



## Summary of Business of the meeting of the Australian Dressage Committee

Sunday 15 February 2015

### **Membership Review and status of Elementary level and Participation Membership - update.**

A Working Party re inclusion of Elementary at Participant membership level has been initiated – Mary Seefried (ADC Chair), Greg Pratt (State CEO), Wendy Hunt EA Board, Grant Baldock EA CEO, Holly Davies EA participation officer as project manager. First Meeting was held on the 24th Feb. Further statistics about the potential financial impact, if any, on the State membership budgets is being determined and will be reported back to the Working Party

### **Communication between ADC and Board**

In order to facilitate quicker and more efficient two way consultation between the Board and the ADC (and all other discipline committees), it has been agreed to reinstitute in 2016 a meeting weekend where the Board and all discipline committees meet. This will foster a broader communication between NDCs and also between NDSC and the Board.

It was also agreed that in order to keep the sport of dressage in a positive light in Australian media that “good news” stories from dressage on a regular basis be developed and placed on EA web and in EA publications. If SDAs have any such stories please forward them to Michelle Cook at EA office. We are aiming for at least 2 per month but need help from all in the dressage community to achieve this. Profiles of your top riders are Australian stories not just state stories.

### **Dressage Trust Fund**

The CEO reported that a Dressage Account has been established and is used to house funds raised nationally such as Young Riders Ball at CDI Sydney.

Re a tax deductible Trust Fund, EA CEO advised he had a meeting at the Sports Commission with the new CEO, and advised that the Australian Sports Funding requirements have changed significantly over the past 6 months.

EA are one of the 4 or 5 sports to have used the ASF in the past, for example by the Patron's fund. EA is in the process of creating an entity (perhaps called Equine Australian Trust Fund) that patrons can contribute to and be tax deductible. The

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Dressage Trust fund will most likely fall under this system. EA expects to sign off on the above in April. There will be a managing board (Grant + Board member) & then a task force (Chair ADC) for each fund.

### **HP Update to RIO**

Chris Webb, HPM and Julia Battams the Dressage National Performance Director were in attendance. An in depth report of the Post WEG

Review was given and especially the view of the ASC on the results of all disciplines. Whilst they were assessed as below targeted performance they also were assessed as on track for RIO targets. EA must implement changes in terms of planning, structures and investment priorities.

Chris Webb also outlined the proposed new squad structures for all disciplines. This will be rolled out once Board has approved. As to RIO, as there is no horse travel protocol between Brazil and Australia, Australian team horses need to be domiciled in USA, Europe or UK. Better to go from Europe as only 3 months quarantine instead of 6 months from USA. This will have an impact on the date for Sydney CDI 3\* in 2016 which will be determined once the travel schedule is finalised. (*NB set at 7-9 April 2016*)

The communication between Dressage HP Group and the ADC is outstanding both within meeting and without and provides a platform for ADC to contribute to HP dressage plans and strategic direction.

### **National Event Calendar 2015/16**

Tabled the current calendar and reiterated that is important that States forward all State Championship dates once known- include YR, YH and also PE.

Very few 2016 dates are in as yet and ADC encourages states to start planning ahead sooner. Ideally all 2016 dates should be in by end of 2015.

### **ADJC Report**

Kim Thomas, the ADJC Chair, presented a report to the ADC.

- Discussed and emphasised the need for continued monitoring of succession planning for FEI judges.

- ADJC supports the ADC in their endeavours to increase participation level competitions to elementary and beyond.
- EA phasing out current SSTA and CE workshops also used to train judge mentors after 2015. ADJC and NEM to consider alternate providers or development of in house programmes.
- Based on a discussion paper by Sue Cunningham, ADJC recommended that a working party be established immediately to review the current national power points with the view to implementation of agreed revised formats to enhance educational outcome, to report in time for release in 2016. Feedback from JEs nationally will be taken into consideration in addition to that already received from NSW. Agreed committee members Kim Thomas, Maria Schwennesen, Sue Cunningham, Virginia Creed.
- Agreed to develop JE email newsletter, proposed twice yearly

### **Equipment Committee Report and web page**

Report tabled. The EA office and the ADC Equipment Committee of Cathie Drury-Klein and Liz Owens are experiencing a lot of queries. Riders and Stewards should consult the generic rules as in the Dressage Rule Book before making inquiries.

Note that ADC Equipment page on EA website at [http://www.equestrian.org.au/sites/default/files/Dressage%20equipment%20annex\\_1.pdf](http://www.equestrian.org.au/sites/default/files/Dressage%20equipment%20annex_1.pdf)

### **Australian Dressage Championships 2015**

The ADC endorsed the conduct of the Australian Dressage Championships for 2015 at SIEC on 22-25 October 2015.

The co-directors are Deb MacNicol and Cathie Drury-Klein.

They will report to a Steering Committee comprised of representatives from ENSW, ADC and the EA Board.

The ADC supports an EOI process for the Australian Dressage Championships on a 2 year cycle from 2016.

### **Para Equestrian Report**

A Communication Group for PE has been established. Its members are Chris Webb, Julia Battams and Sara Latham, EA High Performance, Sue Bright Chair National PE Selectors, Sharyn Gregory, FEI head of Classification and Sue Cunningham, Judge and FEI Technical Committee representative. The purpose of this group is to guide PE in Australia in terms of communication, FEI judging enquiries, squad enquiries and newsletter and calendar updates.

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Sue Cunningham, Sharon Gregory & Julia Battams will be attending the FEI PE forum to be held in March 2015. Sue Cunningham is currently working on new FEI PE tests with Anne Prain, FEI PE5\*. (*A report of the FEI PE Forum has been presented to the ADC*)

### **Rio PE Preparations**

Preparations are underway for the Squad Team members to go to Hartpury in July with a view to riding borrowed horses and seeking possible borrowed or leased horses for Rio. The PE Event calendar is growing and thanks go to organising committees who have gone out of their way to provide this level of competition for our PE Competitors. This is most important, not only for vital success at Rio OG, but also to develop our PE riders for the future.

**PE competitions** were held in conjunction with the Dressage Festival in December, 2014; Boneo Park in Victoria was the venue for the first CPEDI3\* event in two years (13 riders and 14 horses). There is also a guarantee of another similar event in January 2016.

The integration of PE competitions into National events has been developing and the PE calendar now has for NSW:

May 2015: CDI3\* including PE

September 2015: NSW State Champs including NSW State PE Championships

October 2015: Australian Dressage Championships including National PE Dressage Championships.

Queensland and WA, who have supported the integration of PE for some years will also include PE in their State Championships. Victoria has also included PE and will continue to do so at the Dressage Festival in December 2015

All states are encouraged to conduct **PE Judge education** accreditation seminars. One was held in Queensland in January 2015 ( Sue Cunningham as Course Director) and one will be scheduled for Victoria.

### **2015 Meeting Dates**

ADC 22 May

ADJC 28 August

SDA-ADC 29 August ( All rule changes for 2016 to be finalised)

ADC 30 August

### **Mary Seefried**

**Chair – Australian Dressage Committee**