



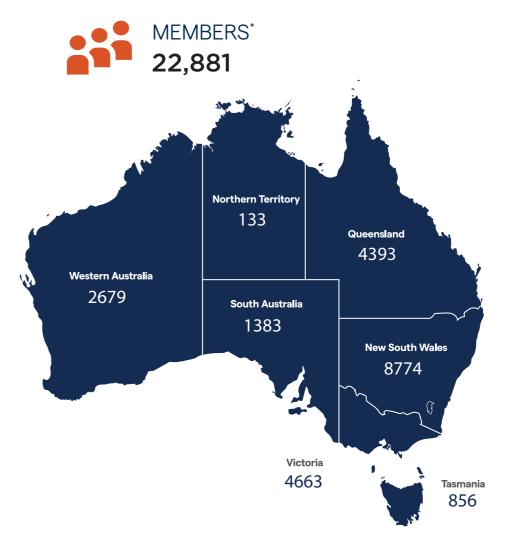
# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

| KEY STATISTICS           | 5  |
|--------------------------|----|
| CHAIR REPORT             | 6  |
| MESSAGES OF SUPPORT      | 8  |
| HIGH PERFORMANCE         | 12 |
| COACHING                 | 14 |
| OFFICIALS                | 16 |
| HEALTH, SAFETY & WELFARE | 18 |
| DRESSAGE                 | 20 |
| DRIVING                  | 22 |
| ENDURANCE                | 24 |
| EVENTING                 | 26 |
| INTERSCHOOL              | 28 |
| JUMPING                  | 30 |
| PARA DRESSAGE            | 32 |
| SHOW HORSE               | 34 |
| VAULTING                 | 36 |
| NEW SOUTH WALES          | 38 |
| NORTHERN TERRITORY       | 40 |
| QUEENSLAND               | 40 |
| VICTORIA                 | 42 |
| SOUTH AUSTRALIA          | 44 |
| TASMANIA                 | 46 |
| WESTERN AUSTRALIA        | 47 |
| FINANCIALS               | 50 |

Cover Photo: Christopher Burton, Eventing Silver Medallist Paris 2024. Credit: Libby Law Photography

# PARIS 2024

# **KEY STATISTICS**





OFFICIALS **1,153** 



COACHES **806** 

# SOCIAL MEDIA











<sup>\*</sup> Approximate based on available data

# **CHAIR REPORT**

# **7AC MILES**

The 2024/25 financial year will be remembered as a pivotal moment for equestrian sport in Australia. From the inspiring performances of our athletes at the 2024 Paris Olympics and Paralympics to the more-recent agreements setting the framework for alignment between Equestrian Australia and State Branches on a comprehensive 10 year strategy for the sport, this year demonstrated the strength and our collective commitment to building an even stronger future for our sport in Australia.

#### Paris 2024: A Defining Moment

The 2024 Paris Olympics showcased Australian equestrian sport at its finest. Chris Burton's silver medal in individual eventing with Shadow Man against the spectacular backdrop of Palace of Versailles captured the nation's attention. Kevin McNab's decision to withdraw Don Quidam mid-cross-country when sensing something was wrong exemplified the sport's commitment to horse welfare, even when the stakes at their highest point for an equestrian competitor.

Our Para Equestrian team—Di Barnes, Lisa Martin, Bridget Murphy, and Stella Barton—competed with distinction at the Palace of Versailles in September 2024. Australia qualified for the full quota of four entries, one of only 15 nations to achieve this. While we continue to work on ending our medal drought in Para Equestrian, the expanded support demonstrates our commitment to growth in this discipline.

Beyond Paris, Boyd Exell made history in February 2025 by winning a record-breaking 11th Four-in-Hand FEI Driving World Cup in Bordeaux, unseating reigning champion Bram Chardon in a nail-biting final day of competition. This extraordinary achievement confirms Boyd's supremacy in the sport, and his first win dates back to Gothenburg in 2009.

## **National Championships and Domestic Excellence**

The 2024 Australian Dressage Championships at Sydney International Equestrian Centre showcased exceptional talent. Robbie McKinnon and SPH Fortino achieved a clean sweep of the FEI Small Tour, while Bridgette Dalmau and Bon Jovi MH claimed the FEI U-25 Championship titles across all three tests. The Adelaide Equestrian Festival in May 2025 attracted over 70 elite athletes to the only 5-Star event in the Southern Hemisphere, continuing its 25-year tradition and drawing more than 30,000 spectators to Victoria Park in the heart of Adelaide CBD.

### Strong Foundations: Building for the Future

The year's comprehensive performance review revealed strong performance across three strategic pillars: Excellence in Performance, Strong Foundations and Sustainable Growth.

Our new independent complaint management system through Core+ Demo's Speak Up platform provides members with accessible, confidential channels to raise integrity concerns and ensures complaints are handled professionally and independently.

The horse welfare framework became fully embedded across Olympic disciplines during the year. Yellow cards were established as base sanctions for horse abuse in jumping, dressage, and eventing. We completed the implementation of coronial recommendations and updated concussion protocols based on Australian Institute of Sport guidelines.

Online engagement increased by 78% during the year. We implemented our new IT system and expanded the Equestrian Learning Centre with courses for coaches, officials, and compliance.

## The Challenges We Faced

This year's review made clear several challenges requiring honest acknowledgment. The shared services model created efficiencies (particularly in integrity, safety and welfare) but also financial pressures on EA without corresponding State Branch support. Workforce development programs for recruiting, recognising, and retaining officials, volunteers, and coaches were identified but didn't commence. Revenue diversification remained urgent, with the need to develop diverse, sustainable revenue streams becoming increasingly apparent. We must build on these pillars to ensure that EA remains a strong, sustainable and stable organisation into the future.

#### A Landmark Moment: The National Strategy Workshop

One of the most significant achievements came in the year's final months. In September 2025, I joined with State Branch Chairs to release a joint statement signalling our renewed commitment to work together collaboratively. This is the beginning of real change which is expected and has been welcomed by our membership.

The National Strategy Workshop brought together senior representatives from Equestrian Australia,

State Branches, and National Discipline Committees, joined by Matt Treglown from the Australian Sports Commission and Australian Olympic Committee CEO Mark Arbib. We agreed to a Leadership Charter; collaboratively developed with input from all parties. We achieved broad agreement on a range of key issues:

- A member-centric 10-year strategic plan
- the reformation of the structural working group to carry forward this pivotal all-of-sport project
- development of an operational framework for annual monitoring and reporting
- endorsement of our shared Vision ("A thriving and safe sport, uniting the Equestrian community"), and
- validation of our core values of Integrity, Teamwork, Excellence and Inclusion.

This alignment, with Brisbane 2032 as our focal point, sets the stage for transformative growth focusing on membership engagement, member attraction, horse welfare leadership, sustainable events, workforce development, integrity improvements, and revenue diversification.

We agreed on three immediate priority actions:

- Digital Systems Implementation (JustGo platform and new website)
- Structural Clarity and Financial Sustainability (Working Group to review structure and financial models within six months), and:
- Consistent Communication and Member Engagement (aligned with a new communications strategy).

#### Acknowledgments

First and foremost, to our members—I acknowledge this has been a turbulent year. System transitions, resourcing challenges, and disjointed state branch and EA communications had created a period of uncertainty. Thank you for sticking with us through significant change and transition. Your feedback, both critical and constructive, has been invaluable as we've navigated system implementations, strategic realignment, and the complexities of reform. Your continued commitment to our sport, has been essential to moving us forward. This journey wouldn't be possible without your commitment and support for the sport we all love.

To all our athletes who represented Australia with distinction—from Olympic and Paralympic competition to World Cups, national championships, and grassroots competitions across the country—you inspire us and demonstrate the strength of our pathways.

To our High Performance team, thank you for your dedication through an intense Olympic year. To our staff—often unseen but providing enormous value to our sport and members—thank you for managing both Olympic demands and foundational business operations

during an exceptionally challenging year. Your work behind the scenes in integrity, health and safety, member services, education, finance, and administration makes everything else possible. Your commitment, professionalism, and resilience were extraordinary. I must also acknowledge the significant support and partnership with the Australian Institute of Sport.

To every volunteer, official, coach, and supporter who makes our sport possible at every level—the 10-year strategy we're building is designed to better support you.

To my State Branch colleagues—you for embracing a spirit of collaboration moving forward into the new year. To my fellow Board members—your dedication throughout this demanding year and your commitment to transparency, collaboration, progress and innovation have been exemplary. Thank you particularly to Stephanie Lyons who has been an outstanding Deputy Chair.

#### **Looking Forward**

As this financial year closes, we do so with both pride in achievements and clarity about work ahead. The Paris 2024 Games and our international successes validated the significant investment in pathways.

The National Strategy Workshop established a collaborative framework for a whole-of-sport model that had previously been elusive.

Brisbane 2032 is now just seven years away. The 10-year strategy provides our roadmap for success into the future. This year's performance review provides our baseline. The collaboration achieved this year provides greater strength.

The coming year will see comprehensive member consultation on the strategic plan to reform our sport. I encourage you to engage with the consultation process, ask questions, and help shape our future.

The heartbeat of our sport lies in our broad equestrian community, and this strategy will be built on that foundation.

Thank you for the privilege of serving as your Chair during this pivotal year and for your ongoing commitment to our incredible sport.

#### Zac Miles

Chair of the Board of Directors Equestrian Australia Limited October 2025



# **MESSAGE OF SUPPORT**

# AUSTRALIAN SPORTS COMMISSION

Continuing to drive Australian sport forward is at the heart of everything we do at the Australian Sports Commission.

We want to bring out the best in everyone involved in sport because that's how we will become the world's best - by working together and bound by a common purpose.

We encourage and help Australians of all backgrounds, ages and abilities to get involved in sport and we advocate for sport and the positive influence it has on the nation.

As we look towards next year's Milano Cortina Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games, the Glasgow Commonwealth Games, Los Angeles 2028 and Brisbane 3032, our vision is for sport to be safe, fair, accessible and inclusive.

Every athlete will be supported to reach their full potential with the Australian Government's record \$385 million investment package for sport ensuring Australians have world class pathways and support at all levels of sport from participation to high performance.

This includes a record \$54.9 million for Para sport – doubling previous funding – ahead of Brisbane 2032. Our grant programs support athletes, coaches, officials and organisations, while our Sporting Schools program is helping more children access free and fun sporting activities than ever before.

Work is also underway to upgrade the AIS Campus in Canberra, so it is once again modern and world-leading.

The AIS Podium Project will deliver three new facilities, including a new multi-story and para-accessible accommodation, a Testing and Training Centre and indoor Sport Dome.

Construction will commence later this year with the AIS Podium Project being the first stage in delivery of the broader AIS Campus Masterplan – the ASC's long term vision to ensure the AIS Campus continue to evolve as Australia's world leading high performance sport precinct.

As Australian high performance sport continues to win well and build sustainable success towards Brisbane 2032 and beyond, we're also addressing the barriers people tell us they face participating in sport so all Australians that want to be involved can be involved in sport. This is how we will play well.

I know success will be greatest when every part of the system is able to perform their role at their best and I'm confident that the actions we take now will create a lasting legacy for Australian sport that will benefit us all for years to come.

Kate Jenkins Chair Australian Sports Commission



# **MESSAGE OF SUPPORT**

# AUSTRALIAN OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

The Games of Paris 2024 will be forever etched in our memories for the efforts of our Australian Olympians and the spectacular backdrops that Paris provided for the events. Chris Burton's wonderful silver in the individual Eventing appropriately set in the lush grandeur of the grounds of Versailles was one of the highlights for the Australian Olympic Team that shone bright in Paris, finishing fourth on the medal tally with 55 medals and 18 Gold medals.

Of course, none of this would be possible without the support of our Member Sports, their high performance teams, coaches, participants and clubs. Can I put on record my thanks to Equestrian Australia, state branches and to the wider equestrian community who do so much to grow the sport and provide for the welfare of the animals.

While our focus is firmly set on preparing a Winter Team for Milano Cortina 2026, planning is well underway for Los Angeles 2028 and Brisbane 2032 which will both present a unique set of challenges and opportunities.

Ahead of Paris 2024, the Australian Government announced the first major increase in sports funding in many years. Its investment of \$283.5 million towards Win Well measures included an additional \$17.6 million in direct athlete support to assist athletes at a time where travel and other costs associated with qualification had risen so sharply.

The AOC works closely with the Australian Government to provide Member Sports with sport advocacy support and assistance in liaising with government departments and agencies, including the Australian Sports Commission, DFAT and Home Affairs. We thank the Australian Government for its increased support for sport at this critical period leading towards our Home Games in Brisbane 2032.

The Queensland Government in March also published its 2032 Delivery Plan in response to its 100 Day Review of Games Preparedness. It recommended staging equestrian at an upgraded Toowoomba Showgrounds, which was warmly received by key stakeholder groups and will ensure a Games legacy for equestrian in Queensland.

The AOC continues to work closely with the Queensland Government and Games Delivery Partners, as well as with other State Governments and Local Government Areas to support our Member Sports receive a sustainable legacy from the Brisbane 2032 Games and other events being staged around Australia.

Again, through the collaboration with the Member Sports we want to ensure they have a say in how these legacies can be achieved.

Elsewhere, the AOC continues to deliver on a range of commitments that exist beyond the Games themselves.

We are well advanced in our second Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) which includes initiatives such as broadening our Indigenous Coaching Scholarship program to deliver real and practical outcomes in Indigenous communities.

The AOC has also created an Aspiring Australian Olympian Funding campaign, to help fund athletes' journey to an Olympic Games. The Winter Team campaign has generated over \$300,000 (October 2025) which goes straight to the athletes. During 2025 we will launch the LA28 version.

Our Olympics Unleashed program continues to go from strength to strength in schools, particularly in an Olympic year. Since 2018, some 485,000 school children nationally have heard directly from almost 400 Olympians and aspiring Olympians on how to meet life's challenges, using their athletic journeys to teach resilience, decision making and goal setting.

From the AOC Executive, senior management and staff, thank you for the dedication of your sport to the Australian Olympic Movement.

With less than seven years to go to the Brisbane 2032 Home Games, we have a generational opportunity to provide a legacy for Olympic sports that are long remembered. We look forward to working with you and achieving greatness for equestrian in the country.

# Mark Arbib CEO Australian Olympic Committee



# **MESSAGE OF SUPPORT**

# PARALYMPICS AUSTRALIA

With Paris 2024 now in the rearview mirror and Los Angeles 2028 just up ahead, Paralympics Australia sees a future with immense opportunity for Paraequestrian and the broader Paralympic movement. Last year's Paris Games was a showcase of talent, resilience and determination, with our four Paraequestrian representatives proudly competing on one of the most spectacular stages ever seen for the sport – the Palace of Versailles.

Their journeys to selection highlighted the diversity of pathways that exist in Para-sport: from those who grew up immersed in equestrian culture to others who discovered the sport through community programs or transitions from able-bodied competition. Each pathway reinforces the importance of strong participation opportunities, effective talent identification and accessible performance pathways.

While Para-equestrian has not delivered a Paralympic medal since London 2012, our athletes and support staff continue to deliver performances which the Australian sporting community can be proud of. Importantly, their efforts have highlighted the need for continued investment and reform across our sporting system if Australia is to return to the top echelon of Paralympic sport in 2032. The standard of international competition continues to rise and we must ensure that our athletes have access to the tools, expertise and pathways they need to succeed.

The past 12 months have been marked by unprecedented progress for Paralympic sport in Australia. Historic investment from the Federal Government and the launch of the Para System Uplift has created a once-in-a-generation opportunity to strengthen our system. This includes advancing the national classification framework, establishing a national equipment hub and expanding high performance pathways for emerging and elite athletes. These initiatives are critical for equestrian as much as any other Paralympic discipline.

Paralympics Australia continues to support the Paraequestrian program in practical ways, from access to our high performance facility for off-horse training and education camps to the provision of adapted equipment through the Para-sport Equipment Fund. We also value the collaboration between Equestrian Australia and Equine Pathways Australia, which plays an essential role in identifying and developing our future Paralympic riders.

Progress in Para-sport is only possible through genuine collaboration. Paralympics Australia deeply values our partnership with Equestrian Australia and acknowledges the dedication of the Board, staff and high performance team, led by Nick Hunter, in supporting our athletes through the Paris cycle. The road ahead is exciting. With continued collaboration and a shared commitment to our athletes, we can ensure Para-equestrian thrives and that Australia is better positioned than ever as we look towards Brisbane 2032.

#### **Cameron Murray**

CEO

Paralympics Australia





# HIGH PERFORMANCE

Chris Burton's exceptional performance on Shadow Man earnt him an individual silver medal and is an achievement that is truly commendable and exemplifies the high standards our athletes uphold.

As we wrap up another remarkable year for the Equestrian Australia High Performance Program, it's a fitting time to reflect on our achievements, challenges, and the path forward. This report aims to provide a comprehensive overview of our program's developments, highlighting our athletes' outstanding efforts and the unwavering support from our community.

The Paris Olympic Games, held at the magnificent Château de Versailles, created a stunning backdrop for equestrian sports and allowed Australia to showcase its talent across all three disciplines: Dressage, Jumping, and Eventing. Our Dressage team finished in 9th place, demonstrating resilience and skill despite intense competition. Simone Pearce riding Destano finished 32nd, William Matthew on Mysterious Star secured 35th, and Jayden Brown with Quincy B placed 39th, while Mary Hanna represented us as the reserve athlete.

In Jumping, our team narrowly missed qualifying for the finals, with Hilary Scott on Oaks Milky Way placing 44th, Edwina Tops-Alexander and Fellow Castlefield placed 47th, and Thaisa Erwin riding Hialita B placed 51st. Amber Fuller participated as a reserve athlete.

Eventing saw our team finish in 14th place. Chris Burton's exceptional performance on Shadow Man earnt him an individual silver medal and is an achievement that is truly commendable and exemplifies the high standards our athletes uphold. Shane Rose with Virgil placing 20th showing his consistency in contributing to the team performance, Kevin McNab made the tough decision to retire Don Quidam only a few fences from, we respect Kevin McNab's decision to retire, his commitment to true horsemanship is an inspiration to our entire community. This provided an opportunity for our reserve rider, Shenae Lowings to complete the jumping phase in the team. With a non-completion on cross country and a substitution, we received an additional 220 penalties to add to our score. On this occasion it was not the outcome we had planned but is consistent with our values on putting horse welfare front and centre.

