



Equestrian Australia Coaching Committee (EACC) - UPDATE

Meeting Held: Monday 9 March 2020

Below is a summary of the meeting

MEETING DISCUSSION

Update from EA office

- Meeting of National Discipline (NDC) and Coaching Committee Chairs: The Board have agreed that a meeting of all NDC/CC Chairs should occur a minimum of 4 times a year. The Board see value in a Board representative being in attendance and would like to align a face to face meeting with the EA AGM and possible Sports Forum.
- Staffing: Di Saunders (former EA employee) has re-joined the EA team for the next 3 months. Di is trialling a Sport Services Officer role and is providing select NDCs with support, similar to the support provided to the EACC by Kellie Hayes.

Coaching representatives on NDC's

The proposal for each NDC to have a coaching representative, similar to a rider's representative was well received by the EACC. The EACC think it is a great idea to align more closely with the NDCs and equestrian sports and welcome this being raised at the NDC/CC Chairs meeting at the end of March.

Coach merchandise

A number of the state based coaching committees would like to explore Coaching merchandise. NSW have already investigated this and are almost ready to progress. All interested states/territories have been invited to provide details of merchandising needs to NSW.

Bitless bridles

The EACC discussed the use of bitless bridles in competition and training. The EACC were advised that bitless bridles are not permitted in Cross Country or Dressage competition but they are permitted in Jumping within an enclosed arena.

In the context of training, coaching and insurance, EA would support the use of bitless bridles for Jumping in a training environment as it is understood that you need to train in order to compete.

Coach Educator Updates 2020 (NB: this is no longer the case due to Covid-19)

It was agreed that State Branches would host EA Coach Educator and SSTA updates in 2020. EA will provide some financial support (amount TBC) and provide the resources:

- CE and SSTA manuals – including details of the 3rd day of assessment for new CEs and SSTAs.
- A timetable for the 3 days (draft for local adaptation).
- Course presenters (a short list gathered through an EOI process) – must be delivered by CEs with level 2 General accreditation or above.

It was agreed that whilst these will be delivered locally, there must be an EA presence at each.

Insurance - email from ESI

Concerns were raised that Equestrian Sports Insurance (ESI) are no longer able to provide coach and official insurance as Lloyd's of London will no longer underwrite them. This raised the concern that maybe Gow Gates would be impacted.

POST MEETING UPDATE: Gow Gates have not been impacted and EA have offered pro-rata insurance to any coaches who have been impacted.

TAE Professional Development opportunity

After following up on action items from last meeting, it was reported that there has been a misunderstanding of the work required and the next steps to allow Coach Educators to train or train and assess equine units in Certificate III, IV in Sport Coaching and Diploma in Sport.

The EA syllabus needs to be mapped to meet ASQA requirements (which may devalue the EA requirements), Coach Educators will need to be employed/contracted to a TAFE or an RTO to train or train and assess these qualifications and/or EA will be required to enter into a contract with a provider to ensure only EA Coach Educators can deliver this.

This was not the understanding of the EACC as they were of the belief that the mapping exercise had been completed when ASQA accepted the submission and that a Coach Educator with the appropriate VET qualifications was able to start training or training and assessing.

The ASQA Working Group to be formally reconvened to clarify and discuss next steps and options.

Syllabus Review Working Groups

Having reviewed the Terms of Reference (ToR) established in 2017 for the syllabus working groups, it was discussed that the expectation of delivering the syllabus through electronic means may not be possible in the short term.

The project needs to be fully scoped and phased to meet the Coaching Syllabus needs but to also align with broader EA projects such as IT reform including a Learning Management System (LMS) – which has been identified as a project for Board consideration and prioritisation of resources including people, time and money.

It was agreed EA should create a project plan outlining phases of delivery, redraft the ToR and organise a meeting of all members of the syllabus working groups to advise of the new approach.

General Business

All members of the EACC expressed their disappointment that the ability to deliver on most projects has been slowed down due to a number of factors. These include changes of leadership and staffing at the EA office and moving ahead with projects without fully scoping them and understanding implications.

It was agreed that transparency is the key as good communication will allow people to understand the progress and the challenges.