



EQUESTRIAN  
AUSTRALIA

## ANNUAL REPORT 2015 – 2016







REEM ACRA FEI WORLD CUP™ DRESSAGE FINAL - GOTHENBURG 2016

REEM ACRA

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**Cover:** Shane Rose celebrates a historic victory at the 2015 Australian International Three Day Event, finishing first with CP Qualified (left) and second with Virgil.

**Left:** Mary Hanna riding Umbro at the FEI World Cup Dressage Final



# CHAIR REPORT

My fellow Equestrians, enthusiasts and volunteers all,



I have cherished the idea that Equestrian Australia (EA) will offer its members both inspiration and excellent service. We continue to work towards that aspiration. We are a family of people who are united by our fascination with horses. Despite the differences in our sports, we aspire to live and contribute together to make opportunities for all to participate and enjoy our great sport.

The past 12 months have presented demanding challenges. Grant Baldock left EA in November 2015 having been CEO for six years. The move in our staff numbers was game changing because the team who created The Equestrian Grand Final, Ready Set Trot and the new membership structure was no longer in place.

Paula Ward was appointed CEO in January 2016 and has, with great energy and zest, tackled the challenges of familiarising herself with the unique qualities of our sports. From day one Paula has expressed her wish to lead and unite EA by providing service to members particularly through support to our national committees who are all volunteers. She has also provided a new staff structure to ensure an efficient working environment.

The national committees provide the guiding light for the development of our sports. Individual EA board members now attend national committee meetings which mean they get the opportunity to participate and report to the EA board. This enables all board members to have first hand knowledge of the role and activities of the national committees.

Development of our riders in all disciplines is our high priority. The strategy and the program which will back it must be created and funded. Our High Performance program must look after both our overseas riders and, at the same time, ensure that our Australian based riders and their competition opportunities are prioritised.

Governance of our sport has long presented challenges for EA. Our shareholders are a proudly federated group of state branches who, whilst supporting EA, need to independently interact with state members. They support the necessary army of volunteers who run our competitions and their member services.

The Australian Government and Australian Sports Commission (ASC) supply a very significant proportion of our funding and has suggested to all sports that a move to a centralised governance structure would be a significant advantage. The rationale has been that this would reduce administrative costs and provide the opportunity for shared services whilst still maintaining state offices. In recent times, there is significant recognition by the ASC that all sports depend on regional and volunteer involvement to sustain viability and the management of volunteers is essential for the running of competition.

EA is grateful for the assistance from the ASC and the understanding of the state boards over the previous twelve months as we have adopted some of the Mandatory Sports Governance Principles. Whilst more challenges face us, your board has confidence that within our structure we can develop agreement on shared services which will contribute to less administrative cost and more money to spend on providing member service.

Your board will encourage the idea of creating new and exciting competitions for all our sports, at all levels, in order to attract significant sponsorship and to raise the profile of equestrian in the public arena. If we are to achieve this, considerable co-operation between our state branches, national committees and individual organising committees must be our agreed way forward. Co-operation through the co-ordination of calendars will be essential if we are to offer excellent events. This will also necessitate the continued improvement and development of our IT programs in order that organising committees have the facilities they need and records of performance can be maintained.

The outstanding success of Amateur Owner Classes introduced alongside top competition and the Interscholar competitions is proof that our membership base will continue to build so long as we truly embrace all levels of equestrian sport within our competition planning.

The terrible loss of three young riders cast a pall over our sport this year. Olivia Inglis, Caitlyn Fischer and Billie Kinder were much loved and respected riders. They were on the cusp of life, enjoying their horses, their families and friends. Their loss is felt by our community. They will be remembered for their equestrian ability and the joy and inspiration they gave all who knew them.

Liza Carver, EA's Deputy Chair resigned from the board this year. Liza first joined the board in 2012. She gave outstanding service to EA over a four year period. She worked, pro bono, to provide EA with legal advice on many fronts and maintains her interest in the sport as a competitor, owner and supporter of riders.

Leigh Clifford was unanimously welcomed to the board in June of this year. Leigh is well known as Chairman of Qantas and brings to the board his very extensive experience and corporate knowledge.

EA has inviting challenges ahead:

- The aspiration of our National Coaching Accreditation Scheme (NCAS) is to ensure we create world's best coaches to assist every member from beginner to our elite riders. We wish to collaborate with other equestrian sports and Pony Club Australia (PCA) to provide world's best practice in coaching.
- Our 'participation and pathways' initiatives will ensure steadily increasing membership. These are the lifeblood requirements of EA.
- Our High Performance program is running towards the end of the four-year cycle culminating in the Olympic and Paralympic Games. We are ready to throw down the gauntlet to the world. The rest you know!

Thank-you to the staff of EA, you have worked under the pressure of significant change. EA board members, you have demonstrated your unity, commitment and good humoured support through some challenging times. May we all enjoy the confidence of knowing that together we will provide for the growth of our sport and increased opportunity to participate, for all our members.

Very best regards to all members.

*Judith Fasher*

Judy Fasher  
Chair, Equestrian Australia





# CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT



Reflecting on my six months as Chief Executive Officer for EA, I am incredibly grateful for the warmth and generosity of so many as I have immersed myself into equestrian.

Grant Baldock, having steered the ship for almost six years, departed EA in late 2015. I offer my thanks to Grant for his dedication to foster the growth and profile of equestrian in Australia during his tenure and for his support in assisting with the leadership transition.

With leadership change, comes broader change. It can be uncomfortable, yet it is inevitable. It has been a year with many challenges, opportunities and achievements, and there is still much to be done.

When stepping into a leadership role, it is a difficult balance to keep the organisation functioning on a day to day basis while taking the necessary time to understand its intricacies, motivators and needs to develop the way forward.

Equestrian is inextricably linked to Australian heritage. Horses have always been a common thread in many forms of the Australian lifestyle. Horse sports are an extension to this and we have an enviable history of achievement at the elite level. It is this success that enables us to be generously funded by the Australian Government and ASC to, in turn, assist us to develop our sport for the broader community.

Equestrian is unique. There is the obvious distinctiveness that we have two athletes – rider and horse. We also play and compete on an even playing field, irrespective of gender. In a time where the ambition of gender equality is often in the headlines and is increasingly mainstream in the agenda of any business, we are a sport that is as contemporary as it is traditional.

We are, however, much more than a sport. We are a significant contributor to industry. Equestrian offers a lifestyle and provides a livelihood for many. All too often, in sport, involvement comes from a passion and it is a side-line to a career in a different area. We are different. For many in our community – rider, coach, official, breeder – you are able to envelop in our sport in every way. It is a livelihood, a passion and a full time focus. It motivates our community in so many different ways. It also brings significant additional responsibility to EA as the governing body.

Over the last six months I have moved through the community - at competitions, coaching clinics, awards nights and industry meetings - to build my understanding of the drivers of our sport and cultivate what I believe is the way forward.

First and foremost, I want to lead a service organisation. Members are why we exist. Irrespective of the role you play in our community – rider, coach, official, supporter – we want to support you to assist you to progress your skills and move closer to achieving your equestrian aspirations.

To achieve this, we need to think differently, collaborate more, build stability, engage members and partner with the community. We want you to see value in what we provide. We want to be a more effective member organisation.

Every sport wants to build their membership, to provide more grassroots opportunities and achieve success on the world stage. We are no different in that sense. What does make us different is our capacity to influence Australia in a broader context: in relation to the agriculture & livestock industry and national biosecurity.

EA is constantly facilitating our already strong links across government and the relevant regulatory, stakeholder and community bodies. EA can muster the collective voices of over 18,000 members. We are able to influence and this is a role that must be used expeditiously for the growth of our industry and the betterment of our sport, as well as treated respectfully.

This year, unfortunately, we were scarred by the deaths of Olivia Inglis and Caitlyn Fischer in competition and Billie Kinder, at home, while tending to her pony. The impact reverberated throughout our community. While the welfare of horse and rider is always at the heart of what we do, their passing provided a stark reminder of the dangers involved in horse sport. Reviews are underway which mean if there are lessons to learn, we learn them. The impetus for optimising safety and enabling best practice risk management has never been greater, and there are initiatives in development that you will hear more about in the coming months.

To achieve more, as your governing body, we need to engage with our members, build unity and respect diversity. This is how we will create a strong foundation to shape a viable long term future for our sport in Australia.

We have much to do and it is timely that we will have a new strategic plan to guide us from 2017 to 2020. This starts with a conversation and builds from there. So, if you see me at an event, please introduce yourself. I want to hear your views.

Finally, I thank the countless number of volunteers who contribute tirelessly and enthusiastically to make their mark every weekend. Without you, we would be less.

Paula Ward  
CEO, Equestrian Australia







# MESSAGE from the Australian Sports Commission

The Australian Sports Commission (ASC) congratulates our National Sporting Organisations (NSOs) on their achievements this year. In particular, we congratulate all of our athletes who represented Australia in the Rio Olympic and Paralympic Games. You did so with great distinction. The country is proud of your commitment and dedication, and the manner in which you conducted yourself throughout the campaigns.

In the aftermath of the Games, the Board of the ASC has re-committed to the core principles of *Australia's Winning Edge*, the ASC's ten year plan for high performance sport introduced in 2012. The four key principles are: high aspirations for achievement; evidence-based funding decisions; sports owning their own high performance programs; and a strong emphasis on improved leadership and governance.

We are confident these principles serve the long term interests of sporting sector.

We will also use the experience of the last four years to seek to improve implementation of *Winning Edge* in ways that will benefit the sector.

The ASC is equally committed to increasing community participation in sport, particularly amongst our children and youth. We have been pleased this year to see our flagship participation program, *Sporting Schools*, reach over 4,300 schools in partnership with NSOs.

Innovations by the ASC this year included the release of our *Integrity Guidelines for Directors and Leaders of Sporting Organisations*, which provides directors with comprehensive and practical guidance for the first time on anti-doping, sport science and medicine, illicit drugs, match-fixing, child protection and member protection – vital issues for maintaining trust and respect in the sporting sector.

We also staged our inaugural Athlete and Coaches Forum, giving Australia's elite athletes and coaches the opportunity to share their experiences and enhance their leadership capabilities.

And we were delighted to see fruits of our efforts to improve female opportunity in sports, with improved elite and participation opportunities in women's sport, better media exposure, some outstanding new commercial deals, and an increase in female representation at NSO board level from 27 per cent to a 39 per cent across the top 23 NSOs.

Looking ahead, ASC priorities include:

- further institutional and governance reform in sport, with an emphasis on increased national integration and alignment
- increased funding for sport, including new non-government sources of funding
- further embedding sport in schools' educational programs
- improved national coordination of sports infrastructure spending, and
- improved use of data and technology in sports.

Reforms like this are often hard to achieve but have profound long term benefits. The evermore competitive environment in world sport on display in Rio highlights the critical importance of further reform if Australia is to maintain its proud reputation and traditions as a sporting nation.

It is appropriate to use this opportunity to recognise and thank the efforts of the ASC's outgoing CEO Simon Hollingsworth, who has led the Commission very capably and with considerable effect for the past five years.

The ASC thanks all of our sector partners for your effort and contribution to Australian sport. We look forward to continued success and progress together.

John Wylie AM  
Chair  
Australian Sports Commission





# HIGH PERFORMANCE

2015/16 was always going to be a significant year in High Performance for EA. As the prelude to the Rio Olympic Games, the level of excitement intensified as the major benchmark event of the four year cycle was drawing nearer.

EA High Performance continued to align with the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) and *Australia's Winning Edge Strategy* with a focus on medal delivery at the Rio 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Following the 2014 Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) World Equestrian Games a review of the High Performance plan, structure and program was undertaken. This financial year saw the execution of that plan enabling the athletes, horses and management team to be in the best possible position to achieve our targets for what was to present in Brazil in August/September 2016.

Our Rio targets remain as follows:

Eventing:	Medal
Para-Equestrian:	Medal
Jumping:	Top 10 team finish
Dressage:	Top 8 team finish

In order to assist with the achievement of the desired outcomes the following initiatives continue to be implemented:

## HIGH PERFORMANCE AND RECOGNITION SQUADS

This year a new two tier squad structure was introduced for the Olympic and Paralympic disciplines (those being Eventing, Dressage, Jumping and Para-Equestrian). They were designed in accordance with new criteria aligning more closely with *Australia's Winning Edge Strategy*.

The new structure included two tiers – High Performance squads and Recognition squads, with categories and specific selection criteria for each.

High Performance squads included riders and/or combinations identified as having the potential to represent Australia at a major championships (Olympic/Paralympic Games and/or World Equestrian Games) between the years 2016 to 2020. These squads were categorised into three groups – Gold, Green and Generation Next. In order to be eligible to be nominated as part of the 2016 Australian Olympic Shadow Team athletes needed to be named on an EA High Performance squad.

Recognition squads for Eventing, Dressage, Jumping and Para-Equestrian had categories introduced throughout the senior and developmental stages including youth and futures, whilst acknowledging combinations that have demonstrated performances at competition level worthy of recognition during the previous 12 months. These recognised athlete, horse and owner.

This new squad structure allowed High Performance to focus on a targeted group of athletes identified to achieve our Rio and beyond medal targets, whilst also objectively recognising strong performances both domestically and internationally.

## NOMINATION/SELECTION POLICIES AND APPEALS PROCESS

In order to provide more rigour around the procedures of the nomination and selection process, EA implemented terms of references around the national selection panels and undertook ongoing development for all panel members. This included additional awareness around thorough selection decision making. The nomination criteria included a more outcome driven theme whilst still adhering to strong process. International based selectors in Eventing and Jumping were also introduced. A more thorough, open and transparent system allowed a stronger, inclusive and more professional process of nomination encouraging procedural fairness.

