



Equestrian Australia Endurance Committee - UPDATE

Meeting held Wednesday 19th May 2021
Below is a summary of proceedings at the recent EAEC meeting

MEETING SUMMARY

Bullio Cup Team Camp Update

Robyn Parnell (RP) has started a power point on essentials for Officials and vets to qualify for each level and a 'How to guide' for ride organisers on how to run an FEI Ride. The team camp subcommittee team camp currently consists of Darien Feary (DF) and Naomi O'Shaughnessy (NOS), the camp is for all endurance riders. They are currently trying to get better attendance and are working with Chris Bailey (CB) discussing logistics to get maximum attendance.

FEI Survey Results

Sonya Ryan (SR) has renewed the survey, and is going to send it out soon, the current survey link is still live.

The trend for the results was much like the last update:

- 58 responded saying they wanted to compete in the FEI rides, wanting to compete against international riders here in Australia.
- Minimum number of rides, the majority needed 3-4, which SR was confident that looking at the calendar we will be able to provide enough rides to meet this, but possibly not for those who needed 5+ rides.
- Sponsorship – lots of people responded saying they would be willing to sponsor, SR stated that the EAEC needs to jump on that and get little bits of sponsorship from here and there. A plan needs to be made of what they would like sponsored and how. I.e. is it \$200-500, is it BSB transfer or items donated etc.
- The next survey to go out will allow comments and responses

- Jane Radny (JR) thinks that ticking boxes of what they want to sponsor is great and makes it easy for the sponsor.
- NOS asked the question of educating riders on what it costs to run events etc, and what the sponsorship covers, and that getting detailed costing from each ride would be a good insight into the costs of hosting a ride.
- CB said running events is cheaper now due to FEI waving fees and foreign vets not being required now, but vets are for sure one of the most expensive cost. \$800-1200 per vet x 4. Plus, a 350 (swiss francs) calendar fee and an organising fee of about the same. Officials – a minimum of 2, a maximum of 4/5 that need to be paid and have expenses covered. Then utilities etc. It can be at a breakeven point with enough entries.
- WA is more expensive with additional costs such as flights and accommodation
- SR suggested focusing on sponsorship going to these costs rather than rugs and prizes

High Performance update – with Chris Webb high Performance Director

WEG –

CW discussed that Endurance has its peaks and troughs, and currently the HP team are looking at what WEG and what Endurance at WEG looks like, the HP haven't received much from the WEG OC on the presence of endurance going forward. CB stated next year's senior world champs is in Verona in Italy, juniors is in the same year. CW stated HP would be attending the FEI Sports Forum on the 1st and 2nd of June 2021 and is expecting to get more of an update on WEG Endurance than as Endurance is on the Sports Forums agenda. Once HP has an audit of what the championships will look like for Endurance than HP can work with the EA Endurance Committee and provide support services with selectors, appointments, policies and procedures, and the assistance in drafting those policies.

Funding -

CW discussed that there was around 1.5million invested in the equestrian sports for Tokyo, and that should Tokyo not go ahead, that budget would be rolled over, and also a portion distributed through the sport. CW explained to the EAEnC that it is difficult to allocate funds to non-Olympic sports, as the funding is predominantly for Eventing and Para-Dressage as these disciplines are identified as potential podium disciplines for Australia. CW recommended that despite this, the EAEnC should submit a HP Funding Proposal to himself, that outlined Endurance strategies and high performance development pathways that require funding from HP. CW recommended that the proposal include long term development pathways such as development camps, that would see officials such as vets work with young rider education development. CW also stated that drawing on the history and successes of Endurance to date would make the proposal well worth considering.

Endurance HP Pathways –

The EAEnC stated that they would like to develop a HP pathway for Endurance riders, developing a recognition squad and the likes. CW urged the EAEnC to utilise existing HP online resources, but that after Tokyo has passed, he would engage with Will Enzinger and SR to tailor a package that meets Endurances needs. The EAEnC noted that ideally, they'd like to have a HP pathway to present to the endurance at the Official Team Camp at the end of the. CW agreed that should be doable, as there are already existing pathways built, and they just needed to be tailored to suit Endurance.

AERA Passports

There was general discussion about whether AERA passports would be accepted by the FEI for CEI1* and CEI2* events, as this would make it easier to encourage more riders to move into competition at the elite level. It was understood that once riders move to CEI3* level, they would need to purchase an FEI Recognition Card to add to their AERA passport. SR and Jenny Merity will review the suitability of the AERA passport.

Next Meeting 21st July 2021