

## 2023 Interschool Equestrian State Championships and Participation Competition

### Frequently Asked Questions for Schools and Riders/Competitors and Officials

#### What are Interschool Equestrian Events and when are they?

*The Interschool Equestrian events are for Junior Equestrian Australia (EA) members born after 1<sup>st</sup> July 2005.*

#### What is the Interschool Equestrian State Championships?

The Interschool Equestrian State Championships are held by Equestrian Western Australia (EWA) and generously sponsored by **Saddles Plus** which is an equestrian retail online outlet.

The event consists of four days of equestrian competition for school age riders.

#### How old do children need to be to compete?

*School age children are welcome to compete. See the matrix below for the relevant age classification:*

YEAR	DOB DATE RANGE	CLASSIFICATION
1	1st July 2016 to 30th June 2017	Primary
2	1st July 2015 to 30th June 2016	Primary
3	1st July 2014 to 30th June 2015	Primary
4	1st July 2013 to 30th June 2014	Primary
5	1st July 2012 to 30th June 2013	Primary
6	1st July 2011 to 30th June 2012	Primary
7	1st July 2010 to 30th June 2011	Secondary / Intermediate
8	1st July 2009 to 30th June 2010	Secondary / Intermediate
9	1st July 2008 to 30th June 2009	Secondary / Intermediate
10	1st July 2007 to 30th June 2008	Secondary / Senior
11	1st July 2006 to 30th June 2007	Secondary / Senior
12	1st July 2005 to 30th June 2006	Secondary / Senior

#### What disciplines are offered at the Interschool Equestrian State Championships?

*Classes in Dressage, Jumping, Show Horse, Vaulting, and Combined Training (Dressage and Jumping combined) are offered for Championship and Participant classes. Participant classes start at Preparatory Tests and 45cm jumping while championship classes cater to all levels dressage and jumping. Eventing is offered for Championship competitors over three events, Capel (March 18-19) WAYER (1-2 April) and Harvey (15-16 April).*

#### Do competitors represent their school? Are they eligible for overall awards?

*Yes, all competitors are representing their school and must wear school (equestrian) uniform. Championship points are allocated to competitors in Championship classes only (not Participant classes). There is an overall Primary & Secondary Participant Rider*

#### What incentives are there for competitors from rural schools?

*There are special awards for competitors in Championship classes who attend rural schools.*

**Do competitors need Equestrian Western Australia Membership to compete at the Interschool Equestrian Championships?**

*Yes. All competitors are required to be members of Equestrian Western Australia. This is to ensure that all competitors are covered by insurance and abide by the respective rules of their chosen discipline. Championship classes require Competitive Membership while Participation Classes require minimum Participant Membership. Membership can be completed online.*

**Does my horse need to be registered?**

*Horses need to have full registration with EWA for Championship Classes, but do not need to be registered for Participant classes.*

**How do I enter? When?**

*Entries for the Interschool State Championships are taken online via [www.nominate.com.au](http://www.nominate.com.au) Entries and are open until 11.59pm on **20 March 2023**. No late entries may be submitted.*

*Entries for the Eventing Championship Events (Capel, WAYER and Harvey) are submitted online via the events portal*

**I'm totally new to Interschools and have just started competing. My horse isn't registered, I'm not qualified and I'm a Participant Member. Can I still get involved?**

*Yes. The Participation classes are designed for these riders. Participation classes do not require horses to be registered, no qualification is required, and riders only require a Participation level membership. Participant classes include Dressage, Jumping, Show Horse, Vaulting, and Combined Training. We only ask that riders are competent at their chosen discipline.*

**I've heard about qualifications but am confused. Do I need to qualify to compete? How?**

*Championship classes require qualification. These classes are listed in the Event Schedule and in the Qualification Guidelines. The reason for qualifications is to ensure that competitors can demonstrate capability in the events in which they are entering and to ensure their safety in these events. For classes that require qualification the rider must achieve ONE minimum performance in the relevant discipline within the qualification period. A minimum performance depends on the discipline and is stated in the qualification guidelines.*

