



EQUESTRIAN  
AUSTRALIA

2019 – 2020

**ANNUAL REPORT**

#LoveOfTheHorse





*South Australian rider Stella Harbison took out the FEI 160km endurance ride at Stirling's Crossing Equestrian Complex in Imbil, Queensland in the EA Championships on Minton East Chauncer (Denise Keelan)*



# CONTENTS

Snapshots .....	2
Highlights .....	3
Acting CEO .....	4
Message from Sport Australia .....	6
Message from Paralympics Australia.....	7
Our Valued Partners.....	8
Thank You .....	9
High Performance .....	10
Health and Safety .....	12
Coaching .....	14
Dressage .....	16
Eventing .....	18
Jumping .....	20
Show Horse .....	21
Vaulting.....	22
Driving .....	23
Endurance .....	25
New South Wales .....	26
Queensland .....	28
Northern Territory.....	30
South Australia.....	32
Victoria .....	33
Western Australia .....	36
Honorary Life Members.....	38
Financial Report.....	39



Madeline Sinderberry and Giel winning 2019 Australian Young Rider Championship (Australian Jumping)

## ABOUT EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA

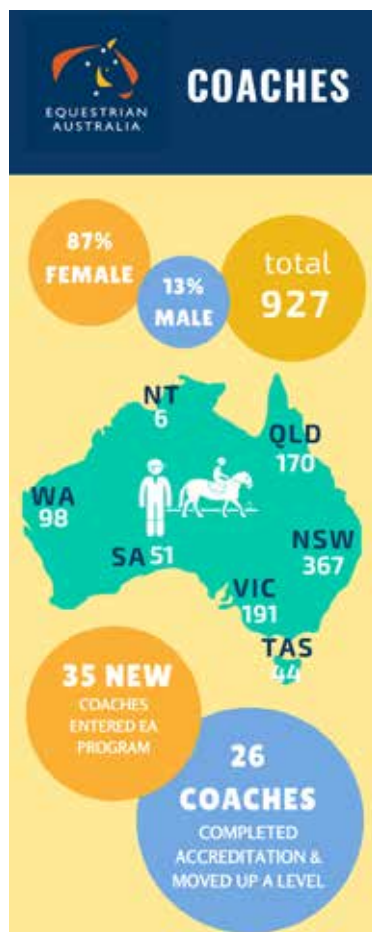
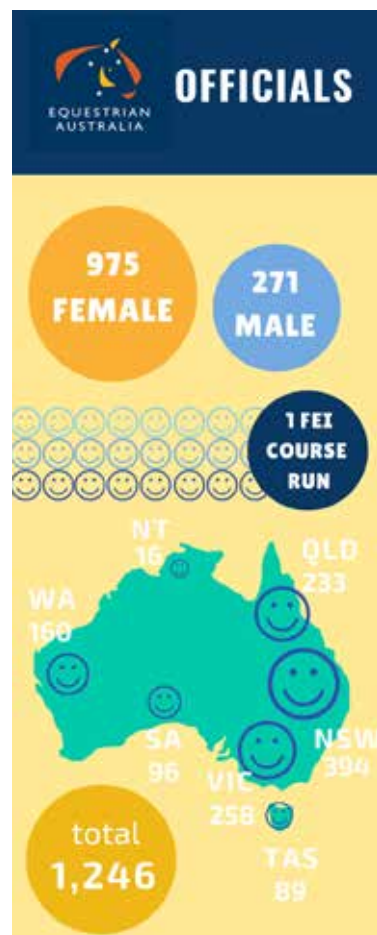
Equestrian Australia (EA) is the peak body for the administration of Equestrian Sport, Olympics and Paralympics in Australia. The commitment to success is encouraged at every level of the sport and is reflected in world-class results.

To date, Australian Equestrians have won 9 Gold, 4 Silver and 8 Bronze medals at the Olympic & Paralympic Games. Our athletes have achieved great victories at peak international Equestrian events and, as a result, Australia has earned the reputation as an elite Equestrian nation.

A big part of this success is the tireless commitment and excellence shown by our sport's administrators, coaches, officials, volunteers, owners and our athletes of all ages performing at all levels, as well as the importance placed on sports leadership and the welfare of horses.

Front Cover Image (Jess Kennedy Photography)

# SNAPSHOTS





EA has employed a **National Safety Manager**. The updating of EA National Safety Systems has begun and is ongoing, with Risk Management remaining a high priority.

Mary Hanna and her mare Calanta became the first Australian combination to score **above 80 percent** in a CDI Grand Prix Freestyle test, breaking the Australian record with an impressive 80.145%



Two coaching delegates, Tim Calkin and Simon Kale, represented EA at the **International Group for Equestrian Qualifications (IGEIQ) conference** held in Germany, December 2019. An international working group was formed with Simon appointed as Chair.

In 2019 our **Eventing Team claimed 3rd place** at the prestigious CHIO Aachen (GER) and 2nd at Boekelo (NED).



The EA Facebook page has surpassed **50,000 followers** and continues to grow.



EA currently have **three EA members on FEI Committees:**

- Mr Boyd Excel – FEI Driving Committee (2016-20)
- Dr Kirsten Neil – FEI Vet Committee (2017-21)
- Mr Geoff Sinclair – FEI Eventing Committee (2018-22)

At the beginning of 2020, the **Australian Jumping Team secured 3rd place** at the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center, Wellington (USA).



Our National Safety Manager represented and presented at the FEI's safety-orientated **'Eventing Risk Management Seminar and Forum'** held in Manchester-Aintree UK.

Boyd Excell yet again showed his dominance in the Driving world, claiming his **ninth FEI Driving World Cup title in 2020.**



Athletes in our Para-equestrian program produced a record-breaking Australian qualification team score and **securing Australia's place at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games** with the highest score in the Oceania region.

We have **three AUS officials appointed to officiate at the Tokyo 2020 Olympics and Paralympics:**

- Olympics: Mary Seefried (FEI Delegate Dressage) and Susie Hoevenaars (Member of Ground Jury)
- Paralympics is Sue Cunningham (Member Ground Jury, Para Equestrian).



# ACTING CEO



As the Acting CEO of Equestrian Australia (EA), I am pleased to present this report on behalf of EA and its staff.

While this report will touch on a few key events that occurred in the first half of FY20, as I have been Acting CEO since January 2020, the main focus will cover January-June 2020.

While many would describe the latter part of FY20 as one of the most challenging periods in recent memory for the equestrian community and likely all Australians, for EA, this started in January 2020 and is ongoing. While introducing material changes to our functionality will better position us for a positive future, it will require time to materialise. But importantly the seed has been sown and a new journey commenced.

## Additional Management Resources

The early period of FY20 saw the appointments of myself into the General Manager – Business Operations and Integrity and Sasha Ulasowski into the General Manager – Sport Operations positions.

These appointments added much needed management resources to support the CEO, Lucy Warhurst, and assist operational staff. The additional resources delivered optimism and an expectation of increased capacity and capability in the organisation amongst the operational staff.

These appointments advanced the successful recruitment of the National Safety Manager, which was one of the 31 recommendations arising from the Coroner's Inquest.

## Coroner's Inquest

After a thorough process, the NSW Deputy State Coroner Mr Derek Lee handed down 31 consolidated recommendations following the inquest into the tragic deaths of two young equestrians (Recommendations).

The Recommendations highlighted systemic issues in safety and risk in the sport of Eventing, and are designed to improve safety and risk management at all levels in the sport.

While the handing down of these Recommendations closes a chapter filled with anguish and grief for all of those connected with the tragedies, the release of the Recommendations places the accountability squarely in the hands of EA to ensure their implementation and a safer future for equestrian.

The foundations that Roger Kane laid in his role as National Safety Officer have been continued and expanded with the employment of Meredith Chapman as National Safety Manager, and the publishing of these Recommendations is only the beginning of what will be a continuous journey to improve safety and risk in all Disciplines and in every element of the sport.

Whilst EA is responsible for national safety and management of risk, everyone in the equestrian community is required to play a role to enable improved safety and risk management for the welfare of all participants and the continued enjoyment of the sport.

## Roles and responsibilities

At the beginning of 2020, EA experienced changes in its management structure which saw me appointed to the Acting CEO position whilst still being required to fulfill the GM responsibilities.

Following the departure of several staff – Karen Myers, Tracey Vardy and Lucy Warhurst – I was aware juggling multiple executive management roles was going to prove challenging but the wonderful EA staff have assisted by delivering improvements in the operations of the Sport team which included welcoming Di Saunders back into the team. We were able to introduce the following new operating procedures and systems that streamlined many processes:

- in the monthly CEO meetings, we introduced reports on national programs – coaching, officiating and safety, which were presented by the EA staff responsible for those areas;
- regularly brought together the National Discipline and Coaching Committee Chairs to meet with the Sport Operations team to discuss and to develop plans to resolve issues common to all Disciplines;
- developed a 2021 Workplan;
- improved the efficiency of our Business Unit meetings and resolved aged issues; and
- improved how we documented meeting outcomes from our many stakeholder groups to ensure all action items were reviewed, discussed, and completed.

Furthermore, we gradually introduced a change in our operational philosophy of:

- gathering and assessing all the facts of a matter prior to reacting, then agreeing on a clear direction following fulsome discussions;
- remaining focused on our core responsibilities despite the disruption and noise that surrounded us;
- expanding our consultation processes and seeking the input from the expertise that we had internally and in the sport network;
- making decisions based on evidence and sound business principles; and
- being clearer about our purpose, focusing on our people, and improving our product which improved our profitability.

From these and other initiatives, our capacity to deliver has improved despite reduced resources.

## COVID-19

Being a business that was largely built on government funding and membership, and given the timing of when COVID-19 first appeared, we were able to reflect and assess its potential impact without a need to immediately react.

However, it quickly became apparent that some immediate decisions were required. Working with the State Branch CEOs, we introduced weekly meetings to discuss the impact of the virus on the operations of each State and the sport overall and were able to determine that whilst all competition had to cease, there was still a desire to continue competition virtually.

Working with the State Branch CEOs, the National Discipline and Coaching Committee Chairs, enlisting the expertise of our National Safety Manager and the entire EA team, to support the sport, we created:

- A COVID-19 Information for Equestrian Sport page on our website;
- Virtual Equestrian Training Activities Guideline;
- FAQs for EA Coaches and Officials;
- Regular updates for the members on the situation;
- Incentives for members, coaches and officials to continue their membership of the sport which included discounts on administrative fees and insurance levies, deferred payment plans, payments by instalment and having evaluated the pressure on Officials to meet re-accreditation requirements, extending the re-accreditation period; and
- When the situation began to ease nationally, a Guideline to Resuming Equestrian Training and Competition Activities.

There were many other initiatives that we had to introduce to ensure that the business could withstand what could have easily been a complete shutdown. These included High Performance staff being sent on annual leave 25% of their time from mid-March, EA staff being stood down each Friday but on annual leave from May until further notice, staff switching to working flexibly between home and the office, assessing our eligibility and applying for any available government support packages and removing any discretionary expenditure in the business as long as it didn't impact the service to members.

## Entering Voluntary Administration

Based on a series of factors including the withdrawal of Federal Government funding and the operational and financial uncertainty caused by COVID-19, the EA Board placed EA into Voluntary Administration on 9 June 2020.

This decision was made with the intention of restructuring the business in a way which would ensure long term viability and regain the trust of stakeholders.

Being the first Olympic sport to enter Voluntary Administration following the withdrawal of Federal Government funding, and not knowing the implications of this decision, the team did what it knew best and that was to gather information about the situation, co-operate and support the Administrators throughout their process and continue to service equestrian members.

## Acknowledgements

EA acknowledges the loyal support and generous contribution from the Federal Government through Sport Australia and the Australian Institute of Sport, who have once again provided invaluable support and advice to our organisation over this period.

A special acknowledgement to our sponsors, who are outlined in this Report and continued to amicably work through some challenging past arrangements. We recognise the importance of the sport to your business. Thank-you for the support that you provide to the sport and we look forward to the day when we can re-engage with you.

A gracious thank you is extended to the FEI, EA's Board of Directors, National Discipline, Coaching and FARM committee members, and especially their respective Chairs, the High Performance Panel members, the medical consultative group members, the State Branch CEOs, the sport's Officials, Coaches and the many volunteers, for their continual commitment and dedication to the growth and development of the sport and the brand of equestrian in Australia.

To the EA staff, both operational and high performance, you deserve the most praise and thanks for the way that you have conducted and presented yourselves in extreme circumstances. Despite ongoing and continued disruption, you have continued to execute your roles and responsibilities and service the members for which you have been employed with little complaint. As a team, we were close before 2020, but the circumstances have only brought us closer. Thank you – it has been a pleasure to work with you and I am extremely proud of you all.

## Andrew Hamilton

Acting CEO

# MESSAGES OF SUPPORT

## A message from the Chair of the Australian Sports Commission – John Wylie AM



The start of 2020 has been an extraordinarily tough time for Australians, including all of us committed to sport.

The impact of bushfires and the COVID-19 pandemic have been confronting for communities, where we all know sport plays such an important role.

At the Australian Sports Commission (ASC), comprising Sport Australia and the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS), our energy is focused on supporting our partners through these times as we continue to advocate the importance of sport to our economy, productivity, health, wellbeing and culture.

We believe whole-heartedly that when we get through this challenging period, sport will play a prominent role in lifting the nation's energy and spirits again.

Times such as these can also make us more appreciative of what we do have and of the success we have achieved.

Success in sport is always hard fought. But it's a fight Australian high-performance sport welcomes as it continues to achieve success.

Last year the wonderful Ash Barty won the French Open and became our first female No1 tennis player since her idol, Evonne Goolagong Cawley, in 1976. Javelin-thrower Kelsey Lee-Barber set personal bests throughout the year and took the title at the IAAF World Championships in Doha. Dylan Alcott added three more Grand Slam quad wheelchair singles trophies to the cabinet and Sailing duo Matt Belcher and Will Ryan claimed the men's 470 World Championship. In the pool, our swimmers won seven gold medals at the FINA World Championships, placing Australia fourth on the medal tally.

This year our inspiring women's cricket team won a fifth World T20 title, drawing a record crowd of 86,174 to the MCG. How fitting that this historical moment fell on International Women's Day. These results are a testament to the tenacity and passion of athletes, coaches, sports staff and sporting organisations, which know we have all the skills and abilities to achieve success.

I am proud too of the service our organisation provides to Australian sport each year, on behalf of the Australian Government.

The ASC, through Sport Australia and the AIS, delivers 25,000 grants a year.

The AIS, funds and prepares our Olympic, Paralympic and Commonwealth Games to represent us at the highest level in international competition.

In the past few years, we have enhanced our support to athlete wellbeing and engagement, a move that is essential, especially in the current environment.

Sport Australia invests in sports participation programs, from our national Sporting Schools program for younger children through to the Better Ageing program aimed at Australians aged 65 and over.

So many of these grants fuel aspirations. Our Local Sporting Champions program supports 9,000 children a year to reach for their sporting dreams.





The dates have changed, but our commitment to sending the best Australian Team to the Tokyo Paralympic Games remains rock solid. Among our nation's best will be our amazing Para-equestrian Team, who have played such an important role in our success over the years.

After a year like no other, the high level of collaboration between Paralympics Australia and Equestrian Australia has never been more important. Our role is to not only help produce and facilitate the world's best Para-equestrian program, but also to open the door as widely as possible to participation at all levels. Working together is without doubt the best way to achieve both outcomes.

Together with the dedicated Para-equestrian staff from EA and other contributors to the high-performance program including the AIS, Paralympics Australia continues to work intently to ensure the athletes vying for selection for Tokyo are given the best possible access to classification opportunities, sports science and sports medicine, as well as coach support and cutting edge technology to assist in the daily training environment.

PA's Games Delivery team has been working with the EA team to prepare and deliver an optimum performance environment for our athletes in Tokyo and has continued to engage with team management and athletes to ensure up-to-date information about our plans is provided on a regular basis.

For those just beginning their journey in Para-equestrian, the Paralympics Australia Equipment Fund has supported projects to assist emerging pathway athletes and programs. This initiative addresses the significant barriers to participation with respect to adaptive and customised equipment required for participation in Para-sport and PA is proud to have given some up-and-coming Para-equestrians the opportunity to benefit from this targeted fund.

Over the next year we will face challenges which the Paralympic Movement has never had to face. But, I am confident that, through the collective dedication of Equestrian Australia and Paralympics Australia to the pursuit of excellence and maintaining and growing our programs to increase participation and open pathways, the future of Para-equestrian looks brighter than ever.

