

Australian Dressage Committee Meeting with Chairs of SDAs and Chair ADJC

Saturday 20 August 2016, from 0900 to 1700 at the Holiday Inn, Sydney Airport

Minutes

Welcome and Apologies

Meeting opened:

ADC	SDA	Other attendees
Mary Seefried (Chair)	QLD – Anita Barton	Kim Thomas – Chair ADJC
Sue Cunningham	NSW – Helen Lawson	Tracey Vardy – EA DO
Kerry Mack	VIC – Michael Bragge	
Hannie Byrne	TAS – Josie McGuire	
Prue Spurrett	SA – Lorraine Wohling	
Denise Rogan – Riders Rep	WA – Gill Botten	
	NT	

Apologies:

Paula Ward, EA CEO

Chris Webb, EA HPM

Judy Fasher, EA Board Chair

Julia Battams, EA NPD

1. Meeting Administration

1.1 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting Held on August 2015

Minutes 4/10/15

Separate document attached.

Moved – Michael, Seconded – Kerry Passed

1.2 Business arising from the above Minutes and Actions listed – All noted below

(Two small corrections to typos made.)

Reports

No	Item	Page
2.	Report from EA (CEO or delegate)	
3.	<p>Report – Dressage Performance Director – Julia Battams - including Brief discussion on Dressage Funding Post Rio</p> <p>Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - HP Squads – Still some questions about alignment of State and National squads - Need for a national reporting system that collects all results nationally including judges of tests - ADC would like to be involved with reviewing of dressage selection - ADC wants to understand that there is a debrief after the Olympics and 	59

	<p>would like to be involved</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recommend find a separate chef for dressage team for WEG and future Olympics and not use the same chef for Para Equestrian team as well as they had to leave early to work with para team and didn't get to finish off with the team. - Also question of team veterinary support – some questions to be raised 	
<p>4.</p>	<p>State/Territory Reports – state and club matters during 2015- Please use the template provided. Provide in written/digital format <u>prior to meeting to SH so that can be circulated to other states.</u></p> <p><u>As everyone had already read the state reports included in the agenda the floor was opened for questions.</u></p> <p>QLD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Why is DQ not running FOD in 2017 – Just too busy and OC needs a break Holding many National events in QLD 2017. - How did Fashions Event go – Not well attended but sponsors keen to duplicate in 2017 and try to build on attendance. - Regional Rider Subsidy = \$250 per rider (4-5 Riders over 400km travel) Similar offered for Regional Clubs running Official competitions to bring in the required judges (caped at 2 per year per club) NSW has similar club funding available. - Novice Club Challenge at CDI Brisbane =Implemented to help produce extra entry fees and attendance at the event =Encourages Participation =Clubs can run qualifiers =Clubs must provide minimum of 2 volunteers for event and need to attend with 10 people on the evening of the Club Championship =Club who meets criteria win the saddle not necessarily the club who wins the class - Gaining in popularity <p>VIC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Run a huge Team competition (Unofficial) between clubs – all scores added together for club event = Runs in conjunction with Official event = Lots of fun and entertainment - AOR – Hugely Successful Doubled attendance at Dressage Awards night (SOLD OUT) Made for a very busy awards ceremony Has had an amazing effect with 400 riders on leader board – If participation levels were at the right level it would be outstanding. - Membership Figures 2016 - 2000 cards 65 comps 7000 tests ridden Collecting this information would be interesting from ALL STATES need figures on active cards as well. <i>(*It was suggested that ALL States collect and share their states figures.)</i> - Perhaps an event culture change is required to run sustainable events – In Victoria every event runs at breakeven as a minimum Have cut excesses to keep events sustainable - Squad are active – different model but they are very active. Only have 1 coach but possibly having more choice like NSW may be better and encourage more attendance. 	<p>QLD 8 NSW 13 TAS 18 SA 21 WA 28</p>

	<p>NSW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Protocol Days working very well – other states keen to also run similar days. Need to be very structured and planned. - Clarendon Judge Protocol Days very successful - runs day prior to an event. \$65 non-members \$50 members <u>*Helen to provide more information on how the protocol days are run.</u> - If Squad combinations do not attend Squad Days what happens? They are off the squad. Immediately. *ALL Correspondence goes to Owners as well. (This helps keep the riders accountable) Squad riders were quite involved in planning so they were accountable and more likely to be happy to turn up. Using some squad members as squad coach but have 3 different coaches. <p>SA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Young Horse Plans (Correct date to 2017 showing as 2016) Met with different reactions from riders but was planned to get Young Horses ready to travel interstate. Have had maximum numbers of 20 horses. This is a good number. <p><u>Issues/Concerns :</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Getting Judges at events - Tasmania – struggling to get enough clubs to run events. Other states restricting clubs to a max of events per year to not overload the calendars or the judges - Participant Membership – Again calls to raise the participant levels – Mary said it has been voted against twice at EA Branch level and only supported by QLD so it is “dead in the water” for now. Maybe try again in a couple of years. ADC - Very disappointed – purpose was to increase participation base. - Funding/Cost differences between states – Suggest a standard on how to run the event be set for the CDI formats to assist ALL states to run their CDI events. Eg not all states can afford Business class airfares. Perhaps offer overseas judges the equivalent to a Premium Economy plus adaiky rate that is higher than the FEI fee could be seen as attractive. The judges could upgrade using points if need be if they wish to. <p><u>Positives:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participation Increasing in NSW 	
5.	<p>Report from ADJC Chair - Kim Thomas Paper</p> <p>A show of Thanks was given to Kim from the ADC for 10 years of service. (5 on the ADC and 6 on the ADJC committee obviously with a year that overlapped.) Kim cannot reapply having served 6 years on the ADJC and looks forward to having some time to ride her own horse.</p> <p>Meeting outcomes from ADJC meeting 19th August 2016 : Kim’s</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are 2 vacancies for next term – ADC to make up selection team Mary Suggested selection team should be made up of the ADC Chair, one SDA Chair (Asked Lorraine Wohling – SA who accepted) and an EA Board Member – Mary to ask Mark Arthur 	

	<p>General feedback is that the new Judge Practical Exam making criteria is working well.</p> <p>Questions: Ability to assist fast track riders through a one weekend course that includes a Judges Seminar and a two day show? ADJC says if it can be organised it's a great idea. Letter to be sent to SJC's suggesting that this could be done. It is likely that not all criteria can be completed but candidates would be well on their way.</p>	
6.	<p>Steward-General's Report Cathie Drury Klein Paper</p> <p>Before Cathy started her report the ADC wished to Congratulate Cathy on a fantastic job and thank her for all of her hard work that she does for the Dressage Committees.</p> <p>Report - As per page 28</p> <p>NSW & QLD funding Stewards clinics – there is a need to keep clinics Free or low cost to encourage attendance. We have been using Steward Mentoring at the larger events where there are FEI stewards attending.</p> <p>Looking forward to a review of the Education system. Some material is not current.</p> <p>SG ADC recommendations addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ADJC feels that It is required that a Steward to be used at State Championships events as well as “ Big Events” eg QLD 2 Stars, 2 day official and Regional Championship competitions. - Suggest that it be a requirement and that the steward receive the same funding as a judge - Stewards make the OC's job easier so this would be a great investment for the OC <p><u>ADC agreed that from 2017 each State Championship Event must assign an experienced Chief Steward of at least National Level accreditation.</u></p> <p><u>It is also highly recommended that a Steward be used at all Regional Championships as defined by the State Body.</u></p>	33
7.	<p>Equipment Committee report Paper</p> <p>Bitless Bridles – Letter sent to CEO – ADC was asked to discuss and address it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bitless bridles are permitted in some disciplines - Mary suggests that ADC thanks the person for their proposal and interest but we need to stick to the FEI rules - Stats in the proposal received are not good in this proposal and include statements like it is “Better” are not correct nor are the comments like it is being trialled by the FEI. Mary has actually confirmed this to not be true. - This may be something that will eventually be introduced in the future but for now the ADC will stick to the rules as per the handbook that state bitless bridles are not permitted.. 	36

	<p><u>Mary has respond to this proposal and included Paula in her response.</u></p> <p>Re Equipment queries. There is a new form on the EA website: <u>Application to the Stewards Equipment committee</u> please inform people that this is the process for any equipment queries. http://www.equestrian.org.au/sites/default/files/Application to Dressage Equipment Committee.pdf</p>	
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8. Australian National Championships 2016/and 17		
No	Item	Page
8.	<p>Australian National Championships 2016/and 17</p> <p>Report from ADC</p> <p>Secure Future of National Championships is unsure because of difficulties in funding the event.</p> <p>New Commercial Manager has been working on a New Triple Crown Series and the final for dressage at the Australian Dressage Championships would be great.</p> <p>Ideas: (From Helen)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Used to be run by DNSW and it meant that other events suffered - ENSW and new directors stepped in and said they will run Nationals in 2015 as DNSW didn't want to run it and ENSW have stepped in again for 2016 - ENSW is no longer keen to run the event in its current form in 2017 - We need to form a new sustainable model - Other Disciplines move around – State to State? - Need Ideas and input and ownership from every state - Need more National co-ordination of funding and sponsorship <p>Helen Proposes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Multi State committee – not sure it would work (expensive) - State contribution plan for a funding scheme for national events – perhaps a levy per rider - National Office - NEED more input and assistance from EA <p>Feedback/Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Other disciplines such as jumping have tried a levy plan and it was blocked at State levels - ADC view is that SIEC is the best venue for the event - Vic – Just cannot fit it in – Preference for it to be at SIEC – seems more central and a fantastic venue - Need to have National Board assist with funding for National Events - Require more market data to be able to secure lucrative sponsors – EA Commercial Manager? - Perhaps it has evolved to be able to be merged with a State Championships - BUT - A national championships provides an overview of where we are in the sport - Australian/Australasian Equestrian Games – eg All Disciplines National Champs together? - No recognition to States for supporting event? Cathy confirmed acknowledgement was given in programs and in media to each state dressage committee. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Suggested that recognition needs to get back to SDA's - It's everyone's event and every state needs to promote it. You are paying for it so you should support it. - A multi-state committee would perhaps see more ownership - EA needs to get more skin in the game. - States to possibly nominate a person to be included on a working committee - Current Steering committee is Bruce ENSW CEO, Mary ADC and a EA rep - Cathy feels that it would be too hard to have different state based people on one large committee. She would prefer help from states to enthusiastically promote the event. Need to get people to be involved, compete or attend as a spectator. <p>Actions:</p> <p><u>Each state to advise the ADC of a contact person who will be the event director's contact in regards to the National event and assist with marketing and promoting the event.</u></p> <p>ADC Suggests that the following be adopted:</p> <p><u>The total amount paid to the National event from each state will be calculated on the number of performance cards x \$3.00 Data to be sought</u></p>	
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9. General Business		
No	Item	Page
9.1	Proposed rule changes effective 1/1/17 paper Adopted	
9.2	UpGrading system and revised points paper Adopted	37
9.3	Helmets and Age Paper ADC is to introduce mandatory wearing of helmets at all National events as of 01/01/2017	40
9.4	<p>Proposed Yellow Card system paper</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To manage inappropriate behaviour by competitors <p>Suggested - Two Step Process</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Official verbal warning 2. Yellow Card <p>Questions as to who enforces the Yellow card were asked. Suggested could start with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FEI and National Accredited Stewards – Some training in conflict resolution experience and training <p>VIC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Keen to see good behaviour enforced - Concerns regarding details - Will it have the required outcome - Damage to reputation - Needs a draft and very careful consideration - Concerns re legal ramifications re no appeal if automatic suspension on second yellow card offence 	42

	NSW <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Generally supportive in the current system - See a strong case for having a Yellow Card process - Concern re fairness and procedures - Right of reply - Introduce Trial <p><u>To be added into the handbook for a 01.01.2017</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>Start to bring Dressage into line with SJ and Eventing Yellow Card processes</u> - <u>To be reviewed after one year</u> 	
9.5	Measurement of ponies and height certificates – rule changes Progress report Ongoing – Mary to inquire with David Shavin as to where we are at with EA Measuring Policy and the rule change needed for 2017 Dressage Rule Book	
9.6	FEI 2017 Rule Changes which we need to bring across into EA 2017 Rule Book - Paper Done	44
9.7	Revision of Rule Book – progress report The committee working with Sam Miles is Mary Seefried, Hannie Byrne and Denise Rogan. A first draft has been received and we are working towards responding to Sam Miles.	
9.8	Report on developments in PE in the national environment and FEI: Sue Cunningham Paper	47
9.9	National Calendar of Events - Youth Championships 2017- State PE Champs Mary to ask for dates for 2017/18	49
9.10	Elections for ADC: Mary Seefried, Sue Cunningham and Kerry Mack are due to step down but are eligible for re-election. Process of calling for applications will start in October. Elections for ADJC will also be held this year.	

10. Late General Business		
No	Item	Page
10.1	Changes to AAOR Rules for 1/1/17 Add or part owner. Discussions re other changes – AAOR is working – Decided to leave remuneration quantum as is. <u>Mary has finalised the changes in the AAOR Document</u>	50
10.2	Long term management structure for the AUS championships	57

11. Next Meeting August 2017	Meeting Closed at 5.20pm
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Dressage QLD for State Report 2016

State based initiatives to promote dressage

QLD Festival of Dressage is not running in 2016, but planning is already underway for May 2017, where we have Debbie MacDonald booked to present and are sourcing a 5* judge to present and host a judge forum.

