



2026 INTERSCHOOL QUALIFYING

Guidelines



INTERSCHOOL
WESTERN AUSTRALIA



EQUESTRIAN
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Welcome to Interschools 2026

QUALIFYING GUIDELINES

Equestrian Western Australia is pleased to host the 2026 Interschool Equestrian State Championships and Participation Championships.

Competing at the Interschool Equestrian State Championships is a pre-requisite for selection to the Team to represent Western Australia at the Australian Interschool Championships in Werribee in 2026.

In turn, it is necessary to have at two (2) qualifying performances in the disciplines of Dressage, Show Jumping and Combined Training to compete at the Interschool Equestrian State Championships. This is to ensure that the combination (horse and rider) can compete at the level for which they are entering and to ensure the safety of competitors.

The Qualification period is from close of entries for 2025 Interschools (17 March 2025) to close of entries for 2026 Interschools, provisionally 16 March 2026.

Please also note that qualifications are required for some classes even if they are not National qualifying events.

Qualifications can be gained at:

- EA affiliated events.
- 2025 State Interschool Championships.
- 2025 National Interschool Championships.
- Pony Club WA affiliated events (being officiated/judged by EA officials).
- Dressage Training days held at EA affiliated clubs where EA Judges are used, only one (1) qualification score may be used, one (1) other must come from a competition.

Please keep a record of your Performances obtained during the Qualification period.

In this document you will find:

1. A list of WA Interschool Equestrian State Championship classes that require qualification.
2. General information regarding qualifications.
3. Information regarding exemptions.
4. Qualification information by discipline (with a handy checklist).
5. Contact information.

INTERSCHOOL CLASSES REQUIRING QUALIFICATION

| Class | Competitor | Participant |
|--|------------|-------------|
| COMBINED TRAINING | | |
| Primary Combined Training – 50cm | Y | N |
| Primary Combined Training – 65cm | Y | N |
| Primary Combined Training - 70cm | Y | N |
| Primary Combined Training – 80cm | Y | N |
| Secondary Combined Training – 60cm | Y | N |
| Secondary Combined Training – 70cm | Y | N |
| Secondary Combined Training – 80cm | Y | N |
| Secondary Combined Training – 95cm | Y | N |
| Secondary Combined Training – 1* (105cm) | Y | N |
| DRESSAGE | | |
| Primary Preparatory | N | N |
| Primary Preliminary | Y | N |
| Primary Novice | Y | N |
| Secondary Preparatory | N | N |
| Secondary Intermediate Preliminary | Y | - |
| Secondary Intermediate Novice | Y | - |
| Secondary Senior Preliminary | Y | - |
| Secondary Senior Novice | Y | - |
| Open Elementary (primary and secondary riders) | Y | - |
| Open Medium (primary and secondary riders) | Y | - |
| Secondary Advanced | Y | - |
| Secondary Prix St George | Y | - |
| Secondary Intermediate 1 | Y | - |
| EVENTING | | |
| Primary EvA65 | N | - |
| Primary EvA80 | N | - |
| Secondary EvA65 | N | - |
| Secondary EvA80 | N | - |
| Secondary EvA95 | N | - |
| Secondary CCN1* | N | - |
| Secondary CCN2*-S, CCI2*-S & CCI2*-L | N | - |
| JUMPING | | |
| Primary 45cm | - | N |
| Primary 60cm | Y | N |
| Primary 70cm | Y | N |
| Primary 80cm | Y | N |
| Primary 90cm | Y | N |
| Secondary 60cm | Y | N |
| Secondary 70cm | Y | N |
| Secondary 80cm | Y | - |
| Secondary 90cm | Y | - |
| Secondary 100cm | Y | - |
| Secondary 110cm | Y | - |
| Secondary 120cm | Y | - |
| Secondary Intermediate 90cm | Y | - |
| Secondary Intermediate 100cm | Y | - |
| Secondary Intermediate 110cm | Y | |
| Secondary Intermediate 120cm | Y | |
| SHOW HORSE | | |
| All classes | N | N |

General Information

Why is qualification necessary?

Interschools is a State Championship event. Therefore, to compete safely and competitively, riders must be able to demonstrate that as a horse/rider combination they have the skill and ability to undertake the events in which they propose to enter.

