



EQUESTRIAN  
AUSTRALIA

ANNUAL REPORT  
2014 – 2015



# CONTENTS

About Equestrian Australia	4-5
Message from the Australian Sports Commission	7
Chair and Chief Executive Officer Report	8-9

## EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA DEPARTMENT REPORTS

High Performance	12-13
Education	14-15
Membership, Development and Participation	16-17
Commercial and Communications	18-19

## EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA NATIONAL SPORT COMMITTEE REPORTS

Dressage (including Para-Equestrian)	22-23
Driving	24-25
Endurance	26-27
Eventing	28-29
Jumping (including World Cup Jumping)	30-31
Show Horse	32-33
Vaulting	34-35
National Coaching Accreditation Scheme (NCAS)	36

## EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA STATE REPORTS

Queensland	40
Victoria	41
New South Wales	42
Tasmania	43
South Australia	44
Western Australia	45

FINANCIAL REPORTS	46-65
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# ABOUT EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA

**EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA (EA) IS THE GOVERNING BODY FOR EQUESTRIAN SPORT AND COMPETITION IN AUSTRALIA. AUSTRALIA ENJOYS A RICH HISTORY IN EQUESTRIAN AND HAS EARNED A STRONG REPUTATION FOR PRODUCING WORLD CLASS COMPETITORS.**

While EA remains focused on high performance, in recent years it has embraced new projects and implemented strategies aimed at growing other sectors of the sport.

'Creating our Future' provides a clearly articulated direction for equestrian sport within Australia for 2011-2016.

The blueprint offers a unity of purpose for all those involved in equestrian and helps to position the sport within an increasingly competitive sport and entertainment market.



The following **7** strategic priorities set clear objectives and direction for EA:

- ① Create a national, contemporary approach to membership which is attractive to clubs, spectators, supporters, fans and other equestrian groups
- ② Develop a fully integrated national High Performance Pathway from talent identification through to elite competitor
- ③ Introduce equestrian as a curriculum option to all Australian schools
- ④ Package and promote Equestrian Australia's offering to raise awareness of the sport amongst corporate businesses, primary industry and the general public
- ⑤ Stream live feeds of equestrian sporting events and results
- ⑥ Propose hybrid versions of the sport to grow the spectator and participant base
- ⑦ Develop a nationally synchronised multi-sport annual calendar of events which features an iconic event.

While focused on achieving these priorities equestrian sport will continue to:

- Enhance the level of education provided to riders, officials and administrators
- Improve the level of resources available to support all members including strengthening the financial foundation of the sport
- Develop an integrated national policy and procedures framework
- Focus on a national systems and policy teaming with a state coordinated approach to the delivery of equestrian sport within Australia
- Communicate with member organisations and stakeholders and represent their best interests within equestrian sport



EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA NCAS COACH



INTRODUCTORY HORSE MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATE PARTICIPANTS  
↑ 18.63%



EQUESTRIAN GRAND FINAL SPECTATORS  
↑ 36%



WEBSITE USERS ↑ 28.3%





# MESSAGE from the Australian Sports Commission

The past year has seen considerable success and progress for Australian sport on the world stage, for the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) and our elite sport partners and athletes.

The Government's 2014–15 investment of nearly \$120 million continues to be refined to ensure funding is aligned to sports with the greatest potential to contribute to Australia's Winning Edge 2012–2022 targets and maximise our chances at success.

Since Winning Edge was launched, the AIS re-allocated \$20 million of high performance funding among sports and boosted direct athlete funding (dAIS) by \$3.6 million or 40 per cent.

The Sports Tally 2015 — the annual report card for Australian sports — revealed promising signs as we gear up for the Rio 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games, while highlighting some of the challenges presented by our performance at the 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games.

In March the Commission launched Play.Sport.Australia. — our plan to help NSOs build participation in sport and make sure all Australians enjoy its benefits. Sports have the opportunity to attract more than 4.5 million Australians into their communities. It's important that we work together to ensure that more Australians, particularly young Australians, participate in sport more often and that we have strong organisations that deliver the products and opportunities Australians want.

Some highlights in 2014-15 included:

- **Personal excellence** — The most significant athlete wellbeing program in AIS history, incorporating myAISPlaybook — a new high performance athlete learning and development platform.
- **AIS Sports Draft** — Athletes selected in this fast-tracked development came together at the AIS to share their journeys as they transition to Olympic or Commonwealth Games sports.
- **AIS Centre for Performance Coaching and Leadership** — More than 45 coaches graduated from the centre, providing development and mentoring for our brightest coaches and administrators.

As our attention starts to focus on Rio and the major events leading up to the Games, I look forward to the ASC teaming up with your organisation to help put our athletes in the best possible position and enhance our chances of success.



# CHAIR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

It is with great pleasure that we present to you the Annual Report of Equestrian Australia for the period 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015. It has been another productive year for the organisation with achievements spanning beyond the competition arena to all areas of the sport. For the second consecutive year EA recorded a growth in membership with figures rising 4.40% to 19,519. Significant growth was experienced among youth participants with the number of competitive juniors increasing by 10%. Junior membership now accounts for approximately 25% of the membership and this combined with the success of the Ready Set Trot and Interschools programs helped EA to secure additional participation funding from the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) in 2015/16. As one of 30 sports involved in the new ASC's Sporting Schools Program, EA is in a strong position to reach more young people than ever before.

Also pleasing to report is the rise in coach and officials numbers, particularly the number of new coaches gaining accreditation. 160 new coaches gained their accreditation during 2014/15 which is a 5% increase on the previous year. During the reporting period EA extended the coach and officials reaccreditation period from two years to three, aligning equestrian with other National Sporting Organisations. As well as reducing the financial and time demands, easing reaccreditation requirements encourages coaches and officials to remain in the education system for longer. More positive changes for coaches will be announced when recommendations coming out of the NCAS review are implemented in the coming year.

## STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

During the reporting period EA was pleased to renew its Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Pony Club Australia and also enter into an MOU with Riding for the Disabled Australia (RDAA). EA is committed to working with both organisations on common goals, developing the sport at all levels and providing more opportunities for members in the areas of education and high performance (for riders with a disability).

## FIELD OF PLAY

Within the competition arena Boyd Exell's gold medal winning performance in the Driving at the 2014 FEI World Equestrian Games (WEG) was the year's ultimate highlight. At WEG Australia was one of only 10 nations among the 74 countries to field a team in all disciplines – a remarkable achievement for the 40 athletes and each of their support networks. The Games were successful for Australia on many fronts, most notably due to Boyd's victory but also because it was here that our Eventing and Dressage teams secured qualification for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. With the countdown to Rio in full swing the year ahead will certainly be an exciting time for all involved in the sport. For our Jumping and Para-Equestrian disciplines qualification for Rio will involve participating in regional qualifications while individually our athletes will be preparing for selection. Our targets at Rio are ambitious however our athletes and personnel are aligned and focused on the task at hand.

## FINANCIALS

EA recorded a deficit of \$124,682 in FY 14/15, against a budgeted deficit of \$90,553. The budgeted deficit was put in place to support ongoing participation initiatives aimed at membership retention and recruitment. The appointment of two development officers to drive grassroots equestrian programs and the club development grants offering \$30,000 in funding assistance have led to increased opportunities for both prospective and existing members.

EA also welcomed a one-off funding arrangement that included funding for a feasibility study to look at bringing major international equestrian events to Australia, including the World Equestrian Games.

Despite the deficit the balance sheet remains in a strong position, and EA's total reserves are \$1,173,017 as at 30 June 2015.

## GOVERNANCE

Findings from EA's Governance Review offered recommendations focusing on short term improvements and long term reform. Measures taken since the review was published include the formation of a nominations committee with external representation as well as the scoping of opportunities for closer cooperation between EA and the States. While some of the longer term recommendations presented by the review panel hold merit, EA's immediate focus is working with our members and the ASC to find a structure that will produce the best outcomes for members in the most cost efficient way. As a mandatory governance sport, EA is required to meet each of the ASC's Mandatory Sports Governance Principles and we will be working closely with the ASC moving forward to achieve in these areas.

## HENDRA

EA's Hendra Vaccination By-Law which was introduced on 1 July 2014 sparked passionate debate from those in favour and those against condition of entry Hendra vaccination policy. Recognising that our members needed more information and engagement, EA suspended and then revoked the By-Law pending a review. The panel responsible for the review continues to look at all available data with a view to recommend to the board a suitable position moving forward. Following this members and stakeholders will be invited to provide feedback and no further action will be taken by EA until such time as this engagement occurs.

## EA ONLINE

In late 2014 EA appointed Nominat to deliver the sport's online membership and events registration system. Following a rigorous tender process Nominat was selected for its high level of equine industry knowledge and its ability to deliver reliable and user friendly solutions. Prior to the appointment Nominat was providing the temporary solution EA Online and the permanent arrangement will use this platform as a foundation for developing a long-term and sustainable solution for equestrian. Future features of the platform will include a dedicated members portal where members can manage their profile as well as a combined entry and scoring solution for events.

## IN CONCLUSION

We take this opportunity to thank our program partners the Australian Sports Commission, AIS, Australian Olympic Committee and Australian Paralympic Committee - with the Rio Olympic and Paralympic Games on the horizon the support of our partners will be crucial as we pursue our Rio targets.

We extend our thanks to all members for their ongoing support and help in achieving membership growth for the second consecutive year. Thank-you also to the staff and management team in delivering EA's programs and initiatives with commitment and professionalism. We would also like to thank EA's directors including outgoing board members Melissa Cannon, Nick Crowe, Des Hughes, Wendy Hunt and former Chairman Dr Warwick Vale, for their dedication to the sport and giving so graciously of their time.

As we head into 2016 there is plenty to look forward to and we hope you will join us on what will be an exciting journey on the #RoadtoRio.

**Judy Fasher**  
Chair, Equestrian Australia

**Grant Baldock**  
CEO, Equestrian Australia

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

I am privileged and proud to serve my fellow equestrians as Chair of EA. Admiration, respect and fascination for the relationship we develop with our horses gives us common purpose.

Our vision for the future is to support excellent competitions, with solid financial backing assisted by the initiatives EA take to find significant sponsorship.

Our increasing membership numbers, achieved by inclusive competition at all levels of the sport is our road to success.

We have established a place for ourselves on the world stage. Our horses and our horsemanship is confirmed by our qualification for the Olympic Games in Rio 2016.

Complementing the very significant funding we receive from the Australian Sports Commission with money from the private sector is not only a government requirement it is the way forward for our sport.

Breeders, owners and trainers of our horses, deserve recognition for providing the raw material on which our success is based. Better facilities and planning to look after this vital ingredient of our sport is a vital contribution which can be made by our national office.

Keeping our sport affordable demands consistent review of costs and creating the most efficient structure for our sports administration. Your board is determined to continue to address this.

Unity with our discipline committees and state branches is the only way to facilitate these aspirations. Effective and efficient governance will be an on-going aim. Providing constructive and inspired leadership depends both on good structure and excellent people.

Every effort will be made to provide both.

With unity and determination I am confident our mutual aspirations will be achieved.



## MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

In my final report I would like to take the opportunity to thank the national staff, directors, discipline committee members and Australian team personnel who I have had the pleasure of working alongside during my five and a half years as CEO of Equestrian Australia. I feel privileged to have worked alongside a passionate group of individuals and I am proud of what we have been able to achieve together. I have enjoyed my time at EA and I look forward to seeing the sport prosper in the years ahead.



# HIGHLIGHTS of 2014-2015



Australia is one of 10 nations to enter teams in all disciplines at the FEI World Equestrian Games where Dressage and Eventing teams qualify for Rio 2016 (23/8/14-07/9/15)



Heath Ryan is crowned Australian Dressage Champion (25/10/14)

David Cameron is declared Australian Show Jumping Champion (21/9/14)

## JULY AUGUST SEPTEMBER OCTOBER NOVEMBER DECEMBER



Jake Hunter (right) wins bronze at the Youth Olympic Games (24/8/15)



Boyd Exell wins Driving gold at the World Equestrian Games (7/9/14)



Jessica Manson wins the Adelaide CCI4\* at the Australian International Three Day Event (16/11/14)



EA Sport Achievement Annual Awards celebrate the best in the sport (5/6/15)



Tim Clarke wins the 2014/15 Australian League of the FEI World Cup Jumping Series (25/1/15)



FEI President visits Australia (3/6/15)

Edwina Tops-Alexander wins Doha, Al Shaqab CSI5\* Grand Prix pocketing 165,000 euros (7/3/15)

## JANUARY FEBRUARY MARCH APRIL MAY JUNE



Boyd Exell wins his sixth FEI World Cup Driving title (8/2/15)



Mary Hanna wins the Pacific League World Cup Final (24/1/15)

Senior Eventing Team win Oceania Eventing Series in Taupo (17/5/15)

Australia's first FEI2\* World Cup is held at Sydney Royal (2/4/15)

15 clubs share \$30,000 as part of EA's Club Development Grants



# HIGH PERFORMANCE

The 2014/15 year started with the ever important and exciting FEI World Equestrian Games held in Normandy, France. Equestrian Australia fielded a full team representing all eight disciplines and was one of only 10 nations to do so, something all Australian equestrian enthusiasts would be proud of, indicating our strength as an equestrian nation on the world stage.

Due to the Australian Institute of Sport's (AIS) Winning Edge Strategy, WEG was noted as a Benchmark Event for the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) to review our ability to achieve our targets for the 2016 Rio Olympic Games. Not all performance targets were met by the Olympic disciplines however following a detailed review of WEG and the associated High Performance Plan and Program, the ASC committed to ongoing High Performance investment in Equestrian Australia through to Rio.

The highlight of WEG was Boyd Exell achieving individual Driving gold for the second consecutive time, confirming his status as a true champion and high performance athlete. All athletes representing Australia at WEG 2014 should be extremely proud of their achievements. The commitment and application of the riders, drivers, vaulters and officials establishes a great platform leading into WEG 2018 to be held in Bromont, Canada.

After a detailed review of WEG, EA High Performance continues to align with the AIS and Australia's Winning Edge with a focus on medal delivery at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

WEG enabled both Eventing and Dressage teams to qualify for Rio whilst Jumping and Para-Equestrian will be required to participate in a regional qualification process in order to secure team positions for Brazil. The balance of the year focused on reviewing and implementing the revised High Performance Plan to ensure delivery of Rio outcomes as follows:

Eventing:	Medal
Para-Equestrian:	Medal
Jumping:	Top 10 Team finish
Dressage:	Top 8 Team finish

In reviewing the High Performance Plan a collaborative and collective approach was taken with members and stakeholders, all of which have a vested interest in the organisation's high performance outcomes. This involved seeking input from the relevant discipline committees, EA board as well as riders which enabled greater connectivity with the equestrian community and high performance strategies.

In order to assist with the achievement of the desired outcomes the following initiatives continue to be implemented.

## Individual combination planning

- Combination reviews undertaken to identify areas of performance enhancement
- Individual plans tailored to suit specific improvement areas with benchmark six month review periods
- Regular clinic days with specialist coaches addressing the above
- Off-horse programs to complement the above
- Event support to identified team events to mirror best team practice.