Fashions in the Arena was hosted and live streamed world-wide as a fundraiser for DQ

A rider's clinic and rider/coach/judge masterclass with Stephen Clarke was held in November 2015 and was well received by all

A rider's clinic was held with Lilo Fore following the 2016 Brisbane CDI, and whilst the timing was poor for rider attendance, those who attended as either riders or spectators were extremely impressed.

We continue to provide a regional rider subsidy for riders from regional areas to attend our state championships, but have also extended this to include YR, Pony and YH state championships, as well as Brisbane CDI

We again hosted our annual 3 day young rider camp, which included lessons with premium coaches, seminars from professionals (veterinarians, physiotherapists, nutritionists etc). This year we also included a protocol day with 3 A level judges, and gave the riders an opportunity to practice tests with feedback, plus included a sit-in session for each test with other YRs and gave them an opportunity to witness the judging process, have a go at offering marks and practice at pencilling

For the first year we included young rider rosettes at our 1*, 2* and state championships, allowing them opportunities to compete against their peers for awards

Our novice club challenge was again hosted at the Brisbane CDI, and classes were extended to include preliminary (participant level). This brings in more entry fees and spectators to our event, and the opportunity for clubs to win a saddle to be used to raise funds for the club is a big incentive.

DQ continued to try and bridge the gap between the disciplines and hosted a multi-discipline High Performance seminar at UQ Gatton. Presentations were given by veterinarians, sports psychologists, an FEI competitor (one FEI protocols ie trot-ups, documentation etc), a sponsorship expert, Mary Seefried and Vince Corvi.

For the first time we hosted a State Young Pony championship at the Brisbane CDI. Entries were low, but appreciated by the pony riders.

A Pony Festival (similar to FoD) was held at Toowoomba to promote and educate pony dressage, and included seminars, displays and a masterclass, all specific to pony dressage.

Amateur Owner Rider, including acceptance by competitors and event organisers, leader boards and national competition

DQ continue to run:

- AAOR leaderboard – format to change for 2017
- Provision of rosettes for 1* and 2* events to encourage clubs to run AAOR. This continues

- to grow with many clubs requesting to be included in this initiative
- AAOR Championships specific to AAOR riders only

For 2016 we are trialling separate AAOR classes at State Championships, as per DNSW

In 2017 we will be holding an inaugural National AAOR Championship in October which will also be open to HRC AV riders, provided they are also competitive members of EA (ie HRC AV scores from equivalent levels will be accepted as qualifiers)

AAOR continues to be extremely well supported by QLD riders, although we struggle to keep riders out of the scheme who perhaps don't fit with the 'intention' of the AAOR division (ie riders with a lot of experience and capability, but are not necessarily professional riders)

Judges/Officials Education

Seminars/workshops with high profile visiting judges:

- Stephen Clarke
- Lilo Fore

Brisbane CDI hosted many judge educational opportunities, including shadow judging, sit ins and an A/B seminar

Judges upgrading	
2015	2016
1x A	2x A
0x B	2x B
1x C	4x C
5x D	2x D
0x E	4x E
4x F	5x F

Attendance at seminars/workshops down this year, but may be a consequence of the 3-yearly cycle

All seminars returned to being free to judges to attend

DQ began offering a regional judges assistance to our regional clubs to assist with obtaining judges for their championship events

- \$250 per event for a C level or above judge
- The event must fit the criteria of a 2* or championships (classes offered to GP, two classes offered at each level)

Major events report – Calendar , State Championships including youth and IS

DQ's calendar continues to be full

- 2* - 8x 2*/Championships on the calendar – continue to be well supported
- Brisbane CDI was a wonderful event with high quality competitors and judges, although entries were a little low, particularly in the GP-CDI class (consequence of Olympic year)
- Entries for the QLD State Championships in August are high, although sponsorship is low. Classes offered include Open, AAOR and PE with separate rosettes (but no championships) offered to YRs also. Ponies are eligible to enter, but no separate pony classes will be held (see below)
- Entries have just opened for the Youth State Championships – classes offered are the same as for Youth Nationals.

- An inaugural Pony State Championships was held in 2015 with unprecedented entries. The 2016 Pony State Championships will be held in October
- Entries for the IQ State Championships continue to be extensive

In 2017 DQ will be hosting:

- National YR Championships
- National IQ Championships
- National AAOR Championships
- As well as our normal Brisbane CDI, QLD State Championships
- PCAQ are also hosting the National PC Championships

DQ are working with EQ to hold a multi-discipline showcase event (A DQ initiative)

- FEI and YR-FEI classes
- World Cup SJ
- Indoor XC event
- Some kind of 'Garryowen-type' showhorse event
- An IQ Showman class

DQ continues to be well represented at interstate events, including excellent results at 2015 National Championships, 2016 CDI's and YR National

State squad report

DQ has a very high quality squad

- Senior Squad (16 combinations)
- YR Squad (13 combinations)
- Talent recognition Squad (6 combinations)

We have had a high attrition rate of squad horses this year due to injury, illness, death and sale

In 2017 our minimum criteria for qualifying for squad has been raised and events where riders can qualify has been made more stringent, which DQ expresses some concern about the achievability – we watch closely. At this stage few combinations are meeting criteria. However, we have abolished maximum numbers for squads and changed the criteria to state if you meet criteria, you are automatically included on the squad.

- State coach Bjarne Eleffesen. Squad clinics were initially very well supported this year, but due to an over-supply of clinics in the middle of the year we have struggled to fill clinics and the August clinic has been cancelled
- Squad continue to be provided with uniforms, subsidised lessons and free seminars, as well as discounts to other events

Senior squad sponsor (Equestrian Land Developments) locking in for 3 years
YR squad sponsor (Riders XOXO) sponsoring for the first time

State –wide picture of number of official events, number of riders, numbers at each level – any trends – positive/negative

Official events: 65

1* events: 5

2* events: 10

State Championships: 3

CDI's: 1

YH-only events: 4

National events: 0

Approx. rider numbers (based on State Champs entries)

Prelim/Novice/Elem – 35+ entries

Medium/Advanced – 30+

PSG – 30

Inter I – 20

Inter A/B – 5

Inter II/GP – 6

Overall decline in event entries at most events this year, particularly premium events. Cost? Too many on offer?

State Dressage membership information i.e. volume/percentage movement up or down;

(Not dressage specific)

EQ membership up 4% this year compared with this time last year. Horse registrations up significantly. Very difficult to ascertain dressage-specific statistics

Clubs feedback

Club events continue to be well supported.

Very little feedback from clubs (so I assume that means they're not too unhappy?)

Report on Para Dressage participation etc.

Para dressage numbers continue to be low

Grade 1A/B – 0 riders

Grade 2 – 3 riders

Grade 3 – 2 riders

Grade 4 – 3 riders

1x grade 3 and 1x grade 4 rider travelled overseas to attempt to qualify for Rio – neither were successful on this occasion

General Successes

QLD riders continue to be successful on a national level, including one rider selected for the Rio Olympic Team, although she had to withdraw (Kelly Layne).

QLD FEI judges continue to represent Australia around the world (Mary Seefried, Maria Schwennesen and Ricky MacMillan)

General Concerns

Participation classes continue to be low, and ongoing frustration from riders about the restrictions to levels

Riders who only participate in club events whilst continuing to use EA IP without contributing financially to it

Generalised apathy in supporting events, seminars, fundraising, committees

DQ/DQJSC would love to find a way to bridge the gap between judges and coaches. We struggle to engage coaches into any of our training/educational opportunities and many coaches are still

unaware of the training scale

Strategic Planning process and results.

DQ strategic plan rewritten in 2016
DQ continues to meet its targets

Financial position

DQ is in a solid financial position with over \$100k in the bank. We predict we will finish the year with less money in the bank than the end of 2015, but we hosted many free initiatives for members this year and continue to source ways to cover our less-performing schemes

QLD Riders Reps - Kirstine Phillips

No riders rep report available.

2016 Dressage NSW ADC Report

State based initiatives to promote dressage

- Regional Dressage Festival – special funding for regional clubs to run higher profile championship events
- State-wide AOR annual leader board (in addition to the longstanding open annual leader board)
- Clarendon Winter Festival – major mid-year competition with separate championship divisions for open, AOR, Young riders and Para aimed at increasing participation at a level below State Championships

Amateur Owner Rider, including acceptance by competitors and event organisers, leader boards and national competition

- AOR has been enthusiastically embraced by riders in NSW and is included in the regular competitions run by DNSW at Clarendon where AOR places are awarded separately to open places for those who nominate as AOR on their entries - culminating in a Clarendon AOR annual leader board awarded for the first time in 2015.
- In addition, in 2015 we started an AOR State-wide annual leader board which is awarded based on any official competitive results by an AOR at any club across NSW
- Separate AOR classes were run for the first time at the 2015 NSW State Championships and acceptance lists for the 2016 State Championships show widespread take-up, especially at lower levels (e.g., open prelim: 24, AOR prelim: 21, pony prelim: 13; open medium: 35, AOR medium: 17, pony medium: 6; open PSG: 27, AOR PSG: 8, pony PSG: 3) with no AOR above Inter 1.
- Some clubs have reported time consuming problems with trying to sort the AOR riders when many have not read the rules – we have suggested a checklist that riders have to work through to confirm they are eligible for AOR as part of the entry requirements and have used this for our States but there is pushback against running AOR in future from those who have had a bad experience. On the other hand, some other clubs are planning to start their own intra-club AOR leader board in the coming year

Judges/Officials Education

Seminars & Workshops:

- DNSW held 6 seminars at Clarendon competitions during 2016 across all levels, including New Rules (Jan – 70 attendees), E/F (Feb 20 attendees), C/D level (Mar 20 – 31 attendees), G level (May – 8 attendees), A/B (Aug – 30+ expected) – collectively, these have been attended by over 150 people – all seminars are provided free of charge to participants (cost to DNSW approximately \$11,000)
- The Sydney CDI International workshop (10th April) conducted by Maribel Alonso and Gary Rockwell was well attended by 142 judges, riders and coaches
- Funding (approximately \$5000) has been provided to 6 regional clubs throughout the state to run judges seminars in 2016: Grafton – (E/F – 28 attendees), Albury – (E/F/H), Far South Coast – (G), Mudgee – (G), Alexander Park – (G/F/E), ACT – (G/F/E) and Hawkesbury – (E/F)
- Stewards training courses: : funding of \$2000 has been provided to run 3 Dressage Stewards course (one Sydney metro, two regional) free of charge to participants
- DNSW provided a scholarship of \$4000 to Robyn Targa to assist with expenses associated with undertaking the requirements for her upgrade to FEI level
- DNSW has provided approximately \$2000 in subsidies to officials to assist with maintaining reaccreditation and upgrading
- DNSW has spent approximately \$3000 in exam marking, shadow judging and sit-in payments for new and upgrading judges
- DNSW Judge mentors have also been involved in running 2 eventing dressage seminars aimed at identifying and training eventing dressage judges to try to relieve the pressure on the existing dressage judges
- At Clarendon during FY 2015/16 DNSW has provided opportunities for 39 individual candidates (across 539 ridden tests) to undertake shadow judging and exams during our competitions as well

as many additional sit-in opportunities

- We currently have **35 applicants** who have registered their interest to judge (**G Level trainees**) since 1 August 2015. In 2015 we only had 3 G level candidates achieve accreditation however in 2016 we have already had **6 G levels** accredited with another about to come onto the list. The 2 day seminars held by regional clubs with associated shadow-judging opportunities has helped to boost these numbers significantly
- Since June 2015 we have had **7 judges upgraded** at the following levels: 1 from E to D, 6 from F to E in addition to the 7 new G level judges.
- We currently have **4 FEI riders fast-tracking** to D level and **1** to E level
- We currently have **9 judges upgrading**: **2** C level judges upgrading to B, **3** E level judges upgrading to D, and **4** F level judges upgrading to E
- We currently have **1 A level** judge undertaking pre-requisites to upgrade to FEI

Major events report – Calendar , State Championships including youth and IS

Sydney CDI:

- The 2016 Sydney CDI was billed as the last qualifying event before the Rio Olympics – unfortunately, due to withdrawals and injury there was only one combination competing that was in the running for Rio (Sue Hearn and Remington) which was disappointing
- Despite that, there was a full house on Saturday night and spectator numbers were up on the previous year
- The bringing forward of the event by 4 weeks (to accommodate the final date for horses to leave for European selection events) definitely impacted on entry numbers, especially young horses as the event was much closer to DJWTS than normal (and also possibly impacted on DJWTS numbers also) – if this is to occur in future, we would suggest that the calendar be adjusted for the whole year to allow adequate time between all events
- The major expenses was the cost of the international FEI judges, which was slightly in excess of \$55,000 as we opted for 2 Rio judges (Maribel Alonso and Gary Rockwell)
- The show jumping again proved a crowd pleaser but entry numbers were affected by the date change, meaning that the CDI fell in the week between the Sydney Royal and Elysian Fields Show jumping Classic
- With increased funding from ENSW and funding from NSW Sport & Rec, the event broke even, however ENSW funding will be reduced by \$10,000 in 2017 and funding from NSW Sport & Rec is doubtful, which will impact on its viability

State Championships:

- Comprising open, AOR, pony and para-equestrian classes, the 2015 State Championships was the largest event held in NSW in 2015 with just under 400 tests completed over 4 days and 270 horses competing
- In 2016, the NSW States are running a CDI-W for the first time and entries are reasonable with 13 horses entered for the Grand Prix and Freestyle and 445 tests in total entered across all levels and classes

