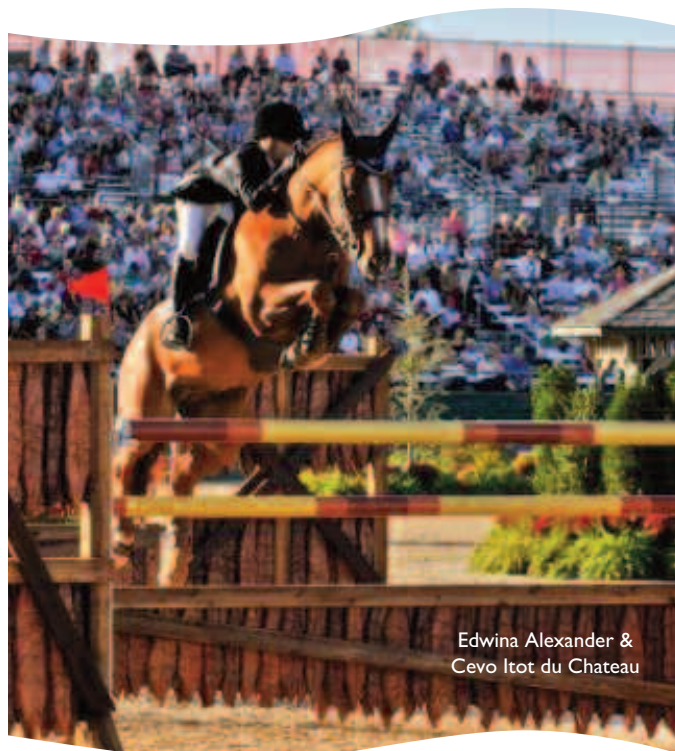
One goal the committee continues to develop is to improve overall communications for the World Cup events. To this end Equestrian Australia continues to develop the World Cup webpage as the touch point for information, results, points tables, course plans and stories from each event. This will continue for 2011 and we are looking to add rider pictures and profiles, along with the development of news grabs for media.

Over the past years, Sue Ryan has undertaken the role of FEI World Cup Co-ordinator for Australia. This role has been demanding and required a deal of detail and persistence to make sure all the requisite information was collected and provided to the FEI. This role will now be shared between EA National office through Mandy Stephens and all members of the WCC. Sue will remain on the Committee and continue to provide considerable technical advice and support where required. I would like to thank Sue for her many years of dedication and contribution to the ongoing development of the World Cup in Australia. Sue will also travel to Leipzig to watch the 2011 World Cup Final.

Invaluable support for the Australian FEI World Cup – Jumping in is provided by World Cup committee members, Grant Baldock, CEO Equestrian Australia and Mandy Stephens from the National EA office as the World Cup Administrator.

I would like to finish by wishing all FEI World Cup Event Organisers the very best for your 2011 FEI World Cup Qualifying competition.

Committee Members: Peter Cooke (Chair), Jenny Sheppard (Rider's Representative), Anne Garner (Convenor's Representative), Vicki Roycroft, Sue Ryan, Grant Baldock and Mandy Stephens.



Edwina Alexander &  
Cervo Itot du Chateau





2010 proved to be an exciting year for Australian vaulting, including a full calendar of vaulting activities promoting skills development and equestrian participation. It was also very pleasing to see vaulting recognized during the EA 2010 Strategic Planning forum, as a sport with unique potential to offer safe and economical access to horses at a grassroots level of vaulting.

### Committee Business

The new committee first met informally at the April NSW state championships, conducting new member induction and planning preparations for a strategic Vaulting Development Plan. Newly elected committee members Jenny Denby, Lyn Lynch and Chris Wicks joined standing members Sarah Hocking, Sarah Venamore and Jo Lee. A stock take of the cumulative skills and abilities of experienced coaches, judges and administrators ensured committee activity was lively and informative. Two very experienced vaulters (Chris Wicks and Jo Lee) contributed particularly valuable insight to the NVC in 2010. Newly appointed selectors Angie Deeks and Robyn Bruderer also joined the meeting to help review the roles, obligations and expectations of these two related, but distinctly separate committees.

In July the NVC held its first formal meeting, with input from EA CEO Grant Baldock, new Educational Manager Ben Harris and Tracey Lesslie and Brett Mace. The meeting yielded a big 'action list' for the committee with a total of 36 items. Actions included a range of initiatives aiming for improvements to administration and communication, improved use of the EA website, budget development, a sport development plan and innovation in providing high level competition. Other efforts of note this year include excellent work by Chris Wicks, in consultation with the judges, proposing improved structure and professional development for this hardworking group who provide many hours of volunteer service in the often controversial world of competition. A national calendar of important events and dates and new 'fact sheets' now appear on the EA website, with more material due in early 2011. The committee is also trying to retrieve and link other valuable vaulting information created by past committees and others to a safe place on the official EA website, including the excellent 'youtube' vaulting clip produced by Owen Marsh and the 2007 committee. The new Draft Vaulting Development Plan is constructed to align with the overarching EA 'Strategic Priorities 2011 -2013' and will be published in the first quarter of 2011. A second NVC meeting is planned for January 2011, to coincide with the National Vaulting Workshop, enabling the NVC to be accessible to the judges, lungers, coaches and vaulters attending the workshop.

### WEG 2010

The sport of vaulting achieved a new milestone in March 2010, announcing a healthy WEG long list of individuals and three team nominations.. Australia's first official WEG selection panel was chaired by Australia's FEI Vaulting judge Angie Deeks, operating to the new Selection Policy 2009. With guidance from Brett Mace the panel navigated their way through a number of issues, announcing the WEG 2010 vaulting squad in July 2010.

Under the care of Chef Tristyn Lowe, the vaulting squad, included individual competitor Krystle Lander and the 9 member team of vaulters from Canberra. All were new to WEG competition, but they overcame debut nerves to put in very commendable performances under the bright lights of the Kentucky Horse Park. The team placed a credible 10th, Krystle placed 27th and all vaulters came away from WEG feeling grateful for the excellent support from their coaches, family, friends and supporters. The NVC was extremely proud to see Australian vaulters doing well in terms of performance, and as importantly, being recognised for being sportsmanlike, courteous and wonderful young ambassadors for Australia and the sport.

### Selection Policy

The 2009 introduction of the first formal vaulting selection policy generated much interest and debate. Understandably there are a number of concerns being expressed from across the vaulting community, including new issues identified by the WEG vaulters, selectors and the NVC. There is some consensus that the policy itself is reasonable but that the selection criteria is not fitting the sport as it should. In January the NVC will conduct a review of criteria and issues reported via feedback following WEG 2010, especially noting feedback from candidates who experienced the selection process first hand.



Krystle Lander

### Summary

2010 was truly a year of tragedy and triumph. The whole of the vaulting community was shocked by the tragic death of Daniel King who died May 27th from severe injuries suffered in a welding accident. Daniel was known and loved by many of the vaulters as Tristyn Lowe's very kind and helpful 'other half', a talented sportsman and coach in his own right, and a trainee horseman and lunger. It was a credit to Tristyn, though not a surprise to those who know her, that only a few short months later she went on to support the Ozzie vaulters at WEG. On another sombre yet rather more positive note, the Vaulting community was pleased to offer congratulations to the Winwood family, following well deserved posthumous recognition of Diana, awarded an EA Special Services award for contributions to equestrian sport.

