

# Around the Stables

NEWS FROM EQUESTRIAN VICTORIA



LILY WICKENDEN RIDING FURST SENSATION AT  
FURPHY MEDIA MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL 3DE 2019

 EQUINE IMAGES VICTORIA

THIS MONTH

*We're back!*  
*and we couldn't be happier.*

## HIGHLIGHTS INSIDE

- Off The Track and EV Awards
- Our Young Ambassadors
- HYGAIN Victorian Dressage Festival



@equestrian.vic



@EQUESTRIANVICTORIA



vic.equestrian.org.au  
evarena.org.au



## A MESSAGE FROM THE EV CHAIR

### *How fantastic is it to be back....*

Our horses might have been a bit fresh for the first few outings, we might have felt a bit rusty, and for some events, the weather has been less than kind, but it has been so good to have our equestrian community together again. Over the past month or so as COVID restrictions have finally eased, there has been a plethora of events across the state, including the Spring Horse Trials at Werribee, the Show Horse December Show, the Dressage Festival and Lakes and Craters Horse Trials. A huge thanks to all the clubs and organising committees that have worked so hard to put these and other events on, and a special thank you to everyone who has been so cooperative in navigating COVID protocols.

On a personal note, I have been lucky enough to have been out and about at the Elms Classic with the Sale SJ Club, Cora Lynn SJ Club as well as the MSJC event held on the magnificent new Martin Collins waxed surface at Werribee Park. The Martin Collins waxed surface is wonderful in terms of producing top quality competition, but also in making our sport safe and looking after the welfare of our horses. With this in mind, our submission to the State Government for funding for Werribee Park National Equestrian Centre prioritises redoing all the surfaces at Werribee to the same amazing standard.

As a Board, we unanimously support this upgrade submission and know that the benefit of upgrading the surfaces will be almost immediate, allowing opportunities for more riders to use Werribee Park for both competitions and training. The surface upgrade will also extend the season particularly once the main indoor is resurfaced. Other priorities, if we are successful in gaining funding, are covering the stables and improving the general amenities. Longer term there is a vision for upgrading the indoor and completing other 'big ticket' items on the Masterplan. If we can achieve delivery of the whole Masterplan, WPNEC will be a truly premier venue to help cater for the growth in equestrian sport.

Also held recently, was the joint Equestrian Victoria and Racing Victoria OTT 2021 awards luncheon to celebrate the achievements of the many thoroughbred horses in our sport, paying a special mention to their owners, riders and trainers. The partnership between EV and RV is a highly valued one with the OTT program providing structure around the retraining and rehoming of the incredible thoroughbred horses post racing. EV is very proud to be associated with the OTT program's success.

You don't have to look far to see how versatile thoroughbreds are from pony club, adult riding club, polo, RDA and world class international competition - particularly eventing. Thoroughbreds are truly remarkable athletes.

On a national level, Equestrian Australia has its Annual General Meeting scheduled for Monday 17th January 2022. This will be the first time participating members will have the opportunity to vote for their elected board. Please look out for the agenda for the selection of candidates and vote as it is a significant change for members to have the opportunity to choose Board Directors. The AGM will be held online, (it's easy to register and vote) and we encourage all eligible members to participate.

At the end of a huge and somewhat challenging year, I'd like to extend my thanks to our Board and EV team for their dedicated service and commitment during 2021. Every contribution makes a difference and helps improve our enjoyment of our sport.

Finally, heading into summer, I hope you are all able to enjoy time with your friends and family. Have a wonderful Christmas and New Year break and I will look forward to seeing you in 2022!

*Christie Freeman*





MERRY  
**Christmas**  
& Happy new year

*From the Board and Staff of  
Equestrian Victoria*

The office will be closed from  
Thursday 23 December and reopen on  
Tuesday 4 January 2022.

*We, the staff at Equestrian Victoria, would like to express our gratitude to all members for being patient whilst we navigated our way through the many challenges over the past 20 months.*

*The 'new normal' in our state and learning to live with COVID-19 means we can return to enjoying our sport, and we look forward to 2022,*

*To all members – clubs, event committees, volunteers and riders, we hope you have a very Merry Christmas spent with those dear to you and that the New Year delivers opportunity and happiness.*

*See you all in 2022!*

# RACING VICTORIA'S OFF THE TRACK AWARDS

Racing Victoria (RV) has announced the winner of the 2021 Acknowledged Retainer of the Year Award, which recognises the achievements of equine experts preparing retired racehorses for secondary careers.

For the second year running, Fiona McIntyre has taken out the coveted RV Acknowledged Retainer of the Year Award for her tireless work in promoting Off The Track thoroughbreds, helping to create as many pathways and opportunities as possible for ex-racehorses.

In the past 12 months, Fiona has achieved outstanding results with off-the-track horses on both a competitive and non-competitive front, including finding a suitable home for Torreggiane, affectionately known as Torre, through RV's RESET Program, helping him to enjoy a happy and healthy second career.

