



EQUESTRIAN WESTERN AUSTRALIA
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING REPORT
APRIL 23rd, 2014

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

2013 has been a year of consolidation and repositioning and 2014 will be a year of growth and engagement with stakeholders.

Financially 2013 has produced a surplus of \$64,338 and an 8% growth in our membership. EWA very successfully ran the Interschool's National event, the SEC held regular training days thanks to Acres and the hard working volunteers and event organisers undertook the most important work of running competition events throughout the year. The sport owes a huge debt of gratitude to the hard working volunteers who week after week organize, judge, officiate and help at events.

We have seen significant personnel changes in 2013, notably the departure Alistair MacKinlay stepping down as Chairman. On behalf of the board & EWA, I'd like to thank Alistair for his commitment to our organization, in particular his work in bringing us into a strong financial position following a challenging 2012. We also farewelled our CEO Martin Shaw who returned to Sydney. We thank Martin for his contribution over the past 2 and a half years and wish him well in his future ventures.

We have also welcomed some new members to our Board. Ron Fleming joined the Board part way through the year and brings a wealth of equestrian history along with great relationships within the racing industry. William Newton Wordsworth has also recently joined the Board. William is a lawyer by training, a farmer by land ownership and career, a true horseman and eventer by hobby and brings great clarity of thinking to the Board.

Our organization has also experienced some very sad and difficult times with Danica's husband missing and presumed lost on flight MH370 (Danica is the EWA accountant) and with the loss of Georgina's husband Scott. Our thoughts are with Danica and her boys, Georgina and her son and daughter, the two families and all those of our members who have suffered a recent loss.

The latter part of the year has been a time of transition and I would like to thank Christie Foster for taking on the role of Interim CEO during this time. Christie has made a significant impact in a short time delivering facility improvements, liaising with stakeholders, reinvigorating the awards night format and initiating a number of organizational reviews.

Our SEC Manager Elvira Hilton has also continued to improve the function, service and utilisation of the SEC and we continue to get many positive comments. I thank the entire EWA team for their ongoing commitment and contribution to EWA.

I welcome Angela Doyle as the new CEO. Angela comes from a WAFL and AFL background and brings some great ideas, energy and clarity of thought. Angela will be leading EWA into the most exciting phase of our development.

We face a number of challenges in 2014. A key area of focus is to create programs of relevance to all equestrians, whether they be elite or recreational and without regard to their age. Another is to more clearly define and match the value that EWA offers to each membership category.

Our biggest challenge in 2014 will be to create a more cohesive equestrian community. This will include:

- much stronger alignment between EA, EWA, the discipline committees and the event organisers
- stronger engagement with PCAWA, ARCA and recreational riders
- stronger engagement with DSR, LotteriesWest and allied sports
- and more engagement with current and potential external stakeholders (including the Racing industry, Magic Millions, Mounted Police, City of Swan)

Finally, I'd like to thank the Equestrian community for a positive year and look forward to building on this in 2014.

Colin Chantler

Chair of the EWA Board

STATE EQUESTRIAN CENTRE REPORT

2013 was year of development for the State Equestrian Centre (SEC). We faced some significant challenges but the efforts of many, paid and unpaid proved that the premier facility for equestrian activities in the state is held dear and is of great worth to the many members and visitors who pass through its gate.

It is not widely known that the Centre is bustling with activity almost every day of the week and each weekend. The number of equestrian and non-equestrian activities that fill our calendar is enormous and although I can sympathize with many who have difficulty at times in finding that 'available time' to book some of our areas, it is testament to the popularity of the venue and shows how much the venue is being utilised. It does however place some strain on the SEC team, starting early in the mornings and often working well into the evening to set up and pull down arenas, water and grade surfaces, clean and maintain the facility and be available to assist event organisers, and I cannot be more appreciative of their efforts.

Some of the key events held at the SEC in 2013 were;

- Acres Summer Dressage, Sponsored by our Major Partner Acres Rural and Lifestyle Services
- Autumn Dressage Festival run by the SEC and a team of volunteers
- Little Brigadoon One Day Event run by a junior committee supported by Eventing WA Promotions
- Western Mudd Rush run by Tri Events (attracted over 8,000 participants this year!)
- 40th Anniversary EWA Show Horse event run by the Show Horse Committee
- State Showjumping Championships run by Swan River Showjumping
- The Milne Feeds SEC Spectacular run by the EWA board, SEC team and volunteers.

A very exciting addition to the Calendar in 2013 was the National Interschool's and Pony Club Championships. The feedback from visiting competitors and crew was overwhelming, complimenting the grounds and its facilities, highlighting that our Centre is one which other states are envious.

The facility had many important upgrades in 2013. Our concern was to begin the process of major maintenance and improvements to revitalize the Centre and improve functionality and appeal. This has included;

- Refurbishment of the competitor toilets and showers at the rear of the Indoor arena
- Redevelopment and resurfacing the International arena
- Sinking the overhead power line between the Polocrosse yards and clubrooms
- New power outlets for the camping grounds
- Line marking of the front car park
- Renovation of the Presidents Lawn
- Development of a 3* cross country course in conjunction with the Brigadoon Working Group.