Many thanks to the National office staff for their ongoing support to the NVC and best wishes to all members and volunteers in the vaulting community as we move forward into 2011.

Sarah Hocking, Chair  
National Vaulting Committee

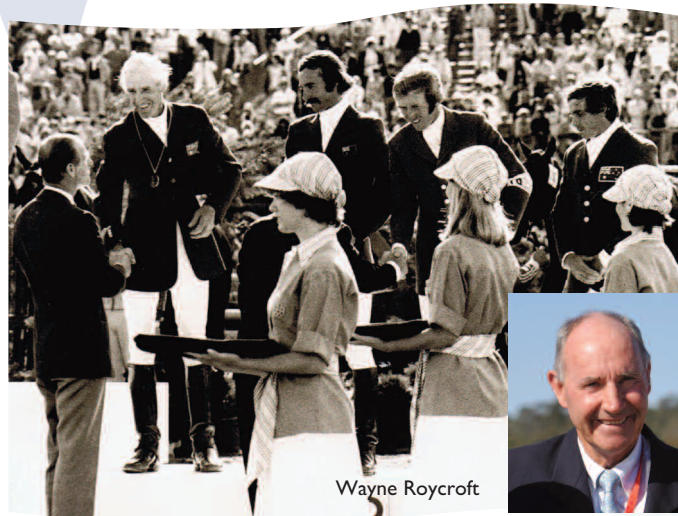


# AUSTRALIAN EVENTING COMMITTEE

The 18 months since the last Eventing report has seen many changes in Eventing with the departure of Aussie Coaching legend, Wayne Roycroft, and man of many Hats, Jim Dunn.

Firstly, I would like to thank Jim Dunn, my predecessor in this role, who certainly left very big shoes to fill. Jim Dunn stepped down as Chairman of the National Eventing Committee following a reign of almost 30 years. During this time, Jim oversaw the development of Eventing in Australia, including unparalleled Olympic successes which have paved the way with funding and set high expectations for those now striving for success at the top end of the sport.

Wayne Roycroft's resignation in December 2010 as Head Coach Eventing saddened and shocked us all. With over 40 years contributing to Australian Eventing at an elite level, Wayne has proved to be one of the world's most successful Olympic coaches. The Australian Eventing Team has achieved 11 Olympic medals in total. Wayne has been directly involved with 8 of them. We will remember Wayne for his great coaching achievements, firstly at Barcelona Olympics with both Individual and Team Gold, at Atlanta again with Team Gold, then the trifecta at our "home Olympics" Sydney 2000, with Team Gold and Individual Silver. Wayne has been an inspiration for Eventing riders locally and internationally. Under his leadership the Australian Eventing Team finally broke the World Equestrian Games 'drought' winning the team bronze and individual silver medals in Aachen in 2006. Wayne, with his great back up in Denis Goulding, Team Vet, and Jim Dunn as Chef d'Equipe is the single greatest contributor to Australia's extraordinary Eventing success over the past twenty years, that he has been coach.



Wayne Roycroft

In addition to his coaching commitments, Wayne has been a visionary for the sport of Eventing. In 2000 he was elected as Chairman of the FEI Eventing Committee, a position he was to hold for nine years. He also served for many years as the Chair of Equestrian NSW and Equestrian Australia. Before his coaching days Wayne was a three-time Olympian; 1968, 1976 and 1984 (he was also selected for Moscow in 1980, which was boycotted). Notably, he won two bronze medals (Mexico and Montreal).

The big event of 2010 was obviously WEG. While the golden luck of the Australian eventers was tragically absent, there were standout performances from those who finished and excellent horsemanship and sportsmanship from those who either did not get to compete or came to grief on course.



Stuart Tinney & Vettori

May 2010 saw the HSBC World Cup again conducted at SIEC by Sydney International Eventing in conjunction with a Jumping World Cup round. This was a weekend of great sport. The merging of the top end events in multiple disciplines is the way forward to bringing Equestrian Sport as a whole into the mindset of not just dedicated spectators but to the general public as well. After winning the HSBC World Cup Qualifier in Kihikihi, New Zealand, Megan Jones followed up with a very close 2nd in Sydney to finish the year second on the HSBC World Cup leader board and winning \$US 34,000.00.

Notable results at the major Australian 3DEs in 2009 were had by Stuart Tinney, Megan Jones and Wendy Schaeffer, while in 2010, these riders were joined by Sonja Johnson, Chris Burton and Heath Ryan on the winners' podium. Internationally, Australian riders based in the UK had some terrific results. Burghley 2009 had three Aussies in the top ten: Sam Griffiths (3rd), Clayton Fredericks (5th) and Paul Tapner (6th), while Sam Griffiths was also third at Badminton the same year. In 2010 Paul Tapner dominated Badminton, winning on Inonoth and 10th on Stormhill Michael, while Bill Levett and Hippolyte were 7th.



Megan Jones and  
Kirby Park Irish Jester





Heath Ryan and Mystery Whisper

The prestigious CCI\*\*\* in Adelaide in November saw a great return to Eventing form on Aussie soil by Wendy Schaeffer winning the class on Koyuna Sun Dancer and coming third on Koyuna Sun Storm. Wendy set her sights on making the Australian Showjumping team at WEG with her elite listed showjumper Koyuna Sun Set and spent the most part of 2010 in Europe campaigning to that end. Only just missing out on the WEG SJ team, it was especially gratifying to see her back in the winner's circle in Eventing.

The biggest buzzword in eventing in the past 18 months has probably been "safety". The design of cross country courses has seen much innovation, with various frangible and deformable fences being tested in and out of competition. Safety devices, such as air vests have come on to the scene, and the education of horses and athletes has been a focus at all levels. Reporting of falls and incidents at events has been undertaken by the FEI and each National Federation has appointed a National Safety Officer to coordinate fall reporting and to assimilate and disseminate information. Australia is ably represented by Victorian Police Officer, horse breeder and ex-eventer, Bob Powles. The sport appears to be gaining in popularity, and incidents are stable, or decreasing.

New rules of note since the last report are the compulsory elimination after a fall at a fence or anywhere on course during the cross country or jumping phases, elimination after three refusals anywhere on the cross country course, and elimination after two refusals in Showjumping from Pre Novice level up.

The new EA Eventing rules for 2011 can be found on the EA website on this link <http://www.equestrian.org.au/?MenuID=EA%5FRules%5Fand%5FRegs%2F11759%2F0%2CEventing%2F11746%2F0%2F0> and the 2011 FEI Eventing rules at <http://www.horsesport.org/disciplines/eventing/rules>

Annually all states in Australia conduct a wide range of events, from CNCs catering to the grassroots level at Newcomers and Introductory through to International Three Day events which equal the best in the world in terms of courses, organisation, officials – and of course horses and riders. These events would also not be possible without our hundreds of wonderful hardworking and often unsung volunteers.

