



Equestrian Australia Ltd

EA Vaulting Committee Meeting Summary

Meeting held 06th September 2021

Below is a summary of proceedings at the recent EAVC meeting

MEETING DISCUSSION

The EAVC met with the State Vaulting Committee Chairs and discussed the following:

State Update

South Australia:

- Competition last weekend, disappointing cancellation of Nationals. Lots of planning down the drain, but thankfully minimal financial loss.
- The State championships is now on the scheduled Nationals weekend,
- COVID safe plans in force
- Week by week planning
- Regular contact with the other discipline Chairs to discuss issues in the State and youth development funding/scholarships
- Boosting the comps to encourage memberships to make it valuable for the members
- There is now 3 Level 1 Judges in SA
- There would be under 30 Vaulters in total in SA, running Freestyle/introduction to canter competitions to allow for people who aren't quite ready to go to intermediate. This has been a fantastic approach to the program. Vaulters can get on at walk if they are not quite ready to get on at canter giving them the confidence they need to progress. Also, for people who haven't received qualification to move up to intermediate yet.
- Running recreational and intro classes to boost the interest in the sport

Queensland:

- QLD has been a bit lost this year; the committee has struggled getting a full committee established for the year.
- Vaulting days have been difficult to run due to the COVID lockdowns and restrictions.
- There are plans being discussed for running a clinic early next year but will be navigating around the COVID climate with NSW border restrictions etc.
- The new committee are trying to progress for the future of Vaulting in QLD and boost membership and participation in Vaulting across the state
- Growth of clubs and riding centres is centre front for the committees planning
- There are around 25 members and participants in Vaulting across QLD

New South Wales:

- NSW has been in lockdown, restricted from training, competing or anything Vaulting related
- The State championships luckily happened prior to lockdown and that was fantastic
- Competitions cancelled due to lockdown
- Clinic in September will hopefully go ahead and hopefully the Christmas competition in Canberra in November
- Will host the National Championships for 2022
- The committee is making an effort to plan many clinics for next year, and opening clinics up to the other states members to join the clinics
- There's around 40-50 Vaulters/participants across NSW
- There's been an increased level of understanding of horse welfare and management across the Vaulters

Western Australia:

- The pony club have been doing active riding as a part of their programs. Very grass root stuff but successful.
- RDA championships will run in December
- There are multiple clubs across the state both EA and RDA.
- There is now another Level 1 Judge in the State which is great, and the committee will support her gaining more experience
- There are new grassroots initiatives in horse agility across participation days to help the horses and vaulters gain more experience. Encouraging the Vaulters to be involved in their horse's exercise, care, and preparation.

Victoria:

- In lockdown currently
- There are struggles keeping everyone motivated and engaged with the sport
- The competitive group are doing strength and training via zoom to stay motivated
- The lower groups are doing one on one zoom training surround mental health
- The committee are trying to organise something for the end of the year competition wise, but it is pending the COVID climate
- The enthusiasm level has depleted a lot due to the lockdowns constantly interrupting the season
- There are 3 clubs with no EA memberships until they can go to competitions as with no competitions on it isn't worth the EA membership

National:

- All the States are trying to keep the sport alive and find new ways to deliver the sport during the current COVID climate. The EAVC thank the State committees greatly for their continued dedication to the sport and know that the resurgent of the sport will come from the States.
- The EAVC feel the new rule updates will allow the States more breathing room in developing the sport further, one of the main ways is by being able to run horse development classes to help develop and bring horses on, and the creation of recreational class. The States feel that getting green horses into horse development and recreational classes is a good initiative that should help the sport. They also acknowledged that there is a respect needing to be given to the horses for them to develop their natural balance before being on the canter circle.

EAVC focus areas for the future as requested by the State Vaulting Committees:

- Retaining athletes in the sport - retired Vaulters into positions on committees, officials, coaches (Vaulting pathways after athlete). Survey into why people are leaving the sport and are not interested in standing on the committees or going down officials/coaching pathways.
- States to provide budgets for their programs to help the EAVC to establish what they could apply for funding for National programs that could boost the development across the Nation
- Coaching pathways and education past accreditation
- Promoting senior vaulters into coaching and officials' roles, with a structured program to have an assessor organised so vaulters can work towards. Promoting these pathways will also encourage more memberships in the sport because then the membership would not just be for the competitor but also for the development down further pathways.
- Use of Dressage Judges as one of the Judges in Vaulting competitions for the horse component. Organising a session with Dressage Judges to give them context of what is needed in Judging the horse component of Vaulting competitions.

Next meeting

The next EAVC meeting is scheduled for the 8th of November, the next EAVC and State Vaulting Chairs meeting will be confirmed early 2022.