Australian Youth Dressage Championships

- We were pleased with the event and the number of entries, 121 riders and 140 horses and ponies were slightly ahead of expectations with riders from NSW, Qld, Vic, SA and ACT taking part
- Numbers may have been higher but the event followed a large Interschool Championship and was the same weekend as a large pony club championship
- A large thank-you to Dressage Qld, Dressage SA and Equestrian NT for stepping in to help with sponsorship for the event
- There was a lot of questions about FEI Pony and FEI junior competitions and a fact sheet was prepared but more education would be of benefit
- Many riders stated that they preferred the EA levels as this allowed them to do two tests on one day – in future the schedule could be changed to allow for two FEI pony or junior tests on the same day and more might take the opportunity to enter

Calendar:

- Trying to juggle the calendar within the State is becoming more difficult each year – Toni has been working on the 2017 calendar for 5 months and there are still issues to be resolved with club clashes
- The wider Australian calendar also needs review

State squad report

- 2016 saw the start of a revamped squad program with \$30,000 funding from NSW and an additional \$10,000 from DNSW
- New squad selection criteria saw an initial squad of 16 horses named, with 4 horses subsequently added by Selectors through the year, bringing the squad total to 20 combinations as well as Lisa Martin for para-equestrian and Heath and Regardez Moi as Honorary members.
- Combinations must attend a minimum of 4 out of 6 one day clinics with instructors, Matthew Dowsley, Brett Parbery and Clemens Dierks which also incorporate off horse activities such as working with sports psychologist Warren Kinnaugh.
- In addition, there have been 2 x 30min protocol sessions (with Ricky McMillan and Maria Schwennessen) and we have a 2 day clinic scheduled post State Championships with Lilo Fore
- In 2017 a revamped young rider squad program will be implemented

State –wide picture of number of official events , number of riders, numbers at each level – any trends – positive/negative

- **44** - Number of active clubs and others running Official/Competitive events
- **185** - Number of official events in 2016
- Approximate number of riders: Actual numbers are hard to quantify but for example, in 2015/16 across **9 Clarendon competitions**, a total of **3289 tests** were ridden (most riders competed in 2 tests and some in 4 over 2 days of competition). Clarendon competitions are relatively large but still comprise only 5% of the number of competitions held annually in NSW
- Trend – participation numbers and number of competitive/official competitions similar to 2015

State Dressage membership information ie volume/percentage movement up or down;

- **647** members as at June 30 2016 (including Life, Senior, Junior, Clubs and subscribers)
- Compares with **655** as at June 30 2015 and **676** in 2014
- Trend is down year on year over the past 10 years with a 1.2% decrease from 2015 to 2016 and a 3.1% decrease from 2014 to 2015
- We added a reduced rate 'officials' membership category this year to try to attract more non-riding judges and stewards to join

Clubs feedback and projects funding:

- Significant issues relating to judge availability across all areas of the State with many clubs choosing to fly in interstate judges for their larger competition days and some having to cancel higher level tests due to lack of available A level judges. This is becoming a regular problem for clubs – recent Facebook posts have received responses from all over Australia. For example, in June the NSW Interschools Championships organisers approached every judge in NSW and many in both Qld and Vic and ultimately resorted to using some non-accredited judges for lower level classes as they just couldn't fill all the requirements.
- The DNSW Regional Sub-Committee ran a State-wide survey of all NSW clubs (with a 97% response rate) and overwhelmingly the major issue for every club was the difficulty (and expense for regional clubs) getting judges
- It is increasingly difficult to accommodate all club requirements for dates to run their competitions on the dressage calendar – for example, this weekend we have 7 competitions occurring in NSW and next weekend we have 6 with most running all levels. Most clubs have significant entries, for example, last weekend, a Sydney based club ran a competition (not its Championship) which had 226 tests across the levels. We have decided to request that club restrict their competitive events

<p>to 4 per year, although they will be allowed to run non-competitive or club days in addition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clubs report issues <u>policing AOR</u> and the number of complaints by other riders (refer AOR section above) • \$6000 in Regional Dressage Festival funding to run championships was distributed to regional clubs, including Wagga Dressage Club (Sep 2015), Bowral Dressage Club (Feb 2016), ACT –Canberra Dressage Assn (Mar 16), Young Dressage Club (April 16) and Manning Valley Dressage Club (Jun 16) in FY 2015/16. We have allocated a similar amount for FY 16/17 and Tamworth Dressage Club has already run theirs (Jul 16) • \$14,500 was distributed to clubs across the state (funded by both NSW and DNSW) for various special projects, including: upgrading arena markers, paying for additional judges for regional events, funding protocol days for regional clubs, refurbishment of sand arenas, purchase of storage facilities for club equipment, upgrade of scoring equipment, construction of multipurpose hut (see photo below), supply of mains electricity to clubhouse and the holding (including video production) of a writers workshop • Provided \$4000 funding to regional clubs for 6 judges workshops
<p>Report on Para Dressage participation etc.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All Para-equestrian levels are offered at both the Sydney CDI and NSW Championships with all levels on offer at selected Clarendon events (including the Winter Festival) and at some Sydney metro based club competitions • Entries have been down on previous years with some riders overseas for the Rio Olympics selection events
<p>General Successes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSW squad member Sue Hearn and Remington’s success in making the Rio Olympic team has proved a hugely popular in NSW at a grass roots level and is a great story for Australian-based dressage • Increased crowd numbers over 2015 at Sydney CDI • Revamped senior squad program • Successful AOR leader board and competition program at Clarendon • Significant funding provided to the Regional Clubs for competitions, judges education and special projects (in excess of \$25,000) • Significant additional funding for judges and officials education programs (in excess of \$25,000) resulting in increased judging numbers at some levels
<p>General Concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>2 judges rule for State Championships qualifications</u> – NSW has no issue for it to apply to National Championships but application in the future to State Championships will preclude many NSW country (especially AOR) riders from qualifying for State Championships – given no classes have reserve lists, it would seem counter-productive to preclude people who want to participate when we are trying to grow our sport • <u>AOR guideline clarification</u>: request change to note that the rider needs to be the owner <u>or part owner</u> of the horse to qualify (currently it just says owner and this is confusing where a parent owns a share) • <u>National Championships</u> – need for a sustainable model to run the Nationals into the future without relying on one state to run it • <u>Lack of judges</u> – a severe shortage of judges and difficulty in recruiting new judges is a constant problem throughout NSW despite active recruiting • <u>Complaints about judges</u> – a significant issue for NSW is the lack of a clear process to deal with a small number of judges that we are continually receiving complaints about: example: we have an A level judge who over the last 11 years has had over 40 complaints lodged with DNSW (including from senior riders such as Brett Parbery, Judy Dierks and Rodger Fitzhardinge) against her including 3 in the last 2 months: these last complaints include: marks not reflecting what actually happened in the test or correlating to the comments; eliminating a 13 yo girl at a closed unrestricted club t-

shirt day for not wearing gloves and then proceeding to tell her what a bad and cruel rider she was and making her cry; and while judging a prelim test, making every rider dismount their horse, loosen their nosebands to the last hole while giving them a lecture about cruelty, resulting in the test running over 1.5 hours late (she wound up her window and refused to talk to the OC when approached). This judge has had repeated counselling over the years but refuses to acknowledge any issues – she clearly has some mental health issues and her behaviour worsens over the course of the day. We have resorted to lodging a formal complaint with ENSW under the EA Members Code of Conduct but this is tenuous at best as most of her issues relate to judging. In the absence of any guidance within the National Dressage Rules to deal with such situations, DNSW is planning to develop a set of protocols of how to address such issues (to date clubs have been told not to use her and riders told to scratch if she is on a draw and they don't want to ride under her but she remains on the list as an A level judge and actively seeks judging appointments to the point of harassing clubs)

Strategic Planning process and results

- Jan 2016 saw the DNSW committee Strategic planning day agree to restructure our committee into 5 main areas: Major Events, Squads, Clarendon, Regional/Clubs and Judges
- Each sub-committee worked on a strategic plan for their area and the team leader reports against the achievement of the agreed objectives and outcomes at each committee meeting
- We have also sought to further develop an effective working relationship with ENSW to deliver agreed outcomes

Financial position

- DNSW was lucky to receive an increased budget from ENSW for the FY 2015/16 and as a result we were able to significantly increase the judges and officials training program, implement a revamped squad program, distribute over \$25,000 to our regional clubs for RDF and Special Projects and invest in bringing 2 FEI 5* Rio judges (Maribel Alonso and Gary Rockwell) to the Sydney CDI.
- The DNSW Clarendon competitions were financially successful in 2015/16 on the back of no rain cancellations and increased participation (3289 tests ridden in FY 2015/16).
- Unfortunately, we will not receive the same amount of funding for the FY 2016/17 due to the ENSW financial position and we have agreed a revised budget with ENSW

Example of DNSW/ENSW Special Projects Funding (Young Dressage Association)



Dressage TAS State Report 2015/16

State based initiatives to promote dressage

DTas participated in AGFEST this year along with the other Sport Affiliates to promote dressage to AGFEST attendees. AGFEST provides a huge audience for us in Tasmania as the largest rural event with an estimated 60,000 plus patrons over three days. DTas SDA members were onsite each day providing 'showbags' with info on how to join DTas and information in relation to where and when events were held. We found this "dip of the toe into the waters" of AGFEST enticing 😊 and we intend to build on experience and have a greater presence in 2017 with a view to members providing demonstrations.

DTas current financial members continue to receive a discount on their entry fees.

There have been a number of training/come try days which are not hugely supported, however we will continue to persevere.

Amateur Owner Rider, including acceptance by competitors and event organisers, leader boards and national competition

AOR has not been taken up state wide by event organisers with only 4 AOR events being run in the south, however we will continue to push for the Series to go state wide. We have a state HOTY and one zone (north west) also have a HOTY, we are trying to encourage the NW zone to introduce something other than a HOTY, something like a newcomer award perhaps.

Judges/Officials Education

DTas has been quite busy with judge's education for the year. We had a seminar with Maria Schwennesen on Jan 15th that was well attended and a club educational night with them. There would have been approx. 60 people there that night if not more.

We've recently had a G, F and E Judges clinic in the south with Sue Chandler. There were 19 registered to attend and 2 prospective judges.

The NW recently had a C/D judge's clinic with Jane Ventura. 10 EA judges attended, 1 PC judge and 4 riders.

We also assisted with a judge clinic on Flinders Island that Bert Gibson gave.

So far we have:

- passed 3 new G level judges with more prospectives upcoming.
- Belinda Snooks is in the process of upgrading to E
- Sue McDermott is updating to C
- Judy Aitkinson is updating to B
- Sheelagh Beech returned to C level
- Kerrie Swan-Bates to FEI level.
- There are two in the process of returning to judge.
- Both Kerrie and Bert have completed the process to be Judge Educators.

Major events report – Calendar , State Championships including youth and IS

State Champs held on March at the Tasmanian Equestrian Centre and were well attended. Our State Champs include Young Horse and Para events.

The 2015/16 season saw 22 Competition days run throughout the state with a similar number forecast for 2016/17.
Interschools is not very well supported in Tasmania however IS classes are offered at almost all competitions.

State squad report

This year was the first year of a revamped squad criteria and set clinics with the state coach. The feedback with respect to the coach has been fantastic with all squad members reporting positive outcomes from his coaching.
The SDA also supported our State Coach by providing funding to attend the State Coach Workshop.
The SDA would like to see squad members drive the squad clinic agenda and assist with costs by fund raising.

State –wide picture of number of official events , number of riders, numbers at each level – any trends – positive/negative

23 competitions 2015/16
6 training days
Membership numbers remain steady.
Trends remain similar with respect to combinations competing through the levels.

State Dressage membership information ie volume/percentage movement up or down;

Membership numbers remain steady.
Approximately 200-220 members.

Clubs feedback

There are no 'dressage clubs' in Tasmania per se, DTas as the sport affiliate run all events via the three zones North, North West and South. All zones report a decreasing number of volunteers for committees and to run events, and always have issues securing suitable judges (no conflict of interest)

Report on Para Dressage participation etc.

Tasmania only has one para competitor.

General Successes

Membership volume holding steady in spite of the many competing equestrian sports.
We have a wonderful judges education co-ordinator in Suzanne Betts who is very active with seminars/updates and workshops.

DTas continues to provide financial support to squad riders either via reduced lesson costs or by providing educational experiences.

Suzanne Betts won EA Official of the Year 2015/16. Well deserved.

General Concerns

Committee and organising folks. It falls to the same old same old and we are seeing burn out.

Getting new judges.

Attracting new members.

Strategic Planning process and results.

Unfortunately this year we have not had a planning meeting as we usually do. Whilst we had a record number of people wanting to be on the SDA 2015/16 (16) the number dwindled to 10, with a hard core of seven attending most meetings, our treasurer was on the injured list for the last six months and one of SDA members passed away. So we missed our goal of a new constitution this year, but we will have finalised in 2017.

Financial position

Financial position is strong. Following the AGM 9 Sept, we expect the new SDA will call for applications for grants from the zones as there is a need to disperse some funds.

Riders Reps - Suzanne McDermott

No riders rep report available.

State based initiatives to promote dressage

Treasure Trove - SA State Squad riders hosted a 'Treasure Trove' event in May whereby they donated ribbons and ran the event themselves. Not only was this a great fundraiser, but the excitement of winning an FEI donated ribbon generated a huge amount of discussion and promotion amongst riders. This was an encouragement event, and riders who had never competed at EA level before we encourage to join in.

State Dressage Championships - April saw the SA Dressage Championships attract attention from across the country, including snippets of live-streamed tests via social media. Full details on this event are included further on in this report.

Youth - Increased Youth participation including interstate judges and inclusion in Senior SA Squad clinics has been beneficial and has driven a strong supportive camaraderie amongst the younger riders.