Huge thanks to them all and to our sponsors. Without their financial support the sport would not be able to continue.



Sonja Johnson & Ringwould Jaguar

The education of officials – technical delegates, judges, stewards and vets, is also crucial.

The recently developed eventing officials' pathway provides a clear and realistic method for athletes and ex-athletes, and other interested and experienced people to become more involved in an official capacity. EA in conjunction with the FEI have run FEI Officials seminars at Sydney 3DE (2009) and Melbourne 3DE (2010), and the next FEI Update and upgrade clinic will be held in conjunction with the Australian International 3DE in Adelaide 18th to 20th November 2011. The FEI Global Education Program (GEP) is also giving Australian Officials the opportunity to officiate at some of the bigger (and smaller!) events overseas. With airfares from Australia so expensive, northern hemisphere organising committees do not have the incentive to invite Australian Officials to their events. In the past year the GEP has allowed not only our FEI Candidates and International officials to gain experience and expertise overseas, but also have given Australian Organising committees access to overseas officials with the FEI footing the bill for airfares.

I would like to thank my colleagues, the National Eventing Committee, Barry Roycroft, Caroline Jones, Des Hughes, Georgia Clifford, Ian Coulson, Polly-Anne Huntington and Vince Roche; Michelle Battams and Camilla Mowbray from the National office; Brett Mace from High Performance; Vicki Burgess from Eventing NSW for help on our rules updates and database queries; and all the State eventing committees for your input and support over the past year.

With a new CEO, in Grant Baldock, a new Education and Officiating officer in Ben Harris, a number of changes in staff and responsibilities at the EA National office, and increases in Australian Sports Commission Funding in the lead up to the 2012 Olympic Games, Equestrian sport is moving forward at a rate of knots. As always, Eventing's biggest challenge is the cost to run events of the calibre we need to produce the pathways to success from grass roots to Elite competition.

Keep up with all the action on the Equestrian Australia website [www.equestrian.org.au](http://www.equestrian.org.au)

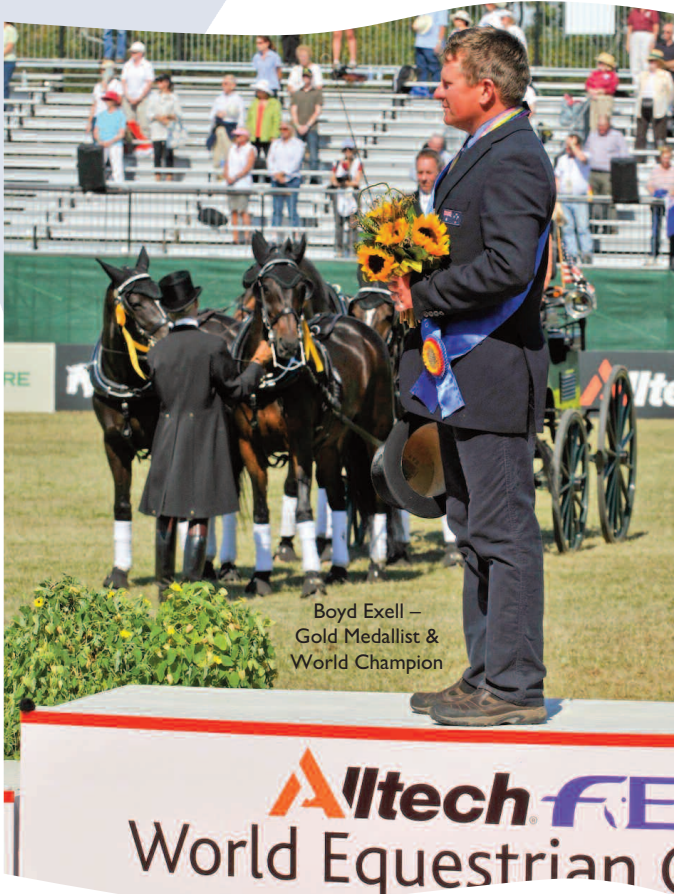
Gill Rolton  
Chair, National Eventing Committee

# AUSTRALIAN CARRIAGE DRIVING COMMITTEE

## Annual Report – 2010

### High Performance

An EA Carriage Driving Club in NSW with the help from EA and ENSW held the 1st CAN for Australia, 2 Judges 1 being "O" level Mark Wentein from Belgium and 1 being "I" level Marsoe Larose from Canada were brought out for the event. The Australian Judges even though they were "I" Level need to have done a refresher to be able to judge as the FEI allowed this event to be a qualifier for the World Horse Singles Championships later in the year. We were able to have them as the other 3 judges. Also that week we had an FEI official's clinic being run by Mark Wentein. After the event Boyd Exell ran a clinic and he also went ran clinics in Vic and QLD. Two drivers qualified well for the World Single Horse Championships in Italy being Elizabeth Lawrence and Michelle Jones. Also with the CAN we held an unofficial event. This CAN and a warm up event a few months earlier saw Australians for the first time see these single horse competitors do canter in the dressage test. Since the event Mark Wentein was kind enough to help put Dot Willcoxson in touch with some events in France for her to judge at CAI level.



Boyd Exell –  
Gold Medalist &  
World Champion

Boyd Exell went on to winning the FEI World Indoor series with his indoor team.

Elizabeth Lawrence and Michelle Jones based themselves at Boyd's stables in the UK and leased 2 horses off him which he kindly had qualified for the girls. They did one warm up event each in the UK before travelling to Italy. The girls learnt a lot from this event and are now looking at taking their own horses over next time.

Boyd and Gavin Robson who is based in the USA made up the Australian driving team for WEG and were 5th overall in the teams and Boyd won Australia's first and only Gold in Carriage Driving.



Boyd Exell and team –  
WEG 2010

### NCDC

Has made a few rule changes to the EA rules since the FEI changed a few this year.

### NCAS/NOAS

Coaches courses are being upgraded this year with the help of the coach educators.

Officials courses for Judges, Technical Delegates and Course Designers are being put together this year in time for Judges updates April 2011. A small few people had been working with Nathan Holeman and now Ben Harris's guidance.

NCDC is also looking at having showing for judges and coaches separate to the others.

### Juniors and Young Drivers

NCDC has been putting together a program to help young people get up and going with Horse Driving Trials, Showing, or just pleasure drive and the age group is through to 30 years old, a member of the NCDC has also found good sponsorship for this program once up and going.

Australia have been talking to other countries that have joined an International Children's Driving Group to find ways of encouraging young people to come into this sport and has found it very encouraging from these other countries.

NCDC are hoping the Interschools in all States will take driving on in the near future.

### Clubs

Not many clubs are putting events on but some have been putting "come and try" and "starting up" days which have been very successful. They have been getting membership from those with the follow up days.

### ACDS

3 members of the NCDC met in Tas. with 2 members of the ACDS and this was the 1st meeting of, we hope many, where we can both work together. The next meeting is in early 2011.

