

2026 NSW Youth Dressage Championships

Event Schedule & Conditions of Entry

11–12 July 2026 | Sydney International Equestrian Centre, Sydney NSW

Conducted by Dressage NSW on behalf of Equestrian NSW

In accordance with current Equestrian Australia (EA) National Dressage Rules, Regulations, Policies and By-laws – 1 January 2026

Entry Details

Online Entries via [Equestrian-Hub](#)

Entries Close: Sunday, 13 June 2026 at midnight

Qualifying Period: 1 June 2025 – 31 May 2026

Entry Enquiries: Karen Lever — karen@snafflebytes.net

Schedule of Competitions: 11–12 July 2026

#	Competition	Test(s)
Saturday 11 July 2026		
3	Novice Young Rider Championship	2.2 2.3
4	Novice Young Rider – Pony Championship	2.2 2.3
5	Novice Freestyle	Freestyle
8	Medium Young Rider Championship	4.2 4.3
9	Medium Freestyle	Freestyle
12	Children Team Test	Team Test
14	Junior Team Test	Team Test
15	Junior Individual Test	Individual Test
17	Young Rider	Team Test
18	Young Rider Individual Test	Individual Test
20	Inter II (16-25yrs)	Inter II
Sunday 12 July 2026		
1	Preliminary Young Rider Championship	1.2 1.3
2	Preliminary Young Rider – Pony Championship	1.2 1.3
6	Elementary Young Rider Championship	3.2 3.3
7	Elementary Freestyle	Freestyle
10	Advanced Young Rider Championship	5.2 5.3
11	Advanced Freestyle	Freestyle
13	Children Individual Test	Individual Test
16	Junior Freestyle	Freestyle
19	Young Rider Freestyle	Freestyle
21	Under 25 Grand Prix	Grand Prix

Prize Money & Entry Fees

Competition	Entry Fee	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
EA Competitions	\$100	\$150	\$120	\$100	\$80	\$50	Sash	Sash	Sash
EA Competitions Freestyle	\$130	\$175	\$150	\$130	Sash	Sash	—	—	—
Big Tour (Under 25yrs)	\$130	\$175	\$150	\$130	—	—	—	—	—
Children Team	\$130	\$175	Sash	Sash	—	—	—	—	—
Children Individual	\$130	\$175	Sash	Sash	—	—	—	—	—
Junior Team	\$130	\$175	Sash	Sash	—	—	—	—	—
Junior Individual	\$130	\$175	Sash	Sash	—	—	—	—	—
Young Rider Team	\$130	\$175	Sash	Sash	—	—	—	—	—
Young Rider Individual	\$130	\$175	Sash	Sash	—	—	—	—	—
FEI Competition Freestyle	\$130	\$175	Sash	Sash	—	—	—	—	—

- Prize money will be awarded as per 2026 EA Dressage Rules.
- Goods in Kind may replace prize money in some competitions.
- Prize money and goods in kind are allocated on the basis of 1 place per 5 starters (e.g. 35 starters = prize to 7th place; 30 starters = prize to 6th place).
- Rosettes will be awarded to 8th place.

Additional Prizes

Championship Rugs will be awarded to:

- EA Level Champions Young Rider & Pony Rider (Preliminary – Novice)
- EA Level Champions Young Rider (Elementary - Advanced)
- Children, Junior and Young Rider Championships (Team & Individual)
- Under 25 Big Tour Championship (Inter II & Grand Prix)

Guidelines for Eligibility

Competitions for Elementary, Medium and Advanced are open competitions for both horses and ponies and will be split only if entries warrant.

Riders entering FEI Junior competition may also enter EA competition, provided the horse or pony does not compete in more than three tests per day.

Competition / Level	Rider's Age	Horse Pony	Comments
Children's Competitions	12–14	Horse or Pony	Equivalent to Novice. May additionally enter EA Preliminary/Novice/Elementary level, up to 2 tests per day and 2 consecutive levels.
Junior Competitions	14–18	Horse or Pony	Equivalent to Medium. May additionally enter EA Elementary/Medium/Advanced, up to 2 tests per day and 2 consecutive levels.
Young Rider Competitions	16–21	Horse or Pony	Equivalent to Prix St Georges. May additionally enter EA Young Rider Advanced, up to 2 tests per day.
Under 25	16-25	Horse or Pony	Equivalent to Inter II, Grand Prix level.

