



IN THE ARENA – FEBRUARY 2022

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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](#). Summaries of their monthly meetings can be found [here](#).

The State Branch representatives on the EA Coaching Committee for Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and Western Australia were nominated by their State CEOs for the new 2022/2023 term.

The EACC is very pleased to welcome back:

Tim Calkin	Victoria
Trudy Dougall	Queensland
Philippa Collier	Western Australia
Sally Ann Barbera	New South Wales

Nominations for Chair were called for at the January 2022 EACC meeting and Sally Ann Barbera, who has filled the vacancy in the role of Chair since April 2021, has been elected to the position of Chair for the 2022/2023 term, with unanimous support from the Committee.

We farewell Gill Botten, Second Delegate, Western Australia, who has resigned from the Committee effective February 2022, and sincerely thank Gill for her contribution and support to the EA Coaching Committee.

Equestrian Australia – National Integrity Framework

Equestrian Australia has recently adopted the National Integrity Framework which is now in effect. We endeavour to provide a safe, fair, and healthy environment for our participants at all levels and the National Integrity Framework has been designed to help us achieve this.

The suite of policies within the Framework can be found on the [EA Integrity page](#) on our website and includes:

- National Integrity Framework
- Member Protection Policy
- Child Safeguarding Policy
- Competition Manipulation and Sport Wagering Policy
- Improper Use of Drugs and Medicine Policy
- Complaints, Disputes and Discipline Policy

As part of the Framework, we have also partnered with Sport Integrity Australia and opted-in to Sport Integrity Australia's independent complaints handling process which allows all complaints in relation to integrity-related Prohibited Conduct, to be assessed and processed independently by Sport Integrity Australia.

What do you need to know?

All participants should familiarise themselves with the National Integrity Framework and in particular the Prohibited Conduct contained within each policy.

If you have a concern or a complaint about an integrity-related matters, you can submit your concern directly to Sport Integrity Australia using their [webform](#) or by phoning 1300 027 232.

For more information visit our [EA Integrity page](#) or [Sport Integrity Australia](#).

Got a question? Reach out to integrity@equestrian.org.au.

Coach Insurance

Updated Coach Waiver – 22 December 2022

A revised Coaching Waiver has been uploaded onto the website and can be found on the [Coach Forms and Resources](#) page of the website.

This version is condensed and includes clarification in clause 4.1 (f) regarding helmet wearing and the EA General Regulations. Coaches do not need to have students sign the new waiver if they have already signed the previous version but coaches should now use the updated waiver.

Coaches be aware that all clients, including both EA members and non-members, should complete a waiver before their first lesson. The form is a writable pdf and electronic signatures are acceptable.

Equestrian Australia National Insurance Programme – Marsh Sport Website

All Coaches are urged to visit the Equestrian Australia page on the [Marsh Sport Website](#).

To reach the Marsh Sport team you can call 1300 130 373 or email sport@marsh.com.

Updated Guidelines for Electronic Assessment for Riding, Horse Management and Coaching

The EACC has reviewed the current coaching video assessment guidelines and has adopted the following guidelines as from 1 Jan 2022. Our thanks go to Trudy Dougall, EQ representative on the EACC, for co-ordinating this review and preparing the revised procedures and guideline documentation.

EA Coach Educators and SSTA's – please take note!

Guidelines for Electronic Assessment:

EA has adopted the following guidelines for the use of Electronic Assessment (i.e. video/DVD/YouTube Footage/What's APP).

The purpose of video assessment is to provide greater accessibility and flexibility.

Electronic Assessment for Assessment Tasks:

- Can be used for **no more than 30%** of assessment tasks for Riding and Coaching module at any level;

Cross Country Personal Riding skills – Competition videos will be accepted providing they follow the guidelines listed for technical requirements.

- **Can be 100%** for Horse Management modules;
- Is used as an adjunct to face-to-face training and assessment; and
- Is to be arranged directly between the candidate and the CE/SSTA.

Candidates **MUST complete** at least two coaching assessments in each discipline (face to face with a coach educator) prior to accessing coaching video assessment.

Regional Areas

Coaches in regional areas may apply for Special Consideration to their State Committee or CAG group to increase the number of video assessments they may access however, no greater than 50% Assessment in Dressage and Showjumping will be allowed. Cross country assessment will not be increased past 30%.

Procedure and guidelines

The footage must be filmed continuously and not edited.

The DVD and accompanying paperwork should be clearly marked with the name of the Candidate Coach, the date of the lesson, and the task/s contained

The footage must be of good quality to allow the Assessor to make an informed decision on the performance.