Judy Meredith

National Carriage Driving Committee



# PARA-EQUESTRIAN COMMITTEE

## Annual Report – 2010



Announcement of squads for 2010 on Australia Day meant that our Elite and Development squad numbers dropped from 22 to 12. This enabled a much more focussed squad programme for 2010. Our first camp for the year was at the AIS and was a horse free camp, emphasising the theme of "the rider as an athlete" through discussion and education on strength and conditioning, recovery, nutrition and team building. We developed our team ambition which is "to be recognised as the best team in the world by Rio 2016" and our theme "Performing When it Matters, 365+".



AIS National Camp

Our July camp introduced us to Victoria Kahn who is now the team's physio and SSSM Manager. Along with Chef D'Equipe Sally Francis, coach Julia Battams and Team Vet Janine Dwyer, we began the road to Kentucky. This involved 3 national competitions and camps, plus 2 two day clinics in each state. At our selection events in Toowoomba and Sydney during June and July, our riders all performed very well. Our team of four for WEG was Kate Doughty, Grade 4, Sharon Jarvis, Grade 3, Grace Bowman, Grade 2 and Nicole Kullen, Grade 1A. Susan Seipel was selected as an individual, elected not to compete but made the journey to WEG to support the rest of the team.



Nicole Kullen and Suzanne Siepel

At WEG, our team came 10th overall in the teams event. Individually Sharon Jarvis and Applewood Odorodo won 2 bronze medals and the remaining team members had mixed results with some setbacks causing some disappointing outcomes. There were a few travel related issues which hampered the pre competition preparation but the riders all managed to perform to their best ability under these circumstances.



Kate Doughty and  
Heather-ton Park Al Capone

As a team we have very clear goals for our London campaign, having learned from our experiences in Kentucky. One of the major goals is to investigate the possibilities of securing more highly competitive horses for London as it was clear that the international standard of horseflesh is far superior to what it was even as recently as Beijing and to be competitive, we seriously need to address this issue.



Sharon Jarvis – Bronze  
medallist WEG 2010.

We have a very dynamic and proactive extended team of support and expertise for this campaign and are looking forward to the challenge for London 2012.

Julia Battams  
National Coach - Para Equestrian



# AUSTRALIAN SHOW HORSE COMMITTEE

## Annual Report – 2009/2010

### High Performance

The National Committee have put in a very productive year. Changes and alterations have been made to National Rules, which will remove anomalies and have consistency with all states. The major change will be to the judge's pathway to upgrading. In the past it has been the Royal Shows who have de-facto promoted our judges to the National level by inviting them to judge a class of any sort at a royal show. This is patently wrong, so that Equestrian Australia is taking back the Accreditation System. The progression is clearly laid out in the new rules. There are also changes to the outdated model programme in the new rules. These will be available some time after June 30. It must be remembered that any alteration to rules only becomes Law on 01.01. of any year.

Show Horse Nationally has only been meeting twice a year and it has been assured that the committee meets three times a year with the third meeting being at Weribee on the Wednesday before the Championships.

The 2010 Equestrian Australia Show Horse and Rider Championship were again an outstanding success.

CLASS	CHAMPION	RESERVE
Junior Rider	Billie McEvoy	Sabrina Durante
Leading Rein	Royal Secret	Diamonds Of Tuscany
Small Show Hunter	Cherrytree Vagabond	Owendale, Mr Perkins
Large Show Pony Hunter	Silkwood Riverside	Owendale, Lemon Twist
Show Hunter Pony Galloway	Rothwell Kind Regards	Langtree Masterpiece
Show Hunter Hack	Trans Tasman Champion	Glentullock
Reserve Trans Tasman	Dymondz	
Reserve National	Grand Acclaim	
Intermediate Rider	Rose McEvoy	Emma Gittoes
Small Rider Pony	Langtree Jazzman	Silkwood Angel Wings
Large Pony	Kolbeach Be Free	Kolbeach Aster
Senior Rider	Bianca Barnes	Bridget Sell
Small Galloway	Willow Croft Regal Winter	Kolbeach Review
Large Galloway	Kolbeach Venetian	Rathowen Envy
Small Hack	Slim High Profile	D P Mayfair
Large Hack	Super Natural	SLM Mindgames

Frank Bawden  
National Carriage Driving Committee



Mark Kenzig & Supernatural

## REPORTS FROM THE STATE BRANCHES



Equestrian NSW membership reached almost 7500 in 2009/2010 and saw one of its most productive and active years of recent times in terms of major events, developmental programmes and investment back into equestrian sport.

### EVENTS

Both the Equestrian NSW branch and its discipline committees were very busy in the area of event management, see below some of the events managed by branch or discipline council/committee.

**Equestrian NSW office** (including Interschool Committee and Saddlehorse Committee) – ENSW State Interschool Championships (March), NSW Horse of the Year (April), 2010 Horseland National Interschool Championships (September) and Twilight Jumping every two months at SIEC., ENSW Annual Awards (February), various NCAS exams throughout the year

**Dressage NSW** – Sydney CDI (May) and the Australian Dressage Champs (October) as well as numerous dressage club activities throughout the year and state championships in Tamworth at AELEC (September), NSW YR Champs (July), NSW Pony Dressage Champs (October)

**Eventing NSW** (SIE and a range of clubs) – Weekend of World Cups (May), Sydney International 3DE (August) and many and varied club events including FEI levels throughout the year. Also run were eventing training camps for junior development.

**Jumping NSW** – Australian Youth Festival (September) and NSW Champs (October), Summer Classic (December), Copabella Classic (April), Jump in the Park (September)

**Vaulting NSW** – State Championships (April), National Vaulting Workshop (January)

**Carriage Driving NSW** – Boyd Exell School (January), CDE (January), various club days and “Come and Drive” days

All committees and councils were also active in running training clinics and workshops for young riders, emerging talent, officials and volunteers.

### BOARD AND OFFICE

**Chairman** – Dr Derek Major

**Elected Directors** – Judy Fasher, David Lawrence, Alex Townsend, Kelly Paton, Graham Davey, Ray Balcomb

**Appointed Directors** – Michael Benson

**CEO** – Wendy Cohen

**Member Services Manager and Interschool Co-ordinator** – Elysha Sargent

**NCAS Co-ordinator and Dressage Consultant** – Sue Birch

**Sport Project Manager and Member Services** – Susie Burns

**Bookkeeper, Office Manager and Saddlehorse Co-ordinator** – Joanne Cocksedge

The volunteers recruitment, retention and recognition scheme continues in its third year.

The Special Projects Funds continues to fund development aspects of the sport across the areas of young riders, officials training, regional development and clinics for \$32,000 in 2010.

The member publication, Equest News, is reformatted to become a yearbook, to be first distributed in March, 2011.

The office introduced Facebook to its existing online services in 2010 and has almost 800 ‘fans’.

Saddlehorse continued to deliver to members opportunities for training through its Development Squad schools and the board appointed a new Saddlehorse Development Committee to help build saddlehorse activity in the state throughout the entire year. A successful team represented NSW at the 2010 Australian Show Horse and Rider Championships in Werribee.