- **Riders do not need to be EWA Members at the time of gaining their qualification. However, they MUST be either a Junior Competitor or Junior Participant member at the time of entering the Interschool Equestrian State Championships.**
- Riders choosing to compete in Competitor classes must register their horse prior to entering the State Interschool Championships.
- All qualifying events must be ridden by the same horse/rider combination that wish to enter the State Interschool Equestrian Championships.
- It is the rider's responsibility to ensure that qualifying performances are judged by current EA accredited Officials. **The name of the judge and course designer (where applicable) must be included on the Qualification Card..**
- For the 2026 Interschool Equestrian State Championships, qualifying performances can be gained in the following ways:
 - EWA Affiliated events.
 - 2025 State Interschool Championships.
 - 2025 National Interschool Championships.
 - Pony Club WA Affiliated events (being officiated/judged by EA officials).
 - Dressage Training days held at EA affiliated clubs where EA Judges are used, one (1) qualification score may be used, one (1) other must come from a competition.
 - Jumping Training rounds when an EA Accredited Official is in attendance.

QUALIFYING PERIOD

- The qualifying period for the 2026 Interschool Equestrian Championships is from 17 March 2025 to the close of entries (provisional date for close of entries is **16 March 2026**) for Combined Training, Dressage and Jumping. The Eventing competition will be held separately and advised in due course.

COMPLETING YOUR QUALIFICATION CARD

- Qualifying performances must be recorded on the Interschool Qualification Card and submitted with entries.
- Qualifications gained at EA Affiliated events do not require judge/official to sign off as results are retained at the EWA office. When competing in Jumping under 1.04m it is recommended that the card is signed by the judge/official.
- Each horse and rider combination must have a separate Interschool Qualification Card and ALL parts of the card must be submitted at the time of entry.
- It is recommended that riders request Judges to sign off on qualification cards soon after the class is completed (that is, before they leave the grounds). Club officials (Event Secretary, President, etc.) may sign cards and must include the name of the official overseeing the class.
- Where possible, riders should submit a copy of dressage tests or a photo/screenshot of scoresheets with their qualification card.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

- Riders and parents must sign an Athlete/Parent/Guardian Agreement & Code of Conduct before inclusion into the Interschool State Championships.
- Knowledge of the Interschool Rules and Discipline Rules is the rider's responsibility.

EXEMPTIONS

Riders experiencing exceptional circumstances may apply for exemptions where they have been unable to meet the qualification criteria. Exemption applicants are expected to have previous competition experience.

Examples of valid applications for exemption include:

- New horse/rider combination where horse and rider are experienced and proven at the level, they intend to compete but not as a combination and provide endorsement of competency by EA Accredited official or coach.
- Horse/Rider combination sustained an injury during the qualification period and were unable to obtain qualification performances during the qualification period but have previously competed at a level higher than that entered in Interschool State Championship Classes.
- Horse/rider combination live in remote area and unable to attend affiliated qualifying competition but have competition experience and provide confirmation of competency from an EA accredited official or coach.

Invalid reasons for exemption may include:

- Unaware of qualification requirements during qualification period.
- Attended qualifying events but unable to meet qualification criteria at qualifying event/s due to elimination or scores below the qualification thresholds.
- Application to compete at a level/s above the level the combination is qualified.

Applications for exemption from qualification **MUST** be submitted to the EWA Office before the close of entries.

The exemption form can be found on the EWA website -

IF IN DOUBT SUBMIT AN EXEMPTION APPLICATION EARLY.

Exemptions MUST be applied for prior to entering the Interschool Championships.

Qualifications

COMBINED TRAINING

Competitors wishing to compete in Combined Training Championship classes must satisfy the following within the qualification period:

- Obtain TWO Dressage qualifying performance (1 = 60%, 1 = 58% or more) **AND** TWO Jumping qualifying performance (12 faults or less) as a horse/rider combination at or above the highest level they wish to compete. See Dressage and Jumping Qualification full criteria, OR
- Obtain TWO Qualification Performance in Dressage and Jumping phases at an Eventing competition at or above the height the horse/rider combination wishes to compete: OR
- Obtain TWO qualification performance at an EA Combined Training Competition (at least 58% dressage/42 penalties and not more than 12 penalties in the jumping phase under accredited judges and course designer).