*The performances may be obtained at an EWA Affiliated Club Event or Pony Club event however they must be officiated by an EWA Accredited Official. Qualifications must be recorded on the Interschool Qualification Card (downloaded online) and submitted with entries. Performances from the 2022 Interschool Equestrian Championships may be used as a qualifying performance for the 2023 Championships.*

*Riders entering Championship Classes requiring qualification information must read the Qualifying information online prior to entering the event.*

**Can I obtain my performance at a Pony Club competition?**

*Performances obtained in pony club events are permitted as long as the officials are EWA Accredited.*

**What is an EWA affiliated club? How do I know if a club is affiliated?**

*Affiliated Clubs are EWA Members. You can find out if a club is affiliated by doing a club search online <http://www.equestrian.org.au/members/search/club>*

**Who is an EWA Official? How do I know if an official is EWA Affiliated?**

*EWA Accredited officials are officials trained and endorsed by Equestrian Australia. You can find check if an official is accredited by doing an official search online*

*<http://www.equestrian.org.au/members/search/official>*

**Can I use a Training day as a qualification event?**

*For 2022, Training days are permitted to be used if the club running the Training is EWA Affiliated and the officials officiating are EA Accredited*

**I have a new horse who isn't qualified. Is there any way I can compete in Championship classes that require qualification?**

*Competitors only require ONE performance as a combination at their highest level to obtain a valid performance so in first instance competitors are encouraged to obtain a performance prior to entries closing. If the rider can demonstrate extenuating circumstances as to why this isn't possible then they may be able to apply for an exemption. More information on exemption is available online.*

**I am a participant EWA member and have now qualified to compete in championship classes at an Interschool event. I know I need to be a competitive member to compete. Can I upgrade my membership? How?**

*Yes - riders wishing to upgrade their membership can do so by completing the Membership Upgrade Form or via MyEA. <https://www.nominate.com.au/EAOnline/portal/Login.aspx>*

**My horse isn't registered with EWA and I know it needs to be to compete in Interschool Championship classes. What do I do?**

*Horses can be registered by completing the Horse Registration Form found on the EWA Website or online via MyEA. <https://www.nominate.com.au/EAOnline/portal/Login.aspx>*

**I think my horse is registered with EWA but I'm not sure and it isn't registered in my name. Does it need to be registered in my name? What can I do to find out more?**

*Riders can search for EWA Registered horses online*

*<http://www.equestrian.org.au/members/search/horse>. For Interschool Championship classes horses do not need to be registered in the competitors name and the owner does not need to be a current EWA member. Owners wishing to register a new horse do need to have current EWA membership when registering their horse.*

**What are horse papers and why do I need them?**

*EWA Horse Registration Papers are an identification document for your horse. Championship Competitors MUST carry these at Interschool Championship events.*

**I live in a remote area and haven't been able to qualify for a championship class that requires requalification. Is there a way for me to compete?**

*Yes, see exemption information under Qualification information online for more information*

**Can I use Eventing Dressage tests as Dressage qualifiers?**

*Yes. See qualification information and the Event Schedule for relevant information regarding using Eventing Dressage tests for qualification.*

**Can I use 2022 WA Interschool Equestrian Championship results to qualify?**

*Yes, the 2022 Interschool Equestrian State Championships is regarded as a qualification event, but riders must still meet all minimum performance criteria when using this performance such as Minimum 58% in Dressage or 12 penalties or less in Jumping.*

**Qualifications require one performance at the highest level. For dressage does this mean the hardest test or any test at that level?**

*Any test at the highest level will be regarded as a valid performance.*

**I want to compete in Combined Training. Do I have to qualify in Dressage and Jumping?**

*Yes. One Jumping and one Dressage performance is required to qualify for all class in Combined Training Championships classes or can obtained at eventing competition or one qualification at a Combined Training Competition.*

**Can I compete in both Combined Training and Eventing Competitions?**

*Yes. Riders can compete in both these disciplines. However, if a rider/horse combination qualifies in both disciplines for the Australian Interschool Championships, they must elect to compete in either Eventing or Combined Training. In other words, they will not be permitted to enter both disciplines at the Australian Championships per National Interschool Rules.*