### WEG ATHLETES

NSW members made up a large percentage of the WEG team, these included;

<b>Jumping</b>	Chris Chugg Edwena Alexander
<b>Dressage</b>	Rachael Sanna Brett Parbery Lyndal Oatley
<b>Eventing</b>	Stuart Tinney Chris Burton Paul Tapner
<b>ParaEquestrian</b>	Nicole Kullen
<b>Vaulting</b>	Krystle Lander Lani Maher Lee Briggs Rebecca Hillman Ruth Skrzypek Joanne Lee

And, of course, although Boyd Exell is a Qld member, he is from Bowral in NSW, so Equestrian NSW would like to congratulate him on his magnificent Gold Medal in the driving at WEG.

### Financial Support of Sport in NSW

Equestrian NSW continued its commitment to supporting all aspects of the sport, funding in excess of \$220,000 in the year to events (regional, state, national and international), development programmes, administration support to committees and councils, swabbing programs, officials travel, athlete travel (international), elite programmes and NSWIS as well as the annual awards night, volunteers programme and the 2010 National Interschool Championships.

Wendy Cohen, CEO – Equestrian NSW



Tom McDermott and  
Twins Limerick





### The year that was!

From our wonderful start with our State Interschools in July to the 2010 M3DE, it has been a terrific year with all Victorians having an opportunity to participate in so many events and many training squads or clinics.

In the past twelve months we have had the Crawford report and the EADRA debate. We also farewelled Franz Venhaus as CEO and welcomed our new National CEO, Grant Baldock. The States and Territories (the Branches) elected a very new National board and produced a new National constitution. The National Board, Branches and key shareholders developed a new strategic plan for Equestrian Australia which will form the map document for all Equestrian Australia and the Branches to work towards our future. This new strategic plan is well underway.

So all in all, it is a very busy time.

I would ask all our members to take the time to read the National plan for our future as it encompasses the whole range of looking after our grassroots up to our internationals. Equestrian Australia and the Branches fully see themselves as a conglomerate of many equestrian pursuits and not just the FEI competitions.

In Victoria we have been working on our new constitution as well as bringing our bylaws or regulations into a better working document to ensure the members are able to get the right type of people in the right jobs to further our sport. All Branches have worked towards having their Constitutions more in line with National to ensure best practice and good governance of our sport. We hold a valued position with the Australian Sports Commission seeing equestrian in the top 10 of sporting groups in the country which has assisted us in receiving a further \$750k for EA's High Performance Program. Again it is important that all EV members take the time to read the Constitution and the bylaws so that you are aware how your discipline works and can prosper.

Our AGM report is also full of the year that was and importantly that we see just how much Victoria has achieved this year and how we can move forward to the coming year with the enthusiasm to continue building equestrian sports in Victoria.

Staffing in our EV office has again been an important part of our progress. We have farewelled Clare Hopla, Rebecca Keartland and Jessica Herman, but welcomed Catherine Davis, Nicole Morrison, Katie Short and Ute Raabe. We also had a new arrival with Elaine and Ewan Kellet welcoming Hamish. I think Hamish has attended more events than anyone in the world, pro rata for his age.

I am very proud of all the work our staff produces and thank them for all their dedication to our sport.

Our volunteers are also working beyond anyone's expectations and as everyone knows, without our volunteers equestrian sports would not be able to continue, so we thank all of you for committing to the growth of our sports. Those volunteers who have assisted in the EV office have also commented that they just can't believe how busy the office is and they have a new appreciation for the work and interesting questions our staff attend to, so if you have the time, come volunteer in the office.

Occupational Health & Safety, something now covered by law, was something we have spoken about but now is one of the most challenging issues we have to work with. I feel we have started well but remind you all that this isn't a choice, it is a requirement of Government that we make sure we abide by all the rules and regulations, so make sure you do your due diligence and support the changes. It will be safer for all concerned. Sometimes we have to

make difficult decisions which can be unpopular but that's our job to do what is best for the sport and by enforcing the rules.

Following on from the Interschools were many more events which have all been very successful. As you all know it takes great ideas and hard work for events to continue to grow and deliver customer satisfaction. Our Event Directors with all our volunteers and administration staff spend many hours on the development of our events within the rules and regulations. Hours are spent on checking qualifications and correcting entry forms and I must remind you all that you only need to fill in your own information once. We have to check hundreds of entries so please take the time to put the correct information on your forms. It helps both you and us.

We must remember that if we don't follow all rules that our members won't be eligible for Olympics or World Equestrian Games so the importance of us all getting it right has so many consequences. This year many of our events were qualifiers for WEG which was held in September and we know they did us proud.

I have thanked our volunteers and you will see throughout the reports that everyone will continue to do so, but I urge you all to take the time to say thank you to the gear checkers, the marshals, and the judges who educate themselves to enable us all to enjoy our sport. It is important for all of us to take the time to do this. Thank you is a special word and it only takes a small amount of your time to use the words but the good feeling lasts for a long time!

It is amazing knowing how good it feels when our members take the time to email or ring to thank our staff or just to let us know that we did a good job, so remember it's the goodwill you leave behind which will take the sport to the next level and encourage our volunteers.

We expect to hear when things are bad, that's human nature, but when things are good and someone takes the time to say thank you or job well done, then that is special.

Please take the time to enjoy the year that was and to look forward to the coming year.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Cheers Jackie

Jackie Woodhead, CEO – Equestrian Victoria



Katya Weimann  
BP\_Flamboyant



2010 has by all accounts been one of the most satisfying years I have had the pleasure of overseeing at EQ.

Under relatively tough financial circumstances coming out of the GFC, as a sport we held our own producing a sound financial outcome, and although running at a loss, this was due mainly to accounting circumstances and two off budget expenditure items, rather than a loss in membership revenue or drop off in sports participation.

The highlight of the year was clearly the commencement of the construction of the long awaited equestrian centre at Caboolture. This facility has finally taken shape and is now a realization for the sport, with it being operational later in 2011. An estimated \$12 million has been spent on the centre to date.

Another significant milestone for the sport following on from EQ being a founding member of the Alliance for Performance Horse Sports, was Equestrian Australia becoming a sitting horse industry member of Animal Health Australia. This was a significant achievement, giving our sport and those in performance horse activities direct representation to the Government on all matters equine.

2010 also saw the first full year of the Premium Events program set up by Keran Ainslie, following on from Board direction as it related to our sports program. This program has aimed to draw greater attention in terms of profile, media and sponsorship to a number of designated activities we conduct throughout the year. This approach has proved most successful and it is expected to be more comprehensive in 2011.

The Board, through the Chair, Vic Nichols was also successful in having Jumping reintroduced to the Brisbane Royal on Peoples Day. This was a rousing success with approximately 25,000 spectators watching some great jumping on the day.

2010 brought to an end for Equestrian Queensland's its first 3 year funding agreement with Sport & Recreation Queensland and the Queensland Government. The certainty provided by 3 years of funding clearly allows for better program planning and more achievable outcomes. As a result, EQ was very successful in meeting its Key Performance Indicators as projected for the 3 years, with these indicators being based on our Strategic Plan. Our strategic direction has since been updated for the period 2011 – 2013 and EQ has again been successful in obtaining a further 3 years of government support at increased levels.

