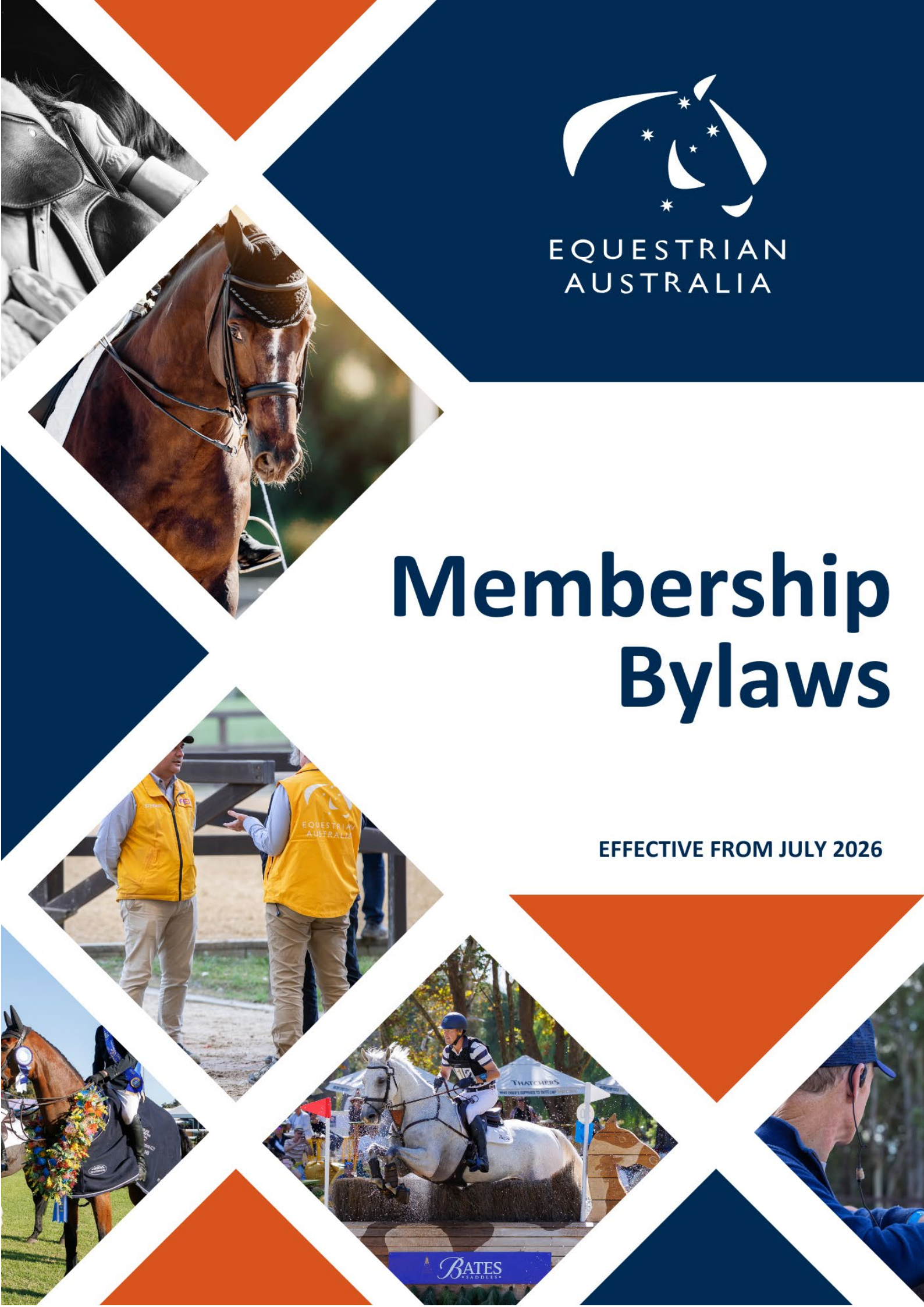




EQUESTRIAN  
AUSTRALIA

# Membership Bylaws

EFFECTIVE FROM JULY 2026



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## 1. Document Review

These Membership Bylaws will be reviewed on a regular basis by Equestrian Australia.