## HIGH PERFORMANCE DRIVERS

In accordance with AIS funding compliance requirements, the EA High Performance plan has focused on the six High Performance drivers:

- Athletes
- Coaches
- Leadership
- Daily Performance Environment
- Competition
- Research and Innovation

The EA High Performance plan has been adapted to tailor these drivers to our unique circumstances in servicing the six legged equestrian athlete.

## INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCE PLANNING

The High Performance plan included an enhanced holistic and integrated individual performance planning process for the targeted individuals, covering the riding athlete and multiple horses at varying levels.

The Individual Performance Plans (IPPs) were regularly maintained and monitored and designed to cover the following:

- Competition
- Training
- Horse and Veterinary Management
- Sport Science Sports Medicine (SSSM)
- Personal Excellence

The IPPs were designed to further engage and integrate the Daily Performance Environments (DPEs) and the home teams, including but not limited to the following to ensure optimum practice:

- Owners
- Private Trainers
- Home Vets
- Grooms
- Farriers
- Equine Practitioners (Physio, Chiropractor, Dentist, Nutrition Specialist)
- Sponsors/Partners
- Significant others

## HAMS (HORSE AND ATHLETE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM)

HAMS is a web based high performance database management system that features integrated information to centrally manage and collate rider, horse, veterinary, SSSM performance, training, competition and administration information.

In addition to the focus of preparation of the relevant combinations for qualification and performance outcomes, High Performance worked collectively with the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) and the AIS. This was mainly around the logistical, operational and administration requirements associated with the Rio Olympic Games. In addition to the above, a small team attended the Rio Test Event in August 2015 to gain a greater understanding of what would be required to provide our team not only the best opportunity to compete, but also a competitive edge. We were made aware of numerous challenges that would present at Games time which allowed us to implement a strong strategy for preparation whilst prioritising the welfare of our horses regardless of where they would originate from.

## MOVING FORWARD

The final stages of planning are well and truly underway for the Rio Olympic Games with the Brazilian city posing many exciting challenges for our team both on and off the horse. Preparation for Olympic and Paralympic team nomination will remain a major focus for our riders to ensure delivery of our outcomes.

Due to the unique nature and circumstances surrounding the Rio Games, collective planning with the FEI, AIS, ASC, AOC and the Australian Paralympic Committee (APC) will continue to be instrumental to our success.

Achievement of our medal targets at Rio will be critical for the ongoing future of the sport as well as an aligned approach with the FEI as we prepare for what lies ahead for Equestrian at the Olympic Games through the Agenda 2020 initiative driven by the International Olympic Committee.

Post Rio, EA High Performance will need to review and reflect on what success has been achieved and what can be improved on. We will need to realign with the funding requirements from the ASC, AIS and EA's new strategic plan and High Performance plan.

A critical factor for our sport going forward is the revised High Performance plan outlining the objectives, strategies and initiatives for EA High Performance from 2016 to 2020.

It is important that the High Performance plan is a whole of sport document outlining direction for Olympic, Paralympic and FEI disciplines including a National pathway framework designed for short and long term success and sustainability.



Christine Bates and Adelaide Hill



# COACHES AND OFFICIALS



Mary Seefried, FEI 5\* Dressage Judge at the 2015 Dressage with Altitude event

For the second consecutive year EA experienced a rise in the number of accredited coaches and officials. The number of National Coaching Accreditation Scheme (NCAS) accredited coaches increased 12 per cent to 1,142 while the number of National Officiating Accreditation Scheme (NOAS) accredited officials jumped nine per cent to 1,328. Continued growth in these important developmental areas is a key focus for EA as it diversifies its organisation structure to include dedicated Pathway Managers for coaching and officials.

## COACHES

- 80 Coach Educator (CE)/Skill Specific Training Assessors (SSTA) attended update courses this financial year. In an effort to standardise the courses, for the first time, a national presenter was elected to travel to present at each state course. Sandra Pearson Adams was elected as the national presenter and was supported in this role by state presenters Glenys Cox (Qld), Philippa Collier (WA), Christine Johnson (NSW) and Sue Leslie (Vic).
- With funding support from the ASC, EA conducted a pilot camp to trial a new intensive format for coaching accreditation. The camp saw eight candidates sitting the introductory coach course assessed by four CEs over a three day period. 40 demonstration riders and horses supported the lesson component of the course, which

was held at Sydney International Equestrian Centre. The venue offered stabling, cabins and a range of riding arenas to enable the course's success.

- 2016 brought to an end the two year requirement for coaches to attend a coach update clinic as part of reaccreditation; moving forward this will only need to be done every three years. CE/SSTA's will continue to report update requirements every two years.
- The first Australian held FEI Level I Vaulting course for coaches was held at Canberra's National Equestrian Centre in January and offered candidates access to international coaching via course director Lasse Kristensen from Denmark. Following its success, this course was repeated in South Australia in April with coach and judge John Eccles from Great Britain.

## OFFICIALS

- A number of Australia's FEI Officials travelled offshore to update their qualification requirements.
- A drive to increase stewards numbers via national promotion was instigated to satisfy new FEI requirements, particularly for the discipline of Jumping. Upon finalising national requirements, EA stewards will be invited to attend a promotion to FEI course later in the year.
- Representation to extend tenure was made to the FEI on behalf of several of Australia's FEI Officials who reached the retirement age of 70 this year.
- The FEI Global Education Program saw a further six Eventing officials attend competitions in a range of support roles at overseas events to further broaden their officiating skills and network with offshore partners. Events included Aachen, Burnham Market, Fairburn, Radolfzell and Unterbeuern.
- An FEI officials course for refresher and promotion for FEI level I Driving officials was held in Tamworth in 2015. The judges course was hosted by Mark Wenten (BEL) who was assisted by Australia's Dot Willcoxson as well as technical delegates Richard Papens (BEL) and Peter Harkness (AUS). The course was attended by Australian and New Zealand officials.
- EA distributed \$10,000 amongst a pool of applicants under its officials financial assistance scheme. This project has been running for several years to provide a small contribution to offset some of the expenses officials face to maintain accreditation via attendance at promotion/update seminars overseas.

## MOVING FORWARD

Coaches and officials are integral to the growth of equestrian sport and are a significant part of our membership. With increased resourcing, EA is focused on developing programs to provide more opportunities to enhance the knowledge and practical skills of our existing coaches and officials. We also want to identify and introduce more newcomers to these essential roles and build a pipeline of talent to meet future needs.

A clear pathway for accreditation and ongoing development will be a key focus in the next year.

1,328  
OFFICIALS



↑ 9.39%



1,142 ↑ 12.18%



Jim Collin - 2015 EA Gow-Gates Coach of the Year



# MEMBERSHIP, DEVELOPMENT AND PARTICIPATION

## CLUB DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

EA Club Development Grants returned for a third consecutive year to provide affiliated clubs the opportunity to share in \$30,000 of funding assistance for equipment, facility improvement and membership recruitment.

This year saw 96 affiliated clubs from across Australia apply, with 13 clubs receiving a grant to assist with the growth and development of equestrian activities within the community.

Projects predominantly focused on equipment and facility maintenance to improve club grounds and assist and attract new members to a safer riding environment. Examples included funding assistance for equipment trailers, a new club room, FEI standard jumping or carriage driving equipment and assistance with running competition days to encourage member participation.

Henty Riding Club Inc. from Dardanup, WA was one of the recipients to be awarded a grant to help fund the installation of underground pipes and gear drive sprinklers to saturate their equestrian centre's top arena surface for use during the drier months, as the area would receive little to no rain.

As the facilities are shared between three other riding clubs/associations alongside Henty Riding Club, having the top arena dry out during the months of October to April put strain on the members to share the remaining arenas and limited the use of facilities during events. With the arena available for use year round, members will be able to safely ride during busy periods especially when the main arena is being used by another club or event.

"Grants such as this one help us to continue to improve our grounds and facilities which in itself is also attracting new members" said Liz Watkins, Vice President of the Henty Riding Club Inc.

## READY SET TROT

EA's junior participation program which is presented in partnership with PCA entered its fourth year in March 2016. Ready Set Trot has continued to grow and thrive, with this year proving to be its biggest since the program first launched in 2013. As of 30 June 2016 more than 4,000 children have participated in Ready Set Trot programs, with a total of over 7,000 participants since the program began.

Following extensive consultation with coaches, delivery providers, participants and parents, a new look Ready Set Trot Stable Skills (the beginner rider portion of the program) launched on 1 July 2015. Major changes were made to the structure, most noticeably the addition of four new 'ribbon levels' for participants to learn, develop and advance their horse riding and horse management skills at their own pace. Coaches were also provided the flexibility to deliver the program in line with their coaching and business needs. Other changes included improved resources and materials, reduced registration fees and a more efficient website to improve functionality for users and provide a more attractive platform for the program.

Since the re-launch the program has expanded significantly, with 60 new riding schools/coaches signing on to deliver Stable Skills in their area. With the addition of a third development officer to the Ready Set Trot team, significant growth of the program was seen across Australia, noticeably in SA, Qld and WA. Overall a total of 72 Stable Skills delivery providers currently administer the program and over 1,000 new riding participants have been introduced and are currently active. The program has received praise from coaches, participants and parents for being more streamlined and has provided further opportunity for beginner riders in equestrian sport.

The Ready Set Trot team actively engaged children and parents at numerous equestrian competitions and local community events across Australia. The biggest event was a Ready Set Trot carnival in Adelaide alongside the Australian International Three Day Event. The carnival catered to over 450 children and parents who took part in games, colouring and social media competitions, as well as Riding for the Disabled Association of Australia (RDAA) specific activities and free pony rides offered by a registered provider. The carnival was successful in attracting local coaches to the Ready Set Trot program and expanded the reach of the program throughout Adelaide and South Australia.

## SPORTING SCHOOLS

The ASC launched Sporting Schools, an Australian Government initiative designed to help schools to increase children's participation in sport, and to connect children with community sport. EA and PCA partnered with the ASC to offer free sporting programs to children to teach and engage them in equestrian sport.

By utilising Ready Set Trot Playground Skills, EA, PCA or RDAA NCAS accredited coaches engage children in horse-themed games and activities to get them active and learning all about the horse world. By using the imagination of children to link horses to everyday play, the games provide children with a basic understanding of the horse world and offers them the opportunity to ask questions and learn with a horse industry professional.

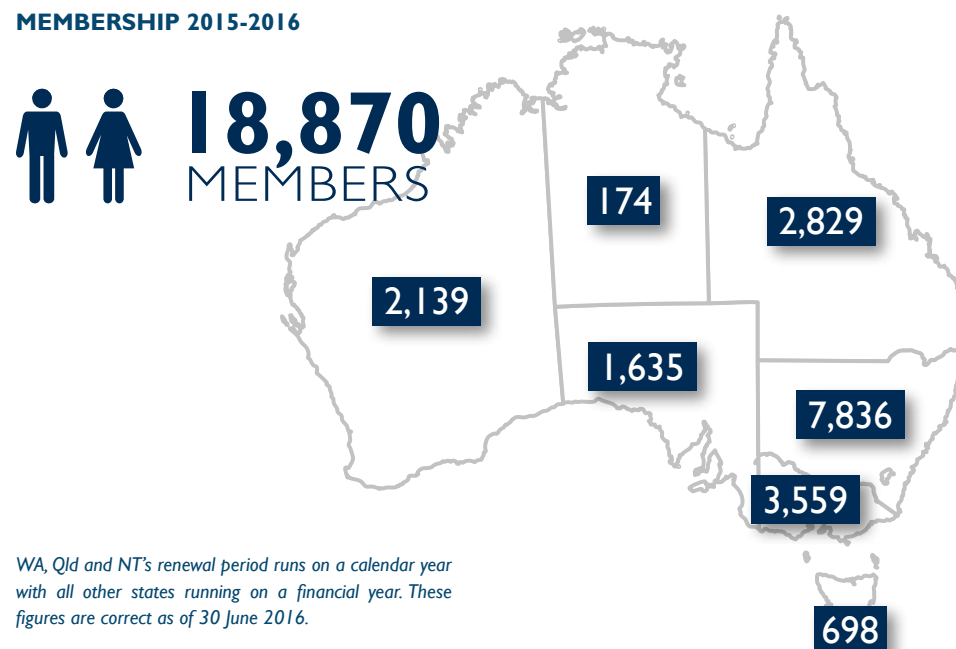
Schools are able to choose one of three equestrian programs to deliver at their school, with two programs offering the ability for students to actively engage with a horse. This option proved popular as all Sporting Schools equestrian programs introduced children to horses directly on their school grounds or with a visit to their local riding school. While some students were lucky enough to have a riding lesson with their local coach, most enjoyed getting up close with a horse at their school to feed it treats and give it pats.

EA continues to partner with the ASC in the second year of the Sporting Schools program to deliver even more equestrian opportunities to Australian school children.

## MEMBERSHIP 2015-2016



18,870  
MEMBERS



WA, Qld and NT's renewal period runs on a calendar year with all other states running on a financial year. These figures are correct as of 30 June 2016.

## RIDING FOR THE DISABLED ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA (RDAA)

In early 2015, EA and RDAA announced it had signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with a key focus area being Ready Set Trot.

Since signing the MOU, 23 RDAA centres have registered with the program. RDAA centres now currently make up over 30% of all delivery providers. RDAA also introduced Ready Set Trot's first Northern Territory delivery provider in the Alice Springs region. Overall, RDAA centres have introduced more than 74 beginner riders to the program, 54 of which have a disability.