The Paralympic Games in Paris also marked a wonderful chapter for the Australian Equestrian Team. With Dressage being the sole equestrian discipline at the Games, we were thrilled to field a full team of four athletes: Stella BartOn with Lord Larmarque (Grade I), Bridget Murphy riding Penmain Promise (Grade II), Dianne Barnes on Sorena (Grade IV), and Lisa Martin aboard Vilaggio (Grade V).

During the individual competitions, our athletes shone brightly, with Lisa Martin achieving 5th place, Bridget Murphy finishing 7th, Stella Barton in 8th, and Dianne Barnes placing 12th. Notably, these results allowed Australia to qualify three combinations for the freestyle round for the first time in Paralympic history. In the freestyle, our athletes once again delivered commendable results, with Lisa Martin (6th), Bridget Murphy (7th), and Stella Barton (7th). Our team also secured 12th place in the Teams event.

The success of our Paralympic campaign sets a solid foundation as we work towards Brisbane 2032. We are grateful to the Australian Institute of Sport and Paralympics Australia for their invaluable support, which has been crucial in expanding our para high-performance program.

With the conclusion of the Paris cycle, our focus has shifted towards preparations for the upcoming Los Angeles cycle. The AIS Win Well Strategy guides our efforts, emphasising the importance of athlete well-being alongside ambitious performance goals. It is our commitment to integrate this holistic approach into our programs to ensure sustainable success.

In order to operationalise our strategy there have been some changes to staffing, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to the staff members who have been instrumental in our progress: Chris Webb, Erin O'Neil, Alison Alcock, and Ruth Trevallion. Their dedication and expertise have greatly shaped our team, and we wish them all the best in their future endeavours.

As we look to the future, meticulous planning is underway for the FEI World Championships in

2026, to be held in Aachen, Germany, where six disciplines will compete over two weeks — the largest event of its kind since Tryon 2018. The only discipline not attending Aachen is Endurance, this discipline will have its chance to compete in November in Al Ula, Saudi Arabia.

Additionally, we recognise the importance of aligning our Jumping and Dressage programs with AIS requirements to bolster our position and expand opportunities for growth. This evidence-based documentation will support both our athletes trajectory through the pathway and our marketing efforts to attract sponsorship, ensuring we can maintain robust high-performance programs going forward.

Reflecting on the first six months of the LA cycle, I am proud of the progress we have made in establishing clarity, benchmarks, and assessments that will strengthen our pathway to the podium in Los Angeles. There has been an enormous amount of work the High Performance team has not only undertaken but delivered on and I want to thank them for their commitment and belief in our strategy. Our athletes have shown incredible patience and

understanding as we navigated new visions for the program, and I look forward to what we can achieve together.

Overseeing the High Performance program, the High Performance Committee offers the Team a wealth of diverse knowledge by sharing their wealth of business knowledge and equine skillsets to assist with the implementation of Strategy and support our combined vision.

We are grateful to the support received from the Australian Institute of Sport, Paralympics Australia and the Australian Olympic Committee for continued support of the Equestrian Australia High Performance program and our remarkable athletes.

#### Will Enzinger

High Performance Director



# COACHING

Our vision is not just about connecting people; it's about creating a thriving network of coaches who collaborate, learn, and grow together.

In 2024-2025 financial year we had 806 Equestrian Australia Accredited Coaches who have been instrumental in laying the foundations for a stronger, more connected Equestrian Community. Our coaches play a vital role in shaping the experiences and development of our athletes, and in today's fast-moving world building strong relationships between coaches and athletes is more important than ever, especially for those in remote and regional areas, where access and connection can be more challenging. At Equestrian Australia, we are committed to strengthening these connections, ensuring that every coach, regardless of location, feels supported and has access to quality training and development opportunities.

We are now in the middle of a comprehensive review of our coaching framework. The world of sports coaching has evolved, and so must we. Our goal is to create a system that is accessible, inclusive, and structured to support long-term growth for both coaches and athletes. At the heart of this review is effective communication. We recognise that for coaching to be truly impactful, there needs to be clarity, consistency, and an open-door policy for new and experienced coaches alike. We have launched our EA Accredited Coaches closed Facebook Group, re-launched the Coaches E Newsletter and improved communication by visiting our coaches in-person. Since February we have had face to face communication with over 200 coaches, and we are committed to continuing this into the future. alongside hosting successful webinars for over 150 coaches.

The coaching review will give us clearer guidelines, consistent expectations, and high standards across all levels of the sport. Standardisation will ensure that coaches, whether they work in local clubs or at a national level, follow best practices and receive the same quality of education and resources. This also allows for greater collaboration across states and disciplines.

To make coaching education more accessible, we will be implementing a Continued Professional Development Calendar for our EA Accredited

Coaches, combining online modules with hands-on, in-person training, culminating in an EA Accredited in-person Coaches Conference in 2026. This will keep our minds open as technology continually evolves and the opportunities it presents to make ongoing education more engaging and interactive.

Other areas we have been focusing on include the Sporting Schools Initiative, developing a new product we can offer to our Primary and Secondary Schools as a first touch point to our sport, collaborating with the National Discipline Committees as part of the coaching review, and strengthening our partnerships with the "International Group Equestrian Qualifications." And our partners in Malaysia.

Our vision is not just about connecting people; it's about creating a thriving network of coaches who collaborate, learn, and grow together. If we can assist in providing coaches with the tools, resources, and support they need, we are ensuring that equestrian coaching remains a respected and rewarding career. We are excited for the journey ahead and will be inviting coaches, athletes, and stakeholders to be part of shaping our next chapter.

### **Michelle Clough**

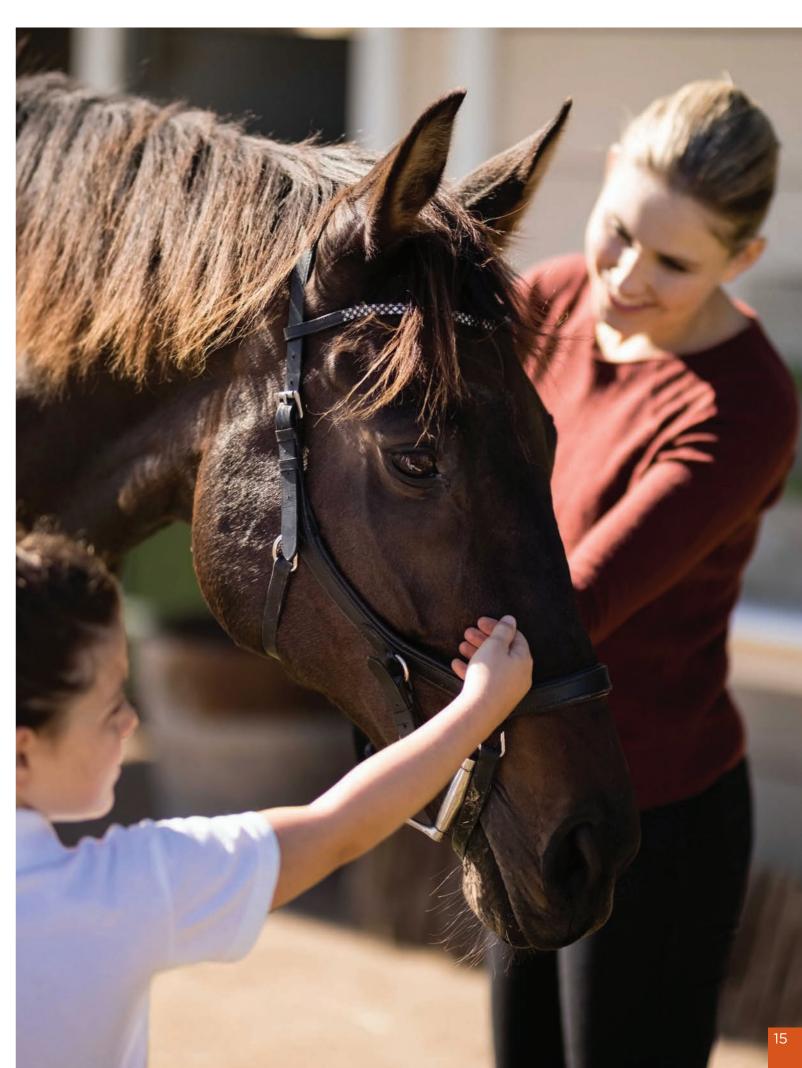
Sports Development Officer - Coaching

# Number of Coaches

| Membership Type   | Numbers |
|-------------------|---------|
| Competitor Coach  | 420     |
| Participant Coach | 219     |
| Supporter Coach   | 167     |
| Total Number      | 806     |

## **EA Coach Updates & Information Sessions**

| Туре                           | Numbers |
|--------------------------------|---------|
| EA In-Person Coach Updates - 4 | 200     |
| On-Line Meetings               | 150     |



# **OFFICIALS**

We extend our sincere gratitude to all our Officials for their unwavering dedication throughout the year. The success of our events is built on the foundation of your expertise and countless hours of commitment. Your contribution is vital, without you, equestrian sport simply could not function.

On behalf of the organisation and the broader

On behalf of the organisation and the broader equestrian community, we thank you for the significant impact you make and the passion you bring to every event.

#### **National**

We gained FEI Equivalency with another two of our National Officiating pathways, Dressage Stewards and Vaulting Judges. This will help our National Stewards gain the first step on the ladder with the FEI and once again shows that our Officials Pathway are world standard. We will be looking at submitting further equivalences to assist our officials who wish to progress to FEI Level.

The three-yearly re-accreditation cycle for all National Officials took place in March 2025. For the first time, an online process was introduced, which was well utilised by Officials across the country. Re-accreditation ensures Officials remain current with rule updates, maintain their knowledge through education, and demonstrate ongoing involvement in the sport.

In February, the appointments of the Discipline Steward Generals were confirmed for the new four-year cycle, which aligns with the Olympic cycle. The Steward Generals serve as liaisons between Equestrian Australia, the relevant FEI Steward Generals, and organisers of international event classes to ensure that correct processes are followed and international standards are upheld. This cycle also saw the inclusion of Driving and Para Dressage Steward General appointments.

Dressage - Cathie Drury Klien
Driving - Andrea Webb
Eventing - Johanna Crosby
Endurance - Robyn Parnell
Jumping - Jan Golding
Para Dressage - Veronica Steward

Vaulting - Sarah Jones

FEI Veterinarian Courses

Equestrian Australia was proud to host a series of FEI Veterinary Courses in Sydney from 5-9 March, held at Darling Harbour in the heart of the CBD. The five-

day program welcomed 32 equine veterinarians from across Australia and combined valuable discussion sessions, case-based scenarios, and traditional lectures. These courses provided veterinarians with the opportunity to maintain their accreditation or progress to the next level within the FEI system.

The General Veterinarian Course (Wednesday and Thursday) was presented by Dr Kirsten Neil, FEI National Head Veterinarian for Australia and one of only two FEI Level 4 veterinarians in the country. The Testing Veterinarian Course (Friday) was led by Dr Cate Plummer, a highly experienced veterinarian and former National Medication Control Officer. The Endurance Veterinarian Course (Friday to Sunday) was delivered by Dr Anne Barnes, drawing on her extensive experience in Australia and overseas as both an FEI Endurance Veterinarian and Endurance Veterinary Treatment Official.

These courses provided an invaluable opportunity to strengthen veterinary expertise in equestrian sport and ensure continued alignment with FEI standards.

## **FEI Dressage Stewards Course**

The first course held was an FEI Dressage Stewards In-Person Maintenance Course on 28 April. This course, which stewards are required to complete every three years, included both education and an exam to ensure participants maintained their FEI accreditation. Officials from Australia and New Zealand attended under the direction of Jacques Van Daele (BEL), successfully fulfilling their maintenance requirements.

This was followed by the FEI Dressage Steward Level 2 Transfer Course from 29 April to 1 May. Over three intensive days, 15 candidates engaged in instruction and discussion under the guidance of Jacques Van Daele. Participants included current Level 1 FEI Stewards as well as four National Dressage Stewards who took advantage of the equivalency pathway secured last year to progress to FEI Level 2.

### **FEI Jumping Course Designers Course**

Equestrian Australia hosted the FEI Jumping Course Designer Maintenance Course at Clarendon, NSW, from 20–21 May. This course, which must be completed every three years, is a requirement for Jumping Course Designers to maintain their FEI status. Participants from across Australia and New Zealand attended the two-day program under the direction of FEI Level 4 Course Designer John Vallance, successfully meeting their maintenance requirements. EA is fortunate to have John's expertise, knowledge, and passion available in Australia, and his contribution continues to be invaluable in supporting the growth and standards of Jumping in our region.

#### **Amy McGregor**

Pathways Manager - Officials

### **Number of Officials by State**

| NSW | NT | QLD | SA | TAS | VIC | WA  | Total |
|-----|----|-----|----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| 354 | 14 | 216 | 92 | 88  | 250 | 139 | 1153  |

#### Officials Functions

| Officials Fullctions |      |
|----------------------|------|
| Dressage             | 885  |
| Driving              | 33   |
| Endurance            | 13   |
| Eventing             | 262  |
| Jumping              | 454  |
| Measuring            | 48   |
| Medication Control   | 66   |
| Para Dressage        | 94   |
| Show Horse           | 215  |
| Vaulting             | 27   |
| Total                | 2097 |



# **HEALTH, SAFETY & WELFARE**

We are sharing what we are doing with State CEOs on a regular basis and are learning about some of the great initiatives they have underway in return.-By the time this report is published we will have presented to each of the State and Territory boards as part of ensuring our leadership groups are aware of our Health, Safety and Welfare

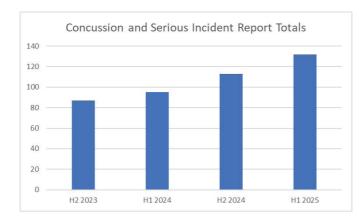
As a key contributor to the Strong Foundations pillar of EA's Nationally Aligned Strategy we have continued to work on the priorities established in 2023, including:

- Completing the Coronial Recommendations related to the Eventing Discipline;
- Implementing a consistent data collection and reporting system and process specific to each discipline;
- Developing and implementing a medical requirements framework;
- Reviewing the Serious Incident Management Plan / Incident Review Plans to cover all disciplines;
- · Improving member communications; and
- Developing an EA Horse Welfare Strategy

As reported last year the Coronial recommendations were completed in early 2024 and the emphasis of our efforts have now moved towards reviewing the implementation of the implemented recommendations for consistency and to identify any ongoing opportunities for improvement. This work started during the middle of the year and should be completed by the end of this year.

A key element of the data collection and reporting system is the incident reporting form commonly known as Form 08.-This form is used to report serious injuries, concussions, and horse injuries as well as falls without incident. Submission of this form is critical to our understanding of risk in our various sports and enables us to follow up with members where necessary to provide support

Compliance with this reporting system continues to increase as indicated by the total number of serious incident and concussion reports received for the half calendar years from the second half of 2023 through the first half of 2025.



We continue to work on making the form easier to use to encourage reporting and modifying the report to capture as much information as possible.

Work on the Minimum Medical Requirements framework at the end of 2024 identified that a more graduated framework was required for Jumping and Dressage. As a result detailed proposals have been approved by the NDCs for a pilot which is currently in progress with the intention of incorporating the proposals, as modified by any feedback, in the respective Sport Rules for 2026.

A combined training and simulation exercise was conducted with EA staff and State representatives mid-year and was very valuable in cementing understanding of the various roles associated with the implementation of the Incident Response Plan/Serious Incident Management Plan (SIMP) whilst a parallel team at EA enact (if required) the Critical Incident Management Plan (CIMT).

As part of our improved communications strategy, we have improved on emailing key changes direct to officials and other concerned groups, using the monthly newsletter to publish updates more broadly to members and to occasionally use socials as required for news stories.

We are sharing what we are doing with State CEOs on a regular basis and are learning about some of the great initiatives they have underway in return.-By the time this report is published we will have presented to each of the State and Territory boards as part of ensuring our leadership groups are aware of our Health, Safety and Welfare strategy.

Changes to Sport Rules now ensure that Dressage, Jumping, Showhorse and Eventing have a consistent sanction for incidents of horse abuse in competition and a process such that this sanction can be applied at all competitions.

Over the last two years good progress has been made against many of our priorities and in February 2026 they will be reviewed by the committee and adjusted where necessary for the next cycle.

There has been some change in the Health Safety and Welfare team over the last 12 months. We would like to thank Vireena Peacock for her tireless work and leadership of the Health, Safety and Welfare team; Vireena is returning full time to ENSW owing to the workload there. We also welcome back Victoria Farr who is returning to the team from maternity leave. Finally we would like to thank Maddison McAndrew for all her ongoing valuable support and advice to both members and other staff regarding a wide variety of Health Safety and Welfare related issues, and to all the members of the Committee who continue to support the Health, Safety and Welfare function in both a practical and supportive manner.

#### **George Proimo**

Chair, Health Safety and Welfare Committee.

#### **Roger Kane**

Manager, Health Safety and Welfare



# **DRESSAGE**

The Equestrian Australian Dressage Committee (EADC) has been working to develop a more cohesive communication between members and State Dressage Authority's to create pathways of participation at all levels in the sport.

The EADC has welcomed two new committee members in 2025 as well as Deon Stokes who was elected to the role of Athletes' Representative. We would like to extend a special thank you to Gill Botten stepping down from the Chair of EADC at the end of 2024, and who made an enormous contribution during her term.

The year has signalled the start of the qualifying period in Australia and overseas for those riders wishing to compete at the 2026 FEI World Championships in Aachen Germany in both Dressage and Para Dressage. The organisers of both CDI's and CPEDI's provide a great deal of support for this process for which we thank them. The task of conducting these important events is enormous and without the generosity of OC's, Sponsors, State Branches, and countless volunteers these events would not be possible.

The Equestrian Australian Dressage Committee (EADC) has been working to develop a more cohesive communication between members and State Dressage Authority's to create pathways of participation at all levels in the sport.

