
National Jumping Committee Circular to Showjumpers

Immediate Action Required

As many members may know, Equestrian Australia was recently put into *voluntary administration* and KordaMentha was appointed to resolve longstanding issues with the organisation. This is a significant opportunity for our equestrian community in Australia to have better representation, governance and growth into the future.

You have an immediate opportunity to achieve change in the administration of your sport. To get a say, we need you to vote in favor each member having one vote moving forward at the *Second Meeting of Creditors* to be held on 14 of July 2020. Proxy forms will be circulated with further details about how to vote in the coming weeks. Close to the second meeting we will be providing updates to the our members about the best outcome for showjumping. Visit the EA website to stay updated.

Background

At the Administrators request, proposals for the restructure of EA were called for at the 'first meeting of creditors' and the National Jumping Committee (EAJC) unanimously supported a submission with a *discipline based* restructure (as opposed to the state driven structure we have now) and is now seeking your feedback to move to the next phase.

The DOCA is intended to manage a process where a new caretaker board will be appointed to EA by the administrators and they will run a consultation process to define restructuring options and later will be asking members to vote on a preferred new structure within the next 6 – 12 months.

ON JULY 14 WE NEED YOU TO VOTE FOR THE DEED OF COMPANY ARRANGEMENT

Key points for Showjumping

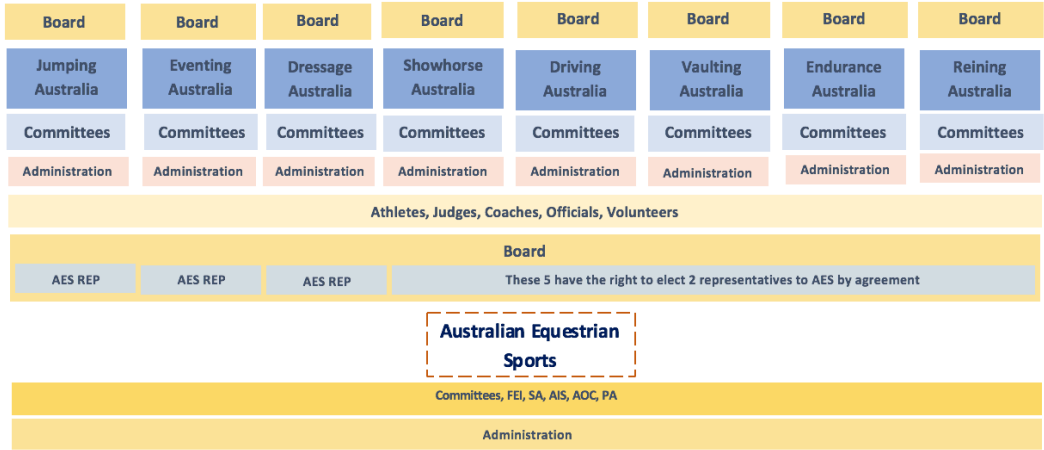
- Showjumping members to be **in control of and manage** their own sport
- Preferred model is a **discipline based system**
- Estimated **4,500 showjumpers** from 18,000 registered EA participant members
- Estimated **4,500 registered horses** in Showjumping
- Provide a platform for our sport to **reach its potential** in Australia and Internationally
- Achieving **stable, democratic and representative** governance based administrative structure
- The proposed model provides a template that can be implemented across **all equestrian disciplines**

We want to have the conversation: We have had a meeting with state jumping chairs, who had a diversity of views on the structure, but this working document will enable us to have the discussion with our members about what is best for the future of showjumping.

The Basis of our Proposal

- Discipline based structure with the creation of a new **discipline based organisation** (e.g. Jumping Australia, Dressage Australia, etc.);
- The members of Australian Equestrian Sports (AES), or National Association of Equestrian Sports (NAES), the reformed EA, will be the **8 national discipline entities**- Showjumping, Eventing, Dressage, Showhorse, Driving, Vaulting, Endurance and Reining;
- **Restructuring of state ‘umbrella’ branches to offices of the national body** – State/Territory based administration role for lobbying state government and councils as offices of the national body.
- The **existing state-based jumping equestrian committees will be retained** and work through the new Jumping Australia organisation.
- The new body of AES/NAES will **represent the interests of the eight national discipline entities** and focus on insurance, national policy and be liaison for FEI/SA/AIS/AOC/PA etc.
- The new National Body for Jumping, (Jumping Australia) **will be the governing body**, will formulate the rules and codes of practice under which all affiliated competitions are held. Our purpose is to:
 - 1) Promote the welfare and safety of our people and our horses;
 - 2) Increase participation at grassroots level; and
 - 3) Improve international competitiveness.
- The members of Jumping Australia will include individuals and other equine bodies including riders, coaches, officials, horse owners, clubs, supporters and sponsors (**members will be entitled to one vote each**)
- **Jumping Australia will collect membership fees**, including a levy for AES/NAES services and horse registrations, and distribute to the states from one central point. A **national database** will manage members;
- A national outsourced, jointly owned, **database for all members and horses**;
- **Improved reporting and transparency** will be a benefit from changing the structure;
- **Improved pathways** for coaches, officials and riders for the growth of the sport- as well as community involvement; and
- **Support from the private and public sector** will be more forthcoming as a result of clarity around the structured governance and operation.

