



## Equestrian Australia LTD EA Jumping Committee Meeting - UPDATE

Meeting held - Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> August 2021  
Below is a summary of proceedings at the recent EAJC Committee meeting:

### MEETING SUMMARY

Graeme Watts (GW) (Chair) Opened the meeting and welcomed all the State Jumping Chairs to the meeting and thanked all for their time to attend.

The following items were discussed by the EAJC:

#### Electronic Communications

The group discussed that the current IT system provided needs to update to allow the EAJC the ability to contact EA members that have selected Jumping as their primary interest directly with communications that are vital for Jumping participants. The group noted that not all members are engaged with the EA website and social media pages so they may miss important communications. The committee also discussed potentially creating an EA Jumping social media page to enable further engagement with members involved in Jumping across Australia. The EAJC will continue to discuss and work on this item.

#### EA National Jumping Rule amendments

The EAJC moved to make the following amendments to the EA National Jumping Rules. *Note: these proposed changes are awaiting Board approval to be effective 1 Jan 2022 or 1 July 2022. A summary of these proposed rule changes can be found on the EA website under Jumping.*

##### **Article 259.4 - Stewards EA:**

~~Where possible the schooling area(s) should be supervised by a Steward when in use. Events Competitions~~ with total prizemoney over ~~\$30,000~~ \$10,000 in cash or kind ~~at any EA affiliated event~~ are to have:

- a minimum of one National Steward ~~present, for the duration of the show~~ ~~one steward at least~~ must always be present whenever the ~~warmup/schooling~~ arena(s) are in use ~~for the competition that the \$10,000 or over prizemoney is applicable to~~, to ensure that the rules are observed
- ~~It is preferable that a National Steward is in attendance for the duration of the event in the warmup/schooling arena(s) to ensure that the rules are observed~~

This proposed rule change was discussed at length by the EAJC, EAJC Stewards and Judges working groups, and the State Jumping Committees. The proposed rule change was suggested as a tool to combat the presenting issue of riders demonstrating bad and unethical riding behaviours and standards specifically relating to horse welfare. The EAJC noted that to combat this issue Stewards in the sport needed to be active in their roles as having more Stewards in the sport would not necessarily stop the issue from presenting if the Stewards were not actioning the issue when it occurs. The EAJC agreed that the best way to deter the behaviours occurring was for Officials and Stewards to enforce the rules that are in place now for these situations, as then the incidents would be managed and reduce future occurrences. The EAJC also noted that more education needed to be provided to Stewards to equip them with knowledge to action the incidents. The proposed rule amendment is as above and is effective 1 July 2022 (*when approved by the EA Board*).

## **EA General Regulations**

### **Chapter I**

#### **Equestrian Activity, Events and Competitions**

##### **Article 100 – EA Activity Classification**

1.04m and below **base registration is required**

This proposed rule change was discussed at length by the EAJC and the State Jumping Committees. The EAJC discussed requiring a base registration as is costly for participants only competing once or twice a year in EA affiliated events and States set their own registration fees. However, the EAJC felt that it was vital for the sport to be able to track what horses were participating in the sport Nationally as there is currently no other way to track this. The EA general regulations stipulate that a horse registration is *encouraged and can be enforced (for bio-security purposes)* for 1.04m and below. The EAJC moved that the General Regulations be amended as outlined above. This proposed rule amendment is to be effective 1 Jan 2022 (*when approved by the EA Board*).

##### **Article 275 – EA Futurity, Stars of the Future and Future Stars classes**

No class can be called a Futurity, Stars of the Future, Future Stars unless it meets the following criteria.

1. The height is a recommendation depending on the ground, could be 1.25/1.30m first round. Jump off at 1.40m. Width: round 1 maximum of 1.50m, triple bar 1.70m; jump off 10cms more.
2. recommendation – a Liverpool is included
3. For Horses that are 6yrs, 7yrs or 8yrs from the date of birth at the time of competition, there is no point restriction. **For the calendar year 2022 horses that are 9yrs from the date of birth at the time of competition may compete.**

As a result of lockdowns in various states across Australia, and the subsequent cancellation of events over the past 18 months and continuing, many horses that would have qualified as Futurity horses will now be too old for those classes. While this is not true for all states, both VIC and NSW have had extended lockdown and many major national events have been cancelled, meaning many of those horses may not have had the runs to jump straight into mini prix classes. This is particularly important because the majority of larger shows do not cater for horses at the 1.20m-1.30m level that do not qualify for Futurity classes. The EAJC moved that the above outlined rule amendment become effective 01 Jan 2022. (*To be approved by the Board*)

### **FEI Calendar Applications 2022**

The EAJC had a large amount of discussion surrounding the COVID restrictions and the impact they are having on the World Cup shows, and on the future National Jumping Championships to be held at Boneo. There was discussion around whether as many possible shows need to be run as possible to create opportunity for athletes to get MERs or was it not fair to allow shows to run when potentially not all States athletes can attend. There is also a need to protect the integrity of the competition by allowing the best horses to the World Cups. The EAJC moved that all the FEI 2022 Calendar Applications dates be approved subject to approval by the FEI.

**Next meeting date** with the State Jumping Chairs will be Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September