



EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA COACHING COMMITTEE (EACC)

UPDATE

Meeting Held: Monday 8 March 2021 via Videoconference

Below is a summary of the meeting

MEETING DISCUSSION

Complaints handling process

As requested by the EACC, the complaints handling process has been shared with all EA Coaches via the most recent newsletter sent 3 March 2021. Coaches are referred to the Member Protection Policy (MPP) where the process is clearly outlined.

Rider/horse weight ratios & Size matters working group

The IGEQ have been unable to find any information on this topic

Sally Ann Barbera has drafted and shared a paper on 'size matters' from a coach's perspective. This will be published in *Centreline magazine* the NSW Dressage magazine. EA will share with all coaches via the next Coaches magazine. Once the project has been finalised, some guidelines can be developed to assist EA coaches to have this difficult conversation.

Operational Plan for Coaching

The EACC were invited to provide further feedback on the Operational Plan. It was discussed that:

- CE/SSTA Updates on rules and process, can and should, be delivered online
- Standards and assessor training should be organised for face-to-face delivery locally but within a national framework – focussing on supporting CE/SSTAs to assess to the workbook criteria.
- Face to face professional development should be delivered locally but within a national framework.
- There is a need to ensure what can be delivered is delivered (rules and process via online delivery) and planning should commence for face to face during the second half of the calendar year.

Injury reporting

Feedback to be provided to National Safety Manager regarding near miss reporting. A definition of 'near miss' is needed.

It was requested that the current reporting process be simplified and less complex.

Coach Updates

The Coach Update (and Orientation to Coaching) presentation are available on request to State Branches. Coach Educators are able to purchase this for \$20 for private delivery. Should a State Branch be planning a Coach Update, they should request a copy of the presentation to ensure they are using the current version eg Concussion training has just been added.

ENSW Social Inclusion Project for People with a Disability – coaching syllabus

The development of a coaching syllabus as part of the ENSW Social Inclusion Project for People with a Disability was discussed.

The aim of the project is to provide any athlete with a disability the opportunity to compete based on their capability.

The NSW Project Group would like to develop a coaching module for inclusion in the EA Coach Syllabus for Levels 1, 2 and 3 - providing an accreditation pathway for coaches to specifically coach athletes with a disability.

The EACC discussed this and agreed in principle to the approach but understand that there is a significant amount of detail that needs clarification. The principles that have been agreed by the EACC are:

- The syllabus must be developed for EA IP and a national approach. It is a national Coaching Scheme and any development of syllabus should be completed in line with the current syllabus review that is taking place.
- The focus should be at the different levels of EA Coach Accreditation:
 - *Intro* – introduce coaches to the concept of coaching to capability and adjusting lessons to a client's need.
 - *Level 1* – integrate the coaching of athletes with a disability into the existing syllabus, building on learnings from Intro.
 - *Level 2 and 3* – standalone syllabus to be developed to allow for specialisation but also a component of integration within the existing syllabus (building from the integrated Level 1 ideas).

Accreditation of new Coach Educators and SSTAs

This was discussed by the EACC. Discussion included CE/SSTA accreditation (and updates) should support CE/SSTAs to:

- Focus on standards – these are outlined in the assessment tools.
- All assessments should refer and use the assessment tools and standards in the workbooks.
- The resources should be followed as they clearly outline the content.
- Opinion does not come into the assessment process, it is about fact – have they followed the processes, standards and methods outlined in the workbooks – if yes, they are competent, if no, they are not yet competent.
- Consistent standards and a process to ensure them were discussed referencing the past approach of one CE coordinator working with local CEs to deliver content.
- Strong belief face to face training is required in this area, focusing on standards and principles of assessment.

2020/2021 Coach Registration

It was highlighted that as of 3 March, EA coach numbers had reached 99% of 2019/20 numbers. This is a great achievement considering the large challenges of the past 12 months.

IGEQ report

Simon Kale attended a recent IGEQ executive meeting. The IGEQ are holding a meeting in March to ratify Level 1 standards across all IGEQ member nations to commence developing standards for the matrix review.

In September, the IGEQ have asked Simon Kale to deliver a risk management presentation to all IGEQ member nations. Meredith Chapman will be assisting.

Coach of the Month and Coach of the Year

It was discussed that there should be a unified criteria and process for selecting Coach of the Month.