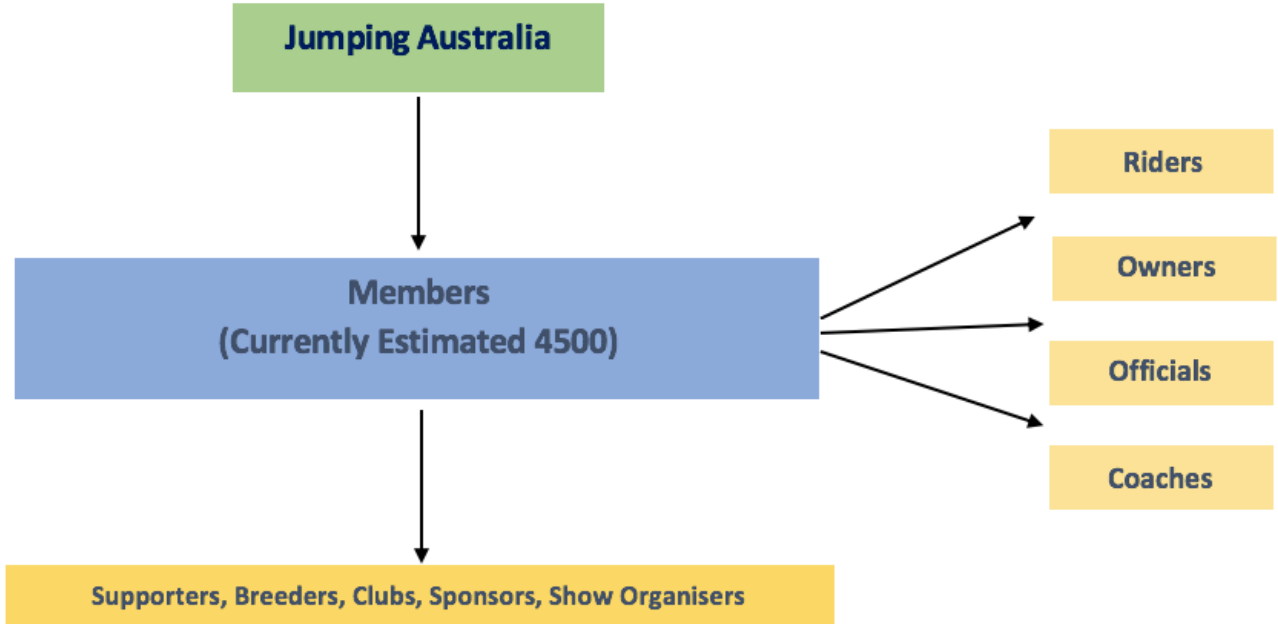
Proposed Structure



Good Governance

Good Administration

How it Will Work



Where to From Here...

1. Encourage the equestrian community to vote for the adoption of the DOCA at the EA creditors meeting on the 14th of July 2020. Proxy forms will be circulated.
2. We would like to have input from as many people as possible in our showjumping community, to refine and improve the proposal contained in our submission. We will also be seeking input from **all relevant stakeholders** with a view to achieving a satisfactory resolution concerning the proposed structure;
3. If a DOCA is agreed to at the Second Meeting of Creditors **an interim board will be appointed** by KordaMentha and every member of EA will be given a vote (18,000 members)
4. The Interim Board will run a restructure process to consult will all members, clubs, stakeholders etc. of our equestrian community and put **forward its recommendations for the restructure**
5. We believe it is critical that Showjumpers **have a unified position** to move towards the best outcome for our sport. The first step is our members should **appoint a proxy for the second meeting of creditors**, details to be circulated around 7 July 2020.

Timeline

1-7 July	Consultation with Equestrian Community to encourage vote at the second creditors meeting.
3-31 July	Meet/communicate with showjumpers and equestrian community to discuss restructuring options and refining NJC's proposal.
7 July	Final Report to Creditors released to all members of EA which will recommend creditors to vote in favour of the DOCA.
14 July	Second Meeting of Creditors to be held - DOCA agreed to or company liquidated
15-31 July	If DOCA Agreed to- Interim Board Appointed to execute restructure. <i>KordaMentha to retire as administrators.</i>
August- November	If DOCA Agreed to- Consultation undertaken with all members of EA as to preferred options for restructuring
November- onwards	If DOCA Agreed to- AGM of EA held: options for restructure voted on and resolved

It is crucial that we work towards the best outcome for our Australian Equestrian Community and especially Showjumping - we have one opportunity to make the long-needed changes to our sport. Make sure you are informed and if you have any questions please contact us on Jumping.australia@gmail.com created especially for your input.