Yours Sincerely,

**Lynne Anderson**  
Chief Executive Officer  
Paralympics Australia

Address: Building A, 1 Herb Elliott Avenue, Sydney Olympic Park, NSW 2127, Australia  
Postal Address: PO Box 596, Sydney Markets, NSW 2129, Australia  
P +61 2 9704 0500 E [info@paralympic.org.au](mailto:info@paralympic.org.au) [paralympic.org.au](http://paralympic.org.au)

# OUR VALUED PARTNERS

We'd like to thank our valued partners:



# THANK YOU



Our gratitude is extended to our many coaches, officials and volunteers without whom our sport would not run. Your time, effort, energy and enthusiasm are the backbone of our equestrian endeavours. Each and every one of you is appreciated and valued.

*Gracias,  
thanks a million,  
ta, cheers,  
merci, thank you!*

## **The EA Team**

EA wishes to recognise and acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the following EA staff on the team over the past year:

Dr Alison Alcock  
Alison Kallinis  
Amy McGregor  
Andrew Hamilton  
Dr Cate Plummer  
Christine Armishaw  
Chris Webb  
Danielle O'Brien  
Di Saunders  
Jenny Merity  
Erin O'Neil  
Gina Haddad  
Karen Myers  
Kellie Hayes  
Dr Kirsten Neil  
Kirsty Pasto  
Lucy Warhurst  
Lynette Chow  
Meredith Chapman  
Michelle Graham  
Roger Kane  
Sasha Ulasowski  
Sashi Lata  
Stefanie Maraun  
Todd Hinde  
Tracey Vardy  
Will Enzinger



# HIGH PERFORMANCE



It was expected that by now our athletes would have contested the Games of the XXXII Olympiad and we would be in the process of evaluating our Tokyo 2020 campaign. We could not have predicted the very different set of circumstances we currently face as a result of COVID-19.

Our pursuit of podium success at the postponed Olympic and Paralympic Games remains our priority as we revise our logistical and operational plans to ensure all necessary measures are taken to protect the health and safety of our athletes, horses and support staff.

The EA High Performance Program (HP) continues to be guided by the High Performance Panel who have provided sound leadership, direction and stability throughout these unprecedented times.

We continue to welcome the ongoing support of the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) who remains the sole financial contributor to the HP Program. All funding received is allocated in accordance with AIS policy requirements and no EA membership funds are required in the delivery of our Program.



*Andrew Hoy and Bloom Des Hauts Crets Tokyo Test Event  
(Australian Equestrian Team)*

## Focus Drives Success

Despite the distractions presented by the global pandemic our athletes continue to focus on their Tokyo preparations and have consistently delivered solid results both domestically and internationally.

These results are in-line with our high performance strategies and projected outcomes, confirming we remain on track as we count down to Tokyo 2020.

We continue to identify key events as benchmark performance indicators for our athletes and over the past twelve months we have seen three Australian Teams ascend the podium at Nations Cup Competitions.

In 2019 our Eventing Team claimed 3rd place at the prestigious CHIO Aachen (GER) and 2nd at Boekelo (NED); and at the beginning of 2020 the Australian Jumping Team secured 3rd place at the Palm Beach International Equestrian Center, Wellington (USA).

Boyd Exell yet again showed his dominance conquering the Driving world over the past year delivering an unprecedented result at Aachen (GER) 2019 to win the Horsch's prize, before then going on to claim his ninth FEI Driving World Cup title in 2020.

In the dressage arena, Mary Hanna and her mare Calanta made history when they became the first Australian combination to score above 80 percent in a CDI Grand Prix Freestyle test, breaking the Australian record with an impressive 80.145% at Willinga Park in February.

## Unprecedented Engagement Through Innovation

In contrast to the unwelcome disruptions of COVID-19, the HP Program has seen unparalleled levels of engagement and athlete participation throughout 2019/2020. At a time when reinvention has never been more vital our Program has demonstrated versatility, innovation and adaptability, without compromising the quality of its delivery.

Building on the strong foundations already established, our world-class program has reshaped its learning platform, expanding our interactive virtual component and successfully closing the distance between our riders, coaches, and staff.

## 'Ready Steady Tokyo' Preparing for the Podium – Current Cycle

To ensure that all of our identified athletes are best placed in the lead up to team selection, we continue to monitor each combination carefully and support them with a detailed, individual performance plan.

Whilst Olympic medals are secured in the competition arena, it is our belief that they are delivered by the entire team. This has been a driving force behind our commitment to build a strong and empowered team culture that is commensurate with our medal delivery goals.

In August 2019 the Tokyo Olympic Games Organising Committee hosted the 'Ready Steady Tokyo' Test Event in Japan, providing National Federations with the opportunity to inspect the venue and test the facilities during a trial competition. Australia was one of only four nations to be represented in the competition placing us in the unique position of having a rider capable of physically analysing the event experience. In addition, the High Performance team and a contingent of identified athletes took part in the observation program, which provided invaluable insights to the logistics and operational workings of the Games.

An unmounted Eventing Camp was also held in the United Kingdom, concentrating on in-depth comprehensive planning over an intensive three-day program attended by both Australian and overseas-based athletes. The camp was immersive in nature and explicitly designed with a focus on high-performance tactics to inspire success and ensure our riders are well equipped moving into the selection period.

### **Tokyo Together in 2021 – Para-Equestrian**

This has been a monumental year for our domestic Para-equestrian program, seeing our athletes produce a record-breaking Australian qualification team score and securing Australia's place at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games with the highest score in the Oceania region.

The dedicated program, which has been shaped around a podium placing at Tokyo 2020, has seen the Para-equestrian community swell in Australia. With the support of the AIS, the number of international Para-dressage competitions held domestically has continued to grow, providing our home-based riders with an increased opportunity to gain their Paralympic qualifications.

Our Tokyo short listed athletes also attended a Tokyo Test Event held at the Sydney International Equestrian Centre earlier this year. The Test Event was shaped to replicate the logistical framework of a Paralympic Games and provided the opportunity for riders to experience these conditions under competition pressure within a dedicated team environment.



*Emma Booth and Mogelvangs Zidane Boneo Classic CPEDI*  
(Australian Equestrian Team)

### **Providing the Competitive Edge – Future Cycle**

While high performance sport continues to evolve, the expected medal delivery in Eventing remains a constant motivation in our succession planning and is cultivated within our Generation NEXT Program.

A key focus of the Program is to educate emerging talent on the requirements within the world of high performance sport and how best to navigate their way to future Olympic team selection.

This year the Generation NEXT Program has designed new initiatives to provide our athletes with greater access to world-renowned coaching sessions and mentoring opportunities, in addition to athlete well-being specialists and veterinary support.

### **A Bright Future for Equestrian**

The HP Program continues to move from strength to strength as we keep our sights firmly set on the Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games. The focus of our athletes, staff and support crew leave us with no doubt that we will face the Games next year with confidence and we look forward to once again delivering on the world stage.

### **Chris Webb**

High Performance Director

# HEALTH AND SAFETY



## Statistics Update

Statistics continue to be monitored at both a National and State level in order to maintain an up-to-date and accurate risk profile. Some equestrian disciplines, like Vaulting, Dressage and Interschool, are currently focused on improving their reporting processes and collection of more injury-incident data to improve safety processes. As the Equestrian Australia National Safety Manager (NSM), I continue to liaise with equestrian disciplines and the current EA insurance broker (Gow Gates) to identify what statistical data is available and ways to improve communications for data reporting and analysis.

I have worked closely with the Eventing Medical Consultative Group, Equestrian Disciplines, Medical Service Providers (MSP) and relevant others, to develop a comprehensive Athlete Incident/Referral Report-Form. Training and support will be provided to all nationally registered MSPs to enable more comprehensive, consistent and relevant data collection following an athlete-incident at any EA event or club affiliated activity. Review of data collection processes, evaluation and information outcomes continues to be a priority for EA.



*Horse and athlete well-being is essential to our sport*

## Concussion Reporting

Concussion reporting is a mandatory requirement by Sports Australia and the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS). We have completed an inclusive review of the existing concussion protocols, training materials and all reporting processes. A key item in achieving good conformance with this process for EA stakeholders (EA Disciplines Committees, affiliated clubs and accredited coaches) will be engagement, training in the process and clear communications. It is anticipated concussion training delivery will commence early 2021.

## NSM Health and Safety Actions

- We commenced a review and reform of the National Safety presence on the EA website.
- Updating of EA National Safety Systems (policies and procedures) continues, while Risk Management remains a high priority.
- An Eventing 'event management audit-tool' has been developed to assist Organising Committees (OCs) and the NSM in facilitating a review of health and safety processes, with a focus on meeting EA Eventing Guidelines, Rules and the 31 Coronial Recommendations. This audit-tool has been endorsed by Equestrian Australia Eventing Committee (EAEC), with the agreed outcome of one to three random audits per year being completed for Eventing OCs throughout Australia.
- The EA Critical Incident Management Team (CIMT) plan and framework continues to be populated. It is anticipated Stage Two theory training for the national CIMT (A-team) will be completed early in 2021 following the lifting of boarder travel restrictions between NSW and Victoria.
- We have completed a review of the Eventing Guidelines, Annexure D, in consultation with the EAEC and Medical Consultative Group. The updated guidelines for medical service provisions have been approved and endorsed by all relevant stakeholders and disseminated to all relevant parties.
- Eventing's Serious Incident Management Plan (SIMP) is being reviewed, along with the development of an EA National SIMP framework for all other equestrian disciplines. Risk mitigation during any athlete-horse interaction is vital to the welfare of both parties, the sustainability of our sport and social licence to operate.
- EA compulsory coach updates have been reviewed, primarily in the areas of safety considerations, risk management and athlete incident reporting processes, (e.g. concussion).



## COVID-19

- EA continues to watch and monitor State and Federal Government, World Health Organisation (WHO), Department of Health, AIS and FEI COVID-19 restrictions and developments.
- I continue to assist OCs as they return to sport activities with reviewing COVID-Safe Plans by providing feedback and recommendations aligned with the 'EA Guideline to Resuming Equestrian Training and Competition Activities in a COVID Environment' resource.
- Discussions have commenced with stakeholders regarding the development of COVID-Safety Training for OCs and officials.
- We are currently investigating contact tracing applications for OCs and attendees as a national health and safety initiative.

## Meredith Chapman

National Safety Manager



*Stuart Tinney and Celebration winning the Mitsubishi International 3DE CCI4\*L (Kirsty Pasto)*

# COACHING



*Red Curtis - EA Coach (Red Curtis)*

It has been an interesting year for Coaching and since the reinstatement of the Equestrian Australia Coaching Committee (EACC) in early 2019 a lot of progress has been made.

In April 2019, the Interim Committee originally appointed by EA, completed the required outcomes and the EACC was formed with representation from across the nation. Each State nominated representatives from the State Coaching committees. These people are your State representatives and voice for coaching concerns or ideas.

During the first term of the EACC, we have been addressing the issues raised during the forum in 2018.

## **Appointment of National Coaching Officer**

Kellie Hayes was appointed and has proven to be a very beneficial addition to the EA team. Kellie handles member enquiries with a pleasant and helpful manner and works closely and well with the EACC and EA administration at all levels.

## **Insurance**

The EACC has pressed EA to improve the service and product offering around coaches' insurance requirements. A list of FAQs has been developed to assist coaches with their on-boarding experience. The global insurance landscape has changed dramatically, so major changes to the EA Insurance offering has not been achievable. We look forward to working with our insurance brokers to expand the insurance offering.

## **Coach Registration Fees**

Registered coaches have repeatedly requested information as to what happens with their registration fees. We were glad to be able to provide that information to coaches in 2020 via a high-level summary of 2019/20 expenditure to demonstrate where EA coach registration fees now go.

## **Support of EA Coaches**

EA made some significant changes to the support of EA accredited coaches in 2019/20. The EACC Chair was invited, along with the Chairs from all the discipline committees, to be included in a sport committee initially formed under the then CEO Lucy Warhurst and continued with the now acting CEO Andrew Hamilton.

This has given coaching input and inclusion at the top level of the sport. This remarkable group of volunteers have been in constant consultation with the CEO and Board and are able to communicate our collective issues and concerns in a united, respectful and collaborative way, giving each group a platform to raise issues they are experiencing. All disciplines now have a voice and representation to put into direction of the sport.

## **Promotion of EA Coaches**

EACC has worked with the NDCs, State Chairs, EA and the EA Directors to implement the agreed position that all State squads and teams must be coached by current, appropriately accredited EA coaches from July 1 2020. The only exception to this is if a recognised international expert has been engaged. This process was rolled out with all States and disciplines advised of this new protocol, which should now be adhered to.



*Coaching riders of all ages and abilities  
(images above and right supplied by Robert Stewart)*





*Rod Brown coaching Liam Mackensie in a jumping lesson*

The EACC has engaged with the EA Safety personnel, Roger Kane and Meredith Chapman to capture and include the new concussion and COVID protocols. These are being incorporated into the coaching syllabus, which is currently being revised, educating coaches in the ways they can help to address the high risk in equestrian sports.

Throughout the latter half of 2019, eight Coach Educator and SSTA Updates were run across six states. These were run in partnership with the State branches, locally delivered and nationally funded. Three in NSW and one each in VIC, QLD, WA, SA and TAS. These updates included Coach & Assessor training and assessing with Daryl Durham, safety and rule updates by Roger Kane or a representative, and Safe Work training by the relevant State authorities. The feedback, attendance numbers and engagement were encouraging, and we look forward to delivering more post-COVID restrictions.

The EACC also re-engaged with the International Group of Equestrian Qualifications (IGEIQ) by attending their conference in Warendorf (GER) in December 2019. Our delegates, Simon Kale and Tim Calkin, were successful in having the EA Coaching Syllabus restored on the IGEIQ Matrix. Due to their effort and that of EA in the area of safety and risk management, the IGEIQ asked Simon Kale to Chair an international working group, to progress the issue of safety and risk management in the area of coaching on an international level.

## Syllabus Review and Coaching Statistics

Through the hard work of 31 volunteers across nine different syllabus groups, we have commenced Stage one of the Coaching Syllabus Review, to ensure the content is current and relevant and to develop a firm platform for us to develop our coaching resources and professional development programs. We appreciate their time and effort.

As at 30th June 2020, EA has 927 registered and currently accredited coaches with 728 of these coaches insured through the EA Coaching Insurance Scheme.

The state breakdown is as follows:

NSW 367 – 39.6%,

VIC 191 – 20.6%

QLD 170 – 18.3%

WA 98 – 10.6%

SA 51 – 5.5%

TAS 44 – 4.7%

NT 6 – .65%

As coaches ourselves, we have all felt the impact of COVID-19 in 2020. We are attempting to keep coaches aware of the landscape which changes daily around what coaches can and cannot do in line with each State and Territory's health advice. It has been a frustrating time for coaches, however, it has been great to see coaches applying COVID safe protocols and creating innovative coaching solutions in a heavily restricted environment.

We hope that our efforts to deliver coach updates online has been helpful in this time, as well as improving access for regional and remote coaches.

We remain dedicated to improving and further developing the scheme and look forward to your positive encouragement and feedback.

## Robert Stewart

Coaching Committee Chair

### *Thank you to our committee members:*

Robert Stewart (NSW) - Chair

Tim Calkin (VIC) *IGEIQ delegate*

Geraldine van Montfrans-Eady (QLD)

Judy Peel (TAS)

Lynda Smith (SA)

Philippa Collier (WA)

Simon Kale - *co-opted by the EA Board as an IGEIQ delegate*

Second delegates are:

Gillian Botten (WA)

Sally-Ann Barbera (NSW)

Susan Leslie (VIC)



# DRESSAGE

In just under two years, the National Discipline Committees (NDCs) have evolved into a unified Committee of Chairs, working together to build and maintain a communication chain that was previously the 'missing link' between disciplines. We now see ourselves on an equal status, revealing a commonality of issues and a network with more respect and understanding of a 'whole of sport'.

This introduction is to give an understanding of the cross pollination of issues that are now on the table for national discussion and this impacts on the Equestrian Australia Dressage Committee (EADC) and our priorities.

The primary achievement of 2020 was the resumption of competition. With all CDIs post February cancelled or changed to CDNs, the disruption to Olympic preparations and qualifications for our Australian-based contenders is seeing our High Performance (HP) team, with Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) backing, negotiate with the FEI for exemptions in regard to the Rules for Ground Jury composition, which impacts on Olympic qualifiers.

One highlight gave us the best lift of the year. Mary Hanna and Cantana set an Australian record of 80.14% in the CDI4\* Grand Prix Freestyle at Willinga Park in February. It was a stand-out display of lightness, harmony and partnership that set the bar several notches higher and was rewarded by the international 5\* judges. Mary even scored an interview on ABC Grandstand, a first for Dressage!