We have also continued ongoing contact with the Queensland Academy of Sport, with the Academy again asking EQ to update its current submission, as part of our efforts to gain entry into this high performance institution. As an Olympic sport, along with changes that have been made to Equestrian Australia's approach to high performance, we are hopeful for our future prospects, or at least for elite equestrian athletes to gain some sort of ongoing assistance from the Academy.

EQ have continued to administer Equestrian Northern Territory membership and provide administration support to the sports development in the top end. The move to assist the NT in this manner has continued to prove extremely successful with ongoing growth in membership, events and officials development activities. We also supported the ENT HOTY Grand Champion Class in 2010, which received very positive feedback and reinforced the excellent relationship already established between the two organizations.

Interschool equestrian sport continued to flourish this year after a slightly shortened season, culminating with the State Championships in July, this change being brought about as a result of the timing of interschool nationals. Interschool Queensland also came into existence, as a fully integrated sport committee operating under the direction of the EQ Board in 2010. This, along with the appointment of Mandy Cheales as the new Interschool/Clubs Development Officer, has seen the consolidation of the management and development of interschool activities in the course of the later part of the year.

Coach education under the control of Sasha Ulasowski has continued to consolidate its activities in terms of courses and programs conducted throughout the State. Also, in conjunction with the new EA Education Manager, Ben Harris, Sasha has been working to update course structure and content in an effort to attract a greater number of trainee coaches back into our sport. 2011 will see considerable change in this area of the sport.

Our Medication Control program was further expanded in 2010 to be the largest program currently operating within the EA structure. It has now clearly become the norm rather than the exception to expect swabbing to occur at major EQ and Qld Show events throughout the State. Such activities certainly bring to the fore competitive fairness and animal welfare issues. Queensland can be justly proud of its record to date in terms of working to keep our sport clean.

EQ members have again done very well this year with nominations and winners of a number of National and State awards. In the Equestrian Australia Awards we were successful in winning six awards:

Offical of the Year	Graeme Watts
EA Special Services	Lesley Sullivan
EA Special Services (Posthumously)	Diana Winwood
Volunteer of the Year	Carole Lok
Overseas Athlete of the Year	Boyd Exell
Club of the Year	Fig Tree Pocket

At the Queensland State Sports Awards, Equestrian Queensland had 4 finalist:

Queensland Sports Event	World Cup Jumping Super Series
Administrator of the Year	Deb Postle
Queensland Sports Officiator	Graeme Watts
Volunteer of the Year	Carole Lok

Unfortunately, this past year, we were not successful in winning any categories but all finalists can take great pride in reaching the finals, as such awards certainly highlight their achievements as well as profiling the sport and this organization.

It is also important to note that Susan Seipel, was awarded a Rising Star Award by Womensport Qld for her efforts in para-equestrian sports.

Equestrian Queensland again conducted the State Equestrian Conference and the Annual Awards Night. The State Conference was very well supported with a new multi strand program catering for athletes, clubs and coaches. We will continue to work to establish a program that will be of interest to all levels of our sport. The Annual Awards Night was also very well patronized with around 250 attendees this year and a full awards list as usual. The venue at the Gold Coast again proved very popular and successful with members.

2010 saw EQ lose two of its longest serving staff members in Liz Buchanan and Fiona Rolls. Liz had served EQ for just over 11 years and was instrumental in overseeing much growth and change that impacted on this organization over the course of the last decade.

Fiona was with the organization for just over 7 years and was responsible for overseeing administration, as well as being instrumental in EQ's efforts with EI and the associated Chaps funding.

With the departure of both Liz and Fiona the Board wanted to examine the overall staffing structure and as a result we have added Mandy Cheales as the Interschool/ Clubs Development Officer and Nadya Marshall as the Events Development Officer. In addition to this we welcomed Sam Duffy as the Administration Manager and Di Bensley under contract for project related activities. The sport now has a comprehensive staffing structure better able to meet the ongoing needs of the sport and the services required to develop programs and growth related activities throughout Queensland.

Financial stability and sports growth has remained at the core of the Board's focus and activities with the Board again injecting funds back into the sport committees to the tune of about \$190,000, along with other administrative support as required to assist them put initiatives on the ground whether it be through clubs, clinics or other initiatives aimed at membership growth or servicing of the same. This is a process the Board is very keen to see continue in the years ahead.

As mentioned earlier Sport and Recreation Queensland has again provided EQ with increased financial support in 2010 at both the State and Club level. This support has not only come in the form of cash but also through assistance in terms of True Sport Live Here sponsorship as well as SRQ staff support. Although not totally reliant on the support the Queensland Government provides to this organization, we are most appreciative of the ongoing assistance we receive as it allows us to continue to deliver in an ongoing manner, initiatives that we may not otherwise be able to do.

I would also like to thank the numerous sponsors that have supported both EQ and our various sports over the course of the year and the Staff of EQ for their ongoing support, dedication and efforts. It has again been a very productive year and a precursor to a very busy 2011.

It is also important that I recognize and thank the many volunteers and officials who manage our clubs and events. Their assistance and support in maintaining equestrian sports in the manner they have over the past 12 months is invaluable to the ongoing operations of the sport. We, as a State Sporting body are ever reliant on such assistance to implement programs and associated activities aimed at growing our sport throughout the State.

Finally, but no means least, it would be remiss of me not to thank Mr Vic Nichols for his ongoing support as Chair of the EQ Board and the Board itself for its ongoing guidance, advice and dedication to the continued growth and development of equestrian sports in Queensland.

Rob Ferguson, CEO - Equestrian Queensland

2010 has been a year of change. In June the ESA premises in Frederick Street, Richmond were sold whilst a contract for purchase of a larger property was signed at Mt Barker with Equestrian SA moving into its larger new premises on the 27th August. These are exciting times with the building being only 7 years old and "purpose built".

For part of the year Equestrian SA has been without a CEO and combined with "moving" has caused existing staff and Board members an enormous amount of work however the commitment shown by Board members and staff has been tremendous.

Our sports are continually growing with Interschool being a major growth area. Equestrian SA representatives did very well at the National Interschool Championships held in NSW and it was encouraging that all our competitors performed so well, as well as winning the "Team Spirit Award". Bonnetts Saddlery kindly "outfitted" the competitors and we are very grateful to them for this wonderful support of our youth.

In March the State Showjumping Championships were a huge success with competitors travelling large distances to come to what is now a prestigious event with CMI Toyota being major sponsors. It was exciting to have Young Rider teams compete with most states represented as well as a team from Singapore.

In April Carriage Driving held their inaugural "Horse of the Year" competition. This event was a huge success and I am sure that this is encouraged by those members who had attended clinics given by Boyd Excell, and who will be coming to SA early in 2011.

In May the State Dressage Championships were again successfully held at Strathalbyn whilst later in the month the Coaching Symposium was again a success being held north of Adelaide this year.

Vaulting held their State Championships in August with 2 South Australians selected on the Australian WEG team, Sarah Leadbeater and Jamie Hocking – a wonderful experience for our young members.