We have also hosted targeted clinics, the Youth Development Scholarship weekend, squad get-togethers and entered State Teams at national and state events.

Social Media - In general, an increased positive use of Social Media has encouraged discussion and sharing of educative information, news and ideas.

Moving Forward Magazine – The hard copy magazine continues to provide information to riders from all clubs. It is also a tangible way for us to promote sponsors.

Amateur Owner Rider, including acceptance by competitors and event organisers, leader boards and national competition

AOR has been widely accepted by South Australian riders, and is seeing strong promotion and acceptance by riders who are proudly promoting their wins and placings.

AOR has caused some grief and teething problems, but a year on we feel confident the clubs are getting a grasp of it all and the importance of having AOR on the draw and results for leader-board purposes even if no separate AOR classes at their competitions (advertised as leader-board events).

The issue that has come up is eligibility, especially if AOR riders have sponsorship and publicly advertise this then go and compete as an AOR – whatever that sponsorship may be.

This has caused some negative 'back of the float' discussion at competitions etc.

It has been suggested that a standard template letter could be sent to riders flagged with a question mark regarding eligibility. EA letterhead (rather than state letterhead) may assist in avoiding situations of perceived 'targeting'.

Leader-boards are proving to be extremely time consuming but there is no way around this unless every club uses the same software and layout – the current SA coordinator is required to manually collate this information.

Note – Clubs have also raised issue with the number of classes they need to hold at events – Competitive, participation, pony, young rider/junior, closed restricted, closed un-restricted and now AOR.

Judges/Officials Education

South Australia has 40 judges and 11 Judge Candidates (2 more than in the last accreditation period and a very positive number compared against our membership).

Our small but enthusiastic Dressage Judges Committee has provided ongoing quality educational opportunities for SA judges throughout the year. Our policy is to bring in experienced Judge Educators from interstate with fresh ideas, and we always offer local Judge Educators the opportunity to co-facilitate to continually improve their skills so they can better help our upgrading judges.

The increase in judge candidate numbers and retention of judges is largely due to our policy of keeping in regular contact with particularly lower level judges so they feel supported in what can be a rather isolating system.

We actively encourage coaches, riders and spectators to attend all of our events hoping to draw in new people from grass roots such as Pony Club.

Seminars

Over the year the Judges Committee ran:

- Young horse Seminar which enabled 9 Young Horse Judges to reaccredit.
- 2 day G/Probationary, Novice & Elem Level Seminar - this drew 3 G candidates, 2 x E levels, and 3 HRCAV accredited judges plus observers from Pony Club
- Medium /Advanced Level Seminar
- Para Equestrian Judges Seminar – as a result of this we now have 4 new Para Equestrian Judges accredited and 4 existing judges were reaccredited
- Grand Prix /Int II/ Int I /PSG Seminar
- Probationary/G Level & Eventing Judges Seminar

Workshops

- 2 with Christoph Hess dvds, Lilo Fore dvd night
- Full day Workshop with Martin Plewa (GER)
- Rules Workshop
- 'Basic dressage' workshop

Judges upgrading

1 has fast tracked to Elem, 1 new Medium Level judge & 1 on the way, 1 new Novice, now part way to Elementary, several of the G Levels are actively working on F Level, 1 C Level actively upgrading, 1 B Level is actively upgrading, and 4 new para judges and 4 reaccredited.

Club involvement

All clubs have been approached and explained how they can be positively involved in the process of attracting and educating judges.

One club has agreed to provide funds for specific educational projects. This club also covered the expenses of the Young Horse Seminar by successfully applying for an Active Clubs Grant to support training of officials & volunteers.

Other ways in which our dressage clubs are getting involved:

- running judges seminars in conjunction with DSA (the G/E/F seminar)
- agreeing to support a particular judge – say contract them to give back x days judging
- putting mentor judges with lower level judges on competition days to enable lower level judges to get necessary assignments as well as mentoring
- paying for a local Judge Educator to sit on the side of a competition arena to mentor several judges at a time
- working with DJC on choice of interstate judges for championship days so we can make full use shadow judging, sit-ins & examiners.

Further resources

We worked with Australian International Horse Trials to provide maximum mentoring opportunities for local officials (e.g. all pencilers for international judges were accredited local judges).

Sought Coaches Committee endorsement & involvement to assist with a full day Workshop with Martin Plewa (GER) (and made use of Sport Development Grant Funding of \$1000).

Approached other state DJCs for resources and were able to source dvds of Christoff Hess & Lilo Fore to run workshop nights (22 people attended the first of these workshops).

We produce a bimonthly newsletter to disseminate relevant information & stimulate discussion.

Major events report – Calendar, State Championships including youth and IS

The SA Championships were held over the weekend of 30 April and 1 May with support from a number of sponsors including Hygain as naming rights sponsor. The event is considered a success, financially and more generally.

A lot of positive feedback has been received via social media and more formally from spectators, competitors and sponsors. Mount Crawford Dressage Club grounds have permanent sand arenas and the benefit of this infrastructure from an organiser's perspective cannot be underestimated.

We made a strong commitment to promoting our sponsors/supporters, including a short promotional video. All aspects contributed to a positive vibe for the event and we hope this will continue into the 2017 event.

We were thrilled to have a good number of junior/YR's entered for the event who were all able to take advantage of the ESA Development Grant which assisted us with the addition of an extra interstate A Level Judge. This meant all riders were able to ride at least one test in front of "fresh" eyes.

Our committee is seeking to include profits from this event as a carried forward line in our budget for 2017 so that the event has a small financial base from which to commence, rather than need to start from scratch.

Class numbers included:

- Preliminary - 23 Open, 7 Pony and 9 Youth
- Novice - 23 Open, 7 Pony, 12 Youth
- Elementary - 4 Youth, 12 Open
- Medium - 12 Open, 2 Youth
- Advanced - 9

- 16 x Prix St Georges
- 7 x Inter I, 3 x Inter II, 3 x Grand Prix

* Note – interschool classes ran concurrently at our State Championship events for those who were eligible.

We strongly recommend, going forward, there are no clashes between major equestrian events. The date we held the event was the date agreed between SA discipline committees in 2015 and unfortunately Reynella Horse Trials moved to this date as they had run over that weekend in the past. Whilst DSA had no major concern at the time, with the benefit of hindsight, the clash should not have occurred as it placed unnecessary strain on our officials and volunteers.

The 2016 SA State Championships hosted specific Youth events, which enabled our riders to qualify for the Australian Youth Championships and Victorian Youth Championships, where our team was well represented with placings and wins and overall came second at both events in the State Teams Events.

Plans are in place for a fantastic Young Horse Championship in February 2016, at the McLaren Park Equestrian Centre. This centre is gaining respect as the premier centre in the state, and hosting this event there with interstate judges affords it prestige and excitement.

The 2017 SA Dressage Calendar has been set with the cooperation of all Dressage clubs. Of particular note has been the discussion to allocate FEI days, meaning that we can try to address the strain on our small pool of A and B level judges. This has been well received by clubs.

State squad report

In 2016 we appointed Ricky MacMillan as the South Australian Squad coach. This has been extremely well received by riders.

During clinics, Invitations have been extended to the Show Jumping and Eventing Squads to take up the handful of spare lessons that are available after offering all lessons to the SA Squad members. To date, we are delighted to have two show jumping riders and an eventer who have accepted our invitation (Mark Lindh and Anthony Thomas and Junior Eventing Squad rider Skylar McFarlane).

We are thrilled to be able to offer lessons on the Sunday of our three day clinics to each of our Junior/YR squad members and these have been taken up with enthusiasm.

As outlined, our Senior Squad members recently raised around \$3,000 by hosting a “Treasure Trove” event. All levels were judged by our squad members and squad members organised the event, including catering and donated rosettes and rugs as prizes. The goodwill created with grass roots members was fantastic with a lot of new people having a go for the first time. Note this event was run under the banner of the Mount Crawford Dressage Club due to their insurance remaining with AON and thereby allowing competitors to access “Day Membership”. Whilst we appreciate the rationale behind there no longer being “day memberships”, we would not have been able to host this event without access to this benefit.

The group has raised these funds for the purpose of funding further squad clinics. We simply cannot afford to support a state squad coach without the squad’s input.

Having disciplines represented at National competition level is a key role for all discipline

committees under the Equestrian SA Constitution and we are working toward this.

Our aim with squads is to have a team at the National Dressage Championships in October 2017.

Of note, we were very pleased to have been represented at State level at the recent Victorian Youth Dressage Championships and the Australian Youth Dressage Championships, SA placing 2nd in the teams event at each competition.

State –wide picture of number of official events , number of riders, numbers at each level – any trends – positive/negative

Number of official riders at competitions have remained stable.

Through promotion of interschool and junior classes, we have seen an increase to the number of youth at regular competitions.

Events across the 2016 year include:

- 34 competitive
- 29 participant
- 35 closed unrestricted
- 5 para-equestrian
- 5 interschool
- 15 FEI

State Dressage membership information ie volume/percentage movement up or down;

TBC

Clubs feedback

Increased number of Classes/Awards offered without a direct increase in the number of riders, just means more cost and work for clubs. Clubs have suggested EA consider consolidating some of the various categories.

SA does have more clubs offering HRCav options to help increase rider numbers. To date, 3 ESA clubs have affiliated with HRCav with others investigating the option. This is expected to impact EA numbers and is something that is being discussed by DSA for ideas on how to address it. Feedback from other states on this challenge is appreciated.

Report on Para Dressage participation etc.

DSA has looked at hosting a future classification day if there is sufficient interest.

Discussions have been held about how to best promote this, and DSA will continue to communicate with the Para representatives to promote this appropriately.

In the last 12 months, 1 rider became classified, and we were fortunate to have her compete at the 2016 South Australian Dressage Championships.

General Successes

Youth participation has seen a boost in the last 12 months, with great camaraderie amongst young riders. We welcomed Claire Seidl from NSW for our Scholarship weekend in October, and again in June to coach the SA Junior and Young (Youth) riders. This event was well supported by riders from around the state, and offers discounted sessions to Youth riders, funded by our ESA Development Grant. This is being very well received and will work to build camaraderie and grow

skillsets within our younger riders.

Performance medals - We have commenced distributing the gold, silver and bronze performance medals and these are being well received by our competitors. We have no doubt interest will grow as more people see that they are eligible.

General Concerns

The impact of clubs aligning to HRCav will become apparent as some choose not to re-accredit with ESA.

The increasing challenge of also attracting and retaining ESA registered riders when they have the choice of ESA or HRCav, and we have a lot of entry-level riders, continues to be present.

Strategic Planning process and results.

DSA was pleased to take part in the ESA Strategic Planning session in early 2016, with input to the direction. This process highlighted consistency amongst all disciplines, including the need to attract grass-roots members, the enthusiasm for a State-based Equestrian facility, and the need to innovate the communications.

This workshop resulted in the Board drafting a Strategic Plan, to which DSA was able to provide feedback before finalisation.

The plan is yet to be finalised and published.

At discipline level we have narrowed our own focus down to the five key areas bullet pointed below under "Financial Position".

Financial position

DSA continues to perform at an acceptable level financially and has been profitable across the last five year period.

According to ESA's financials the committee has around \$60,000 in reserves.

Whilst we don't anticipate dipping into the reserve funds, the Committee does intend to invest back into the sport of dressage, specifically through:

- Events to showcase Dressage
- Development of our State Squads
- Youth Development
- Judges and Officials Education
- Communication

Riders Reps

Our South Australian rider's rep reports – "I haven't had many complaints/concerns at all. The only thing, that keeps coming up every now and then is the AOR eligibility. It is still quite hard to define, who falls into that category, especially where there is sponsorship involved. It seems the general thought is, that if a rider is officially sponsored, he/she is not really an amateur anymore.

There is ambiguity surrounding whether or not grading points are awarded at Novice level. This needs clarification as a matter of priority as there are a number of riders who are in this category and they want to do the right thing, but need clarity to achieve this.

It is suggested that performance cards for a newly registered/young horses should be Preliminary/Novice, not Preliminary to assist with clarity.

2016 Dressage WA State Report

State based initiatives to promote dressage. Gill Botten, Chair

In November 2015 Dressage DJTF in conjunction with HP and DWA hosted Stephen Clarke for six days. This initiative included a Masterclass featuring our top combinations and guest rider Brett Parberry. Stephen also conducted a workshop for judges as well as coaching sessions for our squad riders and judging an official competition. This event was extremely well supported. It also included a Young Rider Challenge where the winner received funding to compete interstate in 2016.

In May 2016 DWA hosted Christoph Hess at a Masterclass, which concentrated on our top event riders as well as our dressage riders. He also coached our squad riders. This was also well attended by riders, coaches and spectators.

Utilising International Judges/Coaches seems to be a successful initiative to promote dressage in WA.

Another initiative came from an Adult Riders Club who requested an evening of discussion with topics of their choice. Judges Dwight Pedlow and Gill Botten were the convenors with videos, discussion and interaction making it a worthwhile event. It seems other clubs may take up this idea in the future. DWA also held a Riders Forum, which was kindly hosted by Horseland Midland. This involved a short talk from Harry Boldt and then a session where riders could put questions and concerns to the committee or refer relevant questions to the EWA board for later discussion. This proved very popular and DWA has one regional and another metro forum planned for later in 2016.