Horse and Rider combinations competing in Eventing Championship Classes are eligible to enter Combined Training Championship Classes at Interschools but if selected for the WA State Team, they may only compete in Eventing or Combined Training, not both.

COMBINED TRAINING QUALIFYING CHECK LIST

- ☐ Two (2) Dressage qualifying performance and two (2) Jumping qualifying performance obtained between 17 March 2025 and 16 March 2026.
- ☐ Qualification achieved at an event using current accredited EA Judge/Official and Course Designer.
- ☐ Achieved a Dressage Result (in the case of two judges officiating, the combined % is used not the individual judge) of 1 = 60% and 1 = 58% and no more than 12 faults in Jumping.
- ☐ Qualification achieved on the horse listed on the card.
- ☐ Rider is a current EWA members (minimum Junior Participant membership)

DRESSAGE

Horse and rider combinations entering Dressage Championship classes must achieve TWO (2) performances obtained from at least 1 x EA Competition plus 1 x PCWA Competition and/or 1 x Dressage Training Day, both must be held at an EA affiliated club where EA judges are used.

Qualification % required to enter at the Interschool Equestrian State Championships is 1 test x 60% and 1 test x 58% or higher.

Where possible, a copy of qualifying dressage tests should be attached and submitted with the qualification card.

Horse/Rider combinations who obtained qualifying performances at EA Affiliated events (including the 2025 WA Interschool Equestrian State Championships) must fill in their card stating the qualification performance but do not have to have the card signed by the Judge. These performances will be verified in the EWA Office.

DRESSAGE QUALIFYING CHECK LIST

- ☐ Two (2) Dressage qualifying performance obtained between 17 March 2025 and 16 March 2026. Only one (1) of these may be from a PCWA Dressage Event or Dressage Training Day held at an EA affiliated club where EA Judges are used.
- ☐ Two (2) Dressage qualifying performance of 1 x 60% and 1 x 58.0% or more at the highest level you wish to enter at the WA Interschool Equestrian State Championships.
- ☐ Qualification achieved at an event using current accredited EA Judge.
- ☐ Qualification achieved on the horse listed on the card.
- ☐ Rider is a current EWA member (minimum Junior Participant membership).

JUMPING

Horse and rider combinations entering Jumping Championship classes must obtain TWO qualifying performances at or above the highest height they wish to enter at the Interschool State Championships.

A qualifying performance is one where the horse/rider combination obtains 12 **penalties or less**.

Horse/Rider combinations who obtained a qualifying performance at an EA Affiliated event (including the 2025 WA Interschool State Championships) must fill in and submit their card stating the qualification performance. When competing in under 1.04m the card must be signed by the judge/official. If competing in 1.05m and above the card does not have to be signed as these performances will be verified in the EWA Office

When competing at non-EWA events, officials must sign the card to certify that the horse and rider combination has completed the course in a manner demonstrating competency at the level.

The Interschool Card must be signed by a **current accredited EA Jumping Judge or Course Designer**. Club officials (Event Secretary etc.) may sign the qualification card but **MUST** include the name of the judge and course designer (where applicable).

A Judge, at their discretion, may decide that a rider did not display competency at the height and may refuse to sign the Interschool Card. The Judge must write to the WA Interschool Committee naming the rider and horse and stating their reasons for this action. This action should only be taken if the judge considers that there are **severe** safety concerns for the competitor, horse, or by-standers should this combination compete at an Interschool Equestrian State Championship event.

JUMPING QUALIFYING CHECK LIST

- ☐ Two (2) Jumping qualifying performances obtained between 17 March 2025 and 16 March 2026.
- ☐ Two (2) Jumping qualifying performances 12 faults or less at the highest height you wish to enter at the WA Interschool State Championships.
- ☐ Qualification achieved at an event must be a current accredited EA Official.
- ☐ Qualification achieved on the horse listed on the card.
- ☐ Rider is a current EWA member (minimum Junior Participant membership).

Contact Information

If you require any further information regarding qualifications, please speak to your school's designated Team Manager or contact Interschools@equestrianwa.org.au