Showhorse held their HOTY in late October in ideal weather conditions at the Adelaide Showgrounds with Showhorse representatives always being very competitive at the National Showhorse Championships.

Eventing continues to be a strong sport in SA with Megan Jones selected for WEG but unfortunately due to Jester's travel sickness was unable to compete. Some of eventing's strength comes from the inspiration of having the 4 star Australian International 3Day Event held in the Adelaide parklands in the CBD. This event needs many volunteers to make it happen and the ESA eventing committee and community are instrumental in making this happen. This year the weather was cooler than the 41-43 degrees of last year and was a huge success and enjoyed by all those attending and competing.

Grace Bowman was selected to represent Australia in Para-equestrian at WEG and only just missed out on a medal but showed that she is improving every time she competes internationally and is sure to be a medalist of the future.

Finally we continue to be indebted to our volunteers who unfortunately seem to be declining in numbers. Officials are continually being asked to judge, course-build, steward etc. with this becoming more of an issue and one that needs to be addressed in the various sports but also nationally.

Wendy Hunt  
Chair, Equestrian SA



## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

2010 has been a significant year for Equestrian WA. We have seen the good, bad, contentious and tragic in our wonderful sport. After four governance reviews over a period of twelve years, the members finally endorsed the adoption of a new constitution in May. We celebrated some terrific results of Sharon Jarvis at the World Equestrian Games, and shared concern for Sonja Johnson and her terrific Jag, after a puncture wound at Kentucky. Regretfully, it is sad to acknowledge the tragic death of one of our members, which sadly reminds us that our sport can be dangerous, and a life can be taken in a moment.

Above all it has been challenging. I wish to stress that the reforms we have addressed may not be noticeable to members right now, but I can assure our members that future generations of members will appreciate the difficulty and strain we may have personally felt. I do not refute that it has been difficult for members to understand or appreciate the reason we have made changes recently, but I guarantee that our actions are genuine and aim to position EWA as modern and professional state sporting organization.

## Milestones

Like last year's report, I presented at the AGM in 2009 a set of goals for the year that our team was going to work hard towards.

- Complete an extensive safety audit of the SEC, ensuring our health & safety obligations to staff and patrons are met;
- Finish the \$1.507m SEC upgrade;
- Unfortunately we had planned to have completed all six key projects by this time. It has been a very difficult process, and some specific incidents have slowed the project timeline. Fortunately we are on budget.
- Project 1 – upgrade indoor arena surface – completed.
- Project 2 – new 80m x 80m all-weather international arena – completed.
- Project 3 – disabled access lift – has gone to tender.
- Project 4 – roof over the training arena – due for to tender soon.
- Project 5 – repair roof and gutters.
- Establish an SEC future fund, to ensure we can repair, replace & upgrade future SEC assets;
- Vote in a new EWA Constitution;
- Provide opportunity for other groups to join Equestrian WA;
- Identify, discuss and strengthen our link with Affiliate Clubs and their members;
- Establish a working party with Pony Club, to identify collaborative & joint opportunities;
- Continue to foster the relationships with major/key stakeholders to EWA;

## Notable Athlete Results

### PARA EQUESTRIAN

- Sharon Jarvis WEG dual bronze medals.

### EVENTING

- Sonja Johnson WEG Australia Eventing team.
- Trans-Tasman Young Rider Challenge. Jess Manson, 2nd place.

### DRESSAGE

- Two young riders selected to the national squad programme.

### JUMPING

- WA won the gold medal at the South Australian Championships.

### INTERSCHOOL

- Our largest interstate team of 44 youngsters competed at SIEC.

### SHOWHORSE

- Our largest show horse team competing at nationals in Werribee with 22 members.

## State Equestrian Centre

The overheads with managing the SEC are not reducing, and we have begun to address this financially this year. The introduction of the SEC levy within our membership has been met with mixed views. From a membership of 2544 members, we received 33 letters/emails. From this collection of views, it was quite balanced in opinion. The proof will be in the number of members who have re-joined, and whether we will see a decrease in the number of new members joining.

This decision on a new levy was based on the quantitative facts from the past five years, which unfortunately show a decreasing income figure in a number of areas such as ground service fees. Reasons for why this has occurred are varied. However, from a Board and management perspective we needed a solution.

We are in a fortunate position to have the SEC, and be able to control our access and potential return. We have recently commissioned a long overdue feasibility study on the SEC, with assistance from a DSR grant. This feasibility study will provide quantitative and qualitative data for the Board to assess our future management, risk assessment, strategic positioning when making decisions on the SEC and its future. Without this feasibility study the Board would be remiss in its charter.

At this point, whilst we are investigating SEC feasibility, we must recognize that all stakeholders need to contribute equitably. There are eleven tenants at the SEC, all with completely different agreements and contributions to the SEC. I respect the past, and the decisions that were made in good faith at the time that has brought us to this point. As we continue to negotiate new standardized licensing arrangements, I ask all tenants to consider solutions and not to personalize debate, so we can reach equitable consensus.

The outcome I hope EWA can achieve from this feasibility study, will be recognition from DSR that EWA should be eligible for an annual supporting grant to maintain this equine facility in the condition that should be expected for a valuable state asset.

## Strategic Plan

The 2010 – 2013 Strategic Plan has been published, although the Board will complete a review early in 2011 to ensure our plan is aligned to that of Equestrian Australia. This strategic plan is an incredibly important document for a Board, CEO and members. It assists Board Members in making sound decisions, ensuring the direction of the sport follows its vision and objectives. The key strategies are there to assist the CEO and staffing team to achieve the stated outcomes and goals. For members the strategic plan assists them to understand why certain decisions have been made.

The strategic plan has some significant objectives and strategies. I feel the Board is on the right path, to establish EWA as a strong and progressive sporting organization. All recently made decisions and decisions to make in the coming years, are not taken lightly. A great deal of time, thought and debate is covered on these strategic goals. But it is imperative that decisions are made, and action taken.

## Governance

The Constitution was endorsed by the members at a special general meeting in May. I would like to acknowledge Mr. Tim Weigall, Mrs Hayley Lethlean and Mr. Alistair Mackinlay for their time in this constitutional review and commitment in developing this new constitution.



In the coming year, we need to assess whether our organizational structure is suitable in reflecting the demands of our members, and address concerns in a progressive manner. I understand that other states have similar challenges and along with EA, membership and organizational charters are being investigated. My main concern is EWA continues to appear in two minds. The first view are those members who believe we are one organization and one sport, with a variety of disciplines, and the second view are others who believe we are a number of independent sports governed by an authoritative entity. This needs to be sorted sooner, rather than later. If we continue to have conflict within our own sport and organization, we will not achieve the strategic objectives we have set, we will not be provided with the funding possibilities we now see, and we will not be attractive to sponsors. I stress again that this should not be personalized, constructive comments and solutions are required.

## Challenges Ahead

I have already mentioned above some points of concern, but there are other areas of concern that need to be addressed.