Executive Officer of RDAA, Karen Aspery, personally contributed to the program by running Ready Set Trot lessons at her own SA centre, Jennibrook Farm.

"We were delighted at the excitement that Ready Set Trot generated with our RDAA centres. We exceeded our target of 20 centres with 23 fully registered centres now delivering Ready Set Trot, 10 of those in rural and remote locations," said Karen.

"I really enjoyed meeting new riders who were so excited to be having their first formal horse riding instruction. In the program I worked with, the riders even learnt some sign language for communicating with deaf people.

"The integration of riders of all abilities under Ready Set Trot with RDAA really showed how children are open to accept differences in others and share in their love of horses," said Karen.

## CAPABILITY FUNDING REVIEW

EA received a one-off funding package of \$120,000 from the ASC to spend on participation initiatives at the grassroots level of the sport. As a result, EA invited the state branches to apply for a share of the ASC capability grant to deliver initiatives to develop the EA athlete pathway.

Equestrian Victoria, Equestrian Queensland, Equestrian South Australia and Equestrian Tasmania applied for funding to increase beginner/youth rider participation within three key areas – Ready Set Trot carnivals, participation clinics and bridging competitions, which were additional classes or educational sessions available at existing equestrian events targeted for beginner riders.

All participating EA state branches were proactive and creative with how the funding was used within their respective states. Examples included funding for clubs to provide more 'relaxed' classes in their event schedule to assist beginner riders, 'come and try' participation clinics across the different equestrian disciplines and beginner rider's clinics utilising the Ready Set Trot program and existing Ready Set Trot delivery providers.

Over 700 new participants were exposed to equestrian sport across the four states. Feedback on the participation initiatives was positive, with many riders and parents commending the states for the opportunity and requesting similar participation prospects for the future. Others noted their children's desire to continue with the sport either as a beginner through Ready Set Trot or as a first time Interschool competitor for their state.

As a result of the ASC capability grant, EA has been able to trial new initiatives to enable further development of the athlete pathway and know how to better appeal to youth in equestrian at a grassroots level. Working in unison with the EA state branches to continue to trial new participation initiatives and develop reputable events, programs and opportunities, either at a state or national level will aim to help boost membership, youth participation and overall involvement in equestrian sport.

## INTERSCHOOL REVIEW

The 2015 Australian Interschool Championships was held by host state New South Wales at the Sydney International Equestrian Centre. A total of 347 school-based competitors aged 5-18 represented their state in over 1,000 individual tests throughout the week.

Classes were held in Eventing, Dressage, Show Jumping, Combined Training and Show Horse and included trot-ups before competition as well as beginning and end of day ceremonies.

New South Wales was awarded the overall state team award point score with a total of 2,304 points, 131 points ahead of runners-up Queensland which came in with a total of 2,173 points.

EA congratulates the following combinations on receiving the 2015 perpetual trophies:

- Overall Trophy – New South Wales
- Teamwork Award – Western Australia
- Harry Le Bherz Award – New South Wales
- Welsh Pony & Cob Society Award – Tyara Smith & Leanda Hello There (NSW)
- Combined Training Trophy – Sammi Browell & Manawai Artiste (Vic)
- Show Rider Trophy – Tess O'Connor & Falsta D (NSW)
- Jumping Trophy – Madeline Sinderberry & Fernhill Zinzan (NSW)
- Tammy Rhodes Dressage Trophy – Clare Plenty & Queensland (NSW)
- Closest to Ideal Time Eventing Trophy – Kate Sexton & Ivy Bank Billionaire (Qld)



Members of the WA Team at the 2015 Australian Interschool Championships



# COMMERCIAL AND COMMUNICATIONS



Shane Rose winning the 2015 Australian International Three Day Event

The period leading into the Rio 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games presented EA with a one in four year opportunity to increase awareness of equestrian amongst the greater sporting public. Social media continued to be a focus of the Communications team as a way to reach new audiences. With the number of EA Facebook followers now eclipsing the number of EA members, social media offers a low-cost opportunity to engage with a broader group of people. The revamped equestrian.org.au website experienced strong growth in visitor and page view rates in its second year and the launch of MyEA during the reporting period further expanded EA's online offerings to members.

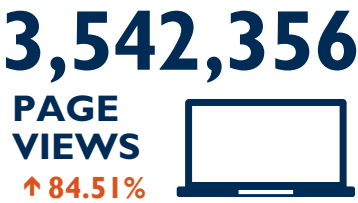
### RIO 2016 #RIDEWITHUS

With excitement building for the Rio 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games, EA invited all fans of the sport to support the Australian Equestrian Team on the Road to Rio. Fans were encouraged to get behind our teams, embrace our athletes and #RideWithUs. Social and traditional media offered timely updates on crucial nomination events, as well as team announcements. Social media increased EA's capacity to deliver news in real time to a large and captive audience and, as technology evolves, so too does EA's ability to develop superior content in-house. Audio-visual content was a focus for the team during the reporting period and was well received with videos especially receiving high viewing figures.

The #RideWithUs campaign aims to build excitement for Rio, give the supporters of our teams something to be proud of but, most importantly, let our athletes know that we are with them and supporting them on the journey.

A national media campaign ran in conjunction with EA's online engagement campaign and secured significant exposure for the sport. Sunrise weather broadcast seven segments live from Shane Rose's NSW property and Rose was also the focus of a feature story in the Weekend Australian Magazine. Edwina Tops-Alexander was part of a Channel 7 News special which also included a feature in its Road to Rio program. Christine Bates featured in the Australian Women's Weekly, Andrew Hoy appeared in TV interviews with Channel 7 and ABC, while Joann Formosa was interviewed by CNN and ABC. Mary Hanna conducted a host of media interviews following the announcement that she would become Australia's oldest competing Olympian.

Regional media was also a key focus area with many Rio hopefuls undertaking interviews with their hometown press.



### MYEA

In May, and ahead of the June renewal period, EA and the state branches in conjunction with Nominate launched MyEA – the online portal for EA members.

MyEA consolidates all the important functions that members need to access. MyEA allows for the completion of member registrations, management of contact details, viewing of results and more.

The portal provides greater efficiencies in the way EA members renew their memberships and registrations, allowing members to complete these tasks anywhere, anytime. With the portal now launched, attention turns to expanding its offerings to members with future plans to include profiling coaches and considering commercial opportunities.



### SPONSORSHIP

EA was fortunate to receive support from a number of sponsors during the last year, many of which are long term contributors to equestrian sport in Australia.



Just Country, through the Ariat brand, is a major sponsor of EA. The apparel supplier provided uniforms for Australian teams competing at major international events including the FEI Nations Cup Final in Barcelona and regional Olympic qualifier for Jumping. A monthly feature 'Ariat rider of the month' profiles one of the sport's outstanding achievers of the previous month.



IRT continued its long-term relationship with EA supporting the Equestrian Grand Final. In 2015 IRT was the naming rights sponsor of the Jumping Grand Final. IRT is also the presenting partner of the Rider and Golden Grand (for leading horse) Leaderboards of the Australian League of the FEI World Cup Jumping series.



Gow-Gates Insurance Brokers supported the Equestrian Grand Final and, in 2015, was naming rights sponsor of the Exhibition Eventing Final. Gow-Gates is presenting partner of the Sport Achievement Awards Night which in 2016 was held in the Olympic room of the MCG.



KER is a long term EA supporter and a preferred supplier. Through its national partnership KER is able to help members through educational tools via EA coaching events. The KER Nutrition Hub on equestrian.org.au offers an extensive online library with information on nutrition, feed management and veterinary topics.



Barastoc continues its long standing association with EA as a preferred supplier, supporting EA's coaching program through nutritional information and advice at coaching events, via the website and EA's e-Newsletters. Barastoc's sponsored rider campaign was an initiative which it was able to leverage through the partnership.

### MOVING FORWARD

EA will be working closely with the states to implement a National Commercial Framework that will see benefits realised for states, members and partners. This is an exciting phase for the sport and working cohesively to benefit all involved is the best way forward.

Of course the world's attention will turn to Rio as the world's best gather to battle it out for Olympic and Paralympic glory. EA is working closely with the AOC and the APC to ensure our athletes receive the media exposure they deserve.

### EA acknowledges its Program Partners for their generous support





# WINNERS RECOGNISED AT EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA SPORT ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS



More than 220 leading members of the equestrian and sporting communities gathered in the Olympic Room of the Melbourne Cricket Ground to celebrate the sport's highest achievers of 2015 as part of the EA Sport Achievement Awards.

In a nod to the upcoming Olympic Games, equestrian greats and enthusiasts joined award finalists, their families and friends, as well as a host of industry members, at the Rio themed occasion which was hosted by Olympic swimmer, Nicole Livingstone.

As well as honouring the highest achievers within the sport of 2015, the annual awards dinner also paid tribute to the legends of the sport through a new round of Hall of Fame inductions.

This year's recipients included Olympian John Fahey, who represented Australia in Jumping at the 1964 and 1968 Olympic Games. Fahey's fourth place finish at the Tokyo Games remains the best Olympic Games result of an Australian Jumping rider and earned him a place in the Hall of Fame individual category.

"I was only 21 and had never been out of Australia before," said Fahey. "I'd never been on a ship. We sailed to Tokyo – it was such an experience to go there and watch the international horses.

"It's unbelievable to see how things have progressed in the sport over the last 50 years," he said.

Fahey formed many lasting partnerships with horses over the years but it was his Olympic partner, Bonvale, which he ranked amongst his favourite.

"Dad bought him in 1959 for 550 pounds which was a lot of money in those days. We got to the local show and I was only 15 but we wanted to see how good he was so we put him in the high jump, well he clean jumped seven foot two.

"He wasn't a difficult horse, all he wanted to do was jump."

Olympian, coach and leading Eventing judge Barry Roycroft was honoured in the service to sport category, while Neale Lavis' silver medal winning horse, Mirrabooka, from the 1960 Rome Olympic Games was this year's horse induction. The 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games Eventing team was inducted in the team's category.

FEI Best Athlete, Boyd Exell was awarded Ariat International Athlete of the Year for the fourth time, adding to his wins in this category in 2010, 2013 and 2014. Exell's four-in-hand team of horses - Demi, Conversano Cselentano, Clinton Star, Bajnok and Lucky, who assisted Exell to a record breaking sixth FEI World Cup Driving title, won the IRT International Horse of the Year award.

The Australian International Three Day Event, which hosted the Equestrian Grand Final bringing FEI World Cup Jumping and FEI Dressage to the event for the first time, was awarded AIS Event of the year.



EA's Sport Achievement Awards Night is presented by Gow-Gates Insurance Brokers



L-R Barry Roycroft AO, John Fahey, Neale Lavis and Wayne Roycroft

## AWARD RECIPIENTS

### AIS Event of the Year

Australian International Three Day Event

### Gow-Gates Official of the Year

Suzanne Betts (Tas)

### Gow-Gates Club of the Year

Sydney Show Jumping Club (NSW)

### Gow-Gates Volunteer of the Year

Joy Charlton (NSW)

### Gow-Gates Coach of the Year

James Collin (NSW)

### Administrator of the Year

Tina Stafford (NSW)

### Ariat International Athlete of the Year

Boyd Exell (NSW)

### Ariat Domestic Athlete of the Year

Brett Parbery (NSW)

### Barastoc Young Athlete of the Year

Isabel English (Qld)

### KER Owner of the Year

Nicole Brown (Tas)

### IRT International Horse of the Year

Boyd Exell's four-in-hand team of Demi, Conversano Cselentano, Clinton Star, Bajnok and Lucky

### Domestic Horse of the Year

Cera Cassiagio



# DRESSAGE

The year was dominated by qualifying processes in Australia and overseas for those riders wishing to compete in the Olympic and Paralympic Games. The CDI organisers provided a great deal of support for this process for which we thank them.

The Australian Dressage Committee (ADC) has been working to encourage development of participation levels in the sport. The Amateur Owner Rider (AOR) competitions have been taken up in all states and the introduction 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 2017 as the first Australian National AOR Championships will be conducted in Queensland in 2017.

In order to encourage the pathway from youth rider to senior rider, and also to gain an idea of how Australian standards compare with world standards for the FEI youth categories of Young Rider (16-21), Junior (14-18) and Pony Rider (12-16), the first Australian Youth Championships were successfully conducted by Dressage NSW on behalf of the ADC. FEI classes were included along with all levels for ages 12-21 and a Prix St Georges and U25 competition for 21-25 year olds. This national championship moves to Queensland in 2017.

Rules underlie our sport and provide structure for all who participate. The ADC is well aware that the rules should be inclusive and keep up with developments in the sport (including changes at FEI level). In 2016 a review of the rulebook has commenced with a view to publishing it for 1 January 2017.

The ADC, through its subcommittee, the Australian Dressage Judges Committee (ADJC), continues to monitor the number of accredited judges available to support official Dressage, Eventing and Interschool. There is no doubt that the pressure on our judges for their time is increasing. Particularly we are looking to make the fast track pathway for qualified riders and NOAS officials as straightforward as possible and urge state judges committees to support these fast track candidates.

Trained stewards are essential to assist in supporting the welfare of the horse. We have encouraged each state to conduct a stewards clinic per annum with the FEI Steward-General, Cathie Drury-Klein, during 2016. The number of accredited stewards is increasing. An accredited chief steward will be compulsory at all national and state championships from 2017. It is the desire of the ADC that each EA official event would have a qualified steward in the years to come.

