

ONE SPORT, ONE MEMBERSHIP

Introducing equestrian's new membership structure

Dear Members,

Equestrian Australia is pleased to unveil the new national membership structure that will come into effect as of 1 July 2013. These new membership categories will come into effect for Western Australia, Queensland and the Northern Territory at their next renewal period.

So why is there are a new membership structure? You may not be aware but previously membership categories differed state by state, with more than 45 membership categories existing around the country. There was no consistency in terms of membership status or recognition.

The new structure is not only designed to make it easier to understand the equestrian sport system in Australia, but is also designed to make it simpler for new members interested in being involved in the sport.

We recognise that everyone joins our sport for a different reason and that not everyone intends to compete at the highest level of the sport. Whether you're a volunteer, official, owner, coach or you just like to compete at the lower levels of the sport with your horse and friends, we want to ensure there are appropriate categories for everyone.

For the last two years, EA together with the State Branches and discipline committees, have worked hard to take the 45 former categories and create 6 national categories that will accommodate everyone. These being:

Individual

1. Competitor
2. Participant
3. Supporter

Groups

4. Clubs
5. Sport Affiliate
6. Commercial

We know that for some of you this may mean a change from previous membership levels you have paid for. I would encourage you to read the following details outlining the new membership categories and should you have any questions about which category to sign up for, please contact your State Branch or the EA office.

Regards

Dr Warwick Vale, Chairman of Equestrian Australia



FROM THE CHAIRMAN

COMPETITOR

What is a COMPETITOR member?

COMPETITOR members are those that participate and contribute to the competitive environment of equestrian sport. A COMPETITOR member is permitted to compete at all levels of the sport being 'competitive' and 'participation' activity categories (see table below).

What membership category used to be a COMPETITOR member?

Under your previous membership, you may have been one of the following categories:

- Senior/Junior
- Students
- Associate
- Senior Show Horse
- Honorary Life Member (non-paying member)
- Paid Life Member

COMPETITOR activity categories

Below outlines the activity a COMPETITOR member can compete and participate in depending on the discipline(s):

Dressage	Jumping	Eventing	Show Horse	Vaulting	Driving	Interschools	Conditions
Grand Prix, Intermediate II Intermediate I, Prix St George, Advanced Medium, Elementary Novice, Prelim FEI Para-Equestrian	1.05m and above	3 Star 2 Star 1 Star EvA105 EvA95	National Championship State/HOY Championship	Open Advanced Intermediate Novice	FEI Level competition	National Championship State Championship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horse must hold EA Full Horse Registration • Must meet state competition licence requirements
Prep National Para-Dressage – tests of all grades	1.04m and below	EvA80	Affiliated events*	Pre-novice Preliminary Barrel	Non-FEI levels and training events	Regional Events**	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Competition licence not required

An EA Competitor member may compete/participate at any level per discipline. For specific requirements for the allocation of grading points refer to the respective discipline rules – where a competition licence is required, the member must be an EA Competition Member.

* In the discipline of Show Horse only EA affiliated Ag Shows are exempt from Show Horse entrants requiring EA membership. Entrants into all other official Club or affiliated events require EA Participant membership at a minimum.

** In the State of QLD only, Interschool regional events from Rockhampton and north only require an EA Participant membership. For the QLD State Interschools Championships and all other Interschool events in QLD, they are classified as Competitive activities and EA Junior Competitor membership is required for entry.

Benefits for a COMPETITOR member

- Participate in all levels of competition in the sport – from participation level to competitive
- Participate in closed activities (refer to glossary of terms)
- Ability to purchase competition licences
- 24/7 Insurance
- 24/7 Insurance – value reward package (refer to glossary)
- Voting rights (18+ only)
- Access to EA & State Communications
- Full and Base Horse registration
- Member loyalty offers
- Accredited education programs

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PARTICIPANT

What is a PARTICIPANT member?

PARTICIPANT members are those who actively participate and contribute to grassroots and recreational equestrian sport activities. A PARTICIPATION member is permitted to compete in the 'participation' activity categories (see table below).

What membership category used to be a PARTICIPANT member?