Where the video quality does not allow the Assessors to make an assessment based on a clear and audible view of the

lesson the Assessor may advise the applicant the quality of the Electronic Assessment is not suitable and without penalty ask the Candidate Coach to re-submit the assessment.

Tips for the camera operator

- Show the Candidate Coach commencing the lesson giving their name and the date, then proceed with the task

- Make sure the picture is clear and shows the Candidate Coach and the riders throughout the task.
- Where possible the picture should show the work area and the surrounds.
- Check that the sound is audible. Remember wind can play havoc with sound and that background noise can be distracting.
- Make sure that all the Candidate Coach's instructions to the group or individual, their explanations, demonstrations and corrections and feedback can be seen and clearly heard.
- Comments and questions from the riders should also be audible.
- Have a practise run

Tips for the Candidate Coach

- Read the Final Assessment Guide and tasks thoroughly.
- Discuss the task and your plan with your CE or mentor.
- Remember to dress appropriately as per the Final Assessment Guide
- Read the Coach Workbook and recommended texts relevant to the task you are teaching

Before commencing the lesson:

- Organise demonstration riders who are up to the standard needed to perform the task.
- Organise and set up the teaching area
- Carefully check the areas for any safety issues
- In cases where a permanent enclosed arena is not available - the area should be clearly marked and of suitable size. Witch's hats can be used to mark the "arena".
- If available an indoor arena is best but make sure that the arena is light enough for the camera.
- For jumping tasks the Candidate Coach should ensure the area is safe and has suitable footing, the ground should be reasonably level and free of holes or other visible hazards.
- Send a plan, giving dimensions of the working area, and of the poles or fences used with their distances and dimensions, and your reasons for using these, with the video.
- If you change distances in the lesson give a short explanation of your reasons for the changes and the new measurements.
- For cross country tasks, send a sheet giving the dimensions of the fences and briefly describing the terrain.
- The Candidate Coach has the responsibility for arranging the demonstration riders and all equipment needed for the task/s.
- Have a practise run before you are recorded.
- If the trainee is not yet competent, he or she will be required to submit another video at a later date.

You can find this information on the EA website here <https://www.equestrian.org.au/content/i-live-remotely-and-can%E2%80%99t-access-coach-educator-what-can-i-do>

New Guide to Horse Capacity – Size of Rider

The Equestrian Australia Dressage Committee (EADC) is pleased to release a Guide on Athlete Size to reinforce the commitment to best practice striving for optimal health, safety and welfare of the athlete-horse combination.

The Athlete Size Guide will provide education and clarity and highlight awareness of Equestrian Australia's expectations to Athletes, Coaches, Owners, Parents, Judges, Officials and the Public on the aspect of a horse's welfare and capacity to carry weight.

International Animal Welfare guides include advocacy for horse welfare on this issue, and providing this guide will give our equestrian community a reasonably accurate measurement of the maximum burden for a horse to carry.

The guide will support coaches in conversations with their athletes about carrying capacity considerations, as they currently do, about choice of mount and all animal welfare aspects of horsemanship.

Nothing will change in the assessment of a horse and their athletic performance by any Judge.

The guide tailors the capacity of the horse across the entire height range, to a standard accepted internationally, and ensures appropriate mounts for humans of every age and size.

To date, the Athlete Size Guide has been adopted by the disciplines of Dressage and Eventing, and is being considered by other disciplines across Australia, and internationally, and is fully supported and endorsed by the EA Coaching Committee.

[Learn more here](#)

Helmet Tagging

Helmet tagging is now mandatory for all EA Affiliated Eventing and EA Affiliated Jumping events.

From 1 July 2022 helmet tagging will be mandatory for all EA Affiliated Dressage and Endurance events.

For information on helmet tagging dates and locations as well as helmet tagging standards [click here](#).

Quick Links

If you have questions or require information, the EA website has a HUGE amount of information available to our coaches. This includes:

- The [EA Coach Resource Section](#) has order forms for coach resources, coach educator resources, familiarisation forms, fast tracking, insurance and more.
- [EA Coach FAQ](#) page provides details like 'what level can I coach to based on my accreditation?', 'What level of CE/SSTA can sign my assessment slips?' etc
- The [EA Coach Insurance FAQ](#) page provides answers to commonly asked insurance questions.

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: www.equestrian.org.au

If you would like to see an item included in our next IN THE ARENA, please let us know! This newsletter is for EA coaches and we welcome your feedback.