The Amateur Owner Rider (AOR) competitions have been taken up in many states and the continued success of state leaderboards have proved very popular. Some states have included AOR state championships and annual AOR awards. The committee expects even greater growth in 2026 as the Australian National AOR Championships continue to be well supported.

The continued drive to encourage the pathway from youth rider to senior rider, has resulted in the establishment FEI youth categories of U-25 (21-25), Young Rider (16-21), Junior (14-18) and Pony Rider (12-16) and Childrens (12-14) classes at many of the CDI's resulting in some impressive world rankings by our young riders over the past 12 months.

Sport rules underlie our sport and provide structure for all who participate. The EADC understands the rules should be inclusive and keep up with developments in the sport (including changes at FEI level).

In 2025 a review of Dressage rules took place with considerable input from the state dressage committees. The review addressed areas for clarifications as well

as consideration of relevant FEI rules for inclusion in EA Dressage Rules. The updated rule book will be published effective 1 January 2026.

The EADC, through its subcommittee, the Equestrian Australian Dressage Officials Committee (EADOC), continues to monitor the number of accredited officials available to support official Dressage, Eventing, and Interschool. The undertaking to increase stewards and establish a national Dressage Technical Delegate list has been impressive with considerable effort around the country. The EADOC continue to work towards more streamline processes for our officials and play an important role in the future of the sport.

The EADC recognises the need for greater communication with the athletes, owners, officials. state committees, and the wider community and has re-established the Australian Dressage Riders Representative Facebook page to directly share updates and relevant information.

We are lucky to have a wide range of National and FEI events in Australia and the EADC recognises the enormous effort by volunteer committees to produce these, year after year. We do encourage the riders who benefit from their efforts to please help in any way you can.

In closing I would like to thank the EADC committee who have given many hours of their time this year and to the EA National Office staff who have provided ongoing support to the committee.

#### **Deborah MacNicol**

Dressage Committee Chair

#### **EA Dressage Committee**

Deborah MacNicol - Chair Toni Venhaus - Vice Chair Lisa Baker Julie Jones Karma Wilson Deon Stokes - Athletes' Representative Aengus Wright

Below: Sydney CDI 2025: CDI1\* FEI Intermediate Freestyle - Brett Parbery & Vellvit Photo Credit: Simon Scully Photography.



# **DRIVING**

The success of Australian Driving Athletes is having a flow on effect, generating greater interest and renewed passion for those involved in this discipline here in Australia.

The National Driving Committee is very active in furthering sport development and growth.

In May 2025 a meeting was held inviting a group of past and present Members and Officials to have input into the future directions the Committee needs to consider for further development of the sport, including exploring the options for more interaction and collaboration with the Australian Carriage Driving Society (ACDS). Several future strategies were highlighted from this meeting.

One of two committee vacancies was filled in June 2025 by Oliver Tester from Equestrian Western Australia.

The National Committee continues to work closely with the EA Pathways Manager for Officials, EA National Safety Officer, EA High Performance Manager and EA Driving Selectors.

#### Clubs

The National Driving Committee are working on strategies for increasing the interest from existing affiliated clubs to consider a multi-discipline framework that can incorporate Driving discipline into their club's activities. Several clubs are now successfully embracing this innovative way of operating. We want to see a thriving Driving sport out there, as part of every state and many multidisciplinary EA-affiliated Clubs, all around Australia.

Driving Queensland held the third State Championships in partnership with the South Burnett Equestrian Group (SBEG) at Nanango in Oct 2024. The number of participants has grown each year with some travelling quite large distances to compete.

SBEG also hosted a training camp with UK trainers, Robert Buck and Julie Cam and Victorian Medal winning Para Driver Jodie McKeown. The large number of participants came from Qld, WA, NSW and VIC.

Western Australia have formed a new working group and Committee focussing on increasing the number of clubs and participants involved with Driving in WA. Australian Driving Community are fortunate that both Boyd Exell and Tor van den Berg continue to offer clinics to clubs in Australia with all available spaces taken up by eager Athlete participants and many spectators attending.

The Nations Cup is an international event hosted by Certius in the UK which provides a competition that runs across many countries. Several clubs in Australia presently participate in this event. Southern Highlands Club NSW hosted an event in 2024 and will again in Oct 2025. SBEG Qld hosted their event in April and the Wheatbelt Regional Carriage Driving Club in WA will run in Aug 2025.

Driving Committees are still needed in several of the other states.

#### Education

A refresher course for Driving Officials was held in December and all Officials renewed accreditation for another 3 years from March 2025. The Committee is planning more courses for Officials to be conducted through 25-26.

The Committee will also focus on promoting the fast-track opportunities for Officials from other disciplines and Driving sport bodies, to increase the number of Officials within the sport. Western Australia are planning to host Officials training courses in 2025-26.

The Navigator/Backstepper Competency Certificate resource will be moved onto the new EA National IT framework for easier access and use by Athlete support members.

#### Athlete Achievements - International

Boyd Exell and his team are ranked #1 Four in Hand Driver in the world and continues to be very successful with many major achievements across Europe during 2024-25 including the FEI Driving World Cup Final and Royal Windsor Horse Show.

Tor Van den Berg and his team entered the FEI International Competition circuit in 2020 and continue to show strong competitive Driving performances in Europe in both Four in Hand and Pairs competitions. Boyd and Tor both competed at the World Equestrian Festival CHIO Aachen in 2025 with an exciting result that saw them making history as the first ever Australian team to win the Nations Cup. This victory marks a turning point for Australia in international driving. It is the first time the nation has won the Baron und Baronin von Buchholtz Nations' Cup at Aachen and the first time a win was achieved with just two drivers!

The success of Australian Driving Athletes is having a flow on effect, generating greater interest and renewed passion for those involved in this discipline here in Australia.

Australian Driving athletes also training and/or competing overseas are young Drivers Ruby Lawrence and Ned Andrews both based with Boyd, Jannelle Marshall is based in the US and Andrew Damsma is based in the Netherlands.

Three Equestrian QLD Drivers, Corby Cunnington, Patrica Nolan and Hilary Stubbs travelled to the UK to compete for Australia in the Certius Nations Cup.

Para Driving Athlete, Jodie McKeown from Vic is planning to compete in the FEI Para Driving Championships to be held in Lahden (GER) in September 2025.

Janelle Marshal is currently ranked #2 in the FEI Driving World Ranking for Pony Singles and won the Katydid FEI 3\* Combined Driving Event in April 2025.

#### Committee Goals for 2025/26

The National Driving Committee will continue to focus on increasing the number of official driving competitions being offered by affiliated clubs. An important aspect of this goal is to increase the number

of accredited Driving officials through providing more training clinics and seminars as part of the ongoing education strategy.

Thank you to all the loyal and supportive Driving volunteers, officials, committees, sponsors, athletes, navigator/backsteppers, grooms and coaches for all the hours, time, effort and commitment you put in.

Thank you for your dedication, to our sport and taking the time to learn, grow and share what our great sport is all about.

We continue to be optimistic about the sustainability and growth of the Driving sport in Australia.

We look forward to another productive year and to see our drivers enjoying the sport from grass roots to high performance.

#### Wendy Bruszewski

Driving Committee Chair

#### **EA Driving Committee**

Wendy Bruszewski - Chair Mary Seefried Suzan McDermott Oliver Tester Corby Cunnington - Athlete's Representative

Below: Australian Drivers Boyd Exell and Tor Van den Berg win Gold at Aachen 2025. Photo Credit: Libby Law Photography.



# **ENDURANCE**

Over the past year, Australian FEI endurance athletes have competed across 11 countries, including France, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE, New Zealand, Spain, Portugal, Estonia, and Malaysia — gaining invaluable international experience and qualifications.

Strengthening Australia's International Presence
The National Selectors for Endurance — Naomi
O'Shaugnessy (Chair), Robyn Parnell, and Anne Barnes
— have been busy, selecting Australia's first full senior
team for an international championship since
Tryon 2018.

At the FEI Endurance World Championships in Monpazier, France, Australia was proudly represented by:

- Catherine Bailey on Razorback Targaryen
- · Andrea Laws-King on Heathfields bin Sadaqa
- James Sheahan on Minton East Chaucer
- Alexandra Toft on Twilight TE
- Tahlia Franke on Rosevale Park Bay Sarin

Australian-bred horses continued to demonstrate global excellence, with Castlebar Cadabra — bred in Australia — securing 2nd place individually for the UAE at the Championship.

This momentum continued with the selection of a full Junior team for the FEI Endurance World Championship for Young Riders and Juniors to be hosted in Buftea, Romania in September — the first since our bronze medal-winning team in Abu Dhabi (2011).

Over the past year, Australian FEI endurance athletes have competed across 11 countries, including France, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, UAE, New Zealand, Spain, Portugal, Estonia, and Malaysia — gaining invaluable international experience and qualifications.

Looking ahead to 2026, Australia aims to field another full senior team at the World Equestrian Games Endurance event in Al Ula, KSA.

#### **Steady Domestic Growth**

The selection of full senior and junior teams reflects the gradual rise in FEI endurance participation in Australia. From just 19 active FEI competitors in 2014, the number has grown to 49 in 2024.

In 2024, four FEI rides were successfully held across NSW and QLD, with five rides already approved for the 2025 FEI calendar. This expansion ensures more qualifying opportunities and strengthens the sport's sustainability.

The EAEC extends sincere appreciation to the ride organisers, clubs, sponsors, volunteers, and officials whose dedication makes these events possible.

# Return of the Equestrian Australia National Endurance Championships in 2025

Earlier this year, the EAEC issued an EOI for hosting of the 2025 Equestrian Australia National Endurance Championships. Hosting of the Championships was awarded to the Stirling Crossing Endurance Club to be run at Imbil, Qld in July. Last held in 2019, the Championships are set to feature the highest number of FEI 3\* qualified combinations in over a decade. The Championship is a welcome return to the Australian calendar and provides a valuable qualifying opportunity for international representation and competing at the highest level within Australia.

#### **Committee Initiatives and Strategic Focus**

Key committee positions — including Chair, Athlete's Representative, EA representative to AERA and general members — were filled between late 2024 and early 2025. Robyn Parnell was re-appointed in her role as the Steward General for Endurance.

The EAEC also welcomed:

- An AERA co-opted member
- A co-opted member with extensive officiating experience

The committee remains focused on sustainable growth, with a strong emphasis on recruiting and supporting accredited officials. In late 2024, the EAEC secured NDC Participation Funding for official accreditation and upskilling at the Braunstone FEI Ride, supporting entrylevel FEI officials through mentoring and training. Funds were also directed toward steward development, resulting in new national-level and Level 1 stewards and the progression of existing stewards to higher levels.

An Endurance Veterinarian Course led by Dr Anne Barnes was held in Sydney in March as part of the FEI Veterinary Continuing Education program.

Efforts continue to address the shortage of accredited officials, which impacts the cost and feasibility of hosting FEI rides domestically.

Additional achievements include:

- Updating outdated documents and webpages
- Creating a comprehensive Ride Organiser Pack to simplify FEI ride planning
- Pursuing alignment of concussion initiatives with AERA
- Exploring the development of endurance squads, an FEI division at the Tom Quilty National Endurance Championships and the resumption of the Trans-Tasman event

Despite challenges — including rising costs, implications of rule changes, and geographical isolation — the EAEC remains committed to advancing endurance sport in Australia.

We look forward to further growth and another productive year of our athletes enjoying the sport from grass roots to high performance.

#### Acknowledgements

On behalf of the EAEC, we extend our gratitude to Caiwen Cusworth, EA Representative and Sonya Ryan, Former Chair

#### **Christine Stomps**

**Endurance Committee Chair** 

#### **EA Endurance Committee**

Andrea Laws-King (2024-2025) Kristie Wright (2024-2025) Sarah Parker (2025) Annette Bailey (2025) David Urquhart (2025)

Below: Young QLD FEI Endurance rider Indi Else and Shazam. Photo credit: Sarah Sullivan.



# **EVENTING**

Our sport depends heavily on volunteers. We thank all those wonderful people who continue to share our passion for Eventing. We also cannot have a sport without Officials, and we need to continue to grow these roles with younger people coming through.

Eventing Australia always begin the financial year with a forum. In July 2024 we, the Committee, met in Sydney with 2 delegates from each State. This is the perfect opportunity to share knowledge and put forward any new rule recommendations that will come into effect on January 1st 2025. We look at statistics produced from our extensive data, collected and presented by our Safety Officer Roger Kane. We also discuss and comment on the FEI proposed rule changes to be put forward at the FEI November forum.

One new rule that has been operating for the first half of 2025 was the ability for riders in EV80 and below to miss up to two jumps on course with penalties of 100 each time. Some riders have taken the opportunity to bypass a fence that they were having trouble with and continue to complete the course.

August was an exciting month for Australia with Christopher Burton and Shadowman bringing home the individual Eventing silver for Australia. The global success of Eventing at the Paris Olympics meant that the International Olympic Committee agreed not to change the proposed long format order for Los Angeles, so it remains dressage, cross country and showjumping on the last day and for this we are eternally grateful!

The Spring season kicked off well with lots of quality competitions leading into November where we saw Sam Jeffree and Santoro take out the CCI4\* at the Limitless Lodge Sydney International 3 Day Event. The 2025 start was a bit of a shuffle due to Adelaide moving away from Easter and into the first weekend of May. We thank the Organising Committees for working around this calendar change to provide valuable lead in events to Adelaide and Melbourne.

Congratulations to Hazel Shannon and the everyouthful Willingapark Clifford for taking out their 4th Adelaide 5\*.

Melbourne is the last major event for the 24/25 year and Sophia Hill took out the honours in the CCI4\*with Tulara Baltango. The other interesting fact about Melbourne was the success of the Western Australian Riders across the events. For a small cohort on the other side of the continent they are doing very well. It takes a huge effort and many days for these riders to travel their horses across the Nullarbor to Victoria, and they came away with plenty of rosettes including first and second in the CCI3\*.

Our sport depends heavily on volunteers. We thank all those wonderful people who continue to share our passion for Eventing. We also cannot have a sport without Officials, and we need to continue to grow these roles with younger people coming through. If you are interested in pursuing an Official contact your State Eventing Committee to learn more about upcoming courses.

#### **Janet Houghton**

**Eventing Committee Chair** 

## **EA Eventing Committee**

Janet Houghton - Chair
Diana Massey
Lisa Gall
Jade Findlay
Jamie Buckby
Heather Ford
Stuart Tinney - Athletes' Representative



Above: 2025 Adelaide Equestrian Festival CCI5\* Winners Hazwl Shannon and Willingapark Clifford. Photo Credit: That Hashtag Group.

# INTERSCHOOL

A major highlight of the year was the 2024 Marcus Oldham Australian Interschool Championships, proudly hosted by Equestrian Queensland at the Australian Equine and Livestock Events Centre (AELEC) in Tamworth from 19–23 September 2024.

The 2024–2025 year has been one of significant progress and renewal for the Equestrian Australia Interschool program. The newly appointed National Interschool Committee undertook the considerable task of reviewing and modernising the National Interschool Rules, which had not been comprehensively updated for many years. This extensive process brought the rules into alignment with current EA National Discipline Rules and contemporary competition practices, ensuring clarity, consistency, and fairness across all states and disciplines.

A major highlight of the year was the 2024 Marcus Oldham Australian Interschool Championships, proudly hosted by Equestrian Queensland at the Australian Equine and Livestock Events Centre (AELEC) in Tamworth from 19–23 September 2024. AELEC proved to be the perfect venue for this prestigious annual event, providing world-class facilities and an exceptional atmosphere for riders, horses, and supporters alike.

The naming rights sponsor, Marcus Oldham College, has a long and rich history of supporting young equestrian enthusiasts and guiding many towards careers in the equine industry. Their continued partnership reinforces the strong educational and developmental foundation of the Interschool program.

The Championships brought together 420 riders, 490 horses, and more than 2,000 supporters, officials, and volunteers who participated across the five disciplines of Dressage, Show Jumping, Combined Training, Show Horse, and Eventing. Teams travelled from Queensland, Victoria, Western Australia, South Australia, Tasmania, Northern Territory, and New South Wales, all enjoying the experience of competing in an event that delivered a truly "international" atmosphere of camaraderie, sportsmanship, and excellence.

An impressive 44 pool horses were generously provided for riders from Tasmania, Western Australia, and the Northern Territory, enabling their participation despite the challenges of long-distance travel. The generosity and support of these owners were sincerely acknowledged and deeply appreciated by all involved.

In 2024, the National Interschool Committee also introduced a new national trophy to further recognise excellence and encourage participation from smaller states and territories. The EA Interschool Trophy is awarded to the state or territory team with fewer than 50 riders that achieves the highest accumulated points on a handicap basis. The Northern Territory team proudly claimed the inaugural trophy, an outstanding achievement that highlighted their dedication, teamwork, and spirit.

The National Interschool Committee extends its thanks to Equestrian Queensland and the Organising Committee for their professionalism, dedication, and delivery of such a successful event. Looking ahead, the Committee remains focused on fostering collaboration between states, strengthening inclusivity and participation, and continuing to enhance the quality and consistency of the Interschool program nationwide.

#### **Corien Ridley**

Interschool Committee Chair

## **EA Interschool Committee**

Corien Ridley - Chair
Julia Williams
Leah Brown
Sue Goldfinch
Emily Ballard
Bridget Murphy (Para Representative)



Above: Competing at the 2024 National Interschool Championships at Tamworth.

# **JUMPING**

The EAJC remain cognisant of the vital importance of grassroots members and events in addition to the elite end of the sport.

The past 12 months has been a busy period for the Equestrian Australia Jumping Committee. It has seen a significant turnover in membership with the completion of the term of former chairman Rory Hovell and replacement of his position with Brad Frankum, who also took over the chair of the committee for 2025.

2025 has seen a very positive increase in interest in our premier shows. The Australian Showjumping championships were run at Willinga Park by Waratah Showjumping in October 2024 and was a very successful event. Congratulations to Phillip Lever on being crowned Australian champion in the seniors, Jack Barker in the young riders, Hannah Doolan in the juniors, and Harley McNaughton in the children's. This calendar year's Australian Showumping championships will be held at Boneo Park in Victoria and preparations are well underway.