## Veterinary/Horse Management

- Screening of identified horses with proactive planning to ensure a collaborative approach in the soundness and fitness management of the horse.

## Behavioural profiling (Eventing/Para-Equestrian)

- Hogan profile assessments undertaken on nominated riders and key team personnel in Eventing and Para-Equestrian.

## HAMS (Horse and Athlete Management System)

- Web based high performance database management system that will feature integrated information system to centrally manage and collate rider, horse, veterinary, Sports Science Sports Medicine (SSSM), performance, training, competition and administration information.

## Technical analysis

- Use of video and software analysis systems to review performance in both competition and training.

## FIELD OF PLAY

The ongoing success of Boyd Exell at the highest level of Driving continued to reinforce his dominance on the world stage. The Jumping team finished second in the Challenge Cup at the FEI Nations Cup Final in Barcelona and this was followed up by strong individual performances at various CSI5\* shows throughout the year. Edwina Tops-Alexander also represented Australia at the FEI World Cup Final in Las Vegas along with Lane Clarke.

The Eventing team enjoyed success in various FEI Nations Cup events throughout the year including podium finishes at Fontainebleau and Strzegom.

Strong performances from our riders based in Australia continued great exposure for the domestic scene including David Cameron winning the Australian Show Jumping Championships and Jessica Manson winning the Adelaide CCI4\* at the Australian International Three Day Event. Heath Ryan continued his success with Regardez Moi winning the Sydney CDI3\*, the Australian Dressage Championships and the Equestrian Grand Final whilst Mary Hanna won the Pacific League World Cup Final.

## MOVING FORWARD

Planning is well and truly under way for the Rio Olympic Games with the Brazilian city posing many exciting challenges for our team both on and off the horse. Preparation for Olympic and Paralympic Team nomination will be a major focus for our riders to ensure delivery of our outcomes.

Due to the unique nature and circumstances surrounding the Rio Games collective planning with the FEI, AIS, ASC Australian Olympic Committee and the Australian Paralympic Committee will be instrumental to our success.

A critical factor for our sport going forward is a revised High Performance Plan outlining the objectives, strategies and initiatives for Equestrian Australia High Performance from 2016 to 2020.

It is important that the High Performance Plan is a whole of sport document outlining direction for Olympic, Paralympic and FEI disciplines including a National Pathway Framework designed for short and long term success and sustainability.



# EDUCATION

There were a host of opportunities offered throughout the reporting period providing coaches and officials an opportunity to further their education within the NCAS and NOAS framework.

In early 2015 it was announced that the reaccreditation period for both coaches and officials had been extended from two years to three. The extension provides an additional year to coaches and officials to complete the compulsory requisites for reaccreditation, thereby easing the financial and time requirements on individuals who are retaining NCAS or NOAS accreditation. The change was made in response to feedback from members encouraging a more generous period in which to meet reaccreditation requirements and it's hoped that reducing the frequency in which coaches and officials are required to attend compulsory updates will encourage more people to continue within the EA education system. The extension also brings EA's reaccreditation periods into line with other major sports.

## NCAS REVIEW

The NCAS Review conducted by the Australian Sports Commission and Equestrian Australia was finalised in August.

The review reflected many of the beliefs commonly held within the coaching community, in particular the current systems and processes used to educate our coaches. It detailed a number of key recommendations and significant challenges our industry will face as we pursue excellence across every level of coach accreditation. Many of those recommendations were researched further to assess the feasibility of their delivery in both the short and long term.

Equestrian Australia will use this research to create an Implementation Action Plan (IAP) that will outline the operational and logistical elements required to deliver the key recommendations from the review. The IAP will then be used to proactively engage all of our stakeholders for their input and feedback before implementing those plans in 2015/16.

## OFFICIALS ABROAD

Australian athletes weren't the only ones representing our country at the 2014 FEI World Equestrian Games with a number of Officials also flying the flag for Australia. Susie Hoevenaars joined the ground jury for Dressage, dual Olympian Gillian Rolton served as the President of the Eventing ground jury, Sharyn Gregory acted as Chief Classifier for the Para-Dressage and Chris Wallis and Lindy Young were Stewards for the Eventing competition.

Major event appointments were also secured by Maria Schwennesen who officiated at the FEI Reem Acra 2015 World Cup Dressage Final in Las Vegas and it was announced that Eventing Official Geoff Sinclair will act as Assistant Technical Delegate at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

## FEI GLOBAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

Eight Australian FEI Eventing Officials were invited to participate in the annual exchange program. This initiative for Eventing Officials is a part of the FEI's strategic plan for international discipline development through education. The FEI funded program sees the selected applicants provided with an opportunity to officiate at an international event to further their education as an Eventing Official.



**Australian athletes weren't the only ones representing our country at the 2014 FEI World Equestrian Games with a number of Officials also flying the flag for Australia.**

## FEI OFFICIALS COURSES

FEI Officials courses for Dressage, Driving, Eventing, Jumping and Vaulting welcomed esteemed course presenters as well as overseas delegates to Australia. Overall 57 delegates attended FEI Officials courses during the reporting period including Officials from New Zealand, Germany and Japan.

- Dressage – an FEI Stewards Course in Sydney was hosted by Nigel King (HKG) and Australia's Cathie Drury-Klein. The seminar offered opportunities for promotion to FEI Level 1 and was also a Refresher for existing FEI Stewards.
- Driving – an FEI Course Designers Course presented by Dr Wolfgang Asendorf (GER) and Australia's Peter Harkness was held in conjunction with a week-long festival of Driving in Tamworth which included clinics, a series of masterclasses presented by World Champion Boyd Exell and Australia's first FEI CAI1\* competition.
- Eventing – an FEI Officials and FEI Stewards Course ran in conjunction with the Melbourne International Three Day Event and was hosted by Eric Winter (GBR), Mathias Otto-Erley (GER) and Australia's Virginia Creed.
- Jumping – an FEI Course Designers Refresher Seminar for Level 2 and Level 3 Course Designers held in Sydney and presented by FEI 5\* Course Designer Werner Deeg (GER) was run in conjunction with a free clinic for new and existing Jumping Officials.
- Vaulting – an FEI Vaulting Stewards Course was conducted in Sydney by Frank Spadinger (AUT) and was for promotion to FEI Level 1. The course also offered a refresher to existing FEI Level 1 and 2 Vaulting Stewards and was open to observers including coaches and event organisers for professional development.

## TASMANIA HOSTS A STEWARDS SEMINAR FOR THE FIRST TIME

Tasmania hosted its first national Stewards Seminar presented by International Steward Chris Wallis who at the time had recently returned from stewarding at the Eventing at the World Equestrian Games.

Nine participants attended the course with interests across Dressage, Eventing and Jumping.

The course began with a discussion of the integral role a Steward plays at an event and the importance of a strong relationship between the Event Organising Committee, Officials and Stewards.

Throughout the course Wallis explained and enforced the motto of a Steward which is to 'help, prevent and intervene.'

The seminar attendees were invited to attend a second day to put their newly learnt skills to practice during a local dressage event.

Wallis said the candidates encountered some surprising things at the event.

"What we saw would have previously gone unnoticed as Tasmania currently doesn't have Stewards in the practice areas."

"As they haven't held FEI competitions in Tasmania previously there was no need for Stewards training. Now there is a call for Stewards to attend national events and I think the course attendees really saw the important role Stewards play," explained Chris.



# MEMBERSHIP, DEVELOPMENT AND PARTICIPATION

Equestrian Australia's national membership structure delivered growth for the second consecutive year proving the strength of EA and the States to attract and serve members. The biggest growth was experienced in the junior and participant groups with the number of juniors increasing by 10% and the participant category rising by 16%.

The clubs, groups, event organisers and associations that affiliate with EA are the primary deliverers of the sport at a grassroots levels and vital to the ongoing growth of equestrian in Australia. In this last year EA has seen positive growth across all affiliate categories.

## CLUB DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

EA's Club Development Grants returned in 2015 offering affiliated clubs a chance to share in \$30,000 for improvement of facilities, membership initiatives or development of equestrian activities within the community.

Proving its popularity the grants program attracted 144 applications which is more than double the number received in the previous year. From the applications received 15 clubs were awarded funding towards club programs.

Some of the projects to be supported include funding for water pumps, dressage arenas and timing equipment as well as judges clinics and mentoring sessions for clubs right across the country as far away as Sheffield (near Devonport) in Tasmania and Katherine in the Northern Territory.

The North West Equestrian Group, located in central northern QLD, was one of the inaugural recipients of a club development grant and the funding they received was put towards the installation of arena lighting which was finalised in late 2014.

The lighting allows the facility to extend its hours of operation, particularly during the warmer months where riding throughout the day is limited. The lighting thereby gives the club an opportunity to increase membership and participation opportunities.

"Horse sports are a growing activity within the Flinders Shire and North West Queensland with all horse sports clubs in the Shire experiencing recent growth in membership, participation and activities," said Melissa Driscoll from the Shire of Flinders.

"The facility is also used to host regional events such as the biennial Great Western Games and it is expected that the addition of the lights will provide more opportunities for regional competitions of this nature," said Melissa.

## READY SET TROT

EA's junior participation program which is presented in partnership with Pony Club Australia entered its third year in March 2015. Ready Set Trot continues to reach new heights with the number of Stable Skills participants doubling every year since the program launched in 2013. As of 30 June 2015 more than 3,000 Australian children have participated in Ready Set Trot programs.

Throughout 2014 Ready Set Trot underwent a review to identify opportunities for improvement. Feedback was sought from coaches, delivery providers, participants and parents and the changes to come into effect on 1 July will see greater flexibility for coaches and more opportunities for participants.

Bolstered by the addition of two development officers, Ready Set Trot entered a new phase in 2015. Free community Expos proved a popular activation for promoting the program to key audiences and the first two community events were held at the Werribee Equestrian Centre in Victoria during the March and June school holidays, with the latter being held in conjunction with the Victorian Interschool State Championships. More than 250 young people flocked to the Expos with registrations reaching capacity within days of their announcement and waiting lists also filling quickly.

The Expo concept offers young people an opportunity to come and try elements of the Ready Set Trot program. While there was plenty to keep the children entertained, a key focus of Ready Set Trot is on increasing a young person's knowledge of horses, and the various activities on offer at the Expo provided ample learning opportunities for participants. A grooming station gave young people an opportunity to brush a horse while stable tours provided a chance to learn about horse equipment and horse feed. Children could get active by playing games from the Ready Set Trot Playground Skills program and there was an arts and craft station which allowed children to get creative. The biggest draw card was the free pony rides on offer from an accredited Ready Set Trot delivery centre.

## SPORTING SCHOOLS

In late 2014, Equestrian Australia and Pony Club Australia partnered with the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) and 30 other Australian sports to offer free sporting programs to children before, during or after school. By bringing sports, schools, and community organisations together, Sporting Schools aims to increase children's participation in sport and to connect with local sporting clubs in their community. Sporting Schools will engage more than 850,000 children across Australia in what will be the country's largest school-based participation program which is a huge win for the Ready Set Trot program.

## INDUSTRY RELATIONSHIPS

In a positive move EA and Pony Club Australia renewed the MOU signed in 2011 between the organisations for an additional two years. The re-signing of the MOU reaffirms EA and PCA's ongoing commitment to work together to achieve the common goals of sport growth and development.

In early 2015 EA announced a new partnership through the establishment of a MOU between EA and Riding for the Disabled Association of Australia. This partnership will help riders with a disability maximise the opportunities available in equestrian sport nationally. The partnership creates a collaborative and productive relationship across all operational areas from participation and education to high performance pathways that will see the organisations work in partnership to deliver improved outcomes for the sport.

## INTERSCHOOL NATIONALS REVIEW

The 2014 Australian Interschool Equestrian Championships attracted more than 300 school based competitors aged 5-18 years old from right around the country after all successfully qualified through their respective State Interschool Championships.

The event continues to grow year on year and is a major focus for young people as it is currently the largest equestrian grassroots event delivered nationally in Australia.

In the lead up to the Championships, each State prepared and supported prospective athletes through an increased number of additional squads and clinics than ever before. Each state conducted various programs designed at up skilling school aged competitors in horsemanship using EA Education resources as well as improving competition based skills through coaching and training opportunities.

Over the four competition days the representatives participated in a variety of activities and disciplines including Trot Ups and Ceremonies, Eventing, Dressage, Show Jumping, Combined Training and Show Horse, creating first class fields with stiff competition and an engaging experience for all.

Host State Victoria was crowned overall winning state with a convincing lead of 543 points ahead of Queensland. All riders left enthusiastically looking forward to the 2015 event being hosted in NSW.

EA congratulates the following combinations on receiving the 2014 perpetual trophies:

Overall Trophy – Victoria

Teamwork Trophy – South Australia

Tammy Rhodes Memorial Dressage Trophy – Tayla Desmet (Vic)

Show Rider Trophy – Phoebe Wilkinson (NSW)

Finch Farms Show Jumping Trophy – Brittany Withers (QLD)

Eventing Trophy – Eliva Kokada (WA)

Combined Training Trophy – Sarah Coggan (QLD)

Closest to Optimum Time Eventing Trophy – Ella Shore (WA)

## MOVING FORWARD

2016 will see the return of the Club Development Grants with an increased funding pool enabling more clubs and support for grassroots projects with an aim of continued membership growth as well as affiliate and horse registrations across the country.

Changes to the Ready Set Trot program will be rolled out and a participation funding boost from the Australian Sports Commission will be geared towards attracting more participants to the program and bridging the gap between Ready Set Trot and Interschools.



Ready Set Trot continues to reach new heights with the number of Stable Skills participants doubling every year since the program launched in 2013. As of 30 June 2015 more than 3,000 Australian children have participated in Ready Set Trot programs.



## READY SET TROT A SUCCESS WITH SCHOOLS

In preparation for the launch of the ASC's Sporting Schools program in July 2015, EA formed a relationship with Victoria's Wyndham City Council and delivered Ready Set Trot as part of Council's Active Kids program.

Through this program 765 children participated in Ready Set Trot programs and were provided with the opportunity to be physically active, have fun and learn about horses for free.

"This is the fourth year we have participated in the Wyndham City Council Active Kids program and when we saw Equestrian Australia were offering clinics we had to sign up to give our students exposure to a different sporting activity that is available in the Werribee/Hoppers Crossing area.

Prior to the visit, most of our students didn't know what equestrian was or that it was even an Olympic event. I'll be honest, most teachers were a little pessimistic about an equestrian clinic without horses but the program and activities were engaging for our students during the visit. The activities linked with horse care as well as riding and students could clearly and confidently discuss what they had learnt about equestrian at the end of the clinics. When I spoke with students at the end of the term the Ready Set Trot clinic definitely generated the most buzz. We look forward to partnering with Ready Set Trot again next year as a part of the Active Kids program," said Kasey McDonald, Teacher from The Grange School.

# COMMERCIAL AND COMMUNICATIONS



The FEI World Equestrian Games presented Equestrian Australia with opportunities to increase the exposure of the sport both within and outside the equestrian community. The heightened interest in the sport due to WEG helped EA to bolster its online profile and this combined with the popularity of social media as a channel for all ages to access information assisted EA in expanding its reach to more people than ever before. Equipped with a new website and with more technology at our disposal, EA was able to increase its offerings in this space.