Conditions of Entry

The 2026 NSW Youth Dressage Championships will be conducted in accordance with the EA National Dressage Rules, Regulations, Policies and By-Laws, as of 1 January 2026. Competitors are encouraged to familiarise themselves with Section 10 of the EA National Dressage Rules.

Membership and Horse Registration

- Horses, owners and riders must be registered and financial with EA.
- Horses must compete under their full registered name. The Organising Committee reserves the right to abbreviate a horse's name for printing purposes.
- Horses must hold a current EA competition licence and be currently registered and financial with EA.

Rider Age

- EA Young Rider Pony competitions are open to riders from the beginning of the calendar year they turn 8, up to and including the calendar year they turn 16.
- EA Young Rider competitions are open to riders from the beginning of the calendar year they turn 10, up to and including the calendar year they turn 21.
- Children competitions (FEI/CDN) riders aged 12–14 years (calendar year basis). Horse or pony must be 6 years or older.
- Junior Riders (FEI/CDN) aged 14–18 years (calendar year basis). Horse or pony must be 6 years or older.
- Young Riders (FEI/CDN) aged 16–21 years (calendar year basis). Horse or pony must be 7 years or older.

Gradings

Official gradings will be taken at the date of close of entries. Refer to Rule 4.8.3.2 for grading eligibility.

Height

Refer to Rule 4.8.3.3. Horses must exceed 149 cm with shoes (148 cm without). Ponies must not exceed 149 cm with shoes (148 cm without). Ponies competing in pony-specific competitions must hold a current EA-approved measurement certificate indicating height.

Stallions

- Stallions are welcome but must be kept under the control of a competent person at all times, whether ridden or led.
- Riders and/or handlers of colts and stallions must be 18 years of age or older.
- Stallion Identification must be displayed at all times. Refer to Rule 4.8.5.

Competitors are encouraged to read the Stallion Safe Practices Rules: equestrian.org.au/stallion-safe-practice

Qualifying Scores

All qualifying scores must be obtained in Official Competitive Dressage competitions during the qualifying period: 1 June 2025 – 31 May 2026.

Entries for each competition must have achieved at least the following minimum qualifying score:

- Preliminary/Novice: one performance of at least 60% at each level
- Elementary: one performance of at least 58%
- Medium/Advanced & FEI competitions: one performance of at least 58%

At least one qualifying score must have been obtained by the nominated horse/rider combination (refer rule 10.2).

Only one score per level from any competition with a single judge will be accepted (refer rule 10.2).

One HC result from an Official Competitive competition may count as a qualifying score.

All riders should submit their horse's best two (2) performances from Official Competitive competitions at the appropriate level during the qualifying period.

Freestyle and Interschool results will not be considered.

Freestyles

Participation may be limited due to time constraints. EA Freestyle competitions are open to Pony Riders and Young Riders. Scores submitted as entry qualifications will be used if competitions are oversubscribed. The qualifying score for FEI Freestyles is 60% in the Individual test, 1 horse per rider permitted.

Consecutive Levels

A rider of appropriate age may compete in more than one FEI level across the FEI Children, Junior and Young Rider competitions at this event, provided they ride a different horse in each competition.

Current versions of FEI tests and FEI Freestyle tests: inside.fei.org/fei/your-role/organisers/dressage/tests

Horses per Competition

The number of horses per rider per competition may be limited if a competition is oversubscribed.

Reserved Places

As per EA rules for Australian and State Championships, two places in each competition (excluding Freestyles) are reserved for the highest balloted horse and rider combination from each State.

Draw

- The draw will be available on Equestrian-Hub.
- Competitions are limited to 35 competitors. The OC reserves the right to ballot entries if necessary. A revised draw may be issued the day before a competition to allow for withdrawals.
- It is the competitor's responsibility to confirm their start times the day before each competition. If a competition is oversubscribed, a reserve list will be established.

Hors Concours

Competitors are not permitted to ride Hors Concours at this event.

Saddlery and Equipment

Per current EA National Dressage Rules and Equipment Annex Version 23 – Updated: 7 November 2025, Effective 1 January 2026

Merchandise

Official competition merchandise available for pre order. Pre order via the link by 9:00am on 25 May:
<https://www.twentyfourseven.net.au/products/2026-nsw-youth-dressage-championships-polo-shirt>

Horse Identification Numbers

Two Horse Identification Numbers must be worn at all times. Ensure two sets of numbers are available: one on each side of the horse's bridle or saddlecloth for competition, and one on each side when leading, washing or otherwise handling the horse outside the stable. Numbers must comply with Rule 4.8.5.