Amateur Owner Rider, including acceptance by competitors and event organisers, leader boards and national competition

Despite suggesting to clubs the Amateur/Owner classes were available to run, this has not really been taken up in WA. Only one event was run, by PDC. One problem seems to be the criteria, which appears to have some grey areas leading to riders being unsure as to whether they qualify in the category. Another issue affecting this matter is that Participant classes are extremely popular in WA. DWA committee members are now working on a format that may come in line with National classes and work for WA

Judges/Officials Education. DJTF section-Elaine Greene Chair DJTF

WA currently has 55 NOAS accredited judges with a further 12 potential judges in training. There was an increase in number of people wanting more information on how to become a judge after the Stephen Clarke visit in November 2015. The EA Booklets are a great resource to send to those interested. We have been focusing on encouraging country members to start their training. To this end we have funded regional seminars through the DJTF and supported those clubs with help running the days. We have several keen regional seminar attendees looking to apply to become a judge in the not too distant future.

We are trying to improve our conversion rate of applicants to G level judges with setting up a support system via email and regional back up by JE and Mentors.

Over the past 12 months our Judge Education program has included presentations by Stephen Clarke, Christoph Hess, Harry Boldt, Maria Schwenessen, Ron Paterson, Wendy Barker, Kim Thomas, Barrie Stratton and Liz Coe.

The National NOAS Judges education attendance records are a positive step forward in

streamlining our accreditation process.

Thanks to Lesley for her ongoing support of the State Dressage Judges Committees.

Major events report – Calendar, State Championships including youth and IS. Gill Botten: Chair

The State Championships were held in May 2016. There were record entries with over 450 tests being ridden over two days. The major Sponsor was John Hughes with many other class sponsors. The event supported the charity Cystic Fibrosis, which meant theming the advertising with roses, worked well as the Sunday was Mother's Day. This year the event was organised and run by a working party specifically allocated to the States and this seemed to work well as the workload was shared. Having the States in May means riders can get qualification scores in the first half of the year and also the weather is more reliable.

The Masters Series continues to be popular and the 2016 Final will take place in September in conjunction with the Penny Hill Park Rising Star competition and the Horseland Young horse competition.

Interschools has proved very popular in WA with all qualifiers being well supported, especially at the Preliminary, Novice and Elementary levels.

DWA plans to run a Young Rider Challenge event possibly in March 2016. After investigation, numbers do not support running a YR Championship but hopefully an event specifically designed for Young Riders might encourage our up and coming riders.

State squad report. Gill Botten HP Rep.

The WA State Dressage Squad had 10 members. In 2015, the development squad 8 members and the Young Rider Squad 12 members. There is one member who is currently Interstate. The mid-year review is just taking place and will be published next week. It is pleasing to note that there has been movement onto the State Squad from the Development Squad for some riders whose scores are showing an upward trend. Riders benefited from the visits of Stephen Clarke and Christoph Hess.

Funding is available for Squad members who wish to travel Interstate to compete.

Three squad members competed at the Nationals in Sydney in November 2015 and it is hoped that more will travel over this year.

State –wide picture of number of official events , number of riders, numbers at each level – any trends – positive/negative

41 Official competitions have taken place during the past year. This year we have 27 horses competing at FEI level, 24 at advanced, 55 at Medium, 69 elementary, 119 Novice, 72 Preliminary, 4 Para equestrian and 6 Young Horse.

Obviously horses compete at multiple levels but this is the overall picture.

Lower levels Preliminary to Elementary are well patronised.

There was an increase in riders competing at Medium level although as per in previous years numbers at Advanced level are relatively low.

State Dressage membership information i.e. .volume/percentage movement up or down;

423 dressage cards were issued-90 Pony.

This is stable although there has been an increase in Pony cards from 60 to 90.

Clubs feedback. Clubs rep: Marjory Stanger

Dressage clubs in WA are continuously offering rider's very high standards of competition as well as riders' clinics presented by a variety of local, interstate and overseas instructors.

Dressage WA is always available to assist any of the clubs running their competitions, unfortunately we would like to see more events being offered but as with everything they take a lot of time and dedication by often just a few members of the club.

All the clubs are fully informed via Facebook and Dressage WA of any rule changes or updates as well as a very comprehensive newsletter every month. As a new initiative in the newsletter I am going to submit an article featuring tips for organising events, aimed at clubs who are new to this.

2016 Report on Para Dressage participation etc. Val Mayger. WA PE Representative

This year has been quite exciting for our WA Para Equestrians as they have followed Sharon Jarvis's, sometimes "bumpy", Road to Rio.

Sharon has been an inspiration to our riders as she has battled a broken leg and subsequent surgery to finally gain selection in the Australian Paralympic Team.

Throughout her campaign, Sharon has worked tirelessly for the 'Sock it to Sarcoma' organisation. This organisation works with those who are the survivors of Ewing's Sarcoma, the cancer that Sharon contracted as a child.

The Western Australian Equestrian Community has joined Sharon on her journey by enthusiastically supporting fund raising events and donating to auctions. She has publically expressed her appreciation, on many occasions and when she is in WA gives generously of her time to judge and help RDWA riders.

Western Australian Para Equestrian Squad

We have two Squads – a Development and a State Squad.

In all, these squads consist of eight riders. Unfortunately, two of these riders have been without horses for most of the year and are on hold. To their credit they have attended clinics, unmounted.

Three clinics are held throughout the year with Level 3 Dressage Coach, Roz Tippett. These are funded by the riders and RDAWA Dressage. EWA and RDAWA Dressage have a partnership which allows us to provide top coaching for our riders at a very reasonable cost. EWA do not charge for the use of the venue or equipment.

A highlight of our clinics this year was the visit of EA Director of Dressage and Para Equestrian, Julia Battams. Julia was in WA to work with Sharon Jarvis and offered to hold a clinic, over two days, with our PE Squads. The riders thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to work with Julia and it also gave her an opportunity to assess some of our newer members. Julia very generously donated her time and EWA donated the use of the venue.

Competitions

Dressage WA has continued to include Para Tests in all the competitions run by the committee – State Championships, Master Series Final and FEI Showcase.

The State Championships and Masters Series Final include EA PE tests and FEI PE tests and the FEI Showcase includes FEI PE Tests. Although we don't have huge numbers competing, we did have ten tests ridden at the State Championships and three tests in the FEI Showcase.

Various other clubs, who are affiliated with EWA, have also run tests.

Classification

We have two riders waiting to be classified. EA has been contacted and we are hoping that classifiers may come to WA for two riders.

General Successes

- The newsletter as a communication tool, also the Facebook page.
- Masterclasses well supported and beneficial to HP riders.
- State Championships record entries.
- Supporting charities for major events-popular with sponsors and riders.
- Rider's forums have been well supported.

General Concerns

Although we had a great working party formed to run the State Championships it is challenging to keep finding volunteers to help run major events without them burning out. We continue to have many skilled people helping to run dressage in WA but there are only so many hours people can give.

The WAEA office has been extremely helpful in working alongside the committee and the more we can utilise their skills and time to run the sport, the more efficient we will become. We are also investigating a way to provide paramedics at major events without yet again levying riders.

Strategic Planning process and results.

In response to requests from riders it is hoped to have more competitions on the calendar in 2017.

A Young Rider championship was factored in for 2015 but after research it has been proposed that there will be a Young Rider Challenge competition in 2017. Part of the forward planning for 2015 was to create a working party to run major events rather than having all responsibility with one person. This worked extremely well and we hope it will be sustainable in the future. The strategic planning for 2017 is a work in progress.

Financial position Treasurer: Dinah Fleming :

Dressage WA Riders Development Fund (DDF) is annually used to fund the sports priority areas. The amount of money available always depends on the amount of rider levies collected in the previous year.

The following were DWA's priority areas:

- Judge Education and Training - \$6,000
- Stephen Clarke FEI 5+ Dressage Judge - \$2,000
- Dressage WA events – State Dressage Championships \$4,000, Master Series Final \$2,000, two National Young Dressage Horse Qualifiers \$500 each.
- WA Junior/YR Dressage Championship - \$2,000
- WA State Champions bursary to compete at the Australian Dressage Championships - \$7000.
- Dressage WA – sport prizes, awards and administration- \$5,500

The WA State Dressage Championships was a cost neutral event. This event benefited greatly from cash sponsorship from John Hughes and Spices Catering and also from the many

Championship and Class sponsors whose contribution allowed for beautiful rugs, rosettes, sashes and prizes awarded to the winners and place getters.

The Master Series Final income and expenditure was again a cost neutral event. For the Master Series Final DWA raised \$1,000 in funds for Motor Neuron Disease WA, this was DWA's first charity fundraising venture.

Appreciation must go to Horseland who sponsored the Young Dressage Horse for 4, 5 and 6 year old horses and to Penny Hill Park who sponsored the Dressage WA Dressage Horse and Pony Rising Star Award.

DWA Rider's Rep Tracy Spackman

Issues and queries that arose from riders were taken to the DWA committee for discussion and in many cases they were investigated and resolved. The explanation and resolution was taken back to the rider. Issues arising:

- Arena familiarisation at competitions.
- Pony spur rule.
- Pony competition rule.
- Incident at Jill Stanton Memorial day.
- Rider approaching judges
- Downgrading applications

along with two other DWA committee members and liaison with the EA office .

Riders forums have been popular. We have two more riders' forums organised in August, one regional, and one metro. These provide rider friendly evenings where our riders can have a voice and ask questions and we can receive feedback and suggestions in order to keep improving and moving dressage forward in WA.

Agenda item 6: **Dressage Steward General Report to ADC – August 2016**

The role of the “Dressage Steward” remains a high priority at all dressage competitions, continuing to uphold the Welfare of the horse and a Fair playing field, at Club level through to the highest level CDI events in Australia.

It has been a busy and frustrating few months for Stewards with so much publicity on Equipment used in Dressage and in particular with the vast publicity surrounding the “Tightness of Nosebands”. Directives on measuring tightness has yet to be concluded especially as in the last week the FEI has sent out a new directive on measuring tightness!

With Social media, such as Facebook, mobile phones, Ipad photography & video, there is an ever increasing risk that both unsavoury and/or unjustified reports are released to the public.

Steward Education:

Below is a summary of the National Dressage Steward Education program over the last 18 months.

All NSW courses have been sponsored by ENSW/DNSW. The Qld clinic in March was sponsored by DQ. Participants attending courses in Victoria paid for course attendance. Chris Wallis (Steward General Eventing) conducted the Victorian courses and I with the assistance of other FEI Stewards conducted the NSW & Qld course/s.

The Qld and NSW courses though generic in nature have been Dressage specific owing to the funding available from these states SDA's. A Mentoring system/process has been set up in NSW, Qld & Vic to encourage participants and support them in completing their competencies.

At each of these courses other FEI qualified stewards assist and take on the mentoring roles post course. This system has to date worked really well. Utilising bigger events such as CDI's, States & Nationals, these are really good events to give Candidates a very comprehensive education.

Courses and outcomes 2015/2016

Course Name	# of Participants	Accredited at 8 Aug 2016
Victoria 2015	17	9
NSW Clarendon 8/2015	18	10
QLD (Caboolture) 6/3/2016	17	7
NSW (Bowral) 17/4/2016	16	3
NSW (Alexander Park) 29/5/2016	15	0
Western Aust (in progress)	TBC	
Other courses on demand	TBC	

Total National Accredited Stewards by State (excluding FEI Stewards) at 8 Aug 2016

NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS
15	13	9	3	4	2

Total FEI Accredited Stewards at 8 Aug 2016**FEI Level 1 Stewards**

NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS
3	5	2	0	0	1

FEI Level 2 Stewards

NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS
2	3	2	0	1	0

FEI Level 3 Stewards

NSW	VIC	QLD	SA	WA	TAS
2	1	0	0	0	0

Steward Generals Meeting:

In late April Steward Generals for each EA Discipline (Dressage, Eventing, Jumping, Vaulting & Endurance) met at the EA Office to discuss various topics and to meet with Paula Ward.

Items on the Agenda Included:

- Review of current Steward education system
- Steward Course Presenters (how to maintain continuity, who can present courses?)
- Review of current ORB Tests
- Process of reaccreditation
- Review of inactive Stewards
- Communication – Produce a Generic Discipline Newsletter
- Future FEI Courses

With very little leadership currently in the EA Education Dept none of the above items have been completed.

Steward General - items for ADC Discussion/agenda:

- Include a Section in the EA Dressage Rule Book to cover the Role & Education process for Stewarding
- Payment of travel, accommodation & other out of pocket expenses for FEI & EA accredited stewards to attend events.
- Steward Educators, education process & payment to Steward Educators and Mentors

- Dressage Clubs are now asking when exactly it will be, a requirement to have an Equestrian Australia Qualified National Steward present at Official events. It would be helpful to know the direction the ADC is planning.

Yellow Card (Dressage) Implementation:

- The proposed implementation of a Yellow Card & Warning System will impact on Stewards & I believe the system and surrounding documentation needs to be clear and concise! An education process will need to be implemented prior to implementation.

The possibility of organising an Asia- Pacific Stewards workshop in cooperation with IDOC at the 2017 Aachen event is still on the cards with both Susie Hoevenaars and Maria Schwennesen at the helm in trying to get this project underway. *As Susie has just returned from Europe we should know shortly if this workshop is to go ahead.*

As a member of the Australian Dressage Equipment Committee along with Mary Seefried & Liz Owens, we continue to receive a large volume of Equipment Queries. An application to the Equipment Committee Form is now available on the EA website to try and streamline requests to the Committee. The Equipment Annex has proven to be a successful resource for Stewards.

Cathie Drury-Klein

Agenda item 7. Equipment Committee Report.