**Do I HAVE to get my qualification card signed? Who can sign it?**

*Cards only have to be signed if the competition the performance was obtained at was not listed on the Interschool Qualification Information Guidelines. Cards need to be signed by either the EA accredited Official or a representative from the club. The name of the official who officiated at the event MUST be included on the card for validation.*

**I'm the only rider from my school. Can I compete? Does the school have to provide a Team Manager?**

*Yes. Riders who are the only representative from their school are welcome. Some sections will allow for the creation of composite teams, comprising riders from different schools. Riders are still eligible for individual awards and qualification for the Australian Interschool Equestrian Championships. A sole competitor from a school does not need to provide a Team Manager.*

**I am Home Schooled, I am Distanced/Remote Education, I am On-line Education. I found out about the Interschool event from friends. Can I still enter?**

*Yes. You just need to provide these details on your entry, and you can still compete individually and as part of a Team. The Organisers may allocate you to a composite team for the purpose of Team scores.*

**I would like to be considered for the WA Team at the Australian Interschool Equestrian Championships. How do I nominate? Do I have to compete at the State Championships?**

*All riders wishing to be considered for the Australian Interschool Championships must compete in the State Interschool Championship class they wish to be considered for. Applications will be available after the State Championships.*

**Do I have to provide a helper at interschool events?**

*Yes. Riders are asked to provide one helper. There is an \$80 helper bond per rider which must be paid with the entry. This \$80 bond will be refunded immediately after the event if the helper duty has been completed. If not completed, the \$80 bond is forfeited.*

**Why is the helper bond \$80?**

*\$80 is the amount paid if the organisers need to arrange someone to cover any unallocated helper duties.*

**How long are helper duties?**

*Each helper duty is between 2 to 4 hours. Riders who elect to compete a horse in three disciplines may be asked to provide an additional helper or for their helper to undertake an extended duty.*

**How do I nominate my helper?**

*Riders will be sent a link to nominate for helper duties approximately two weeks after the entries close. Riders who do not nominate someone for a helper duty and have not paid a helper bond will be allocated one. Failure to complete the helper duty as allocated may result in the Rider being disqualified from the competition, ineligibility to compete in the Australian Interschool Championships and the \$80 bond forfeited.*

**I am unable to provide a helper. Can I still compete?**

*All riders are encouraged to provide a helper, however, we understand it is not always possible. Riders who aren't able to provide a helper will not have their \$80 helper bond refunded.*

**I have classes I think might clash. What do I do?**

*Much time is taken to try to ensure all riders have as much time as possible to compete in all classes. Due to the nature of the event at times classes may be scheduled close together for some competitors. If you think your class times may clash your team manager **MUST** notify the marshall the class you are concerned you will miss **PRIOR** to your allocated time. Classes can be held up, however, the marshall must be notified. Championship class times take precedence over Participation classes and Dressage class and Show Horse class times take precedence over Jumping classes.*

**I need a stable. Can I book stables?**

*When entering the interschool, it will ask if you require stables, number of horses and days. Please complete the questions at the time of entry. After the close of entries, the State Equestrian Centre Booking Co-ordinator will make contact.*

**How are stables allocated?**

*Stables are allocated in school groups with priority for larger stables given to competitors who travel furthest to the event.*

**I have arrived at the competition and forgot my bridle numbers and water bucket. HELP!**

*Event sponsors Saddles Plus will be trading throughout the Interschool Championships. You can find them in the Trade Village throughout the event. They will have saddlery and equipment available for purchase.*

**I need a yard for my horse. Are there yards available?**

*Yards are available at the Swan Valley Pony Club grounds to EWA members free of charge, however, do need to be booked using the online booking system <https://www.wa.equestrian.org.au/sec/make-booking>. Riders are expected to keep and leave yards clean and free from hay, manure and litter.*



**I'm staying at the venue from the Tuesday before the days of the competition. Where can I work my horse on days I am not competing?**

*General riding on non-competition days must take place in the designated riding area. Riders who are found to be riding on the General Purpose Field or C Quest Arena or Cross Country Course without a booking on non-competition days may be eliminated from the competition.*