## EQUESTRIAN.ORG.AU

The new responsive equestrian.org.au website and state websites have experienced a surge in visitors since launching prior to WEG. The new site allows visitors access via a mobile and/or tablet devices and the provision of friendly URLs makes the site easy for people to navigate. The new website's first month also coincided with WEG and this resulted in a 73% increase in the number of visitors to the site when compared to the preceding month. Overall for the year the number of unique website users increased by 28% to 266,000.

## SOCIAL – FACEBOOK & TWITTER

EA strives to be among the first to provide the latest news and information on Australian equestrian athletes to its members. Social media plays a crucial role in EA's communication to members and fans of the sport. While traditional communication methods are maintained and continue to evolve as new platforms become available, the popularity of social media requires EA to treat this form of media with equal importance. The rise of portable technology also makes it easier for EA to offer more meaningful content through video. What was a specialised skill that was often outsourced is now able to be undertaken internally, allowing EA to provide more sophisticated audio visual content, more cost effectively and on the go. The World Equestrian Games provided EA with unparalleled opportunities to capture new fans. During one week of WEG the EquestrianAus Facebook page reached more than 250,000 people. The average weekly reach of EA's Facebook page during the reporting period was 40,000.

The countdown to the Rio 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games also moved into gear during the reporting period with EA celebrating 500 days to go to the Games. As the Games loom closer, crucial selection events provide further possibilities for EA to engage and excite the equestrian community as well as the broader Australian public. New platforms such as Periscope, a free online streaming App, provides further opportunities for EA to better engage members and fans.

## THE YEAR AHEAD

As the countdown to the Rio 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games draws closer and the demand for online content increases, EA is anticipating a level of fan engagement not previously experienced.

With new technology emerging all the time there are more opportunities to further increase our offerings to members and the Olympic and Paralympic Games present an exciting time for all involved in the sport. EA will continue to seek out the most effective and efficient ways to communicate to both its stakeholders, members and fans.

## SPONSORSHIP

EA was fortunate to receive the support from a number of sponsors during the reporting period, many of which are long term contributors to equestrian sport in Australia.



**Just Country - Ariat** is a major sponsor of Equestrian Australia. In 2014 the leading apparel supplier provided the 130 member Australian Equestrian Team (including athletes and officials) with competition and training clothing for the World Equestrian Games. Ariat Australia also produced a limited edition supporters range which was available to the public through retailers. Ariat Australia leveraged its partnership through a social media campaign in which Australian team members appeared in short vignettes where they spoke about Ambition, Unity, Spirit, Team, Ride, Achieve, Live, Inspired and Ariat – an acronym for AUSTRALIA. Ariat further extended its support through the profiling of the 'Ariat Rider of the Month' which is featured in EA's member newsletter Impulsion.

**IRT** renewed its partnership with EA, signing a new two year support partner agreement. As well as continuing its sponsorship of the Equestrian Grand Final, IRT is the presenting partner of the Rider and Golden Grand (for leading horse) Leaderboards of the Australian League of the FEI World Cup Jumping Series. IRT's association with Equestrian Australia also extends through the High Performance program, with all Australian based horses flying IRT to the 2014 World Equestrian Games.

**Gow Gates Insurance Brokers** continues its sponsorship with EA and is now in its fourth year as a support partner. Gow Gates is the presenting partner of the Sport Achievement Awards Night which for the first time in 2015 was held in Melbourne. The partnership also continues to support the Equestrian Grand Final.

**Kentucky Equine Research (KER)** is a long term EA supporter and a preferred supplier. Through the national partnership KER is able to help members through educational tools via EA Education events and the KER Nutrition Hub which is an extensive online library on the EA website with information on nutrition, feed management and veterinary topics.

**Barastoc** continues its long standing association with Equestrian Australia as a preferred supplier, supporting EA's coaching program by providing nutritional information and advice at EA Education events, via the website and EA's e-Newsletters. Barastoc's sponsored rider campaign was an initiative which it was able to leverage through the partnership.

## Equestrian Australia acknowledges its Program Partners for its generous support of EA programs



During one week of WEG the EquestrianAus Facebook page reached more than 250,000 people. The average weekly reach of EA's Facebook page during the reporting period was 40,000.



Australian Government  
Australian Sports Commission



# 2014 FEI WORLD EQUESTRIAN GAMES

At the 2014 FEI World Equestrian Games Australia earned the prestigious honour of being one of only 10 countries to field a team in every discipline. 40 Australians were among the 1,000 athletes from 74 nations to travel to Normandy, France, for 15 days of competition beginning on 23 August. Over the course of the event there were some exceptional results achieved by the Australians but it was Boyd Exell's gold medal winning performance in the individual Driving competition that was the standout.

Two weeks prior to Exell's triumph, the officially opening ceremony signified the start of competition. Four time Olympian and World Equestrian Games representative Mary Hanna was chosen to lead the Australian team into Caen's D'Ornano stadium for the opening ceremony. Paralympic gold medallist Joann Formosa was nominated to accompany the nation's banner and she was assisted by Reiners Shauna and Martin Larcombe. At 59 years of age, Hanna was the oldest member of Australia's team and one of five Aussie athletes in the team who made their fourth WEG appearance along with Edwina Tops-Alexander, Stuart Tinney, Penny Toft and Boyd Exell.

Hanna joined with Kristy Oatley, Lyndal Oatley and WEG debutante Maree Tomkinson to help Australia's Dressage team to a top 10 finish which also qualified Australia for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. Individually Hanna and her mount Sancette progressed through to the Grand Prix Special where they achieved a score of 69.314. Upon completing her test a delighted Hanna proclaimed, "I've done four Olympics, four WEG's & four World Cup Finals. I'm now planning to make it 5, 5, 5!"



Australia earned the prestigious honour of being one of only 10 countries to field a team in every discipline.

At the Para-Equestrian, Australia was represented by Lizzie Sobocki (grade 3), Chelsea Higgins (grade 3), Nicole Blanks (grade 4) and London gold medallist Joann Formosa (grade 1b). With all riders except for Formosa representing Australia for the first time it proved to be a significant opportunity for the riders to gain international competition experience. Both Blanks and Formosa qualified through to the freestyle after strong performances in the team and individual championship tests. Prior to the Games Blanks' mount Vledder was based in Holland and the Melbourne based University student travelled between Australia and Europe on six occasions to qualify and prepare. "It's been a big year and a lot of hard work but this makes it worth it," she said. "Vledder's the sweetest horse I've ever owned. He tries so hard for me."

Australia's five member Reining team exceeded all expectations when they recorded a top five finish. Leading into the Games it was the goal of the Australians to improve upon their result from the 2010 Games where they finished 11th. Strong performances from all team members delivered a 5th place result and in the individual standings Martin Larcombe qualified through to the final where he finished in 14th position.

After the withdrawal of Christopher Burton after the dressage, Australia's Eventing Team was under pressure to get around the cross country course without incident. In true fighting spirit all riders successfully completed the course which placed Australia in the bronze medal position after cross country. The team would go on to finish in fifth\* place and thereby secure Australia its start at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. Individual rider Stuart Tinney showed his experience finishing in 12th position overall.

\*changed to fourth following the disqualification of France

The most notable performance of the all-female Australian Endurance Team came from its youngest member, 19 year old Alexandra Toft who finished in 19th position in a time of 10:11:23 – a remarkable feat given it was only her ninth 160 kilometre ride. "Finishing in the top 20 was my goal from the outset," said Toft. "I did my best and I'm very happy, relieved and excited to be in the top 20. It was a very tough day and one of the most challenging courses I've completed," she said upon finishing the ride.

In the Vaulting Australia was represented by the Fassifern Team from Queensland and Zac Singlehurst who competed as an individual. Singlehurst gave the performance of his life in the compulsory test and was rewarded with a personal best score. In the Squad's competition the Fassifern Team performed a Freestyle routine to iconic Australian

melodies including Waltzing Matilda.

The Australian Jumping Team finished in 17th position overall with captain Edwina Tops-Alexander making it through to the round of 30 where she ultimately finished in 15th position. Jamie Kermond competing at his second World Equestrian Games also jumped well to progress through to the round of 50 and he finished in 41st position.

The Driving medals were some of the final to be decided of the Games and Australia's Boyd Exell proved unstoppable performing strongly in each of the three phases to bring home individual gold. After the dressage phase Exell was ranked second but following a dominant performance in the marathon he moved into the lead. On the final day of competition there were less than three penalties between him and nearest rival Chester Webber. With a dropped ball in the cones phase worth three penalties Exell needed to produce

a clear round to ensure victory and he stormed home with a clear round. The result securing Australia its second consecutive World Equestrian Games gold medal. Fellow competitor Gavin Robson finished in 38th position and together the two drivers



Boyd Exell proved unstoppable performing strongly in each of the three phases to bring home individual gold.



# DRESSAGE

Once again the Australian Dressage Committee (ADC) has been working to encourage development at the participation level. Adult Amateur Owner Rider (AOR) competitions have been a feature in all states and the introduction of state leaderboards have proven very popular. Some states have included AOR State Championships and annual AOR awards. The committee expects even greater growth in 2016.

Participation numbers in competitions for Para-Equestrian classified riders are gradually increasing and the committee thanks the clubs which have helped by putting on classes and the branches which have included classes at their State Championships. We look forward to further growth in 2016 as the number of classification days increases. We especially look forward to bridging the gap between riders with a disability in Interschools

competition coming to the classified grades in Para-Equestrian. An historic MOU has also been signed between Riding for the Disabled Australia and EA which will also serve to encourage clearer pathways through to Para-Equestrian competition.

Strong results from Australia's Dressage riders across the competition at the FEI World Equestrian Games secured Australia its start at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. Automatic Olympic qualification from WEG was a key goal for the Australians coming into the Games and the team of Mary Hanna (Sancette), Kristy Oatley (Ronan 2), Lyndal Oatley (Sandro Boy) and Maree Tomkinson (Diamantina 4) achieved the desired result with a top 10 finish. Another highlight was four time WEG representative Mary Hanna making it through to the Grand Prix Special.

The Para-Equestrian team also had promising results at WEG with Nicole Blanks (Vledder), Elizabeth Sobocki (Hatero de PB), Joann Formosa (Worldwide PB) and Chelsea Higgins (HP Comedian) all putting in good performances.

With seven CDI events in Australia in 2015, growth in Dressage and Para-Equestrian is significant and the support of the State Dressage Committees and the ADC to assist to develop state squad structures which have a clearer pathway towards national squad selection has also been very positive.

The ADC has formed a working group made up of organising committee representatives to ensure that the national calendar of major events and CDI's works efficiently for the sport and also for the riders in the future. It is vital that Australian based riders including Young Riders and Juniors have the

opportunity to gain FEI rider ranking points without wearing their horses out through long road journeys.

Rules underlie our sport and provide structure for all who participate. The ADC is well aware that the rules should be inclusive, keep up with developments in the sport (including changes at FEI level) but acknowledge that in recent years this has meant many updates and edits were required, leading to a loss of cohesion in the rule book. In 2016 we plan to conduct a review of the rule book to make it clearer for all.

The ADC, through its sub-committee, the Australian Dressage Judges Committee, continues to monitor the number of accredited judges available to support official Dressage, Eventing and Interschools competitions as well as restricted club days. There is no doubt that the pressure on our

judges for their time is increasing. Particularly we are looking to make the fast track pathway for qualified riders and NCAS Coaches as straightforward as possible.

The development of the Australian Dressage International Travel Fund under the auspices of the Australian Sports Foundation and providing tax deductible advantages for donations is a significant step forward in developing a sounder basis for funding for the sport. The fund is run by three independent trustees. The ADC wishes to work towards increasing the proportion of non-government funding for Dressage.

This year will see the first time in many years that Dressage NSW (DNSW) has not conducted the Australian Dressage Championships. This year the event will be conducted by two independent directors supported by Equestrian NSW. The ADC

thanks the DNSW committee and volunteers who have run this event for the past 14 years and looks forward to a successful event in 2015.

The ADC has been developing the pathways to maintain Young Riders in our sport. From 2016 the Australian Young Rider Championships will be renamed the Australian Youth Championships 10-25 with a program that will cater for all age groups as well as those more experienced riders who are wishing to participate at the higher end of the sport including all of the FEI tests from FEI Pony upwards.

Mary Seefried  
Chair, Australian Dressage Committee



Mary Hanna & Sancette  
at WEG

“ Strong results from Australia's Dressage riders across the competition at the FEI World Equestrian Games secured Australia its start at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.

“

The importance of increasing the number of judges so that the sport can grow is fundamental to our strategy and why the fast track pathway is in place.

## FAST TRACK PATHWAY

Tasmania's Lydia Jackson (nee Lawrence) is the quintessential equestrian success story. In the early days of her riding career she won the Royal Hobart Show Champion Pony on Marengo Joshua and multiple Pony Club Championships including Australian Junior 3 Day Event Champion with the super star Homevale Twilight. She travelled across the Bass Strait to attend Australia's most demanding Three Day Events as well as New Zealand where she represented Australia in the Young Rider Eventing Championships on two occasions. All this culminated in a position on the national A squad for the Athens Olympics on Scrumpy Jack. Lydia was also a keen showjumper enjoying success at the Australian Showjumping Championships on Dutch Treat. Her transition to dressage was seamless and with equal success. She represented Tasmania at the Australian Dressage Championships at FEI level, again finishing amongst Australia's top dressage riders. No matter what the competition it is a guarantee that Lydia will be on the podium.

With all this success it made sense for Lydia to take advantage of the fast track pathway to add the prestigious judging qualification feather to her very full cap. The initiative is a system that recognises a participant's prior experience and performance, translating to a rounded and knowledgeable dressage judge. Being located in Tasmania did not stall the

process of Lydia becoming a D level judge. The skills and knowledge that the FEI rider can bring to the Australian judging landscape is invaluable. The fast track pathway is a neat package that facilitates the transition from dressage participant to a key driver to the future success of Dressage in Australia. Lydia attributes the attainability to clear guidelines and access to excellent mentors.

As the demand from EA members increases for more competitions, the demand for judges like Lydia will naturally increase. The importance of increasing the number of judges so that the sport can grow is fundamental to our strategy and why the fast track pathway is in place.

“I have a greater understanding of the pressures that judges are exposed to when sitting in the judge's seat,” said Lydia.

“Also I do find it challenging in my role as a judge as I can also appreciate how difficult it is as a rider to create the harmonious connection between horse and rider.”

For Lydia the drive to give back to the sport didn't end with her judging qualifications. In 2014/15 Lydia also successfully completed the extensive and rigorous Level 3 NCAS Coach Program, the highest in Australia and she is now a member of a very exclusive club of Level 3 Dressage Specialist Coaches.

# DRIVING

A number of Australians competed internationally during 2014/15 including Boyd Exell, Mark Peel, Gavin Robson, Janelle Marshall, Elizabeth Lawrence and Lorraine Cairns.

Once again Boyd Exell dominated the world driving stage successfully winning individual gold at the FEI World Equestrian Games in Normandy. Joining Boyd at WEG was Gavin Robson and together the pair assisted Australia to ninth position in the team's event.