As we look to 2014 and beyond we aim to grow our event calendar further, attract greater mid-week usage for equestrian and non-equestrian activities and draw in new revenue streams. This coupled with continued renovation and maintenance will help us ensure the venue remains sustainable into the future and allow us to keep costs reasonable for our EWA Members and Clubs.

I would like to thank all those that support our venue and help us to improve the services we offer.

Elvira Hilton - SEC Manager

JUMPING COMMITTEE REPORT

Western Australian jumping continued on a very positive way for 2013 with some significant achievements and celebration for WA Riders Internationally and at home.

One of the key goals for the jumping committee is to seek international and national representation on teams and Squads, and 2013 was highlighted by Alison Rowland and Rory Hovell representing Australia in Nations Cup events in New Zealand and again in Linz, Austria, and Bickley Brook Bella won the CSI3* Grand Prix in La Boissiere, France.

Evie Buller with Yalambi's Landor was selected on the National Normandy Squad as well as the National Young Rider Squad, and Stephanie Tucker was also selected on the Young Rider Squad for the 5th consecutive year. David Dobson was also on the National Squad with Akon.

WA was also well represented on the National Futures Squad by:

Rick	Dabner	King Cobra
Nadia	Gronow	Barrabadeen Wrangler
Rory	Hovell	Yalambi's Carpino Z
Neil	Ozanne	Sarnia Caesarno
Caitlin	Bolger	Oaks Dreamtime
Leon	Carroll	DE Lisch
Rebecca	Donovan	Oaks Vivette
Bridget	Kelly	Conquista
Darren	Taylor	Barrabadeen Wynchester
Chadd	Donovan	Chicago
Stephanie	Tucker	Oaks Redwood

Domestic competition was again supported by the Rider levies, with the Horse of the Year Series being a major drawcard for competitors, organisers and importantly ongoing development of our horses through the 1.30m barrier. The Novice Country Championships continued to be supported as an incentive to have riders travel to shows in the country and this remains a popular series. The Healthway Young Masters Series has allowed many young riders to enter the sport in a safe and well managed way.

WA continued to support the Young Rider Series, also known as the Tekna events. Our riders were very successful in this series in 2013. WA has used this competition as a very accurate benchmark for performance of the young riders at the national level and for each of the past 5 years WA riders have remained competitive and continue to be well represented in the top 15 in the country. WA has supported the National Tekna Series and ensured it is maintained in its present format. We also prevented National from changing the rules during the series which would have disadvantaged a number of our riders being selected for the National Elite Young Riders Squad.

In a new development for 2103, WA was nominated to conduct a qualifying competition for our Young Riders to obtain a Certificate of Capability for the 2014 Youth Olympic Games. Five riders were successful in securing their COC and some of these will have the opportunity to be selected for the final selection process, which will decide the one rider position for the Games to be held in August 2014.

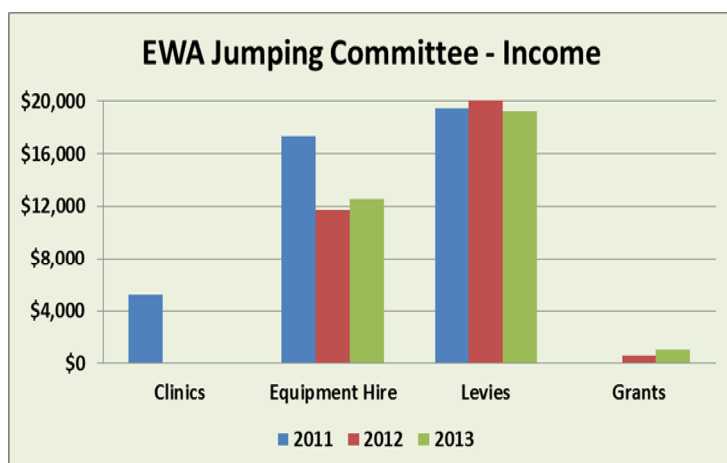
Thankyou to all of our Competitors.

WA is very fortunate to have a very strong band of Organising Committees and the EWAJC remains very supportive of this group, as this is the most critical part of the sport – no Organising Clubs, no sport. EWAJC invited the President of each of our main clubs as guests of the Committee at the VIP tent for the Eventing in the Park – a very innovative competition with a high degree of public exposure which the Committee determined needed strong support from all disciplines within the sport.

Thank you to our Organising Committees.

Unfortunately, due to some changes in the National High Performance Program, there were no clinics conducted in Western Australia by Equestrian Australia during 2013, however there were a host of private clinics with high level coaches including Jamie Coman, Gavin Chester, Chris Chugg, Vicki Roycroft and Ben Netterfield.

The EWA Jumping Committee has decided to take a far greater role in seeking Coaches for both the Senior and Young Rider Squads in 2014 and Committee will be announcing these changes during the year.