The ADC has been working to make structural changes to the sport in order to modernise it and also broaden the participation base. The following major changes will be in force for 2017:

- Double bridles no longer mandatory at advanced and FEI levels
- Safety helmets mandatory for all national competitions at all levels including FEI
- Age limits to change from 12 years to 10 years for riders of horses and from 10 years to 8 years for riders of ponies.
- An Australian Dressage Foundation is to be created using the tax advantages of the Australian Sports Foundation in order to raise funds to support the development of the sport of Dressage in Australia and decrease the reliance on Government funding.

Mary Seefried  
Chair, Australian Dressage Committee

## FEI CDI EVENT ORGANISERS IN AUSTRALIA

Australian CDI event organisers provide wonderful and essential support to Dressage and Para-Equestrian. With FEI rider rankings becoming more important it is essential that home based riders of all ages are provided with opportunities to present themselves to experienced international judges for feedback on their standard and also to gain rider rankings points. These international shows are also a drawcard for spectators and sponsors and the directors work creatively to provide a "good show" and spectator experience.

Thank you CDI Event Directors!



The year was dominated by qualifying processes in Australia and overseas for those riders wishing to compete in the Olympic and Paralympic Games.





# DRIVING

The new National Driving Committee has been working very well and co-operatively.

The committee is delighted that FEI Driving has become a feature on the calendar. In 2015-16 three FEI events were held:

- Horse Driving Trials at the Australian Equine and Livestock Events Centre (AELEC) – in conjunction with an FEI officials course and clinics with World Driving Champion, Boyd Exell
- Equestrian South Australia (ESA) in conjunction with the Australian International Three Day Event hosted a combined driving event in the Adelaide Parklands
- Witwood, New South Wales

These events were well supported given that FEI events are relatively new. The contribution of EA's International Competition and Development Fund (ICDF) was essential to the conduct of the events and very much appreciated by the organising committees.

In a good move for the sport these three events are again being held in 2016-17 and are once again being supported by the ICDF.

As a result of an excellent EA officials' course conducted by ESA and held in Adelaide, a number of new EA driving officials have been appointed and existing officials refreshed. These officials were ratified by the national committee and they are now able to contribute to the ongoing development of events in South Australia.

In response to a request from Horse Driving Trials, the committee has recommended a change to the EA rules regarding the age of junior drivers. The recommendation to the EA board is that the age be lowered to eight years for training and educational activities only, effective 1 October 2016. This will enable youngsters to participate in the Boyd Exell clinic being held at AELEC in conjunction with the CAI1\*, CAI2\* and national events there in mid-October.

On behalf of the national committee I would like to thank Sue Hartog for her support over the past year. Her knowledge and professionalism was exceptional. We now look forward to having the support of Stefanie Maraun. Thanks also to CEO, Paula Ward and board members, Judy Fasher and Christopher Styring.

Dot Willcoxson  
Chair, National Driving Committee



**As a result of an excellent EA officials' course conducted by ESA and held in Adelaide, a number of new EA driving officials have been appointed and existing officials refreshed.**





# ENDURANCE

The past year has seen a lot of hard work expended in the area of preparation of the various Australian Endurance Teams. With a major championships being held every year the workload is huge and the pace is fast and furious. Development of policies and guidelines, team meetings, team camps and demonstration events have been organised and all have had excellent levels of attendance.

The number of nominations received for the FEI World Endurance Championships (Slovakia 2016), FEI World Youth Championships (2017) and FEI World Equestrian Games (2018) has greatly exceeded expectations, providing selectors with a strong list of talent to draw upon. Selectors have been very busy attending designated events to view performances.

The National Endurance Committee has been working on improving interactions with the domestic side of endurance riding by opening up direct communications with Presidents of the state management committees for the national endurance body.

This initiative is leading to a much better understanding of what the committee is doing, its area of responsibility and any issues being experienced.

In the year ahead the committee will be focussing its efforts on updating its strategic plan, preparing for the World Youth Championships (to be held in Italy) and looking at implementing pathways for our athletes. Other areas of focus include encouraging organising committees to run more FEI events, supporting ride committees with the organisation of these events and the interpretation of the FEI rules and general regulations.

The committee will be maintaining its attention on providing opportunities for horses and riders to gain FEI qualifications and moving through the star rating system so that we have strong representation at championship events.

Linda Tanian  
Chair, National Endurance Committee

## AUSTRALIAN TEAM CAMP

A highlight of the year was a team camp run in conjunction with the Table Top FEI Endurance Ride. Four days of intense workshops, hands on experience and demonstrations provided the participants with lots of new information to digest. Strapping demonstrations from various endurance teams provided a variety of ways in which horses can be successfully strapped and prepared for presentation to the vet.

Nutrition, body work for the horses and personal fitness sessions ensured full participation. One-on-one sessions with some members of the Endurance Selection Panel were scheduled for all the team applicants. This was an invaluable session as it introduced riders to the people they would be dealing with through the selection process. It bought a more personal experience to this process and allowed the selectors to discuss what they would be looking for from the riders.

The focus for the camp was on the youth riders, in preparation for the World Youth Championships in 2017 and they were exposed to many learning experiences and mentoring opportunities.

“

**In the year ahead the committee will be focussing its efforts on updating its strategic plan, preparing for the World Youth Championships and looking at implementing pathways for our athletes.**

*Sasha Laws-King and Oso Edith*





# EVENTING

Due to the recent tragedies which have occurred in our sport, the National Eventing Committee (NEC) feels we owe it to the families of Olivia Inglis and Caitlyn Fischer, and to future generations, to focus on improving safety provisions for riders and horses competing within our fantastic sport of Eventing. Further to this, we would like to improve the education available to the officials who not only keep our sport running, but have such a large part to play in keeping our athletes, both horses and riders, safe.

To this end the NEC has proposed a Risk Management Working Group with an objective to review safety measures in the sport and to further develop the sport with regards to all aspects of safety. In addition, the introduction of half star classes at national competitions will offer riders who are moving up a level, or perhaps need their horse to gain confidence to compete at a higher level of dressage and jumping, the chance to do so without having to move up a cross country level. These results will also count toward national Minimum Entry Requirements (MERs). As well as offering riders the chance to familiarise their horses with a new level of competition, the initiative also gives organising committees the opportunity to offer a larger variety of classes.

The NEC is eager to introduce an annual national championships and would like to see this event grow and become a significant event on the calendar as it is with the disciplines of Dressage and Jumping. The NEC hopes to offer the event on a two year contract and offer all levels beginning with EvA80.

Over the course of the year there were many highlights as Rio hopefuls across three continents chased Olympic team selection. Riders here at home, the US, as well as in the UK and Europe showcased the strong depth of talent on standby for team selection. Chris Burton (pictured right) rightfully earned a nomination for EA's Ariat International Athlete of the Year award after a host of strong performances. He finished third and fourth at the 2015 Burghley International Horse Trials CCI4\*, was second at Blenheim CCI3\* and set a world record for the best CCI2\* dressage result when he rode to a score of 24.5 at the Camphire International Horse Trials. In the first half of 2016 Burton won Saumur CCI3\*, continuing Australia's strong tradition at this event.

Other notable results came from Paul Tapner who won the Tattersalls CCI3\* and US based rider, Ryan Wood, who enjoyed good results at events in Bromont (Canada) and New Jersey. Here at home Olympians Sonja Johnson claimed the Sydney CCI3\*, Stuart Tinney won the Melbourne CCI3\* and Shane Rose historically finished first and second at the Adelaide CCI4\*. Australia also fared well in team events finishing third overall in the 2015 FEI Nations Cup Eventing Series.

Looking to the year ahead, a syllabus for state branches to run officials courses has been drafted and is under review. This will allow the states to capture information of people who previously might not have received any education but were working within the sport. It is hoped that a national approach will help achieve the goal of creating a higher standard of officiating at the lower levels which will then feed into the higher levels of the sport.

The NEC is also working towards a national approach to the education of FEI officials. A review of Eventing officials who have been appointed at FEI events within the last two years is currently underway with the view to create opportunities for those officials requiring further experience or sign-off from a more experienced official.

The NEC will also focus on working with the High Performance program to continue the great integration that has taken place in recent years with the recognition and state squads which feed into the national High Performance squads. It is crucial a clear path from state to national squads is maintained.

Will Enzinger  
Chair, National Eventing Committee



**There were many highlights within the competition arena as Rio hopefuls across three continents chased Olympic team selection. Riders here at home, the US, as well as in the UK and Europe showcased the strong depth of talent on standby for team selection.**

## SHANE ROSE

The Adelaide CCI4\* at the Australian International Three Day Event gathered Australia's best riders eager to make a good impression for Olympic team selection. This was done impeccably well by Shane Rose (pictured on cover), who not only won the event riding CP Qualified, but also finished second with Virgil. This has not been done in the history of the event and not for many years at the world's other CCI4\* events.

EA's High Performance team has put a lot of work into our squad riders and to see these results is a great indication that our athletes are putting the resources offered to them to good use.

This is a fantastic result and great for the future of the sport. Shane is one of many Australian based Eventing riders setting a great example for young riders moving through the ranks.





# JUMPING

It has been another great season of jumping both domestically and internationally with the Rio Olympic Games being an important focus. It was fantastic to see a record number of riders in Europe and the United States vying for a team position. Congratulations to selected team members Edwina Tops-Alexander, James Paterson-Robinson, Matthew Williams, Scott Keach and reserve rider Jamie Kermond.

Nationally, we have had a busy year with several new rule changes, all being in the interest of moving our sport forward whilst maintaining a level playing field for all. The National Jumping Committee (NJC) has revamped the Young Rider Series into a new and improved National Young Rider Series. A State of Origin teams event is also being pursued as a positive addition to our season. The event aims to aid our riders in becoming more accustomed to team events of this kind.

Once again the Australian Showjumping Championships were a huge success and very much prove that Australia can provide competitors with a similar calibre of competition as seen in Europe and

beyond. This event recorded well over 700 horses competing across the four days. Congratulations to Equestrian Victoria and the organising committee for an outstanding representation of what we can achieve here in Australia. Further congratulations to David Cameron and Jasmine Dennison on achieving dual national titles. A back to back result of this nature is rarely seen whilst competing on the same mount as the previous year. Well done also to the National Young Rider Champion, Nicole Bruggerman and the National Speed Champion, Rhys Stones who also produced great results.

It was fantastic to see the re-introduction of the Elysian Fields facility onto the jumping calendar, hosting the Champions Tour. Thanks goes to the committee for re-creating an outstanding event and for making your facilities available to the NJC for our two day forum in April.

The NJC continues to push forward in closing the gap between international competition and the level here in Australia. It is hoped that the organising committees of our FEI World Cup Qualifier shows understand that we have difficulty fulfilling FEI requirements

in some areas, but this is all part of a long journey for us, as a nation, to come closer to international standards. The NJC and the World Cup Jumping Committee are both well aware of these issues and are fully committed to finding the solutions.

The NJC is currently working overtime to introduce a tiered show system which we believe will have massive benefits for our sport, not only for organising committees of events but also for competitors of all levels. It is vital that our members understand that the NJC is fully invested in providing equal opportunity, that we are committed to all levels of our sport and that we are working actively to achieve this.

In conclusion, I would personally like to extend an enormous thankyou to the EA National Office staff, in particular Sara Latham, Stefanie Maraun and Sue Hartog for their great work and commitment. Also, to the NJC, well done on a great year.

Good luck to all of our members for the upcoming season.

Gavin Chester  
Chair, National Jumping Committee

## AUSTRALIAN LEAGUE OF THE FEI WORLD CUP

Boneo Park in January saw Judy Dwyer, wife of former chair Ted Dwyer, present a deserving Chris Chugg with the trophy for winner of the Australian League of the FEI World Cup, James Arkins was a most competitive runner up. In line with previous years the World Cup Committee provided a contribution of \$15,000 towards the cost of Chris participating in the final at Gothenburg (Sweden). The Australian season provided some very good jumping and some exceptional shows were held that were well supported throughout the country.

Gothenburg proved to be one of the most memorable and outstanding performances ever by an Australian at the World Cup Final. Congratulations are due to Chris, Gabrielle Kuna and, of course, Cristalline who although a very young horse, has shown herself to be a truly exceptional performer. Even more encouraging than a great performance at the very highest world level is that this combination were produced here in Australia – they are Australian made – produced by Australian riders at Australian shows with courses built by Australian course designers. This is a huge shot in the

arm to our domestic sport and hopefully will provide a vision and a confidence to all who love our sport as to what can be achieved despite our financial and geographic limitations.

In producing competitors capable of this standard, it is our shows that are a critical factor and it is the World Cup Committee's responsibility to ensure that our very top competitions allow our outstanding horses and riders a suitable platform to develop to a competitive world level. With this in mind, it is our objective to encourage our top end shows to work towards a higher level of presentation and competition that is truly international. This will have the additional benefit of providing a template that can be used to show smaller shows a direction to head in and also provide a sophisticated "product" that may be used to source sponsorship and the resulting further development that this will allow.

In line with this strategy our committee is increasing its expectations of shows seeking World Cup accreditation and it may be an unavoidable consequence that, with a raised bar, there will be some shows that may fall

by the wayside. While raising the bar it is this committee's job and intention to do all it can to facilitate every organising committee's endeavours to reach the increased standards.

As we all know the FEI has a large number of conditions and rules that must be complied with in order for an event to be given an FEI accreditation. There is no doubt that these add to both the cost and complexity of running high level shows but these shows are critical to the development of Australian horses and riders to the standard we saw in Gothenburg. We need to keep the cost and benefit in perspective.