*Mary Hanna and 'Calanta' set a new Australian Record of 80.145% to win the Kur (Stephen Mowbray)*



*Judge Mary Seefried at a Mini-Masterclass (supplied by Mary Seefried)*



*Rozzie Ryan & Jarrah R took out the FEI World Cup Grand Prix Freestyle at Boneo Park September 2019 (Stephen Mowbray)*

The impact of COVID-19 set unique challenges for sports development across the board needing 'lateral' thinking – a Dressage speciality.

'Virtual Dressage Competitions' became the way to go, albeit with no official status, but still an outlet for peer competition and judge feedback. This led to us widening our thinking about delivery of judge education. Online webinars, which took the place of face-to-face seminars and workshops for our judges, are now part and parcel of our education programme – especially significant for our regional and Territory judges – long overdue recognition of distance.

One of our working priorities is succession planning for officials; this is where we have commonality with other disciplines. We are working with our Equestrian Australia Dressage Judges Committee (EADJC) on a range of initiatives to encourage more (younger) judges into and through the system.

The number of judges aged under 35-years-old at the Introductory levels G & F is a challenge for the EADJC. They're working with us on initiatives for the target demographic that will do the long haul through to FEI.

Our State Dressage Associations (SDAs) are our 'service deliverers', our on-the-ground conduits to our membership. We wish to acknowledge the support and dialogue over a range of operational issues that we have received from our State Chairs, our Major Events Committee, our Steward General and our EA Dressage Judges Sub-Committee.

The sports committees are currently working with EA Sports Services Officer, Jenny Merity, to collate a national major events calendar, addressing clashes and long-standing event dates, e.g. Royal Ag Shows. We are also working towards establishing a national database, to document numbers-per-discipline from EA Online and State Branches, which will enable the committees to pull real-time statistical information on participants, types, regions etc.

We wish to greatly acknowledge our EA CEO and team. We would really appreciate Board support here, they have never wavered in being available and responsive whenever we have needed them, they have been outstanding.

There is very little 'down time' to being on a National Sports Committee, we're on-call at any time, it's our job. Our National Rider Representative, Maree Tomkinson, is likewise on call; she is the best means of communication to and from our riders.

We aim to make 2021 a year to remember; a celebration of our Sport's determination and grit that saw us through goals, training and competition programmes sidelined Australia-wide.

We look forward to an 'us' year – now that we are all EA.

## **Prue Spurrett**

Equestrian Australia Dressage Committee Chair

### ***Thank you to our committee members:***

Prue Spurrett – Chair 2019/2020

Hannie Byrne 2019

Liz Owens 2019/2020

Virginia Creed 2019/2020

Gillian Botten 2019/2020

Julie Jones 2020

Maree Tomkinson Athletes' Representative 2019/2020



# EVENTING



*Hazel Shannon and Willinga Park Clifford made history winning the Australian International 3DE 5 star for the third year in a row (Kirsty Pasto)*

Our overseas riders have done very well in the past twelve months despite the COVID-19 shutdown.

Shane Rose and Virgil pulled off an impressive third at the CCI5\*-L in Pau (FRA), having been in the UK for just ten days after travelling over from Australia.

Chris Burton as had a great season. Also at the CCI5\*-L in Pau (FRA), Chris and Quality Purdey finished second (33.8) from a field of 42 riders, with 10 Nations represented at the event.

Chris and Lawtown Chloe placed first at the CCI4\*-L at Millstreet (IRE) from a field of 28 riders, representing eight nations.

On Clever Louis, Chris won the CCI4\*-S in the 8-9 years old section at Blenheim (UK). Chris had only acquired the horse three to four weeks prior to this event. Then, just three weeks later, the combination also finished second in the Nation's Cup at Boekelo (they tied for first place in the Dressage phase on a score of 26.0).

Team results show that Australia came second out of twelve teams at the CCIO4\* Nations Cup in Boekelo (NED). The team then followed that up with third place from eight teams, in the World Equestrian Festival Championships at the CCIO4\* at Aachen (GER), with Andrew Hoy and Bloom des Hauts Crets individually finishing in fifth place. Australia was one of only four nations that imported horses to this event.

Andrew Hoy and Vassily de Lassos have had a very impressive overall record this season, they have never been placed outside the top ten at any FEI competition.

Back on home turf, Stuart Tinney won the CCI4\*-L at Werribee (VIC) and had two other horses finishing in the top ten. Hazel Shannon and Willnga Park Clifford made history at Adelaide by winning the Australian International 3DE CCI5\*-L for the third year in a row.

Terrific results from all of these riders!



## Developments

The National Safety Manager has been appointed, so we welcome Meredith Chapman to that position. I am sure she will work closely with everyone to improve safety even more in our sport. A huge thank you to the out-going Roger Kane, who has already made many significant changes to safety across many areas in our sport.

## Governance

The National Discipline Chairs are meeting on a regular basis and this is proving to be very successful.

## Education

The sports operations team at EA have been working very hard to update Official and Coach status and the pathways for Officials is almost complete.

The Equestrian Australia Eventing Committee (EAEC) continues to work closely with the High Performance Team and, whilst Tokyo has been postponed, we are hard at work in maintaining the program, to be ready for the Games in 2021. Our riders in the High Performance Squads also continue their own personal programs to ensure they are ready to go fitness-wise, both athletes and horses, whenever they are called upon. We are confident that our team will do well at the games and bring home the medals.

## Des Hughes

Equestrian Australia Eventing Committee Chair

### *Thank you to our committee members:*

Des Hughes – Chair 2019/2020

Mattea Davidson 2019

Sharmayne Spencer 2019

Narelle Davidson 2019

Janet Houghton 2019/2020

Wayne Copping 2019/2020

PollyAnn Huntington 2019/2020

Jade Findlay 2020

Michael Dalmau 2020

Jamie Buckby 2020

Emma Mason Athletes' Representative 2019/2020



*Chris Burton Nations Cup NED (William Carey)*



*Shane Rose and Virgil finished 3rd at Pau (FRA) (Kirsty Pasto)*



*Australian Jumping Team claim third place at CSIO 4star Nations Cup in America. From left to right - Rowan Willis, Hilary Scott, Todd Hinde (Chef d'Equipe), Amy Graham, Scott Keach (Sportfot)*

Jumping started on a positive note with a very successful 2019 National Championship at Boneo Park. Thanks to the McNaught family and all involved for staging the National Championships and again congratulations to the winners Tom McDermott (Senior) on Elegance De La Charmille, Madeline Sinderberry (Young Rider) on Ciel and Sally Simmonds (Junior) on Oaks Chifley.

In January, we sent a team of Young Riders to the Trans-Tasman Team Borrowed Horse Competition at Larsens Showjumping Championship in Gisborne, New Zealand. The team consisted of Chris Holland, Clemency Hughes, Samantha Lamont and Sally Simmonds, with Todd Hinde as Chef d'equipe. Each rider competed on borrowed horses which they had never ridden and the horses switched between riders each day. This in itself makes their competitiveness even more impressive as they displayed wonderful horsemanship skills throughout.

The 2019/20 FEI Australian World Cup season was completed in February 2020. Qualifiers were hosted by Caboolture, Gatton, Waratah, Adelaide Royal, Melbourne Royal, Tamworth, Adelaide 3DE, Sale, Sydney Summer Classic and Boneo Park (two events). A big thank you to all the organisers of the events. The winner of the League was Chris Chugg on PSS Levilensky. Unfortunately, due to COVID, the World Cup Final was cancelled.

Special thanks to the previous members of the World Cup Committee for their work and effort over the years. This committee has now been dissolved and the administration of the League is now with the Equestrian Australia Jumping Committee (EAJC).

FEI Jumping Stewards refresher course in October 2019 ran with Nigel King from Hong Kong as the Course Director, ably assisted by Katrina Dukats, Australian FEI Jumping Steward General. The course was well attended with 16 participants who successfully refreshed their FEI status.

One outstanding highlight of the year was our Nations Cup Team placing 3rd in Wellington USA Nations Cup. Members of the Team being Amy Graham, Scott Keach, Hilary Scott and Rowan Willis. Well done to all involved.

As we all know, COVID-19 put an end to our competition sport mid-March 2020. EA Jumping Committee has now completed the development of our National Calendar and are working on developing a National Rider Ranking. With all the restructure that is happening in our sport I would encourage all members to be involved. We have a National Board, National Discipline Committees, State Boards and State Discipline Committees, however it is you, the members that are Equestrian Australia (EA) so please become involved and vote to decide the future direction of YOUR Sport.

I would like to thank all involved in our reference groups for their time and effort that they have contributed to make our sport better. Special thanks to Rory Hovell, Stuart Jenkins, Coco Miles, John Vallance and Annie White for all their support and work in the past year. Last but not least, thanks to all the office staff for their hard work in very trying times.

## **Graeme Watts**

Equestrian Australia Jumping Committee Chair

### ***Thank you to our committee members***

Graeme Watts – Chair 2019/2020

Tim Dreverman 2019

John Vallance 2019/2020

Annie White 2019/2020

Rory Hovell 2019/2020

Coco Miles 2020

Stuart Jenkins Athletes' Representative 2019/2020

The past twelve months have been productive for the Equestrian Australia National Show Horse Committee (EASHC). Show Horse has continued to grow across all levels of ability, which is pleasing to see for the future of the sport. Memberships and registrations have increased in most States.

The EASHC has continued to work on updating rules and, over time, many rules have been changed. However, with these changes, it raises the issue that “the rules do not always speak to each other” between the National Show Horse Rules and the General Regulations, Policies and By-Laws and other relevant policies. We continue to work on this to ensure consistency between the rules.

Equestrian Victoria (EVIC) hosted the EA Australasian Show Horse and Rider Championships in December 2019, bringing together competitors from across Australia to compete at the most prestigious event in the Show Horse calendar. The 2019 event played host to the beautiful hack “Mikimoto” being awarded the EA National Small Champion Hack title for the fourth time, the only horse in the history of the event to win the award four times.

This is the only event on the Show Horse calendar that provides a team atmosphere, by way of bringing competitors together to represent their State at an elite level of competition over three days at Werribee Park Equestrian Centre. A wonderful event showcasing the best horses and riders in the country.

Early 2020 saw the whole country come to a halt with the outbreak of COVID-19, which has impacted on our sport as a whole. Events were cancelled nationwide, impacting on many groups. The EASHC meetings are currently being held via teleconference as we endeavour to ensure our sport continues.

The EASHC & EVIC organising committees came to the very difficult decision to postpone the 2020 EA Australasian Show Horse & Rider Championships to 2021 (date to be confirmed) due to COVID-19. The decision was a difficult one, as we had hoped that the COVID situation would improve across the country with border restrictions being lifted and all States being able to travel to Victoria in December. However, it will not be possible. The safety and well-being of both competitors, volunteers, judges and animals is paramount. Both committees will continue to work closely together for the future-planning of the 2020 event.

Judge re-accreditation has been granted an extension to March 2022, to allow judges to be able to fulfil the requirements.

Multiple discussions have been held around the implementation of interim COVID rules for the sport, to ensure States are able to continue to host events when facing border restrictions and other challenges.

As many members would be aware, Korda Mentha were appointed as voluntary administrators of Equestrian Australia in June. The processes in relation to this are still ongoing.

Thank you to the outgoing delegate for South Australia, Alyson Emery, for her contribution to the sport as a representative on the EASHC. We welcome Dominique Blanchette (NSW) & Gayle Manning (SA) to the committee.

On behalf of the EASHC, I would like to express our appreciation to EA National Office staff Di Saunders & Jenny Merity and Acting CEO Andrew Hamilton for their support to Show Horse throughout the past twelve months.

We hope members stay safe during these very challenging times.

## **Kerry Patchett**

Equestrian Australia Show Horse Committee Chair

### ***Thank you to our committee members:***

Kerry Patchett – Chair 2019/2020

Darryl Hayes 2019

Mitchell Fox 2019

Kerry Wilson 2019

Tanya Reynolds 2019

Chimene Deavin 2019/2020

Alyson Emery 2019/2020

Toni Harper-Purcell 2019/2020

Lorri Mansell 2019/2020

Gayle Manning 2020

Dominique Blanchette 2020

Chris Lawrie Athletes' Representative 2019/2020



*David Quayle and Why Waltz Kid Rock (supplied by ESA)*



# VAULTING

## Developments

The EAVC has actioned initiatives on improving education. Online scoring development work has commenced through the EA Online portal. Once complete, it will enable results to be collected and distributed in a very timely manner.

As 2020 saw the start of COVID-19 and the cancellation of events as we knew them, clubs around the country started to explore new ways of interacting safely with members. Online "protocol" judging was offered to barrel participants and proved a positive way to keep enthusiasm up, maintain engagement and boost even mental health levels.

While the year has proven frustrating for those with international performance in their sights and organising committees have had the uncertainty of State border closures and the impact of trying to include locally qualified officials in their programs due to the financial burden of quarantine, we are continuing our forward-planning by consulting with the FEI. The Equestrian Australia Vaulting Committee (EAVC) are assisting organising committees towards the CVI\* and 2\* event set to be held in April 2021 and the National Championships, hosted by SA, in October 2021.

## Initiatives

Judges Eye Clinic were held in WA and VIC, offering Vaulters the opportunity to hear and learn what a judge is looking for in the competition arena. These proved to be both popular and successful; able to financially to support themselves as events.

Again, COVID-19 has allowed interaction for vaulters on a new scale, in the form of electronic meetings. This will be beneficial to remote clubs and States in future education programs and clinics. The EAVC has now implemented regular and on-going meetings with State committees, to better develop a cohesive plan for a way forward for Vaulting as a whole, not just State by State.

## Coaching and Officiating

The EAVC Coaches Forum was a great initiative with support from most States. Many ideas were shared with very positive outcomes, including a specific Facebook page for Vaulting coaches and active lungers. The page is administered by a coach representative from each State.

EAVC established a coach working group to work with EA in the development of updated Vaulting coaches' syllabus. Currently, there are nine EA Introductory coaches, twelve EA Level 1 coaches and five EA Level 2 coaches.

Vaulting is currently facing a downturn in judge numbers. One of the reasons is limited competitions to meet re-accreditation needs. A form has been developed to capture lapsed and



*Yindi Falconbridge and Grace Joyce on Monty in the Pas des Deux WA (Rebecca de Vries)*

returning judges that have not been officiating for longer than three years. It will involve a familiarisation session and judging with a mentor judge.

We currently have one EA Level 1 judge, seven EA Level 3 judges, one FEI2\* judge and two FEI3\* judges. We also have four EA stewards, one FEI Level 1 steward and four FEI Level 2 stewards.

## Events and Facilities

In 2019, each State hosted a State Championship. The National Championships were hosted in Scone in October. Crossing over into 2020, events were stopped due to COVID-19. A casualty early in the calendar was the 2020 EA Australian Vaulting Championships to be held in SA, however some positives were the several digital 'Zoom' unofficial competitions organised by clubs.

## Volunteers

The EAVC, working with the State committees, has been able to offer some limited training for volunteers. Next season, we are hoping to be able to offer some national volunteer training days

## Darryn Fedrick

Equestrian Australia Vaulting Committee Chair

### *Thank you to our committee members:*

Darryn Federick – Chair 2019/2020

Jenny Scott 2019

Sarah Hocking 2019/2020

Lisbeth Betts 2019/2020

Wendy Singlehurst 2019/2020

Sharyn van Someren 2020

Skye Barrowcliffe Athletes' Representative 2019/2020



*Boyd Exell (AUS), who finished in first place, at FEI Driving World Cup at Olympia, London (GBR). Taken during the prize giving ceremony. Taken on 21st December 2019 (FEI Liz Gregg)*

The 2019/20 year has truly been an unprecedented year and something that no one could ever have foreseen. Events across the country were limited due to the ongoing impacts of the drought, lack of water and bushfires across many States and then COVID-19 brought the entire world to a standstill. Despite all these disruptions, there were still some great highlights that continued to emerge and brought our driving community together. Here is a wrap up of the 2019-2020 year:

The Young Drivers' Clinic was brought back for a third year and saw the specially-designed clinic for our sports' new and experienced young athletes held in conjunction with the Boyd Exell Clinic. The Young Drivers' Clinic saw athletes under the instruction of not only Boyd Exell, but fellow Australian coaches and industry professionals. The safe, fun and encouraging environment established the fundamentals and allowed each young athlete to grow extensively in confidence and skill in such a short time during the weeklong clinic. It was great to see the variance in age from 8 – 24 years, with the majority of these young drivers new to the sport of Driving. The 2019 EA Young Driver Clinic attendees were Angus Redgewell, Braydon Sonter, Charlie Zirkler, Harrison Redgewell, Harry McIntyre, Haylee Frost, Ned Andrew and Tamara Sempf.