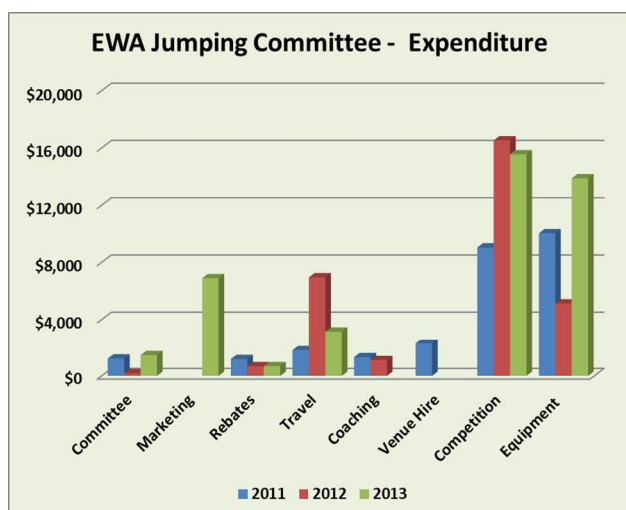
Our Officials remain an integral part of the sport and in February the EWAJC hosted a two day Officials seminar, the first day was a refresher for Judges presented by Penny Dodd, and the second a refresher for Course Designers delivered by Fred Freeman.

Peter Cooke completed his terms as a National Jumping Selector after 16 years, overseeing 4 Olympic Games and 5 World

Equestrian Games.

Kevin Tully headed the list of Officials travelling overseas and interstate as assistant course designer to Leopoldo Palacios in New Zealand, and World Games Course Designer Frederic Cottier at the National Championships in September. Fred Freeman attended a FEI Seminar in New Zealand, as well as designed the courses for the South Australian Championships, and Penny Dodd also updated her FEI Steward status in New Zealand. Amy Kippen gained some valuable judging experience in South Australia.

The EWAJC supported all officials who were seeking to add to their professional development using the travel fund.



Thank you to our Officials.

The Finances for the year remained on an even keel with the graphs below showing the income and expenditure for the past 3 years. Rider levies collected for each round contribute around \$18,000 per year and the hire of the jumping equipment around a further \$12,000. These funds are then distributed as shown with 50% invested in the event competitions, some 25% in maintaining and investing in the jumping equipment and the remainder to assist riders and Officials to participate in the sport in various ways.

Fred Freeman again took the leading role in keeping

the jumping equipment up to speed and during the year the EWAJC invested in an additional \$12,000 of new poles, wings and trailer updates. Cups, flags and numbers remain a constant investment in their replacement.

The EWAJC has had some major influence at the National Level though the National Jumping Committee. We have instigated the introduction of a National Jumping rule for Stallion Discs. The policy is likely to be implemented across all disciplines.

2013 saw even more support for our Facebook Page. We are edging towards 400 members. This has proven to be a preferred method of communication for the committee to members and promotes the sport of Jumping in the wider community.



A highlight of the year was the awarding of Life Membership to Fred Freeman – thank you Fred for many years of tireless work on behalf of the sport and we are in a far better place because of your contribution.

Finally, thank you to the Committee members who contribute their evening every second Monday of the month, and many in between hours to ensure that jumping remains on an even keel and importantly provides the right forum for the sport to prosper.

The 2014 Committee and their respective roles:

- PETER COOKE
 - Chair
- KEVIN GIANATTI
 - Vice Chair, Selector, PCAWA
- KEVIN TULLY
 - Officials, Handbook
- RENATTA MILCZARCEK
 - Treasurer
- JUDITH ODGAARD
 - Selector
- SHANE GIBLETT
 - NJC Delegate, Facebook
- FRED FREMAN
 - Vice Chair
- TRACEY BARBER
 - Selector, Club Liaison Officer
- JULIA CONTI
 - Youth Squad Coordinator
- LEON CARROLL
 - Riders Representative
- ANNE MARIE FRANK

DRESSAGE COMMITTEE REPORT

2013 was a significant development year for dressage in WA in terms of both competitions and initiatives with a real focus on bringing the discipline back to the glory and participation of previous years.

The participation of dressage on a national scale has been declining and the committee has tried to focus on making the sport more accessible to a wider range of riders as well as increasing the prestige of the higher levels. 2013 was really a year of reflection on the state of dressage in WA and looking at how this could be improved to make the sport more approachable and appealing to a wider range of participants. We are hoping that initiatives started in 2013 will continue to grow and gain momentum through 2014 into the future. These initiatives included:

1. Improving the committee's communication with members and riders to ensure that riders are more aware of what the committee is trying to do to improve the sport in the state;
2. Possibility of A & B grade competitions being implemented once the impact of the membership changes were properly determined;
3. Improving the running of dressage competitions by clubs through the implementation of a Master Series. Clubs which agreed to uphold certain criteria including draw lead time, ground condition, level of tests etc would be awarded Master Series status and a prescribed level of DDF funding. While this couldn't be implemented in 2013, the event detail was determined in 2013 to be implemented in 2014.
4. Ideas to bring the prestige back to the State Dressage Championships and the Autumn Dressage Championships.

Committee Communication

2013 saw major changes to the DWA website by committee member Kristy Jarvis. Kristy has worked tirelessly to ensure that the website information is up to date and to draw riders attention to the information that they can find on the website. The idea being that the DWA website will become the 'go to' point for information on dressage in WA.

The committee has worked hard through its Rider's survey and approachability at events to encourage riders to come forward with ideas and criticisms to allow the committee to address the issues going forward.

Membership Changes

Given the membership changes that were happening around the country in 2013 and would be implemented in WA at the start of 2014, there has also been a focus on looking at the impact these changes may have on sport in WA.