We are very pleased to welcome Stonewall as a new World Cup show in October 2025. This spectacular venue is already running frequent high quality shows. Boneo Park ran a successful World Cup qualifier recently. Next year we are also looking to welcome a further World Cup qualifier run by Waratah Showjumping in the autumn at Sydney International Equestrian Centre. It should be noted that Victoria and New South Wales are running all of our World Cup qualifiers on the current calendar other than Caboolture in Queensland. It is important that we support the development of new shows in other states over time.

Billy Raymont was crowned winner of the World Cup League for 2024-25. Billy elected not to go to the World Cup final, but continues to do extremely well in this year's series. We are hopeful that the winners of the league for 2025-26 will consider going to compete in the World Cup Final.

The EAJC has spent considerable time reviewing and updating rules. We have realised the importance of regular review of the rules under which our sport is governed as well as keeping members informed and up to date records available on the EA website.

The EAJC has also had multiple positive interactions with the EA board in the past 12 months. There is certainly much strategic thought being given to the development and future of the discipline. The chair has been working with High Performance on the 'What it takes to Win' strategy. The new selector's

national panel has been appointed and we would like to thank Gavin Chester and Colleen Brook for their ongoing involvement and welcome Damien Guthrie to the position as selector.

August 2026 will see the landmark World Equestrian Games being held at Aachen in Germany. We hope and expect to send a very strong team to compete and we have riders achieving qualification results in Australia as well as North America and in Europe. Beyond, the 2028 Olympic games will be a priority and a strong performance at Aachen will be very helpful for progress towards that event. We are currently looking to appoint a technical lead for the sport moving forward towards those events.

The EAJC remain cognisant of the vital importance of grassroots members and events in addition to the elite end of the sport. The challenge is how to balance access to competition for all whilst raising funds for very expensive events. It is of vital importance that state branches continue to support local clubs and competitions as well as World Cup shows and elite competitions. It is also vitally important that we continue to nurture officials in the areas of judging, course designing, and stewarding. We have had a number of officials upgrade their qualifications in the last year and we congratulate and support them. We need to continue to develop pathways to make education and training more accessible and affordable for our hard-working officials.

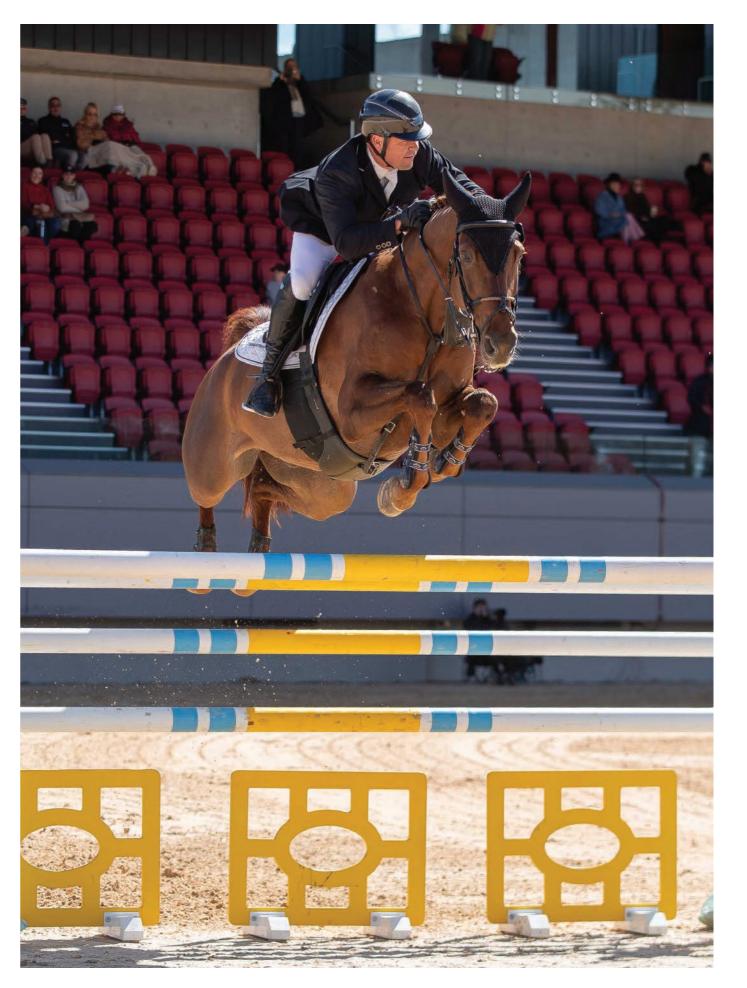
Challenges ahead include developing national squads for various categories of competitor. We also need to continue to inform and educate the membership about the work being done by the EAJC and what it means for them. We did organise a successful meeting with all of the World Cup show organisers this year to share information and knowledge and intend to continue to conduct that forum. We also plan to meet with each of the chairs of the state committees over the course of the next year to improve 2-way communication.

#### **Brad Frankum**

Jumping Committee Chair

## **EA Jumping Committee**

Brad Frankum - Chair Bridgid Willis George Sanna Graeme Watts Michael Archer Krissy Harris - Athletes' Representative



Above: 2024 World Cup Winners Billy Raymont and Caprino.. Photo Credit: Australian Jumping.

# PARA DRESSAGE

The number of Australian para dressage riders in the Paralympic and Virtus classifications continues to grow, and Australia is becoming a force in this rapidly developing sport. This has been helped by a significant boost in funding and resources to Equestrian Australia through the Australian Government's Para Uplift program.

Para Dressage's public profile received a big boost when it was wonderfully showcased at the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games. The Australian team represented us superbly, with three combinations qualifying for the freestyle round for the first time at a Paralympic Games. Congratulations to all our team members and staff.

The work of the new EA Para Dressage discipline committee has delivered some long-awaited outcomes for our clubs, athletes and supporters.

To guide its future activities in growing the sport the committee has been developing a Para Dressage whole-of-sport plan that aligns with Equestrian Australia's Strategic Plan. This will be completed for publication in late 2025.

The number of Australian para dressage riders in the Paralympic and Virtus classifications continues to grow, and Australia is becoming a force in this rapidly developing sport. This has been helped by a significant boost in funding and resources to Equestrian Australia through the Australian Government's Para Uplift program.

Working in close partnership with EA's Para High Performance unit and with funding support from EAs Inclusivity Program your EAPDC released the pilot of our Australian Club Inclusivity Kit. We have been able to provide 15 EA Clubs with a grant to test this package and when the pilot is completed we will update the contents with lessons learned from our Club network.

The EAPDC has provided funding to most states to support para officials' education including for judges, classifiers and stewards. Soon we will have qualified para stewards and classifiers in all states! In July 2025 Equestrian Australia signed a memorandum of understanding with Sport Inclusion Australia to collaborate on the inclusion and development of the Virtus classification in Australian equestrian sport. The partnership is delivering a fantastic opportunity for new athletes to join the para pathway. During 2025/2026 we will be creating more clarity for officials who are working with Virtus athletes by including Virtus information in judges' and stewards' education.

All members of your EAPDC have shown dedication and passion in their work together to grow Para dressage in Australia. I thank all of my colleagues for their support and ideas and look forward to continuing our work together.

#### Lisa Baker

Para Dressage Committee Chair

#### **EA Para Dressage Committee**

Lisa Baker - Chair Jane Ventura Jade Woodhead Butler Noella Angel Suzanne Cunningham Felicity Weal - Athlete Representative



Above: Lisa Martin and Villagio at the 2024 Paris Paraylympic Games. Photo Credit: Jon Stroud Media.

# **SHOW HORSE**

Thank you to the volunteers who support and give up their time to assist at EA Show Horse events throughout Australia. You are all a valuable part of our sport.

2025 continues to be a year full of competition with the states holding multiple events with positive numbers in attendance.

Changes to the National Show Horse Committee came into effect in January 2025 with Alyson Emery from SA taking over as National Chair. Thankyou to Kerry Patchett for her many years as National Chair. Thanks to Toni Harper-Purcell (Qld), Lorri Mansell (Vic) and Chirs Lawrie (Riders Rep) who have now finished their time on the Committee, and we welcome Rebecca Fedrick (Qld) and Fiona McIntyre (Vic) for joining the National Committee. It was decided by the EA Board that the position of Riders Rep would not be filled in 2025 with changes to committee structure happening at the end of 2025.

ETAS and EVIC held their Horse of the Year events in January and March respectively. The remaining states will hold their state horse of the year events in August and September 2025. Horses and riders placing 1st to 3rd in all National qualifying classes will represent their state at the 2025 EA Nationals. The 2024 EA Australasian Show Horse & Rider Championships were held at SIEC, 28th to 30th November 2024 with the ENSW organising committee hosting the event. The 2025 event will be heading back to Victoria and will be hosted by EVic at Werribee Park from the 4th to 6th December. Thank you to Equestrian NSW for hosting the most prestigious event on the EA Show Horse calendar from 2022-2024.

The EASHC met in Sydney over 2 days in May 2025. We welcomed a new delegate from EQId and EVic to the committee.

Multiple judge seminars were held by the states in the past 12 months providing officials with updates on rule changes. The seminars are a

valuable part of educating officials. Rule changes are implemented on the 1st July and 1st January each year and must be submitted by the EASHC 3 months prior to the EA National board for approval. Re accreditation for judges were sent out in March 2024. The current updated pathways are now available on the EA website for those members who would like to become a judge, steward or official. All officials are now required to hold a Working with Children Check.

A reminder to all exhibitors that the Ear Hair rule is in effect at all show horse events.

To the current members of the EASHC, thank you for your time and dedication.

Thank you to the volunteers who support and give up their time to assist at EA Show Horse events throughout Australia. You are all a valuable part of our sport.

The EASHC would like to extend our appreciation to the EA National Office staff who provide ongoing support to the National Show Horse Committee throughout the year.

#### **Alyson Emery**

Show Horse Committee Chair

Alyson Emery - Chair Rebecca Fedrick Tania Hay Fiona McIntyre Kym Brajkovich Peta Daffurn





Above: Presentations at EA Show Horse Nationals 2024 Photo Credit: Angie Rickard Photography.

# **VAULTING**

The EA VC are looking at ways to help support the growth of Vaulting in Australia through developing grass roots in regional areas while supporting our High Performance athletes by encouraging the progress of horse and lunger combinations.

In October 2024, the 26th National Vaulting Championships was held. The event was an exciting step for QLD vaulting as the premier event for a new indoor venue at the Boonah showground. Congratulations and thank you to Fassifern and QLD Vaulting Committee for hosting such a fabulous event.

Once again, a CVI3\* was held in Sydney in February 2025, supporting Australian and New Zealand vaulters in their endeavour to qualify for championship events in 2025 and 2026. Congratulations to the individual and squad competitors on your successes at this event. A major highlight of this year is Ginger Kennett's representation of Australia at the World Cup Final in Bern, Switzerland. Congratulations Ginger for your score of 7.515, placing you in 16th, an outstanding personal best CVI score in a tough field!

Throughout the year Ginger Kennett, Tegan Davis, Saskia Linde, Brooke Stanley, Lily Steinman, Marlia Stewart, Sahara Hohnen-Weil and Stella Weston competed at CVI events in Leir and Opglabbeek (Belgium), Aachen, Krumke and Weisbaden (Germany), Basel, St. Jakobshalle and Bern (Switzerland), Villa Santa- Monza (Italy), Saumur (France), Stadl Paura (Austria), Budapest (Hungary), and Ermelo (Netherlands).

The EAVC have several important projects in the works including, working towards reducing the workload of our horses, continuing to push towards the completion of the new coaching syllabus for all levels of coaching accreditation, continued

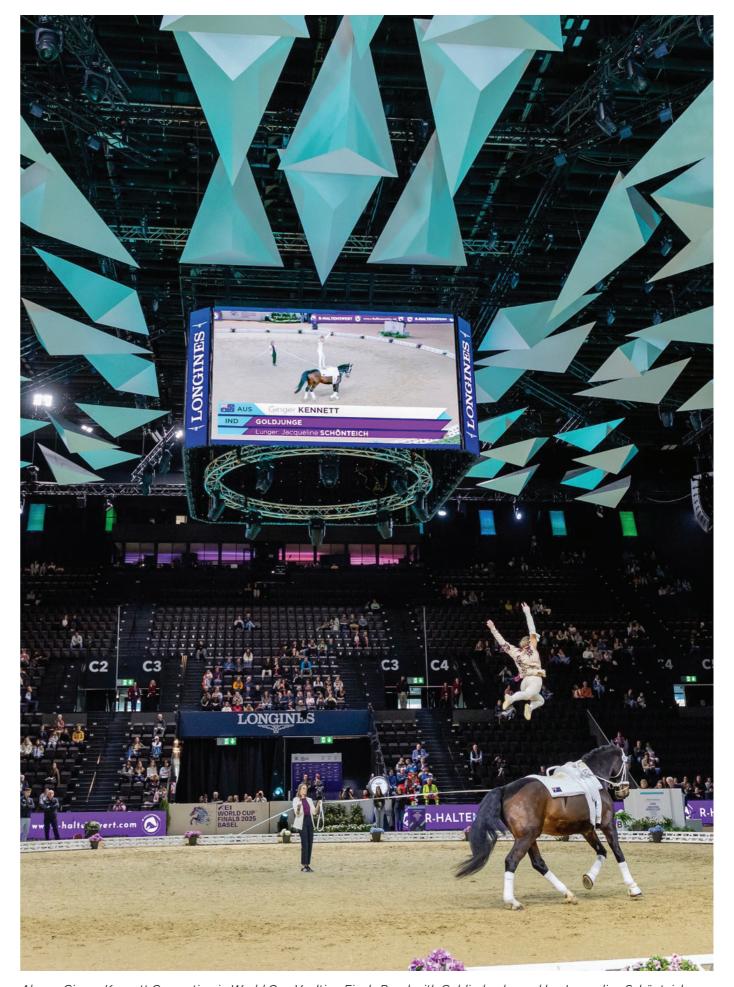
to manage the National Leaderboard to further recognise the success of our athletes and the National Calendar to assist Organising Committees to avoid clashes of events, supporting the growth of our sport in Australia. In addition to this, the EAVC are looking at ways to help support the growth of Vaulting in Australia through developing grass roots in regional areas while supporting our High Performance athletes by encouraging the progress of horse and lunger combinations. The progress we are looking to make in these sectors will support the growth of our discipline within Equestrian Australia. We look forward to continuing working with EA and State Committees to help the sport of Vaulting continue to grow in 2026.

#### **Natalie McNeill**

Vaulting Committee Chair

#### **EA Vaulting Committee**

Natalie McNeill - Chair
Karen Ford
Eliza Wark-Chapman
Gillian Burns
Skye Barrowcliffe (until Dec 24)
Matilda Yates (Athletes Representative until Dec 24)
Poppy Loveland (from Jan 25)
Tegan Davis (Athletes Representative from Jan 25)



Above: Ginger Kennett Competing in World Cup Vaulting Finals Basel with Goldjudge lunged by Jacqueline Schönteich of Germany. Photo Credit: Dirk Caremans.

# **NEW SOUTH WALES**

The past 12 months have been a period of extraordinary energy and achievement for Equestrian NSW (ENSW). Across all disciplines, committees, and programs, ENSW has continued to invest in people, participation, and purpose—supporting riders, volunteers, officials, and clubs while strengthening the foundations of equestrian sport in NSW.

From grassroots to state high performance, ENSW's work has been guided by its 2025-2030 Strategic Plan, particularly its commitment to building a strong and respected profile, ensuring quality facilities, and creating pathways for all. This year has been defined by collaboration, innovation, and the celebration of equestrian excellence—proving that when we work together, we are truly stronger together.

#### **Across All Disciplines**

ENSW has continued to partner in the delivery of major competitions and developmental programs across Dressage, Eventing, Jumping, Show Horse, Vaulting, Para Equestrian, and Interschool disciplines.

Events such as the Sydney International 3DE, Jumping NSW Championships, Interschool NSW State Championships, and State Vaulting Championships attracted record entries and showcased NSW's leadership in equestrian performance.

Behind each event is a network of passionate officials, volunteers, and clubs—supported by ENSW's ongoing investment in education, safety, governance, marketing, and social media initiatives. This year, ENSW also celebrated the achievements of all disciplines at the ENSW Awards Night in August. The new venue brought fresh energy, and attendees partied well into the night in a true celebration of our sport's success.

#### **Building Knowledge and Leadership**

In May, all ENSW committees came together for a full-day education session on Governance, facilitated by Simon Neaverson from the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD).

The session focused on building a sustainable sport for the future, strengthening understanding of governance principles, and clarifying the vital role each committee plays in the organisation's strategic direction. Bringing together representatives from every committee reinforced ENSW's commitment to transparency, collaboration, and continuous improvement—another example of how we are stronger together when we share knowledge and vision across the sport.

#### The Amateur Equestrian Committee

A standout development this year has been the creation of the Amateur Equestrian Committee—formed to recognise and celebrate the many adult riders who balance their love of horses with busy lives and careers outside the sport.

The committee launched the popular Equestrian Experience Days, offering relaxed, non-competitive opportunities for riders to learn, connect, and enjoy their horses in a social setting. Activities ranged from mounted clinics and educational workshops to behind-the-scenes tours of high-performance venues. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, confirming that these inclusive, community-focused days are helping to keep adult riders engaged and connected. It is a shining example of how collaboration between committees and members strengthens the entire equestrian community.

## Para Equestrian: Inclusion and Inspiration

The Para Equestrian Committee continues to lead with purpose, ensuring that equestrian remains one of NSW's most inclusive sports. Over the past year, the committee has expanded opportunities for riders with disability to train, compete, and connect with mentors and high-performance programs.

The committee has worked to increase competition opportunities and build awareness of para classification. Their advocacy for inclusive event practices has encouraged clubs to embrace accessibility across their programs.

The outstanding performances of NSW's para-athletes—many now members of the Australian High Performance Para Squad—continue to inspire, reminding us that excellence and inclusion are not mutually exclusive, but powerfully aligned when we stand stronger together.