ENSW Driving Awards saw Sandy Hunter take home the prestigious Driver Of The Year and her elegant chestnut mare "Fiore" took home the Driving Horse Of The Year.

The overall results for the 2019 Tamworth International Horse Driving Trials were:

FEI H1 1*	Tracey Borg, Sandy Hunter, Patricia Nolan
FEI P1 1*	Nicole Kimlin, Lisel Dingley
FEI H2 1*	Ross Carbery
FEI P1 2*	Corby Cunnington
FEI H1 2*	Lorraine Cairns
FEI H2 2*	Byron McIntyre

#### EA Participation Classes:

Single Horse	Haylee Frost, Kirstin Feddersen, Maria Trott
Single Pony	Deanna Hibberd
Pony Pairs	Rachael Cooper

# DRIVING

The Equestrian Queensland Awards saw Tor Van Den Berge receive the prestigious Finch Farm 'Athlete Of The Year' Award.

Equestrian Queensland Driving were dynamic with interactive webinars, Come & Try Days, and training weekends across Southern Queensland. South Burnett Equestrian group hosted a number of driving activities that encouraged cross discipline engagement in all elements of our sport.

Equestrian NSW Driving also saw the continuation of monthly club training days, the Tamworth International Horse Driving Trials Event and club-based events in northern NSW. As host of all events and training days in NSW, the Horse Driving Trials Club continued to be active, despite reduced competitor numbers due to the drought and bushfires. Because of the bushfires in Bega and surrounding regions, the January annual Boyd Exell Clinic, organised by the Southern Horse Driving Trials Club, was sadly cancelled.

Internationally, only twelve months ago Tor Van Den Berge and the gorgeous pair, Felix and Harry (owned by Owen and Janet Pilling), started their journey together. They competed at only five competitions together (four of them FEI), consistently placing 2nd after the dressage and finishing in the top 10 at all, before heading off to the FEI World Pairs Championships where they finished 18th out of 82 competitors.

Boyd Exell had another astonishing year internationally, with the highlight truly being when he kept his cool, only to be crowned the FEI Driving World Cup Final Champion for an incredible NINTH time! Absolutely flawless, Boyd and his team navigated the course with his consistent flair, precision and skill that made him victorious.

United States-based Janelle Marshall also performed well, quietly progressing with several combinations. Highlights were the back-to-back winning of the Intermediate Single Pony at Live Oak Florida and placing 2nd at the Grand Oaks CDE Florida in the FEI PI 2\*. Janelle was also the very deserving recipient of the Equestrian Victoria Carriage Driver Of The Year for 2020.

The Driving community across Australia, although small, is passionate about this sport and their community. This is true now more than ever and really came to light when the HDT Club in NSW participated in the Toilet Roll Toss Challenge to raise awareness for mental health. This light-hearted challenge followed the hashtags #standingtogether by #notstandingtogether and was a huge success, going viral all over Australia.

I encourage the wider Driving community to stay connected and follow the Driving Australia (Equestrian) Facebook page. This platform provides a medium for Driving, High Performance and Discipline updates, as well as some great and interesting articles and EA notifications.

Thank you to all our wonderful Driving volunteers, officials, committees, sponsors, athletes, grooms and coaches for all the hours, time, effort and commitment you put in. Thank you for your dedication, to our sport and taking the time to learn, grow and share what our great sport is all about.

Our Driving community is grateful to you, because without you helping out (with even the smallest of activities) and playing your part, the show would not go on.

## Jessica Meredith

Equestrian Australia Driving Committee Chair

### *Thank you to our committee members:*

Jessica Meredith – Chair 2019/2020

Veronica Steward 2019

Andrea Webb 2019/2020

Ty Nichols 2020

Kirstin Feddersen 2020

Corby Cunningham Athletes' Representative 2019



*Elizabeth Lawrence competing in the marathon stage at the DVI Valkenswaard Netherlands event held at Boyd Exell's, 2019 - Elizabeth travelled to Boyd's to undertake training & drove Boyd's indoor team (Andrea Webb)*





*Australian Trans Tasman Team (John Archer)*

## Committee Members & Meetings

Dr Anne Barnes, who has held the Chair position for the previous two years, completed her term at the end of 2019. We thank Anne for all her efforts during this time and for helping to facilitate a cohesive committee.

To assist with communications to fill the vacant Athlete Representative role, the Australian Endurance Riders' Association Inc (AERA) were contacted to broaden the reach of possible candidates. The interaction proved more than worthwhile with a strong response and exceptional experience within nominations. Naomi Shaughnessy brings to the role support from a domestic and international perspective having successfully competed both domestically and as an Australian representative at the World Equestrian Games (WEG). Her insight will be well utilised in one of Endurance's strategies of defining grassroots to elite pathway.

As Chair, I have worked closely with the other EA Discipline Committee Chairs over the last twelve months and have enjoyed bringing Endurance into the discussion with the other disciplines. The sharing of some common themes this networking has allowed will enable Endurance to have a strong representation in many EA organisational areas.

## Competition

2019-20 presented many disruptions to all equestrians as we faced drought and bushfires towards the latter half and then COVID-19, which forced the cancellation of FEI competitions due to border closures.

Equestrian Australia also entered Voluntary administration which impacted the MOU process with our national body AERA. The administration process resulted in a significant investment of time from the EAEC and I'm proud of the representation of Endurance in this process. Endurance will continue to work closely with the other disciplines to ensure an improved position for both our sport and equestrian into the future.

## Chris Bailey

Equestrian Australia Endurance Committee Chair

### ***Thank you to our committee members:***

Christopher Bailey – Chair 2020

Anne Barnes – Chair 2019

Louise McCormack 2019

Matthew Walker 2019

Robyn Parnell 2019/2020

Jane Radny 2019/2020

Sonya Ryan 2020

Darien Feary 2020

Naomi O'Shaughnessy Athletes' Representative 2020

Financial year 2019-20 was dominated by major challenges facing our sport and the wider community in NSW.

In July 2019, Deputy Coroner Lee conducted the coronial inquiries into the tragic deaths in 2016 of Eventing riders Olivia Inglis and Caitlyn Fisher. The hearing took place over several weeks, and brought together experts from around Australia and overseas, to understand what happened and what could be done to improve safety in our sport. The Inglis and Fisher families were intimately involved and our heart-felt feelings and best wishes go to them.

Nothing will bring Olivia and Caitlyn back, but the work done by Deputy Coroner Lee and his team, ably coordinated with the then CEO of Equestrian Australia, Lucy Warhurst, has fundamentally changed the way that equestrian sports are conducted in Australia, for the better.

Most of the recommendations have been implemented in the sport of Eventing in NSW, with further work required to finalise the final few items.

Without doubt, the reporting and findings from the inquest has resulted in a significant uplift in 'organising committees' and competitors' understanding of risk and most importantly, measures to reduce those risks.



*Charlie Richardson in the National Interschools CNC 2 Star  
(Stephen Mowbray)*



*Dr Derek Major - Lifetime Achievement Award (Stephen Mowbray)*

The devastating bushfires over summer, across large swathes of NSW, brought hardship to many in our equestrian community. We will be forever grateful to the dedication, courage and resilience of our emergency services workers, who helped to save many properties and horses.

Following in the footsteps of the bushfires, the COVID-19 pandemic brought all equestrian competitions to a standstill. This meant that some of the key events in NSW could not be run, including the Sydney CDI, Sydney 3DE, Southern Cross Show Horse Spectacular and NSW Interschools Championships. It also meant that the Tokyo Olympics were postponed, with our NSW high performance athletes re-setting for 2021.

Training and coaching continued under restrictions, with some clubs and riding centres struggling to survive. Many in our equestrian community suffered. Disruption to our day-to-day lives, job losses, a significant downturn in business, especially for our professional riders and coaches, all made 2020 tough, both financially and mentally, for many people.





*NSW Event of the Year Wallaby Hill International 3 Day Event Organising Team (Stephen Mowbray)*

Generous funding from the NSW Office of Sport, will help our sport recover in the year ahead. More than \$339,000 was provided for club grass roots training and competitions, coaching and officials education and risk management training.

From an operations perspective in 2019-20, Equestrian NSW membership numbers were stable at 8,400. A surplus of \$128,000 was delivered, with more than \$390,000 spent on discipline support. With COVID-19 and JobKeeper, staff costs were down by 20 percent.

2020-21 is forecast to be a really difficult year for Equestrian NSW and our sport. Based on ongoing issues with COVID-19, it's impossible to predict what the future will bring. We can only hope for some sort of normality, so we can enjoy the simple pleasures of being with and riding our horses.

**Bruce Farrar**  
CEO, Equestrian NSW



*Chris Burton and catch ride TAE Caspea at Wallaby Hill  
(Stephen Mowbray)*



Over the past year, Equestrian Queensland (EQ) has continued to make strong progress in line with each of our four strategic objectives; increasing participation across all levels of the sport, raising the standard of excellence, maintaining financial sustainability and delivering improved value to our members.

Supporting our members and the volunteers who deliver equestrian activities is a key priority for us and always will be. The past twelve months have been increasingly challenging for our clubs and event organisers and we express our sincere appreciation to the more than 1,600 volunteers, 190 accredited coaches and 270 accredited officials for their support and dedication.

### Our highlights for 2019/20 include

- Delivery of good governance workshops and resources to support our affiliated clubs and sport committees, to build general knowledge and provide practical advice regarding addressing issues.
- Providing over \$240,000 in direct investment through various funding programs, which support rider development, official and coach education, events and safety initiatives for regional clubs and affiliates.
- Delivery of the 14th EQ Annual Awards with the induction of Mary Seefried and Chris Burton to the EQ Hall of Fame and the presentation of awards to our 14 category winners.
- Final release of the EQ Statewide Facilities Plan, Facilities Standards and Implementation Plan.
- Supporting the delivery of 23 courses to support the recruitment, refresh or upgrade of officials in the sport.
- Implementation of new member benefits, such as our Virtual Dressage Series, Freeform event, 30 day challenge and educational series.



*Olivia Hamood and Knock Out III (IMP) in the 1.35-1.40m class at 2020 Pryde's EasiFeed Spring into Jumping Championships at Gatton Showgrounds (Katie Mendl, Calico Pony)*



*Prydes EasiFeed Horse of the Year Champion Lead Rein Hunter Pony n.e 12.0hh (riders 5yrs & under 8 yrs). Left- Martina Duncan, Cleo Valentine Duncan riding Berwyn Swallow and Kirsty Harper-Purcell (OzShots Photography)*

- Delivery of EA Coaching Intensive Clinics and online coaching forums to support the accreditation and upgrade of new and existing coaches.
- Release of the EQ Q&A Series, providing members an opportunity to learn from a broad range of experienced equestrian professionals.
- Delivery of Queensland Horse Welfare Forum, with guest speaker Dr Roly Owers, World Horse Welfare.
- Supporting our members, clubs and event organisers to plan and return to activities and competition through the delivery of COVID Safe Plans, resources and support.
- Delivery of new member webinars including the 'The Power of Positive Doing' Webinar with Dr Phil Jauncey.



*Prydes EasiFeed Spring into Jumping Championships, Gatton - (Left) Hayley Morris, Carly Overton, Stuart Jenkins, EQ CEO Briston Toft, Shane Davidson, Maleah Lang-McMahon & Gemma Creighton (Jedd Johnstone, The Jtaime)*

- Supporting participation of clubs and the development of grassroots riders through the delivery of eight EQ Leaderboards and the Interclub Challenge.
- Another year of membership growth (seventh consecutive year) and an operating surplus (ninth consecutive year).

EQ is very proud of the achievements of our sport committees, clubs and event organisers over 2019-2020. We also acknowledge and thank all the volunteers who worked tirelessly during this time.

In 2021, the key priorities for Equestrian Queensland will be centred around horse welfare, member safety, education and volunteer support, while working towards implementing new ways to support regional areas and providing further development opportunities for grassroots riders.

We look forward to continuing to be an industry leader in advocating the social and economic value of equestrian to communities and to ensure ongoing access to facilities, which provide safe and enjoyable experiences to the growing number of horses and riders participating in the increasing number of events on the annual calendar.

## **Briston Toft**

CEO, Equestrian QLD



*Bronte Rigney riding Funtime in the Dressage at the 2020 Pryde's EasiFeed Interschool Queensland State Championships (Jedd Johnstone, The Jtaime)*





*2019 NT Dressage Championships placegetters (supplied by ENT)*

Equestrian Northern Territory have had a successful year, with a major increase in their funding from the Northern Territory Government (NTG) – tripling their funding. ENT is now a Tier 2 sport based on their good governance and membership base of approximately 500 across all their affiliates.

Equestrian Northern Territory (ENT), despite the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic affecting the first half of the NT competition season in 2020, has continued to improve the services that it provides to its members and delivering the actions identified in our Strategic Plan.

### Highlights

July 2019 was the Pryde's EasiFeed Pre Royal inaugural event, running over three days at the Darwin Show Grounds. ENT, in conjunction with its affiliated clubs Darwin Dressage Club (DDC) and Darwin Show Jumping Club (DSJC), delivered highly contested competition in Dressage, Show Horse and Jumping.

Competitors travelled from across the NT, Darwin to Alice Springs, including Katherine, with members from Western Australia, from Kununurra and as far south of the Kimberly as Halls Creek.

To put in perspective the tyranny of distance for our members to attend, round trip distance to Katherine is 636km, to Alice Springs is 2,996km, to Kununurra is 1,658km and to Halls Creek is 2,374km. This demonstrates our members are prepared and are keen to travel to participate in competition.

The vision for this event is for one day to evolve into a 'North Australia' championship. At present, Northern Territory and Western Australia are represented, we just need our friends from far north Queensland to attend.

August 2019 was the month of our state championships for Show Horse, Dressage and Jumping. All events were officiated by interstate judges and course designer. Numbers continue to remain strong, with the championships being the pinnacle of the NT equestrian calendar.



*Amy Fisher, Member of 2019 National Interschool Championship Team - competing at the 2019 Marcus Oldham National Interschool Championship, SIEC NSW (Stephen Mowbray)*



## 2019 NT Interschool National Championship Team

Six riders qualified to represent the NT, with the following four riders accepting team positions: Cara Doherty (Team Captain), Amy Fisher, Indiana Evans and Sophie Carlton. Unfortunately, Bridie McKenna and Dominica Robertson were unable to attend.

Accompanied by family, friends, and supporters, with the assistance and support of Team Manager Karen Ruzsicska and Jumping Coach Nicole Mutimer, the team made the trip to New South Wales in September to compete. Equestrian NSW did an excellent job hosting the 2019 Marcus Oldham Australian Interschool Equestrian Championships.

Whilst the team didn't have any podium finishes at the event, the team has been recognised in the NT for their achievements being a finalist in the category of 'NT Team of the Year' in the 2020 NT Sports Awards. We are awaiting the result and, whichever way, ENT is very proud of their achievement and the recognition they have received.

## NT Judges

Karen Ruzsicska EA Level 3 Jump Judge, was invited to judge at the 2019 Australian Jumping Championships. This is an event with over 800 horses from all over Australia competing and is one of the biggest events in Australia.

Danila Lochrin and Jodi Triggs, both D Level Dressage Judges, were invited to judge at the 2020 Victorian Youth Dressage Championships, hosted at Boneo Park Equestrian Centre.

ENT is honoured our judges are being invited to judge at interstate and national events.



*Olivia Rodeghiero and Riverdown Storm (Jumping) (Grand Effects Photography)*

## Improved Member Services

November 2019 saw a first for ENT, with the engagement of two branch staff. This was immensely welcomed by the ENT Board of Directors and members alike, which has resulted in vastly increased membership services and participation on a national level with our interstate branch counterparts.

The engagement of branch staff was made possible due to increased funding from the NT Government, the Department of Sport and Recreation. The additional funding resulted in recognition from the Department in the growth in membership, promotion, development, and delivery of equestrian sport in the NT.

## Lowlights

Like the rest of the nation, the COVID-19 pandemic affected the NT in the ability to deliver any of the planned opportunities in first half of 2020. The NT did fare a little better than most States, being the first to return to competition in June 2020 which, in Jumping, saw record number of entries at events.

## The Future

COVID-19 has highlighted the necessity to have more home-grown officials, judges etc. Development in this area has become a priority for ENT and will become a focal point of the strategic plan.

ENT would like to thank all our volunteers who worked tirelessly to deliver the sport of equestrian in the NT.