To this end, Dressage WA were invited to send a representative (Elaine Green) to the annual ADC SDA meeting as well as attend a Dressage Strategic Planning Meeting to discuss the impact of changes in membership. DWA was applauded for initiatives that we will begin in 2014 such as the Master Series.

There was strong indication from the states that had already implemented the new membership model that it was too early to determine the impact on membership and competition numbers. The committee has considered ideas such as an A & B level competition. This split level would be designed to allow competitors that would have been Associate to feel that they could compete in a 'B' level official competition without competing against the experienced official riders. This is a concept that has been discussed at length by the committee and it has been decided that we will wait to see what impact the changes have before implementing any new systems. We will be monitoring the changes in numbers and competitors through our Strategic Planning portfolio in 2014.

High Performance

WA has had a strong showing on national dressage squads for 2013 with Deon Stokes (Royal Oak II) being named on the National A Squad and Sharon Jarvis (Lord Lamarque) being named on the National A Squad for Para Equestrian. We also had a number of riders (Deon Stokes, Louise Hillman, Sally Mayall and Vanessa Dunstan) being named on the National Futures Squad. The state Selectors have also raised percentages for the squad qualifications and now have a strong base of riders gaining good scores at all levels.

The committee has initiated talks with the state high performance representative and the national dressage coordinator (Julia Battams) in order to better liaise with national high performance to ensure that our state squads have a better possibility to feed into the national squads.

Para Equestrian

Para Equestrian in WA is also running well. Dressage WA and other clubs continue to hold PE classes regularly. We have also had Zoe Farrent express an interest in becoming a classifier for Para Equestrian which is great news for Para riders as it means that don't have to fly to SA or NSW to be classified. We are hoping that this accreditation process for Zoe will be finalised in 2014.

Dressage Judges Taskforce

Judge education seminars and workshops were presented from H to GP levels in 2013. There was also a focus on ensuring country clubs were given easier access to seminars. To this end the Taskforce invited country clubs to host a seminar in 2013. Financial and organisational support was given to Henty to run a seminar with Kim Thomas. From that seminar we have gained two new H level judges. More country seminars are planned for 2014 to continue to encourage more judge education and upgrades.

There were also several clinics conducted by International and National level educators. Jennie Loriston Clarke presented a judge/ coach day for taskforce which covered the training of the young horse through to PSG level. Mary Seefried, Wendy Barker, Polly Ann Huntington, Maria Schwenessen and Lesley Sullivan were all included in our judge education program.

Nine judge candidates were successful in upgrading in 2013. This resulted in new judges at NOAS A –GP, E-Elementary, F –Novice and H –Preliminary levels. Judge Education by way of shadow judging and Sit Ins was also conducted throughout WA this was supported by taskforce funds. The taskforce encouraged interested judges to attend the EA Stewards Seminar which was presented in Perth. The seminar was presented by FEI Steward Penny Dodd and covered all disciplines. Penny and FEI Steward Simon Barry continue to Mentor trainee stewards at events to enable them to gain EA Accreditation.

DWA Funds

DWA has a healthy budget coming into 2013 and it was decided that these funds would be used to assist EWA with the upgrade of the International arena. It was felt by DWA, riders and EWA that the surface on the international arena was not up to standard and needed to be ungraded.

DWA agreed to assist EWA with the type and cost of this upgrade. While there has been some teething problems with the new surface DWA continue to assist EWA, where requested, to ensure that the surface issues are rectified.

State Dressage Championships & Autumn Dressage Championships

We are also pleased to report that 2013 saw interest rekindled in dressage competition and the delivery of several events that appealed to the dressage public. We have focused, where possible, on addressing issues raised by riders in our survey issued in early 2013 which included delivery of well organised and rider friendly competitions.

With the support of the State Equestrian Centre, a revamped Autumn Dressage Festival was pulled together on short notice by a small committee which included Elvira Hilton (SEC Manager), Narelle Helsemans (rider and equestrian business owner), Sophie Warren (rider and media guru) and Heidi Emery (Dressage WA committee member).

The event attracted excellent sponsorship support from leading equestrian business and saw the continuation of support from Guinot International – an international skincare company with a keen interest in developing its market amongst the equestrian public.

The event also seemed to appeal to riders and spectators with large crowds attending on both days to support a busy trade village (at times the car park was full and vehicles were parking down Cathedral Avenue!) and entries received for approximately 480 tests (including over 50 freestyles).

The event ran at a small profit for the SEC but the aim for 2014 is to increase that profit via sponsorship from large and small investors. 2014 will also see the introduction of a Young Dressage Horse competition and the introduction of a Masterclass series from visiting leading trainers.

In 2013 the Dressage WA committee was also extremely proud to bring back the WA State Dressage Championships which had been missing from the dressage calendar for several years. Every member of the Dressage WA committee worked hard to bring this competition to fruition and the introduction of a new sponsorship system worked extremely well with nearly \$10,000 in sponsorship funds raised in the lead up.

The sponsors and riders party held in the lead up to the event was also well attended and was enjoyed by all – it was wonderful to see riders, judges, sponsors and other interested people mingling together in the name of the sport.

Although there was some disappointment over the need to reschedule the competition to a later date due to the wet conditions leading up to the original date – in the end, entry numbers increased for the weekend to 499 tests to be ridden on over 200 horses. We believe this to be the largest dressage competition seen in Western Australia.