Boyd and his team of horses also enjoyed wins at Lahden, Saumur, Horst, London Olympia, Geneva, Stockholm & Stuttgart. In February he wrote history winning the FEI World Cup Driving Final for a record sixth time, eclipsing the previous record holder who had won the title on five occasions. At Equestrian Australia's Sport Achievement Awards Night Boyd was named Ariat International Rider of the Year for the second consecutive year.

Also in 2014 Australia was represented at the World Singles Driving Championships in Izsak (HUN) where the team of Janelle Marshall, Elizabeth Lawrence and Lorraine Cairns finished eighth in the team's event.

At both of these major events the Australian drivers were supported by a large contingent of supporters. Among the supporters were a number of officials who benefited greatly from being at these events.



Once again Boyd Exell dominated the world driving stage successfully winning individual gold at the FEI World Equestrian Games in Normandy.

## LOOKING AHEAD

The National Driving Committee is strongly encouraging increased participation in Driving especially at a state level, and we are starting to see the number of driving clubs increase. It is promising to see the activity happening at a state level:

- South Australia is running two FEI CAI1\* events in conjunction with the 2015 Australian International Three Day Event
- NSW will again host FEI events in 2015 after hosting the first FEI event alongside a national event in 2014
- Warwick & District Driving Club in Queensland has been very successful in bringing in both new members as well as Australian Carriage Driving Society (ACDS) joint members

- In Tasmania, a coach and judges course is to be held offering educational opportunities for coaches and officials alike
- There is huge potential for Victoria to step forward and conduct more EA Driving events
- There are moves for Western Australia to start an EA Driving Committee and Club.

Max Pearce  
Chair, National Driving Committee



In a huge step forward for domestic driving, the first FEI competition was held in Australia in Tamworth.

## TAMWORTH HOSTS AUSTRALIA'S FIRST FEI DRIVING COMPETITION

In a huge step forward for domestic driving, the first FEI competition was held in Australia in Tamworth during October 2014.

Hosted by the Horse Driving Trials (HDT) Club at the Australian Equine Lifestyle Events Centre (AELEC) in Tamworth, the FEI event took place from 11-12 October. The event was held in conjunction with an FEI Course Designers Clinic, masterclasses with Boyd Exell as well as a host of national classes. The club was very pleased to see 12 FEI event entries for the first FEI competition in Australia.

Wolfgang Asendorf (GER) FEI 4\* Course Designer, ably assisted by Australia's Peter Harkness, designed and built five permanent obstacles (of which one was very large) to give the competitors a sense of what they will come across when competing overseas. The pair also presented at the FEI/EA Course Designers course which was well received by the 12 participants. The course focused on the basics and demonstrated not only how to design courses but also how to measure them.

A masterclass with Boyd Exell and Wolfgang Asendorf was a suitable way to end the event with Boyd interacting with the audience and inviting them to walk the obstacles with him.



Boyd Exell and team on their way to consecutive World Equestrian Games gold medals

# ENDURANCE

A major focus of the Committee this year has been working towards the development of a strategic plan for the sport of Endurance. A strategic planning meeting was held in Yass this year and was attended by the Endurance Committee, members of the National Endurance Selection Panel and management representatives from the Australian Endurance Team. This was an excellent meeting with all groups contributing to determine goals, tactics and timeframes.

The main goal for Endurance is aimed at getting back on the podium in six years and we will be updating our selection policies and processes with this goal in mind. We will also implement a pathway for endurance competitors so that they know what they need to do to work towards team selection. It will start at the entry level of the sport and will detail how horses and riders can take the next step in the qualification process.

This pathway and strategic goal, as well as the combined strategic planning meeting, are all new aspects for Endurance and it was great to see everyone participating, aligned and now working towards achieving the agreed outcomes.

For the first time an all female team represented Australia at the FEI World Equestrian Games. The team's youngest member Alexander Toft managed a top 20 finish and was one of only 38 riders from more than 170 starters to finish the ride.

Major events on the horizon include the 2016 World Endurance Championships in Dubai (UAE), the 2017 World Youth Championships in Verona (Italy) and the 2018 FEI World Equestrian Games in Bromont (Canada). Expressions of interest have been sought for these events and the Selection Panel and team management will be working with applicants to firstly qualify and then prepare for these events.

The focus for the Committee will be on working towards the implementation of the strategic plan and pathway to Australian team selection. Communications between the committee and the endurance community is also an ongoing focus.

Following the appointment of our Course Director Dr. Trish Annetts, we will now be looking to run an education seminar to assist our Officials meet and maintain their qualification requirements.

Linda Tanian  
Chair, National Endurance Committee



The Tom Quilty Gold Cup National Championships was significant in more ways than one. As well as signifying the 50th anniversary of the event, this year's Championships attracted the largest number of entries at an endurance ride in Australia.

## TOM QUILTY GOLD CUP CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY

The Tom Quilty Gold Cup National Championships was significant in more ways than one. As well as signifying the 50th anniversary of the event, this year's Championships attracted the largest number of entries at an endurance ride in Australia (and possibly the world). The orderly midnight start involved over 340 horses leaving the ride base grounds at Del Rio resort (NSW) and it was an amazing sight for spectators – and probably an overwhelming one for the kangaroo that dashed through the warm up area moments before the start.

The ride traversed parts of the track from the first Quilty and was very challenging for horses and riders alike. The course consisted

of long climbs, switchback tracks clinging to the side of mountains, country roads that provided some good going, a small amount of bitumen roads, rock hopping trails and a few boggy bridle paths. The track held up very well considering the flooding and large amounts of rain that had fallen in the area about six weeks prior to the ride.

The ride was won by Ben Hudson on Cap Braveheart, a 14.2 hh stallion owned and trained by the OSO Endurance Team, in a time of 10 hrs and 16 mins. A near record number of completions evidenced the care and consideration that riders gave the track.



Ben Hudson and Cap Braveheart

# EVENTING

In this past year we have seen the Australian Eventing Team compete at the FEI World Equestrian Games in Normandy France, another successful domestic season as well as promising results abroad.

Australia sent a formidable team to Normandy and the top five finish secured Australia's qualification for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. Sam Griffiths (Paulank Brockagh), Chris Burton (TS Jamaimo), Shane Rose (Taurus) and Paul Tapner (Kilronan) represented Australia in the team's event while Stuart Tinney (Pluto Mio) and Bill Levett (Shannondale Titan) rode as individuals. After the Dressage phase Australia was sitting in ninth position and it was at this time that unfortunately Chris Burton's horse TS Jamaimo had to be withdrawn.

Cross country day was, as always, a very influential phase. The course seemed to cause quite a few problems throughout the day for all countries, but the Australians dug deep and jumped clear, incurring only time faults to move from ninth to third overall at the end of the day. Australia was one of only a few countries to have every rider that went out on the cross country course finish clear of obstacle penalties.

After the earlier withdrawal of Chris Burton, the Australian team was reduced to three horses for the show jumping phase and after a tough day in which rails were incurred the team finished in fifth\* position overall. Individual horse Shannondale Titan was withdrawn before the second horse inspection but Stuart Tinney and Pluto Mio remained in the competition and finished in 12th position individually to be the best placed Australian combination. Congratulations to Stuart Tinney and the owners of Pluto Mio, Jane and John Pittard.

After the whirlwind of WEG the focus turned to the Oceania Eventing Championships held in Taupo (NZ). This was the first time that the senior and young rider event was run at the same time and it proved to be a great experience for all involved, particularly the young riders who were able to learn from their senior counterparts.

\*changed to fourth following the disqualification of France

The senior team consisted of Shane Rose (CP Qualified) Katja Weimann (BP Cosmopolitan), Jessica Manson (Legal Star) and Isabel English (Feldale Mouse) while the young rider team was Isabelle McIntyre (Grandios) Kenya Wilson (Winifred Fair), Shenae Lowings (Venture Sky High) and Teegan Ashby (Waitangi Password). As well as helping Australia to team victory, Shane also enjoyed individual spoils taking out the CCI3\* title. The young riders may have finished second but the opportunity to compete overseas and in a team environment alongside the senior team made it a worthwhile experience.

Here at home the National Eventing Committee has been working toward developing the National Pathways scheme. The Committee is trying to make the system more user friendly and accessible to anybody that may be interested in the sport of Eventing in any capacity. The need for officials in our sport is extremely important, and as Eventing in Australia keeps growing, this sees the need for more and more officials. We are confident that the system now in place will make it easier for all involved.

Will Enzinger  
Chair, National Eventing Committee

## POLLYANN HUNTINGTON

Western Australian Pollyann Huntington was awarded the Gow Gates Official of the Year award at the 2014 Equestrian Australia Sport Achievement Awards Night. Pollyann is an FEI 4 star Eventing judge and FEI technical delegate as well as an A level Dressage judge, judge educator and mentor. 2014 was a very busy year for Pollyann with her officiating

duties taking her to the Sydney and Blenheim International Horse Trials. Pollyann is a member of the Eventing WA Committee and also assists the Dressage Committee with implementing new rules. Pollyann has been instrumental in starting up several clubs in WA which have been especially for young riders.



Australia sent a formidable team to Normandy and the top five finish secured Australia's qualification for the Rio 2016 Olympic Games.



Sam Griffiths and Happy Times at the 2014 Land Rover Burghley International Horse Trials

# JUMPING

A key focus of Jumping in 2014 was on the preparation of the Australian Equestrian Team competing at the FEI World Equestrian Games where the team of Edwina Tops-Alexander, Jamie Kermond, Amy Graham, James Patterson-Robinson and reserve Julia Hargreaves represented Australia. Prior to the Games the team held a camp at Valkenswaard the training base of Edwina Tops-Alexander and Jan Tops. The team produced some strong performances throughout the competition with Edwina and Jamie progressing through to the individual rounds.

Prior to WEG Edwina was appointed Captain of the Australian Jumping Team, lending her wealth of experience and knowledge of elite Jumping to broaden the high performance direction of the sport for Australian riders both domestically and internationally.

Back at home, for the third consecutive year Equestrian Victoria hosted the Australian Show Jumping Championships at Werribee Park. With organisers securing international Course Designer Luc Musette it is no surprise the event was inundated with entries in all divisions. Once again the committee was able to cope with the big numbers and present another National Championships of the highest quality. David Cameron was crowned

Senior Champion, Tom McDermott the Young Rider Champion and Jasmine Dennison the Junior Champion.

The Sydney Royal Easter show was able to secure Australia's first FEI World Cup 2 star event (CSI2\*-W) which attracted a large number of entries for the first World Cup event of the 2015-16 season. The event was won by Alison Rowland on board Yalambi's Carpino Z.

In its inaugural year the Young Horse Talent Identification series attracted entries from across the country. Qualifying events were held across six states between January and mid-September culminating with the Final which was held in conjunction with the Shepparton World Cup in November. The Series identifies future jumping horses within a performance framework where horse and rider combinations are put under the constraints of high-level benchmark competitions.

The Final saw a total of 22 entries across the six and seven year old divisions, while in the eight year old division there were 17 combinations. After the success of the first season the competition is continuing in 2015.

NSW teenager Savanna Hopkinson was declared the winner of the Tekna Young Rider series for 2014. Savanna finished on top of the leaderboard with her horse Zenzation and also placing in the top 10 with second horse Barrichello. The 2015 Young Rider series stretched for 12 rounds (two rounds staged in each state) and saw more than 120 combinations take part.

The formation of a working group for domestic Jumping between the National Jumping Committee and Equestrian Australia High Performance is working to strengthen the Australian Jumping scene to make it easier for riders transitioning from domestic to international competition. A key initiative of the working group is a State of Origin Team's Competition which will work to address the shortage of team competition available to domestic Jumping riders. The working group has been formed under the leadership of former EA board member Nick Crowe and brings together the Chair of National Jumping Selectors, the National Jumping Committee Chair and previous Australian Equestrian Team member Alison Rowland who will act as a rider's representative.

Gavin Chester  
Chair, National Jumping Committee

## 2014-15 WORLD CUP JUMPING – AUSTRALIAN LEAGUE

The Australian World Cup Jumping Series for 2014-15 was supported by 12 World Cup competitions distributing \$106,000 to the 68 riders who competed during the season. There were a total of 49 combinations which took part in the World Cup Season with many new combinations stepping up to FEI level for the first time.

The 2014-15 World Cup season was won by Tim Clarke of Victoria riding his 12 year old mare Caltango by Contango Li. In the end it was a close finish to the season with only four points separating Tim Clarke and second place Jess Brown.

For a second consecutive year Caltango was awarded the Golden Grand Trophy for the leading horse and Tim's wife Ingrid Clarke was presented with the Ted Dwyer Memorial plaque as the owner of the leading horse.

Tim Clarke and Caltango decided not to compete at the FEI World Cup Final which was held in Las Vegas in April. The World Cup Committee provided Tim with \$3,000 towards attending the Final on foot with his wife Ingrid. Equestrian Australia assisted Tim with securing accreditation to attend the event as the winner of the Australian League.

Australia was represented at the Final by Edwina Tops-Alexander with the 10yr old mare Fair Light Van T Heike, and Lane Clarke with the 13yr old mare Semira De Saulieu. Edwina qualified for the FEI World Cup Final through the Western League where she finished sixth overall. Lane was a late acceptance by the FEI after winning the \$40,000 Orange County Register Grand Prix at the Oaks Blenheim in San Juan Capistrano (USA).

Once again a host of world class course designers were involved in the Australian season including Leopoldo Palacios from Venezuela, Werner Deeg from Germany, Kevin Hansen from New Zealand and Peter Gillespie from the UK. The international designers have complemented the excellent work from the Australian based Officials, including eight internationally qualified Judges.

The link between the FEI and exposure to international Course Designers and Judges offers an easier transition to Australian based riders who make the move to Europe and this has been displayed by the success of Julia Hargreaves, Amy Graham, Jamie Kermond and Jess Brown who all enjoyed success in the Australian World Cup League before successfully embarking on competitions in Europe.



Jess Brown and Casco at the 2014 Equestrian Grand Final for Jumping

# SHOW HORSE

This is my first report as Chair of the National Show Horse Committee (NSHC) having taken over from Mr Frank Bawden on 19 February, 2015. On behalf of the NSHC and show horse membership, I thank Frank for all his past efforts as Chair. On a personal note, I thank him for his words of advice and his kind offer to make himself available to me for consultation.

Since my appointment, NSHC has met on two occasions for full day meetings and one meeting was held by teleconferencing. I thank all the members of NSHC for their warm welcome to me and for their commitment and contributions. They have all demonstrated a deep understanding of, and clear desire to improve, their sport. It has been a pleasure to work with them and to witness their cordiality towards each other.

The meetings have mostly involved rule changes and improvements, and the allocation of the 2016, 2017 and 2018 EA Australasian Show Horse and Rider Championships (National Show), which has been awarded to Victoria.

One important decision made by NSHC this year has been to require the inclusion of children's classes in the program for the 2016 National Show and in the following years. The first and second place getters in each relevant child's class at each State Horse of the Year Show will qualify for the National Show. NSHC is conscious that the inclusion of children's classes will add some 14 classes to the program, and involve the stabling of up to 100 additional horses, thereby increasing the cost of running the event. However, it is hoped that the inclusion of the children's classes will motivate increased participation in the sport by children.