Version	Commencement Date	Date Endorsed	Endorsed By	Revision Date
1	08 February 2000	08 February 2000	EA Board	July 2013
2	01 July 2013	01 July 2013	EA Board	July 2025
3	01 July 2026	10 June 2026	EA Board	July 2028

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Passed Pursuant to the Constitution of the Company via circular resolution June 2026.

## 2. Introduction

In accordance with Article 34.1 of the Constitution, these By-Laws will apply to all categories of membership of Equestrian Australia (EA).

## 3. EA Membership

3.1 Membership of EA comprises of the following:

- Branches; and
- Participating Members

3.2 The Branches are:

- Equestrian New South Wales
- Equestrian Victoria
- Equestrian Queensland
- Equestrian South Australia
- Equestrian Western Australia
- Equestrian Tasmania
- Equestrian Northern Territory, subject to Rule 5.2 (h) of the EA Constitution.

and such further Branch or Branches as the Members may from time to time admit to membership.

3.3 In admitting a Branch to membership, the Members may apply special conditions relating to the payment of affiliation fees and the appointment of a Director, PROVIDED THAT special conditions are not to apply for a period in excess of five (5) years from the date of admission to the Branch.

## 4. Participating Members

The Participating Membership categories of the Branches and of EA must be comprised of the following:

4.1 Individual Members;

- 4.1.1 Competitor members; and
- 4.1.2 Supporter members; and
- 4.1.3 Participant members;
- 4.1.4 Recreational members; and
- 4.1.5 Horse Owner.

4.2 Group Affiliates;

- 4.2.1 Club Affiliates;
- 4.2.2 Sport Affiliates; and
- 4.2.3 Commercial Groups.

or any other membership category as determined by the EA Board from time to time.

4.3 Should Branches wish to create a membership category which is to be recognised as an EA membership outside of the categories listed in 4.1 and 4.2, it must be mapped back to a category as per 4.1 and 4.2.

4.4 Participating Member Definitions

4.4.1 The following definitions apply to the categories of membership set out in clause 4.1.

**Competitor member** means any person who participates and contributes to the competitive environment of equestrian sport, who has applied for and has been granted membership of a

Branch and therefore of EA, and on behalf of whom the Branch pays the applicable membership fee to EA. Sub-categories of EA Competitor membership include:

- (a) **Competitor member – Senior** means any person eighteen (18) years and over who is entitled to receive the privileges of a Competitor Membership.
- (b) **Competitor member – Junior** means any person under the age of eighteen (18) years who is entitled to receive the privileges of a Competitor Membership. Junior members are able to attend and vote at General Meetings of the EA through their nominated parent or guardian as per rule 5.1 (b)(ii) of the EA Constitution.
- (c) **Competitor member – Life** means any person who is entitled to receive the privileges of a Competitor member at a discounted rate through a paid life membership.

**Grandfather Provision for Competitor - Life Category:**

- (i) Cessation of Category Availability: Effective 1 July 2026, the Competitor member – Life category shall no longer be available for new applications or purchases.
- (ii) Protection of Existing Members: Notwithstanding subclause (a) above, any person who holds a valid Competitor member – Life membership as at 1 July 2026 shall:
  - a. retain all rights, privileges, and benefits associated with their Competitor member – Life membership for the duration of their lifetime, subject to compliance with all other applicable EA rules and regulations;
  - b. continue to be entitled to all privileges set out in clause 4.4.1 applicable to Competitor members;
  - c. remain subject to all membership obligations, conduct requirements, and disciplinary provisions applicable to Competitor members under these Bylaws and EA regulations;
  - d. be entitled to a discounted membership, consistent with the original terms of their life membership.
- (iii) Non-Transferability: Competitor member – Life memberships protected under this grandfather provision are personal to the individual member and are not transferable, assignable, or inheritable.
- (iv) Termination Provisions: Competitor member – Life memberships protected under this grandfather provision may only be terminated in accordance with the termination provisions set out in clause 4 of these Bylaws.

