



ADMINISTRATOR APPOINTED

Equestrian Australia Vaulting Committee - UPDATE

Meeting held: 16th November 2020

Below is a summary of proceedings at the recent EAVC and SDA meeting

MEETING DISCUSSION

Opening and Welcome:

Darryn Fedrick (EAVC Chair) opened the Microsoft Teams meeting at 7:35pm and welcomed Kellie Hayes (EA Pathway Officer – Coaches) Amy McGregor (EA Pathway Officer – Officials) the EAVC and Chairs/representatives of the State Vaulting Committees from QLD, NSW, WA and SA.

Following on from the success of the first meeting held 11th August, this meeting forum will continue to assist collaboration between National and State Committees in this format several times throughout the year.

Coaching

Acknowledging that Vaulting can't operate without a supportive hub which generally includes the supply of horses and coaching, Kellie led an open discussion to assist EA in planning the way forward for delivery of coach courses and making the pathway more accessible to increase *becoming a Coach* opportunities. Numbers currently:

- Introductory – 11 coaches
- Level 1 – 12 coaches
- Level 2 – 4 coaches

There was appetite for a L2 which was currently under syllabus review with a working group. Kellie said that with EA administration capacity down 20%, challenges of keeping the review timeline on track was challenging.

Considerations for making course delivery achievable was the time away from work and the cost. Several ways for delivery to occur were agreed:

- Complete within Club Structure – Vaulting has a very good and strong Club structure
- Courses with International Presenters as per the 2016 FEI courses, however this needs to include assessment rather than RPL.
- Intensive weekend courses.

An Intensive weekend had been held in QLD recently across disciplines to increase SSTA numbers. EA wish to increase SSTA numbers to allow more people access to coach preparation and assistance with modules utilising Coach Educators for the assessment component.

NSW – Strongly supportive of the inclusion of Horse Care with components on how to mount etc. Committed to running a Coach weekend and ENSW have committed funding to assist. Mindful that other States may not be as financially able and offered to investigate inclusion from other States via User pays. Also felt that it was foolish that coaching information was not available online – imperative that resources be available for Coaches to access. Weekend assessment format preferred.

QLD - Need one common resource with technical and knowledge information...concentrating on not how you coach but what you coach. A National clinic where an International coach is present (referencing the FEI coach clinics held in ACT)

WA – “Pivio” camera purchase currently being planned with EWA office to enable linking to eastern states, this would allow inclusion remotely to courses.

SA – 2 x Level 1 Coaches have been waiting for a Level 2 course for a long time. Currently no SSTA in SA. Would be keen to participate in online, however would the cost remain the same? Agree with the intensive course concept. Must learn and then attend to be assessed. Self-paced is a fine way to learn but attendance at a weekend is more beneficial. Very little material available that is current and up to date for Vaulting.

VIC - difficult to source relevant resources. US Vaulting has come good material.

The meeting agreed that Mentors or Trainers should not be Assessors, and Assessors should not be the trainers. All were keen to pursue the 2-day intensive assessment format and supported the drive to recruit more SSTA's, using CE to stand beside and provide technical advice. It was apparent quickly if a coach is competent.

Kellie said the courses would be offered in 2021. To assist Kellie compile a database on future requirements, States to collect information from their Clubs on:

- What coaches they have
- Who is currently actively coaching?
- Vaulters interested in attending Introductory course

Chair thanked Kellie for her interest in Vaulting and taking the time to address the meeting. All were appreciative of the insights presented and discussed. Kellie left the meeting at 8:54pm

Officials/Officiating

Amy explained the work she was beginning to address on the Vaulting Pathway, having completed some of the other disciplines recently. The Pathway has not had a review for some time.

Amy said there was a need to allow new Judges to be accredited and is open to addressing how this can be achieved by utilizing either via live or video assessments, however checks needed to be in place should video be undertaken to ensure the legitimacy. There is no succession for getting Judges through.