#### Interschool NSW: Pathways for the Future

The Interschool Committee has delivered another exceptional year of growth, participation, and community spirit. The 2025 NSW State Interschool Championships at SIEC brought together hundreds of riders from schools across NSW in a vibrant display of teamwork, talent, and sportsmanship.

Beyond competition, the committee's commitment to safety, leadership, and development was evident at every stage—from comprehensive safety planning to the guidance provided by team captains and volunteers. The NSW team's success at the 2024 and 2025 National Interschool Championships capped off a year defined by pride and unity.Interschool NSW's digital presence has also flourished, with engaging posts and updates helping families stay informed and connected.

Regular posts about team selections, logistics, and results demonstrated transparency and professionalism, while coverage of the 2025 National Interschool Championships hosted by ENSW at SIEC in September showed just how powerful community storytelling can be, with some posts attracting thousands of views.

Show Horse NSW: Professionalism and Passion The Show Horse NSW Committee again set the standard for presentation, community, and sportsmanship. The Horse of the Year (HOTY) at SIEC remains one of the most prestigious events on the state calendar—renowned for its smooth organisation, elegant classes, and emphasis on fairness and camaraderie.

This year also marked the final year of NSW's three-year tenure hosting the EA Australasian Show Horse & Rider Championships, closing a remarkable chapter for the state. The successful delivery of these national events from 2022–2024 cemented NSW's reputation for event excellence and collaboration.

As the baton passes to Victoria, NSW can take great pride in setting a new benchmark for presentation, participation, and competitor experience—proof again that our community achieves more when we are stronger together.

#### Celebrating Volunteers, Officials & Clubs

Volunteers remain the heartbeat of equestrian sport, and ENSW has continued to celebrate their essential contributions. Across every discipline, hundreds of volunteer hours have been logged—each representing dedication, care, and teamwork.

In recognition of their contribution to the sport, ENSW has fully subsidised Officials' Memberships this year, ensuring that the individuals who uphold the integrity and safety of our sport are supported and appreciated. Affiliated clubs continue to drive equestrian sport at the local level. ENSW supported them through workshops on governance fundamentals and social media management, equipping club leaders with the skills to grow participation and engagement.

It was particularly rewarding to see Rebecca Andrews recognised at the Sport NSW Awards for her exceptional contribution to volunteering and event coordination, and Les Friend honoured with a Lifetime Achievement Award for his decades of service to coaching.

#### Stronger Together - A Connected Future

Over the past year, Equestrian NSW has shown that when strategy meets passion, extraordinary things happen. From the growth of adult participation and para inclusion to the empowerment of youth, officials, and volunteers, our community continues to thrive through collaboration.

Through its committees, events, and partnerships, ENSW is not just delivering competitions—it is cultivating a connected, inclusive, and future-focused equestrian community.

Because when we work together—riders, volunteers, officials, and clubs—we are always stronger together.

## Vireena Peacock

Chief Executive Officer
Equestrian New South Wales

 $^{38}$ 

# **NORTHERN TERRITORY**

The 2024 financial year has seen some great achievements but also some significant challenges for Equestrian Northern Territory.

There were quite a few changes to the ENT Board during the 2024 financial year. We farewelled directors Vicki Martin and Nicole Mutimer, and welcomed Tanya Reynolds (a previous ENT Director), Sandy Ennis and Kezia Purick. Chris Edgoose remained on the Board as Chair. ENT would like to thank Vicki and Nicole for their contribution to the organisation, the Board and equestrian sport in the NT.

In another significant change we farewelled our long standing General Manager Danila Lochrin as she moved over to the position of General Manager with Rugby NT. We thank Danila for her hard work and dedication, going above and beyond to assist the Board and all ENT members. Her knowledge and experience is sorely missed.

We would also like to acknowledge the sad passing of Jodie Triggs, a former Board Member and medium level Dressage judge for many years in the NT.

Notable achievements during the year include -

- NT Show Horse and Rider State Championships were successfully run
- Successful measuring day series
- G to D Dressage Judges re-accreditation seminar held
- Several dressage judges working towards increasing their qualifications
- Vanessa Lines Level 2 Dressage Coach accredited as an EA Coach Educator, a first for the NT – congratulations Vanessa
- Grants provided to all affiliate clubs to increase participation and develop their respective sports
- Well supported riders clinic held in Alice Springs

 The 2024 Marcus Oldham Australian Interschool Championships - once again Team NT had exceptional performances and showcased remarkable grit, determination, and sportsmanship across multiple disciplines, making their mark on the national stage. The team also won the inaugural points award for a team of less than 50 riders against SA, WA and Tasmania.

 Sponsorship of events at the annual Alice Springs, Katherine and Darwin Royal shows.

ENT acknowledges the support of the Northern Territory Government, via the Department of People, Sport and Culture annual investment of \$100k plus. Through this funding we deliver membership initiatives and opportunities, support official and coach's accreditation, and deliver a multiple range of benefits and opportunities to our affiliated clubs.

The Board express their sincere gratitude for the members, volunteers and officials unwavering commitment and dedication to our organisation. They have always been and will continue to be the driving force behind our success.

A significant challenge for ENT during the year has been the status of the organisation and our members with regard to membership of Equestrian Australia. A motion to amend the EA constitution to fully recognise ENT as a member was put forward by Equestrian Queensland on behalf of both itself and ENT, and voted on at an SGM following the EA AGM in late 2024. Unfortunately this motion failed to receive the required number of votes to be passed. Numerous meetings and discussions by the various stakeholders to try to resolve this issue were held both prior to and after the SGM to progress a path forward on this matter, and this process is continuing.

#### **Board of Directors**

Equestrian Northern Territory

# **QUEENSLAND**

Over the past year, Equestrian Queensland (EQ) has continued to strengthen its foundations through collaboration, education and investment in people and places. Our focus remains clear — supporting members, clubs and volunteers; delivering education and accreditation opportunities; driving facility development; and advocating for a sustainable, thriving future for equestrian sport in Queensland.

#### **Education and Workforce Development**

A key focus of 2024–25 was expanding EQ's education and training programs — linked to our mission to promote and grow the sport by building capability and confidence across our community.

EQ successfully delivered:

• Coach Education: Introductory, Level 1 and

Level 2 Coach Accreditation Courses supported new and developing coaches across multiple disciplines, together with an SSTA and Coach Educator Course for EA-accredited coaches seeking to further enhance their skills and contribute to the development of the EA Coaching Pathway.

- Officials Education: A range of educational opportunities were delivered across all disciplines to enhance knowledge, consistency and officiating standards. Programs included Jump Judge and Course Designer education, along with accreditation and upskilling pathways to support both current and aspiring officials in maintaining high standards of officiating within the EA framework.
- Club and Volunteer Training: Practical workshops on how to organise and deliver safe, compliant and successful events using EQ's event management resources and toolkits.
- Member Protection, Complaint Management and Governance Training: Equipping staff and club leaders with the skills to meet compliance obligations, resolve issues early, and promote safe, respectful environments.
- Mentoring and Leadership Support: Expansion of EQ's mentoring program to assist new committee members and volunteers to transition confidently into leadership roles.
- Information Forums: Sessions supporting member understanding and engagement with national governance reform discussions.
- Education Framework Review: EQ commenced a review of its education framework and resources to ensure pathways for coaches, officials and volunteers remain contemporary and accessible.

These initiatives reflect EQ's commitment to growing knowledge, leadership and sustainability across the equestrian community.

#### **Sport Development and Member Engagement**

EQ continued to invest in the growth and engagement of our sport at every level through targeted programs, facility advocacy and club support initiatives.

Key highlights included:

- Delivery of high-performance and youth development camps, fostering pathways for emerging athletes.
- Ongoing support for affiliated clubs through grants, governance guidance and access to EQ's Facilities Investment Fund.
- Continued advocacy for the development of an international-standard equestrian venue in Toowoomba as part of the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games legacy.
- Hosting and supporting major events across all disciplines, including the Brisbane CDI, Queensland

Festival of Showjumping, and the Interschool Queensland Championships.

 Collaboration with local governments, venue partners, and event organisers to progress facility planning, safety and participation outcomes.

#### Supporting a Safe, Inclusive and Sustainable Sport

EQ's ongoing commitment to member protection, horse welfare, and safety was strengthened through targeted education, updated policies and partnerships with industry experts.

In 2024–25, EQ also supported the development and trial of new minimum medical service requirements for dressage and jumping events, an important step in enhancing rider welfare and event safety standards. We remain steadfast in ensuring equestrian sport in Queensland is welcoming, inclusive and governed with integrity.

#### Looking Ahead: 2025-26 Priorities

Building on this strong foundation, EQ's priorities for 2025–26 include:

- Strengthening education and mentoring programs for clubs, coaches, officials and volunteers.
- Delivering member engagement forums that foster transparency and collaboration.
- Advancing facility development projects that enhance safety, accessibility and participation.
- Maintaining strong advocacy to ensure Queensland members' voices help shape the national direction of equestrian sport.

## Acknowledgements

I extend my sincere thanks to the EQ Board - Brett Cantle (Chair), Emily Coggan (Vice Chair), Gary Lung, Peta Fielding, Naomi Lane, Dave Holland, and Karim Cham - for their leadership and commitment throughout the year.

My appreciation also goes to our dedicated staff - Samantha Duffy, Tarni McCormack, Melinda Robinson, Jodie Daly, Jennifer Bain (on maternity leave), and Gen Frunz - whose professionalism and teamwork underpin EQ's success.

Finally, to our volunteers, officials, coaches and members: your passion and contribution remain the driving force behind Equestrian Queensland's progress. Together, we continue to build a stronger, safer, and more connected equestrian community.

#### **Briston Toft**

Chief Executive Officer Equestrian Queensland

# **VICTORIA**

#### **Celebrating Teamwork**

We begin by extending our heartfelt thanks to the incredible team of volunteers, officials, judges, coaches, technical delegates, and event personnel who dedicate themselves to our sport week in and week out—rain, hail, or shine. Their unwavering commitment is the backbone of equestrian sport in Victoria and a testament to the strength and resilience of our community.

#### **Competitions for All Levels**

Victoria remains committed to delivering a comprehensive calendar of competitions across all disciplines—from grassroots to elite levels. The consistent oversubscription of showjumping and eventing events speaks volumes about the quality and professionalism of our offerings.

The December Dressage Festival drew impressive attendance, highlighted by a Masterclass with international star Steffen Peters. In March, Dressage and Jumping with the Stars showcased the power of collaboration between disciplines, celebrating the diversity and excellence of our sport with outstanding entries across three days of competition.

The Melbourne International Three-Day Event once again stood out as a highlight on the eventing calendar, attracting a strong field of talented entries who braved the challenging conditions of a Melbourne winter. The Interschool equestrian movement continues to thrive, offering exceptional opportunities for our junior members. The State Championships saw overwhelming demand, with entries closing just hours after opening. Victoria travelled to Nationals in Tamworth with a strong team of 119 horses and 108 riders aged from 8 years through to 18, proving the popularity of interschools across all juniors.

We also acknowledge the outstanding contributions of affiliates and clubs across Victoria, whose regional events provide vital opportunities for competition and training throughout the state.

#### **World-Class Venues**

We're thrilled to report that all arenas at Werribee Park National Equestrian Centre have now been resurfaced, offering world-class footing with fibre and wax surfaces across indoor and outdoor arenas. EV will continue to advocate for further improvements and government support for this premier venue.

We also recognize Boneo Park's significant contribution as a leading competition venue. We thank Fiona McNaught and her family for their vision and dedication, and warmly welcome Georgia Solomon and her team. We look forward to seeing them build on Fiona's legacy and further elevate equestrian sport in Victoria.

#### A Safe and Inclusive Sport

Our commitment to safety and inclusivity remains steadfast. Child safety and horse welfare are key strategic priorities. The medical service standards pioneered by eventing are now being expanded across other disciplines, with Victoria collaborating closely with EA and other states to develop a practical, affordable, and sustainable safety framework. We continue to build our opportunities for Para equestrian with a range of classes offered at the Dressage Festival, and all Carlton Performance Horse events.

#### Young Ambassadors

Our young ambassador programme has been reimagined with all our disciplines producing a strong complement of exceptional young people that are not only excellent young athletes but also represent themselves and the sport with the integrity and professionalism that will set them up for future success and provide excellent role modelling for those younger that come after them.

#### **National & International competitions**

We must mention those Victorians: Phil Lever – Australian Showjumping Senior Champion, Jack Barker, Harley McNaughton, Sophia Landy and Samantha Cesnik that have travelled to represent us on the national and international competition circuit, this is a significant commitment to our sport.

## Acknowledgements

I extend my sincere gratitude to the EV Board: Kate Wallis (Chair), Fiona McIntyre, David Permezel, Jade Woodhead-Butler, Stuart Abrahams, Stuart Archibald, Fiona Phillips, Chris Mann, Lyn Lee, and Cathy Oates. Their tireless work and commitment behind the scenes are deeply appreciated.

A special thanks also to the EV staff for their continued professionalism and dedication in supporting our members, volunteers, and committees.

#### **Derek O'Leary**

Chief Executive Officer Equestrian Victoria



Above: Sam Jefree and Santoro", winners CCN 3\* S at Shirley Heights EA National Horse Trials - September 2024.

# **SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

#### Overview

The 2024/25 financial year has been significant for Equestrian South Australia, marked by successful educational programs, youth development initiatives, and a trial approach to operational reform that maintains ESA's independence.

# Dressage Judges Program and Melissa Galloway's Contributions

A standout achievement of 2024/25 has been ESA's Dressage judges' development program. The Dressage Judges Sub Committee has worked to ensure quality officiating across South Australian competitions while expanding the pool of qualified judges.

A significant highlight was organising a masterclass featuring Melissa Galloway, an accomplished New Zealand Dressage rider with impressive international credentials at the Grand Prix level. The Dressage Judges Sub Committee secured approval to classify the masterclass as an official Judges Workshop, enabling participating judges to meet continuing education requirements while learning from a high-performance athlete.

This dual-purpose approach exemplifies innovative thinking in maximising educational opportunities. The workshop allowed judges to observe and discuss high-level riding technique, test requirements, and scoring criteria with an elite competitor. Galloway's insights into competition psychology, horse development, and Grand Prix movement nuances provided judges with valuable perspectives that will inform their officiating for years to come.

The committee has maintained clear objectives: ensuring judges meet annual re-accreditation requirements, recruiting new officials, and providing ongoing education. These efforts have strengthened judging quality and consistency across South Australia.

#### The ESA-EA Trial Collaboration

The 2024/25 financial year has been marked by ESA's proactive engagement in a collaborative trial with Equestrian Australia. This approach demonstrates

ESA's willingness to explore operational improvements through a measured, reversible arrangement while explicitly maintaining independence and commitment to South Australian members.

Through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), the ESA and EA Boards have entered a time-limited trial arrangement focused on testing operational efficiencies. This partnership represents ESA's forward-thinking but cautious approach—agreeing to trial shared services and reduced duplication without surrendering organisational autonomy or decision-making authority.

The trial specifically targets streamlining duplicated functions: multiple finance systems, communications processes, membership administration, and management structures. The fundamental objective is redirecting savings from reduced administrative overhead directly to clubs and organising committees that deliver grassroots equestrian sport. Critically, this is a pilot program to gather evidence, not a permanent restructure.

ESA's participation represents a trial of specific operational improvements, fundamentally different from accepting a takeover, merger, or wholesale governance restructure. The arrangement allows ESA to:

- Test shared services while maintaining its independent board and decision-making authority
- Evaluate practical benefits through actual experience rather than theoretical projections
- Measure whether efficiencies materialise and member services genuinely improve
- Retain the ability to adjust course or withdraw if local control or service quality suffers
- Preserve organisational structure and autonomy throughout the trial period

This stands in stark contrast to proposals for permanent constitutional changes that would irrevocably alter governance structures, redistribute voting power, or dissolve state branch independence. ESA has explicitly chosen the trial path to gather real-world evidence

before any consideration of deeper structural change. ESA's willingness to trial this collaborative arrangement reflects specific outcomes that, if achieved, would benefit South Australian equestrian sport.

The trial approach means ESA will evaluate results objectively: if the collaboration delivers genuine benefits to South Australian members without compromising local responsiveness, it validates the shared services model; if it doesn't, ESA retains full autonomy to chart a different course.

#### **Additional Activities and Initiatives**

Beyond the judges' program and governance trial, ESA maintained a busy calendar:

Squad and Member Training: Jumping SA delivered multiple squad clinics during 2024/25, with additional clinics planned for 2025/26. JSA secured grant funding for a free member clinic, which was rescheduled from early 2025 to July due to extreme heat. The event proceeded successfully, receiving excellent feedback. Thanks to Mallala Equestrian Centre for hosting support. Jumping SA conducted two Officials clinics one for Course Designers and one from Judges, both clinics were fee of charge and well supported. Both clinics were well received and offered the groups an opportunity to share experiences and problems.

Youth Development: The Remi Stud Young Rider Scholarship continued supporting talented young riders, while the Gillian Rolton Youth Award recognised outstanding young equestrian talent.

Interschool Programs: ESA coordinated the 2025 State Championships at Strathalbyn and selected 42 riders and 48 horses for the Australian Interschool National Championships. The ESA Board was pleased to be able to facilitate a licence arrangement between the Royal Adelaide Show and EA to enable a successful Interschool competition as an excellent warm-up to the Nationals.

Accessibility and Technology: The Sports Vouchers program expansion to two \$100 vouchers per child reduced cost barriers. ESA implemented the JustGo system while supporting affiliated clubs across all disciplines in maintaining a full competition calendar.

#### Conclusion

The 2024/25 financial year has seen ESA balance program delivery with strategic considerations. The successful Dressage judges program demonstrates ESA's commitment to excellence, while the collaborative trial with EA reflects thoughtful governance—testing improvements while protecting the ability to serve South Australian equestrian sport effectively. ESA's success will be measured by its continued ability to deliver quality equestrian experiences for riders, officials, and volunteers across all levels.

## **Board of Directors**

Equestrian South Australia

# **TASMANIA**

This year has been one of growth, resilience, and achievement across all of our sports, supported by the dedication of our members, committees, and volunteers.