4.4.2 **Participant member** means any person who actively participates and contributes to grassroots and recreational equestrian sports activities, who has applied for and has been granted membership of a Branch and, therefore, of EA, and on behalf of whom the Branch pays the applicable membership fee to EA. Sub-categories of EA Participant Membership include:

- (a) **Participant member – Senior** means any person eighteen (18) years and over who is entitled to the privileges of an EA Participant membership.
- (b) **Participant member – Junior** means any person under the age of eighteen (18) years who is entitled to receive the privileges of a Participant membership. Junior members are able to attend and vote at General Meetings of the EA through their nominated parent or guardian as per rule 5.1 (b)(ii) of the EA Constitution.

4.4.3 **Recreational member** means any person who enjoys horse riding and doing equestrian activities for pleasure, a non-competitive membership, who has applied for and has been granted membership of a Branch and, therefore, of EA, and on behalf of whom the Branch pays the applicable membership fee to EA. Sub-categories of EA Recreational Membership include:

- (a) **Recreational member – Senior** means any person eighteen (18) years and over who is entitled to the privileges of an EA Recreational membership.
- (b) **Recreational member – Junior** means any person under the age of eighteen (18) years who is entitled to receive the privileges of a Recreational membership. Junior members are able to attend and vote at General Meetings of the EA through their nominated parent or guardian as per rule 5.1 (b)(ii) of the EA Constitution.

4.4.4 **Supporter member** means any person who contributes to the competitive environment of equestrian sport but does not participate in competitions, who has applied for and has been granted membership of a Branch and therefore of EA, and on behalf of whom the Branch pays the applicable membership fee to EA. Subcategories of EA Supporter membership include:

- (a) **Supporter member – Coach** means any person who holds a current EA Coach Accreditation who is entitled to receive the privileges of a Supporter membership.
- (b) **Supporter member – Officials** means any person who holds a current EA Officials Accreditation who is entitled to receive the privileges of a Supporter membership.
- (c) **Supporter member – Owner** means any person who is listed as an owner of an EA Registered Horse who is entitled to receive the privileges of a Supporter membership.
- (d) **Supporter member - Entity Horse Owner** member means any group who is listed as an owner of an EA Registered Horse who is entitled to receive the privileges of a Entity Horse Owner membership.
- (e) **Supporter member – Volunteer** means any person who regularly contributes to equestrian sport through voluntary service and who is entitled to receive the privileges of a Supporter membership.

4.4.5 **Club Affiliate** means any equestrian club that supports membership and contributes to equestrian sport development that has applied for and has been granted affiliation with a Branch and therefore EA.

4.4.6 **Sport Affiliate** means any equestrian group that affiliates for the purpose of non-commercial equestrian sport delivery, which has applied for and has been granted affiliation with a Branch and, therefore, EA.

4.4.7 **Commercial Group** means any businesses or groups that align with EA to access EA services for a commercial benefit, who has applied for and have been granted affiliation with a Branch and therefore EA.

4.4.8 **Honorary Life Memberships**

EA State Branches may appoint or admit the following additional members:

- (a) **Honorary Life Member (EA)** – means any person upon whom the EA Board or State Board has resolved to confer honorary life membership for distinguished and exceptional service to EA, to one of the Branches or to equestrian sport in Australia. All Honorary Life Members of EA applications must be presented to the EA Board for approval. All Honorary Life Members of EA will not be required to pay any EA or State Branch fees.
- (b) **Honorary Life Member (State Branches)** – means any person upon whom the State Board has resolved to confer honorary life membership for distinguished and exceptional service to one of the Branches or to equestrian sport in their State. All Honorary Life Members of State Branches will be required to pay the EA portion of the administration fees and insurance levies, which are covered by the State Branch.

