



EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA (Administrator Appointed) COACHING COMMITTEE (EACC)

UPDATE

Meeting Held: Monday 16 December 2020 via Videoconference

Below is a summary of the meeting

MEETING DISCUSSION

Voluntary Administration and the EA Board

The EA Board are not yet officially Directors of the Company and EA is still in the hands of the Administrator (KM).

KM have developed a timeline for the new Board to take over at which time KM will be retired as Administrator.

EACC Membership

The EACC thanked ESA representative Lynda Smith for her input into the EACC over the last 18 months and were advised that Tamsin Alcock will be the new representative from 1 January 2021. Judy Peel will remain on the EACC as ETAS representative. Both Tamsin and Judy have been appointed to December 2022.

Introduction of Introductory Horse Management and Riding to Interschools participants

EACC members discussed in detail the education of riders at Interschool level and the need for national leadership in this space. The use of the term Equiskills was raised and the need to be consistent with the products and services we are offering eg Ready Set Trot, Trot Canter Gallop and Equiskills. The concept of increased education in the areas of Horse Management and Riding are strongly supported but it was agreed that national leadership and alignment is required.

2021 Draft Coaching High Level and Operational Plan

Three draft plans for 2021 were tabled for discussion. This includes a high level, operational and communications plan specific to coaching. Due to the volume of information, the EACC will take the necessary time to review and provide feedback at the next meeting.

IGEQ Conference and AGM – 24 November 2020

A new IGEQ Secretary has been appointed – Muriel Coppin from Belgium. Muriel has been involved with the IGEQ for 8 or 9 years. EA delegate Simon Kale (SK) has been asked to give a full day conference presentation in March or September as the Chair of the IGEQ Risk and Safety Working Group. SK will engage EA National Safety Manager Meredith Chapman as part of this.

International Coaches Presenting v Assessing at Future Level 3 Courses

Discussion was carried forward to January/February meeting.

Concussion Protocols and Incident reporting

The EACC requested further information on Incident reporting (including concussion) as there are many questions being asked within the coaching community.

They were advised that an email will be sent to all EA coaches by the end of the week from the EA National Safety Manager (NSM) regarding changes to Incident Reporting process. There is also training being developed by the NSM for all officials and coaches that will be rolled out in the New Year.

Indemnity Waiver

The EACC advised that EA coaches are feeling exposed now that EA do not provide a generic waiver for them.

It was agreed that greater education was required for EA coaches. This includes education on:

- the purpose of a waiver
- a checklist for possible inclusion for consideration by coaches depending on individual circumstances
- the difference between coaching for Equestrian Australia and running your own business - coaches should have a waiver to support their own business operations and individual needs

Coach Complaints and Handling Procedure

The EACC were seeking clarity on this topic. The EA A/CEO advised that there is a National Member Protection Policy (MPP) that has been adopted by each State Branch. As Coaches are members first, the MPP applies to them. Any complaints that are made are managed within the relevant 'jurisdiction' ie State Level as outlined in the MPP.

It was recognised that there was a gap and that this information should be weaved into Coach information – FAQs, resources etc.

EA Coaches who purchase their own insurance

Following discussion, it was agreed that inferior insurance offerings can be a risk for EA coaches however they may not understand this.

Communicating the information and educating coaches with a stronger message through the Coach Update process, a message in the next newsletter (leading into the next registration period) should emphasis the critical importance of Professional Indemnity Insurance and the need for a like for like insurance offering with the EA offering.