We look forward to continuing close collaboration with the other States, working together for the benefit and development of equestrian sport across the nation.

## Danila Lochrin

General Manager, Equestrian NT



*Melissa Boekel riding Regal Wolkendance (supplied by ESA)*

It goes without saying that the past year has been challenging in ways that no one could have predicted. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, while occurring late in our membership year, has had lasting effects on the delivery of our sport both here and across the world. Whilst we have been impacted in a minor way when compared to our counterparts in Victoria and NSW, we must acknowledge the significant efforts that have gone into reducing the spread of the virus here in South Australia (SA), of which our community has contributed. Thank you to all who have implemented COVID Safe plans, initiatives, training and measures to enable the continued delivery of equestrian sport in a safe and reliable manner.

I was brought onto the Equestrian South Australia (ESA) Board after a period of review and reform. The 2019 Governance Review undertaken by Positive Solutions, detailed a great number of recommendations to move the Association forward after some time of difficulty. Recommendation F was to appoint an interim and independent Chair to steer ESA through this transitional period. The elected Board of ESA agreed to this recommendation and subsequently appointed me to this role.

Whilst my intent was always to work on the governance of ESA, the decision for Equestrian Australia to enter Voluntary Administration has required a great deal of my time and input. Through this process, we have actively engaged with our Office of Recreation, Sport and Racing and our Discipline Committees, as well as encouraged the membership base to provide feedback and comments direct to the Board. It has become increasingly

evident that the Board still has some work to do in engaging with our members and ensuring that we represent the true voice of our constituency. We will continue to build on this communication strategy and hope to see greater respect and transparency across all equestrian disciplines and participants in South Australia.

The Board, like the committees, understand what it means to volunteer many hours of their time and expertise to ESA. We thank each and every one of our committee members for their patience and perseverance through the review process, and in their day to day tasks and activities that keep our equestrian sports going.

Despite the extraordinary circumstances that equestrian sport has dealt with this year, our membership numbers remain strong. The Board made a deliberate decision to discount our membership renewals going into the 2020-2021 financial year, to compensate for the lack of events and the impact that COVID has had on all our lives. New categories were also introduced to better cater for our infrequent competitors and those who are likely to be most impacted by COVID. We look forward to seeing how these changes impact our membership rates next year.

We welcomed a new Executive Officer (EO) in November 2019 and have seen the office settle into a new rhythm after some unrest in previous years. Unfortunately, due to a personal circumstance, we will lose our EO and in November 2020, we will welcome a new person into this position. The Board would like to thank Kirsty Dummin for her time at ESA and wish her and her family our best wishes for their new life in Queensland. With greater governance and Board support, the Executive Officer will have the accountability to shape the ESA staff structure into a sustainable and effective office that will meet all the membership and stakeholders needs.

In closing, I would like to thank the membership for all your support and passion for equestrian sport. With the rest of the Board, I look forward to further progressing our governance reformation and supporting the Association as we strive to become a highly successful, transparent and accepting community of athletes, volunteers, officials and supporters of equestrian sport.

**Steve Ludlam**

Chair, Equestrian SA

When we reflect on the 2019/2020 financial year it would be easy to be preoccupied by the COVID pandemic, in truth however, the financial year saw Equestrian Victoria (EV) continue to deliver against our Strategic Plan. While COVID did have a significant impact on the membership and on EV operations in the latter stages of the period, overall Equestrian Victoria was able to consolidate the strong foundations laid in the first year of the plan.

As an organisation, we have been able to collectively ensure the future viability of EV, strengthening areas across the sport, despite the challenges of the global pandemic. We were particularly proud of implementing EV's Event Management Policy and Procedure and fulfill our commitment of returning profits generated from disciplines, squads and event activities back to the respective areas. Initially announced at the EV AGM at Werribee Park in November 2018, this initiative has created greater ownership within EV's Sport Discipline Committees (SDCs) and enables disciplines to build longer term plans in line with the respective SDC and EV Strategic Plans.

We have also continued to secure government funding to support EV's strategic agenda and we thank the Victorian Government and particularly the Department for Jobs, Precincts and Regions which incorporates Sport and Recreation Victoria for their ongoing support.

During the last financial year, EV was able for the most part to maintain its membership numbers, experiencing a net decline of just 19 members. However, member expenditure declined considerably during the period, the largest impacts of which were horse related fees, down 48%, and membership fees which were down 11% on FY19. The difference on FY19 figures can be attributed to the impact of COVID, which resulted in a State of Emergency being declared on 16 March 2020 preventing the running of major equestrian events and activities.

## Celebrations

While strategic delivery of the sport continued to be a central focus, we also took time to celebrate our successes. 2019/20 started strongly with a terrific turn out at the annual EV Awards, supported by principal partner Racing Victoria's Off the Track (OTT) Program and hosted at the RACV Club in the Melbourne CBD with approximately 360 guests.

However, the EV Awards were not the only accolades shared across our organisation in 2020.



*Mary Hanna & Calanta at the Boneo Classic (Rachel Quagliani)*

Equestrian Victoria was strongly represented at the Victorian Sport Awards in February. Recognised as the night of nights for the Victorian sporting community, the annual awards provide all sporting organisations with the opportunity to recognise and celebrate the outstanding achievements in sport and active recreation throughout the prior calendar year in Victoria.

- Chris Wallis was named as one of four finalists in the Victorian Sport Awards Official of the Year
- The Victorian Interschool Team were crowned as 2019 VicSport Young Team of the Year, and
- Jan Smith awarded the Victorian Olympic Council (VOC) Julius L Patching Award, which recognises the outstanding contribution that officials make to the fabric of the Olympic sporting community in Victoria. Jan joins an illustrious group of equestrian officials who have been previously recognised by the VOC at the Julius L Patching Awards including Reg Cleland, Barry Roycroft, Lindy Young and Chris Wallis.



The development of our volunteer workforce continues to be a focus under our strategic plan with two of Eventing Victoria's officials receiving funding through the Change Our Game Scholarship program:

- Chief Medical Officer, Dr Tess Goodwin was supported to undertake the Care Flight Course which deals with treating trauma emergencies in the field and stabilising patients prior to Medivac taking over; and
- Jacqueline Sayers was supported to transition into the FEI as a Dressage Judge/Ground Juror at the FEI course in Sydney.

## Industry Initiatives

EV undertook three particularly special promotions during the financial year.

On 26 November 2019, EV partnered with SAP and Westpac to host seven-time Olympian Andrew Hoy in the Westpac Boardroom in Melbourne's CBD for a cocktail function. 200 guests were treated to live music, drinks and canapes overlooking the city, before enjoying a personal Q&A with Andrew, hosted by EV Board Member and long-time Hoy family friend Peter Heagney.



*Brynie Lee & Valentino (Lisa Gordoni)*

In February, EV welcomed Dr Roly Owers, CEO World Horse Welfare, to Melbourne for an industry presentation entitled "A Social license for Equestrian Sport". Held at William Inglis & Sons at Junction Oval and run in conjunction with the Classic Yearling Sales, the event brought together over 100 attendees in person from diverse organisational backgrounds, including veterinarians, equine dentists, educators, coaches, breed societies, pony club, HRCav and EV, with the event also webcast by My Sport Live enjoying over 1,200 unique views during the week.

2019/20 saw the culmination of many months work, with EV establishing a groundbreaking relationship with Racing Australia (RA). The first of its kind, this partnership sees EV and RA share horse traceability data and augment the numerous equine welfare initiatives implemented by the Australian Racing Industry.

The importance of Equestrian Victoria maintaining a presence at and engagement across all facets of our industry cannot be understated. Undeniably, EV operates in a competitive environment. We compete for government funding, for sponsors, for members and it is the recognition by industry peers, government and broader community that assists in elevating EV as an organisation and provides us with the ability to do more.

## Government Support

Sport & Recreation Victoria (SRV) funding increased during the year with the "Together More Active (TMA) Program" supporting business development and planning and specific project funding focussed on the expansion and development of our Interschool segment.

FY20 also saw EV sign the first ever multi-year, multi discipline agreement with the SRV Significant Sporting Events Program (SSEP) through to 2023. This will support EV's hosting of major international and national events. Major events deliver many social, health, economic and liveability benefits for Victorians. They showcase the best of sport in our own backyard, enable Victorian athletes to compete on home soil, provide inspiration for fans to emulate their heroes, and encourage people to get active and healthy through sport.

## Facility Oversight – Development at Werribee Park

With events remaining a key focus for EV, 2019/20 saw Equestrian Victoria make the strategic decision to relocate the EV office back to Werribee Park National Equestrian Centre (WPNEC).

Recognised as the 'spiritual home' of equestrian sport in Victoria, the office relocation will provide our members with an administrative and event support hub that will result in greater efficiency and a stronger member service experience. This decision is consistent with Equestrian Victoria's 2018-2022 Strategic Plan with the five key reasons for the move motivated by our desire to provide:

- Enhanced member support and engagement
- Improved administrative efficiency
- Ongoing successful event support and delivery
- Facility development and potential future government investment
- Positive financial outcomes through collective savings for both WPNEC and EV

With specific reference to facility development, we have recently completed the installation of an 80m x 90m multi-discipline Martin Collins waxed surface arena. Funding for this project was received from the Sport Australia Community Sport Infrastructure Grant program achieved through a collaborative effort by Werribee Park and Equestrian Victoria and represents two years of dedicated work. We acknowledge and thank Sport Australia for making this possible.

## COVID

In the 2018-2019 Annual Report I suggested that as an organisation we had "laid a foundation for future success, noting that we still faced significant challenges". Of course, no one could have foreseen one of those challenges being a global pandemic!

On 16 March 2020, the Victorian community entered uncharted territory when a State of Emergency was declared. Only days earlier, Equestrian Victoria had made the tough but necessary decision to postpone both the PSI Dressage and Jumping with the Stars and Jumping Victoria State Titles events, closely followed by the postponement of the Horsham Australia Victorian Interscholar Championships and the Furphy Media Melbourne International Three-Day Event.

If there was to be any positive taken from the impacts of the pandemic, it was how steadfastly our community stood with us. The commitment of our event directors and organising committees, event supporting partners, sponsors, traders and suppliers, not to mention our participants, the team at Werribee Park and EV staff. Their ability to pivot, to firstly minimise the economic impact of event cancellation and their dogged determination not to let COVID bring us undone, highlights the overarching pragmatism and optimism of our cohort.



*Russell Johnstone and DaPrice at the Boneo Classic (Rachel Quagliani)*

Certainly, over the last seven months there have been moments of frustration, but for the most part the EV membership has been resolute in adhering to the government advice around the public health response, designed to ensure the safety of the entire community.

## What Does the Future Hold for Equestrian Victoria?

Our organisational focus remains squarely on sound fiscal management with an increased focus on:

1. EV's sport development pillar in the form of support for sport disciplines through:
  - Coaching, education, and youth development pathways
  - Increased engagement and support of clubs and members
  - Volunteer support for officials' and judges' education
  - Alignment to national planning
  - Commercial opportunities
2. EV events and event support, and ensuring equestrian sport has appropriate facilities for the conduct of the sport
3. Marketing and communications, including a refreshed digital presence for ISV and attracting non-traditional equestrian partners to EV events

We have high ambitions for Equestrian Victoria over the next three years. A post-COVID environment will create new challenges, and out of challenge comes opportunity - for which we are ready. We encourage you to join us on the journey and, in turn, live your equestrian dream.

## Matthew Brown

CEO, Equestrian VIC

## State Developments

Many areas of Equestrian Western Australia (EWA) saw growth in 2019. While it would have been great to see the continued increase in memberships seen in 2018 continued in 2019, the overall number of members are still above 2017 levels, following the introduction of Recreational and Adult Riding memberships in 2018. The overall membership income fell slightly, although the financials show an overall gross increase in membership income, relating to the increased EA Membership Insurance costs in the 2019 fees.

The number of horse Competition Licenses has fallen from 1,800 in 2016 to 1,511 in 2019. This has resulted in a decrease in levies received by our sport committees by 14% over the past two years, highlighting a reduced participation in the Sport.

It was pleasing to receive confirmation of The City of Swan approving funding; the amount of \$223,183 will provide the State Equestrian Centre (SEC) with ArenaKleen. This is a product designed to save bore water used at the facility and assist with dust suppression on the arena surfaces.

In addition, power supply has been added to 'Presidents Lawn', for utilization by vendors, in place of generators. This will be useful for keeping the noise down at trade fairs during events.

EWA CEO, Dwight Pedlow, was fortunate to attend the National Interschools Championships held at the Sydney International Equestrian Centre to watch the WA Interschools team compete and enjoy this amazing youth festival. Well done to all our riders, as well as parents and siblings in supporting our riders to participate in this great opportunity to represent WA.

EWA hosted the annual EA and State CEO's face to face meeting, which enabled the CEOs to also attend the Perth Horse Trials Wooroloo Three Day Event.

## Off The Track Educational Series – A Partnership with Racing and Wagering Western Australia

During the 2019/2020 year, EWA embarked on a partnership with Racing and Wagering Western Australia (RWAA) to deliver and promote an Off the Track educational series. The series provides opportunities for riders and Off the Track horses to improve themselves in a range of disciplines. It also includes off-horse activities such as horse management, goal setting, fitness training and psychology for both competitive and grass roots riders.

Utilising EA Level 1 and Level 2 coaches, ten clinics were delivered from January to July 2020, including two regional events. The partnership achieved outstanding results with more than 370 horses attending the clinics an average of 2.3 times. Anecdotal feedback regarding clinic content and delivery was overwhelmingly positive due to the quality and accessibility to accredited coaches, officials and judges. This partnership is continuing in 2020/2021.

## Member Information and Achievements

Pleasingly, member numbers have not been largely affected by COVID-19 and have remained fairly consistent in comparison to previous years. It is of note that the memberships taken out later in the year mostly included non-competitive categories.

Events at the State Equestrian Centre ran every weekend in 2019, including State Championships for Showjumping, Dressage and Show Horse of the Year, with many midweek clinics for coaching and other disciplines also being held.

The year 2020 started well with all weekends booked but, due to COVID-19 and the imposed restrictions, the SEC closed down on 21 March 2020, to be reopened in July 2020.

Unfortunately, this meant lots of events couldn't run and others tried to reschedule into the very little space available. Several events were required to share the SEC in order for their events to go ahead and all worked well together in order to make this happen. Western Australia has been very privileged to have this opportunity of normality.

The past year has had a number of highlights for the Show Horse Committee but probably the one that stands out is the success of the Western Australian team at the EA Australasian Horse and Rider at the Championships in December 2019. The Western Australia team made its presence felt by winning two Championships, a Reserve Champion in the Open Large Hunter Galloway and Second Runner-Up in the Open Medium Show Pony. There was great team spirit throughout the competition and we congratulate the team on their participation and success.



*WA coaching update Jan 2020 presented by 5 star Event rider and EA Level 3 coach Will Enzinger (supplied by EWA)*



## Coaching and Officiating

### High Performance initiatives and developments

In addition to several High-Performance workshops, Rod Brown visited Western Australia in August 2019 to deliver a three-day clinic to more than 25 Eventing and Jumping squad riders. Rod's main aim was to work on straightness, contact through leg to hand and lines between jumps. The SEC indoor arena provided an excellent venue for a small course set-up. Approximately 98% of clinic spots were filled and it was great to have a chance for riders to attend a 'meet and greet' with Rod on the Saturday evening.

At Swan Hills horse Trials in September 2019, Jacinta Without organised and ran an excellent Technical Delegate (TD) and Course Designer (CD) seminar to address the ongoing requirement for safety in Eventing. There were Interstate presenters, Roger Kane, Level 3 TD and Sylvia Roberts Level 3 CD. It was very well attended with very positive outcomes, it was also agreed that more Officials development and education opportunities be held.

## Events

### Carl Hester Masterclass – 14 October 2019

Dressage WA was thrilled to bring five-time Olympian, multi-medal winning rider and coach, Carl Hester MBE, to Perth for an intimate Masterclass on Monday 14 October 2019. On his way from the UK to New Zealand, Carl touched down for a one-night only "Through the Levels" masterclass at Western Australia's State Equestrian Centre.



*Full House for an Evening to Remember – Masterclass with Carl Hester 2019 (Eric Lloyd Photography)*



*Champion Show Hunter Pony (supplied by EWA)*

The Masterclass focused on six levels: Introduction to the Young Horse, 4 YO horse, 5 YO Horse, Elementary/Medium, Advanced, Small Tour and Large Tour, using local horse and rider combinations. The audience got so much out of the lessons with a packed State Equestrian Centre in attendance.