It is with regret that I note the resignation from the Committee of Mr Darryl Hayes, the Riders' Representative. Darryl tendered his resignation at the NSHC meeting held in March, 2015. Darryl made a very valuable contribution to NSHC during his time as Riders' Representative. The process to find his replacement will conclude shortly.

I take the opportunity to thank Mr Grant Baldock, EA Chief Executive, for his attendance and valuable contributions at NSHC meetings. I also wish to thank Ms Holly Davis and Ms Alex Poulton from the EA National Office for the high level of support they have provided NSHC during the year. It is a revelation to see how quickly and accurately they are able to produce minutes of long and wide ranging meetings.

Peter Dingwall  
Chair, National Show Horse Committee



It is hoped that the inclusion of the children's classes will motivate increased participation in the sport by children.

## EDWINA HUTTON POTTS

Edwina Hutton Potts has certainly become a household name in the Show Horse fraternity. She and her spectacular Heathmont Echo have consecutively qualified for EA Nationals in the Senior Rider in 2014 and 2015, and at her first Nationals in 2014, was Champion scoring first from two of the three judges. The combination of Edwina and Echo have arguably been the forerunner for proving that Dressage and Show Horse can complement each other; however Edwina's path has not been without adversity.

Edwina writes: "I first began riding when my family moved from Sydney's Eastern Suburbs to the Southern Highlands of NSW at the beginning of 2002. I did not come from a family of riders so I began having weekend lessons at the local riding school. After attending my first gymkhana the natural progression was to start competing at local shows.

"In late 2009 I began receiving lessons from Robbie and Ali Soster and David McKinnon of Robali Equestrian, who introduced small elements of lateral work into my training

and I soon developed a taste for Dressage. In early 2013 we began the search for my first dressage horse, following a difficult period of time with my thoroughbred show horse I was ready to make the transition.

"I was searching for a horse that would balance my love for rider classes as well as being a competitive dressage horse. After many months of searching and trying horses, we found Heathmont Echo. The first few months with Echo were testing, as having retired my show horse six months prior to purchasing Echo my fitness certainly wasn't where it needed to be to train Echo, who is a lazy horse by nature and hadn't been in full work when he came to us.

"My partnership with Echo has continued to evolve and in 2014 was filled with achievement that I'd never dreamt was attainable. At the Equestrian NSW Horse Of The Year we were awarded Senior Rider 18 years and over, qualifying me to compete at my first ever EA Nationals. Prior to Nationals I was invited to have a lesson with the Olympic gold medallist in

Dressage Charlotte Dujardin at Equitana which was a once in a lifetime experience. At EA Nationals I was the youngest rider in the event and I was fortunate to take out the Senior Rider 18yrs and over.

"In the last 18 months we have competed in Dressage and we have transitioned from medium to competing in Small Tour. Echo is so special, it's difficult to put into words the bond we share, but he is the most honest horse I have ever met and I look forward to every ride. I enjoy balancing my show and dressage riding as I think they complement each other beautifully; from my show riding I developed as a performer and take pride in my presentation and position, and from my dressage training I am able to prepare my horses to give me the best ride they can and refine the quality of my workouts."

Edwina will once again represent NSW at the EA Nationals in December 2015 alongside her coach and mentor Robbie Soster, who has also qualified to compete at the EA Nationals.



Edwina Hutton Potts and Heathmont Echo

# VAULTING

Australian Vaulting continues to prosper with its strong international participation. As well as sending a squad and individual to the 2014 FEI World Equestrian Games in Normandy, Australia has plans to send representatives to the inaugural FEI World Vaulting Championships for Juniors, happening in August 2015.

Underpinning this international participation is the competition development here in Australia. The initiative of organising committees to conduct CVI level competition in conjunction with the Australian National Championships has attracted overseas vaulters to Australia and also provided Australian vaulters with the opportunity to attain qualifying scores to compete overseas. The requirement of multiple FEI standard Judges at CVI competitions helps increase

development of the international networks within the sport as these high profile judges get to experience Australia and Australian Vaulting first hand. The National Vaulting Championships were held in South Australia in 2014 and was a very successful event with a high representation of vaulters from all states.

Work continues to eliminate the barriers to enable the sport to continue on its development pathway. Coaching development and retention of retiring athletes in the sport is identified as a high priority. Working in conjunction with the EA education team, the National Vaulting Committee is reviewing the Coach Accreditation process in order to make this pathway for athletes to continue in the sport more effective.

Club development within the nation has been identified as another priority for sport development. Unlike other disciplines, Vaulting is a group orientated activity. The support of a club based environment gives adults the opportunity to actively participate in the sport with their child. This club model allows for the sharing of horses and more importantly "workload" so Vaulting activities are enjoyable and fun for all participating.

Tony Richardson  
Chair, National Vaulting Committee

## SARAH HOCKING

While the sport requires coaches, judges and athletes there is also a huge amount of work that is provided behind the scenes by volunteers. One such stalwart is Sarah Hocking. Sarah has been in the sport for some 15 years and while she is not a vaulting participant, her background knowledge of equestrian activities and horsemanship from her Eventing days has been most beneficial to the sport. Coupled with her knowledge and employment in the area of risk management and HR workplace policy, Sarah has made a monumental contribution to administrative policy matters which have been introduced to the sport. From her involvement in the Acacia Gold Vaulting Club for some ten years to the concurrent three terms she has served as Chair of the National Vaulting Committee, Sarah's contribution has been extensive and tireless. Sarah continues with her administration and governance input as a member of the Equestrian SA Board.



The initiative of organising committees to conduct CVI level competition in conjunction with the Australian National Championships has attracted overseas vaulters to Australia and also provided Australian vaulters with the opportunity to attain qualifying scores to compete overseas.



Fassifern Vaulting Squad at WEG

# NCAS

It has been a productive year for the NCAS Committee, with a number of achievements furthering the development of equestrian coaching within Australia.

During the year we welcomed Tim Calkin to join the current Committee of Chris Hardwick, Philippa Collier and myself, while our previous Chair Simon Kale and Committee member Anna Marsden stepped down.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank both Simon and Anna for their input, particularly Simon who has been on several NCAS Committees over the past two decades.

Gina Haddad and Kathryn O'Donnell from Equestrian Australia also need to be thanked for their valuable contribution throughout the year.

## NCAS REVIEW

The NCAS Review, conducted by the Australian Sports Commission and Equestrian Australia, was completed in 2014.

There was positive input from the review, showing that the majority of respondents indicated that they selected their coaches based on them being:

- honest, dependable and ethical
- approachable, encouraging and positive
- adhering to safety standards and risk management.

For several years, the NCAS Committee has been striving to put the training experience back on a more structured process, whereby the candidates are supervised in one form or another in order to gain their accreditation. It was reassuring that this approach was supported by the findings within the review. We are hopeful that the availability of more structured training will promote the desire for continued education and progression through the scheme.

The Committee has worked hard with EA to identify a number of key elements from the review that could be quickly implemented.

## RENAMING OF TWO-DAY FACE-TO-FACE WORKSHOP

The NCAS Committee recognised the requirement for this phase of coach training to be flexible in its delivery. What was known as the Two-Day Face-to-Face has been renamed as the Orientation to EA Coaching Workshop, which means it can now be broken down and delivered in a variety of ways, for example four half day workshops each month or a series of eight evening workshops across a number of weeks. The content will include all the subjects previously covered in the two-day face-to-face workshop.

## COACH REACCREDITATION PERIOD EXTENDED

A decision to extend the reaccreditation cycle to three years was made based on feedback from our coaches and officials with the aim to alleviate some of the pressures associated with maintaining accreditation.

## ALIGNMENT OF EA ACCREDITATION WITH REGISTERED TRAINING ORGANISATIONS (RTOS) AND UNIVERSITIES

The Committee has encouraged a number of RTOs (which include TAFE Colleges) and Universities to employ EA Coach Educators to deliver their equine courses. This has enabled students studying equine industry courses to align their studies with EA to achieve EA accreditation at the same time.

## ALIGNMENT WITH AUSTRALIAN EDUCATION SYSTEM

The NCAS Committee was involved with the formation of a new Certificate II within the Training Package for Agrifoods, which has enabled students to complete core horse care units and then specialise in their preferred area. Committee members will continue to be engaged with the formation of new equestrian units, when the Sport Training Package is reviewed in 2015/16.

Input from the NCAS Committee assists with the continual progression of an industry relevant vocational education system used in High Schools and post-Secondary study with the aim to produce qualified professional graduates who can continually improve the Australian horse industry.

Glenys Cox  
Chair, NCAS Committee



# 2014 YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES

## HUNTER RIDES TO BRONZE AT YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES

At the 2014 Young Olympic Games in Nanjing, China, Jake Hunter became the second Australia in as many outings to finish on the equestrian podium.

Hunter, who was 18 at the time, won individual jumping bronze, following in the footsteps of Tom McDermott who won silver at the inaugural Youth Games in 2010. McDermott has since gone on to win both senior and young rider Australian Jumping titles as well as the prestigious FEI Rising Star Award.

Jumping is the only equestrian discipline contested at the Youth Olympic Games and competitors must ride with borrowed horses. Through a draw Hunter was paired with one of the more inexperienced horses in the field, a young mare called For the Star. Beginning with the team's event Hunter

helped the Australasians – featuring a rider from Hong Kong, New Zealand, Malaysia as well as Hunter for Australia – to an overall fifth place finish.

When it was time for the individual competition Hunter was one of only four riders to finish the regular rounds on zero penalties.

It forced a jump-off between the top four in which Hunter and his horse had one rail down. Despite the addition of four penalties it was enough to secure the bronze medal behind New Zealand rider Emily Fraser who won gold and Argentinean Martina Campi who took silver.

"I'm so proud and so happy to have got a medal," said Hunter upon receiving his bronze medal.

"My horse jumped fantastic and I couldn't ask for any more.

"She's only a young horse, and to come out and make the jump-off over a really tough track is fantastic. I'd really love to be riding her in a few more years."

As for the one knocked rail in the jump-off, Hunter was still proud of his horse's efforts.

"She just got a bit tired being a young horse, but she still gave everything that she's got and you can't ask for anything more," he said.

Since finishing on the podium at the Youth Games Hunter has relocated to Europe where he is gaining valuable competition experience.



# EA SPORT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS AND HALL OF FAME

Equestrian Australia's Sport Achievement Awards Night was held in conjunction with the Melbourne International Three Day Event. The evening attracted 220 people including special guest, FEI President Ingmar De Vos. It was one of several official engagements that the FEI President attended during this three day visit to Australia.

Prior to his arrival in Melbourne Mr De Vos spent time in Sydney where he toured the International Equestrian Centre – the venue for the Sydney 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Mr De Vos previously visited the venue when he was Chef de Mission of the Belgian Equestrian Team at the Sydney Olympics and although there had been changes since his last visit he was pleased to see the venue still being utilised 15 years on.

“The grounds and facilities of the Sydney International Equestrian Centre are so well maintained and I am pleased they continue to be used. It is in perfect shape and you can see that a lot of improvements have been undertaken. It is a great legacy for Australia,” he said.

Mr De Vos also attended the Melbourne International Three Day Event where he witnessed a demonstration of the beginner riding program Ready Set Trot. At the Awards Night Mr De Vos declared Ready Set Trot a highly commendable initiative that is worthy of sharing and promotion amongst other national federations.

A highlight of the Awards Night was the presentations made by Mr De Vos to the Hall of Fame inductees. When it was time for the individual recipient Neale Lavis to accept his award, guests presented him with a standing ovation.

Lavis was a member of the Australian Equestrian Team which made history by winning gold in the Team Three-Day Event at the 1960 Rome Olympic Games. As an individual Lavis won silver finishing behind fellow Australian Laurie Morgan. Following the Games Lavis refused an offer of 10,000 pounds for his horse Mirabooka, a horse which cost him 100 pounds.

“He was so careful and gentle and above all he would always try his heart out,” said Lavis of his horse.

Also inducted into the Hall of Fame were the 1992 Barcelona Three Day Eventing Team, Colin Kelly in the service to sport category and Darien Powers, the horse which was ridden by Andrew Hoy to team gold at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games.



Hall of Fame inductee Neale Lavis receives his award from FEI President Ingmar De Vos



The evening attracted 220 people including special guest, FEI President Ingmar De Vos. It was one of several official engagements that the FEI President attended during this three day visit to Australia.



## AWARD RECIPIENTS

### Australian Institute of Sport Event of the Year

*Australian Show Jumping Championships (VIC)*

### Gow Gates Official of the Year

*Pollyann Huntington (WA)*

### Gow Gates Club of the Year

*Thoroughbred Riding Club (Vic)*

### Gow Gates Volunteer of the Year

*Claire Walker (Tas)*

### Gow Gates Coach of the Year

*Rebecca Jenkins (Qld)*

### Administrator of the Year

*Toni Venhaus (NSW)*

### Ariat International Athlete of the Year

*Boyd Exell*

### Ariat Domestic Athlete of the Year

*Shane Rose (NSW)*

### Barastoc Young Athlete of the Year

*Isabel English (Qld)*

### KER Owner of the Year

*Cheryl Hatswell (SA)*

### IRT International Horse of the Year

*Boyd Exell's four-in-hand team of Winston, Curios, Spitfire, Rambo & Capone*

### Domestic Horse of the Year

*RR Dyranta*



EA's Sport Achievement Awards Night is presented by Gow-Gates Insurance Brokers

# QUEENSLAND

Equestrian Queensland (EQ) has continued with modest membership growth of 4% despite a challenging environment with the Hendra By-Law. The main success is attributable to listening to members, broadening relevance to all participants, supporting volunteers and improving communication.

Many defining moments were recognised at the 2014 Equestrian Queensland Annual Awards evening held in January 2015, which had more than 240 attendees to celebrate achievements across 15 categories.

Winners of the 2014 Queensland Awards were nominated for the EA Annual Awards held in Melbourne in June 2015. Congratulations to the following Queenslanders who were recipients of a national award – Rebecca Jenkins (Gow Gates Coach of the Year) and Isabel English (Barastoc Young Athlete of the Year). It was also the second consecutive year in which Queenslanders won these categories.

EQ continues to host exceptional major events:

- July 2014 Brisbane CDI – Queensland State Equestrian Centre (QSEC)
- July 2014 Gatton World Cup – Gatton
- Aug 2014 Qld International 3DE – Warwick
- Sept 2014 Saddleworld Festival of Dressage – QSEC
- Jun 2015 Interschool State Championships – Maryborough

EQ expresses much gratitude to the competitors, organisers and volunteers who contributed to the standard of competition, to the sponsors' investment and to the elected representatives of the seven sport committees who are the custodians of the sport. This year Equestrian Queensland thanks its departing Chairs Peter Toft (Equestrian Queensland), Kate Wilson (Dressage Queensland) and David Manuel (Jumping Queensland), who have all honored those who have walked before them by upholding the commitment to hand over the reins in better shape than they were received.