Entries

Entries must be submitted online via Equestrian-Hub. Incomplete entries may not be accepted. Late entries will not be accepted.

Withdrawals

- Competitors who withdraw during the event must complete a withdrawal form, have it signed by the relevant officials, and submit it to the Competition Office. Forms are available from the Competition Office.
- **Refunds:** Entry fees will be refunded in full (less the administration fee) for withdrawals before the closing date. After the closing date, fees will not be refunded unless a medical or veterinary certificate is produced within 24 hours of the event's conclusion, in which case 50% of the entry fee will be retained. Entry fees for competitors on the reserve list who are not offered a start will be refunded after the event. Stable and camping fees will not be refunded for early departures. **There will be no refunds for withdrawals after Sunday, 5 July 2026.**
- The Administration Fee is non-refundable.

Medication Control

Random swabbing will take place at this event.

Reservation of Rights

The Organising Committee reserves the right to alter, amend or refuse any entry, with or without stating reasons.

Protests and Appeals

Objections must be in writing and accompanied by the stipulated deposit (refer to EA General Regulations Articles 163, 165 and 166 and Rule 1.6 of EA National Dressage Rules). Protests must be lodged with the Ground Jury through the Event Director, Chief Steward or Technical Delegate.

Conditions for Freestyle Competitions

- Only movements up to and included in the current tests at the level being ridden may be performed. Certain movements are compulsory at each Freestyle level (refer to Section 8 of the EA Rule Book).
- Music must be supplied via Dropbox. A link will be provided by email following the close of entries, expiring approximately two weeks before the event to allow time for the sound technician to check the files. Please upload your music within this timeframe, identified as: Name, Horse, Level (e.g. Jane Citizen – Majestic Mickey – Elementary). Include your email address and any special instructions.
- A music test opportunity will be available in the competition arena. Further details will be included in the Rider's Information Pack.

Presentations

The Presentation Schedule will be included in the Rider's Information Pack.

Stabling

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- Stabling must be booked online with your entry via Equestrian-Hub. See the fees table for costs.
 - A stable bond of \$100 will be charged at the time of entry. Stables emptied of bedding and swept clean will receive a full bond refund.
 - Companion animals (equine or otherwise) are not permitted for biosecurity reasons.
 - Fodder can be ordered through the stockfeed providers (details to be confirmed in the Rider's Information Pack).
 - Sydney International Equestrian Centre will be open for horse arrivals from 10:00 am on Friday, 10 July 2026. Arrivals prior to this time are by special arrangement only.

Camping & Catering

- Powered campsites are available. See the fees table for costs.
- Amenities are available on the grounds.
- Catering information will be provided in the Rider's Information Pack, emailed to all competitors prior to the event.

Accommodation

Accommodation options are available in the Sydney area. Recommendations will be provided in the Rider's Information Pack.

General Information

- **Rules:** EA National Dressage Rules, Regulations, Policies and By-Laws apply from the time the horse arrives on the grounds. Please refer to Section 5 and Equipment Annex for details on allowed Dress, Saddlery and Equipment requirements.
- **No Callers:** No callers are permitted at Championship events.
- **Dogs:** Dogs are permitted but must be on a leash at all times and supervised. Dogs are allowed at the venue but need to be under control at all times. A dog is considered 'under control' if it is on a lead held by someone able to control the dog. Please ensure dog droppings are disposed of appropriately.
- **Warming Up / Exercising:** All riders must wear an approved tagged safety helmet with chin strap secured while mounted (refer to rule 5.2). Only the entered rider is permitted to ride the horse during the event. A groom may ride the horse at a walk on a long rein only, (refer to rule 3.12.2(e)). All horses must be saddled and ridden in a bridle during any mounted exercise or competition warm-up. Warm-up arenas will be available before competition. Specific information and a map will be included in the Rider's Information Pack. Competitors will have access to competition arenas for familiarisation.
- **Lunging:** Lunging is permitted only in the designated lunge ring shown on the facilities map. Horses must not be lunged in any other area.
- **Volunteers:** All riders may be allocated a volunteer role during the event, which may include scribing, arena gate duties or manure collection. A \$55 levy applies to those who do not wish to undertake a volunteer role. A sign-up sheet with task details will be available with the draw. Riders or designated persons who fail to fulfil their volunteer commitment without providing a replacement will forfeit all prizes, and future entries may be refused.
- **Indemnity:** Riders and/or owners whose entries are accepted undertake to indemnify the Committee against all claims, losses, suits and damages arising from any negligent act or omission by riders, trainers or attendants while at the event, handling or riding a horse. Riders must acknowledge the Declaration Form on Equestrian-Hub. Failure to agree will result in non-acceptance of the nomination.
- **Code of Conduct:** The Organising Committee values the attendance of all riders, officials, spectators, sponsors, volunteers and supporters. All persons on the grounds are bound by the rules, policies and by-laws of EA, including statements made on social media. Any complaints or conflicts must be managed respectfully through official channels. Any rider, parent, official or associate found in breach of EA Disciplinary By-Laws will be required to leave the venue immediately and all entry fees and prizes will be deemed forfeited.