Firstly without events, EWA would be in a poor and sorry state. All our events are run by hard working and diligent volunteers. It is hard to determine their monetary value. This year we have a number of event secretaries and organisers retiring or having a break to recharge. Sadly I feel their efforts are often poorly acknowledged, although their contribution is invaluable. As a sport we need to solve this potential problem. The question I pose: is how do we ensure events are managed well, ensure our volunteer event managers are supported, and ensure events are of high caliber?

Secondly we must realize EWA is a state sporting organization. It is meant to promote the sport throughout the whole state, assist regional members, and provide value for their membership. Importantly EWA must be relevant to the regional community. EWA is slowly beginning to address these concerns, maybe not as fast as regional members may want, but it will be progressed. Next year, I intend to visit identified key regional areas to meet, discuss and identify solutions to the tyranny of distance and the unfortunate misconception that we are SEC centric.

Some of other issues that must remain in focus:

- Fiscal responsibility;
- Organizational framework, succession and the charter within our sport;
- member retention and growth;
- member services;
- renewing and strengthening relationships with stakeholders;
- Our IT capacity meets the demands expected of a community becoming increasingly adept at its use;

I reiterate the reality we face is how to determine our long term strategic positioning for our sport in a competitive market. We must identify future trends, ensuring our strategic plan is relevant and we continue to provide services, events and a voice that our members demand.

## Partnerships and Sponsorship

EWA would like to proudly acknowledge our corporate and strategic partners:

- Principle Partner – Prestige Loans.
- Corporate Partners – C-Quest, Nature Vet, Saddles Plus, Greenline.
- Strategic Partners – Department Sport and Recreation, Lotterywest, Healthway “Go for 2 & 5”, WAIS, Australian Sports Commission.
- EWA acknowledges the numerous other sponsors within our sport, supporting the countless events throughout the competition year. Thank you.

Thank you to all members and non-members who have provided constructive criticism and positive comment over the past year. On behalf of the staff, I would like to thank you. We will continue to tackle the challenges that are presented whilst we continue with the reform agenda set by the Board.

I would like to acknowledge the support of the Board of Directors and in particular Dr. Theresa Marshall (Chairman), Mr. Mark Warren (Vice-Chair) and Mr. Mike Caplehorn (SEC Director). I personally thank the EWA/SEC staff for their integrity, outstanding work ethic and commitment.

2011 will continue the theme of 2009 and 2010, promoting change, strengthening our equine community and ownership of our sport. I ask you as a member to continue your support and appreciate some of the major decisions required to steer EWA and SEC in the right direction.

Safe riding

Hamish Johnston, CEO - Equestrian WA



Another year has magically flown by and we are now hurtling towards Christmas again. It won't be long and we will back into the full swing of the next competition season.

2010 has been a great year for Equestrian Northern Territory. We had some large targets set for 2010, and whilst not all of them were achieved, excellent progress was made.

### 2010 HIGHLIGHTS: Accreditation

#### Medication Control

We have increased our accredited Medication Control Officers (Swabbing stewards) from just 1 to 5 people. 4 of these are based in Darwin, and 1 in Alice Springs.

#### Judging

A Jumping Judges course was held in June. Existing judges attended as a refresher. We now have one additional Level 1 judge and we also had Susan Glencross upgraded from a Level 1 to a Level 2 judge – a first for the NT.

### Membership

Membership numbers peaked at 117 for 2010. A total of 72 horses are also registered.

Previous numbers:

2009 – 108

2008 – 76

The Board also agreed that the membership & horse registration fees would remain the same in 2011 with no increase. This means rates have been the same since January 2009.

### Interschool

The NT's success at the National Interschool Championships continued in 2010. The NT team has achieved "podium places" at all 3 National Championships held so far, despite the small size of our teams in comparison to the other states. All NT team members rode exceptionally well, some on their own horses and some on pool horses.

This year was particularly exciting with Grace Simmons winning the Showman 4 Phase Championship title on her horse Cliché. Grace also placed third overall in the 1m jumping section on Woodbine. Madi Hayman put in a sterling effort on a pool horse to finish in 5th place in the Medium Dressage.

There is now increased interest in Interschool competition, which will hopefully lead to a bigger team in 2011.

The Board has revised the selection policy and associated documents. These have been distributed to members and published on the web site.

The National Interschool Committee is meeting in Sydney on Tuesday 30 November. Some changes to the current structure of the National competition may occur.

### Horse Of The Year

The HOTY was by far our largest project in 2010, being the first event to be run by the Branch in many, many years. It was a huge success and we were pleasantly surprised with the entries and the feedback from members was excellent. We acknowledge there's room for improvement, as with everything, but it was a great start. We wish those members who have taken up the resulting opportunity to represent the NT at the National Show Horse Championships next week all the very best of luck.

### NT representation

The Equestrian NT Board was represented at some key National meetings, (some via phone hook up, some in person) such as

- National AGM including a meeting of the National Board and State CEOs and Chairs
- National Show Horse Committee meeting
- EA National Forum / Strategic Planning session

### Moving Forward

There are many, many things that the Board would like to implement in the future, some will be achievable for 2011, some are a bit longer term.

Some short term goals are the upgrade of the measuring equipment and continuing with accreditation opportunities where possible. We have secured some dates already for some of these, whilst others are still in the planning stage:

- Measuring clinic and a Show Horse Judging clinic to be held in February
- Course Designer/Judging refresher clinic to be held in June

Longer term goals include enhancing member benefits through premium partnerships as well as business advertising opportunities and the Branch holding more competitions for members.

Planning for the 2011 HOTY event has commenced and we will again be looking at having a separate HOTY planning group to assist with this big event.

Equestrian Qld CEO Rob Ferguson and Equestrian Qld Chair Vic Nichols are due to be in Darwin around early February to meet with the ENT Board where further planning discussions will be held.

A lot has happened in 2010 and there's a lot planned for the future. We welcome all members to become involved and help us to grow the Equestrian sports in the NT.

Karen Ruzsicska, Chairman & CEO - Equestrian NT



# EQUESTRIAN TASMANIA

## *Annual Report – 2010*



**This past year has seen a lot of change within the management of the organisation with many staffing changes at National Office and National Board level. I feel certain that in the near future positive changes for the sport will filter from these changes.**

During the course of the past year I have attended most State championships and am of the opinion they were well supported and a credit to their respective organising committees. I recently attended the AGM of the fledgling Carriage Driving committee at Deloraine. They are in the early days of forming a union with the two other Carriage Driving branches and intend to pursue full membership of the Organisation this coming year. EA Tas has dealt with a Disciplinary matter and mediated another matter within its disciplines/ sub committees in the past year , each with defined and satisfactory outcomes which will assist in the future management of the sport. Our Constitution has been evolved to fit with the National Constitution. I would like to thank the Board for their hard work and input during the past year which enabled the Organisation to have , in my opinion , a good year of competition and development. It would be remiss of me not to acknowledge the time and efforts of the many members and volunteers who, in the roles of event organisers and administrators in the various Committees and Disciplines have enabled these outcomes, Thank you all . Finally thanks to our Manager and Secretary for their work this past year which has enabled the administration aspect of the Organisation to function efficiently

Laurie Smith Chairman. Equestrian Australia (Tasmania).





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