



Equestrian Australia Jumping Committee Meeting Summary

Meeting held 16th February 2021 - Continuation 23 February 2021

Below a summary of proceedings at the recent EAJC Committee meeting:

MEETING DISCUSSION

Database

It was noted that when renewals went live for QA and QLD for January-December 2021 renewals, the member was asked to elect a primary interest which will allow better membership data analysis.

Committee Appointments

The updated NDC and EACC Appointment and Procedures Policy and EACC Charter have been circulated and will be considered by the EA Board shortly. Once they have been ratified, EOIs will be called for any vacancies on the EAJC Committee.

Riders Ranking Proposal

A draft of the recommendations and rules to be circulated to the States for Rider Rankings for the States to trial and tabulate their results, including the scoresheets and forward to the EAJC for their review. EAJC would welcome any feedback on the process of completing the Riders Rankings when these results are provided.

High Performance Update (Chris Webb – HP)

- Chris discussed the current HP environment. There remains a lot of uncertainty around the Tokyo Olympics although the IOC, TOCOG and AOC are adamant that the Games will proceed. The HP Team is working to manage athlete and owner expectations in this environment.
- There are three major events in the next three years, Tokyo Olympics in 2021, WEG in 2022 followed by the Paris Olympics in 2024. The HP Strategic Plan 2020-2024 addresses these

events, with the HP Panel currently operating and the staff contracts extended until 2022. The National Selection Panel was also extended 12 months.

- The process to select the Chef d'Equipe and the National Selection Panel will be undertaken after Tokyo Olympics.
- Tokyo MERs must be finalised by 22 June and the athletes are aware of the timelines.
- Projects will be looked at around the end of March for inclusion in the budget.

FEI Jumping Rules Review

It was noted that the following question was sent to the FEI as part of the Jumping Rules Review and the response is noted below:

PLEASE NOTE: The following has been submitted to the FEI:

Article 224 – Falls

4.1 Fall in the Competition Arena

4.1.1 Fall prior to starting the round

In the event of a fall of an Athlete and/or Horse at any time prior to starting the round (see JRs Art. 226.2), the combination is not eliminated but will not be permitted to start in the round in question. If the Athlete has

Feedback from FEI:

There will be a full rule revision for Jumping for the 2022 rules and this article will also be reviewed. Currently it only stated that the combination is not eliminated in such a case. However, it is not clear how it should be marked. For the moment it can be marked as 'did not start'. This will be clarified in the rule revision. We welcome of course any comments from NFs.

As for the NFs to make comments for next year's rules, a communication (FEI NF News) will go out in due time explaining the procedure, timelines and templates to be used for NFs to provide comments and suggestions.

The committee offered to review the wording and provide any recommendations.

In addition, it was agreed that the Rule regarding circling the last fence, as discussed, should be submitted to the FEI as part of their Jumping Rule Review.

Australian Championships

It was agreed that an EOI should be released at the end of the month for the 2022 Australian Championships with the closing date of June 30, 2021.

Reference Groups

The EAJC agreed that all Reference Groups should be rolled over for 12 months due to COVID. It was moved that the Reference Groups should consist of 3 members who are appointed annually. The Judges Reference Group will remain with 5 members for the 2020 Calendar year and then move to 3 members from the 2021 Calendar year.

Zoom – online Judges official refresher courses to be implemented

The meeting discussed the innovation of the use of Zoom and other similar technologies to complement refresher courses and training. The Judges Reference Group (except Kevin Taranto) supported the rollout of this initiative in 2021 and to be reviewed in 2022 (12-month trial period nationally). The EAJC supported the above initiative. In addition, the meeting discussed the use of an online test which reviewed the current rule update. It was agreed that this should be referred to all the Reference Groups (Judges, CD and Stewards) for them to work with AMcG to help develop these online tests.

Early Entry Codes

The meeting discussed the two agenda submissions from JQ and JNSW at length. The Committee agreed that it was difficult to dictate to shows on whether they can or cannot use early entry codes and agreed that there was a need to encourage organisers to run more shows, as often, shows are full and riders cannot enter. Early entry codes cannot be applied for entry to World Cup Competitions and Warm Up Competitions for World Cup, and all Championship Classes at the National Championships, horses and all entries for the World Cup Competition must be guaranteed that suitable stabling is provided as per the World Cup Regulations.

Online Entry

There are multiple online entry systems including:

- Equipe
- Global
- Nominate
- Mane Event

There was much discussion regarding rules around entry systems. The meeting agreed to thank JQ for their submission but agreed their recommendations were not workable. However, they agreed that there needs to be a middle ground to allow easier entry for multiple horses and riders. The EAJC Committee Members will put together a discussion paper outlining the pros & cons of existing systems and their impact on riders. The EAJC should then involve the State Jumping Committees to review and finalise the document before then taking the discussion paper to the entry system providers.

EAJC Tiering of Events

There was much discussion about the tiering of events as it had been previously discussed when Grant Baldock was CEO and no tiering system was implemented.

The EAJC agreed that Victoria's work at tiering of events was excellent but the EAJC saw it as a State responsibility in allowing the States, who run events at a State level, to identify Tier 1 and other shows and that this system should be encouraged. EAJC would encourage JVIC to work with the other States to share their knowledge to see if a similar system could be implemented across all States.

Boot Rule

The newly implemented rules regarding the type of boots that may be used were discussed. AW suggested that there needs to be further clarification and education for Judges and Stewards on the implementation of these rules as there has been some confusion. It was agreed that the Rules for use of equipment including boots apply to all EA events including training days run using EA Jumping Rules and not just to official competition days. Once the Reference Groups are finalised, the EA Jumping Judges Reference Group and the EA Jumping Stewards Reference Group should review these Boot Rules, develop some recommended training materials and then meet with the EAJC to adopt this training.

Jumping Steward General

The EAJC agreed that the tenure of the Jumping Steward General should be extended until after the Tokyo Olympics and that EA should advertise for applications for the role of Jumping Steward General with the role to commence September 1, 2021 until the August following the Paris Olympics in 2024 to realign the appointment with the Olympic cycle.

World Cup Athletes Representative

There is no one acting in the role of World Cup Athletes Representative. Stuart Jenkins will appoint a World Cup Athletes Representative for each of the rounds of the upcoming World Cups.

World Cup Results

All WC OCs are required to send their results within 2 days of their event to the FEI using the standard template supplied by the FEI. There was some concern that the OCs may not do this, as previously George Proimos was completing the results sheets for all OCs. EAJC discussed how to ensure that the OCs were able to submit results in a timely and appropriate manner. Jenny Merity will provide all OCs with the details and the template for results submission.

Imported Horse Grading Points

Currently, it does not appear that there is widespread checking by judges of points cards. Some events eg. Restricted entry events are not having points recorded on their performance cards. Potentially, some performance cards are also not being updated by States upon registration renewal and some horses are being advertised with performances that are not reflected on their performance cards.

There appears to be an inconsistency in performance cards across the States and the application of grading points for Imported Horses as per the EA National Jumping Rules.

An agenda item will be added to the State CEOs meeting asking that Grading Points be applied as per the EA National Jumping Rules including points to be awarded for restricted entry shows, as well as a consistent approach in updating of performance cards at renewal to reflect the horse's recorded performance record.

Next EA Jumping Committee meeting: 12th of May 2021.