

Rod Brown WA Clinic 9th – 11th August 2019

Written by Sharon Welsh

WA had the opportunity to attend another 3 day clinic with esteemed coach Rod Brown (EA Level 3 Jumping).

EA again funded Rods journey to Perth as part of the HP State Funding Program providing lessons at no cost to the eventing squad riders and with the financial assistance from EWA to heavily subsidize the Jumping squad's lessons. With this opportunity provided, all squad riders were able to ride not only their squad horse, but another promising super star waiting in the wings to further their equestrian development toward National Squads. The quality of our states riders has improved over the 2 years since this funding has been in place.

Friday was the day that all La Noir Saddleworld Jumping squad riders were able to take up the opportunity to ride and be coached by Rod. It was unfortunate that the plane was late due to heavy fog in the morning, so finally started the clinic at midday. Twelve squad riders took up this fantastic opportunity to be fine-tuned for the weekend's event held with WASJA. Feedback was very positive with riders requesting future clinics with Rod and other visiting EA Coaches.



Rod's main aim for the 3 days was to work on straightness, contact through leg to hand and lines between jumps. As an observer/photographer for the 3 days I was amazed at how improvements were shown through each combination. There was smiles all round including the horses!

The indoor arena was perfect for a small course set up. Thank you to the SEC staff for helping build the course before hand and maintaining the surface by grading and rolling after every lesson.

Saturday and Sunday saw our La Noir Saddleworld Eventing squad of nineteen riders one day and twelve riders the next day. All classes were nearly at capacity. The horses looked amazing with Misty Isle Valentino ridden by Sonja Johnson showing off his lovely jump with scope and the ever colourful pretty pony Rio Tonto ridden by Emily Gray being a very brave soldier! It was lovely to see most squad riders in their La noir Saddleworld squad shirts.

Saturday night everyone had the opportunity to come and say hi to Rod and enjoy a beverage and nibbles for the evening. It was great to see 2 jumping legends, Les Bunning and Rod Brown together talking about jumping history. Thank you to all those that came to make it a great night. Thank you must go to EA, AIS and EWA for allowing our squad riders to participate in this amazing journey of learning and equestrian development for each combination.







LA NOIR 
Saddleworld
SWAN VALLEY

