



Welcome to the re-launched Equestrian Australia (EA) coach newsletter - IN THE ARENA.

In addition to EA's monthly newsletter – [EQUESTRAZINE](#) – as a current EA registered coach, once a quarter, you will receive a copy of [IN THE ARENA](#) so you can stay up to date on all EA coaching matters.

INSURANCE, RISK and SAFETY

Coach Insurance:

If you have purchased Coach insurance as part of your EA Coach registration, your Certificate of Currency (CoC) is available on the dedicated Gow Gates Equestrian Australia website, along with comprehensive information on what your insurance coverage provides - <https://gowgatesport.com.au/equestrian/>

If you have not visited for a while, you will notice that the website has recently undergone a slight transformation.

Health and Safety Information:

As always, EA has been working hard in the areas of health and safety. For the latest information please take a look at the newly revised Health and Safety section on the EA website. <https://www.equestrian.org.au/>

You will find the latest [safety news](#), a [training and resources](#) area (concussion training coming 2021), [risk management](#) information and a [welfare](#) section.

In addition, EA recently released a Safety, Health and Welfare survey to all athletes/competitors. The link can be found <https://www.equestrian.org.au/news/safety-survey-tell-us-what-you-think>. We ask all coaches to encourage their students to participate.

Coach Indemnity Waiver Forms:

Until recently, EA has provided a generic Indemnity Waiver to coaches via the EA website. EA has received legal advice that the use of a generic waiver may not cover the requirements of each State and Territory personal injuries and consumer protection legislation.

EA received advise that the wording of any *waiver and release* that a coach requires a student to sign is likely to vary from State to Territory, and possibly even from coach to coach. Because of this, such *waiver and release* should be crafted in a way which reflects the relevant jurisdiction, the individual circumstances of the coach, his/her business structure and the student/s to be coached.

For this reason, EA has removed the generic waiver from the EA website and advise individual coaches to seek individual advice from a legal practitioner who properly understands the specific jurisdiction's personal injuries and consumer protection legislation in their State or Territory and the needs of the individual coach.

Whilst EA members are covered by insurance, EA also advise, as a matter of best practice, that a waiver is signed by each client once per insurance-year. A good time of year to do this is just after EA membership is due so you can check the currency of membership.

EDUCATION - PROCESSES, RESOURCES and OPPORTUNITIES

CE/SSTAs who wish to be involved in delivering Coach education on behalf of EA:

EA is seeking EOIs from CEs and SSTAs to deliver coach education or assessment activities on behalf of EA or State Branches & National Discipline Committees (should they wish to use the register). Responses to the EOI will be used to create a register, active for the 2021 calendar year, of CE/SSTAs, who would like the opportunity to present, assess, mentor or coordinate a variety of education tasks/courses to further develop Coaches within the EA scheme. This **does not** impact the role CE/SSTAs play within the EA Coaching scheme, this only applies to EA managed/coordinated activities. State Branches/National Discipline Committees will not be required to use the register but will be offered the opportunity to do so.

If you are an interested CE or SSTA, please don't forget to complete the survey found [HERE](#), by 13 December.

Trial CE/SSTA Online Update and Trial SSTA Online Accreditation:

EA, with EQ, successfully trialled a Skill Specific Trainer and Assessor (SSTA) and Coach Educator (CE) update and an SSTA Accreditation Course via Zoom during October. Seven EA coaches from across Australia, including QLD, NSW and NT, attended and successfully completed SSTA Accreditation (congratulations!).

Whilst SSTA/CE updates are not compulsory in 2020, and those who needed to update have automatically been extended to 2021, ten CE/SSTAs attended the update.

The feedback from the trial has been positive, and we hope to further develop this method of education, assessment, and accreditation, to ensure that the EA coaching and assessment processes remain consistent and accessible to everyone regardless of location. The ability to adapt to the specific needs of each sporting discipline is also being explored.

RPL / Skills Recognition / Fast Tracking:

The process for RPL, skill recognition and fast tracking continues to be a 'grey' area and can create some confusion for CEs, the candidate and the EA Office. In an attempt to eliminate any confusion, EA has developed a Coach Educator Endorsement Form to be completed when endorsing a coach candidate. This form is to be used by all CEs who are endorsing coach candidates to COMMENCE training at a level higher than the introductory resources. It should be submitted to the EA office in order for the coach candidate to purchase resources. As this is a new form, we welcome feedback.

This form can be found on the EA Coach resource page <https://www.equestrian.org.au/coaching/resources> or [HERE](#).