Thanks to an efficient team of scorers led by Richard Spencer – results were quickly delivered over the weekend and presentations kept rolling through to a conclusion on Sunday afternoon. Event Director,

Margaret Thwaites, kept everyone on track over the weekend and, as a committee, we were delighted at the assistance we received from the dressage public across the board.

Some great scores were also posted over the competition which – combined with the excellent entries received – suggest that dressage in Western Australia is looking good for the future.

Conclusion

DWA has worked hard in 2013 to improve the profile of the sport in WA and also set in motion ideas and initiatives that will continue to do this in 2014.

We are looking forward to a productive and competitive year for 2014.

Sara Price

Chair of Dressage WA

SHOW HORSE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Show Horse Committee had a fantastic year in 2013 culminating in the 40th Anniversary of the Horse of the Year Show in September.

The Committee, which was appointed by the EWA Board in 2012, continued to administer Show Horse matters and conducted four shows during the year and a Judges seminar. Following the resignation of Felicity Osment and Melanie Allesandrino who wished to pursue other personal interests (we thank them both for the contribution), the Committee welcomed four new appointments at the beginning of the year to bolster the Committee to eight hard working members. Joining the existing Committee of Peta Gallagher, Val Mayger, Lindsay Baxter and Rosanna Abbonizio, were Kerry Wilson, Caris Reside, Marlene Kinder and Lisa Orrell.

Our first show of the season was the Autumn Hack and Hunter Show held in April 2013. The judges were Jill Best (SA) and Lorri Mansell (Vic). There were a pleasing number of entries which kept our Judges busy for the day. We received excellent support from our sponsors and the show was financially successful.

In June we partnered with the Show Horse Council to conduct a Judges/Show Horse seminar which was well attended. Peter Heagney from Victoria presented the seminar. Peter is well known in many horse disciplines and none more so than his position as a Director of Inglis Bloodstock. Peter had the honour of auctioning the half-brother to Black Caviar at the 2013 Magic Millions Yearling sales where the colt was sold for \$5m. Sadly this country did not get to see that horse race. Peter is no stranger to Western Australia, he and his wife Helen have made numerous trips west to judge at some of our top shows. Peter's presentation, focussing on conformation and types of horses in our show ring, both Hunters and Hacks, was well received. Ever the gentleman, Peter also commented on etiquette and sportsmanship in the show ring and reminded competitors and judges alike that we are all representatives of our sport and our behaviours must be beyond reproach.

The 2013 Newcomers Award for Hacks and Hunters and the Winter Gala was held in June and was well supported by competitors and sponsors. Our Judges were Joanne Uppington (Qld) and David Quayle (Vic). The Judges were very impressed by the quality of horses and the polite manner in which all competitors conducted themselves during the show.

The 2013 Horse of the Year was by far our biggest effort. As it was the 40th Anniversary of this special event, having been first held in 1973, the Committee pulled out all stops to make it memorable and it was! The weekend kicked off in fine style with a Ruby themed cocktail party on the Thursday night which saw everyone dress up for the occasion and dance the night away. The function was held in the upstairs section at the State Equestrian Centre and featured a memorabilia display, a silent auction, a raffle, DJ and catering. Everyone who attended was welcomed at the door with a champagne cocktail. This function set the tone for the rest of the Horse of the Year weekend with everyone in good spirits.

Our Judges for Horse of the Year were Dean Mathews (Vic), Jenni Foster (NSW) and Toni Harper -Purcell (Qld).

Fortunately there weren't too many aching heads on the Friday when we ran the Hunter classes commencing at 2pm. Shifting the Hunters to their own day meant that events were less rushed and the Hunters were able to shine.

The weekend saw the usual format of Hacks on the Saturday and Riders, Rural and Intermediate classes on the Sunday. The preferential scoring system went much more smoothly than the previous year, which meant that horses and riders weren't kept in suspense waiting for the results. We would like to thank Jeremy Roberts from Victoria for giving up his time to come to WA to undertake the scoring. We are working on ways to make this system even more efficient.

During competition on the Saturday afternoon, a Sponsors function was held as a way of thanking our loyal Sponsors. We had the most amazing array of sponsors and we thank them all for their support. They provided cash and products which allowed us to cover most of the costs of running the show over nearly four days. Our major show for the year cost over \$32,000 to run. We have endeavoured to keep entry fees for events at a reasonable level to encourage participation which makes our sponsors contribution all the more valuable.

The amount of time and logistics which went into organising three days of competition and several functions belies belief. Some of us were working full time on this show and trying to earn a living at the same time! It is only when you are on a Committee furiously peddling and spinning plates do you realise what is involved to ensure that shows and events can be held for the benefit of our equestrian members. Many people approached the Committee to thank us and that makes it all worthwhile. We, in turn, would like to thank everyone who came to Horse of the Year to make it the success it was and who pitched in to help when things got just that little bit hairy.

Our last event of the season, the Summer Preview Hack and Hunter Show was held in late November. Our Judges were Lyn Stalling (NSW) and Tracie-Lee Wells (NSW) who both agreed to attend at quite short notice. We did consider the pros and cons of running this show but we tried to respond to the requests of members to make their EWA membership worthwhile and to provide eastern States Judges and the opportunity to gain Royal Show qualifying points. Unfortunately a lot of juggling of dates and clashes with other shows, both at the SEC and elsewhere, meant that the show had to be held on a Saturday. The show was not well supported and ran at a loss. We will need to reconsider the merit of a fourth show in 2014.