## 5. Membership Applications

5.1 A person or body seeking membership of EA may apply for membership only of the Branch in the State or Territory in which he or she resides,

PROVIDED THAT any person who:

- (i) resides within 100 km of a State or Territory border; and
- (ii) declares at the time of applying for membership that he or she intends to compete regularly in equestrian competitions or is a Board or Committee member in the neighbouring State or Territory,

is eligible for membership of the Branch in that neighbouring State or Territory.

For the purposes of this clause, the following applies in accordance with rule 5.2(c) of the EA Constitution:

- (i) A resident of the Australian Capital Territory is deemed to be a resident of New South Wales. Therefore, the 100km rule in 2.6(a)(i) does not apply.

5.2 Members who cease to reside in Australia may, during their absence from Australia, retain membership of EA and of the Branch of which they were a member when they last resided in Australia.

5.3 Members moving from one State or Territory to another will retain their EA Membership and will not be obliged to pay membership fees until the next renewal in their new State or Territory.

5.4 All members of any Branch are considered admitted to EA in the same category upon the enactment of these rules.

## 6. Register of Members

6.1 All memberships of a State Branch are to be conducted using the EA National Database. The EA National Database is the register of members of all categories and residents in each State, along with their addresses and other details as required by EA.

## 7. Register of Horses

7.1 All Horse Registrations are to be conducted using the EA National Database. The EA National

Database is the register of members' horses, along with their members' addresses and other details as required by EA.

7.2 The register of horses may comprise of;

7.2.1 **Life Horse Registration** means lifetime registration of a horse for the purposes of competition, including the recording of biosecurity information and the input of competition records for the respective Sport.

7.2.2 **Base Horse Registration** means lifetime registration of a horse not actively participating in competitive equestrian activity for purposes including biosecurity and microchip registration.

## 8. Supporter - Volunteer Membership Requirements

8.1 To be eligible for and maintain Supporter member – Volunteer status, a person must:

8.1.1 **Volunteer Service Commitment:** Complete a minimum volunteer service requirement annually of either:

- (i) Two (2) Major Events as defined by EA or the relevant Branch; OR
- (ii) Three (3) Club Events organised by EA-affiliated clubs;

8.1.2 **Child Safety Requirements:** Hold and maintain:

- (i) A current and valid Working With Children Card (or equivalent certification as required by the relevant State or Territory legislation); AND
- (ii) Current completion of EA-approved ChildSafe training or equivalent child protection training as determined by EA from time to time;

8.1.3 **Ongoing Contribution:** Demonstrate regular and ongoing contribution to equestrian activities as determined by the relevant Branch, which may include but is not limited to:

- (i) Event management support;
- (ii) Club committee participation;
- (iii) Coaching assistance;
- (iv) Equipment maintenance;
- (v) Administrative assistance;
- (vi) Grounds maintenance;
- (vii) Other voluntary services as recognised by the Branch.

8.2 Annual Verification Requirements:

8.2.1 Supporter member – Volunteer status shall be subject to annual verification by the relevant Branch;

8.2.2 The Branch may require documentary evidence of:

- (i) Completion of required volunteer service hours;
- (ii) Current valid Working With Children Card, or equivalent;
- (iii) Current completion of ChildSafe training requirements;

8.2.3 Failure to meet or maintain any requirement under clause 8.1 may result in:

- (i) Suspension of volunteer membership privileges;
- (ii) Requirement to transition to another appropriate membership category;
- (iii) Termination of membership in accordance with clause 4.

8.3 Addresses for Service of Notices

The address for service of notice to any member must be recorded in the records of the relevant Branch as part of the National Database of EA.

## **9. Termination of Membership**

9.1 Individual Members will cease to be members of EA and their Branch:

- 9.1.1 if they resign in writing to EA or the Branch
- 9.1.2 if they die
- 9.1.3 if they are declared incapable of managing their own affairs
- 9.1.4 if, in the opinion of EA or the relevant Branch, they fail or omit to observe or perform any of the provisions of the rules of EA or the Branch on their part to be observed and performed or if they are called upon to resign by their Branch and in this respect the Branch shall not be required to assign any reason or to justify its action in calling upon a member to resign. However, no Branch will take any such action without having given the member an opportunity to be heard and ensure that the rules of natural justice are observed; or
- 9.1.5 if they fail to pay the annual subscription for a period of thirty (30) days after it becomes due.