### Equestra – 7/8 December 2019

Equestra aims to provide a platform for a variety of equestrian sports and recreational activities to perform and exhibit their work in one place over a fun weekend celebrating the relationship between horse and human.

After the success of Equestra 2018, the two-day event was held again in December 2019, it saw the State Equestrian Centre host a free festival of equestrian disciplines, family entertainment, educational clinics, and training sessions for equestrian enthusiasts. The highlight event was an exhibition from Horsemanship Trainers Louise Ratcliffe and Dan Steers from Double Dan Horsemanship.

### Dwight Pedlow

CEO, Equestrian WA

# HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Gilbert Adrian QLD	Ronald Easey NSW	Megan Jones SA	Vicki Roycroft NSW
Gillian Adrian QLD	Jo Edwards SA (dec.)	Samantha Jones WA	Wayne Roycroft QLD
Lola Anderson VIC (dec.)	Jeff Evans SA	Scott Keach SA	Heath Ryan NSW
Malcolm Ansell VIC (dec.)	Boyd Exell QLD	Colin Kelly VIC (dec.)	Matt Ryan NSW
Kevin Bacon NSW (dec.)	(John) Thomas Fahey QLD	Margaret Kelly VIC (dec.)	Richard Sands WA
Frank Bawden SA	Stan Fear VIC	John Kelly VIC (dec.)	George Sanna NSW
Mervyn Bennett NSW	Kiera Foletta VIC (dec.)	Pat Kenneally VIC (dec.)	James Scanlon VIC (dec.)
Dianne Bennit WA	Joann Formosa VIC	Judy Kilby TAS	Wendy Schaeffer-McDonald SA
Hayley Beresford VIC	Clayton Fredericks WA	Nicole Kullen NSW (dec.)	Brian Schrapel VIC
Nikki Bishop NSW	Lucinda Fredericks WA	Ivy Lambert QLD	Michael Scott OAM SA
Geoffrey Bloomfield VIC	Fred Freeman WA	Neale Lavis NSW (dec.)	Tahlia Shambrook QLD
Grace Bowman SA	Kristina Fritzell SA	Harry Le Bherz QLD	Judith Sheldrake QLD
Rod Brown NSW	Robert Fryer VIC	Laurie Lever VIC	Robert Shepherd SA
John Bruggemann SA (dec.)	Marie Gahan VIC (dec.)	Anne Lindh SA	Chris Smith VIC
Richard Bruggemann SA (dec.)	Peter Gahan VIC (dec.)	Sue-Ellen Lovett NSW	Suzanne Smith VIC
Allan Bruno VIC	Ronald J Garrett QLD	Bridget MacIntyre NSW	Kerry Smith TAS
Olivia Bunn NSW	Robert Goldsworthy SA (dec.)	Lisa Martin NSW	Brook Staples NSW
Christopher Burton NSW	Denis Goulding SA	Jenny Marwood TAS	Anne Taylor WA
Jane Bush SA	Ann Graves TAS	Val Mayger WA	Erica Taylor SA
David Button WA	David Green QLD	Gregory McDermott NSW	Edie Thomas VIC (dec.)
Heather Cameron VIC (dec.)	Sandra Hammill VIC (dec.)	Geoff McGuire WA	Wyatt 'Bunty' Thompson NSW (dec.)
Samuel Campbell NSW	Mary Hanna VIC	Margaret McIver VIC (dec.)	Stuart Tinney NSW
Isabel Casey TAS	Julie Hargraves NSW	Rebel Morrow QLD	Edwina Tops-Alexander NSW
Gavin Chester VIC	Sandra Haynes SA	Jane Murray QLD	Zane Treloar SA
June Chesterman TAS	Suzanne Hearn NSW	Wanda Nelson VIC (dec.)	Michael Trenerry SA
Reginald Cleland VIC	Dennis Heather VIC (dec.)	Rob Oakley NSW	Katie-Maree Umback NSW
Francine Cleland VIC	Peter Hickey QLD	Lyndal Oatley NSW	Adrianus Uytendaal VIC
Jamie Coman VIC	Hollie Hicks QLD	Kristy Oatley-Nist NSW	Marg Van Heel VIC (dec.)
David Cooper NSW	Lynda Hicks QLD	Jenny Parlevliet VIC	Julie Wakefield VIC (dec.)
Ian Coulson TAS	Peter Hickson WA	James Paterson-Robinson NSW	Shirley Walsh QLD
Harry Cox VIC (dec.)	Julie Higgins NSW	Jack Patten VIC (dec.)	Tim Weigal WA (dec.)
Guy Creighton QLD	Judith Hogan WA	Denis Pigott NSW	Carol Wells WA (dec.)
Brian Cobcroft NSW (dec.)	Mary Hovers SA	Jan Pike NSW	Brian Whibley SA
Felicity Cribb NSW	Andrew Hoy NSW	Hazel Pither WA (dec.)	P Dennis White NSW (dec.)
Mrs De Crespigny VIC (dec.)	Wendy Hunt SA	Kaye Platt SA	Judy Whyntie SA
Derek Dobson QLD	Mary Ipkendanz WA	Stuart Platt SA	Matthew Williams VIC
Hannah Dodd NSW	Lynette Jacobs VIC (dec.)	Gillian Rolton OAM SA (dec.)	Antionette Williams QLD
Rachel Downs NSW	Sharon Jarvis WA	Shane Rose NSW	Mary Williamson VIC (dec.)
Jessica Draper VIC	Graham Jensen QLD	Amanda Ross VIC	
Jim Dunn OAM SA (dec.)	Sonja Johnson WA	Barry Roycroft VIC	
Phillip Dutton NSW	Russell Johnstone VIC	Clarke Roycroft VIC (dec.)	
Jack Eadon VIC (dec.)	Caroline Jones SA		

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED  
(Subject to Deed of Company Arrangement)

ABN 19 077 455 755



EQUESTRIAN  
AUSTRALIA

FINANCIAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020



## CONTENTS

Deed Administrators' Report .....	41
Auditor's Independence declaration .....	49
Financial Statements.....	50
Statement of Profit or Loss .....	51
Statement of Financial Position .....	52
Statement of Changes in Equity.....	53
Statement of Cash Flows .....	54
Notes to The Financial Statements .....	55
Deed Administrators' declaration.....	74

## Deed Administrators' Report

The Deed Administrators of Equestrian Australia Limited (Subject to Deed of Company Arrangement) (the **Company**) have resolved to make and sign this report in place of the directors, and in our capacity as Deed Administrators of the Company for the year ended 30 June 2020.

On 9 June 2020, we were appointed Voluntary Administrators of the Company. On 16 July 2020 on the execution of a Deed of Company Arrangement (**DOCA**), we were appointed as Deed Administrators.

We have made this report based on information provided to us by the Company and with records that we have inspected. This report is made by us without having had any involvement with the Company prior to our date of appointment as Voluntary Administrators.

To the maximum extent permissible, we disclaim any representation made or implied by us as a result of information provided to us which we may reasonably rely upon. This disclaimer does not extend to any conduct which is attributable to any willful misconduct, gross negligence or willful failure to comply with relevant legislation.

### Administrators

The name of the Company's Deed Administrators and Voluntary Administrators in office during the financial year and until the date of this report is set out below.

- Kate Conneely
- Craig Shepard

### Governance Overview

The Company operates as a company limited by guarantee. This structure reflects the best practice recommendations for national sporting organisations (**NSOs**) contained in Sport Australia's Mandatory Sports Governance Principles. As a company limited by guarantee, the Company is governed by the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) and is required to comply with all applicable legal and reporting obligations.

#### *Registered office*

The Company's registered office is:

Unit 7  
11-21 Underwood Road  
HOMEBSH NSW 2129

#### *Members' limited liability*

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 2020, the total amount that members of the Company are liable to contribute if the Company is wound up was \$6 (2019: \$6).



## Directors

The following persons were directors of the Company during the whole of the financial year, unless otherwise stated:

- Peter William Toft (resigned 15 September 2020)
- Helen Hamilton James (resigned 15 September 2020)
- John Gregory Glenn (resigned 15 September 2020)
- Catherine Margaret Collier (resigned 15 September 2020)
- Erica Ethel Macmillan (resigned 11 May 2020)
- Gillian Anne Canapini (resigned 18 September 2019, appointed 16 January 2020, and resigned 11 May 2020)
- David Cameron (resigned 4 February 2020)
- Suzanne Aileen Doyle (resigned 8 November 2019)
- Alistair Robert Mackinlay (resigned 7 November 2019)

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

## Company Secretary

The Company Secretary was Ms Sashi Sharin Lata. The Company Secretary resigned on 25 August 2020.

## Principal Activities

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

## Company Objectives

The objectives of the Company are split between short term and long term objectives.

### Short Term Objectives

- Improve the capacity and capability of the Equestrian Australia service offering to members or our community.
- Continuously improve member safety and horse welfare through the development of sound policy and process.
- Focus on domestic and international high-performance development across all disciplines.
- Enhance communication to build trust and enable inclusive decision making across our community.

### Long Term Objectives

- To see Equestrian sport thrive in Australia for generations to come.

- Enhance the Pathway Programs for Officials, Volunteers, Coaches and Athletes to encourage year on year membership growth.
- Perform on the World Stage including World Equestrian Games and Olympic Games and Maintain alignment with the Sport Australia's Sport 2030 - National Sport Plan to ensure we are the world's most active and healthy nation, known for our integrity and sporting success.
- Identify alternate revenue streams to build the financial reserves of Equestrian Australia.

## Review of Operations

The operating profit for the year ended 30 June 2020 as \$228,105 (2019: \$141,349).

### Financial Management

The financial statements are presented in Australian currency. The annual report and the financial statements were authorised for issue by us on 24 December 2020.

During our appointment we have the power to amend and reissue the annual report and the financial statements. After our appointment, the Company's directors have the power to amend and reissue the annual report and the financial statements.

### Dividends

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

## Director Information

The details of each Director's qualifications, special responsibilities and experience at 30 June 2020 are set out below.

Director	Term	Qualifications and Experience	Special Responsibilities
Peter William Toft	21 November 2018 to 15 September 2020	FEI Official and Technical Delegate within Equestrian Sport	None
Helen Hamilton James	1 April 2019 to 15 September 2020	LLB (hons) Aberdeen University, Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales and a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia	Chair of Finance Audit and Risk Management committee

John Gregory Glenn	1 April 2019 to 15 September 2020	Australian Institute of Company Directors, GAICD, FAIML, Post grad qualification in Mathematics, Engineering, Computer Science and Management	None
Catherine Margaret Collier	16 January 2020 to 15 September 2020	Master of Business Administration, FAICD, and JP (QLD) former EQLD Director and Vice Chair; has worked in government, the media, commercial and not for profit sectors	None
Erica Ethel Macmillan	1 April 2019 to 11 May 2020	Dual Olympian, Bachelor of Dentistry	Chair (until May 2019)
Gillian Anne Canapini	21 November 2018 to 18 September 2019 and 16 January 2020 to 11 May 2020	Advanced Diploma in HR, LLB Melbourne, Professional Certificate in Arbitration, Certificate Mediation	None
David Cameron	1 February 2019 to 4 February 2020	Bachelor Secondary Education and Human Movement	Athlete Director. HP Panel.
Suzanne Aileen Doyle	3 November 2017 to 8 November 2019	PhD Economics	Chair (until April 2019) & Member of Finance Audit and Risk Management & Remuneration Committee
Alistair Robert Mackinlay	21 November 2018 to 7 November 2019	LLB. Former admitted practitioner	Chair (until April 2019) & Member of Finance Audit and Risk Management & Remuneration Committee



## Meetings of Directors

During the financial year, 13 meetings of directors were held. Attendances by each director were as follows:

	Board Meetings	
	Eligible to Attend	Attended
Suzanne Doyle	6	6
Alistair MacKinlay	6	6
Peter Toft	13	10
Rick MacMillan	11	10
John Glenn	13	12
Gillian Canapini	6	6
David Cameron	7	7
Helen Hamilton-James	13	13
Cathi Collier	6	5

## Significant Changes in the State of Affairs

On 9 June 2020, the then Board of Directors of the Company resolved to place the Company into voluntary administration, with Kate Conneely and Craig Shepard of KordaMentha appointed as Voluntary Administrators. At the Second Meeting of Creditors held on 14 July 2020, creditors of the Company resolved that the Company execute a DOCA. The DOCA was executed on 16 July 2020, and the Voluntary Administrators became the Deed Administrators.

The key objectives of the DOCA have now been achieved, and include the following:

- The calling of a special general meeting of the Company to amend the Company's Constitution.
- The establishment of a Deed Fund, from which creditor claims were to be paid in full.
- The selection and appointment of a Nominations Committee to consider applications for a position on the First Board of Directors of the Company, and to provide a recommendation of appropriately qualified candidates to the Deed Administrators.
- The appointment of nine individuals to comprise the First Board of Directors of the Company.

As the outcome of the administration is now known, the accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis. The Deed Administrators do not have any intention as at the date of this report to wind down or liquidate operations of the Company.

On entering administration, all liabilities of the Company, including but not limited to, trade and other payables, and employee entitlements, were frozen ('Pre-appointment Liabilities'). On 20 October 2020, the Deed Administrators made a distribution of 100 cents in dollar to admitted creditors of the Pre-appointment Liabilities in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth).

As at the date of this report, the final administrative obligations pursuant to the terms of the DOCA are being attended to, and the documentation required to be lodged to effectuate the DOCA will be completed shortly. Control of the Company will revert to the First Board of Directors on effectuation of the DOCA.

To the best of the Deed Administrators' knowledge, there have been no circumstances arising, other than those disclosed below, since 30 June 2020 that have significantly affected or may significantly affect:

- a. The operations
- b. The results of those operations, or
- c. The state of affairs of Equestrian Australia Limited in future financial years.

### **Environmental Regulations**

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

### **New Accounting Standards Implemented**

The Company has implemented three new Accounting Standards that are applicable for the current reporting period.

AASB 15: Revenue from Contracts with Customers

AASB 1058: Income of Not-for-Profit Entities

AASB 16: Leases

These have been applied using the cumulative effective method; that is, by recognising the cumulative effect of initially applying AASB 15, AASB 1058 and AASB 16 as an adjustment to the opening balance of equity at 1 January 2019. Therefore, the comparative information has not been restated and continues to be reported under AASB 118: Revenue, AASB 117: Leases and AASB 1004: Contributions. Further information is provided in Note 1 to the financial statements.

### **Matters Subsequent to the End of the Financial Year**

The Coronavirus pandemic ('COVID-19') and related measures to slow the spread of the virus have had a significant impact on the Australian and global economy, supply chains and financial markets, and resulted in increased levels of volatility and uncertainties. The effects of this health crisis are continuing to unfold, and the ultimate extent of the economic impacts worldwide are unknown. For the year ended 30 June 2020, COVID-19 has impacted the Company, specifically as follows:

- Reduced ability to hold equestrian events and therefore generate membership and other income.
- Requirement to reduce employee contact hours, in line with the decreased operational demand.
- Restricted interstate activity of equestrian sport.
- Restricted international and interstate travel.
- Receipt of Federal Government support by way of Jobkeeper and Cashflow Booster payments.

Despite the impact of COVID-19, the Company generated profit of \$228,105 and maintained positive working capital.

Management has prepared projected cash flow information for the twelve months from the date of approval of these accounts taking into consideration estimated continued business impacts of COVID-19. In response to the

uncertainty arising from this, conservative assumptions have been applied around membership and event income, external grant funding and operational expenses.

These forecasts indicate that, taking account of reasonably possible downsides, the Company is expected to continue to operate within available cash levels.

However, there are risks present which may threaten the Company's ability to continue as a going concern if they were to occur, including:

- The ongoing situation surrounding COVID-19, and the potential impact on membership or the Company's operations should Government-imposed restrictions significantly increase, particularly if geographical lockdowns are imposed.
- The Company's funding as NSO not being reinstated in due course.
- Any other material event or interruption to the Company's operations which may occur beyond the control of the Company.

The risk of the above circumstances eventuating remains present and very real. As at the date of signing these accounts, and after assessing the Company's current circumstances, the Deed Administrators are satisfied as to the Company's ability to continue as a going concern as at the date of the accounts.

#### **Indemnification of Officers and Auditors**

During the 2020 financial year, the Company paid a premium in respect of contracts insuring the Directors of the Company, the Company Secretary and all executive officers of the Company against a liability incurred as a director, secretary or executive officer to the extent permitted by the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth).

The Company has not otherwise, during or since the end of the financial year, except to the extent permitted by law, indemnified or agreed to indemnify an officer or auditor of the Company against a liability incurred as such officer or auditor.