After achieving improvements in priority areas within the previous 2013-2016 cycle EQ is currently in consultation with key stakeholders developing its 2016-2019 strategic plan.

Matt Helmers  
CEO, Equestrian Queensland



# VICTORIA

## ANNUAL AWARDS

The 2014 Equestrian Victoria Awards Night brought a large crowd of over 230 guests to Crown Casino to celebrate the achievements of our members, volunteers, administrators, officials, event organisers and our horses.

The Victorian award winners were nominated for the EA Awards, and we were proud to see Thoroughbred Riding Club win the Gow Gates Club of the Year Award, and the Werribee Jeep Australian Show Jumping Championships secure the AIS Event of the Year Award.

It was an honour to have Colin Kelly inducted into the EA Hall of Fame for Service to Sport, and Victorian horse Darien Powers inducted into the Outstanding Horse Category of the EA Hall of Fame.

## EVENTS

Equestrian Victoria (EV) had the pleasure of hosting a number of prestigious events, many of which were Australian Championships:

- 2014 Werribee Jeep Australian Show Jumping Championships.
- 2014 Peter Horobin National Interschools Championships
- 2014 Australasian Show Horse and Rider Championships
- 2015 PSI Australian Young Dressage Horse Championships as part of Dressage and Jumping with the Stars (DJWTS)
- 2014 Saddleworld Dressage Festival State Championships
- 2015 Barastoc Horse of the Year Show
- 2015 Saddleworld Melbourne International 3 Day Event
- 2014 Peter Horobin State Interschools Championships

The 2014 Annual General Meeting brought a number of new members to our Board and a new Chair in Ingrid Green. The Board as a whole has worked tirelessly to give key direction to the office and the disciplines within EV. The key focus being our financial position and the path forward. Additionally, there has been a focus on looking at strategies that can see us work together both internally and externally with other equestrian organisations to continue to build the benefits of membership with Equestrian Victoria.

Greg Pratt, CEO, Equestrian Victoria

## ISABEL ENGLISH

Isabel English from South-East Queensland is making her mark in the world of Eventing. This year's recipient of the Barastoc Young Athlete of the Year Award at the EA Sport Achievement Awards Night was selected as part of the senior Australian Team for the Oceania Eventing Championships held in New Zealand in June 2015. It was not her first time representing Australia as she previously travelled to New Zealand as part of a Young Rider Australian team.

In a big year for the emerging rider Isabel won the CIC2\* and the CIC1\* at the Warwick International Horse Trials, was second at the Tamworth CIC3\* and fourth at Quirindi CCI3\* and Camden CIC2\*. Isabel also placed eighth at the Australian International Three Day event in only her second four star appearance. In 2014 Isabel was named International Queensland Rider of the Year and was also the recipient of the inaugural best and fairest young rider award.



There has been a focus on looking at strategies that can see us work together both internally and externally with other equestrian organisations to continue to build the benefits of membership with Equestrian Victoria.

# NEW SOUTH WALES

## NSW INTERSCHOOLS CHAMPIONSHIPS

In June 2015, Equestrian NSW staged the NSW Interschool Championships for Combined Training, Dressage, Eventing, Jumping, Show Horse and Vaulting. This was the biggest and best competition for school age equestrians ever held at the Sydney International Equestrian Centre. More than 450 children did 2,400 rounds over four days. The standard of competition was outstanding, which bodes well for the future of our sport at the top levels. Much credit for the increase in entries is due to our Discipline Councils and Committees who supported organising committees to run entry level classes (eg EvA45 and EvA60 in Eventing and 60cm in Jumping) all over the state. These “encourager” classes, along with the Interschools clinics run by Equestrian NSW in Sydney and regional NSW resulted in junior membership increasing by 10%.

2014/15 was another year of consolidation for Equestrian NSW. Membership increased by 4% to just under 7,800, on top of the 6% increase in 2013/14. Our strong financial position was maintained, with funding to our discipline councils and committees increasing by 30%. This was a good result in the face of ever increasing costs for our members to compete and the challenges presented by the Hendra virus.

Providing membership services from a stable and customer focused administration team remained our highest priority.

Interschools, competition support and Officials education all benefitted from increased funding.

Equestrian NSW also continued to work hard to strengthen its relationships with our Discipline Councils and Committees. Funding is now provided for agreed programs, based on clear objectives and deliverables.

In the year ahead Equestrian NSW will continue to engage with our members, Discipline Councils and Committees towards:

- Better governance structures and processes which provide more transparency, genuine engagement and consultation with and for our members
- Using our strong financial position to invest in:
  - Initiatives to provide safe and drug free competitions
  - Pathways from entry, through participation to competition
  - International standard elite competitions and training
  - Interschools clinics and competitions
  - Officials and coach education.

Bruce Farrar  
CEO, Equestrian NSW

# TASMANIA



**Without the hard work of committees and volunteers we would not enjoy the high level of competition and events that we currently have.**

It was another busy year for Equestrian Tasmania (ETAS) and our Sport Committees. As well as delivering a host of events, state championships and education programs, there was a strong focus on promotion of the sport and its policies.

In an exciting development the Department of Sport and Recreation confirmed that equestrian was the only sport in the state to achieve a funding increase for further development of officials, coaches and growth in participation funding. Other funding has been used to purchase equipment including good quality portable cross country fences as well as purpose built measuring sticks. We are also in the process of building, once planning approval has been secured, a new measuring stand/swabbing box at the Tasmanian Equestrian Centre. The board is also looking into the purchase of a branded marquee which will be made available to the sports for their State Championships.

ETAS, as it has done in previous years, provided Coach Educator and SSTA updates and opportunities for new accreditation. Tasmania is the only state in Australia that totally funds these updates for coaches. We are also the state with the highest ratio of coaches to members.

Without the hard work of committees and volunteers we would not enjoy the high level of competition and events that we currently have so it is only appropriate to thank those individuals who give so graciously of their time.

At a recent strategic planning meeting the board identified increased membership growth as well as increasing volunteer numbers as a priority. In recognition of the importance of both measuring and swabbing, the board has created a separate measuring committee and a separate swabbing committee both to be chaired by a member of the board and reporting directly to the board. The board would like to thank both our measuring officials and our medication control officers for their work on behalf of the members.

Judi Le Fevre  
Executive Officer, Equestrian Tasmania



# SOUTH AUSTRALIA

2014/15 has seen Equestrian SA commence the development on our new strategic plan, strengthen our allocation of resources and our commitment to the development of elite and grassroots athletes, coaches and officials. We continue to be committed to developing strong people both in and out of the competition arena.

We have had strong Government support to continue our development of our young rider inclusion programs, which aim to make our sport accessible to all, with a particular focus on the development of young riders.

It has been a testing but very rewarding year for Equestrian SA, with the development of key initiatives and partnerships that have helped improve the sport of equestrian within South Australia.

We have had many reasons to celebrate success, from results in the competition arena through to the innovative programs we are progressing to benefit our community as a whole. South Australian events have continued to attract high-class fields from the rest of Australia.

All of this work cannot be undertaken without the assistance of our sponsors. We are grateful for the benefits that Equestrian Australia, Office of Recreation & Sport, and our discipline sponsors grant to us.

After the success of the 'Young Rider Equestrian Expo' we are planning on extending the scope of the expo to include an

Equestrian Careers Pathway on the opening day and to date we have secured partnerships with the University of Adelaide (Roseworthy Campus), Thoroughbred Racing SA, South Australian Police Mounted Operations and the Master Farriers Association SA Branch.

Sharon Cimarosti  
Executive Officer, Equestrian SA

# WESTERN AUSTRALIA

## JESSICA MANSON AND LEGAL STAR

Jessica Manson and Legal Star capped off a very successful year by taking out the WA Domestic Athlete and Horse of the Year Awards at the WA Annual Awards night. Jess joined an elite group of riders when she partnered her horse Legal Star, better known as Trumby, to win the CCI4\* in Adelaide in November 2014. In doing so she became the first Western Australian to win the event. Jess is a fantastic ambassador for equestrian sport in Western Australia and remains focussed on achieving her goals of representing Australia at Olympic and World Championship level in the future.

It has been a successful year for Equestrian Western Australia (EWA), undertaking and completing a number of key projects and securing new partnerships as part of our vision to 'Create a Thriving Equestrian Community.'

We have overhauled our communication system with new IT infrastructure, a new website and newsletter, enabling us to provide better services to our members and stakeholders. We've also rolled out a new high performance system as per state government recommendations.

We welcomed Polytechnic West as a new partner of the State Equestrian Centre, linking sport to education through the onsite delivery of vocational training in Equine Studies. Such a partnership is a positive example of our vision to align our business with education and the community.

Organisational stability has been critical to our improved performance. We have strengthened our governance structure with a full board in place, and welcomed appointed board members Lisa Rickards and Pam McLachlan to our organisation. Producing a solid profit for the third year in a row, we are confident in the way we do business and are looking forward to further growth and development in 2016.

We have now completed 18 months of our revitalised strategic plan and are poised to review and build on this plan for 2016.

Infrastructure development remains a priority for EWA and we will collaborate with government and external stakeholders to ensure the ongoing sustainability of our State Equestrian Centre. With the support of the WA Department of Sport and Recreation we have a number of capital works projects underway including new reticulation for our General Purpose Field, new emergency lighting, new roofing and a review of amenities and arena surfaces.

Participation is an area we will continue to focus on. We are currently on track to achieve a 10% increase in membership for 2015 and recognise a strong level of growth in the number of EWA participant members. We have also identified a number of potential growth markets such as Interschools participants, Amateur Owners & Adult riders and will continue to develop more opportunities for these groups and others to access equestrian sport. We will continue to evaluate and improve the value for current members and investigate strategies to attract new members as we develop a new membership strategy for 2016.

Angela Doyle  
CEO, Equestrian Western Australia



## CLIVE REED

EA Accredited Coach Clive Reed has made time to assist the Interschools participants at events including those who are not his students.

This level of dedication has not been shown to this group of young riders previously and this service has been offered for no remuneration but for Clive's love of the sport and the development of junior riders.

Clive's international credentials include students from the Asia Pacific region that travel to be coached by Clive and compete in Australia. He also has a close association with well-known show jumping identity Mark Lindh as a coach and mentor. In 2014 Mark competed at the world acclaimed Spruce Meadows in the United States.

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

### DIRECTORS' REPORT

Your Directors present this report on the company for the year ended 30 June 2015.

#### Directors

The names of each person who has been a director during the year and to the date of this report are:

Mr Mark Arthur	<i>(ceased 11 October 2015 re-appointed 11 April 2015)</i>
Ms Melissa Cannon	<i>(resigned 1 May 2015)</i>
Ms Liza Carver	
Mr Nick Crowe	<i>(resigned 2 December 2014)</i>
Mr Des Hughes	<i>(resigned 6 June 2015)</i>
Ms Wendy Hunt	<i>(resigned 6 June 2015)</i>
Dr Warwick Vale	<i>(resigned 6 June 2015)</i>
Ms Gillian Rolton	
Mrs Judy Fasher	<i>(appointed 6 June 2015)</i>
Mr Mark Hopkinson	<i>(appointed 14 February 2015)</i>
Mr David Lindh	<i>(appointed 20 August 2015)</i>

#### Principal Activities

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 International Equestrian Federation (FEI), the Australian Sports Commission and the Australian Olympic Committee.

#### Results and Review of Operations

The deficit reported by the company during the year was \$124,682 (2014: \$101,687 deficit).

#### Short Term Objectives

- Implementation of Equestrian Australia (EA) IT System
- Implementation of a Commercialisation Strategy that includes the development of a number of EA Marquee Events
- Ensure that Medal Targets are achieved at the 2016 Rio Olympic Games being a medal in an Olympic Discipline's and a medal in the discipline of Para Dressage

#### Long Term Objectives

- Ensure membership growth by end of FY 17 of 23%
- Ensure that by the end of FY 17 15,000 participants have proceeded through the Pony Club and Equestrian Australia program Ready Set Trot
- Ensure that there is a significant increase in national and international exposure of our Marquee Events which leads to increased financial viability of our events
- Ensure that the junior pathways in equestrian sport is linked and operating as a feeder to competitive membership of Equestrian Australia

#### Strategic Priorities

To achieve its short-term and long-term objectives, the company has adopted the following strategic priorities:

- Create a national, contemporary approach to membership which is attractive to clubs, spectators, supporters, fans and other equestrian groups
- Stream live feeds of equestrian sporting events and results
- Develop a fully integrated National High Performance Pathway from talent identification through to elite athlete
- Introduce equestrian as a curriculum option to all Australian schools
- Package and promote Equestrian Australia's offering to raise awareness of the sport amongst corporates, primary industry and the general public
- Develop a nationally synchronised multi-sport annual calendar of events which feature an iconic event
- Propose hybrid versions of the sport to grow the spectator and participant base

#### After Balance Date Events

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

#### Future Developments

Likely developments in the operations of the company and the expected results of those operations in future financial years have not been included in this report as the inclusion of such information is likely to result in unreasonable prejudice to the company.

## EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

### DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued)

#### Information on Directors

<b>Mr Mark Arthur</b>	<b>Director</b>
Qualifications	Bachelor of Economics, Chartered Accountant
Experience	Ceased 11 October 2014. Re-appointed Director 11 April 2015.
Special Responsibilities	Finance, Audit and Risk Committee
<b>Ms Melissa Cannon</b>	<b>Director</b>
Qualification	Bachelor of Science with a double major in Pharmacology & Physiology
Experience	Appointed Director 13 October 2012. Resigned 1 May 2015
Special Responsibilities	Finance, Audit and Risk Committee
<b>Ms Liza Carver</b>	<b>Director</b>
Qualifications	Bachelor of Economics, Bachelor of Law & Masters of Law
Experience	Appointed Director 13 October 2012.
Special Responsibilities	Remuneration Committee
<b>Mr Nick Crowe</b>	<b>Director</b>
Qualifications	IT Specialist
Experience	Appointed Director 30 January 2012. Resigned 2 December 2014.
<b>Mr Des Hughes</b>	<b>Director</b>
Qualifications	FEI Qualified - 3/4 Star Eventing Technical Delegate
Experience	Appointed Director 13 October 2012. Resigned 6 June 2015.
Special Responsibilities	ICDF Committee
<b>Ms Wendy Hunt</b>	<b>Director</b>
Qualifications	Former Chair of Equestrian South Australia/National Level Judge
Experience	Appointed Director 13 October 2012. Resigned 6 June 2015.
Special Responsibilities	ICDF Committee
<b>Dr Warwick Vale</b>	<b>Director / Chair</b>
Qualifications	BSc BVMS (Hons II)
Experience	Appointed Director 30 January 2012, Resigned 6 June 2015 Appointed Chair 8 April 2013 to 6 June 2015.
Special Responsibilities	Remuneration, ICDF and the Finance, Audit and Risk Committees
<b>Ms Gillian Rolton</b>	<b>Director</b>
Qualifications	Olympian, Diploma of Teaching in Science and Physical Education
Experience	Appointed Athlete Director 9 May 2013, appointed Board Director 11 October 2014
Special Responsibilities	Remuneration Committee
<b>Ms Judy Fasher</b>	<b>Director/Chair</b>
Qualifications	Journalist and Media Trainer
Experience	Appointed Director 6 June 2015
Special Responsibilities	Chairperson appointed 6 June 2015
<b>Mr Mark Hopkinson</b>	<b>Director</b>
Qualifications	Bachelor of Law, Bachelor of Commerce
Experience	Appointed Director 14 February 2015
Special Responsibilities	ICDF Committee
<b>Mr David Lindh</b>	<b>Director</b>
Qualifications	Bachelor of Law
Experience	Appointed Director 20 August 2015
Special Responsibilities	Finance, Audit and Risk Committee

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED  
 ABN 19 077 455 755  
 DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued)

Meetings of Directors

During the financial year, 9 meetings of directors were held. Attendances by each director were as follows:

	Directors' Meetings held during term of office in financial year		Committee Meetings		
	# held	# attended	ICDF Committee	Finance, Audit & Risk Committee	Remuneration Committee
Mr M Arthur	5	5	1*		
Ms M Cannon	7	7		1	
Ms L Carver	9	8			1
Mr N Crowe	4	1			
Mr D Hughes	9	8	1	1	
Ms W Hunt	9	9	1		
Dr W Vale	9	9	1	1	1
Ms G Rolton	9	7			1
Miss Judy Fasher	1	1			
Mr Mark Hopkinson	3	3	1*		
Mr David Lindh	Appointed 20 August 2015				

\* ICDF Committee meeting held in July 2015 to discuss FY15 ICDF Funding Applications.