A major highlight was securing a two-year Sport Development Grant from Active Tasmania. This funding has allowed us to invest in grassroots training, high performance development, coach and official education, and vital support for our Interschool program. Importantly, it also strengthened our administrative capacity, helping us meet governance and child safety standards.

Our commitment to creating a child safe sport continues to be at the heart of all we do. In 2025 we proudly launched safesporthub.com, a dedicated resource for clubs, officials, and members, alongside club packs with posters, vests, and compliance tools. These initiatives reinforce that child safety is everyone's responsibility and ensure our young riders feel safe, included, and supported.

At the Tasmanian Equestrian Centre, we progressed important work on risk management, ensuring our state facility continues to provide a safe and well-prepared venue for the many competitions and training days it hosts.

The ETAS Ball and Awards Night at Wrest Point was another standout moment of the year. It was a true celebration of our sport, bringing together riders, coaches, officials, and supporters to recognise outstanding achievements. We were especially proud to reinstate the prestigious ETAS Sport Achievement Award after a 12-year break, which was met with strong nominations across all categories.

Across the disciplines, there has been much to celebrate:

- **Dressage Tasmania** delivered the largest dressage championship in the state, recognised as ETAS Event of the Year.
- Eventing Tasmania showcased growth through strong championships and the success of its High Performance Squad, while also highlighting the support of TasRacing for Off the Track horses.
- Jumping Tasmania enjoyed vibrant seasons across its branches, with new equipment, strong entries, and clinics that continue to develop riders.
- Show Horse Tasmania staged a successful Horse of the Year, launched innovative themed training days, and

continued to grow rider participation, while celebrating national judging recognition.

- Coaching Tasmania provided free professional development opportunities—the only state in Australia to do so—thanks to Active Tasmania funding, and honoured Tania Hay as Coach of the Year.
- Interschools proudly fielded a small but determined team at the National Championships, demonstrating Tasmanian spirit and teamwork on the national stage.

Behind all these achievements stands a hardworking ETAS Board and dedicated discipline committees, who give their time and expertise to keep our sport thriving. Their collaboration and commitment are the foundation of our success, and I extend my sincere thanks to each of them

Looking ahead, the Board has already commenced work on our 2026–2029 Strategic Plan, ensuring we continue to build on our achievements and set clear priorities for the future. With the strength of our community and the dedication of our volunteers, officials, riders, and coaches, I am confident Equestrian Tasmania is well positioned for continued growth and success.

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to making this a memorable year for our sport.

#### **Helmut Rechberger**

Chair

Equestrian Tasmania

# **WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

Equestrian Western Australia (EWA) is pleased to report that 2024 was a year of strong growth, achievement, and celebration for equestrian sport in our state. Membership continued its steady upward trend, closing the year just under 2,700 members. This growth, alongside progress in commercial partnerships and revenue diversification, has further strengthened EWA's financial sustainability and capacity to deliver for members.

Our influence was well represented on the national stage through the leadership of WA members on Equestrian Australia's national committees. These included Gill Botten (Chair, EA National Dressage Committee), Rory Hovell (Chair, EA National Show Jumping Committee), Lisa Baker (Chair, EA Para Dressage Committee), and Corien Ridley (Chair, EA National Interschool Committee), ensuring WA's voice was heard where it matters most.

The Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games highlighted the depth of talent within our community. WA was proudly represented by William Matthew, who competed in Dressage, and by Para rider Stella Barton (VIC), who rode Lord Lamarque—owned by WA's Jade Edwards and Alan Moody, and trained by Sharon Jarvis—in Para Dressage. Several other outstanding WA combinations were shortlisted for Olympic selection, including Kenya Wilson and Sandros Salute (Eventing), Sonya Johnson and Parkiarrup Showtime (Eventing), Alinta Veenvliet and Desperanza (Dressage), Sharon Jarvis and Furst Crusador (Para Dressage), and Chelsea De Jonge and Don Dancier (Para Dressage).

At the state level, we continued to deliver on our Strategic Plan and uphold our values of Teamwork, Integrity, Inclusion, Excellence, and Fun & Enjoyment. Two key initiatives were launched to support members and affiliated clubs, particularly in regional areas. The Carriage Driving Working Group was established to support the full breadth of equestrian disciplines, while the Regional Advisory Working Group was formed to give regional clubs and members a stronger voice in shaping EWA's activities. The appointment of a full-time Club Development Manager further strengthened our capacity to support club sustainability, enhance safety and equine welfare, and develop pathways for officials.

The State Equestrian Centre (SEC) remained the hub for equestrian sport in WA, hosting a vibrant calendar of competitions, training opportunities, and community events. The SEC hosted premier events including the Dressage WA State Championships, Interschool WA State Championships, WASJA Patrons Cup, Perth Showjumping League, and FEI competitions such as WAYER and Brigadoon. High Performance Clinics and Masterclasses added further depth to the calendar, with the year culminating in the Olympian William Matthew Masterclass, attracting over 800 spectators and showcasing the quality of WA's athletes.

Another highlight was the 2024 EWA Annual Awards Night, held on Friday, 14 February at the Ritz Carlton Perth. Hosted by MC Tim Gossage, the evening brought together athletes, officials, volunteers, coaches, and clubs from across the state to celebrate achievements, spirit, and dedication to the sport. Prestigious awards were presented across multiple categories, including Volunteer, Official, Coach, Club, Event, Horse, Junior Rider, and Rider of the Year, as well as the Chair's Award, Patron's Awards, Maitland Park JEDS Awards. Off the Track WA Horse of the Year, and Lifetime Service to the Sport. Club of the Year (Regional) went to Henty Riding Club, Club of the Year (Metro) to Oakford Vaulting Team, Horse of the Year to Lord Lamarque, Junior Rider of the Year to Sarah Inglis, and Rider of the Year to Paris Olympian William Matthews.

These achievements were made possible through the dedication of the EWA Board, staff, and sport committees. The Board's leadership, staff's tireless commitment, and committees' voluntary contributions ensured the delivery of safe, inclusive, and high-quality opportunities across all disciplines.

Looking ahead to 2025, EWA will continue to focus on the delivery of Strategic Plan priorities, enhancing member services, and advocating for infrastructure investment to ensure equestrian sport in WA continues to thrive. We are committed to building on the successes of 2024, inspiring future generations, and securing a strong legacy for our sport in Western Australia.

#### **Hamish Johnson**

Chief Executive Officer (Acting) Equestrian Western Australia



# **FINANCIALS**

The organisation recorded a deficit of \$538,826 for the year ended 30 June 2025 (2024: \$645,878).

The result reflects the organisation's continued investment in essential national programs and initiatives within a constrained funding model.

Member levies did not provide sufficient funding to support Equestrian Australia's key cost centres, including National Integrity, National Safety, the National Discipline Committees, Communications, Officials, and FEI-related activities. This structural funding gap remains a key focus for the organisation as it works to strengthen the financial sustainability of the sport.

The result also included one-off expenditure of approximately \$315,000 associated with the implementation of the new national IT system. These costs covered direct payments to the system provider and fees from third-party service providers engaged to support the rollout. This investment is expected to deliver greater efficiency, transparency, and integration across the organisation's operations in future years.

As communicated to members in a joint statement with the State Branches, several initiatives are underway to strengthen the financial and operational sustainability of the sport:

- Restructure Working Group: Reviewing the current structure, roles, and financial model for equestrian sport in Australia, with the aim of recommending a more efficient framework that delivers on strategic priorities and ensures financial resilience.
- Clarification of Roles: Clearly defining and communicating the respective responsibilities of Equestrian Australia (EA), State Branches, and National Discipline Committees.
- Financial Analysis Working Group: Conducting a comprehensive financial analysis across all equestrian entities within the next three months. The findings will inform the Restructure Working Group, which will deliver final recommendations on a sustainable operating and financial model within six months.

These initiatives are designed to ensure equestrian sport in Australia operates within a commercially sustainable and financially robust framework, enabling continued investment in integrity, safety, and participation outcomes across all levels of the sport.

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

# **Equestrian Australia Limited**

ABN 19 077 455 755

Financial Report
For the Year Ended 30 June 2025

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

## Equestrian Australia Limited Contents 30 June 2025

Directors' report
Auditor's independence declaration
Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income
Statement of financial position
Statement of changes in equity
Statement of cash flows
Notes to the financial statements
Directors' declaration
Consolidated Entity Disclosure Statement

Independent auditor's report to the members of Equestrian Australia Limited

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

#### Equestrian Australia Limited Directors' report 30 June 2025

The directors present their report, together with the financial statements, on the company for the year ended 30 June 2025.

#### **Directors**

The following persons were directors of the Company during the whole of the financial year, unless otherwise stated:

**Director Name** Appointed/(Resigned) David Zachary Miles 30/11/2022 24/05/2023 Elizabeth Jane Ballantyne Wolf-Christian Bennecke 24/05/2023 09/10/2023 Ellen Stephanie Lyons Rhett Oliver 09/10/2023 Maggie Hundertmark 19/05/2024 30/11/2022 / (08/05/2025) Christie Jane Freeman David Shoobridge 13/05/2024 / (11/05/2025) Lucia Galovicova 30/11/2022 / (15/11/2024)

Details of each of the above directors' qualifications, special responsibilities and experience are set out in the Director Information section of this report.

#### Company secretary

The Company Secretary is Holly Fulker.

#### **Principal activities**

The principal activity of the Company remained unchanged and was that of being the National Sporting Organisation (NSO) for Equestrian sport in Australia, recognised by the Federation Equestre International (FEI), Sport Australia (SA), the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) and Paralympics Australia (PA).

#### **Company Objectives**

In accordance with the Equestrian Australia Constitution, a summary of the core objectives are as follows:

- create in conjunction with the Branches a uniform entity through and by which Equestrian sport in Australia can be
  encouraged, conducted, promoted and administered and to be the governing body of Equestrian sport in Australia;
- represent and act on behalf of, and in the interests of, the Branches and the Participating Members in all matters pertaining to Equestrian sport at a national and international level;
- represent and act on behalf of, and in the interests of, the Branches and the Participating Members in all matters pertaining to Equestrian sport at a national and international level;
- select and manage Equestrian sport teams and individuals to represent Australia in international competitions and events inside and outside Australia;
- encourage, conduct, promote, and administer Equestrian sport throughout Australia, through and by the Branches for the mutual and collective benefit of the Participating Members and Equestrian sport;
- act in good faith and loyalty to ensure the maintenance and enhancement of the Company and Equestrian sport, its standards, quality and reputation for the collective and mutual benefit of the Branches and the Participating Members and Equestrian sport:
- co-operate with, and promote mutual trust and confidence between the Company and the Branches and between the Branches themselves in pursuit of these objects;
- promote the economic and sporting success, strength and stability of the Company and each Branch and to act interdependently with each Branch in pursuit of these objects;
- promote the health and safety of riders, horses, officials and other individuals participating in Equestrian sport in any capacity;
- establish and conduct education and training programs for riders, coaches, judges, officials, support personnel and staff
  in the implementation and interpretation of Equestrian sport rules and standards and any of the policies, codes of conduct,
  protocols and principles which are formulated, adopted or implemented under the Object in Rule 2(w);
- formulate, adopt, implement and observe appropriate policies, codes of conduct, protocols and principles, including policies, codes of conduct, protocols and principles in relation to member protection, equal opportunity, equity, antidoping, sports medicine, integrity, corruption, health, safety, junior and senior programs, infectious horse diseases and such other matters as arise from time to time as issues to be addressed in Equestrian sport;
- represent the interests of the Participating Members and of Equestrian sport generally in any appropriate forum including representations to government on issues facing the Equestrian sport industry;
- encourage and promote performance-enhancing drug free competition;

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

#### Equestrian Australia Limited Directors' report 30 June 2025

- give, and where appropriate, seek recognition for athletes, officials and other individuals participating in Equestrian sport in any capacity to obtain awards or public recognition; and
- undertake and or do all things or activities which are necessary, incidental or conducive to the advancement of these
  objects.

All objectives of Equestrian Australia are outlined in the Constitution.

#### **Director Information**

The details of each Director's qualification, special responsibilities and experience at 30 June 2025 are set out below.

#### Zac Miles- Chair

Zac has had extensive experience in governance roles, particularly in membership-based organisations and elected bodies. Zac has been around horses since he was young, having been a competitive showjumper until an accident at the EKKA cut his career short. He continues to be involved in horse care and training, as well as helping to manage equestrian facilities and apparel company EMCEE.

Zac is currently serving as Mayor of Hunters Hill and as the Senior Investment Manager of an Australian Financial Services Licence holding property debt fund (WholeCap). He brings a deep understanding of Equestrian Sports and a focus on good governance - improving both the administration and the growth of Equestrian Sports in Australia.

Zac was elected to the Board on 30 November 2022 for a term of three years.

#### Stephanie Lyons - Deputy Chair

Stephanie Lyons is the General Manager of Enterprise & Investment Risk at Rest, overseeing risk management across an investment portfolio exceeding \$100 billion. She brings deep expertise in financial risk, investment governance, and regulatory transformation.

Prior to her current role, Stephanie served as Chief Risk Officer at EISS Super, where she led major strategic initiatives including a superannuation fund merger and an administration platform transition.

She holds a Bachelor of Commerce (German), is a Fellow Chartered Accountant (FCA), a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD), and has completed executive education at Harvard Business School (GMP26).

Stephanie was appointed to the Board on 9 October 2023 for a term of three years.

## Jane Ballantyne

Jane is a Business Executive and Sports Administrator with over 20 years of leadership, management and private consulting experience with leading brands and organisations, specialising in customer led growth.

Jane has held senior marketing, communications and commercial positions with Queensland Rugby, Racing Victoria, Australia Grand Prix Corporation, the Australian Football League, Nike and News Corporation.

Jane grew up in South-West Victoria, attended Portland Pony Club and competed extensively across show riding and eventing

Jane was appointed to the Board on 24 May 2023 for a term of three years.

#### **Chris Bennecke**

Chris has a corporate background in interim management, governance, risk management, internal audit, and corporate finance. His qualifications include Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD), Certified Internal Auditor (CIA) and Certification in Risk Management Assurance.

He currently holds directorships in a manufacturing and retailing company and a not-for-profit organisation.

Chris' main focus is on organisational strategy, assessment of risks and opportunities, robustness of policies, and financial management.

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

Equestrian Australia Limited Directors' report 30 June 2025

His passion for the equestrian world is based on a 20 year competitive and successful career in Germany, where he grew up (including 5 years in Lower Saxony's squad for show jumping).

As a strong advocate of 'clean and fair sports', Chris promotes the health and safety of every creature in any sport.

Chris was appointed to the Board on 24 May 2023 for a term of three years.

#### **Rhett Oliver**

Rhett brings to the Board a wealth of experience in equestrian sports through 30 years as a showjumping competitor and breeder. Rhett lives in Victoria and continues to compete in showjumping. Rhett's wife is a competitive dressage rider and coach, and his three young boys are also beginning to show interest in the horses.

Outside of the sport Rhett is the National Head of Property and Development at law firm Colin, Biggers & Paisley. With over 20 years' experience advising some of Australia's largest private and corporate property developers on all aspects of their operations, Rhett brings to the Board a sharp commercial lens and business combined with a deep understanding of risk.

Rhett was elected to the Board on 9 October 2023 for a term of three years.

#### Maggie Hundertmark

Maggie is a Senior Banker with 28+ years in senior leadership roles with experience across multiple countries and cultures, such as The Netherlands, Australia, Singapore and The Middle East. She has built a broad range career, having fulfilled senior management roles with multiple large financial institutions across the globe.

She is a specialist in implementing change programs, proven by a solid track record of successfully implemented organisational restructures and offshoring programs, and a completion of a MSc (Hons) in Management Science, major in Strategy & Change Management. She is also a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD). For more information on Maggie's experience, visit her LinkedIn profile.

Outside of work, Maggie is an animal lover and a passionate equestrian rider. She is married to Johan and has three children (2 daughters, 1 son).

Maggie was appointed to the Board on 19 May 2024 for a term of three years.

#### Nicholas Ballard

Nicholas has a lifetime of experience in the equestrian industry as a competitor, owner, parent, official, and volunteer. Nicholas is dedicated to giving back to this vibrant sport.

From 2021-2024, Nicholas proudly served on the Equestrian Queensland (EQ) Board, including as Vice Chair in 2021 and Chair from 2022. This role has allowed Nicholas to build effective and lasting relationships that foster the sustainable growth of our community.

Nicholas was elected to the Board on 15 November 2024 for a term of three years.

**EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA** 

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

**Equestrian Australia Limited** Directors' report 30 June 2025

#### **Christie Freeman**

Christie Freeman was elected to the Board on 30 November 2022 for a term of two years. Christie was re-elected to the Board on 15 November 2024 for a term of three years.

Christie resigned on 05 May 2025.

#### Lucia Galovicova

Lucia Galovicova was elected to the Board on 30 November 2022 for a term of two years.

1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025

#### **David Shoobridge**

David Shoobridge was appointed to the Board as the Athlete-Appointed Director on 13 May 2024 for a term of three years.

David resigned on 11 May 2025.

#### Meetings of directors and Travel Expenses

Board meeting attendances and details of payments made in respect of the Chairman and each of the Directors for travel costs incurred in attending board meetings, general meetings, and in connection with the company's business undertaken at the request of the board is as follows: **Board Meetings for the year** Travel Costs for the year

1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025

inspections

|                           | Eligible to<br>Attend | Attended | \$    | Purpose   |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------|-------|---|
| David Zachary Miles       | 15                    | 12       | 2,089 | Board meetings, Toowoomba Olympic site inspections                                |
| Elizabeth Jane Ballantyne | 15                    | 12       | 624   | Board meetings  |
| Wolf-Christian Bennecke   | 15                    | 15       | 2,583 | Board meetings, Toowoomba Olympic site inspections                                |
| Ellen Stephanie Lyons     | 15                    | 13       | 2,716 | Board meetings, Toowoomba Olympic site inspections                                |
| Rhett Oliver              | 15                    | 13       | 0     | Board meetings  |
| Maggie Hundertmark        | 15                    | 14       | 1,780 | Board meetings  |
| Nicholas Ballard          | 9                     | 8        | 723   | Board meetings  |
| Christie Jane Freeman     | 13                    | 13       | 5,749 | Board meetings, Toowoomba Olympic site inspections, Annual FEI Assembly Abu Dhabi |
| Lucia Galovicova          | 6                     | 6        | 3,096 | Board meetings, Toowoomba Olympic site inspections                                |
| David Shoobridge          | 13                    | 12       | 1,190 | Board meetings, Toowoomba Olympic site  |

Directors donate their time to the organisation and do not receive any Directors fees. Since the previous financial report, Directors have not received or become entitled to receive any direct benefit by reason of a contract made by the Company.