9.2 Group Affiliate members will cease to be Group Affiliate members:

- 9.2.1 if they resign in writing to the Branch
- 9.2.2 if the relevant Branch, after having given the Affiliate Member an opportunity of being heard, is of the opinion that its constitution, objects or activities deprive it of its eligibility as an Affiliate Member
- 9.2.3 if they are dissolved
- 9.2.4 if they fail to pay their annual subscription for a period of thirty (30) days after it becomes due
- 9.2.5 if they conduct competitions contrary to the rules of EA; or
- 9.2.6 If they do not hold a current insurance policy, including public liability cover which meets the specific requirements set by the respective Branch from time to time.

## 10. Membership Benefits, Privileges & Restrictions

The following national privileges and restrictions apply to the categories of membership set out in clause 4.4

### 10.1 Individual Member Categories

Benefit	Competitor - Senior	Competitor - Junior	Competitor - Life	Supporter - Coach	Supporter - Officials	Supporter - Owner	Supporter - Entity Horse Owner	Supporter - Volunteer	Participant - Senior	Participant - Junior	Recreational - Senior	Recreational - Junior
<b>Participation and Registration</b>												
Official Events - Competitive (Article 100 of the EA General Regulations)	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Official Events - Participation (Article 100 of the EA General Regulations)	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X	✓	✓	X	X
Closed Events/Restricted (Article 100 of the EA General Regulations)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X	✓	✓	✓	X	X
Competition License	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X
Horse Registration and bio-security support	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X
Accredited Education Programs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	X
Performance records	✓	✓	✓	X	X	X	X	X	✓	✓	X	X

Benefit	Competitor - Senior	Competitor - Junior	Competitor - Life	Supporter - Coach	Supporter - Officials	Supporter - Owner	Supporter - Entity Horse Owner	Supporter - Volunteer	Participant - Senior	Participant - Junior	Recreational - Senior	Recreational - Junior
<b>Member Benefits</b>												
EA Member Insurance (Cover of 24/7 Personal Accident and Public Liability Insurance)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Access to Integrity	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Monthly Newsletters/Communications	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Access to the national database	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Access to training, education and development opportunities	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>EA Governance</b>												
Attend General Meetings	✓	✓**	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓**	✓	✓**
Vote at General Meetings	✓	✓**	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓**	✓	✓**
Nominate for an Elected Director Position	✓	X	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	X	✓	X
Vote on Elected Director Ballot	✓	✓**	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓**	✓	✓**

**Additional Notes:**

\* Competitor - Life members are entitled to a discounted membership consistent with the original terms of their life membership under the grandfather provision.

\*\* Members under 18 years of age exercise governance rights through their nominated parent or guardian as per rule 5.1 (b)(ii) of the EA Constitution.

## 10.2 Group Affiliate Categories

<b>Benefit</b>	<b>Club Affiliate</b>	<b>Sport Affiliate</b>	<b>Commercial Group</b>
<b>Participation and Registration</b>			
Conduct Closed Activities	✓	✗	✗
Conduct EA Events	✓	✓	✓
<b>Member Benefits</b>			
EA Affiliate Insurance	✓	✓	✓
Access to Integrity	✓	✓	✓
Monthly Newsletters/Communications	✓	✓	✓
Access to the national database	✓	✓	✓
Access to training, education and development opportunities	✓	✓	✓
<b>EA Governance</b>			
Attend General Meetings	✓***	✓***	✓***
Vote at General Meetings	✓***	✓***	✓***

Benefit	Club Affiliate	Sport Affiliate	Commercial Group
Nominate for an Elected Director Position	X	X	X
Vote on Elected Director Ballot	√***	√***	√***

\*\*\*Affiliates exercise governance rights through a nominated representative.