**I am looking for accommodation near the venue. Where do I start? Can I leave my horse at the venue while I stay off site?**

*All horses at the venue must always have a person responsible for them on the grounds. If you are looking for accommodation close to the venue there is the Vines Resort with various accommodation options (rooms, suites, or apartments) or the Quest Apartments in Midland. Alternatively, there are many Bed and Breakfast accommodation options in the Swan Valley. You could also contact the Swan Valley Visitor Centre for information on accommodation.*

**Can I camp? Are there powered sites?**

*Camping is permitted but roping/saving of camping sites and parking is not permitted. Please be mindful of others also camping. Showers are located at the western end of the Indoor Arena and behind the C-Quest arena. There are limited Power sites these must be booked online.*

**The Show Horse phases and scoring is confusing. How does it work?**

*Interschool Show Horse consists of classes for Show Horse, Show Hunter and Working Hunter. Each class has three (3) phases. All classes have an (1) In-hand presentation, (2) Rider phase (judging the rider) and (3) Ridden phase (judging the horse). Working Hunter includes a fourth (4) phase - Jumping. The points earned across all phases determine the Championship placing. The same horse/rider combination must complete all phases in the order specified in the draw as determined by the Organising Committee.*

**Can I ride in Show Horse and Show Hunter?**

*No. Your horse may only compete in either Show Horse, Show Hunter or Working Hunter. A Show Horse may not compete as a Show Hunter or a Working Hunter. A Show Hunter may not compete as a Working Hunter.*

**How is Working Hunter different to Show Hunter?**

*Working Hunter requires the horse and rider to complete a course of approximately 8 rustic type fences prior to their flat phase, rider and In-hand phase. Riders will be given the opportunity to walk the course prior to the class.*

**Do we receive the Show Horse/Show Hunter and Working Hunter workouts prior the event?**

*Workouts will be available to download from the EWA/Interschool website approximately 3 weeks prior to the event.*

**I have experience gear checking/scoring/commentating/writing/course building and would like to help. How can I get involved?**

*We welcome willing volunteers at Interschool events. Money in honorarium is available to experienced volunteers assisting beyond allocated helper duties. Email us at [Interschools@equestrianwa.org.au](mailto:Interschools@equestrianwa.org.au) for register your interest.*

**I've been asked to be Team Manager? What does this mean?**

*Team Managers are responsible for members of the school team throughout the event. All correspondence from competitors must be through their Team Manager. Team managers will be sent an information booklet prior to the event outlining duties and responsibilities.*

**I'm a Team Manager. Can I still do a helper duty?**

*Team Managers are generally not permitted to nominate for a helper duty as they are required to be available on all three days to assist all team members for the duration of the event.*

**Where do I find results?**

*Daily results will be available online [www.nominate.com.au/scoreboard/results](http://www.nominate.com.au/scoreboard/results) or printed results and dressage tests will be available near the Officials and Scorers rooms at the Trade Village.*

**I've placed in my class. Are there presentations? When?**

*Presentations for class results will take place at approx. 5 o'clock following the last events of the day in the indoor arena. Confirmation of presentation times will be communicated to Team Managers and placed on the Official Notice Board located in the Trade Village near the Officials and Scorers rooms.*

**I think I've won an overall award. How do I collect it?**

*Presentations for overall Individual, School and Team awards will take place following the Interschool competition at a date and venue to be confirmed.*

**I can't be there for presentations. Can I collect my award early? What do I do?**

*Collecting awards early is not possible and competitors are requested to attend presentations. If the rider experiences extenuating circumstances, they may seek permission from the event organiser to delegate collection of the award to another competitor. This should be advised prior to the award presentations. Awards not collected at the presentations can be collected from the EWA Office.*

**I have an Off the Track Horse (OTT). Are there any special awards for an OTT horse?**

*Yes. There are special Off the Track awards for the highest placed OTT horses in Dressage, Jumping, Show Horse, Eventing and Combined Training*

***If you have any other questions, please call Equestrian Western Australia on (08) 9296-1200 or email [Interschools@equestrianwa.org.au](mailto:Interschools@equestrianwa.org.au)***

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