#### **Review of Operations**

The net deficit for the year ended 30 June 2025 is \$(538,826) (2024: deficits of \$(645,878)).

#### **Financial Management**

The financial statements are presented in Australian currency. The Financial Statements were authorised for issue by us on 22 October 2025.

#### Dividends

The Constitution of the Company prohibits the payment of dividends. No dividends were paid during the year

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

# **Equestrian Australia Limited** Directors' report

30 June 2025

## Significant Changes in the State of Affairs

In the opinion of the Directors, there were no significant changes to business of the Company that occurred during the financial year.

**ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25** 

#### **Environmental Regulations**

The Company is not affected by any significant environmental regulation in respect of its operations.

#### Matters Subsequent to the End of the Financial Year

No matters have impacted the financial statements subsequent to year end.

#### **Indemnification of Officers and Auditors**

Every person who is, or has been, an Officer of the Company, are entitled to receive the benefits of an indemnity contained in the Constitution against liabilities incurred by them in their respective capacities in successfully defending proceedings against them. During or since the end of the financial period, the Company has paid premiums under contracts insuring the Directors and officers of the Company. No indemnities have been given or insurance premiums paid, during or since the end of the financial year, for any person who is or has been an auditor of Equestrian Australia Limited.

#### **Proceedings on Behalf of Company**

No proceedings have been brought on behalf of the Company with leave of the Court under section 237 of Corporations Act 2001 (Cth).

#### Auditor's independence declaration

The Auditor's Independence Declaration as required under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) is included

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors:

| Board Chairman:     | Stephanie Lyons Director: |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| David Zachary Miles | Ellen Stephanie Lyons     |
| 24/10/2025          | 23/10/2025                |

Dated:

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF





**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION UNDER SECTION 307C OF THE** 

# **CORPORATIONS ACT 2001 TO THE DIRECTORS OF EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED**

As lead auditor, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2025 there have been:

- i. no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit, and
- ii. no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

SW SW Audit **Chartered Accountants** 

René Muller

Rene wuner Partner

Sydney 24/10/2025

Brisbane Level 15 240 Queen Street Brisbane QLD 4000 T + 61 7 3085 0888

Level 10 530 Collins Street Melbourne VIC 3000 T + 61 3 8635 1800 Level 18 T + 61 8 6184 5980

Sydney Level 7, Aurora Place 197 St Georges Terrace Perth WA 6000 88 Phillip Street Sydney NSW 2000 T + 61 2 8059 6800

SW Audit ABN 39 533 589 331. Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards 

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

**Equestrian Australia Limited** Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income For the year ended 30 June 2025

|   | Note | 2025<br>\$  | 2024<br>\$   |
|---|------|-------------|--------------|
| Revenue   |      |             |              |
| Revenue   | 3    | 9,135,242   | 9,618,361    |
| Other income  | 3    | 269,484     | 67,031       |
|   |      | 9,404,726   | 9,685,392    |
| Expenses  |      |             |              |
| Employee benefits expense                             |      | (3,390,887) | (3,538,375)  |
| Depreciation and amortisation expense                 |      | (10,791)    | (55,285)     |
| High Performance & Grant Programs                     |      | (1,383,525) | (2,457,942)  |
| Insurance premiums & related expenses                 |      | (1,961,468) | (1,889,797)  |
| Travel & Accommodation                                |      | (960,454)   | (740,117)    |
| Technology & Systems                                  |      | (283,922)   | (259,297)    |
| Professional Services                                 |      | (910,498)   | (269,322)    |
| Equestrian Operations & Compliance                    |      | (529,554)   | (535,022)    |
| Events & Sport Development                            |      | (215,509)   | (387,046)    |
| Financial & Administrative                            |      | (103,498)   | (106,812)    |
| Communications  |      | (86,553)    | (49,204)     |
| Facilities & Operations                               |      | (49,348)    | (39,818)     |
| Sundry & One-off Expenses                             |      | (57,545)    | (3,233)      |
|   |      | (9,943,552) | (10,331,270) |
| Net current year surplus                              |      | (538,826)   | (645,878)    |
| •   | :    |             | , /          |
| Other comprehensive income Other comprehensive income |      |             |              |
| Total comprehensive income                            |      | (538,826)   | (645,878)    |

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

Equestrian Australia Limited Statement of financial position As at 30 June 2025

| Not  |          | )25<br>\$                                     | 2024<br>\$  |
|--|----------|---|---|
| Assets   |          |   |   |
| Current assetsCash and cash equivalents5Trade and other receivables6Other Assets7Total current assets                  | 3        | 653,482<br>807,234<br>883,666<br>844,382      | 2,042,090<br>382,864<br>276,820<br>2,701,774          |
| Non-current assets Property, plant and equipment 8 Intangibles Total non-current assets                                |          | 16,568<br>-<br>16,568                         | 1,758,666<br>324<br>1,758,990                         |
| Total assets   | 5,3      | 860,950                                       | 4,460,764   |
| Liabilities  |          |   |   |
| Current liabilities Trade and other payables Lease liabilities Provisions Other Liabilities  Total current liabilities | 1<br>2,0 | 104,368<br>-<br>103,556<br>094,699<br>602,623 | 1,341,288<br>1,373<br>146,901<br>685,184<br>2,174,746 |
| Non-current liabilities Provisions 10 Total non-current liabilities  |          | 30,107<br>30,107                              | 18,972<br>18,972                                      |
| Total liabilities  | 3,6      | 32,730  | 2,193,718   |
| NET ASSETS   | 1,       | 728,220                                       | 2,267,046   |
| EquityReserves12Retained surpluses13   |          | -<br>728,220                                  | 1,431,514<br>835,532                                  |
| Total equity   | 1,7      | 728,220                                       | 2,267,046   |

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

Equestrian Australia Limited Statement of changes in equity For the year ended 30 June 2025

|  |                | Retained      |                    |
|--|----------------|---------------|--------------------|
|  | Reserves<br>\$ | surplus<br>\$ | Total equity<br>\$ |
| Balance at 1 July 2023                                     | 1,431,514      | 1,481,410     | 2,912,924          |
| Surplus for the year attributable to members of the entity | -              | (645,878)     | (645,878)          |
| Balance at 1 July 2024                                     | 1,431,514      | 835,532       | 2,267,046          |
| Balance at 1 July 2024                                     | 1,431,514      | 835,532       | 2,267,046          |
| Transfer to retained surplus                               | (1,431,514)    | 1,431,514     | -                  |
| Surplus for the year attribute to members of entity        | <u>-</u>       | (538,826)     | (538,826)          |
| Balance at 30 June 2025                                    | <u> </u>       | 1,728,220     | 1,728,220          |

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

Equestrian Australia Limited Statement of cash flows For the year ended 30 June 2025

| Cash flows from operating activities           Government grants received         6,080,928         5,986,929           Receipts from customers/ members         3,573,336         4,089,046           Receipts from sponsorship & events         11,196         308,463           Payments to suppliers and employees         (9,004,340)         (10,553,195)           Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities         661,120         (168,757)           Cash flows from investing activities         1895,461         (35,723)           Receipt from sale property, plant and equipment         1895,461         (35,723)           Interest received         54,811         16,662           Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities         1,950,272         (19,061)           Cash flows from financing activities         -         -           Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities         -         -           Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities         -         -           Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held         2,611,392         (187,818)           Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year         2,042,090         2,229,908           Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year         4,653,482         2,042,090 |   | 2025<br>\$  | 2024<br>\$   |
|--|---|-------------|--------------|
| Government grants received         6,080,928         5,986,929           Receipts from customers/ members         3,573,336         4,089,046           Receipts from sponsorship & events         11,196         308,463           Payments to suppliers and employees         (9,004,340)         (10,553,195)           Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities         661,120         (168,757)           Cash flows from investing activities         1895,461         (35,723)           Receipt from sale property, plant and equipment         1895,461         (35,723)           Interest received         54,811         16,662           Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities         1,950,272         (19,061)           Cash flows from financing activities         -         -           Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities         -         -           Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held         2,611,392         (187,818)           Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year         2,042,090         2,229,908   | Cash flows from operating activities                |             |              |
| Receipts from sponsorship & events Payments to suppliers and employees  Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities  Cash flows from investing activities Receipt from sale property, plant and equipment 1895,461 (35,723) Interest received 54,811 16,662  Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities  1,950,272 (19,061)  Cash flows from financing activities  Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities  Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities  Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities  Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year  (187,818) Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year  |   | 6,080,928   | 5,986,929    |
| Payments to suppliers and employees (9,004,340) (10,553,195)  Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities 661,120 (168,757)  Cash flows from investing activities Receipt from sale property, plant and equipment 1895,461 (35,723) Interest received 54,811 16,662  Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities 1,950,272 (19,061)  Cash flows from financing activities  Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities  Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held 2,611,392 (187,818) Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year 2,042,090 2,229,908   | Receipts from customers/ members                    | 3,573,336   | 4,089,046    |
| Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities  Cash flows from investing activities  Receipt from sale property, plant and equipment Interest received  Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities  Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities  Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities  Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities  Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities  Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year  (168,757)  (35,723)  (19,061)  (19,061)  (19,061)   | Receipts from sponsorship & events                  | 11,196      | 308,463      |
| Cash flows from investing activities Receipt from sale property, plant and equipment Interest received 1895,461 (35,723) 16,662  Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities 1,950,272 (19,061)  Cash flows from financing activities  Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities  Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities  Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year  (187,818) 2,042,090 2,229,908   | Payments to suppliers and employees                 | (9,004,340) | (10,553,195) |
| Receipt from sale property, plant and equipment 1895,461 (35,723) Interest received 54,811 16,662  Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities 1,950,272 (19,061)  Cash flows from financing activities  Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities  Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year 2,042,090 2,229,908   | Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities | 661,120     | (168,757)    |
| Receipt from sale property, plant and equipment 1895,461 (35,723) Interest received 54,811 16,662  Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities 1,950,272 (19,061)  Cash flows from financing activities  Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities  Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year 2,042,090 2,229,908   | Cash flows from investing activities                |             |              |
| Interest received54,81116,662Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities1,950,272(19,061)Cash flows from financing activitiesNet cash provided by/(used in) financing activitiesNet increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held<br>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year2,611,392<br>2,042,090<br>2,229,908   | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·               | 1895,461    | (35,723)     |
| Cash flows from financing activities  Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities   Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year  2,611,392 (187,818) 2,229,908  | Interest received                                   | 54,811      | , ,          |
| Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities   Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year  2,611,392 (187,818) 2,229,908  | Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities | 1,950,272   | (19,061)     |
| Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held  Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year  2,611,392 (187,818) 2,229,908   | Cash flows from financing activities                |             |              |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year 2,042,090 2,229,908   | Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities |             |              |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year 2,042,090 2,229,908   |   |             |              |
|  | ,   | , ,         |              |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year 4,653,482 2,042,090   |   |             |              |
|  | Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year  | 4,653,482   | 2,042,090    |

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

Equestrian Australia Limited Notes to the financial statements 30 June 2025

#### Note 1. Notes to the Financial Statements

The financial report covers Equestrian Australia Limited as an individual company, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Equestrian Australia Limited is a Company limited by guarantee.

The financial report was approved by the Board of Directors on 22 October 2025.

#### Basis of preparation of the financial report

## (i) Statement of compliance

The Company is a not-for-profit private sector entity and has elected to prepare the financial statements as Tier 2 general purpose financial statements under AASB 1053 Application of Tiers of Australian Accounting Standards.

These financial statements comply with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the Corporations Act 2001.

The financial report was approved by the Board of Directors on 22 October 2025

### (ii) Going concern

The financial report has been prepared on a going concern basis, which assumes continuity of normal business activities and the realisation of assets and the settlement of liabilities in the ordinary course of business.

#### (iii) Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared, except for cash flow information, using the underlying principle of accrual accounting. The specific measurement bases for each type of asset, liability, income and expense are described in the accounting policies below.

## (iv) Current versus Non-current classification

Amounts are classified as current where they are expected to be realised or settled within 12 months from reporting date, except where for a liability there is a right at reporting date to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months following reporting date. All other amounts are reported as non-current.

## (v) Functional and presentation currency

These financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is the Company's functional currency. Use of estimates and judgements

Certain accounting estimates include assumptions concerning the future, which, by definition, will seldom represent actual results. Estimates and assumptions based on future events have a significant inherent risk, and where future events are not as anticipated there could be a material impact on the carrying amounts of the assets and liabilities discussed below.

Areas that involve significant judgement and estimation include:

- Receivables economic and other forecasts applied in determining the expected credit losses;
- Land and buildings external valuations are obtained and relied on for an impairment assessment over land and buildings.

#### (vi) Changes in significant accounting policies

There were no significant changes in accounting policies applied in the current reporting period.

#### (vii) Comparatives

The accounting policies have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements. Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified to conform with the current period's presentation.

(viii) New or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations adopted

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

Equestrian Australia Limited Notes to the financial statements 30 June 2025

#### Note 1. Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)

The Entity has adopted all of the new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ("AASB") that are mandatory for the current reporting period. The adoption of the new and amended standards and interpretations did not have a material impact on the financial position and performance of the Entity.

Any new or amended Accounting Standards or Interpretations that are not yet mandatory have not been early adopted.

#### Note 2. Material accounting policies

#### (a) Revenue

#### Revenue recognition

The Company has applied AASB 15: Revenue from Contracts with Customers (AASB 15) and AASB 1058: Income of Notfor-Profit Entities (AASB 1058).

#### Contributed assets

The Company receives assets from the government and other parties for nil or nominal consideration in order to further its objectives. These assets are recognised in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards (for example, AASB 9, AASB 16, AASB 116 and AASB 138).

On initial recognition of an asset, the Company recognises related amounts (being contributions, lease liability, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer).

The Company recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

Operating grants, donations, bequests and sponsorship

When the Company received operating grant revenue, donations or bequests or sponsorship amounts, it assesses whether the contract is enforceable and has sufficiently specific performance obligations in accordance with AASB 15. When both these conditions are satisfied, the Company:

The following are also relevant:

- identifies each performance obligation relating to the grant
- recognises a contract liability for its obligations under the agreement
- recognises revenue as it satisfies its performance obligations.

Where the contract is not enforceable or does not have sufficiently specific performance obligations, the Company:

- recognises the asset received in accordance with the recognition requirements of other applicable accounting standards (for example AASB 9, AASB 16, AASB 116 and AASB 138)
- recognises related amounts (being contributions, lease liability, financial instruments, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer)
- recognises income immediately in profit or loss as the difference between the initial carrying amount of the asset and the related amount.

If a contract liability is recognised as a related amount above, the Company recognises income in profit or loss when or as it satisfies its obligations under the contract.

13

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

Equestrian Australia Limited Notes to the financial statements 30 June 2025

#### Note 2. Material accounting policies (continued)

#### Capital grant

When the Company receives a capital grant, it recognises a liability for the excess of the initial carrying amount of the financial asset received over any related amounts (being contributions, lease liability, provisions, revenue or contract liability arising from a contract with a customer) recognised under other Australian Accounting Standards.

The Company recognises income in profit or loss when or as the Company satisfies its obligations under the terms of the grant.

Interest income

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method.

Branch Levy and Membership Income

Branch levies and related contributions revenue is recognised in the period in which the service is provided.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax

#### (b) Property, plant and equipment

Each class of plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value as indicated, less, where applicable, accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses.

#### Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment is measured on a cost basis and is therefore carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. In the event the carrying amount is written down immediately to the estimated recoverable amount impairment losses are recognised either in profit or loss or as a revaluation decrease if the impartment losses relate to a revalued asset. A formal assessment of the recoverable amount is made when impairment indicators are present.

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Company and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are recognised as expenses in profit or loss in the financial period in which they are incurred.

Plant and equipment that have been contributed at no cost or for nominal costs are recognised at the fair value of the asset at the date it is acquired.

#### **Property**

Freehold land and buildings are shown at their fair value based on periodic, but at least triennial, valuations by external independent valuers, less subsequent depreciation for buildings.

In periods when the freehold land and buildings are not subject to an independent valuation, the directors conduct directors' valuations to ensure the carrying amount for the land and buildings is not materially different to the fair value.

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

Equestrian Australia Limited Notes to the financial statements 30 June 2025

#### Note 2. Material accounting policies (continued)

Increases in the carrying amount arising on revaluation of land and buildings are recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in the revaluation surplus in equity. Revaluation decreases that offset previous increases of the same class of assets shall be recognised in other comprehensive income under the heading of revaluation surplus. All other decreases are recognised in profit or loss.

Any accumulated depreciation at the date of the revaluation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount is restated to the revalued amount of the asset.

Freehold land and buildings that have been contributed at no cost, or for nominal cost, are initially recognised and measured at the fair value of the asset at the date it is acquired.

#### Depreciation and amortisation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets, including buildings and capitalised lease assets, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Fixed asset class

Buildings & Building Partitioning

Computer & Office Equipment

Depreciation rate
2.5%
20% - 40%

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed and adjusted, if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. The gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they arise. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation surplus relating to the asset are transferred to retained surplus.

#### (c) Financial instruments

#### Initial recognition and measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Company becomes a party to contractual provisions to the instrument. For financial assets, this is equivalent to the date that the Company commits itself to either purchase or sell the asset (i.e. trade date accounting is adopted).

## (i) Loans and Receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market and are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss through the amortisation process and when the financial asset is derecognised.

#### (ii) Financial liabilities

Non-derivative financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost. Gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss through the amortisation process and when the financial liability is derecognised.