Under your previous membership, you may have been one of the following categories:

- Recreational Senior/Junior
- Associate

PARTICIPANT activity categories

Below outlines the activity a PARTICIPANT member can compete and participate in depending on the discipline(s):

Dressage	Jumping	Eventing	Show Horse	Vaulting	Driving	Interschools	Conditions
Novice Prelim Prep National Para-Dressage – tests of all grades	1.04m and below	EvA80	Affiliated events*	Pre-novice Preliminary Barrel	Non-FEI levels and training events	Regional Events**	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be minimum EA Participant member • EA Horse Registration is encouraged and may be enforced (for bio-security purposes) • Competition licence not required

An EA Participant member may only compete/participate at levels of each discipline classified as participation activities (outlined above). For specific requirements for the allocation of grading points refer to the respective discipline rules – where a competition licence is required, the member must be an EA Competitor Member.

* In the discipline of Show Horse only, EA affiliated Ag Shows are exempt from Show Horse entrants requiring EA membership. Entrants into all other Club or affiliated events require EA Participant membership at a minimum.

** In the State of QLD only, Interschool regional events from Rockhampton and north only require an EA Participant membership. For the QLD State Interschools Championships and all other Interschool events in QLD, they are classified as Competitive activities and EA Junior Competitor membership is required for entry.

SUPPORTER

What is a SUPPORTER member?

SUPPORTER members are those that contribute to the competitive environment of equestrian sport but do not participate in competitions. They are recognised as having a significant contribution to the sport and give back through their various areas – as such, a discounted rate is provided for SUPPORTER members.

What membership category used to be a SUPPORTER member?

Under your previous membership you've held, you may have been one of the following categories:

- Officials
- Owners
- Coaches

Benefits for a SUPPORTER member

- Ability to purchase competition licenses
- 24/7 Insurance
- 24/7 Insurance – value reward package (refer to glossary)
- Voting rights (18+ only)
- Access to EA & State Communications
- Full and Base Horse registration
- Member loyalty offers (refer to glossary)
- Accredited education programs

Horse Registration

Full Horse Registration - lifetime registration of competitive horses permitting participation in equestrian competitive activities (this is the former horse registration members used).

Base Horse Registration ** NEW** - lifetime registration for horses not actively competing in competitive equestrian activities for owners who would like horse registrations for the purposes of bio security or securing a name. Having your horse registered on the database will ensure that should a disease breakout, your horse will be registered to relevant Government agency databases (such as Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF)) and other industry databases such as Animal Health Australia.

Benefits of a HORSE REGISTRATION	Full	Base
Lifelong registration	✓	✓
Bio-security/Microchip database records	✓	✓
Participate/results in Open Competitive activity	✓	✗
Participate in Open Participation activity	✓	✓
Registered by any EA member	✓	✓

Who can access which horse registration?	Full	Base
Competitor	✓	✓
Participant	✓	✓
Supporter	✓	✓
Club	✗	✗
Sport Affiliate	✗	✗
Commercial	✓	✓

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GROUP AFFILIATIONS

Group Affiliations are targeted at those bodies that conduct equestrian activities. When determining which Group Affiliations you would like to take with Equestrian Australia, please ensure you understand the conditions around closed events.

There are three group affiliation categories:

1. Clubs
2. Commercial
3. Sport Affiliates

CLOSED EVENTS are Club activities for club members to compete against other club members of the same Club (classes or training activities may be of any discipline level but must abide by the conditions of a closed event) AND/OR club activities for club members against invited EA members to a maximum level of class as defined as participation activity (refer to participation level competition).

Conditions of CLOSED EVENTS:

- Entries open to members of the host club or invited EA members
- Horses do not have to be registered
- Can only be conducted by EA Clubs – not Sport Affiliates or Commercial groups
- Classes for members only may be of any discipline level or to a maximum participation level for invited EA members

Clubs

What is a CLUB affiliation?

Equestrian clubs that support the membership and contribute to sport development of equestrian across the country. A CLUB affiliation provides similar benefits to those accredited CLUBS as previously delivered by EA and the State Branches.

What membership category used to be a CLUB affiliation?

This membership category has remained unchanged from previous membership affiliations.

Benefits of a CLUB membership

- Access to the most competitive Club insurance package
- Use of EA sport rules & intellectual property (IP)
- Easier access to EA Coaches and Officials
- Ability to deliver EA accredited programs (such as Ready Set Trot, Horse Management and Riding)
- Access to EA & State Communications
- Ability to conduct closed activities/events

Commercial

What is a COMMERCIAL affiliation?

Businesses or groups which align with Equestrian Australia (EA) to access EA services for a commercial benefit.

What membership category used to be a CLUB affiliation?