Amy opened the discussion to the attendees with responses including:

- generally, a Level 3 judge is actively involved in the competition so it can be hard to source Judges at this level due to conflicts.
- Most competitions are judged by the same small pod of people - Vaulting urgently needs to expand its list.

QLD – Clinics are held mainly when international Judges come out. International athlete videos are a good resource to incorporate. Nearly impossible to obtain Judge Mentor status and the State has not had success with flow-on clinics.

NSW – States are responsible for running clinics. Again, funding could be an issue for some States, NSW were in a good financial position. A National curriculum or plan to follow is needed.

VIC – Competency based training for Judging. Reliable assessors that are looking at competency. Suggest that Guidelines on Competencies be produced which would identify criteria that meets the competency. Could see no reason why the assessment could not be done online.

WA – Currently have one person interested in becoming a Judge but are being held back due to time constraints and cost. Remote learning via Video and online would allow inclusion from WA.

SA – Many were time poor. Amy has offered some ideas and will look further at resources on the internet. States need to support Judges with Clinic opportunities.

Attendees look forward to receiving the first draft of the Pathway review in 2021. Chair thanked Amy for giving the meeting her Officials update.

Amy left the meeting at 8:55pm.

Vaulting COVID-19 Working Group

Gillian Burns explained the background for the first phase of the working groups purpose which was producing the recently published document on supporting Organising Committees as they return to sport. She had already received positive feedback from the NSW Christmas competition organisers.

The second phase of the working group plan was to develop an outline representing how Vaulting wants to be considered within EA with a focus on points of difference. To be addressed:

- Growth objectives
- Undercover arenas are necessary
- Volunteer heavy
- Not a 1 rider/1 horse discipline
- Take Horse Welfare seriously

Education on Horse Welfare should be added to modules. A Lunging Clinic in NSW in December had a focus on Horse welfare with the presentation including understanding how the horse goes.

Vaulting Insurance Working Group

Sharyn Van Someren thanked the States for returning information on club set-ups. She will be collating the information to send to Jenny Scott who has been trying to obtain data on falls and incidents and had the assistance of the EA National Safety Manager.

Equipment Consideration – Hoof Boots

Wendy Singlehurst has obtained a petition of 1000 signatures from a cross base of EA membership supporting the use of hoof boots for horses that could not be shod, as an alternative to barefoot. The meeting agreed with the concept from a Horse Welfare perspective. Wendy will submit an Agenda item to the next EAVC meeting.

Vaulting Clubs on EA Social Media

Di Saunders reported that this concept was progressing well and allowed Vaulting to both support Clubs and provide information to people visiting the EA website of social media. States were again asked to encourage their clubs to present an article.

- Sept – Victoria Club Star Struck Vaulters featured.
- Oct – WA Club and focus on WA Interschools
- Dec – NSW Club Scone Vaulting to be featured

Sport rules

A supporting summary outlining rules that had been proposed but where rejected will be submitted with reasoning on why the suggestion was not adopted was deemed crucial in providing feedback and transparency.

Around the States

- WA Vaulting acknowledged the support from EWA incorporating Vaulting into the recent State Interschool Champs. There was a need to grow both Coach and Official numbers and are investigating a scholarship plan to assist those interested. The relationship with Pony club continues to grow.
- VIC also have good involvement in Pony club. April is when competition is held and nothing has been held this year, concern for 2021. Vic Vaulters missed travelling to SA for competition this year. Shift in member base means focus is back to grassroots.
- NSW – good interest in the lunging clinic in December. Collaborative state calendar continues to be priority.
- SA – with COVID-19 cases reported on this day, all sports have been cancelled for two weeks and border closures are imminent again. A planning meeting for 2021 is proposed for the end of the month. There have been no competitions this year, just training days
- QLD – Uncertainty has been a problem in 2020. As a small vaulting state – rely on competitions held in other states. Pony club introduction has been positive.

Following the state roundup, the Chair again thanked all for their time and closed the meeting at 10:00pm.

Next EAVC meeting: 2 December 2020

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