Welfare of the Horse – Code of Conduct

The following code has been developed by the Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) and adopted by Equestrian Australia. The FEI and EA expect all those involved in equestrian sport to adhere to this Code of Conduct and to acknowledge that the welfare of the horse must be paramount and must never be subordinated to competitive or commercial influences.

- At all stages of preparation and training, welfare must take precedence over all other demands. This includes horse management, training methods, farriery, tack and transportation.
- Horses and athletes must be fit, competent and in good health before competing. This encompasses medication use, surgical procedures, pregnancy in mares and the misuse of aids.
- Events must not prejudice horse welfare, including competition areas, ground surfaces, weather conditions, stabling, site safety and fitness for onward travel.

- Every effort must be made to ensure horses receive proper attention after competing and are treated humanely when their competitive careers are over. This covers veterinary care, competition injuries, euthanasia and retirement.
- The FEI urges all involved in the sport to attain the highest levels of education in their areas of expertise. A full copy of the Code of Conduct is included in the EA Dressage Rules.

Risk Warning & Disclaimer

- Horse riding is a dangerous activity and can result in serious injury (including death) and loss.
- All persons who ride or tend a horse on these grounds do so entirely at their own risk.
- Neither the Organising Committee nor Equestrian Australia accepts any liability for any accident, damage, injury or illness to horses, owners, riders, grounds, spectators or any other person or property.

Horse Vaccinations & Biosecurity

- We recommend that horses are vaccinated for Hendra virus particularly those that reside in high-risk Hendra areas we also recommend horse vaccinations for Strangles and Tetanus are up to date.
- NSW DPI Tick & Fire Ant information will be provided within Rider Information documents closer to the event
- Riders travelling from QLD are required to complete a Record of Movement Form when travelling and supply the venue with a Record of Movement (ROM) number, as well as the competitor's name and contact information. A link be provided.

Equestrian-Hub Online Entries

All competitors must provide the following information when entering online. Please ensure you have these details ready before commencing your entry.

Horse Details	Rider Details	Owner Details	Other Information
Registered Name	First Name	First Name	Arrival / Departure Dates
Bridle Number	Surname	Surname	Stabling Booking
EA Number	Rider EA Number	Owner EA Number	Camping Booking
FEI Number	Rider FEI Number		Name of Groom
Sex	Full Address	Full Address	Groom – Mobile Phone
Year of Birth	Email Address	Email Address	
Country of Birth	Mobile Phone Number	Mobile Phone Number	
Colour	Nationality	Prize Money & GST Declaration	
Height (cm)	Date of Birth	ABN	
Stud Book / Breed	Bank Account Details	Bank Account Details	
Sire			
Dam			
Breeder			
Property PIC			
Hendra Vaccination Status			

Other Fees & Charges

Fee or Charge	Details	Cost (AUD)
Administration Fee	Compulsory per horse	\$40
Volunteer Levy	Compulsory per rider	\$55
Stable	Per day	\$40
Tack room	Per day	\$60
Day Stay (if not stabled)	Per day	\$20
Compulsory Initial Bedding Pack	Includes 4 bales of shavings	\$64
Shavings	Per bale	\$20
Stabling Bond / Cleaning Fee	Refundable if left clean	\$100
Powered Campsite – South Truck	Per night (limited)	\$60
Powered Campsite – North Truck	Per night	\$35
Powered Campsite – P3	Per night	\$35
Cabins	Per night	\$50

*Stables are charged per day - One overnight stay in stables means two stable days

Rider's Information Pack

All accepted competitors will receive a comprehensive Rider's Information Pack by email following the close of entries. This pack will include start time information, a venue map, warm-up timetables, catering details, accommodation recommendations and all other pertinent event information.

Merchandise

Official competition merchandise available for pre order. Pre order via the link by 9:00am on 25 May:
<https://www.twentyfourseven.net.au/products/2026-nsw-youth-dressage-championships-polo-shirt>

2026 NSW
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