For classifications of equestrian competitive and participation activity, refer to Article 100 of the EA General Regulations.

## 11. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of these Membership Bylaws, unless the context otherwise requires:

### 11.1 General Definitions

**"Affiliate"** means any Club Affiliate, Sport Affiliate, or Commercial Group that has been granted affiliation with a Branch and therefore EA.

**"Board"** means the Board of Directors of EA as constituted from time to time.

**"Branch"** means any of the State or Territory branches of EA, being Equestrian New South Wales, Equestrian Victoria, Equestrian Queensland, Equestrian South Australia, Equestrian Western Australia, Equestrian Tasmania, and Equestrian Northern Territory (subject to Rule 5.2(h) of the EA Constitution), and any other branch admitted to membership from time to time.

**"Bylaws"** means these Membership Bylaws as amended from time to time in accordance with Article 34.1 of the Constitution.

**"Constitution"** means the Constitution of Equestrian Australia Limited as amended from time to time.

**"EA"** means Equestrian Australia Limited ABN 19 077 455 755.

**"EA General Regulations"** means the General Regulations of EA as amended from time to time, including all rules, regulations, and policies adopted by EA for the governance of equestrian sport in Australia.

**"Member"** means any person or entity admitted to membership of EA in accordance with these Bylaws.

**"National Database"** means the centralised electronic database maintained by EA for the registration and management of all membership, horse registration, and related information.

**"Participating Member"** means any Individual Member or Group Affiliate as defined in clause 4.1.

**"State Board"** means the board of directors of any Branch.

### 11.2 Membership Category Definitions

**"Club Affiliate"** means any equestrian club that supports membership and contributes to equestrian sport development that has applied for and has been granted affiliation with a Branch and therefore EA.

**"Commercial Group"** means any business or group that aligns with EA to access EA services for a commercial benefit, that has applied for and has been granted affiliation with a Branch and therefore EA.

**"Competitor member"** means any person who participates and contributes to the competitive environment of equestrian sport, who has applied for and has been granted membership of a Branch and therefore of EA, and on behalf of whom the Branch pays the applicable membership fee to EA.

**"Group Affiliate"** means any Club Affiliate, Sport Affiliate, or Commercial Group.

**"Honorary Life Member (EA)"** means any person upon whom the EA Board or State Board has resolved

to confer honorary life membership for distinguished and exceptional service to EA, to one of the Branches or to equestrian sport in Australia.

**"Honorary Life Member (State Branches)"** means any person upon whom the State Board has resolved to confer honorary life membership for distinguished and exceptional service to one of the Branches or to equestrian sport in their State.

**"Individual Member"** means any Competitor member, Supporter member, Participant member, or Recreational member.

**"Participant member"** means any person who actively participates and contributes to grassroots and recreational equestrian sports activities, who has applied for and has been granted membership of a Branch and therefore of EA, and on behalf of whom the Branch pays the applicable membership fee to EA.

**"Recreational member"** means any person who enjoys horse riding and doing equestrian activities for pleasure, a non-competitive membership, who has applied for and has been granted membership of a Branch and therefore of EA, and on behalf of whom the Branch pays the applicable membership fee to EA.

**"Sport Affiliate"** means any equestrian group that affiliates for the purpose of non-commercial equestrian sport delivery, which has applied for and has been granted affiliation with a Branch and therefore EA.

**"Supporter member"** means any person who contributes to the competitive environment of equestrian sport but does not participate in competitions, who has applied for and has been granted membership of a Branch and therefore of EA, and on behalf of whom the Branch pays the applicable membership fee to EA.

### 11.3 Age-Related Definitions

**"Junior"** means any person under the age of eighteen (18) years.

**"Senior"** means any person eighteen (18) years and over.

### 11.4 Event and Activity Definitions

**"Closed Events/Restricted"** means events or activities, as defined in Article 100 of the EA General Regulations.

**"Club Event"** means any competition, training day, educational clinic, fundraising activity, or other organised equestrian activity conducted by an EA-affiliated club.