Online Learning: EA Coach Update & Orientation to EA and the Coaching Scheme:

EA Coach Update – From 2021, EA Coaches will be required to attend a coach update every 2 years. The compulsory elements of EA and the EA Coaching Scheme, Process and Policy, Ethics and Behaviour, Safety and Risk Management and Insurance can be covered in a few hours through a variety of different delivery methods.

As a result of COVID-19, EA developed an online course that can be completed by all coaches who need to attend a Coach Update. This can be ordered through the EA website on the coach resource page <https://www.equestrian.org.au/coaching/resources> or [HERE](#).

CEs are also invited to use this presentation when working with coaches privately. CEs can order the presentation using the form found on the EA coach resources page <https://www.equestrian.org.au/coaching/resources> or [HERE](#)

Orientation to EA and the Coaching Scheme - The compulsory Orientation to EA and the Coaching Scheme sessions that must be completed before commencing EA coach training **has not** been a compulsory 2 day course for a number of years. The compulsory elements of Introduction to EA and the EA Coaching Scheme, Coaching Principles, the Role of the Coach and Effective Communication, Safety and Risk Management and Insurance can be covered in a few hours through a variety of different delivery methods.

EA developed an online course that can be completed by coach candidates that can be ordered through the EA website. This form can be found on the EA coach resource page <https://www.equestrian.org.au/coaching/resources> or [HERE](#).

CEs are also invited to use this presentation when working with coaches privately. CEs can order the presentation using the form found on the EA coach resources page <https://www.equestrian.org.au/coaching/resources> or [HERE](#)

EA SSTA/CE Resource Ordering Form:

Historically, Coach Educators and Skill Specific Trainers and Assessors have been able to order EA resources at a reduced price. These resources are not for use by clients, but as a reference for CE/SSTAs to support them in their role within the EA Coaching Scheme.

For ease of access, we have developed an order form for CE/SSTAs to access these resources. This can be found on the EA website in the coach resources section <https://www.equestrian.org.au/coaching/resources> or [HERE](#)

The International Group for Equestrian Qualifications (IGEQ):

A number of coaches contact the EA Office regarding converting their IGEQ passport to EA accreditation. As these coaches are required to enter the EA system at a HIGHER level than the passport they hold (IGEQ rules), this can be rather prohibitive. EA has developed a process to allow IGEQ passport holders to register with EA, using the IGEQ passport accreditation for a period of 12 months whilst they upgrade within the EA system.

This form can be found on the EA coach resource page <https://www.equestrian.org.au/coaching/resources> or [HERE](#)

GENERAL INFORMATION

Current Coach Statistics (as of 23 Nov):

835 EA coach registrations have been received for 2020/21 – (93% of the 2019/20 total - 897).

EA Coaching Committee:

All current EA coaches are represented at the national level by members of the Board Appointed EA Coaching Committee (EACC). Your coaching representatives can be found [HERE](#).

The EACC generally meet the second Monday of each month. Summaries of the meetings can be found [HERE](#).

Sport Rule Changes:

Just a quick reminder that Sport National Rule changes will be implemented from 1 January 2021 as part of a six-monthly review. These changes can be found on the EA website - <https://www.equestrian.org.au/rules>

Specifically in Dressage there are changes to the Dressage Novice and Advanced Freestyle Tests that are of importance to anyone coaching Dressage – please see these changes here - <https://www.equestrian.org.au/news/changes-novice-and-advanced-freestyle-tests>

EA will also adopt FEI rule changes, recently approved at the General Assembly that will also become effective 1 January 2021. The website will be updated to reflect this in due course.

Merchandise:

EA have successfully launched a range of EA Coach apparel. Supply and delivery of items is being managed by clothing company Twenty Four Seven and can be ordered from the following website.

<https://www.twentyfourseven.net.au/blogs/news/equestrian-australia-accredited-coach-clothing-range>

Membership Status and Coaching Accreditation:

State Branch memberships do not always run in line with EA Coach registration periods. Please ensure that you always have current membership (managed by your State Branch) as this is a requirement of being a current registered EA Coach. If in doubt, please check.

Contact us:

We can be contacted by phone on 02 8762 7777 or by email at coaching@equestrian.org.au. The EA website is also incredibly comprehensive with a significant amount of information available to coaches. This includes a [Coach Resource Page](#) and [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQ\)](#) – www.equestrian.org.au

Please note: Due to the impact of COVID-19, the EA office is closed EACH Friday until further notice. Over the holiday period, the EA office will also be closed from midday Thursday 17 December 2020 to Monday 4 January 2021.

We wish you a safe and happy holiday season!