The World Cup committee has recently welcomed Coco Miles as the new riders representative. Coco has big shoes to fill replacing Steven Dingwall who had to stand aside for personal reasons. Coco completes what I believe is a competent, experienced and enthusiastic committee who are extremely keen to see our sport progress from the strongest possible base. We are looking forward to great jumping and a great World Cup circuit in 2017.

John McMillan  
Chair, Equestrian Australia FEI World Cup

Chris Chugg and Cera Cassiago





# SHOW HORSE

Following the resignation of Peter Dingwall as Chair of the National Show Horse Committee, I write this report as the appointed interim Chair. On behalf of the National Show Horse Committee, I would like to thank Peter Dingwall for his contribution to the Committee and note that his resignation from the role of Chair was received with much regret.

The 2015 EA National Show Horse & Rider Championships, held the first weekend of December at Werribee in Victoria, was once again a very successful event. The inclusion of children's classes for the first time proved to be very popular. The event was well patronised by spectators and all classes were well supported and the standard of horses and riders that competed in all sections was excellent. The organising committee are to be congratulated for running a great show.

The Show Horse Committees in each State, have been busy with their respective State Horse of the Year Shows for 2016. Tasmania, Victoria, NSW, Northern Territory and WA State Horse of the Year Shows have been held, with the SA and Qld events currently in preparation, to be held in the coming months.

The introduction in 2016 of children's classes at each State's Horse of the Year Show has proved to be very popular with the winners and runner up in the children's sections now qualifying to compete in the children's classes at the EA National Show Horse and Rider Championships.

The State Show Horse Committees in WA and NSW have increased their activities and, as well as their State Horse of the Year Shows, they have additional show horse competitions to their list of annual events.

2016 will see the 31st year of the EA Australasian Show Horse and Rider Championships (formally known as The Nationals). These will be held from 2-4 December 2016 at Werribee Park International Equestrian Centre, Victoria. This event is the major EA competition for the discipline of show horse and, on behalf of the EA National Show Horse Committee, I wish all the qualifying competitors the very best of luck.

Robin Bland  
Interim Chair  
National Show Horse Committee





# VAULTING

This year Vaulting has seen some exciting progression at both the grassroots and international levels. In August 2015 the first FEI World Junior Championships were held in Ermelo (Netherlands). Australia had two individual representatives in McKeira Cummings (Qld) and Ellen Vincent (Vic). Both athletes did a fantastic job with Ellen finishing in 11th Place and McKeira in 27th. Australia was also represented in the squad competition with Team Zelos which consisted of McKeira Cummings, Emily Jones (NSW), Rebecca Vandeppear (SA), Keiran Halliday (WA), Alex Playfoot (Vic) and Bella Napthali (NSW). The squad performed an amazing second freestyle which scored 7.437 and was the fourth highest freestyle round of that day. Team Zelos finished in a very commendable eighth place. I would like to personally congratulate our Juniors who represented Australia.

Vaulting within Australia continues to grow and it is very pleasing to see the sport develop in Western Australia and Victoria. In April 2016 South Australia hosted the National Vaulting Championships and this ran in conjunction with the Great Southern CVI which attracted 115 vaulters and 26 horses to Mallala from all over Australia. 36 of these vaulters also competed in the Great Southern CVI. One of the benefits of hosting a joint Nationals and CVI is that international judges are engaged to officiate. This year the CVI judges were Sweden's Monika Eriksson, Great Britain's John Eccles, Slovakia's Zuzana Baciak Masarykova and Australia's own Angie Deeks. In addition, John Eccles is an FEI tutor and 11 coaches were fortunate to be able to participate in the FEI Level 1 coaching course which was conducted over the four days after the competition.

CVI's are now being held regularly in Australia which is a positive for athletes who want to embark on or progress their international career. In August 2016 two individual vaulters will represent Australia at the FEI World Vaulting Championships. We wish Sarah Grayson (NSW) and Jamie Hocking (SA) the best of luck.

The growth and development of Vaulting at club level, coach development, retainment of retiring athletes as well as officials and judge development have all been identified as high priorities within the sport. The National Vaulting Committee will continue to work with the National Office to develop pathways to help grow each of these areas. The development at club level is integral to the growth of Vaulting throughout Australia. Vaulting is unique in that it is a club based sport so to grow participation we need to offer support and development opportunities at this level.

Gail Beattie  
Chair, National Vaulting Committee

## ANGIE DEEKS

Angie's passion for Vaulting began in Australia in 1989, with the sport bringing together her childhood passions of ballet and horse riding. Angie began coaching at a Riding for Disabled centre in Queensland with just a German vaulting handbook and some vaulters. She was passionate about the integrated opportunities Vaulting provided in Squads and Pas-de-Deux and she remains an advocate for pathways for athletes with a disability.

As the sport began to spread and able-bodied vaulters were increasing in numbers the need for competition also grew. It was then Angie moved into judging and she attended the inaugural Australian judge training seminar in September 1991 with Frank Spadinger of Austria where she judged her first competition, almost before we had any Australian rules or qualifications.

In 2000 Angie was promoted to international vaulting judge, the first Australian judge to reach this qualification. She was privileged to be appointed as Chef D'Equipe for the Australian Vaulting Team at the 2014 FEI WEG, as a result of injury to the incumbent.

All the while Angie has remained active in the training of up and coming judges in Australia and has had direct involvement with a number of Australian rule revisions whilst holding the position of chair of the judge's panel.

Angie approaches her role as senior judge with a high sense of responsibility for fair and accurate decision making. One of the reasons she gives for her passion and longevity in the sport is that it is constantly evolving – vaulters are trying things now that were once thought impossible to do on a cantering horse.

Judging has had to keep up with the changes and during her career Angie has seen judging become more analytical, accountable and transparent. This has kept her mind active and challenged.

In 2016 Angie was appointed a member of the ground jury for the 2017 FEI World Vaulting Championships (CH-M-V Juniors and CH-EU-V Seniors) that will take place in Ebreischdorf (Austria) in August 2017. She considers this honour as the pinnacle of her career and says, "It is more than a little Australian Judge could ever have wished for."



CVI's are now being held regularly in Australia which is a positive for athletes who want to embark on or progress their international careers.



Members of Team Zelos at  
the FEI World Junior Championships



# SUCCESS FOR EXELL AT FEI AWARDS

Australia's World Driving Champion Boyd Exell was equestrian's man of the moment when honoured by the sport's international governing body, the FEI.

Exell was announced Best Athlete for 2015 at the FEI's Gala Awards Ceremony which was held in San Juan, Puerto Rico. He was presented with his award by FEI President Ingmar De Vos and American film and television actress Bo Derek (below) who is Chair of the Awards Jury.

The FEI Awards recognise outstanding contributions to the progress and excellence of equestrian sport within and out of the arena. The Best Athlete award is presented to an athlete who has demonstrated exceptional skill and taken the sport to a new level.

Exell currently holds both the indoor and outdoor individual World Driving titles. In 2015 he wrote history by winning the (indoor) FEI World Cup Driving title for the sixth time, eclipsing the previous record of five.

Also in 2015 Exell was awarded the Ariat International Athlete of the Year Award at the EA Sport Achievement Awards Night. It followed his gold medal winning performance in the individual Driving at the FEI WEG in 2014. At these Games he was one of five in the Australian team to represent Australia at their fifth WEG.

In winning best athlete Exell edged out the who's who of equestrian superstars including Olympic and WEG medallists William Fox-Pitt, Charlotte Dujardin, Ingrid Klimke and Jeroen Dubbeldman, as well as the World Vaulting Champion Jacques Ferrari.



Boyd Exell in the World Cup Driving Final



# QUEENSLAND

Equestrian Queensland (EQ) achieved another year of growth in membership, horse registrations and expanded its digital communication reach and engagement, subsequently delivering on improving financial sustainability through the 2013-2016 strategic cycle.

Outstanding achievements across 15 categories were celebrated at the 2015 EQ Annual Awards evening, the winners of which were also nominated for the EA Annual Awards held in Melbourne in June 2016. Queenslander Isabel English won the Young Rider of the Year award for a second consecutive year. It was also the third consecutive year in which a Queenslander won the category (after Erin Krahn won the award in 2013).

Several hundred official events were delivered throughout Queensland amongst sports committees and more than three hundred affiliates. Some of the major calendar events included:

- July 2015 Brisbane CDI (QSEC)
- July 2015 Gatton World Cup
- Sept 2015 Festival of Dressage (QSEC)
- Apr 2016 Triagequithon (Doomben Racecourse)
- Apr 2016 Elysian Fields Classic
- June 2016 Interschool State Championships (Toowoomba)

EQ thanks its departing chairs in Karen Herald, Tracey Vardy (Interschool), Averil Hawthorne (Jumping) and Angie Deeks (Vaulting) who have all honoured those who have walked before them by continuing the commitment to hand over the reins with an enriched legacy from their contribution.

After consultation with key stakeholders in preparation for the next strategic cycle (2016-2019), EQ has refined its collective vision to be leaders in delivering relevant, representative and inclusive equestrian sports. It remains committed to supporting the collective interests of a large and diverse family under core values of fairness, accountability, integrity, respect and above all, welfare of the horse. It will be guided by the simple mission to promote, grow and develop equestrian sports in Queensland.

We look forward to another exciting year, which includes significant facility upgrades at the Queensland State Equestrian Centre (QSEC) and continuing to explore symbiotic relationships with industry partners to advocate the value of equestrian to communities.

Matt Helmers  
CEO, Equestrian Queensland



## OLIVIA HAMOOD

Olivia Hamood is one of Queensland's rising stars. The 24 year old made her mark on the Australian jumping scene from a young age with her first major success coming in 2004 on her 12th birthday when she won the Junior Grand Prix at the Brisbane Ekka. In winning the class Hamood became the youngest to ever win this event.

In 2008 Hamood was runner-up Australian Junior Champion and also represented Australia in her first team event, competing in Korea at a borrowed horse competition. The following year Hamood represented Australia in the Sydney Youth Olympic Festival where her team took out the silver medal.

In 2011 Hamood competed in her first World Cup Qualifier where she placed 9th. In the same year she won the Young Rider Grand Prix at the Australian Showjumping Championships and finished 7th in the Australian Senior Title.

With her horse Nero GHP, Hamood has ridden to a number of World Cup podium finishes including finishing second in the 2015 Caboolture CSI\*-W and third at the 2015 Hawkesbury CSI2\*-W.

Olivia Hamood and Nero GHP

# WESTERN AUSTRALIA

2015/16 produced a year of many new achievements with WA hosting its first Jumping World Cup Qualifier in many years, the event being run by Jump WA Promotions. Together with Jumping WA holding the State Showjumping Championships Jump WA Promotions was successful in winning Equestrian Western Australia (EWA) Event of the Year.

Dressage WA held the Stephen Clarke Master Class and Judges Symposium with over 600 enthusiasts taking the opportunity to learn from one of the world's leading Dressage Judges. He was also head Judge for the Young Rider Derby held at FEI level.

Eventing in the Park was held for the third year with an international rider plus three Olympians competing for two cars plus many other prizes in this unique event. Most importantly it showcased our sport to a wide audience including high profile exposure on public television. This will help raise the profile of equestrian sport, attract participants and sponsors.

Interschool continued to grow with over 200 competitors participating with over 800 class entries over the 4 days of competition. This is part of the selection for the Australian Interschool Championships with over 40 WA riders attending.

Congratulations also to the following finalists for the 2015 EWA Sports Achievement Awards:

- Tracy Barber – Volunteer of the Year
- David Dobson – Coach of the Year
- Debra King – Official of the Year
- Perth Dressage Club – Club of the Year

The EWA Athlete Development Pathway has truly taken form, as 2015 saw a significant overhaul of the High Performance program. It was determined EWA High Performance should primarily identify talent and offer education to squad riders at a developmental level with ambitions to follow pathways to national selection.

EWA thanks the Department of Sports and Recreation for its ongoing operational funding, organisational support and capital grant funding. We also thank our major sponsors and partners as well as the City of Swan, who continue to play an important role in supporting equestrian sports.

In 2016, we look forward to developing a new strategic plan (2017 to 2019) that will drive our long term growth of the sport including the long term viability of our major asset, the State Equestrian Centre. The main focus for the plan will be increasing participation at all levels and continuing to improve our engagement with all stakeholders.

Dwight Pedlow  
CEO, Equestrian Western Australia

## LP SUPERMODEL

Thoroughbred Mare, age 9yrs, 16.31/2hh.

LP Supermodel aka Chanel was purchased by Caris & Britt Reside in August 2012 from Maggie Lees in Victoria. She has had a stellar career, resulting in the EWA Intermediate Hack of the Year in 2013 at her very first show. Other titles include EWA Newcomer Hack of the Year 2014, EWA Large Hack of the Year 2014 and also 2015, which culminated in winning the 2015 Australasian Large Hack of the Year Title. Just recently Chanel won EWA Large Hack of the Year 2016, which means she will travel back across the country to represent EWA and defend her title.



# NEW SOUTH WALES

As a competition driven organisation, Equestrian New South Wales (ENSW) staged five major championships in 2015/16: the Australian Interschool Championships, Australian Dressage Championships, ENSW Sydney International Horse Trials and Jumping, NSW Interschool Championships and the NSW Show Horse of the Year, with budgets exceeding \$1.5m.

All five events were bigger than ever before, thanks to the fantastic efforts of our organising committees, sponsors and ENSW staff. Interschool has become the premier school age equestrian competition in NSW.