In December 2013, five members of the Committee travelled to Werribee in Victoria to support our representatives at the Australasian Show Horse and Rider Championships (aka The Nationals). Following their wins or placing at Horse of the Year, we had 12 horses and 16 riders represent Western Australia. Anyone who has taken their horses 3500 kilometres from home to compete in one event will know the trials and tribulations, but also the pride and joy, of participating at the top level of competition.

Two of our representatives had spectacular success. Huge congratulations go to Courtney Vale with Gem Park Rembrandt who stole the show with the most fantastic work out in the Large Pony Show Hunter and was sashed the winner. Also thrilled was Fiona Graetz who took out Runner-Up Large Show Hunter Galloway. Fiona's charge around the National Equestrian Centre arena had everyone applauding. What makes these results even sweeter for WA is that both horses are locally bred so a huge boost for

our breeding industry. The Show Horse Committee would like to congratulate all its representatives, you made us all very proud.

When the Committee was appointed in 2012, we took the position of abiding by our National Show Horse rules to be fair to all. This meant making tough decisions which did not fit with some people's expectations but the Show Horse discipline is administered for the benefit of everyone, not just a few. We appreciate that taking a firm approach ruffles a few feathers but by sticking to the rules and by being open and accountable we have engendered confidence in the Show Horse discipline.

I would like to again thank all our wonderful sponsors of Show Horse throughout 2013. They willingly provided an amazing amount of financial support and prizes which we were pleased to pass on to well-deserving winners of events. The Show Committee aims to provide all our members and competitors with the best shows so that they enjoy the level of competition and get reward for effort. We ask that successful competitors personally thank our sponsors - by letter or email - so that they know that their sponsorship is appreciated.

Finally I would like to thank the Committee - Val, Lindsay, Rosanna, Kerry, Marlene, Caris and Lisa for their contribution to Show Horse. Lindsay in particular has been my "right-hand woman" undertaking all written reports for our Shows, preparing our risk management and show manuals and looking for opportunities to take our results capture into the electronic age. Val has been our public announcer and Judges' chauffeur, Rosanna our "front-of-house", Marlene Minute taker and cup-cake specialist, Kerry Judge's stewardess extraordinaire, and Caris and Lisa as fantastic support crew.

Peta Gallagher

Chair EWA Show Horse Committee

EVENTING COMMITTEE REPORT

Eventing in Western Australia continues to grow, it is very exciting to see so many WA riders stepping up and traveling East. Jess Manson making the Trans-Tasman trip as a senior rider all be it as an individual with a very good placing. Adelaide 3DE last year we saw Sonja Johnson finishing 2nd and Jess Manson completing in the competitive 4 Star. The WA young rider team consisted of Makayla Wood, Emily Gray, Michaela Martindale and Emily Early winning the National Young Rider Championships again. In 2013 our events saw a great number of consistent numbers of starters especially in the star classes, for example the 3 Star having up to 9 competitors, the 2 star having up to 20 competitors and the 1 Star having about 40. The lower levels are continuing to grow which keeps the top levels very healthy.

There has been a revised interest in FEI official development with Kerrie Robbins and Elaine Greene attending Adelaide FEI course to renew their current official status. With Didy Massy becoming a 1*2* ground jury member and PAH becoming a 1*2* TD we are seeing a great development with the WA officials. The Australian National High Performance initiative is to develop and encourage course designers to a world class level. This is to help Australian based riders become more competitive and familiar to world and European trends which will enhance riders' preparations for World and Olympic Games. Mike Etherington Smith is the instigator for this and currently travels, time permitting, across Australia visiting every state assessing chosen course designers. Sadly lack of Australian course designers who are up to standard is a national problem which is why we must employ international course designers.

Eventing WA started off 2013 with a bang; Capel, traditionally the first event of the season had so many entries that they had to have a wait list, this being because their infrastructure of the facilities and simply are unable to cope with mass competitors. Some riders were desperate for a start before traveling East and the Capel committee bent over backwards to help but not without committee fallout. EvWA went into damage control, the Facebook page "Help for WA ODEs" was born, this is a fantastic idea and we now have a person on our committee whose job is to liaise with clubs and pass on any updates. There are never enough people and volunteers to help put these events together which results in an overworked committee who can become so jaded they never want to do it again which is not good for volunteers who the sport relies on!

Sadly Brookleigh closed its doors as a venue for holding International Events. Both Swan River Horse Trials Club and WAYER have enjoyed Nikki Harwards generosity to have been able to use world class facilities for such a long time. Both clubs have had to relocate to new venues. Swan River moved to Dryandra and successfully held a CIC in October. WAYER has moved to the State Equestrian Centre at Brigadoon. This lead the Start of the Brigadoon Working Group, a concerned group of people getting together to protect the present cross country course at Brigadoon as well as raise funds to bring the whole course up to International standard at 3*and 2*level, with an ongoing 5 year plan for future years. We are very fortunate to have the expertise of New Zealander John Nicholson, who is being encouraged and promoted by Mike Etherington Smith as currently the best course designer in the southern hemisphere if not the world! The course is very different and has produced much dialogue and opinion by all the local experts!! It should be noted that it rode brilliantly and all the riders stepped up

to the mark with excellent rounds. Especially when the FEI vet comments on how well the horses pulled up!