The company is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 and is a company limited by Guarantee. If the company is wound up, the Constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$1 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the entity. At 30 June 2015, the total amount that members of the company are liable to contribute if the company is wound up is \$6 (2014: \$6)

Indemnification of Officers

The company paid a premium during the year in relation to an Association Liability policy which indemnifies the Directors and Officers of the company for losses which the Director or Office may become liable to pay on account of any claim made against the Director or Officer during the period of the policy for a wrongful act committed during the period of the policy. The Directors have not included details of the nature of the liabilities covered nor the amount of the premium paid as such disclosure is prohibited under the terms of the contract.

Auditor's Independence Declaration

The auditor's independence declaration for the year ended 30 June 2015 has been received and can be found on page 4.

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



Mrs Judy Fasher  
 Chair

Dated this 24th day of September 2015



Mr Mark Arthur  
 Director



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EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED  
 ABN 19 077 455 755

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION  
 TO THE DIRECTORS OF EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

In relation to the independent audit for the year ended 30 June 2015, to the best of my knowledge and belief there have been:

- (i) No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*; and
- (ii) No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct.



Rod Shanley  
 Partner

PITCHER PARTNERS  
 Sydney

24 September 2015

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>Revenue</b>			
Revenue	5	5,955,615	5,754,263
Other revenue		403,704	275,104
		<u>6,359,319</u>	<u>6,029,367</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Amortisation	6	15,455	49,347
Impairment Loss	6	-	213,858
Depreciation expenses	6	64,057	58,282
Employee benefits expense	6	1,778,872	1,630,211
High performance program expenses		2,052,900	1,697,692
Equine operating expenses		-	48,100
Insurance premiums & related expenses		910,169	830,454
ICDF funding		173,091	139,085
Finance and bank fees		21,098	28,172
Office and IT Cost		152,276	167,632
Professional Fees		364,047	145,805
Event and Promotion Expenses		180,767	254,740
Travel, Board and Committee Expenses		185,018	163,018
FEI Expenses		208,669	167,816
Other expenses		377,582	536,842
		<u>6,484,001</u>	<u>6,131,054</u>
<b>Net current year surplus/(deficit)</b>		<u>(124,682)</u>	<u>(101,687)</u>
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>			
<i>Items that will not be reclassified to profit and loss</i>			
Revaluation of property, plant and equipment, net of tax	13 (a)	-	493,369
<b>Other comprehensive income for the year</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>493,369</u>
<b>Total Comprehensive Income</b>		<u>(124,682)</u>	<u>391,682</u>

The accompanying notes on pages 54-62 form an integral part of these accounts

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
AS AT 30 JUNE 2015

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	8	594,231	356,829
Receivables	9	125,356	82,615
Inventories	10	38,096	5,465
Other assets	11	106,829	143,688
		<u>864,512</u>	<u>588,597</u>
Assets and liabilities classified as held for sale	12	<u>75,138</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<u>939,650</u>	<u>588,597</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	13	1,124,774	1,158,849
Intangible assets	14	154,525	90,744
Financial Asset	15	-	1
<b>Total Non-current Assets</b>		<u>1,279,299</u>	<u>1,249,594</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>2,218,949</u>	<u>1,838,191</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Payables	16	252,357	349,943
Borrowings	17	178	106
Provisions	18	102,001	126,309
Other Liabilities	19	673,318	50,687
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<u>1,027,854</u>	<u>527,045</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Provisions	18	18,078	13,447
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<u>18,078</u>	<u>13,447</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>1,045,932</u>	<u>540,492</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>1,173,017</u>	<u>1,297,699</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Reserves	20	493,369	493,369
Retained surplus	21	679,648	804,330
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<u>1,173,017</u>	<u>1,297,699</u>

The accompanying notes on pages 54-62 form an integral part of these accounts

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	Reserves	Retained surplus	Total Equity
	\$	\$	\$
<b>Balance as at 1 July 2013</b>	-	906,017	906,017
Surplus for the year attributable to members of the entity	-	( 101,687 )	( 101,687 )
Revaluation of property, plant and equipment, net of tax	493,369		493,369
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>493,369</b>	<b>( 101,687 )</b>	<b>391,682</b>
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2014</b>	493,369	804,330	1,297,699
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year attributable to members of the entity	-	( 124,682 )	( 124,682 )
Revaluation of property, plant and equipment, net of tax	-		-
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(124,682)</b>	<b>(124,682)</b>
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2015</b>	<b>493,369</b>	<b>679,648</b>	<b>1,173,017</b>

The accompanying notes on pages 54-62 form an integral part of these accounts

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Government grants received		3,586,825	3,284,147
Other receipts in the course of operations		3,999,769	2,982,539
Payments to suppliers and employees		(7,256,624)	(6,371,118)
Interest received		16,579	29,549
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities</b>	22 (ii)	<b>346,549</b>	<b>(74,883)</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		-	-
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(109,219)	(66,411)
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities</b>		<b>(109,219)</b>	<b>(66,411)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Proceeds from borrowings	17	72	106
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) financing activities</b>		<b>72</b>	<b>106</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in cash held</b>		<b>237,402</b>	<b>(141,188)</b>
Cash on hand at beginning of the financial year		356,829	498,017
<b>Cash at end of the financial year</b>	22 (i)	<b>594,231</b>	<b>356,829</b>

The accompanying notes on pages 54-62 form an integral part of these accounts

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial report is a general purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards Reduced Disclosure Requirements, Interpretations and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the Corporations Act 2001.

The financial report was approved by the directors as at the date of the directors' report.

The financial report is for the entity Equestrian Australia Limited as an individual entity. Equestrian Australia Limited is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Equestrian Australia Limited is a not for profit entity for the purpose of preparing the financial statements.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the company in the preparation and presentation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

**(a) Basis of preparation of the financial report**

*Historical Cost Convention*

The financial report has been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by revaluations to fair value for certain classes of assets as described in the accounting policies.

**(b) Revenue**

Revenue from sale of goods is recognised when the significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods have passed to the buyer and the costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the transaction can be measured reliably. Risks and rewards of ownership are considered passed to the buyer at the time of delivery of the goods to the customer.

Branch levies and related contributions revenue is recognised in the period in which the service is provided

Sponsorships revenue is recognised as and when received.

Revenue from organising and hosting events is recognised in the period in which the events are held.

Interest revenue is recognised when it becomes receivable on a proportional basis taking in to account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

**(c) Foreign currency translations and balances**

*Functional and presentation currency*

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

*Transactions and Balances*

Foreign currency monetary items that are outstanding at the reporting date (other than monetary items arising under foreign currency contracts where the exchange rate for that monetary item is fixed in the contract) are translated using the spot rate at the end of the financial year.

Except for certain foreign currency hedges, all resulting exchange differences arising on settlement or re statement are recognised as revenues and expenses for the financial year.

**(d) Contributions, Government Grants and Donations**

A non reciprocal contribution or grant is recognised when the entity obtains control of the contribution or grant and it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the entity, and the amount of the contribution or grant can be measured reliably.

If conditions attached to the contribution or grant that must be satisfied before the entity is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of contribution or income is deferred until those conditions are met.

A non reciprocal donation is recognised when the right to receive a donation has been established.

When the entity receives grants but is obliged to give directly approximately equal value to the contributor, recognition of grant income will be deferred until the delivery of service.

**(e) Income tax**

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

**(f) Inventories**

Inventories held for sale are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

**(g) Financial instruments**

*Classification*

The company classifies its financial assets into the following categories: financial assets at fair value through profit and loss, loans and receivables, held to maturity investments, and available for sale financial assets. The classification depends on the purpose for which the instruments were acquired. Management determines the classification of its financial instruments at initial recognition. The organisation does not hold derivative financial instruments.

*Financial instruments*

Financial instruments consist of investments in equity and debt securities, trade and other receivables, cash and cash equivalents, loans and borrowings, and trade and other payables.

Financial instruments are initially recognised at fair value, plus directly attributable transaction costs (if any), except for instruments recorded at fair value through profit and loss. After initial recognition, financial instruments are measured as described below.

*Loans and receivables*

Loans and receivables are measured at fair value at inception and subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

*Available-for-sale*

Available for sale financial assets include any financial assets not included in the above categories and are measured at fair value. Unrealised gains and losses arising from changes in fair value are taken directly to equity. The cumulative gain or loss is held in equity until the financial asset is de recognised, at which time the cumulative gain or loss held in equity is recognised in profit and loss.

*Donated financial assets*

Financial assets donated to the group are recognised at fair value at the date the group obtains the control of the assets.

*Financial liabilities*

Financial liabilities include trade payables, other creditors and loans from third parties including inter company balances and loans from or other amounts due to director related entities.

Non derivative financial liabilities are recognised at amortised cost, comprising original debt less principal payments and amortisation.

Financial liabilities are classified as current liabilities unless the group has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting period.

**(h) Property, Plant and Equipment**

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

*Property*

Freehold land and buildings are measured at fair value. At each balance date the carrying amount of each asset is reviewed to ensure that it does not differ materially from the asset's fair value at reporting date. Where necessary, the asset is revalued to reflect its fair value.

Increases in the carrying amounts arising on revaluation of land and buildings are recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity under the heading of revaluation surplus. To the extent that the increase reverses a decrease of the same class of asset previously recognised in profit or loss, the increase is recognised in profit or loss. Decreases that offset previous increases of the same class of asset are recognised in other comprehensive income under the heading of revaluation surplus; all other decreases are charged to profit and loss.

*Plant and equipment*

Plant and equipment is measured on the cost basis.

**Depreciation and amortisation**

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets is depreciated over their estimated useful lives commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Land and the land component of any class of fixed asset is not depreciated.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Class of Fixed Asset	Depreciation Rates	Depreciation basis
Buildings	2.5%	Straight line
Computer and office equipment	20% to 40%	Straight line
Veterinary Equipment	20%	Straight line

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(i) Intangibles

Other intangibles

Other intangibles acquired in a business combination are initially recognised at fair value at the acquisition date. Such intangibles are amortised over their estimated useful lives and are carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and any impairment losses.

Other intangible assets other than those acquired in a business combination are initially recorded at cost. Other Intangible assets are amortised on a straight line basis as follows:

Class of Asset	Amortisation Rates
Software	10%
Website Development	20%
RST Development Costs	33%

The balances are reviewed annually and amounts written off to the extent the realisable future benefits are considered to be no longer probable.

(j) Impairment of Assets

Assets with an indefinite useful life are not amortised but are tested annually for impairment in accordance with AASB 136. Assets subject to annual depreciation or amortisation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or circumstances arise that indicate that the carrying amount of the asset may be impaired.

An impairment loss is recognised where the carrying amount of the asset exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount of an asset is defined as the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows which will be received from the assets employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have been discounted to present values in determining recoverable amounts.

(k) Leases

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

Lease incentives received under operating leases are recognised as a liability and amortised on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease term.

(l) Employee Benefits

(i) Short-term employee benefit obligations

Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and any other employee benefits expected to be settled within twelve months of the reporting date are measured at their nominal amounts based on remuneration rates which are expected to be paid when the liability is settled. The expected cost of short term employee benefits in the form of compensated absences such as annual leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. All other short term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables.

(ii) Long-term employee benefit obligations

Liabilities arising in respect of long service leave and annual leave which is not expected to be settled within twelve months of the reporting date are measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflow to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date.

Employee benefit obligations are presented as current liabilities in the balance sheet if the entity does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, regardless of when the actual settlement is expected to occur.

Contributions made by the organisation to Superannuation funds are charged as expenses when incurred.

(m) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the company has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an out flow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

(n) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

(o) Comparatives

Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified and repositioned for consistency with current year disclosures.

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

2 CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

Certain accounting estimates include assumptions concerning the future, which, by definition, will seldom represent actual results. Estimates and assumptions based on future events have a significant inherent risk, and where future events are not as anticipated there could be a material impact on the carrying amounts of the assets and liabilities discussed below.

(a) Annual leave and long service leave

Net present value calculations are used to estimate the annual leave and long service leave provisions

3 ACCOUNTING STANDARDS AND INTERPRETATIONS ISSUED BUT NOT OPERATIVE AT JUNE 2015

There is not expected to be any significant impact on the Company's financial report as the initial application of Australian Accounting Standards issued at reporting date but not yet effective.

4 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT

The organisation is exposed to a variety of financial risks comprising:

- (a) Government funding risk
- (b) Interest rate risk
- (c) Credit risk
- (d) Liquidity risk

The board of directors have overall responsibility for identifying and managing operational and financial risks. These risks are managed by the board and / or committees consented by the board.

The Company's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks, local money market instruments, accounts receivable and payable, and leases.

(a) Government funding risk

The organisation is dependent on federal government funding to operate many of its services. Government funding contributed 51% (2014: 52%) of the organisation's revenues in the 2015 financial year. The risk of loss of these funding streams is considered to be material to the organisation. This risk is managed through a range of complementary strategies but cannot be totally mitigated. The major risk management strategies are:

- (i) The Directors and management of EA pursue diversification of the Company's income stream through implementing projects such as Ready Set, Trot, EA Online and seeking new sponsorship partners in the future.
- (ii) With the use of a cash forecast tool, EA have modelled if the Government cuts the funding and have a broad plan of action should this occur.

(b) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate as a result of changes in market interest rates. Interest rate risk is minimal as the organisation has limited borrowings. Subject to consideration of liquidity risk, cash is held in fixed interest rate accounts to maximise returns.

(c) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation.

The maximum exposure to credit risk, excluding the value of any collateral or other security, at balance date of recognised financial assets is the carrying amount of those assets, net of any provisions for impairment of those assets, as disclosed in statement of financial position and notes to financial statements.