**"Major Event"** means any EA-sanctioned competition or activity designated as a Major Event by EA or the relevant Branch, including but not limited to State Championships, National Championships, International competitions, and other events as determined by EA from time to time.

**"Official Events - Competitive"** means competitive equestrian events conducted under EA rules and regulations as defined in Article 100 of the EA General Regulations.

**"Official Events - Participation"** means non-competitive equestrian participation activities conducted under EA rules and regulations as defined in Article 100 of the EA General Regulations.

#### 11.5 Horse Registration Definitions

**"Base Horse Registration"** means lifetime registration of a horse not actively participating in competitive equestrian activity for purposes including bio-security and microchip registration.

**"Life Horse Registration"** means lifetime registration of a horse for the purposes of competition, including the recording of biosecurity information and the input of competition records for the respective Sport.

#### 11.6 Accreditation and Training Definitions

**"ChildSafe training"** means EA-approved child protection training or equivalent training as determined by EA from time to time.

**"EA Coach Accreditation"** means a current coaching accreditation issued by EA in accordance with EA's coaching accreditation programs.

**"EA Officials Accreditation"** means the current officials' accreditation issued by EA in accordance with EA's officials accreditation programs.

**"Working With Children Card"** means a Working with Children Card, Blue Card, or other equivalent certification as required by relevant State or Territory legislation for working with minors.

#### 11.7 Insurance and Financial Definitions

**"EA Affiliate Insurance"** means insurance coverage provided to Affiliates for their EA-related activities.

**"EA Member Insurance"** means the 24/7 Personal Accident and Public Liability Insurance coverage provided to Individual Members.

**"National Admin Levy"** means the administrative levy imposed by EA on all membership categories to fund national operations and services.

#### 11.8 Geographic and Jurisdictional Definitions

**"Administered"** refers to Equestrian Northern Territory (ENT) members being administered by Equestrian Queensland (EQ), ensuring that members are recognised as Participating Members under the current constitution.

**"Australian Capital Territory"** for the purposes of membership applications, is deemed to be part of New South Wales in accordance with rule 5.2(c) of the EA Constitution.

**"State or Territory"** means any Australian State or Territory.

#### 11.9 Governance Definitions

**"General Meeting"** means any general meeting of EA members as provided for in the Constitution.

**"Nominated Representative"** means the person appointed by an Affiliate to represent the Affiliate's interests in EA governance matters.

**"Parent or Guardian"** means the parent or legal guardian of a junior member who exercises governance rights on behalf of the junior member in accordance with rule 5.1(b)(ii) of the EA Constitution.

#### 11.10 Special Category Definitions

**"Competition License"** means the authorisation issued by EA that permits a member to compete in Official Events - Competitive.

**"Grandfather Provision"** means the protection afforded to existing Competitor - Life members under clause 2.3(a)(iii) of these Bylaws.

**"Performance Records"** means the official competition results and achievements maintained in the National Database for qualifying members.

**"Regular Contribution"** in relation to Supporter - Volunteer members means ongoing and consistent voluntary service to equestrian activities as determined by the relevant Branch, including but not limited to event management support, club committee participation, coaching assistance, equipment maintenance, administrative assistance, grounds maintenance, and other voluntary services as recognised by the Branch.

**"Volunteer Service Commitment"** means the minimum annual volunteer service requirement for Supporter - Volunteer members, being either two (2) Major Events or three (3) Club Events.

## 12. Interpretation

In these Bylaws, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) words importing the singular include the plural and vice versa;
- (b) words importing a gender include every other gender;
- (c) references to persons include corporations and other legal entities;
- (d) headings are for convenience only and do not affect interpretation.

Where there is any inconsistency between these Bylaws and the Constitution, the Constitution prevails.

Where there is any inconsistency between these Bylaws and the EA General Regulations, these Bylaws prevail to the extent of the inconsistency in relation to membership matters.



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