Date	Inquirer	Equipment	Outcome
12th May 16	Tricia Read via CDK	Beris Eggbutt Snaffle Bit / Beris Mullen Eggbutt Snaffle. Soft / medium / hard/firm.	NOT approved
16th May 16	Alexandra Stapleton	Nail on shoes.	NOT approved
17th May 16	Katrina Demaio	WTP Winning tongueplate BIT	NOT approved
31/05/2016	Bert via Lesley	Conrad bit	Approved
2/06/2016	Janet Reid	Hanging cheek bits - single v's double-jointed	NOT approved
3/06/2016	Annette Kohen	Helmet standards	as per GR
3/06/2016	Jodie Whyllie	Ear hood	Approved
27/06/2016	Sue Morgan	Nailed on shoes	NOT approved
21/06/2016	Charmae Bell	Baucher Bit	NOT approved
26/06/2016	Patricia Spittle	Baucher Bit	NOT approved
23/06/2016	Emma Grantham	Baucher Bit	NOT approved
22/06/2016	Amanda Pritchard	Baucher Bit	NOT approved
22/06/2016	Louise Brown	Baucher Bit	NOT approved
21/06/2016	Amanda Nielsen	Baucher Bit	NOT approved
21/06/2016	Anne Webster	Nose band	NOT approved
21/06/2016	Louisa Berndt	Baucher Bit	NOT approved
21/06/2016	Tessa Beale	Baucher Bit	NOT approved
21/06/2016	Sarah Holt	Baucher Bit	NOT approved
21/06/2016	Anita Marchesani	Baucher Bit	NOT approved
7/07/2016	Tyana Lawless	Anatomical Bridles	Approved
6/07/2016	Jo Russell	Baucher bit	NOT approved
8/07/2016	Jill Strachen	Long brown Polo boots with buckles	Approved
12/07/2016		Myler bits. MB36, MB02, MB04, MB06, MB32, MB33 & MB33WL	Approved on FEI website
13/07/2016	Charmae Bell	Berris eggbutt - why is it not legal?	NOT approved
16/07/2016	Kylie	Berris eggbutt	NOT approved
21/07/2016	Tashlin Jeffries	Helmet standards	as per GR
30/07/2016	Kylie Roth	Trust Flexi bits x 2 Sprenger Duo & Nathe Standard Snaffle	
3/08/2016	Angela Sausman	Venice security stirrup	Approved



Equestrian Australia SDA-ADC Meeting 2016


Agenda Item No: 9.2	Grading System and Upgrading points	Date: August 2016										
Person Responsible for the Agenda Item:	Mary											
Background: <small>*including brief history</small>	<p>At our May meeting we agreed to changes to Rule 1.15.5 and Rule 1.16 as follows.</p> <p>1.15.5 Eligibility of Horses and Ponies for Each Level In Official Competitive competitions the following criteria apply at the closing date of entries:</p> <p>a) upgrading points are only accrued at levels ABOVE the current grading e.g. if graded Novice can only gain upgrading points in Elementary and above b) once a horse/pony gains 30 upgrading points in higher levels than their current grading they are then graded at the next consecutive level e.g. a horse currently graded Novice, competes Elementary and Medium and gains grading points at both of these levels. When 30 grading points are accumulated whilst competing at these levels (or even higher) the horse is then upgraded to Elementary c) horse/pony can only be upgraded one level at a time Level</p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 30%;">Preliminary /Novice</td> <td>horses/ponies with less than 30 upgrading points gained in Elementary and above</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Elementary</td> <td>horses/ponies with less than 30 upgrading points gained in Medium and above</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Medium</td> <td>horses/ponies with less than 30 upgrading points gained in Advanced and above</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Advanced</td> <td>horses/ponies with less than 30 upgrading points gained in FEI competitions</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prix St Georges and Intermediate I tests run nationally</td> <td>horses/ponies that have on two occasions achieved 60% or above in Official Advanced competitions. In the event that the competitions are held at the one event, they must be judged by a different panel if judges.</td> </tr> </table> <p>1.16 Upgrading Points a) a Competition License must be held to acquire upgrading points b) a horse must be registered with EA to gain grading points c) horses and ponies are graded on a points system based on percentage gained d) points are accrued when the horse or pony gains 60% or above in Official Competitive competitions from Elementary level and above e) points gained at Official competitions outside Australia will also be counted f) when, for any reason, the height of a horse/pony changes and they are required to change from a pony to a horse (or vice versa), the grading and any upgrading points of the horse/pony shall be retained in the new category</p> <p>This change has been incorporated into the Summary of Rule Changes on this agenda</p>		Preliminary /Novice	horses/ponies with less than 30 upgrading points gained in Elementary and above	Elementary	horses/ponies with less than 30 upgrading points gained in Medium and above	Medium	horses/ponies with less than 30 upgrading points gained in Advanced and above	Advanced	horses/ponies with less than 30 upgrading points gained in FEI competitions	Prix St Georges and Intermediate I tests run nationally	horses/ponies that have on two occasions achieved 60% or above in Official Advanced competitions. In the event that the competitions are held at the one event, they must be judged by a different panel if judges.
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Prix St Georges and Intermediate I tests run nationally	horses/ponies that have on two occasions achieved 60% or above in Official Advanced competitions. In the event that the competitions are held at the one event, they must be judged by a different panel if judges.											

	<p>and as sent to the SDAs in June.</p> <p>If passed, a new directive will need to be prepared to go out to the state Branches and SDAs as to how they should .</p>																																
<p>Strategic Priority:</p> <p>Identify which EA and/or ADC Strategic priority /pillar does this item relate to?</p>	<p>Medium</p> <p>ADC Strategic Pillar 1 - Ensure structure and polices of the sport increase the participation of the sport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Two-tier b) Promotion/Sponsorship c) PE d) Membership Categories e) Calendar f) Facilities g) Communications h) Increase value for members 																																
<p>Matter to be discussed:</p>	<p>The “new” grading system was introduced in 2011, now almost 6 years ago.</p> <p>The sport has increased in standard since that time, and I have had conversations with some riders (mostly professionals on younger horses) who say that they are still grading out of a level too quickly.</p> <p>1. I propose that the table of awarding Upgrading points in 1.16.1 be adjusted by either 1% or 2% (Don’t forget that upgrading points can only now be awarded In Elementary and above as per the above rule change we agreed to in May 2016.)</p> <p>Points Table Change</p> <p>Perhaps think about how long do we expect a horse to remain in one grade on average? A year/season on average? I would think so.</p> <p>The following table shows a 1% change and a 2% change.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="512 1305 1559 1865"> <thead> <tr> <th>No of Upgrade points</th> <th>Current</th> <th>1% increase</th> <th>2% increase</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>Between 60% to 61.999%</td> <td>Between 61% to 62.999%</td> <td>Between 62% to 63.999%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>“ 62% to 63.999%</td> <td>63% to 64.999%</td> <td>64% to 65.999%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>“ “ 64% to 65.999%</td> <td>65% to 66.999%</td> <td>66% to 67.999%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>“ “ 66% to 67.999%</td> <td>67% to 68.999%</td> <td>68% to 69.999%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>“ “ 68% to 69.999%</td> <td>69% to 71.999%</td> <td>70% to 72.999%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>“ “ 70% to 71.999%</td> <td>71% to 72.999%</td> <td>72% to 73.999%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td> <td>72% and over</td> <td>73% and over</td> <td>74% and over</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>I would recommend 1 % increase only.</p> <p>I have had a meeting with the Qld and NSW Branch officers who deal with recording the pints system. A change will need to be made by Nominate to the software and</p>	No of Upgrade points	Current	1% increase	2% increase	1	Between 60% to 61.999%	Between 61% to 62.999%	Between 62% to 63.999%	2	“ 62% to 63.999%	63% to 64.999%	64% to 65.999%	3	“ “ 64% to 65.999%	65% to 66.999%	66% to 67.999%	4	“ “ 66% to 67.999%	67% to 68.999%	68% to 69.999%	5	“ “ 68% to 69.999%	69% to 71.999%	70% to 72.999%	6	“ “ 70% to 71.999%	71% to 72.999%	72% to 73.999%	7	72% and over	73% and over	74% and over
No of Upgrade points	Current	1% increase	2% increase																														
1	Between 60% to 61.999%	Between 61% to 62.999%	Between 62% to 63.999%																														
2	“ 62% to 63.999%	63% to 64.999%	64% to 65.999%																														
3	“ “ 64% to 65.999%	65% to 66.999%	66% to 67.999%																														
4	“ “ 66% to 67.999%	67% to 68.999%	68% to 69.999%																														
5	“ “ 68% to 69.999%	69% to 71.999%	70% to 72.999%																														
6	“ “ 70% to 71.999%	71% to 72.999%	72% to 73.999%																														
7	72% and over	73% and over	74% and over																														

	<p>they will ask for that to occur straight after this meeting (it also needs some other changes made in any case so this is a convenient time).</p> <p>They also support the change to the percentage levels as they have noticed many more horses are gaining Upgrading points as standards are improving.</p> <p>Their recommendation is that the new system (Upgrading points only gained in Elementary and above) is introduced on 1.1.17 with NO retrospective action.</p>
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Equestrian Australia SDA-ADC Meeting

	<h2><u>Equestrian Australia</u> <u>SDA-ADC Meeting</u></h2>	
Agenda Item No: 9.3	Helmets and Age Limit – under age of 22	Date: August 2016
Person Responsible for the Agenda Item:	Mary	
Background: *including brief history	The FEI Dressage Rules now (2016) state that athletes under the age of 22 must wear a helmet in competition and at Horses inspections. Last year it was under 19.	
Strategic Priority: Identify which EA and/or ADC Strategic priority /pillar does this item relate to?	<p style="color: red;">High</p> <p>ADC Strategic Pillar 1 - Ensure structure and polices of the sport increase the participation of the sport:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Two-tier b) Promotion/Sponsorship c) PE d) Membership Categories e) Calendar f) Facilities g) Communications h) Increase value for members 	
Matter to be discussed:	<p>Rule: 2.2 Headgear</p> <p>I suggest that the ADC rules now follow the FEI age limit for wearing of helmets so that we are consistent with the FEI. This would mean in any national official class (and warm-up) including all FEI levels the rider must wear a helmet.</p> <p>“Riders under age of 22 MUST wear an approved safety helmet with the restraining harness secure and fastened.”</p> <p>It would have an impact on Eventing dressage at national level, but they may well have to adjust their rule if they do not want to follow this rule for the dressage phase. I wrote to the FEI Department for Eventing (Sandra LeCoutre) and her response was”</p> <p>MS: “The FEI Dressage Rules now state that athletes under the age of 22 must wear a helmet in competition and at Horses inspections .Last year it was under 19.</p> <p>How does this affect the dressage phase of Eventing where the dressage phase follows the FEI Dressage rules (unless otherwise stated) .Are all eventing athletes under the age of 22 expected to be wearing a helmet (no top hats?).</p> <p>Sandra Lecoutre FEI: The Eventing Rules still states that we follow the Dressage rules for the Dressage Test. Dressage Rules apply.</p> <p>Your comments in regards to the age limit to Senior or Young Rider also apply to Dressage.”</p>	

	<p>If we agree to change our rule, we need to write a letter to the National Eventing Committee, informing them of this change. As to whether the eventing athletes have to wear a helmet at trot-ups I believe would be up to them.</p>
<p>Consultation with relevant people/organisations</p> <p>E.g. State Branch, Organising Committees</p>	<p>Judy Fasher and FEI Eventing Department.</p>



Equestrian Australia
SDA-ADC Meeting

	<u>Equestrian Australia</u> <u>SDA-ADC Meeting</u>	
Agenda Item No: 9.4	Proposal to introduce a Yellow Card system for dressage	Date: August 2016
Person Responsible for the Agenda Item:	Prue Spurrett	
Background: <small>*including brief history</small>	<p>Both Jumping and Eventing have a yellow card system incorporated in their national rules. Dressage has never had such a system nationally.</p> <p>However FEI Rules have always provided for it in Dressage as well as all of their other disciplines.</p> <p>ADC has considered this as now essential – see paper below.</p>	
Strategic Priority:	High	
Matter to be discussed:	<p style="text-align: center;">Draft for Consideration of Inclusion of Penalties such as Yellow Cards and Warnings etc. into EA Dressage Rules.</p> <p>Aim: <i>To maintain the respect and integrity of the sport of Dressage by setting standards for acceptable behaviour and ensuing accountability for all participants.</i></p> <p>The ADC is concerned that there have been instances of athlete’s behaviour at events that have caused concern to officials and/or have the potential to bring the sport into disrepute.</p> <p>It is therefore considering if a yellow card/warning letter system should be introduced as already exists in the national sports of jumping and eventing under their national rules.</p> <p>This would be in addition to the protests/complaints section of the EA General Regulations, Member Protection Policy and EA Disciplinary By-Laws. These matters are already catered for in Section 1.5 of the National Dressage Rules.</p> <p>Offences</p> <p>Specifically the offences liable to attract an official written warning or yellow card are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abuse of horse (An action or omission involving the mistreatment of a horse) • Incorrect/Inappropriate behaviour (An action affecting the dignity or integrity of any person involved in the sport, including Incorrect Behaviour towards Event Officials or any other party connected with the Event (other athlete, journalist, public, vets, stewards)) 	

Yellow Cards/Official Warnings

1. An Official Warning is appropriate in cases of minor violations committed without significant consequences.
2. Serious infringements involving Incorrect Behaviour, any form of Abuse or Violence by any participant at an Event must incur a Yellow Warning Card.
3. Authority to issue any of the above will be given to FEI and National accredited Stewards, EA Technical Delegates and FEI accredited Judges at an Event. They can be given either by hand or any other suitable means and will state the reason for the penalty.
4. A Yellow Card is in itself a Warning that an infringement has occurred.
5. Official Warnings and Yellow Warning Cards resulting from a meeting with the party concerned at the event may be issued on the day.
6. The EA Official will advise their State Branch and or State Dressage Committee of the issue of ALL Yellow Warning Cards, or Official Warnings and the reasons for the issue within 48 hours of the event.
7. The State Branch of the EA and or the State Dressage Committee, shall as soon as possible advise the National Office, who will arrange for the Yellow Warning Card issue or Warning to be entered into a National Database and will place the notice on the EA National Website.
8. The name of the official giving the Warning or the Yellow Card and their jurisdiction at the event (eg TD, Chief Steward) should be listed on the National Database, alongside the reason for the decision.
9. A rider receiving Two Yellow Warning Cards within a 12 month period for the same offence, will incur an automatic disqualification from competition for two months, from the date of the second offence. There will be no right of appeal.
10. Yellow Warning Cards received at both International and National events will be taken into account.
11. The receipt of a Yellow Warning Card suspends any penalty until new offences take place.