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

Equestrian Australia Limited Notes to the financial statements 30 June 2025

#### Note 2. Material accounting policies (continued)

#### Impairment

A financial asset (or a group of financial assets) is deemed to be impaired if, and only if, there is objective evidence of impairment as a result of one or more events (a "loss event") having occurred, which has an impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial assets.

Impairment losses are recognised in profit or loss immediately. Also, any cumulative decline in fair value previously recognised in other comprehensive income is reclassified into profit or loss at this point.

In the case of financial assets carried at amortised cost, loss events may include: indications that the debtors or a group of debtors are experiencing significant financial difficulty, default or delinquency in interest or principal payments; indications that they will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganisation; and changes in arrears or economic conditions that correlate.

#### Derecognition

Financial assets are derecognised when the contractual right to receipt of cash flows expires or the asset is transferred to another party whereby the Company no longer has any significant continuing involvement in the risks and benefits associated with the asset. Financial liabilities are derecognised when the related obligations are discharged or cancelled or have expired. The difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability extinguished or transferred to another party and the fair value of consideration paid, including the transfer of non-cash assets or liabilities assumed, is recognised in profit or loss.

#### Recognition of expected credit losses in financial statements

At each reporting date, the Company recognises the movement in the loss allowance as an impairment gain or loss in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

The carrying amount of financial assets measured at amortised cost includes the loss allowance relating to that asset.

Assets measured at fair value through other comprehensive income are recognised at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in other comprehensive income. The amount in relation to change in credit risk is transferred from other comprehensive income to profit or loss at every reporting period.

For financial assets that are unrecognised (e.g., loan commitments yet to be drawn, financial guarantees), a provision for loss allowance is created in the statement of financial position to recognise the loss allowance.

#### (d) Impairment of assets

At the end of each reporting period, the Company assesses whether there is any indication that an asset may be impaired. If such an indication exists, an impairment test is carried out on the asset by comparing the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, to the asset's carrying amount. Any excess of the asset's carrying amount over its recoverable amount is recognised immediately in profit or loss, unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount in accordance with another Standard (e.g., in accordance with the revaluation model in AASB 116). Any impairment loss of a revalued asset is treated as a revaluation decrease in accordance with that other Standard.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the Company estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

Where the future economic benefits of the asset are not primarily dependent upon the asset's ability to generate net cash inflows and when the Company would, if deprived of the asset, replace its remaining future economic benefits, value in use is determined as the depreciated replacement cost of an asset.

Where an impairment loss on a revalued asset is identified, this is recognised against the revaluation surplus in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that class of asset.

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

Equestrian Australia Limited Notes to the financial statements 30 June 2025

#### Note 2. Material accounting policies (continued)

#### (e) Employee provisions

#### Short-term employee benefits

Provision is made for the Company's obligation for short-term employee benefits. Short-term employee benefits are benefits (other than termination benefits) that are expected to be settled wholly before 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees render the related service, including wages, salaries and sick leave. Short-term employee benefits are measured at the (undiscounted) amounts expected to be paid when the obligation is settled. The Company's obligations for short-term employee benefits such as wages, salaries and sick leave are recognised as part of current accounts payable and other payables in the statement of financial position.

#### Other long-term employee benefits

Provision is made for employees' annual leave entitlements not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months after the end of the annual reporting period in which the employees rendered the related service. Other long-term employee benefits are measured at the present value of the expected future payments to be made to employees. Expected future payments incorporate anticipated future wage and salary levels, durations of service and employee departures, and are discounted at rates determined by reference to market yields at the end of the reporting period on high quality corporate bonds that have maturity dates that approximate the terms of the obligations.

#### (f) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within short-term borrowings in current liabilities on the statement of financial position.

#### (g) Accounts receivable and other debtors

Accounts receivable and other debtors include amounts due from members as well as amounts receivable from customers for services provided in the ordinary course of business.

Receivables expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

Accounts receivable are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any provision for impairment. Refer to Note 1(e) for further discussion on the determination of impairment losses.

#### (h) Income tax

No provision for income tax has been raised as the Company is exempt from income tax under Div 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

#### (i) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST receivable from, or payable to, the ATO is included with other receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are presented as operating cash flows included in receipts from customers or payments to suppliers.

#### (j) Accounts payable and other payables

Accounts payable and other payables represent the liabilities outstanding at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the Company during the reporting period that remain unpaid. The balance is recognised as a current

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

Equestrian Australia Limited Notes to the financial statements 30 June 2025

#### Note 2. Material accounting policies (continued)

liability with the amounts normally paid within 30 days of recognition of the liability.

#### (k) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Company has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions recognised represent the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

#### (I) Financial risk management

The Company's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks, local money market instruments, accounts receivable and payable, and leases.

The organisation is exposed to a variety of financial risks comprising:

- a) Government funding risk
- b) Interest rate risk
- c) Credit risk
- d) Liquidity risk

The Board of Directors will have overall responsibility for identifying and managing operational and financial risks.

#### **Economic Dependence and Government Risk**

The organisation is dependent on federal government funding to operate many of its services. The risk of loss of these funding streams is considered to be material to the organisation. This risk is managed through a range of complementary strategies but cannot be totally mitigated. The major risk management strategies are:

(i) The Company pursue diversification of the Company's income stream through implementing new projects such as seeking new sponsorship partners in the future

## Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate as a result of changes in market interest rates. Interest rate risk is minimal as the organization has no borrowings. Subject to consideration of liquidity risk, cash is held in fixed interest rate accounts to maximise returns.

#### Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation.

The maximum exposure to credit risk, excluding the value of any collateral or other security, at balance date of recognised financial assets is the carrying amount of those assets, net of any provisions for impairment of those assets, as disclosed in statement of financial position and notes to financial statements.

The organisation does not have any material credit risk exposure to any single debtor or group of debtors under financial instruments entered by the organisation.

The organisation does not have any material credit risk in respect of cash and cash equivalents as these are held with Authorised Deposit-taking Institutions (ADIs) regulated by APRA.

#### Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that a Company will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with liabilities.

The organisation manages liquidity risk by monitoring forecast cash flows and ensuring that adequate cash and cash equivalents are maintained

2025

2024

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

Equestrian Australia Limited Notes to the financial statements 30 June 2025

#### Note 3. Revenue and Other Income

## Revenue from continuing operations

|                                | 2025<br>\$ | 2024<br>\$ |
|--------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Revenue from other sources     |            |            |
| Grant income HP                | 4,810,288  | 5,109,083  |
| Insurance Recoveries - Members | 1,337,808  | 1,429,511  |
| Member Admin Levies            | 1,022,867  | 775,004    |
| Insurance Recoveries - Clubs   | 664,141    | 624,430    |
| Grant income Non-HP            | 439,763    | 604,928    |
| FEI charges recovery           | 390,758    | 339,915    |
| Coaching Registration          | 238,828    | 265,934    |
| Resources & Merchandise        | 85,593     | 85,751     |
| Sundry Income                  | 65,783     | 32,640     |
| Interest                       | 54,812     | 16,662     |
| Fines & Swabbing Recovery      | 13,405     | 26,040     |
| Sponsorship & Events           | 11,196     | 308,463    |
| Total Revenue                  | 9,135,242  | 9,618,361  |
| Other Income                   |            |            |
| - Interest and other income    | 100,727    | 67,031     |
| - Gain on Disposal of Assets   | 163,829    | -          |
| - Stripe Fees Reimbursed       | 4,928      |            |
|                                | 269,484    | 67,031     |
|                                |            |            |

## Note 4. Key Management Personnel Disclosures

Any person(s) having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the company, directly or indirectly, including any director (whether executive or otherwise) is considered key management personnel. No remuneration was paid to the Directors.

|  | 2025<br>\$        | 2024<br>\$        |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| Key management personnel compensation              | 926,181           | 1,164,472         |
| Head Count   | <b>2025</b><br>13 | <b>2024</b><br>10 |
| Note 5. Current assets - cash and cash equivalents |                   |                   |
|  | 2025<br>\$        | 2024<br>\$        |
| Bank Account - General Account                     | 685,021           | 155,088           |
| Bank Account - Reserved Account                    | 3,936,508         | 1,858,833         |
| Bank Account - Weel                                | 30,378            | 22,579            |
| Credit Card  | 490               | 3,437             |
| Other Cash Equivalent                              | 1,085             | 2,153             |
|  | 4,653,482         | 2,042,090         |

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

Equestrian Australia Limited Notes to the financial statements 30 June 2025

#### Note 6. Current assets - trade and other receivables

|   | 2025<br>\$         | 2024<br>\$            |
|---|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Trade Debtors   | 299,405            | 219,573               |
| GST Receivables Accrued income                              | 7,829              | 87,205<br>76,086      |
| Total current trade and other receivables                   | 307,234            | 382,864               |
| Note 7. Current assets - Other Assets                       |                    |                       |
|   | 2025<br>\$         | 2024<br>\$            |
| Prepayments   | 383,666            | 276,820               |
| Note 8. Non-current assets - property, plant and equipment  |                    |                       |
|   | 2025<br>\$         | 2024<br>\$            |
| Land and buildings - at cost Less: Accumulated depreciation | -                  | 1,800,000             |
| Less. Accumulated depreciation                              |                    | (72,500)<br>1,727,500 |
| Computer equipment - at cost                                | 78,030             | 175,895               |
| Less: Accumulated depreciation                              | (61,462)<br>16,568 | (147,488)<br>28,407   |
| Building partitioning - at cost                             | -                  | 114,851               |
| Less: Accumulated depreciation - Partition                  |                    | (112,935)<br>1,916    |
| Right of use asset - at cost                                | -                  | 66,862                |
| Less: Accumulated depreciation - Right of use asset         |                    | (66,019)<br>843       |
| Total property, plant and equipment                         | 16,568             | 1,758,666             |

## (a) Movements in carrying amounts

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year:

|  | Buildings   | Building partitioning | Computer and office equipment | Right of Use<br>Asset | Total                   |
|--|-------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Year ended 30 June 2024                        | \$          | \$                    | \$                            | \$                    | \$                      |
| Balance at the beginning of the year Additions | 1,727,500   | 1,916                 | 28,407                        | 843                   | 1,758,666               |
| Disposals Depreciation expense                 | (1,727,500) | (1,916)               | -<br>(11,839)                 | (843)                 | (1,730,259)<br>(11,839) |
| Balance at the end of the year                 |             |                       | 16,568                        |                       | 16,568                  |

2025

2024

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

Equestrian Australia Limited Notes to the financial statements 30 June 2025

## Note 9. Current liabilities - Trade and other payables

| CURRENT   | 2025<br>\$               | 2024<br>\$     |
|---|--------------------------|----------------|
| Trade creditors   | 1,026,714                | 973,994        |
| Accruals  | 195,641                  | 325,904        |
| PAYG payable  | 44,738                   | 41,390         |
| GST Payable   | 137,275                  |                |
|   | 1,404,368                | 1,341,288      |
| Note 10. Current liabilities - provisions   |                          |                |
|   | 2025                     | 2024           |
| CURRENT   | \$                       | \$             |
| Employee benefits   | 103,556                  | 146,901        |
| NON CURRENT   |                          |                |
| NON-CURRENT<br>Employee benefits  | 30,107                   | 18,972         |
| (a) Aggregate employee benefits liability   | 133,663                  | 165,873        |
| Note 11. Current liabilities - Other Liabilities  |                          |                |
|   | 2025                     | 2024           |
|   | \$                       | \$             |
| Grant monies carried over   | 25,207                   | 28,377         |
| Income in advance, Insurance  | 215,583                  | 117,760        |
| Funding in advance*   | 1,795,609                | 494,347        |
| WCSJ** revenue carried over   | 58,300                   | 44,700         |
| Total Other Liabilities   | 2,094,699                | 685,184        |
| * Funding for High Performance, Safety, Integrity and Participation Growth<br>** WCSJ refers to the World Championship Show Jumping Riders Levy |                          |                |
| Note 12. Equity - Reserves  |                          |                |
|   | 2025<br>\$               | 2024<br>\$     |
| Balance as at 1 July 2024<br>Changes during financial year  | 1,431,514<br>(1,431,514) | 1,431,514<br>- |
| Balance as at 30 June 2025  | -                        | 1,431,514      |
|   |                          | , ,            |

21

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

Equestrian Australia Limited Notes to the financial statements 30 June 2025

### Note 13. Equity - retained surpluses

|  | 2025<br>\$                        | 2024<br>\$             |
|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Balance as at 1 July 2024 Deficit after income tax expense for the year Transfer from reserve to retained earnings | 835,532<br>(538,826)<br>1,431,514 | 1,481,412<br>(645,880) |
| Balance as at 30 June 2025   | 1,728,220                         | 835,532                |

#### Note 14. Members' Guarantee

If the Company is wound up, the constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$1 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the Company. On 30 June 2025, the total amount that members of the Company are liable to contribute of the Company is wound up was \$21,037 (2024: \$22,079).

### Note 15. Economic Dependency

The organisation is dependent on federal government funding to operate many of its services. The risk of loss of these funding streams is considered to be material to the organisation. This risk is managed through a range of complementary strategies but cannot be totally mitigated. The major risk management strategies are:

(i) The Company pursue diversification of the Company's income stream through implementing new projects such as seeking new sponsorship partners in the future.

## Note 16. Financial Risk Management

|                                 | 2025<br>\$ | 2024<br>\$ |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Financial assets                |            |            |
| Held at amortised cost          |            |            |
| Cash and cash equivalents       | 4,653,482  | 2,042,090  |
| Trade and other receivables     | 307,234    | 382,864    |
| Total financial assets          | 4,960,716  | 2,424,954  |
| Financial liabilities           |            |            |
| Trade and other payables        | 1,404,368  | 1,341,288  |
| Other Liabilities               | 2,094,699  | 685,184    |
| Total financial liabilities     | 3,499,067  | 2,026,472  |
| Note 17. Auditors' Remuneration |            |            |
| - Auditor's Remuneration        | 22,300     | 27,000     |
|                                 | 22,300     | 27,000     |

## Note 18. Subsequent Events

No matters have impacted the financial statements subsequent to year end.

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

Equestrian Australia Limited Notes to the financial statements 30 June 2025

#### Note 19. Related party transactions

See Key Management Personnel note.

Other related parties include close family members of key management personnel and entities that are controlled or jointly controlled by those key management personnel individually or collectively with their close family members.

There was one related party transaction during the year:

| Related Party Name | Nature of Relationship         | Description  | Amount    |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|--|-----------|
| 33 1               | IIRnett Oliver (director) is a | CB&P provide legal services on various commercial law matters. | \$121,191 |

#### Note 20. Restatement and Reclassification

The expense mapping has been updated in the current financial year. Accordingly, certain FY24 comparative expense amounts have been reclassified to conform with the current year's presentation. These reclassifications have no impact on the prior year's total expenses or net result.

#### Restatement of the profit and loss for the year ended 30 June 2024

Elimination of the internal "Corporate Recharge" amount from revenue and expenses

|   | FY24                   | Adjustment        | FY24<br>Restated       |  |
|---|------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|--|
| Statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income (extract)     |                        |                   |                        |  |
| Revenue   | 10,280,915             | (663,926)         | 9,616,989              |  |
| High Performance Program Expenses<br>Net current year surplus / (deficit) | 4,376,414<br>(645,878) | (663,926)<br>None | 3,712,488<br>(645,878) |  |
| Total comprehensive income for the year                                   | (645,878)              | None              | (645,878)              |  |

#### Note 21. Statutory Information

The Company was incorporated on 11 February 1997 under the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth).

The registered office and principal place of business of the company is: Equestrian Australia Limited c/o Darren Kane, Advocatus Lawyers & Consultants Level 1, 165 Phillip Street, SYDNEY, NSW 2000

#### Note 22. Consolidated Entity Disclosures Statement

Equestrian Australia Limited does not have any controlled entities and is not required by the Accounting Standards to prepare consolidated financial statements. Therefore section 295(3A)(a) of the Corporations Act 2001 does not apply to the entity.

23

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

Equestrian Australia Limited Directors' declaration 30 June 2025

The directors of the Company declare that:

- 1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 8 to 23, are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 and:
- (a) comply with Australian Accounting Standards Simplified Disclosures; and
- (b) give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2025 and of the performance for the year ended on that date.
- 2. In the directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

Board Chairman

David Zachary Miles

24/10/2025

Dated

Director....

Ellen Stephanie Lyons

23/10/2025

24

 $^4$ 

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

#### **Consolidated Entity Disclosure Statement**

The company does not have any controlled entities and therefore section 295(3A)(a) of the Corporations Act 2001 does not apply to the Company

25

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF





## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### TO THE MEMBERS OF EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Equestrian Australia Limited (the Company) which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information, consolidated entity disclosure statement and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Equestrian Australia Limited is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- a. giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2025 and of its financial performance for the year then ended, and
- b. complying with Australian Accounting Standards Simplified Disclosures and the *Corporations Regulations* 2001.

## **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Company's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Level 15
240 Queen Street
Brisbane QLD 4000
T + 61 7 3085 0888

Melbourne Level 10 530 Collins Street Melbourne VIC 3000 T + 61 3 8635 1800

Level 18
197 St Georges Terrace
Perth WA 6000
T + 61 8 6184 5980

Sydney Level 7, Aurora Place 88 Phillip Street Sydney NSW 2000 T + 61 2 8059 6800



26

sw-au co

SW Audit ABN 39 533 589 331. Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation. SW Audit is an independent member of ShineWing International Limited.

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF

Docusign Envelope ID: B3BFDFD6-6434-4297-8821-6C4F468F11EF



• Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

SW Audit
Chartered Accountants

René Muller

Partner

Sydney<sup>24/10/2025</sup>



## Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of:

- a) the financial report (other than the consolidated entity disclosure statement) that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards Simplified Disclosures and the *Corporations Act 2001*; and
- b) the consolidated entity disclosure statement for being true and correct in accordance with the requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*, and

for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of:

- i) the financial report (other than the consolidated entity disclosure statement) that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and
- ii) the consolidated entity disclosure statement as true and correct and is free of misstatement, whether due to fraud or error

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the ability of the Group to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

# Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are
  appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the
  Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.