World Champion Boyd Exell came to the FEI Driving event at Tamworth and the Vaulters held a hugely successful NSW Championship.

We joined forces with Dressage NSW to re-launch its High Performance program, funded Jumping NSW to re-start its program and continued to run the NSW Eventing program.

Moving into 2016/17 and beyond, the ENSW board and management team need to strike the right balance between providing customer focused day-to-day member services and running major events. Ultimately, the solution will depend on the sustainability of our volunteer organising committees.

ENSW is fortunate to have a stable board and management team, most of whom are long term employees with a wealth of equestrian experience. A major focus will be working with the new team at EA to establish and deliver on joint projects.

Bruce Farrar  
CEO, Equestrian New South Wales

## CHRISTOPH HESS

With the assistance of EA, FEI 4\* Eventing Judge Christoph Hess gave a two day Masterclass for the NSW Eventing High Performance squad, then officiated at the Sydney International Horse Trials. Following the tragic death of Caitlyn Fischer, the organising committee re-ran the competition just one week later. Christoph rescheduled other commitments and returned to Sydney to lead the Ground Jury. His professionalism, genuine enthusiasm and support of Australian Eventing is greatly appreciated.



Christoph Hess judging at  
Sydney International Horse Trials

# VICTORIA TASMANIA

Victoria continues to host and run a significant amount of well-respected major events, including the Australian Showjumping Championships, The Australasian National Showhorse Championships, Dressage and Jumping with the Stars, Melbourne International Three Day Event, Horse of the Year, State Horse Trials and the Victorian Interschool Championships.

Financial stability and performance has been a key focus for the Equestrian Victoria (EV) board, which comprises a strong and skilled group of dedicated individuals. All major events have run at profit during the financial year, with EV reporting a healthy turnaround from the prior year's financial result.

Membership renewals were driven this year by online renewals, with approximately 86 per cent of members renewing online rather than by postal and other methods. This has seen considerable efficiencies for the EV office in time, mail-out and administration processing costs.

Squads in all disciplines have seen considerable growth and healthy numbers have attended clinics with excellent programs being run by the discipline chairs and their sub-committees.

Victoria, as the only state aside from Western Australia to operate a venue, continues planning for the redevelopment of the Werribee Park National Equestrian Centre. Growth and new initiatives in grass roots, youth and participation membership are key focus areas. EV is presently in negotiations with Parks Victoria to renew the lease for 21 years.

We strive to provide improved customer service levels and open lines of communication between the membership, EV staff, management and EV board.

Derek O'Leary  
Acting CEO, Equestrian Victoria

Growing our membership has continued to be the focus in Tasmania. We have recognised that the growth will come principally from within the junior and young rider categories and so our strategic planning has been structured towards achieving this.

In conjunction with a marketing company, Equestrian Tasmania (ETAS) developed flyers giving information on becoming a volunteer, the disciplines as well as Interschool and Superschools.

For the first time we had a site at AGFEST, one of the largest agricultural expos in the Southern Hemisphere. Our site was manned by all the sports including affiliates such as Hunt clubs and Driving. We were well supported by the public with much interest in the Superschools and Interschool programs, as well as a strong interest in Show Horse and Jumping – both sports are seen in the public eye at agricultural shows which continues to highlight the importance of our relationship with the agricultural show societies.

Our members have been well supported by the various sports committees by providing training and competition from grassroots to elite level competition, as well as providing opportunities for updates and accreditation of their officials.

Our riders are making the trip interstate to attend competition on an increasingly regular basis and we are grateful to EV for inviting our athletes to attend Young Rider and Interschool events.

Our senior riders (particularly Jumping competitors) are also heading interstate to compete and have performed well at major events.

It is a challenge maintaining officials' numbers, particularly at the higher levels where they are required to train interstate. We thank those states which have facilitated educational opportunities for our candidate officials.

I would also like to take this opportunity on behalf of the ETAS board to acknowledge and thank the contribution to our sport by the Tasmanian Department of Sport and Recreation, not only for its financial contribution but a willingness to assist with many other matters.

Sue McDermott  
Chair, Equestrian Tasmania



# SOUTH AUSTRALIA

South Australia has had many reasons to celebrate its successes throughout 2015/16 with the continued success of events at a state level as well as on the international stage.

The Australian International Three Day Event (Aus3DE) (pictured below) continues to offer the equestrian community an event they wish to attend, with over 27,000 patrons in attendance at the 2015 event. This event has maintained an exceptionally high level of competition attracting horses and riders from around Australia and New Zealand. For the first time a horse and rider based in the UK self-funded to attend the event to compete. The multi-discipline event also hosted FEI Driving with a great display of quality and performance, including an international competitor.

The South Australia State Show Jumping Championships is growing in stature with record entries in 2015. Numerous competitors from interstate enjoyed the world class surface offered by the Royal Adelaide Showgrounds.

A Vaulting FEI event was held in SA with every state sending members to compete and there was a good number of entries and abilities on display.

Equestrian South Australia (ESA) has continued to grow youth development. Again this year we offered the Youth Development Expo, Young Rider Development Scholarship and for the first time ESA offered regional South Australians the opportunity for free coaching clinics with some of the state's most prestigious coaches. Olympic silver medallist Megan Jones successfully travelled across SA offering clinics. As well as Megan, Di Keach (mother of Olympian Scott Keach) and National Jumping Selector Clive Reed undertook clinics through regional South Australia. All the clinics were well received and ESA is already fielding many requests for future clinics.

All of this work cannot be undertaken without the assistance of our sponsors and supporters and a very large thanks must go to the ASC and EA for making the funds available to assist the states with the participation events.

Through youth development we have seen a marked increase in both our junior membership and Interschool program.

ESA is currently planning the extension and scope of its youth participation events; this may be in the form of additional regional clinics and events as well as offering Interschool to regional competitors.

Sharon Cimarosti  
Executive Officer, Equestrian South Australia

# NORTHERN TERRITORY

This year Equestrian Northern Territory (ENT) has achieved several things:

- Established a Northern Territory (NT) Jumping squad. We were fortunate to be able to secure two high calibre coaches in David Finch and Alison Rowland to facilitate the clinics
- Established coaching scholarships to support local coaches to become accredited and ensure continued consistency of coaching throughout the NT
- Established a regional travel subsidy to assist members throughout the regional areas of the NT to attend ENT Championship events
- Initiated a grants scheme offering the opportunity for officials to continue to upgrade their qualifications in their chosen areas of equestrian sport

- Continued support for an NT representative Interschool team. Due to the Pony Club National Championships coinciding with the Australian Interschool Championships in 2015, the team was small but competitive
- Established a renewed strategic plan after consultation with affiliated clubs and members which reflected transparency, inclusiveness and direction for the board and all members throughout the NT

Although ENT has a small membership in comparison to the other states, we have a pool of very strong and competitive members. Our aim as a board – through implementation of initiatives such as the ENT National Championships, ENT squads and grants – is to provide opportunities for members to develop and refine their skills becoming more competitive at a national level.

The following projects and initiatives are planned for the year ahead:

- Regional program development and delivery (Katherine, Alice Springs and Kununurra)
- Coach and official development and accreditation in an effort to reduce reliance on interstate officials and lead to stronger and more efficient management of the sport
- Continued improvement in communications and digital engagement
- Focus on marketing and sponsorship
- Continued assistance through financial support programs to affiliated clubs and members to ensure opportunities of continuous improvement
- Continued building of member numbers while promoting inclusiveness of all members across the NT

Anne-Marie Cruickshank  
Chair, Equestrian Northern Territory

## DI KEACH

Di Keach has made an extremely large contribution to youth riders in South Australia by participating and assisting with coaching at the Young Rider Expo, regional clinics and Interschool clinics.

We are fortunate within SA to have a pool of accredited coaches who assist our junior riders by offering the skills they have acquired over numerous years of service to the sport and Di is one of the first to offer her services and additional assistance to any rider who may be having difficulties, a commitment which is shown by so few.

All of this in a year when Di's focus was on son Scott's return to riding at Olympic level.



## CHRIS HAZEL

Chris Hazel, a long-time member of ENT, this year successfully competed her horse, Patchwork Classic Edge, at Prix St Georges level at the 2016 NT Dressage Championships. Chris has achieved this by training her horse over many years, without sending him to a professional trainer, at her remote home on the Douglas Daly Research Farm. Despite a serious accident (caused by a third party) which wrote-off her horse float, but miraculously left her horses unharmed, she continued to travel to events and clinics hundreds of kilometres away and continued with her training to have a very successful year.

Chris's hard work, commitment and dedication to her dressage training, despite setbacks and the tyranny of distance, is a credit to her, and we are proud to showcase her achievements to other members.



# FINANCIAL REPORT

Your Directors present this report on the company for the year ended 30 June 2016.

**Directors**

The names of each person who has been a director during the year and to the date of this report are:

Mrs Judy Fasher  
Mr Mark Arthur  
Ms Liza Carver (resigned 4 May 2016)  
Mr Leigh Clifford (appointed 17 June 2016)  
Mr Mark Hopkinson  
Mr David Lindh (appointed 16 September 2015)  
Ms Gillian Rolton  
Mr Daniel Stoneman (appointed 17 October, 2015)  
Mr Christopher Styring (appointed 17 October, 2015)

**Principal Activities**

The principal activity of the company in the course of the financial year remained unchanged and was that of being the National Sporting Organisation for Equestrian Sport in Australia, recognised by the International Equestrian Federation (FEI), the Australian Sports Commission and the Australian Olympic Committee.

**Results and Review of Operations**

The surplus reported by the company during the year was \$7,918 (2015: \$124,682 deficit).

**Short Term Objectives**

- Achieve membership growth of 5% in FY16
- Implementation of the IT Member Portal, 'My EA'
- Double the number of Ready Set Trot delivery centres
- Ensure we are on track to achieve medal targets at the 2016 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games in Rio de Janeiro
- Achieve growth of 5% in the number of EA accredited officials and coaches

**Long Term Objectives**

- Continue year on year membership growth
- Build clear pathways for athletes, coaches and officials
- Ensure alignment with the Australia's Winning Edge philosophy to enable our medal targets to be achieved at the 2018 World Equestrian Games and the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo
- Working with Organising Committees and State Branches to support the quality of equestrian events
- Increase commercial partnerships and expand relationships to capitalise on opportunities for the growth of the sport

**After Balance Date Events**

No other matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the company in future financial years.

**Future Developments**

Likely developments in the operations of the company and the expected results of those operations in future financial years have not been included in this report as the inclusion of such information is likely to result in unreasonable prejudice to the company.

**EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED**

**ABN 19 077 455 755**

**DIRECTORS' REPORT (continued)**

**Information on Directors**

**Mrs Judy Fasher**

Qualifications  
Experience  
Special Responsibilities

**Mr Mark Arthur**

Qualifications  
Experience  
Special Responsibilities

**Ms Liza Carver**

Qualifications  
Experience  
Special Responsibilities

**Mr Leigh Clifford**

Qualifications  
Experience

**Mr Mark Hopkinson**

Qualifications  
Experience  
Special Responsibilities

**Mr David Lindh**

Qualifications  
Experience  
Special Responsibilities

**Ms Gillian Rolton**

Qualifications  
Experience  
Special Responsibilities

**Mr Daniel Stoneman**

Qualifications  
Experience  
Special Responsibilities

**Mr Christopher Styring**

Qualifications  
Experience  
Special Responsibilities

**Director/Chairperson**

Journalist and Media Trainer  
Appointed Director 6 June 2015  
Chairperson appointed 6 June 2015; Remuneration Committee

**Director**

Bachelor of Economics, Chartered Accountant  
Re-appointed Athlete Director 11 April 2015. (Previous tenure as Director 17 June 2013 to 11 October 2014)  
Finance, Audit and Risk Committee; ICDF Committee; Remuneration Committee; IT Steering Committee

**Director**

Bachelor of Economics, Bachelor of Law & Masters of Law  
Appointed Director 13 October 2012. Resigned 4 May 2016  
Remuneration Committee

**Director**

Bachelor of Engineering (Mining), Masters of Engineering Science, FAICD  
Appointed Director 16 June 2016

**Director**

Bachelor of Commerce/Law, Chartered Accountant  
Appointed Director 14 February 2015  
ICDF Committee (resigned May 2016 when appointed Show Director of ASJC), Commercial Committee

**Director**

Bachelor of Law, FAICD, FTIA and over 40 years experience as a company director  
Appointed Director 16 September 2015  
Finance, Audit and Risk Committee; Remuneration Committee

**Director**

Olympian, Diploma of Teaching in Science and Physical Education  
Appointed Director 9 May 2013  
Commercial Committee

**Director**

Directorships of Teber Pty Ltd, First 10, National Careers Advisors Conference and Stoneman Equine  
Appointed Director 17 October 2015  
ICDF Committee; Commercial Committee

**Director**

Bachelor of Business Management  
Appointed Director 17 October 2015  
Commercial Committee



During the financial year, 9 meetings of directors were held. Attendances by each director, for the period of their directorship, were as follows:

	Directors' Meetings		ICDF Committee	Committee Meetings	
	# held	# attended		Finance, Audit & Risk Committee	Remuneration Committee
Mrs J Fasher	9	9			1
Mr M Arthur	9	9	4	4	1
Ms L Carver	8	8			
Mr L Clifford	3	2			
Mr M Hopkinson	9	7	1		
Mr D Lindh	9	9		4	1
Ms G Rolton	9	8			
Mr D Stoneman	9	9	3		
Mr C Styring	9	9			

The company is incorporated under the Corporations Act 2001 and is a company limited by 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 entity. At 30 June 2016, the total amount that members of the company are liable to contribute if the company is wound up is \$6 (2015: \$6)

Indemnification of Officers

The company paid a premium during the year in relation to an Association Liability policy which indemnifies the Directors and Officers of the company for losses which the Director or Office may become liable to pay on account of any claim made against the Director or Officer during the period of the policy for a wrongful act committed during the period of the policy. The Directors have not included details of the nature of the liabilities covered nor the amount of the premium paid as such disclosure is prohibited under the terms of the contract.