It is a very big job with a lot of responsibility being on the committee of EVWA, everyone has a job to do with their own criteria. It is excellent to have some new young members on board who are very active and full of good ideas. We need young brains as well as enthusiastic volunteers for the sport to survive. While the community of EVWA is full of depth and growth some of the clubs are still struggling to find enough help with volunteers as well as funding. With this in mind we also have some wonderful volunteers, helpers and sponsors of the sport, who continue to assist in making this sport expand.

At the end of the day it is still for me the best sport in the world. From Moora to Dryandra, to Capel, Fairbridge and Harvey as well as the local metropolitan clubs, on a weekend you will see about 700 plus people camping, Olympians to local riders, mothers fathers, partners all together looking after their horse and ponies, learning good manners, horse management as well as good sportsmanship and a healthy lifestyle.

The sport continues to thrive.

PollyAnn Huntington

Chair Eventing WA

DEVELOPMENT REPORT

EWA NCAS Coaching and Schools Education Programs

The Equestrian Western Australia National Coaching Accreditation Scheme (NCAS) Advisory Panel is made up of a hard working group of coaches, who are mindful of their responsibility in ensuring that all those involved with equestrian coaching are kept up to date with the current training, policies and guidelines of the Equestrian Australia NCAS accreditation and reaccreditation procedures. One of the criteria Coaches need to follow, to maintain their accreditation is to attend a Coaching Update every two years.

The Panel is mindful of the distance that a lot of our country coaches have to travel and has started holding Regional Coaching Updates. In April, an extremely successful one was held in Albany with six coaches attending.

The members of the Panel cover all coaching levels and a number of Coach Educators. They are Zoe Harrison, Philippa Collier, Roz Tippet, Peta Booker, Felicity Perry, Rebecca Thomas, Diane Bennit (Chair) and the NCAS Coordinator Jennine Smith.

WA is very fortunate to have Philippa Collier as a member of the five person National NCAS committee, which meets four times annually. The committee oversees the syllabus, creates the timetable for all the relevant courses and updates, promotes coaching of a high level, encourages coaches to upgrade, as well as endeavoring to keep the standard of coaching the same within all states.

It is essential for Trainee coaches to attend a two day EWA NCAS Introductory Coaching Workshop. Two workshops were held in 2013, one in March and another in October. This requires completion of 16 hours of 'basic training', and is to prepare Trainees to commence the coaching components, within the Workbook, including the Activity Slips. On attainment of their Introductory Level Certificates, candidates can then progress to NCAS Level 1 Certification. The Panel ensures that a number of these are held annually to give people every opportunity to attend. The first day covers theory, coaching styles, lesson plans and the opportunity to discuss their coaching ideas and aims. Day two is spent on the practical side, with trainees coaching each other in group sessions, covering safety and group control, EA terminology and technical knowledge.

Any NCAS coaches who require an update can attend the first day of these workshops, which cover Risk Management, Accident and Injury Procedures, Legal Issues, Negligence and Duty of Care, and any other EA issues that have arisen in the previous 12 months. 17 coaches attended the first day of the October 2013 Workshop.

It is very encouraging that so many NCAS Level 1 coaches and riders are showing an interest in working towards their NCAS Level 2 accreditation.

Nine candidates attended the three two day workshops, spread over six month. Held at the SEC these workshops were designed to give candidates support and confidence when preparing for the Level 2 Assessments in riding and coaching. The knowledge that each candidate brought was shared with the group through lectures on topics included in the Level 2 Syllabus. Candidates rode and taught each other, and outside riders agreed to come and participate to assist coaches working towards higher

movements. Candidates could work at their own speed and ask for assessment by visiting Level 3 Coach Educators Ron Paterson (QLD) and Simon Kale (NSW).

A couple of Level 2 Horsemastership workshops were held over February and March and were attended by four candidates. Some of the presentations included; feeding and digestion, how performance horses are affected by hoof shapes and lower leg conformation, medication control policies, fitness and conditioning, recording data for exercise regime and transporting horses.

The annual NCAS Coaches Forum was held at the SEC in March and attracted nearly 70 WA coaches. These Forums are open to EA, PC, RDA Coaches and Trainees. Presenters were EA NCAS Level three General & Eventing Coach Educator and EA NCAS Committee Chairman Simon Kale (NSW), Will McArthur from Gow Gates - EA Coach's Insurer and Dr Anushka Chaku BSc BVMS MANZVSc.

An overview of the information that Coaches received was, they were not covered by insurance to coach Riding for the Disabled pupils, How to maintain Coach Educator status, "Fast Tracking" evidence required, trainee Introductory coaches are soon only to be insured when they are supervised by an NCAS Coach Educator, conditions of reinstatement for a lapsed coach etc.

Simon also gave a practical jumping lesson demonstration with four riders. His focus was on rider position, the horse accepting the bit, maintaining a good active canter rhythm, the outline of the horse e.g. straightness, and phases of the jump.