The Pro's

Having recourse to specific penalties is an immediate tool for handling incidents that arise during the course of competition. It takes the immediate pressure off the party who has been abused and puts the athlete on notice that a disciplinary process is in place enabling incidents to be dealt with at the time, with due process and by people with authority to act.

FEI Rule Art Ref		Details	EA Rule	Comment
427.2	Protective Headgear and top hat/bowler - civilians	The following is compulsory at all CDI3*/CDI4*/CDI5*/CDI-W and CDIWs, FEI Championships, Regional and Olympic Games: a black or dark blue tail coat or jacket For Grand Prix Freestyle only, any single colour tailcoat or jacket will be allowed.	2.1.4	Suggest we add the following to our rule book: c) coats are permitted as per rule 2.8 Renumber the rest
428.2	Bits	Bridoon and curb must be made of metal and/or rigid plastic The reins must be attached to the bit.	2.11.2.1a & 2.11.2.2	Both need to be changed to read – must be made of metal and/or
428.7.1	Ear Hoods	Ear hoods may not be attached to the noseband.	2.14	Add as c) and then renumber – c) ear hoods may not be attached to the noseband
429.2	Arena Specifications The width of the entrance must be at least two metres (2 m).....	3.6	To be in line with the FEI we should add the following to our rule book. By making this change this will mean that those clubs getting new arenas in 4m lengths can have a 4m gate. Add the following: f) The width of the entrance must be at least 2 metres (2m) . Alternatively, could say 2m to 4m
430.6.1	Errors of Course	First error Two (2) percentage points from the total score.	3.17.2	Make the following change: Note – Errors of course are to be deducted from the total score from the test sheet of each judge
430.6.2	Other Errors	Riders not taking the reins in one (1) hand at the salute	3.7j	We already have this in our rule book
432.3	Marking	0.1 decimals may be used for the artistic marks in the Freestyle.	3.13d 6.3a	Make the following changes: d) In Freestyle tests 0.1 decimals may be used for the artistic marks a) half marks (0.5) for the technical and artistic marks b) 0.1 decimals may be used for the artistic marks
434.2	Classification	Penalty percentage points for errors in the execution of the test are then deducted on each Judge's sheet from the total score. All results must be published in percentages with numbers to three (3) places after the decimal point.	10.14 M8.2h	Already included in our rule book
447.2.3	Ground Jury & Technical Delegate	The qualifications for Technical Delegates are as follows: - to be a past or present FEI 4*/5* Dressage Judge and	4.3	It is good to have some sort of qualification included. However, before we can do this we do need to develop;

		<p>having participated in a FEI Seminar for Technical Delegates or</p> <p>- being appointed by the Dressage Technical Committee on the grounds of their extensive knowledge of Dressage and the specific rules and having participated in a FEI Seminar for Technical Delegates.</p>		<p>and run some seminars for TDs and create a list of accredited TDs</p>
	<p>Codex for FEI Dressage Judges</p>	<p>1. The FEI Dressage judge is an expert on Dressage and Horses, who must have knowledge of the principles of Dressage, of the FEI-Rules and Regulations and, based on his/her technical competence, is qualified to judge all FEI International Dressage competitions. He is always representing the FEI.</p> <p>2. A Judge must avoid any actual or perceived conflict of interest. A judge must have a neutral, independent and fair position towards Athletes, owners, trainers, OCs and other Officials and integrate well into a team. Financial and/or personal interest must never influence or be perceived to influence his way of judging. It is the responsibility of the Judge to be in good health and fit to officiate throughout the duration of the Event. Activities which will lead to or may lead to a “conflict of interest” when officiating at a CDI, include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training a Horse/Athlete for more than three (3) days in the twelve (12) month period prior to an Event or any training of a Horse/Athlete during a period of nine (9) months before Olympic Games, World Equestrian Games, Continental Championship on Grand Prix level, or World Cup Final, and three (3) months before any other FEI event • Acting as Team chef of National teams at international level or being responsible/co-responsible for selecting teams and/or individuals or training riders within the NF. • To be owner/part-owner of Horses taking part in the Event 	<p>1.7</p>	<p>I am not suggesting that the whole Codex be added to our rule book as a lot of it is already included. However, the following could be added to 1.7:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a judge is always representing EA • a judge must avoid any actual or perceived conflict of interest • having a close personal relationship with a rider <p>There are also some issues here re penalties which would probably need to be added to the EA General Regulations. That is quite a lengthy process and as it potentially would impact on all disciplines, needs much more consultation.</p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being in a situation of financial dependence or gaining financial profit from owners, Athletes, trainers, OCs or other related persons or organisations • Having a close personal relationship with an Athlete competitor • Nationalistic judging <p>A judge has the responsibility to notify the FEI in writing of any of the above or other possible conflicts of interest or situations that may be perceived as such.</p> <p>4. During a Dressage Event a Judge has to be punctual and correct in the way of behaviour</p> <p>5. A Judge has to be well prepared for the tests he is judging and has to cooperate well with the OC and his colleagues</p> <p>6. A Judge has to be dressed appropriately and must always be aware that he is representing the FEI. The use of electronic communication, including mobile phones, is forbidden inside the Judge's huts while judging. Alcohol should not be consumed by Judges until finishing the day's judging. Scores from previous tests must not be used by the Judge while judging.</p> <p>7. The FEI and the FEI Dressage Committee have the right to undertake disciplinary actions against judges who do not follow the Codex and the FEI Rules and Regulations. Such disciplinary actions may consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warning letter • Temporary suspension • Demotion • Removal from the FEI Dressage Judges' list 		
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Agenda item 9.8.

PARA-EQUESTRIAN REPORT FOR ADC/SDA's AND ADJC

NEW TESTS

The new tests are completed and have been sent to Michel Assouline (GBR) for review. He is very happy with them except for the turn on the haunches in Grade 2 which we have discussed and are looking for a replacement movement. They are also currently being reviewed by the FEI PE Committee

1. Make any changes to the drafts that follows these reviews
2. The FEI will then distribute them to NF's.
3. They will be ratified at the General Assembly meeting in November
4. NF's will be advised that the tests are approved for printing in various languages.

Bettina de Rham has taken over from Carina Mayer as the new Director of Dressage, Para-dressage, Reining and Vaulting as of October 2016. Steps are in place to make the handover as thorough as possible.

THE MASTER LIST

NF's were given a deadline of 20.6.16 to come back to the FEI in case there were any athletes on the Inactive list that should be on the Active list. The Master List is currently being updated to reflect these results.

RULE REVISION

The proposed format for the 2020 Paralympic Games and the 2018 WEG should be included in the Rule Review process.* The reordering of the tests is still under consideration and will be agreed upon at the General Assembly. The earliest implementation would be 2018. The FEI PE committee asked for an increase from 78 to 80 athletes for WEG. The FEI have advised that they no longer intend to impose a fixed quota for WEG 2018.

There were two additional points from the last conference call on June 22, 2016.

1. The Dressage Committee is in favour of introducing a second horse inspection before the last competition at Championships and Games and have initiated a rule change in the Veterinary Regulations. The Para-Dressage Committee approved this rule change as well.
2. The Dressage Committee was not in favour of introducing ear hoods being tied to the noseband. The aim of the FEI Secretary General is to align all disciplines on the matter. The Para-Dressage Committee decided to follow the Dressage Committee in not allowing ear
3. Ear hoods to be tied to the noseband.

*The new format is to hold the Individual Championship Test first and award medals

This is followed by the Freestyle Championships and then on the third day or fourth day if there is to be a day of rest, the Team Test. The Team test will be ridden to music chosen by the riders but it will not be judged. It is there to add interest for the television audience.

EDUCATION

There will be courses for upgrading judges and stewards run again in 2017.

FEI PARA-EQUESTRIAN FORUM 2017 DRAFT FORMAT

The FEI PE Committee will hold a Sports Forum in 2017. March is the **preferred** month and a date will be finalised after a meeting between Amanda Bond and British Dressage. The **preferred** location is Hartpury as both theory and practical sessions can be held at the same location reducing time and cost involved in moving people from one venue to another. The draft structure of the Forum is attached*. NF's will be asked to submit topics for discussion.

*(FEI Update on the FEI Para Equestrian Forum 2017)

CLASSIFICATION MANAGEMENT

A major change is to be introduced in 2017. It will no longer be compulsory to have Classifiers at every major event. Countries such as Britain and Germany and other leading European countries will hold one classification day per year that will be linked to a competition and the dates will be sent to the FEI who will, in turn, email all NF's so that new athletes can apply for classification.

All medical documentation will need to be forwarded to the Classification Group beforehand to ensure that these new athletes are classifiable and then they will be referred to the next opportunity. The FEI is taking all steps to support the new system.

NEW EQUIPMENT

The FEI PE Committee has agreed to follow the FEI Dressage Committee on any decisions made about new equipment. Manufacturers have been advised to seek approval in advance and have been given a timeline, an application, make pictures available and then send all of the information to the Equipment Working Group who will decide on the acceptance or otherwise of the equipment. If equipment requires a rule change, it will only be approved for use on the 1st of January each year.

SCORING

It will be a national requirement for scores to be displayed movement by movement as of 1.1.17. In many cases this is already available in Australia but it will mandatory in 2017.

PROPOSAL FOR RESTRUCTURING OF PE DRESSAGE EVENTS

The FEI document for suggested changes is attached. Please be assured that at the earliest these changes could be introduced in 2018. However, the consultation process will be as follows:

1. NF's to review the process in 2016
2. Further discussion and feedback from the FEI PE Sports Forum in 2017
3. Apply to have the rules changed to reflect the final decision to the GA in 2017.

FEI PE JUDGE

A list of all FEI PE judges has been collated showing judges in 3 categories.

1. Have currently fulfilled all requirements and are actively judging.
2. Need to show some interest by either shadow judging or attending refresher courses or seminars
3. Those that have not been active for more than 3 years and have made an effort to stay on the active list.

There has been no decision from the FEI as to the continuation of the age limit of 70 plus 2 more years for those active judges. Currently of the 96 judges on the list 34% are 65 or above. Of the 5* judges, 4 out of 15 will be 70+ next year and 60% are over 65+. Australia has two FEI4* and two FEI3* judges (2 in Perth and 2 in NSW) all of whom are on the active list.

Sue Cunningham

MONTH	DATE	STATE	LOCATION	CONTACT	WEBSITE
JAN 2016	16-17	SA	SA YOUNG HORSE Champs		
	21 – 24	VIC	Boneo Park CDI3*, CDI-Y, CDI-U25, CPEDI.		
FEB 2016					
MARCH 2016	5-6	TAS	TAS State Champs		
	17-19	VIC	DJWTS – National YH C'Ships + CDI-W. Werribee		
APRIL 2016	31 March 2 April	VIC	VIC State YR Champs		
	4 – 8	VIC	VIC State IS Championships		
	7 – 9	NSW	CDI3*, CDI-Y, U25 GP. Sydney. SIEC	Toni Venhaus	
	29 th April – 1 st May)	SA	SA State Championships		
MAY	7 – 8	WA	WA Dressage + PE State Champs		

2016			Masters Series Final		
JUNE					
2016	11 - 12	VIC	CDI-W & Melbourne 3DE		
	23 – 26	NSW	NSW State IS Champs		
JULY			Australian Youth Championships		
2016	1 – 3	NSW	10 -25 yo. Sydney. SIEC		
	14 – 17	QLD	Brisbane CDI-W & CDI Y		
AUG					
2016	20-21	NT	NT State Champs		
	26 – 28	QLD	QLD State & PE Champs		
SEPT					
2016	8 – 11	NSW	CDI-W, State Dressage + PE + Pony Champs		
	23 – 25	VIC	Boneo Spring CDI3* and CDI-Y		
	26 – 30	NSW	National IS Championships. Sydney. SIEC		
OCT					
2016					
	15 – 16	QLD	QLD State Pony Championships		

	19 -23	NSW	CDI-W, CDI-Y Australian Dressage & PE Championships. Sydney SIEC		
NOV 2016	18 -19	VIC	Equitana CDI-W Melbourne		
DEC 2016	8 – 11	VIC	Dressage Festival. CDI-W, PE State Champs. Werribee.		