Auditor's Independence Declaration

The auditor's independence declaration for the year ended 30 June 2016 has been received and can be found on page 4.

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

Mrs Judy Fasher  
Chairperson

Dated this 19th day of September 2016

Mr Mark Arthur  
Director



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EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED  
ABN 19 077 455 755

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION  
TO THE DIRECTORS OF EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

In relation to the independent audit for the year ended 30 June 2016, to the best of my knowledge and belief there have been:

- (i) No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*; and
- (ii) No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct.

ROD SHANLEY  
Partner  
PITCHER PARTNER  
Sydney

19 September 2016



**EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED**

**ABN 19 077 455 755**

**STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016**

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
<b>Revenue</b>			
Revenue	5	6,144,962	5,955,615
Other revenue		379,924	403,704
		<u>6,524,886</u>	<u>6,359,319</u>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Amortisation and Impairment Loss	6	31,067	15,455
Depreciation Expenses	6	62,924	64,057
Employee Benefits Expense	6	1,727,702	1,778,872
High Performance Program Expenses		2,207,769	2,052,900
Insurance Premiums & Related Expenses		912,908	910,169
ICDF Funding		168,737	173,091
Finance and Bank Fees		46,172	21,098
Office and IT Cost		204,774	152,276
Professional Fees		202,379	364,047
Event and Promotion Expenses		243,836	180,767
Travel, Board and Committee Expenses		182,007	185,018
FEI Expenses		321,625	208,669
Other Expenses		205,069	377,582
		<u>6,516,969</u>	<u>6,484,001</u>
<b>Net current year surplus/(deficit)</b>		<u>7,918</u>	<u>(124,682)</u>
<b>Other comprehensive income</b>			
<i>Items that will not be reclassified to profit and loss</i>			
Revaluation of property, plant and equipment		-	-
<b>Other comprehensive income for the year</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total Comprehensive Income</b>		<u>7,918</u>	<u>(124,682)</u>

The accompanying notes on pages 50-58 form an integral part of these accounts

**EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED**

**ABN 19 077 455 755**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION  
AS AT 30 JUNE 2016**

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	8	70,971	594,231
Receivables	9	82,553	125,356
Inventories	10	19,458	38,096
Other assets	11	600,487	106,829
		<u>773,469</u>	<u>864,512</u>
Assets and Liabilities classified as held for sale	12	75,138	75,138
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<u>848,608</u>	<u>939,650</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	13	1,070,056	1,124,774
Intangible assets	14	150,639	154,525
<b>Total Non-current Assets</b>		<u>1,220,694</u>	<u>1,279,299</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<u>2,069,302</u>	<u>2,218,949</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Payables	15	558,012	252,357
Borrowings	16	178	178
Provisions	17	117,346	102,001
Other Liabilities	18	197,833	673,318
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>		<u>873,369</u>	<u>1,027,854</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Provisions	17	14,998	18,078
<b>Total Non-Current Liabilities</b>		<u>14,998</u>	<u>18,078</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<u>888,367</u>	<u>1,045,932</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>1,180,935</u>	<u>1,173,016</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Reserves	19	493,369	493,369
Retained surplus	20	687,566	679,647
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<u>1,180,935</u>	<u>1,173,016</u>

The accompanying notes on pages 50-58 form an integral part of these accounts



EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	Reserves	Retained surplus	Total Equity
	\$	\$	\$
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2014</b>	493,369	804,330	1,297,699
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year attributable to members of the entity	-	( 124,682 )	( 124,682 )
Revaluation of property, plant and equipment	-	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(124,682)</b>	<b>(124,682)</b>
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2015</b>	<b>493,369</b>	<b>679,648</b>	<b>1,173,017</b>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year attributable to members of the entity	-	7,918	7,918
Revaluation of property, plant and equipment	-	-	-
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,918</b>	<b>7,918</b>
<b>Balance as at 30 June 2016</b>	<b>493,369</b>	<b>687,565</b>	<b>1,180,934</b>

The accompanying notes on pages 50-58 form an integral part of these accounts

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Government grants received		3,523,593	3,586,825
Other receipts in the course of operations		2,490,398	3,999,769
Payments to suppliers and employees		(6,511,677)	(7,256,624)
Interest received		9,812	16,579
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities</b>	21 (ii)	<b>(487,874)</b>	<b>346,549</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment		-	-
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(35,386)	(109,219)
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities</b>		<b>(35,386)</b>	<b>(109,219)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Proceeds from borrowings	16	-	72
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) financing activities</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in cash held</b>		<b>(523,260)</b>	<b>237,402</b>
Cash on hand at beginning of the financial year		594,231	356,829
<b>Cash at end of the financial year</b>	21 (i)	<b>70,971</b>	<b>594,231</b>

The accompanying notes on pages 50-58 form an integral part of these accounts



EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial report is a general purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards Reduced Disclosure Requirements, Interpretations and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the Corporations Act 2001.

The financial report was approved by the directors as at the date of the directors' report.

The financial report is for the entity Equestrian Australia Limited as an individual entity. Equestrian Australia Limited is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Equestrian Australia Limited is a not for profit entity for the purpose of preparing the financial statements.

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the company in the preparation and presentation of the financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

(a) Basis of preparation of the financial report

Historical Cost Convention

The financial report has been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by revaluations to fair value for certain classes of assets as described in the accounting policies.

(b) Revenue

Revenue from sale of goods is recognised when the significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods have passed to the buyer and the costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the transaction can be measured reliably. Risks and rewards of ownership are considered passed to the buyer at the time of delivery of the goods to the customer.

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

Sponsorships revenue is recognised as and when received.

Revenue from organising and hosting events is recognised in the period in which the events are held.

Interest revenue is recognised when it becomes receivable on a proportional basis taking in to account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

(c) Foreign currency translations and balances

Functional and presentation currency

The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars which is the company's functional and presentation currency.

Transactions and Balances

Foreign currency monetary items that are outstanding at the reporting date (other than monetary items arising under foreign currency contracts where the exchange rate for that monetary item is fixed in the contract) are translated using the spot rate at the end of the financial year.

Except for certain foreign currency hedges, all resulting exchange differences arising on settlement or re statement are recognised as revenues and expenses for the financial year.

(d) Contributions, Government Grants and Donations

A non reciprocal contribution or grant is recognised when the entity obtains control of the contribution or grant and it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the entity, and the amount of the contribution or grant can be measured reliably.

If conditions attached to the contribution or grant that must be satisfied before the entity is eligible to receive the contribution, recognition of contribution or income is deferred until those conditions are met.

A non reciprocal donation is recognised when the right to receive a donation has been established.

When the entity receives grants but is obliged to give directly approximately equal value to the contributor, recognition of grant income will be deferred until the delivery of service.

(e) Income tax

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

(f) Inventories

Inventories held for sale are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(g) Financial instruments

Classification

The company classifies its financial assets into the following categories: financial assets at fair value through profit and loss, loans and receivables, held to maturity investments, and available for sale financial assets. The classification depends on the purpose for which the instruments were acquired. Management determines the classification of its financial instruments at initial recognition. The organisation does not hold derivative financial instruments.

Financial instruments

Financial instruments consist of investments in equity and debt securities, trade and other receivables, cash and cash equivalents, loans and borrowings, and trade and other payables.

Financial instruments are initially recognised at fair value, plus directly attributable transaction costs (if any), except for instruments recorded at fair value through profit and loss. After initial recognition, financial instruments are measured as described below.

Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are measured at fair value at inception and subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Available -for -sale

Available for sale financial assets include any financial assets not included in the above categories and are measured at fair value. Unrealised gains and losses arising from changes in fair value are taken directly to equity. The cumulative gain or loss is held in equity until the financial asset is de recognised, at which time the cumulative gain or loss held in equity is recognised in profit and loss.

Donated financial assets

Financial assets donated to the group are recognised at fair value at the date the group obtains the control of the assets.

Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities include trade payables, other creditors and loans from third parties including inter company balances and loans from or other amounts due to director related entities.

Non derivative financial liabilities are recognised at amortised cost, comprising original debt less principal payments and amortisation.

Financial liabilities are classified as current liabilities unless the group has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least twelve months after the reporting period.

(h) Property, Plant and Equipment

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

Property

Freehold land and buildings are measured at fair value. At each balance date the carrying amount of each asset is reviewed to ensure that it does not differ materially from the asset's fair value at reporting date. Where necessary, the asset is revalued to reflect its fair value.

Increases in the carrying amounts arising on revaluation of land and buildings are recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity under the heading of revaluation surplus of P&E. To the extent that the increase reverses a decrease of the same class of asset previously recognised in profit or loss, the increase is recognised in profit or loss. Decreases that offset previous increases of the same class of asset are recognised in other comprehensive income under the heading of revaluation surplus; all other decreases are charged to profit and loss.

Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment is measured on the cost basis.

Depreciation and amortisation

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets is depreciated over their estimated useful lives commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Land and the land component of any class of fixed asset is not depreciated.

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

Class of Fixed Asset	Depreciation Rates	Depreciation basis
Buildings	2.5%	Straight line
Computer and office equipment	20% to 40%	Straight line
Veterinary Equipment	20%	Straight line



EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

1 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

(i) Intangibles

*Other intangibles*

Other intangibles acquired in a business combination are initially recognised at fair value at the acquisition date. Such intangibles are amortised over their estimated useful lives and are carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and any impairment losses.

Other intangible assets other than those acquired in a business combination are initially recorded at cost. Other intangible assets are amortised on a straight line basis over the period of 20 years. The balances are reviewed annually and amounts are written off to the extent the realisable future benefits are considered to be no longer probable.

(j) Impairment of Assets

Assets with an indefinite useful life are not amortised but are tested annually for impairment in accordance with AASB 136. Assets subject to annual depreciation or amortisation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or circumstances arise that indicate that the carrying amount of the asset may be impaired.

An impairment loss is recognised where the carrying amount of the asset exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount of an asset is defined as the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and value in use.

The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows which will be received from the assets employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have been discounted to present values in determining recoverable amounts.

(k) Leases

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are recognised as an expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

Lease incentives received under operating leases are recognised as a liability and amortised on a straight-line basis over the life of the lease term.

(l) Employee Benefits

*(i) Short-term employee benefit obligations*

Liabilities arising in respect of wages and salaries, annual leave and any other employee benefits expected to be settled within twelve months of the reporting date are measured at their nominal amounts based on remuneration rates which are expected to be paid when the liability is settled. The expected cost of short term employee benefits in the form of compensated absences such as annual leave is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. All other short term employee benefit obligations are presented as payables.

*(ii) Long-term employee benefit obligations*

Liabilities arising in respect of long service leave and annual leave which is not expected to be settled within twelve months of the reporting date are measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflow to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date.

Employee benefit obligations are presented as current liabilities in the balance sheet if the entity does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, regardless of when the actual settlement is expected to occur.

Contributions made by the organisation to Superannuation funds are charged as expenses when incurred.

(m) 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 out flow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

(n) 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 Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

(o) Comparatives

Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified and repositioned for consistency with current year disclosures.

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

2 CRITICAL ACCOUNTING 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.

(a) Annual leave and long service leave

Net present value calculations are used to estimate the annual leave and long service leave provisions

3 ACCOUNTING STANDARDS AND INTERPRETATIONS ISSUED BUT NOT OPERATIVE AT JUNE 2016

There is not expected to be any significant impact on the Company's financial report as the initial application of Australian Accounting Standards issued at reporting date but not yet effective.

4 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 have overall responsibility for identifying and managing operational and financial risks. These risks are managed by the board and /

(a) Government funding risk

The organisation is dependent on federal government funding to operate many of its services. Government funding contributed 54% (2015: 51%) of the organisation's revenues in the 2016 financial year. The risk of loss of these funding streams is considered to be material to the organisation. 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 Directors and management of EA pursue diversification of the Company's income stream through implementing new projects such as Ready Set, Trot and seeking new sponsorship partners in the future.
- (ii) With the use of a cash forecast tool, EA have modelled if the Government cuts the funding and have a broad plan of action should this occur.

(b) 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 organisation has limited borrowings. Subject to consideration of liquidity risk, cash is held in fixed interest rate accounts to maximise returns.

(c) 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 into 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.

(d) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that an entity will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities.

The organisation manages liquidity risk by monitoring forecast cash flows and ensuring that adequate cash and cash equivalents and / or unutilised borrowing facilities are maintained.



EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

4 FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (continued)

The carrying amounts for each category of financial instruments measured in accordance with the accounting policies to these financial statements, are as follows

Financial assets	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
Cash and cash equivalents	8	70,971	594,231
Loans and receivables	9	82,553	125,356
<b>Total financial assets</b>		<b>153,524</b>	<b>719,587</b>
<b>Financial liabilities</b>			
Financial liabilities at amortised cost:			
Trade and other payables	15	558,012	252,357
Borrowings	16	178	178
<b>Total Financial Liabilities</b>		<b>558,190</b>	<b>252,535</b>

**Fair Values**

(i) For listed available-for-sale financial assets and financial assets at fair value through profit or loss, the fair values have been based on closing quoted bid prices at the end of the reporting period. In determining the fair values of the unlisted available-for-sale financial assets, the directors have used inputs that are observable either directly (as prices) or indirectly (derived from prices)

(ii) Fair Values of held-to maturity investments are based on quoted market prices at the end of the reporting period

5 REVENUE	2016 \$	2015 \$
Revenue from grant funding	3,203,266	3,152,550
Branch levies and related contributions	540,555	546,877
ICDF Funding	198,994	181,828
Education and Participation	444,058	363,887
Insurance premiums and related revenue	1,195,682	1,200,955
WEG Feasibility Income	322,445	327,555
Interest revenue	9,812	16,579
Sponsorship	230,150	165,384
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>6,144,962</b>	<b>5,955,615</b>

6 OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	2016 \$	2015 \$
Cost of Equestrian Goods	30,707	26,138
Amortisation and impairment loss	31,067	15,455
Depreciation	62,924	64,057
Provision for doubtful debts	4	-
Employee benefits	1,727,702	1,778,872
Audit Fees	26,318	20,340
	<b>1,878,723</b>	<b>1,904,862</b>

7 KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL COMPENSATION

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. Four key management positions are included.

Key management personnel compensation	447,767	456,230
	<b>447,767</b>	<b>456,230</b>

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

	2016 \$	2015 \$
<b>8 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>		
Cash at bank	70,721	594,211
Cash on hand	250	20
	<b>70,971</b>	<b>594,231</b>
<b>9 TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES</b>		
Trade Debtors	82,553	125,356
Less: provision for impairment loss	-	-
	<b>82,553</b>	<b>125,356</b>
<b>Other receivables</b>		
Sundry debtors	-	-
	<b>82,553</b>	<b>125,356</b>
<b>10 INVENTORIES</b>		
Inventories - at cost	19,458	38,096
<b>11 OTHER ASSETS</b>		
Prepayments	600,487	106,829
	<b>600,487</b>	<b>106,829</b>
<b>12 FINANCIAL ASSET</b>		
<i>Available-for-sale financial assets</i>		
Ceasy was a horse purchased in the financial year ending 30 June 2015 and is held as an Asset available for sale. Equestrian Australia, under a mandate to pursue high performance outcomes for Para-equestrian is facilitating a syndicate which will be formed in the year ending 30 June 2017 or otherwise realise the sale of the horse by negotiated outcome.		
Horse	75,138	75,138
	<b>75,138</b>	<b>75,138</b>
<b>13 PROPERTY, PLANT &amp; EQUIPMENT</b>		
Building - at fair value	1,100,000	1,100,000
Less accumulated depreciation - Building	(73,146)	(39,386)
	<b>1,026,854</b>	<b>1,060,614</b>
Building partitioning - at cost	106,531	106,531
Less accumulated depreciation - Partition	(92,677)	(82,024)
	<b>13,854</b>	<b>24,507</b>
Computer and office equipment - at cost	101,130	92,924
Less accumulated depreciation - Computer and office equipment	(86,308)	(75,603)
	<b>14,822</b>	<b>17,321</b>
Veterinary equipment - at cost	39,033	39,033
Less accumulated depreciation - Veterinary equipment	(24,507)	(16,701)
	<b>14,526</b>	<b>22,332</b>
	<b>1,070,056</b>	<b>1,124,774</b>

(a) Details for measurement of revalued amounts

In May 2014 an independent assessment of market value for existing use was obtained for all land and buildings held at 14 May 2014. This valuation was completed by licensed valuers Metroval. The valuation at 14 May 2014 for all land and buildings held at the time was \$1,100,000. The fair value based on this valuation has been reflected in the financial statements.

(b) Reconciliations

Reconciliation of the carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment at the beginning and end of the current financial year.

	Building	Building partitioning	Computer and office equipment	Veterinary equipment	Total
Opening carrying amount	1,060,614	24,507	17,321	22,332	1,124,774
Additions			8,206		8,206
Revaluation of fair value of building					
Disposals					
Depreciation Expense	(33,760)	(10,653)	(10,705)	(7,807)	(62,924)
<b>Closing Carrying amount</b>	<b>1,026,854</b>	<b>13,854</b>	<b>14,822</b>	<b>14,525</b>	<b>1,070,056</b>

(c) Property, plant and equipment pledged as security

The company has bank facilities secured by a first registered mortgage over certain freehold land and buildings of the company and by a first registered equitable mortgage over all of the company's assets and undertakings. Refer to Note 16 for details of the facilities.



EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

<b>14 INTANGIBLE ASSETS</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Software - at cost	191,990	164,810
Less accumulated amortisation - Software	(48,376)	(20,821)
	<u>143,614</u>	<u>143,989</u>
RST Development - at cost	10,536	10,536
Less accumulated amortisation - RTS	(3,512)	-
	<u>7,024</u>	<u>10,536</u>
	<u>150,639</u>	<u>154,525</u>
<b>(a) Reconciliations</b>		
	<b>Software</b>	<b>RST Development</b>
	<b>Total</b>	
Opening carrying amount	<u>143,989</u>	<u>10,536</u>
Additions	27,180	27,180
Amortisation Expense	(27,555)	(3,512)
Less loss on Disposal of Asset		(31,067)
<b>Closing Carrying amount</b>	<u><b>143,614</b></u>	<u><b>7,024</b></u>
<b>(b) Impairment loss</b>		
Impairment losses in relation to intangible assets are included within Amortisation and impairment loss expenses in the statement of comprehensive income.		
<b>15 TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Trade creditors	427,804	126,503
Accruals	68,062	36,583
Employee super	20,548	13,909
GST, FBT and PAYG payable	28,403	75,362
Other creditors	13,195	-
	<u>558,012</u>	<u>252,357</u>
<b>16 BORROWINGS</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
<i>Secured</i>		
Bank Loan	<u>178</u>	<u>178</u>

Buildings recorded in these accounts with a carrying value of \$1,026,854 are provided as a registered charge (bank mortgage). The loan and facility has six years remaining expiring in 2022.

**Bank and financing arrangements**

The company has access to the following:

Term loan facility (facility limit)	295,999	295,999
Credit card facility	40,000	40,000
	<u>335,999</u>	<u>335,999</u>

Facilities not utilised at balance date:

Term loan facility (redraw available)	295,821	295,821
Credit card facility	40,000	24,007
	<u>335,821</u>	<u>319,828</u>

**(a) Terms and conditions and assets pledging as security relating to the above financial instruments" with the following note disclosure**

The company has a bank loan secured by a first registered mortgage over a certain freehold land and buildings of the company and by a first registered equitable mortgage over all the company's assets and undertakings

*Autosav facilities*

EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED

ABN 19 077 455 755

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016

<b>17 PROVISIONS</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>
<b>Current</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Employee benefits	(a) <u>117,346</u>	<u>102,001</u>
<b>Non Current</b>		
Employee benefits	(a) <u>14,998</u>	<u>18,078</u>
<b>(a) Aggregate employee benefits liability</b>	<u>132,344</u>	<u>120,079</u>
<b>(b) Reconciliations</b>		
	<b>Employee Benefits</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Opening balance as at 1 July 2015</b>	120,079	120,079
Additional provisions raised during year	93,642	93,642
Amounts Used	(81,377)	(81,377)
<b>Balance at 30 June 2016</b>	<u>132,344</u>	<u>132,344</u>
<b>18 OTHER LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Current</b>		
Grant monies carried over	-	135,000
Other revenue received in advance	196,888	507,115
ICDF Revenue Carried Over	945	31,203
	<u>197,833</u>	<u>673,318</u>
<b>19 RESERVES</b>		
Asset Revaluation Reserve	<u>493,369</u>	<u>493,369</u>
<b>20 ACCUMULATED SURPLUS</b>		
Accumulated surplus/(deficit)		
Balance at 1 July	679,648	804,330
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	7,918	(124,682)
Balance as at 30 June	<u>687,566</u>	<u>679,648</u>
<b>21 CASH FLOW INFORMATION</b>		
<b>(i) Reconciliation of cash</b>		
For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash on hand, cash at bank and short term deposits, net of any outstanding bank overdrafts.		
Cash at bank, on deposit and on hand	<u>70,971</u>	<u>594,231</u>
<b>(ii) Reconciliation of cash flow from operations with surplus/ (deficit) for the year</b>		
Surplus/ (deficit) for the year	7,918	(124,682)
<i>Adjustments and non cash items:</i>		
Depreciation	62,924	64,057
Amortisation	31,067	15,455
Intangible Asset Impairment	-	-
Doubtful debts expense	-	-
Net Gain on disposal of property	-	-
Net cash provided before changes in assets and liabilities	<u>101,909</u>	<u>(45,170)</u>
<i>Changes in assets and liabilities during the financial year</i>		
(Increase) / decrease in receivables	42,803	(42,741)
(Increase) / decrease in other assets	(493,658)	(38,279)
(Increase) / decrease in inventories on hand	18,637	(32,631)
(Decrease) / increase in payables	301,301	(97,586)
(Decrease) / increase in employee provisions	18,904	(19,676)
(Decrease) / increase in other liabilities	(477,770)	622,632
Cash flows from operating activities	<u>(487,874)</u>	<u>346,549</u>



**EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED**  
**ABN 19 077 455 755**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2016**

	2016 \$	2015 \$
<b>22 CAPITAL AND LEASING COMMITMENTS</b>		
Non-cancellable operating leases contracted for but not capitalised in the financial statements:		
- payable not later than 1 year	15,298	15,298
- payable later than 1 year but no later than 5 years	25,497	40,795
	<u>40,795</u>	<u>56,093</u>

Lease commitments comprise payments to be made in relation to an operating lease for a photocopier acquired on 20 March 2014.

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Website build committed, cost payable not later than 1 year	-	33,075
	<u>-</u>	<u>33,075</u>

**23 MEMBER'S GUARANTEE**

The Company is limited by 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. At 30 June 2015 the number of members was 6 (2014: 6).

**24 ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY**

The company is dependent on grants received from the Australian Sports Commission, Australian Paralympic Committee and Australian Olympic Committee for the majority of its revenue used to fund its operations 2016: 49% (2015: 51%). At the date of this report the Directors have no reason to believe the Government will not continue to support the Company.

**26 COMPANY DETAILS**

The company was incorporated on 11 February 1997 under the Corporations Act 2001. The resigstered office and principal palce of business of the company is at Unit 7, 11-21 Underwood Road, Homebush, NSW, 2140

On 23rd December 2008, the Company changed it's name from The Equestrian Federation of Australia Limited to Equestrian Australia Limited.

**27 EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO BALANCE DATE**

No other matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the company in future financial years.

**EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED**  
**ABN 19 077 455 755**  
**DIRECTORS' DECLARATION**

In accordance with a resolution of the directors of Equestrian Australia Limited, the directors of the company declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 6 to 22, are in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001 and:

(a) comply with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements; and

(b) give a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2016 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.

  
 .....  
**Mrs Judy Fasher**  
**Chairperson**

  
 .....  
**Mr Mark Arthur**  
**Director**

Dated this 19th day of September 2016



**EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED**  
**ABN 19 077 455 755**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**  
**TO THE MEMBERS OF EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED**

We have audited the accompanying financial report of Equestrian Australia Limited, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2016, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the directors' declaration.

*Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Report*

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

*Auditor's Responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the company's preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view 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. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

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

**EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED**  
**ABN 19 077 455 755**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**  
**TO THE MEMBERS OF EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA LIMITED**

*Independence*

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

*Opinion*

In our opinion, the 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 2016 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.



ROD SHANLEY  
Partner



PITCHER PARTNERS  
Sydney

19 September 2016



**EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA TEAM – as at 30 June 2016**

Paula Ward (commenced 1/16) – Chief Executive Officer

Kristen Lyons (commenced 5/16) – Executive Assistant

Hayley Kirk (commenced 7/15) – Administration Assistant

**COMMERCIAL AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Michelle Cook – Communications Manager

Tristan Prosser-Shaw (commenced 6/16) – Commercial Manager

Amélie Patrux – Communications, Digital and Event Coordinator

**EDUCATION**

Di Saunders – Officials Coordinator (part-time)

**FINANCE**

Daniel Griffiths – Finance Manager

**HIGH PERFORMANCE**

Chris Webb – High Performance Manager

Prue Barrett – National Performance Director, Eventing

Julia Battams – National Performance Director, Dressage and Para-Equestrian

Erin O'Neill – High Performance Consultant, Europe (part-time)

Annie Lever – High Performance Consultant, Europe (part-time)

Michelle Graham – High Performance Consultant, Eventing (part-time)

Sara Latham – High Performance Consultant, Jumping and Para-Equestrian

Sue Hartog – High Performance Consultant, Dressage and FEI disciplines

Stefanie Maraun (commenced 8/15) – High Performance Assistant

Victoria Kahn – Sports Science Sports Medicine Manager

**PARTICIPATION**

Amanda Vidas – Development Officer

Tracey Vardy – Development Officer

Photos which appear throughout this report remain the property of the following photographers. EA thanks these individuals for their ongoing support: Guillaume Beguin (27); Arnd Bronkhorst/FEI (3, 21, 34); Victoria Davies (13); Andrea Fuchshumer (33); Stefano Grasso/LGCT (62); Kangra (23); Eric Knoll/FEI (35); Amanda Kettlewell (25); Stephen Mowbray (5, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 29, 38, 40); OzShotz (36); Julie Wilson (cover, 7, 18, 19, 31)





EQUESTRIAN  
AUSTRALIA

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