A very interesting presentation was given by Will McArthur on the summary of policies that covered EA coaches. Cover is 24 hourly e.g. riding own horse, the Medicare 'gap' is not covered by any insurer due to Federal Government laws, use your Private Health Insurance first, then approach Gow Gates for 'out of pocket expenses', if a coach gives exercises to a rider to practice at home, the coach is still covered if the pupil has an accident doing this 'homework', if a pupil has regular lessons, waivers need only be signed annually, if less than monthly a new waiver needs to be signed and coaches are able to use their own horses for pupils to ride.

Dr Chaku's update on the latest diagnosis and treatments for Joints and Joint Disease in the horse created a lot of interest and a very active discussion, with plenty of questions.

A very comprehensive EWA NCAS Coach Educators (CE) and Skills Specific Trainer Accredited (SSTA) Update course and Clinic was held in July at the SEC, with 19 people attending. Simon Kale presented for the CE's and Philippa Collier (L2 General CE) presented for the SSTA's.

Some of the information given included; It is essential that CE's check the current list of Candidates for whom they can sign Coach Assessment Slips, "Accelerated Assessment" terminology replaces Recognition for Prior Learning RPL, Introductory and Level 1 Horse Management Theory papers do NOT need to be supervised by a CE or SSTA as is the current practice, however authenticity needs to be checked, necessary to complete practical skills prior to the theory section, CE are expected to train as well as assess, 'Mapping' from other courses can be considered and the number one priority in assessment of Practical Coaching Skills is safety.

The objective of the EWA NCAS very popular Courses with Horses School Education Program, is to outline minimum standards that are relevant to current EA Pathways, providing the 'horsemanship'

component of equestrian sport, and is designed to provide a strong foundation for competitive athletes, coaches, officials, non-riding equestrian enthusiasts and those wishing to pursue a career in the horse industry. These programs have been endorsed by the WA School Curriculum and Standards Authority, under the category of Community Organisation so any school students undertaking these programs or certificates while in Year 10, 11 or 12, can also count this learning towards their Senior Secondary Certificate being the Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE).

Students can enrol into the EWA Courses with Horses Schools Program to receive EA Riding and for Horse Management workbooks. Candidates work with their own coaches at their own pace outside of school hours or within if their School organizes Equestrian Skills as part of their curriculum. Each year approximately 30 students enrol in WA.

The Advisory Panel is very excited about the excellent standard of all levels of NCAS Trainees and Coaches in WA, which is also greatly responsible for the improvement in competition and recreational riding. The Panel feels that the long, and in a lot of cases, voluntary hours that they put in, is well worth the results that are being achieved

The Advisory Panel would also like to express their gratitude to the EWA Education Manager and NCAS Coordinator Jennine Smith for her ongoing professionalism, enthusiasm and support.

Diane Bennit

EWA NCAS Chair 2014

EWA BEATS Development Program

BEATS is dedicated to providing young riders 12 – 17yrs with every opportunity to develop a career in Equestrian as Athletes, Coaches, Officials and aspire to the next level. At the start of each year up to ten riders are invited to join the Squad forming a final team of 45 talented individuals.

Sponsored by EWA, SEC and Healthway, BEATS riders are very fortunate to have access to a range of Industry Professionals and quality EA NCAS Coaches.

Generally each year BEATS members are offered 8 lesson days structured over an intensive training program providing riders continuous education in riding, horse management and fitness.

The first Clinic for 2013 commenced in March and then continuing over each set of School Holidays with the Program regularly including four mounted lessons – either Dressage and Jumping or Dressage and XC Riding plus four unmounted lessons over two full days. Then on the third day NCAS assessments are conducted for those riders ready and prepared for examination.

Unmounted practical sessions included Lungeing the Horse, First Aid for both horse and rider and Fitball fitness sessions plus various Lectures on Topics including;

- Equine Dentistry
- Rules and Regulations in Dressage Jumping and Cross Country Riding,
- Evaluating conformation, stretching and massage techniques with Jess Blackwell from

- Equestricare
- Designing correct Feeding and Exercise Conditioning Programs

Felicity Perry – another one of our regular Level 2 Coaches who is generally in charge of the highly organised Horse Management Programs also providing valued practical lessons on Data Recording of Equine Temperature, Pulse and Breathing rates, Grooming, Travelling and Use and Maintenance of various items Riding and Auxiliary equipment plus Documentation Charts for Horse Identification.

On enrolment, all BEATS members are encouraged to register for the package of EA Educational Resources containing Introductory Horse Management and the Introductory Riding workbooks. Most progress quickly through these and soon begin Level 1 Courses.

Horse Management lectures follow the activities within these resources and candidates are offered assessment opportunities over 1 day during the April, July and October School Holiday Clinics. This providing all BEATS members the opportunity to progress through from Introductory and then Level 1 Core Units.

At the end of 2013 a self-catered Awards Dinner was held to farewell eighteen graduates who completed the BEATS Program. Awards were also presented to outstanding achievers plus all those who completed EA Certificates.

Special congratulations to Jess Cappendell who was awarded Junior Dux and Isabel Fry the Senior Dux for 2013.

Also in 2013;

- Seven members completed the Introductory Riding Certificate
- Seven members completed the Introductory Horse Management Certificate.
- Six members completed the Level 1 Horse Management Course.
- Ten members completed Level 1 General Riding Certificate

Jennine Smith

EWA Education Manager