- Corporate members (e.g. equestrian centres, businesses)
- Riding centres/schools
- Horse breeders/studs
- Event licensees

Benefits of a COMMERCIAL membership

- EA insurance discounted packages
- Use of EA sport rules & intellectual property (IP)
- Ability to deliver EA accredited programs (such as Ready Set Trot, Horse Management and Riding)
- Access to EA & State Communications
- Full and Base Horse Registration
- Corporate members, horse breeders and studs may purchase a competition licence

Sport Affiliates

What is a SPORT AFFILIATE?

Equestrian groups which affiliate for the purpose of equestrian sport delivery.

What membership category used to be a SPORT AFFILIATE?

- National and State Associations (e.g. State Pony Club Associations, State Riding for the Disabled Associations)
- Breed Societies (e.g. Australian Warmblood Horse Association) and Show societies
- Schools
- Event organisers
- Constituents (e.g. Dressage NSW)

Benefits of a SPORT AFFILIATE membership

- EA insurance discounted packages
- Use of EA sport rules & intellectual property (IP)
- Easier access to EA Coaches and Officials
- Ability to deliver EA accredited programs (such as Ready Set Trot, Horse Management and Riding)
- Access to EA & State Communications

Glossary of terms

- **24/7 Insurance** – insurance as per current package visit <http://www.gowgatesport.com.au/equestrian/>
- **Insurance – Value reward package** – EA members are entitled to discounts on a range of Gow Gates insurance products including horse, equestrian business, farm and official top up insurance. Visit <http://www.gowgates.com.au/65/Equine>
- **Accredited education programs** – includes current education programs that provide an accreditation and require membership, e.g. Coaching and Officiating programs
- **Membership fee** – an annual fee (also referred to as a renewal fee) is charged to new and renewing members at the commencement of each member year relevant to the specific state and membership category selected
- **Base Horse Registration** - Lifetime registration for horses not actively competing in competitive equestrian activities, for example bio security purposes or securing a name
- **Clubs** - Equestrian clubs that support a membership and contribute to sport development
- **Closed Events** are Club activities for club members to compete against other club members of the same club. Classes or training activities may be of any discipline level but must abide by the conditions of a closed event; AND/OR club activities for club members against invited EA members to a maximum level of class as defined as participation activity (refer to participation level competition)
- **Commercial** - Businesses or groups which align with EA to access EA services for a commercial benefit
- **Competition licences** – Competition licences to be purchased by the owner or rider of the horse. All performance cards will now be referred to as competition licenses
- **Competitor Member** – Competitor members are those that participate and contribute to the competitive environment of equestrian sport
- **EA Communications** – includes E-news, E-blasts, postal communication, direct mail and other
- **Equestrian sport development** – includes national sport rules, committee management, event development, grassroots program development
- **Full Horse Registration** - may be listed as the owner of a horse that holds 'full' registration. Lifetime registration of competitive horses permitting participation in equestrian competitive activities
- **Joining fee** – a joining fee is a fee applied to any new member additional to the respective annual fee. A joining fee may be applied at any time throughout the membership year
- **Member loyalty offers** EA members receive a 10% discount on merchandise ordered through shop.equestrian.org.au as well as other offers as determined by their State Branch
- **New member** – a new member is any member that is joining the organisation for the first time or after an unregistered absence of minimum 30 days. The standard membership period is 12 months or the end of the State specific member year, whichever occurs first
- **Ownership transfer fee** – an ownership transfer fee applies to the owner details attached to a horse registration. The name of the owner attached to a horse registration may be changed at any time with the proof of ownership. The transfer fee is payable by the new owner at time of processing
- **Participant Member** - Participant members are those who actively participate and contribute to grassroots and recreational equestrian sport activities
- **Renewing member** – a renewing member is any member that is re-joining the organisation for the following year in a continual sequence. The renewal period commences 30 days prior to the end of the first membership year and concludes 30 days into the following membership year
- **Supporter Member** - Supporter members are those that contribute to the competitive environment of equestrian sport but do not participate in competitions
- **Sport Affiliates** - Equestrian groups which affiliate for the purpose of equestrian sport delivery
- **Upgrade fee** – an upgrade fee is applied when a member requests mid-year to change membership categories offered within the same state. The upgrade fee is the price difference between the original and the new membership category fees
- **Voting rights (18+ only)** – Voting at a state level for members 18 years and over.



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