JAN 2017	19 – 21	VIC	Boneo Classic CDI3*, CDIY, CDIU25 & CDIJ	Fiona Selby	www.boneopark.com.au
FEB 2017	2 – 4	NZ	FEI WCDPLF 2016-17 Season Mansfield, Fielding. NZ		
MARCH 2017	4 – 5	TAS	TAS Dressage Championships	Suzanne Betts	
	8 – 12	NZ	HOY Show – CDI-W Hastings		
	23 – 26	VIC	DJWTS YH Championships, CDI-W, CDIY & CDIU25. Werribee	Rebecca Willis – EVIC	www.equestrianvictoriaevents.com.au/DJWTS
APRIL 2017	14 -17		EASTER		

	27 – 29	NSW	Sydney CDI3*, CDI-Y, U25 GP. Sydney. SIEC	Toni Venhaus	www.sydneycdi.com
MAY 2017					
JUNE 2017	10 – 11	VIC	Melbourne CDIW Werribee	Rebecca Willis – EVIC	www.equestrianvictoriaevents.com.au/Melbourne 3DE
	25 – 28	QLD	QLD State IS Champs		
JULY 2017	6 – 8	QLD	Australian Youth Championships (8 yrs -25 yrs)		
	12 – 15	QLD	Brisbane CDI 3* GP, CDI-Y, CDI-J and CDI U25	Leesa Murray	www.qld.equestrian.org.au/dressage/brisbane- cdi
AUG 2017	25 – 27	QLD	QLD State Dressage & PE Champs		
SEPT 2017	31 st Aug – 1 – 3	NSW	NSW State Dressage and PE Champs - CDIW	Toni Venhaus	www.dressagensw.com.au
	15 – 17	QLD	National PC Champs		
	21 – 24	VIC	Boneo Spring CDI 3* & CDIY	Fiona Selby	www.boneopark.com.au

			Boneo Park		
	25 – 30	QLD	National IS Champs		
OCT			AUS Dressage Champs		
2017	19 – 22	NSW	CDIW, CDI Y & CDIU25	Mary Seefried	
NOV					
2017					
DEC			Dressage Festival CDI-W		www.equestrianvictoriaevents.com.au/DF
2017	7 – 10	VIC	Werribee	Rebecca Willis – EVIC	
JAN					
2018					
FEB					
2018					
MARCH			DJWTS YH Championships,		
2018	22-25 March		CDI-W. Werribee	Deb Macnicol	
APRIL					
2018	30th March – 2nd April		EASTER		

MAY 2018	3-6		Sydney CDI 3* - SIEC		
JUNE 2018					
JULY 2018					
AUGUST 2018					
SEPT 2018					
OCT 2018					
NOV 2018					
DEC 2018					



Equestrian Australia SDA-ADC Meeting

Agenda Item No: 10.1	AAOR - New Rules Proposed	Date: August 2016
Person Responsible for the Agenda Item:	Mary Seefried	
Background: <small>*including brief history</small>	<p>The rules have been around for some years now, but always there are questions about the amount of sponsorship that riders may have before they are not considered as an amateur owner rider.</p> <p>I have made another proposal below to become effective on 1.1.17</p>	
Matter to be discussed:	<p><u>NATIONAL ADULT AMATEUR OWNER/ RIDER DIVISION.</u></p> <p><u>FACT SHEET</u></p> <p>Criteria</p> <p>In order to qualify as an amateur owner rider, all riders must declare that they meet the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The rider must be a Competitive member of their state branch of Equestrian Australia 2. To qualify as an Amateur Owner/Rider the rider must not have competed in an FEI Sanctioned CDI (PSG- GP) or CDI-W in the prior 3 calendar years. 3. The horse must have a life registration with Equestrian Australia. 4. The horse/pony registration lodged with Equestrian Australia must reflect the name of the amateur owner rider as owner of the horse. Leased horses are eligible as long as the competitor is reflected as the lessee on the EA horse registration. 5. An amateur owner rider must not have sponsorship per annum above the value of \$1000 (or \$1500)., 6. An Amateur Owner rider must not have remuneration (excluding prize money) above the value of \$ 500(\$1000?) per annum for any services connected with the breaking, training or riding of any other person's horse or pony in the last 3 years. This does not include instructing riders, provided that instructing is not the principle income (per rule 7.) 7. An amateur owner rider's principle source of income must not be not obtained from sponsorship, breaking, training, riding or coaching any horse or rider over the last two years. 8. The horse/pony must be primarily ridden and trained by the rider/owner with only periodic ridden assistance by person(s) other than the owner. Specifically the 	

	<p>horse/pony must not have been ridden or trained by anyone, other than the owner, from the closing date of entries to the day of the event, for any event in which the rider wishes to compete as an amateur owner rider.</p> <p>9. The rider must be aged 21 and over – can enter in the calendar year in which they turn 21.</p> <p>Organisation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Division is for Official Competitive classes. The Organising Committees may run this Division at any level (ideally at all levels Preliminary - GP) and it can be run either within the class or separately. • Organising Committees may choose to designate the Amateur Owner Ride on the draw. • For a State/Regional/Club Leader Board it would be ideal to select a number of events at which scores will count towards the annual Leader Board. <p>ADC August 2016</p>
<p>Human and Financial impact:</p>	
<p>Consultation with relevant people/organisations</p> <p>E.g. State Branch, Organising Committees</p>	
<p>Discussion (key points)</p> <p>*leave blank – to be filled by minute taker</p>	
<p>Recommendation(s) to the National Board:</p>	
<p>Resolutions:</p>	



Equestrian Australia SDA-ADC Meeting

Agenda Item No: 10.2	Long term management structure for the AUS champs	Date: August 2016
Person Responsible for the Agenda Item:	Helen Lawson - DNSW	
Background: <small>*including brief history</small>	From 2001 – 2014, the Australian Dressage Championships were run by DNSW at SIEC. In 2015 and 2016, they have been run by ENSW at SIEC. There is currently no confirmation as to who will run the Australian Championships in 2017 although there appears to be general agreement that SIEC is the most central venue.	
Strategic Priority: Identify which EA and/or ADC Strategic priority /pillar does this item relate to? See below.	ADC Strategic Pillar 1 - Ensure structure and polices of the sport increase the participation of the sport: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Two-tier j) <u>Promotion/Sponsorship</u> k) PE l) Membership Categories m) <u>Calendar</u> n) Facilities o) Communications p) Increase value for members 	
Matter to be discussed:	Development of a sustainable long-term management structure for the National Championships which involves representatives from all states, an independent funding model and long-term nationally co-ordinated (by EA) sponsorship to take the Championships forward in the future and reinvent the Championships to promote and differentiate them from existing dressage events.	
Human and Financial impact:	<p>The current model of funding via the SDA's is not sustainable or desirable – in 2014 (the last year that NSW was responsible for the Championships) we contributed \$15,000 (GST ex) and combined all other states contributed a total of \$11,000 (GST ex) collectively (total \$26,000).</p> <p>An alternative model to fund the Championships is to levy a small fee (eg, \$4/horse) on all dressage performance cards throughout Australia to create a dedicated Nationals Fund which could be applied solely to running the event and relieve state bodies of the funding requirement. This would be equitable as the states would contribute based on the number of active competitive riders registered in any one year. Profits could be returned to the sport of dressage as agreed with the ADC and should not go into the consolidated revenue of EA.</p>	

	<p>Ownership of the National Championships needs to rest with all dressage authorities throughout Australia. This could either be through the same model used for the Australian Youth Dressage Championships (different host state each year) or, if the preference is for the Championships to remain at SIEC, then through a multi-state committee. The current model of a largely NSW based committee (with external Event Directors) is not sustainable in the long term and DNSW believes that the responsibility for the National Championships should not rest with any one state but with EA and all states collectively.</p> <p>In comparison, the National Showjumping Championships rotate around states while there is no eventing national championship although nominally it could be argued that either Melbourne International 3day or Adelaide 4*, both of which receive significant ICDF funding, could be considered their championship.</p>
<p>Consultation with relevant people/organisations</p> <p>E.g. State Branch, Organising Committees</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each State branch would have to agree to levy the same Championship Fee • Each state (or dressage authority) would nominate a representative to participate in the committee (under the direction of a nominated Event Director) • EA would oversee the co-ordination and management of sponsorship agreements • EA would manage the financial accounts of the Championship (with levied funds paid into the separate Championship account)

HP Report May 2016 – August 2016. Julia Battams NPD

The bulk of this quarter has been dedicated to two HP outcomes:

- Implementing the Selection Policies and selecting the Para Equestrian and Dressage Teams for Rio 2016, and
- Logistical preparations and planning for Rio Games.

Rio Olympic and Paralympic Team Selection: The selection processes for both Dressage and Para teams resulted in a clear selection of four athletes on each team with no appeal in either case.

Dressage Team: **Kristy Oatley**

Lyndal Oatley

Mary Hanna

Kelly Layne

Equal Reserves: **Sue Hearn**

Brett Parbery

During the selection process the clause below was implemented in two separate situations when Lyndal Oatley and Sandro Boy were unable to attend Odense CDI and again when Kelly Layne and Udon P were unavailable for Rotterdam.

(iii) In the event that one or more of the Identified Combinations are unable to attend one of the Nomination Events, for reasons referred to in Clause 1.4 they will be attributed a score that is the average of the lowest three scores achieved by Combinations within the Identified Combinations who attend that particular Nomination Event.

In both cases, the combinations' scores from the one competition they did attend were sufficient to place them in the top four when combined with the scores produced by using the clause above.

The Dressage Selectors Mary Jane Crabtree, Jan Smith and Connie Bookless were very professional and diligent in their deliberations during the selection process and High Performance thank them for their enormous input.

Paralympic Team: **Grade 4 Lisa Martin**

Grade 3 Sharon Jarvis

Grade 3 Katie Umback

Grade 2 Emma Booth

Reserves: **Joann Formosa**

Nikki Doogue (Eu based)

The selection process for PE was very clear and no extenuating circumstance clauses were required. We thank the PE selectors for their expertise and commitment.

The two reserve athletes named will be used in the following way: If one of the selected combinations is unable to travel on the allocated Aus-Eu flights in early August, Joann Formosa would step in with GB Winchester. If any of the Grade 3 or 4 selected combinations becomes unavailable after arriving in Europe but

prior to departure to Rio, Nikki Doogue would step in. However if Emma Booth became unavailable during this period, Joann Formosa would be named with Louisiana La Belle (the Eu based horse she competed in Belgium) to satisfy the FEI team makeup requirements.

Aachen Nations Cup: Initially we had planned to invite the four combinations who were not selected onto the Rio team to compete as part of the Australian Nations Cup team in Aachen at the CHIO. As we had two athletes who were unable to compete in both events in the selection period, we took the advice of our International Dressage Advisor Ton de Ridder to ask Lyndal and Kelly to present their horses at Aachen instead so that we could be comfortable with their level of preparedness for the Games. After some deliberation, Kelly Layne elected to withdraw from Aachen as she (in conjunction with team vet, Ton and her own trainer Udo Lange) decided that it was not timely for the horse coming back in from an injury exacerbated after Odense. Brett also withdrew as he felt it was not best preparation for his horse. At this point Maree Tomkinson was invited to make up the team of three which was then Sue Hearn, Lyndal Oatley and Maree.

Whilst our team score was not high, and left us in 8th place, Lyndal produced a test which shows she is back on track for the Games, and Sue delivered a performance which shows she would be able to cope with the big environment of Rio, should she be required as a reserve. Maree made several very expensive mistakes which unfortunately have plagued her throughout this Games selection period.

The team culture and behaviours exhibited at Aachen show that our athletes are becoming much more comfortable with the extended positive team environment, and are understanding the impact that good culture has on good performance. This was evident across all disciplines at Aachen, where athletes from all disciplines supported every other athlete on all days of competition.

Rio Logistics and planning: Rio Olympic Games Organising Committee (ROCOG) have implemented some very strict import requirements on us for both human, horse and freight entry into Rio. There is no doubt that the transport in and out of Brazil is going to be complicated and cumbersome. We predict a slow transfer of both horses and freight both in and out of the venue, and are managing athlete expectations around these issues. There are very strict guidelines around the products/items that we can take into the venue, and theoretically every individual item's unique identification number will be compared on arrival to the packing lists which were submitted in June, and any discrepancies will result in the items being disallowed. We predict that this process will take quite some time. All feed and haylage is traveling in with the horses as we could not guarantee the quality of the Brazilian feeds, but we have already imported Timothy hay from North America into the venue so that if there is a delay with the delivery of the feed, we do have hay for the horses on arrival.

We have coined the phrase "Brasilience" to describe our teams' psychological preparations for Rio and managing the expectations of athletes, owners and management staff will play a big part in how successful our performances are in Rio.

HP Squads: At the time of submission of this report, the latest review of the HP Squads was underway but not yet finalised. The Selectors agreed after the past review that the scores for the HP Squads should be raised for the next period so the scores used to selected this squad group are: Novice/Elementary 71%, Medium/Advanced 70% and FEI 68%. This increase in scores has resulted in the following Recognition squad numbers at this stage:

Novice/Elementary -8 combinations

Medium/Advanced -8 combinations

FEI -15 combinations

With the implementation of functioning State Squads with Coaches and Selectors in place in each state, it was planned to select the HP squads in October at the National HP clinic. The format would be each State to nominate selected combinations which the State Selectors in conjunction with the State Coaches believe fulfil the National HP Squad requirements. Then at the HP clinic in October, each nominated combination will be assessed by a panel consisting of all State Coaches, the International Dressage Advisor Ton de Ridder, plus the National Selectors. There must be unanimous agreement on every combination before their nomination will be ratified. On ratification of each combination's inclusion, the State Coaches will produce in conjunction with the athlete and Ton, a training and competition plan for the following 12 month period.

Athletes who feel they have been missed by their State and do in fact meet the HP squad requirements can apply independently to attend the assessment.

Unfortunately at the time of writing this report, I have been unable to secure the funding to proceed with the planning of this clinic.

Which brings me to my next point – it is critical that we progress urgently with the independent funding model for dressage as being driven by ADC. Domestic support is as important to the progress of Dressage in Australia as international representation, and we must continue to drive this with passion.