The organisation does not have any material credit risk exposure to any single debtor or group of debtors under financial instruments entered into by the organisation.

The organisation does not have any material credit risk in respect of cash and cash equivalents as these are held with Authorised Deposit-taking Institutions (ADIs) regulated by APRA.

(d) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that an entity will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities.

The organisation manages liquidity risk by monitoring forecast cash flows and ensuring that adequate cash and cash equivalents and / or unutilised borrowing facilities are maintained.

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

4 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)

The carrying amounts for each category of financial instruments measured in accordance with the accounting policies to these financial statements, are as follows

Financial assets	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
Cash and cash equivalents	8	594,231	356,829
Loans and receivables	9	125,356	82,615
Investment in subsidiaries	15	-	1
<b>Total financial assets</b>		<b>719,587</b>	<b>439,445</b>
<b>Financial liabilities</b>			
Financial liabilities at amortised cost:			
Trade and other payables	16	252,357	349,943
Borrowings	17	178	106
<b>Total Financial Liabilities</b>		<b>252,535</b>	<b>350,049</b>

Fair Values

(i) For listed available-for-sale financial assets and financial assets at fair value through profit or loss, the fair values have been based on closing quoted bid prices at the end of the reporting period. In determining the fair values of the unlisted available-for-sale financial assets, the directors have used inputs that are observable either directly (as prices) or indirectly (derived from prices)

(ii) Fair Values of held-to maturity investments are based on quoted market prices at the end of the reporting period

5 REVENUE

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Revenue from grant funding	3,152,550	3,120,589
Branch levies and related contributions	546,877	546,843
ICDF Funding	181,828	139,086
Education and Participation	363,887	512,969
Insurance premiums and related revenue	1,200,955	1,094,229
WEG 2022 Feasibility Income	327,555	-
Interest revenue	16,579	29,549
Sponsorship	165,384	310,998
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>5,955,615</b>	<b>5,754,262</b>

6 OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Cost of Equestrian Goods	26,138	43,043
Amortisation	15,455	49,347
Impairment Loss	-	213,858
Depreciation	64,057	58,282
Provision for doubtful debts	-	(1,116)
Employee benefits	1,778,872	1,630,211
Audit Fees	20,340	28,131
	<b>1,904,862</b>	<b>2,021,756</b>

(i) During the FY14 year salaries and oncost of \$84,474 and \$110,115 of admin overheads relate to running the insurance program.

(ii) During the FY15 year salaries and oncost of \$106,278 and \$129,888 of admin overheads relate to running the insurance program.

7 KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL COMPENSATION

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

Key management personnel compensation	456,230	407,327
	<b>456,230</b>	<b>407,327</b>

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>8 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>		
Cash at bank	594,211	356,629
Cash on hand	20	200
	<b>594,231</b>	<b>356,829</b>
<b>9 TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES</b>		
Trade Debtors	125,356	82,035
Less: provision for impairment loss	-	-
	<b>125,356</b>	<b>82,035</b>
<b>Other receivables</b>		
Sundry debtors	-	580
	<b>125,356</b>	<b>82,615</b>
<b>10 INVENTORIES</b>		
Inventories - at cost	<b>38,096</b>	<b>5,465</b>
<b>11 OTHER ASSETS</b>		
Prepayments	106,829	143,688
	<b>106,829</b>	<b>143,688</b>
<b>12 ASSETS AND LIABILITIES CLASSIFIED AS HELD FOR SALE</b>		

Ceasy was a horse purchased in the financial year ending 30 June 2015 and is held as an Asset available for sale. Equestrian Australia, under a mandate to pursue high performance outcomes for para-equestrian, is facilitating a syndicate which will be formed in the year ending 30 June 2016.

Carrying amounts of assets and liabilities:

CEASY Horse	75,318	-
	<b>75,318</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>13 PROPERTY, PLANT &amp; EQUIPMENT</b>		
Building - at fair value	1,100,000	1,100,000
Less accumulated depreciation	(39,386)	(5,626)
	<b>1,060,614</b>	<b>1,094,374</b>
Building partitioning - at cost	106,531	106,531
Less accumulated depreciation	(82,024)	(71,371)
	<b>24,507</b>	<b>35,160</b>
Computer and office equipment - at cost	92,924	79,994
Less accumulated depreciation	(75,603)	(63,135)
	<b>17,321</b>	<b>16,859</b>
Veterinary equipment - at cost	39,033	21,980
Less accumulated depreciation	(16,701)	(9,525)
	<b>22,332</b>	<b>12,455</b>
	<b>1,124,774</b>	<b>1,158,849</b>

(a) Details for measurement of revalued amounts

In May 2014 an independent assessment of market value for existing use was obtained for all land and buildings held at 14 May 2014. This valuation was completed by licensed valuers Metroval. The valuation at 14 May 2014 for all land and buildings held at the time was \$1,100,000. The fair value based on this valuation has been reflected in the financial statements.

(b) Reconciliations

Reconciliation of the carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the current financial year.

	Building	Building partitioning	Computer and office equipment	Veterinary equipment	Total
Opening carrying amount	1,094,374	35,160	16,859	12,455	1,158,848
Additions	-	-	12,930	17,053	29,983
Revaluation of fair value of building	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation Expense	(33,760)	(10,653)	(12,468)	(7,176)	(64,057)
<b>Closing Carrying amount</b>	<b>1,060,614</b>	<b>24,507</b>	<b>17,321</b>	<b>22,332</b>	<b>1,124,774</b>

(c) Property, plant and equipment pledged as security

The company has bank facilities secured by a first registered mortgage over certain freehold land and buildings of the company and by a first registered equitable mortgage over all of the company's assets and undertakings. Refer to Note 17 for details of the facilities.

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

14 INTANGIBLE ASSETS	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Software - at cost	79,210	79,210
Less accumulated amortisation	(13,971)	(5,366)
	<u>65,240</u>	<u>73,844</u>
Website Development - at cost	85,600	16,900
Less accumulated amortisation	(6,851)	-
	<u>78,749</u>	<u>16,900</u>
RST Development - at cost	10,536	-
Less accumulated amortisation	-	-
	<u>10,536</u>	<u>-</u>
ICT asset (Eqnect)	-	415,800
Cost of Asset less impairment	-	415,800
Less loss on Disposal of Asset	-	(213,858)
Less accumulated amortisation & impairment	-	(201,942)
	<u>154,525</u>	<u>90,744</u>

(a) Reconciliations

	Software	Website Development	RST Development	Total
Opening carrying amount	73,844	16,900	-	90,744
Additions	-	68,700	10,536	79,236
Amortisation Expense	(8,604)	(6,851)	-	(15,455)
Less loss on Disposal of Asset	-	-	-	-
<b>Closing Carrying amount</b>	<b>65,240</b>	<b>78,749</b>	<b>10,536</b>	<b>154,525</b>

(b) Impairment loss

Impairment losses in relation to intangible assets are included within Amortisation and impairment loss expenses in the statement of comprehensive income.

15 FINANCIAL ASSET

Available-for-sale financial assets

At Cost

Shares in controlled entities	-	1
	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>

16 TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

Current

Trade creditors	126,503	177,433
Accruals	36,583	135,465
Employee super	13,909	8,745
GST, FBT and PAYG payable	75,362	18,607
Other creditors	-	9,693
	<u>252,357</u>	<u>349,943</u>

17 BORROWINGS

Current

Secured

Bank loan	178	106
	<u>178</u>	<u>106</u>

Buildings recorded in these accounts with a carrying value of \$1,060,614 are provided as a registered charge (bank mortgage). The loan and facility has seven years remaining expiring in 2022.

Bank and financing arrangements

The company has access to the following:

Term loan facility (facility limit)	295,999	323,884
Credit card facility	40,000	40,000
	<u>335,999</u>	<u>363,884</u>

Facilities not utilised at balance date:

Term loan facility (redraw available)	295,821	323,778
Credit card facility	24,007	38,291
	<u>319,828</u>	<u>362,069</u>

(a) Terms and conditions and assets pledging as security relating to the above financial instruments" with the following note disclosure

The company has a bank loan secured by a first registered mortgage over a certain freehold land and buildings of the company and by a first registered equitable mortgage over all the company's assets and undertakings

Autopay facilities

An autopay facility is maintained for Electronic Funds transfer purposes.

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

18 PROVISIONS	2015	2014
	\$	\$
<b>Current</b>		
Employee benefits	(a) <u>102,001</u>	<u>126,309</u>
<b>Non Current</b>		
Employee benefits	(a) <u>18,078</u>	<u>13,447</u>
<b>(a) Aggregate employee benefits liability</b>	<u>120,079</u>	<u>139,756</u>
<b>(b) Reconciliations</b>		
	Employee Benefits	Total
<b>Opening balance as at 1 July 2014</b>	139,756	139,756
Additional provisions raised during year	144,476	144,476
Amounts Used	(164,153)	(164,153)
<b>Balance at 30 June 2015</b>	<u>120,079</u>	<u>120,079</u>

19 OTHER LIABILITIES

Current

Grant monies carried over	135,000	-
Other revenue received in advance	507,115	10,402
ICDF Revenue Carried Over	31,203	40,285
	<u>673,318</u>	<u>50,687</u>

20 RESERVES

Asset Revaluation Reserve	<u>493,369</u>	<u>493,369</u>
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The asset revaluation reserve is used to record increments and decrements on the revaluation of non-current assets.

21 RETAINED SURPLUS

Retained surplus/(deficit)		
Balance at 1 July	804,330	906,017
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(124,682)	(101,687)
Balance as at 30 June	<u>679,648</u>	<u>804,330</u>

22 CASH FLOW INFORMATION

(i) Reconciliation of cash

For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash on hand, cash at bank and short term deposits, net of any outstanding bank overdrafts.

Cash at bank, on deposit and on hand	<u>594,231</u>	<u>356,829</u>
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(ii) Reconciliation of cash flow from operations with surplus/ (deficit) for the year

Surplus/ (deficit) for the year	(124,682)	(101,687)
<i>Adjustments and non cash items:</i>		
Depreciation	64,057	58,282
Amortisation	15,455	49,347
Intangible Asset Impairment	-	213,858
Doubtful debts expense	-	(1,115)
Net Gain on disposal of property	-	-
Net cash provided before changes in assets and liabilities	<u>(45,170)</u>	<u>218,685</u>

Changes in assets and liabilities during the financial year

(Increase) / decrease in receivables	(42,741)	68,889
(Increase) / decrease in other assets	(38,279)	(121,095)
(Increase) / decrease in inventories on hand	(32,631)	781
(Decrease) / increase in payables	(97,586)	(58,446)
(Decrease) / increase in employee provisions	(19,676)	24,912
(Decrease) / increase in other liabilities	622,632	(208,609)
Cash flows from operating activities	<u>346,549</u>	<u>(74,883)</u>

**EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED**  
**ABN 19 077 455 755**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015**

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
<b>23 CAPITAL AND LEASING COMMITMENTS</b>		
Non-cancellable operating leases contracted for but not capitalised in the financial statements:		
- payable not later than 1 year	15,298	15,298
- payable later than 1 year but no later than 5 years	40,795	56,094
	56,093	71,392

Lease commitments comprise payments to be made in relation to an operating lease for a photocopier acquired on 20 March 2014.

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Website build committed, cost payable not later than 1 year	33,075	67,900
	33,075	67,900

**24 MEMBER'S GUARANTEE**

The Company is limited by guarantee. If the company is wound up, the Constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$1 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the company. At 30 June 2015 the number of members was 6 (2014: 6).

**25 ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY**

The company is dependent on grants received from the Australian Sports Commission, Australian Paralympic Committee and Australian Olympic Committee for the majority of its revenue used to fund its operations 2015: 51% (2014: 52%). At the date of this report the Directors have no reason to believe the Government will not continue to support the Company.

**26 COMPANY DETAILS**

The company was incorporated on 11 February 1997 under the Corporations Act 2001. The registered office and principal place of business of the company is at Unit 7, 11-21 Underwood Road, Homebush, NSW, 2140

On 23rd December 2008, the Company changed its name from The Equestrian Federation of Australia Limited to Equestrian Australia Limited.

**27 EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE**

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

**EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED**  
**ABN 19 077 455 755**  
**DIRECTORS' DECLARATION**

In accordance with a resolution of the directors of Equestrian Australia Limited, the directors of the company declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 5 to 17, are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 and:

- (a) comply with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements; and
- (b) give a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2015 and of the performance for the year ended on that date.

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

  
 .....  
**Mrs Judy Fasher**  
 Chair

  
 .....  
**Mr Mark Arthur**  
 Director

Dated this 24th day of September, 2015.

**EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED**  
**ABN 19 077 455 755**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED**

**EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED**  
**ABN 19 077 455 755**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED**

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Equestrian Australia Limited, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2015, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the directors' declaration.

*Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Report*

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

*Auditor's Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the company's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

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

*Independence*

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

*Opinion*

In our opinion, the financial report of Equestrian Australia Limited is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2015 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.



Rod Shanley

Partner



PITCHER PARTNERS

Sydney

25 September 2015

Photos which appear throughout this report remain the property of the following photographers. EA extends its thanks to these individuals for their ongoing support: Guillaume Beguin (18); Stefano Grasso/GCT (13); Trevor Holt/FEI (29); Richard Juilliant/FEI (cover, 6, 37); Amanda Kettlewell (27); John Lechner (2-3, 4, 5-6, 21, 25, 35, 66-67); Lisa Sultana (7); Roland Thunholm/FEI (6) Franz Venhaus (6); Julie Wilson (6-7, 10, 15, 17, 22, 31, 33, 38-39, 40-41, 44-45)

#### EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA PERSONNEL – as at 30 June 2015

Grant Baldock – CEO  
Joanne Lee (commenced 2/15) – Executive Assistant  
Zoe Mackenzie (commenced 8/14) – Administration Assistant

#### COMMERCIAL AND COMMUNICATIONS

Lauren Ryan – General Manager, Partnerships & Communications  
Michelle Cook – Communications Manager  
Felicity Dubois – Sponsorship and Events Coordinator  
Amelie Patrux (commenced 3/15) – Digital Media Coordinator

#### PARTICIPATION

Holly Davis (commenced 11/14) – Participation and Development Coordinator  
Alex Poulton (commenced 12/14) – Development Officer (Vic located)  
Amanda Vidas (commenced 4/15) – Development Officer (NSW located)

#### HIGH PERFORMANCE

Chris Webb – High Performance Manager  
Prue Barrett – National Performance Director, Eventing  
Julia Battams – National Performance Director, Dressage and Para-Equestrian  
Annie Lever – National Performance Director, Jumping  
Michelle Graham – Sport Consultant, Eventing (part-time)  
Sara Latham – Sport Consultant, Jumping and Para-Equestrian  
Sue Hartog – Sport Consultant, Dressage and FEI disciplines  
Vic Kahn – Sports Science Sports Medicine Manager

#### EDUCATION

Gina Haddad (commenced 8/14) – Education Manager  
Kathryn O'Donnell – Coaching Coordinator  
Di Saunders – Officials Coordinator (part-time)

#### FINANCE

Daniel Griffiths – Finance Manager





# EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA

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National Office

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