#### **Proceedings on Behalf of the Company**

No person has applied to the Court under section 237 of *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) for leave to bring proceedings on behalf of the Company.

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

#### **Auditor's Independence Declaration**

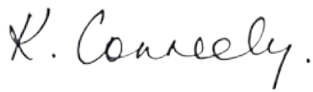
The auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) is included after this report.



#### Auditor

Walker Wayland Audit (WA) Pty Limited continues in office in accordance with section 327 of *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth).

This report is signed in accordance with a resolution of the Deed Administrators.



Kate Conneely  
Deed Administrator  
SYDNEY

24 December 2020.

**Auditor's Independence Declaration Under Section 307C of The Corporations Act 2001 to  
The Deed Administrators of Equestrian Australia Limited.**

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2020 there have been no contraventions of:

- (i) the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

*Walker Wayland Audit (WA) Pty Ltd*

**WALKER WAYLAND AUDIT (WA) PTY LTD**

*Richard J Gregson*

**Richard Gregson CA**  
**Director**  
Level 3, 1 Preston Street, COMO WA 6152

Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> day of December 2020

## Financial Statements

These financial statements cover Equestrian Australia Limited. The financial statements are presented in Australian currency.

Equestrian Australia Limited is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated, and domiciled in Australia. Its registered office and principal place of business is:

Equestrian Australia Limited (Subject to Deed of Company Arrangement)  
Unit 7  
11-21 Underwood Road  
HOMEBSH NSW 2129

A description of the Company's operations and its principal activities is included in the Deed Administrator's report on pages 1 to 8, which is not part of these financial statements.

The financial statements were authorised for issue by the Deed Administrators on 24 December 2020. The Deed Administrators have the power to amend and reissue the financial statements.

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES  
THE SUPPORT OF ITS PROGRAM PARTNERS



**SPORTAUS**



## Statement of Profit or Loss

And Other Comprehensive Income for the Year Ended 30 June 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>Revenue</b>			
Revenue	2	5,609,715	6,551,378
Other revenue		765,810	455,350
		<u>6,375,525</u>	<u>7,006,728</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Amortisation and impairment loss	3	28,425	32,208
Depreciation expenses	3	47,355	38,806
Employee benefits expense	3	1,638,627	1,448,882
High performance program expenses		1,681,719	2,559,084
Insurance premiums & related expenses		1,522,704	1,467,155
Finance and bank fees		21,261	37,699
Office and IT cost		211,636	233,613
Professional fees		306,186	109,659
Event and promotion expenses		18,009	26,989
Travel, board and committee expenses		80,807	109,612
FEI expenses		216,868	314,508
Other expenses		373,824	487,164
		<u>6,147,421</u>	<u>6,865,379</u>
<b>Net current year surplus</b>		<u>228,105</u>	<u>141,349</u>
<b>Other comprehensive income for the year</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total Comprehensive Income</b>		<u><u>228,105</u></u>	<u><u>141,349</u></u>

The accompanying notes on pages 55-73 form an integral part of these accounts

## Statement of Financial Position

For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	1,320,158	1,725,052
Receivables	6	9,768	42,847
Inventories	7	-	11,230
Other assets	8	386,409	14,041
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>1,716,335</b>	<b>1,793,170</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	9	1,092,334	1,064,545
Intangible assets	10	43,276	71,701
<b>Total Non-current Assets</b>		<b>1,135,610</b>	<b>1,136,246</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>2,851,945</b>	<b>2,929,416</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Payables	11	430,771	444,638
Provisions	13	123,685	118,705
Lease Liability		12,399	-
Other Liabilities	14	542,681	883,581
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<b>1,109,536</b>	<b>1,446,924</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Provisions	13	9,858	22,256
Lease Liability		44,209	-
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<b>54,067</b>	<b>22,256</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>1,163,603</b>	<b>1,469,180</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>1,688,341</b>	<b>1,460,236</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Reserves	15	594,014	594,014
Retained surplus	16	1,094,327	866,222
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>1,688,341</b>	<b>1,460,236</b>

The accompanying notes on pages 55-73 form an integral part of these accounts

## Statement of Changes in Equity

For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

	Reserves	Retained surplus	Total Equity
	\$	\$	\$
<b>Balance as at 1 July 2018</b>	594,014	724,873	1,318,887
Surplus for the year attributable to members of the entity		141,349	141,349
<b>Balance as at 1 July 2019</b>	594,014	866,222	1,460,236
<b>Balance as at 1 July 2019</b>	594,014	866,222	1,460,236
Surplus for the year attributable to members of the entity		228,105	228,105
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2020</b>	<b>594,014</b>	<b>1,094,327</b>	<b>1,688,341</b>

The accompanying notes on pages 55-73 form an integral part of these accounts



## Statement of Cash Flows

For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

	Note	2020 \$	2019 \$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Government grants received		3,713,710	4,118,844
Other receipts in the course of operations		3,561,943	2,705,131
Payments to suppliers and employees		(7,675,004)	(6,634,398)
Interest received		2,739	2,877
<b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>	17 (ii)	<u>(396,612)</u>	<u>192,455</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		<u>(8,212)</u>	<u>(10,781)</u>
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>		<u>(8,212)</u>	<u>(10,781)</u>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Payment of borrowings		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net decrease in cash held</b>		(404,894)	181,674
Cash on hand at beginning of the financial year		<u>1,725,051</u>	<u>1,543,378</u>
<b>Cash at end of the financial year</b>	17 (i)	<u><u>1,320,158</u></u>	<u><u>1,725,052</u></u>

The accompanying notes on pages 55-73 form an integral part of these accounts

## Notes to The Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2020

### 1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements cover Equestrian Australia Limited as an individual company, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Equestrian Australia Limited is a company limited by guarantee.

The financial report was approved by the Deed Administrators on 24 December 2020.

#### Basis of preparation of the financial report

These general-purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with them *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) and Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations of the Australian Accounting Standards Board. The Company is a not-for-profit company for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

#### Compliance with the Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements

The financial statements of the Company comply with the Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements as issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB).

The financial report has been prepared in accordance with the significant accounting policies disclosed below, determined to be appropriate to meet the needs of members. Such accounting policies are consistent with the previous period unless stated otherwise.

#### Accounting Policies

##### (a) 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.

#### Revenue recognition

The Company has applied AASB 15: *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* (AASB 15) and AASB 1058: *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities* (AASB 1058) using the cumulative effective method of initially applying AASB 15 and AASB 1058 as an adjustment to the opening balance of equity at 1 January 2019. Therefore, the comparative information has not been restated and continues to be presented under AASB 118: *Revenue* and AASB 1004: *Contributions*.

## In the current year

### *Contributed assets*

The Company receives assets from the government and other parties for nil or nominal consideration in order to further its objectives. These assets are recognised in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards (for example, AASB 9, AASB 16, AASB 116 and AASB 138).

On initial recognition of an asset, the Company recognises related amounts (being contributions, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer).

The Company recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

### *Operating grants, donations, bequests and sponsorship*

When the Company received operating grant revenue, donations or bequests or sponsorship amounts, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15.

When both these conditions are satisfied, the Company:

- identifies each performance obligation relating to the grant
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations.

Where the contract is not enforceable or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the Company:

- recognises the asset received in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards (for example AASB 9, AASB 16, AASB 116 and AASB 138)
- recognises related amounts (being contributions, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer)
- recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

If a contract liability is recognised as a related amount above, the Company recognises income in profit or loss when or as it satisfies its obligations under the contract.

### *Capital grant*

When the Company receives a capital grant, it recognises a liability for the excess of the initial carrying amount of the financial asset received over any related amounts (being contributions, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer) recognised under other Australian Accounting Standards.



The Company recognises income in profit or loss when or as the Company satisfies its obligations under the terms of the grant.

#### *Interest income*

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method.

#### *Dividend income*

The Company recognises dividends in profit or loss only when the Company's right to receive payment of the dividend is established.

#### *Branch Levy and Membership Income*

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

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

#### **In the comparative period**

Non-reciprocal grant revenue was recognised in profit or loss when the Company obtained control of the grant and it was probable that the economic benefits gained from the grant would flow to the Company and the amount of the grant could be measured reliably.

If conditions were attached to the grant which must be satisfied before the Company was eligible to receive the contribution, the recognition of the grant as revenue was deferred until those conditions were satisfied.

When grant revenue was received whereby the Company incurred an obligation to deliver economic value directly back to the contributor, this was considered a reciprocal transaction and the grant revenue was recognised in the statement of financial position as a liability until the service had been delivered to the contributor; otherwise, the grant was recognised as income on receipt.

The Company received non-reciprocal contributions of assets from the government and other parties for no or nominal value.

These assets were recognised at fair value on the date of acquisition in the statement of financial position, with a corresponding amount of income recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

Donations and bequests were recognised as revenue when received.

Interest revenue was recognised using the effective interest method, which for floating rate financial assets is the rate inherent in the instrument. Dividend revenue was recognised when the right to receive a dividend had been established. Rental income from operating leases was recognised on a straight-line basis over the term of the relevant leases.

Revenue from the rendering of a service was recognised upon the delivery of the service to the customer.

## **(b) 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 transactions during the year are converted to Australian currency at the time of exchange and are based on the actual exchange rate plus any fees for that exchange, offered by the Company's bank at the time of exchange.

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.

## **(c) Inventories on Hand**

Inventories are measured at the lower of cost and current replacement cost.

Inventories held for distribution are measured at cost adjusted, when applicable, for any loss of service potential.

Inventories acquired at no cost or for nominal consideration are measured at the current replacement cost as at the date of acquisition.

## **(d) Fair Value Assets and Liabilities**

The Company measures some of its assets at fair value on a recurring basis.

Fair value is the price the Company would receive to sell an asset or would have to pay to transfer a liability in an orderly (i.e., unforced) transaction between independent, knowledgeable and willing market participants at the measurement date.

As fair value is a market-based measure, the closest equivalent observable market pricing information is used to determine fair value. Adjustments to market values may be made having regard to the characteristics of the specific asset or liability. The fair values of assets and liabilities that are not traded in an active market are determined using one or more valuation techniques. These valuation techniques maximise, to the extent possible, the use of observable market data.

To the extent possible, market information is extracted from either the principal market for the asset or liability (i.e. the market with the greatest volume and level of activity for the asset or liability) or, in the absence of such a market, the most advantageous market available to the company at reporting date (i.e. the market that maximises the receipts from the sale of the asset or minimises the payment made to transfer the liability, after taking into account transaction costs and transport costs).

For non-financial assets, the fair value measurement also takes into account a market participant's ability to use the asset in its highest and best use, or to sell it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use. The fair value of liabilities and the company's own equity instruments (excluding those related to share-based payment arrangements) may be valued, where there is no observable market price in relation to the transfer of such financial instrument, by reference to observable market information where such instruments are

held as assets. Where this information is not available, other valuation techniques are adopted and, where significant, are detailed in the respective note to the financial statements.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing net proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they occur. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation relating to that asset are transferred to retained surplus.

#### (e) Property, Plant and Equipment

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

Plant and equipment is measured on a cost basis and is therefore carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. In the event the carrying amount is written down immediately to the estimated recoverable amount impairment losses are recognised either in profit or loss or as a revaluation decrease if the impairment losses relate to a revalued asset. A formal assessment of the recoverable amount is made when impairment indicators are present.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Company and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are recognised as expenses in profit or loss in the financial period in which they are incurred.

Plant and equipment that have been contributed at no cost or for nominal costs are recognised at the fair value of the asset at the date it is acquired.

#### Depreciation and amortisation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets, including buildings and capitalised lease assets, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

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

Class of Fixed Asset	Depreciation Rates	Depreciation basis
Buildings & Building Partitioning	2.5%	Straight Line
Computer & Office Equipment	20% - 40%	Straight Line
Veterinary Equipment	20%	Straight Line

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. The gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they arise. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation surplus relating to the asset are transferred to retained surplus.



## (f) Leases

### *The Company as lessee*

At inception of a contract, the Company assesses if the contract contains or is a lease. If there is a lease present, a right-of-use asset and a corresponding lease liability is recognised by the Company where the Company is a lessee. However, all contracts that are classified as short-term leases (i.e. a lease with a remaining lease term of 12 months or less) and leases of low-value assets are recognised as an operating expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

Initially, the lease liability is measured at the present value of the lease payments still to be paid at commencement date. The lease payments are discounted at the interest rate implicit in the lease. If this rate cannot be readily determined, the Company uses the incremental borrowing rate.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability are as follows:

- fixed lease payments less any lease incentives;
- variable lease payments that depend on an index or rate, initially measured using the index or rate at the commencement date;
- the amount expected to be payable by the lessee under residual value guarantees;
- the exercise price of purchase options, if the lessee is reasonably certain to exercise the options;
- lease payments under extension options if the lessee is reasonably certain to exercise the options; and
- payments of penalties for terminating the lease, if the lease term reflects the exercise of an option to terminate the lease

The right-of-use assets comprise the initial measurement of the corresponding lease liability as mentioned above, any lease payments made at or before the commencement date, as well as any initial direct costs. The subsequent measurement of the right-of-use assets is at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Right-of-use assets are depreciated over the lease term or useful life of the underlying asset, whichever is the shortest. Where a lease transfers ownership of the underlying asset, or the cost of the right-of-use asset reflects that the Company anticipates to exercise a purchase option, the specific asset is depreciated over the useful life of the underlying asset.

### *Concessionary leases*

For leases that have significantly below-market terms and conditions principally to enable the Company to further its objectives (commonly known as peppercorn/concessionary leases), the Company has adopted the temporary relief under AASB 2018-8 and measures the right-of-use assets at cost on initial recognition.

### **The Company as lessor**

The Company did not operate as a lessor.

## **(g) Financial Instruments**

### **Initial recognition and measurement**

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the company becomes a party to contractual provisions to the instrument. For financial assets, this is equivalent to the date that the Company commits itself to either purchase or sell the asset (i.e. trade date accounting is adopted).

#### *(ii) Loans and Receivables*

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market and are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss through the amortisation process and when the financial asset is derecognised.

#### *(v) Financial liabilities*

Non-derivative financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss through the amortisation process and when the financial liability is derecognised.

### **Impairment**

A financial asset (or a group of financial assets) is deemed to be impaired if, and only if, there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of one or more events (a "loss event") having occurred, which has an impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial assets.

Impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss immediately. Also, any cumulative decline in fair value previously recognised in other comprehensive income is reclassified into profit or loss at this point.

In the case of financial assets carried at amortised cost, loss events may include: indications that the debtors or a group of debtors are experiencing significant financial difficulty, default or delinquency in interest or principal payments; indications that they will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganisation; and changes in arrears or economic conditions that correlate.

### **Derecognition**

Financial assets are derecognised when the contractual right to receipt of cash flows expires or the asset is transferred to another party whereby the company no longer has any significant continuing involvement in the risks and benefits associated with the asset. Financial liabilities are derecognised when the related obligations are discharged or cancelled or have expired. The difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability extinguished or transferred to another party and the fair value of consideration paid, including the transfer of non-cash assets or liabilities assumed, is recognised in profit or loss.

### **Recognition of expected credit losses in financial statements**

At each reporting date, the company recognises the movement in the loss allowance as an impairment gain or loss in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

The carrying amount of financial assets measured at amortised cost includes the loss allowance relating to that asset.

Assets measured at fair value through other comprehensive income are recognised at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in other comprehensive income. The amount in relation to change in credit risk is transferred from other comprehensive income to profit or loss at every reporting period.

For financial assets that are unrecognised (e.g., loan commitments yet to be drawn, financial guarantees), a provision for loss allowance is created in the statement of financial position to recognise the loss allowance.

#### **(h) Impairment of Assets**

At the end of each reporting period, the Company assesses whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. If such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised immediately in profit or loss, unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount in accordance with another Standard (e.g., in accordance with the revaluation model in AASB 116). Any impairment loss of a revalued asset is treated as a revaluation decrease in accordance with that other Standard.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the Company estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Where the future economic benefits of the asset are not primarily dependent upon the asset's ability to generate net cash inflows and when the company would, if deprived of the asset, replace its remaining future economic benefits, value in use is determined as the depreciated replacement cost of an asset.

Where an impairment loss on a revalued asset is identified, this is recognised against the revaluation surplus in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that class of asset.

#### **(i) Employee Provisions**

##### **Short-term employee benefits**

Provision is made for the Company's obligation for short-term employee benefits. Short-term employee benefits are benefits (other than termination benefits) that are expected to be settled wholly before 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees render the related service, including wages, salaries and sick leave. Short-term employee benefits are measured at the (undiscounted) amounts expected to be paid when the obligation is settled. The Company's obligations for short-term employee benefits such as wages, salaries and sick leave are recognised as part of current accounts payable and other payables in the statement of financial position.

##### **Other long-term employee benefits**

Provision is made for employees' annual leave entitlements not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees rendered the related service. Other long-term employee benefits are measured at the present value of the expected future payments to be made to employees. Expected future payments incorporate anticipated future wage and salary levels, durations of service and employee departures, and are discounted at rates determined by reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period on high quality corporate bonds that have maturity dates that approximate the terms of the obligations.

#### **(j) Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within short-term borrowings in current liabilities on the statement of financial position.



**(k) Accounts Receivable and Other Debtors**

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts due from members as well as amounts receivable from customers for services provided in the ordinary course of business.

Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

Accounts receivable are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any provision for impairment. Refer to Note 1(g) for further discussion on the determination of impairment losses.

**(l) Income Tax**

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

**(m) 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 Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are presented as operating cash flows included in receipts from customers or payments to suppliers.

**(n) Comparative Figures**

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

**(o) Accounts Payable and Other Payables**

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liabilities outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the Company during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

**(p) 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 outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions recognised represent the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

**(q) Going Concern Basis**

The financial report has been prepared on a going concern basis, which assumes continuity of normal business activities and the realisation of assets and the settlement of liabilities in the ordinary course of business.

On 9 June 2020, the Company resolved enter voluntary administration, and subsequently entered a DOCA on 16 July 2020. As at the date of this report, the final administrative obligations pursuant to the terms of the DOCA are being finalised.

Management has prepared projected cash flow information for the twelve months from the date of approval of these accounts taking into consideration estimated continued business impacts of COVID-19. In response to the uncertainty arising from this, conservative assumptions have been applied around membership and event income, external grant funding and operational expenses.

These forecasts indicate that, taking account of reasonably possible downsides, the Company is expected to continue to operate within available cash levels.

However, there are risks present which may threaten the Company's ability to continue as a going concern if they were to occur, including:

- The ongoing situation surrounding COVID-19, and the potential impact on membership or the Company's operations should Government-imposed restrictions significantly increase, particularly if geographical lockdowns are imposed.
- The Company's funding as NSO not being reinstated in due course.
- Any other material event or interruption to the Company's operations which may occur beyond the control of the Company.

The risk of any of the above circumstances eventuating remains present, and that they present a significant material uncertainty in the ability of the Company to continue as a going concern and to realise its assets in the normal course of business and at the amounts stated in the financial report.

#### **(r) 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.

##### **Long service leave.**

Net present value calculations are used to estimate the long service leave provision.

#### **(s) New and Amended Accounting Policies Adopted by the Company**

##### **Initial application of AASB 16**

The Company has adopted AASB 16: Leases with the cumulative effect of initially applying AASB 16 recognised at 1 July 2019. In accordance with AASB 16, the comparatives for the 2019 reporting period have not been restated.

### Initial application of AASB 15 and AASB 1058

The Company has applied AASB 15: Revenue from Contracts with Customers and AASB 1058: Income of Not-for-Profit Entities using the cumulative effective method of initially applying AASB 15 and AASB 1058 as an adjustment to the opening balance of equity at 1 July 2019. Therefore, the comparative information has not been restated and continues to be presented under AASB 118: Revenue and AASB 1004: Contributions.

The Company has elected to apply AASB 1058 retrospectively only to contracts that are not completed contracts at the date of initial application. A classification change occurred, which resulted in the deferred income now being classified as contract liability in line with wording used in AASB 15.

### (t) Financial Risk Management

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

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 will have overall responsibility for identifying and managing operational and financial risks.

### Economic Dependence and Government Risk

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

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

### 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 organization has no borrowings. Subject to consideration of liquidity risk, cash is held in fixed interest rate accounts to maximise returns.

### 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 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.

#### Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that a company 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 are maintained.

2. REVENUE	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Revenue from grant funding	2,893,151	3,744,404
Branch Admin levies and related contributions	643,740	535,854
ICDF Funding	-	-
Making Eventing Safer Revenue	38,621	62,460
Education and Participation	308,043	375,454
Branch Insurance levy and other Insurance revenue	1,588,420	1,703,329
Interest revenue	2,739	2,877
Sponsorship	135,000	127,000
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>5,609,715</b>	<b>6,551,378</b>

3. EXPENSE	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Cost of Equestrian Goods	33,890	36,979
Amortisation and impairment loss	28,425	32,208
Depreciation	47,355	38,806
Making Eventing Safer Expense	38,621	62,460
Provision for doubtful debts/Bad Debts	69,543	3,348
Employee benefits	1,638,627	1,448,882
Audit Fees	11,146	12,500
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>1,867,607</b>	<b>1,635,183</b>

#### 4. 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. Four key management positions are included. No remuneration was paid to the Directors.

Key management personnel compensation	2020	2019
	\$482,015	\$445,644
	>\$150,000	>\$150,000
	1	1
	<\$150,000	<\$150,000
	3	3

## 5. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Petty Cash	200	-
Bank Account - General Account	10,525	1,484,530
Bank Account - Reserve Account - Making Eventing Safer Fund	1	103,261
Bank Account – Reserve Account	-	137,261
Bank Account – Restricted Funds Account	1,281,654	-
Bank Account – Restricted Funds Account	27,778	-
	<u>1,320,158</u>	<u>1,725,052</u>

## 6. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Trade Debtors	<u>9,768</u>	<u>42,847</u>

## 7. INVENTORIES

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Inventories - at cost	<u>-</u>	<u>11,230</u>

## 8. OTHER ASSETS

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Prepayments	304,894	14,041
GST refund due	81,515	-
<b>Total other assets</b>	<u><b>386,409</b></u>	<u><b>14,041</b></u>

## 9. PROPERTY, PLANT & EQUIPMENT

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Building - at fair value	1,100,000	1,100,000
Less accumulated depreciation - Building	(85,500)	(55,000)
	<u>1,017,500</u>	<u>1,045,000</u>
Building partitioning - at cost	114,851	114,851
Less accumulated depreciation - Partition	(109,607)	(108,775)
	<u>5,244</u>	<u>6,076</u>
Right of Use Asset – Photocopier	66,862	-
Less accumulated depreciation – ROU	(11,144)	-
	<u>55,718</u>	<u>-</u>

Computer and office equipment - at cost	141,494	133,212
Less accumulated depreciation - Computer and office equipment	(127,622)	(120,373)
	<u>13,872</u>	<u>12,839</u>
Veterinary equipment - at cost	39,033	39,033
Less accumulated depreciation - Veterinary equipment	(39,033)	(38,403)
	<u>-</u>	<u>630</u>
<b>Total Property, Plant and Equipment</b>	<b><u>1,092,334</u></b>	<b><u>1,064,545</u></b>

**(a) Details for measurement of amounts**

On 10 December 2020, a valuation report was issued for all land and buildings. That valuation report was conducted by licensed valuers, Anderson Group Valuers. The valuation at 10 December 2020 for all land and buildings held at the time was \$1,100,000.

**(b) Reconciliations**

	Building	Building partitioning	Computer and office equipment	Veterinary equipment	Right of Use Asset	Total
Opening carrying amount	1,045,000	6,076	12,839	630	-	1,064,545
Additions	-	-	8,282	-	66,862	75,144
Revaluation of fair value of building	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation Expense	(27,500)	(832)	(7,249)	(630)	(11,144)	(47,355)
<b>Closing Carrying amount</b>	<b>1,017,500</b>	<b>5,244</b>	<b>13,872</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>55,718</b>	<b>1,092,334</b>

10. INTANGIBLE ASSETS	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Software - at cost	199,190	199,190
Less accumulated amortisation - Software	(166,919)	(142,162)
	<u>32,271</u>	<u>57,028</u>
Patent and Trademark	14,673	14,673
Less accumulated amortisation	(3,668)	-
	<u>11,005</u>	<u>14,673</u>
<b>Total intangible assets</b>	<b><u>43,276</u></b>	<b><u>71,701</u></b>

11. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES	2020	2019
	\$	\$
<b>Current</b>		
Trade creditors	53,597	114,190
Accruals	312,969	109,750
Employee super	31,397	-
GST, FBT and PAYG payable	32,808	127,669
Other creditors	-	93,029
<b>Total Trade and Other Payables</b>	<b><u>430,771</u></b>	<b><u>444,638</u></b>

12. BORROWINGS	2020	2019
	\$	\$
<b>Bank and financing arrangements</b>		
The company has access to the following:		
Credit card facility	-	21,000
	<u>-</u>	<u>21,000</u>
Facilities not utilised at balance date:		
Credit card facility	-	15,400
<b>Total borrowings</b>	<b><u>-</u></b>	<b><u>15,400</u></b>

13. PROVISIONS	2020	2019
<b>Current</b>	\$	\$
Employee benefits (a)	123,685	118,705
<b>Non-Current</b>		
Employee benefits (a)	9,858	22,256
<b>(a) Aggregate employee benefits liability</b>	<b><u>133,543</u></b>	<b><u>140,961</u></b>



14. OTHER LIABILITIES	2020	2019
<b>Current</b>	\$	\$
Grant monies carried over	41,407	390,453
Other revenue received in advance	476,374	493,128
WCSJ Revenue Carried Over	24,900	-
<b>Total Other Liabilities</b>	<b>542,681</b>	<b>883,581</b>

15. RESERVES	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Asset Revaluation Reserve	594,014	594,014

16. ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2019	866,222	724,873
Surplus for the year	228,105	141,349
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2020</b>	<b>1,094,327</b>	<b>866,222</b>

#### 17. 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.

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Cash at bank, on deposit and on hand	1,320,157	1,725,052
<b>(ii) Reconciliation of cash flow from operations with surplus for the year</b>		
Surplus for the year	228,105	141,349
<i>Adjustments and non-cash items:</i>		
Depreciation	47,355	38,806
Amortisation	28,425	32,208
Net cash provided before changes in assets and liabilities		212,363
<i>Changes in assets and liabilities during the financial year</i>		
(Increase) / Decrease in receivables	33,079	320,270
(Increase) / Decrease in other assets	(439,230)	88,185
(Increase) / Decrease in inventories on hand	11,230	13,679
Increase / (Decrease) in payables	66,105	(41,388)
Increase / (Decrease) in employee provisions	(7,418)	40,830
Increase / (Decrease) in other liabilities	(364,262)	(441,483)
Cash flows (used in) / from operating activities	(396,612)	192,456

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
<b>18. CAPITAL AND LEASING COMMITMENTS</b>		
Non-cancellable operating leases contracted for but not capitalised in the financial statements:		
- payable not later than 1 year	-	14,750
- payable later than 1 year but no later than 5 years	-	59,002
	<u>-</u>	<u>73,752</u>

#### 19. MEMBER'S 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 2020, the total amount that members of the Company are liable to contribute if the Company is wound up was \$6 (2019: \$6).

#### 20. ECONOMY DEPENDENCY

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

- The Company pursue diversification of the Company's income stream through implementing new projects such as seeking new sponsorship partners in the future.
- With the use of a cash forecast tool, the Company has modelled if the Government cuts the funding and have a broad plan of action should this occur.

#### 21. COMPANY DETAILS

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

#### 22. EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE

On 9 June 2020, the then Board of Directors of the Company resolved to place the Company into voluntary administration, with Kate Conneely and Craig Shepard of KordaMentha appointed as Voluntary Administrators. At the Second Meeting of Creditors held on 14 July 2020, creditors of the Company resolved that the Company execute a DOCA. The DOCA was executed on 16 July 2020, and the Voluntary Administrators became the Deed Administrators.

The key objectives of the DOCA have now been achieved, and include the following:

- The calling of a special general meeting of the Company, to amend the Company's Constitution.
- The establishment of a Deed Fund, from which creditor claims were to be paid in full.
- The selection and appointment a Nominations Committee to consider applications for a position on the First Board of Directors of the Company, and to provide a recommendation of appropriately qualified candidates to the Deed Administrators.
- The appointment of nine individuals to comprise the First Board of Directors of the Company.

As the outcome of the administration is now known, the accounts have been prepared on a going concern basis. The Deed Administrators do not have any intention as at the date of this report to wind down or liquidate operations of the Company.

On entering administration, all liabilities the Company, including but not limited to, trade and other payables, and employee entitlements, were frozen ('Pre-appointment Liabilities'). On 20 October 2020, the Deed Administrators made a distribution of 100 cents in dollar to admitted creditors of the Pre-appointment Liabilities in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth).

As at reporting date, the final administrative obligations pursuant to the terms of the DOCA are being finalised and the documentation required to be lodged to effectuate the DOCA will be completed shortly. Control of the Company will revert to the First Board of Directors on effectuation of the DOCA.

To the best of the Deed Administrators' knowledge, there have been no other circumstances beyond what has been disclosed, arising since 30 June 2020 that have significantly affected or may significantly affect:

- a. The operations
- a. The results of those operations, or
- b. The state of affairs of Equestrian Australia Limited in future financial years.

## 23. REMUNERATION OF AUDITORS

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
Auditors Remuneration	11,146	12,500
<b>Total other assets</b>	<b>11,146</b>	<b>12,500</b>

## 24. ADMINSTRATORS OF THE COMPANY

The name of the Company's Voluntary Administrators and subsequent Deed Administrators in office during the financial year and until the date of this report is set out below.

- Kate Conneely
- Craig Shepard

## 25. DIRECTORS OF THE COMPANY

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

- Peter William Toft (resigned 15 September 2020)
- Helen Hamilton James (resigned 15 September 2020)

- John Gregory Glenn (resigned 15 September 2020)
- Catherine Margaret Collier (resigned 15 September 2020)
- Erica Ethel Macmillan (resigned 11 May 2020)
- Gillian Anne Canapini (resigned 18 September 2019, appointed 16 January 2020, and resigned 11 May 2020)
- David Cameron (resigned 4 February 2020)
- Suzanne Aileen Doyle (resigned 8 November 2019)
- Alistair Robert Mackinlay (resigned 7 November 2019)

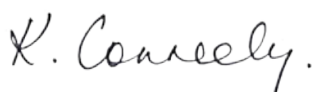


## Deed Administrators' declaration

In the Deed Administrators' opinion, and to the best of their knowledge, following a review of the documents provided to us by the Company:

- a. the financial statements and Notes set out on pages 10 to 33 are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth), including:
  - i. complying with Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements, the *Corporations Regulations 2001* and other mandatory professional reporting requirements; and
  - ii. Give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Company as at 30 June 2020 and of its performance for the financial year ended that date.
- b. There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Deed Administrators.



Kate Conneely  
Deed Administrator



Craig Shepard  
Deed Administrator

24 December 2020

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

### Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Equestrian Australia Limited ("the Company") which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020, the statement of comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the Deed Administrators' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Company 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 2020 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

### Basis for Opinion

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

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

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

### Material Uncertainty Related to Going Concern

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to the following matter. On 9 June 2020, the Company was placed in Voluntary Administration by its directors. The Company subsequently entered a Deed of Company Arrangement on 16 July 2020, as voted by the Company's creditors at the creditors' meeting held on 14 July 2020. As a result of this matter and those disclosed in Note 1q) "Going Concern" of the financial report, there are material uncertainties that cast significant doubt whether the Company can continue as a going concern and therefore whether it will realise its assets and extinguish its liabilities in the normal course of business and at amounts stated in the financial report. The ability of the Company to continue as a going concern is dependent upon ongoing funding and sponsorship support and its ability to generate profits from operational activities.

## **Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon**

The Deed Administrators are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Company's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2020 but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

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

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

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

## **Responsibilities of the Deed Administrators for the Financial Report**

The Deed Administrators 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 Deed Administrators determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

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

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

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Deed Administrators.

- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Deed Administrators' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Deed Administrators regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide the Deed Administrators with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

*Walker Wayland Audit (WA) Pty Ltd*

**WALKER WAYLAND AUDIT (WA) PTY LTD**

*Richard J Gregson*

**Richard Gregson CA**

**Director**

Level 3, 1 Preston Street, COMO WA 6152

Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> day of December 2020





EQUESTRIAN  
AUSTRALIA

Equestrian Australia Limited  
ABN 19 077 455 755  
National Office

Postal: PO Box 673, SYDNEY MARKETS, NSW, 2129  
Unit 7, 11-21 Underwood Road, Homebush, NSW, 2140

Telephone: +61 2 8762 7777  
Fax: +61 2 9763 2466  
Website: [www.equestrian.org.au](http://www.equestrian.org.au)

FOLLOW US



@EquestrianAus



EquestrianAus



@EquestrianAus