Fiona's dedication and talent for transitioning racehorses to make the most of their life after racing was also highlighted in 2021 with the transformation of the Chris Waller-trained Able Fun to a competing show horse, who has already picked up a few ribbons since the resumption of competitions in Victoria this year.

A Retainer Capacity Grant recipient, Fiona has also been busy expanding her property to increase the number of horses she can take on and retrain for second careers after racing.

In an extremely competitive field, Jade Wills, owner and director of JW Equestrian, was awarded Acknowledged Retainer of the Year Runner Up for her unwavering commitment to finding alternative, useful and loving homes for retired racehorses, resulting in over 130 off-the-track thoroughbreds rehomed this year alone.

A 2021 Godolphin Stud and Stable award winner for thoroughbred care and welfare, Jade has recently expanded her operations to incorporate a riding school, providing increased opportunities to educate the equine community on the benefits of off-the-track thoroughbreds, as well as expanding the possibilities for retired racehorses to enjoy secondary careers in various disciplines including polo ponies, eventers, show jumpers and trail riders.

A panel of five esteemed judges, including Dr Andrew McLean, CEO of Equitation Science International; Catherine Murphy, sports journalist and presenter at the

ABC; Fiona Selby, Director, Boneo Park; Carly Dixon, RV Executive General Manager of Corporate Affairs and Robbie Griffiths, President of the Australian Trainers Association, selected the final winners which were presented today (7 December 2021) at an intimate event co-hosted by Equestrian Victoria.

The RV Retainer of the Year received a cheque for \$5,000 to assist with the continuing development of their retraining and rehoming work, and the runner-up received \$1,000 to go towards their work with off-the-track horses.

The Off The Track horse of the Year was also presented across four different categories:

- Off The Track Horse of the Year – Show Horse, joint winners – JD Kiamichi (Racing name: Tarantino) and Stage Presence (Racing name: Persistency)
- Off The Track Horse of the Year – Dressage – Coromandel Bay (Racing name: Ha Kul)
- Off The Track Horse of the Year – Eventing – Mr Pig (Racing Name: Winnie's Horse)
- Off The Track Horse of the Year – Jumping – Secret Mojo (Racing Name: Secret Mojo)

Introduced in 2020, Racing Victoria's 'RESET (Racehorse, Evaluation, Support, Education and Transition) Program' provides direct support for horses that are sound and have good prospects but have not been successful in transitioning to a second career outside racing.

In recognition of the great work by many RV Acknowledged Retainers to retrain and rehome a RESET horse within the past 12 months, a RESET Achievement Award was introduced.

The winner of the 2021 RESET Achievement Award is Louise Abey, who was recognised for her exceptional efforts retraining Retro Lass, Mareeza Brown and Soomayya, who she trained with calm and effective retraining methods to transform them into well-rounded performance horses.

Lou's willingness to go over and above the RESET program requirements by providing her horses with multiple outings and exposing them to a range of different scenarios is outstanding and has set a bench mark for the program. Lou was also recognised for her commitment to promoting Off The Track and the RESET Program.

## FIONA MCINTYRE - ACKNOWLEDGED RETRAINER OF THE YEAR FOR THE SECOND YEAR IN A ROW

"We are thrilled to see Fiona once again awarded the Retainer of the Year.

"For many years Fiona has worked tirelessly in promoting Off The Track and retired racehorses at every chance she gets, and she doesn't seem to be showing any signs of slowing down now!

"Fiona has a genuine love and passion for thoroughbreds and is a great advocate for the breed and the various Off The Track programs in everything she does, as well as continuing to educate trainers, owners, the equestrian community and the general public about life after racing opportunities for racehorses.

"Congratulations also to Jade who is a very worthy recipient of the runner up award.

"We were lucky enough to have Jade set up shop in Victoria once she realised her passion for finding new homes for retired racehorses, and since then she has grown insurmountably, so much so that she has retrained over 250 horses into loving new homes since setting her business up in Barnawartha in the north-east of Victoria, after moving across the ditch from New Zealand in 2016.

"Jade is an inspiring instructor, passionate rider and dedicated thoroughbred re-homer who ensures a better life for ex-racehorses.

"We are extremely grateful to all our Acknowledged Retainers as they are instrumental in helping us to achieve our goal of providing the best opportunity for a successful first transition for



Off The Track thoroughbreds post-racing.

"I would personally like to congratulate all the nominees and thank them for their continued hard work and dedication to the Off The Track Program."

*RV General Manager, Equine Welfare -  
Jennifer Hughes:*

[WATCH THE VIDEO](#)












**PRELIMINARY DRESSAGE**



**RUG AND PRIZE PACKS FOR WINNERS**

## PRELIMINARY DRESSAGE

### Wimmera Equestrian Club Country Classic

29 - 30 January 2022

Dimboola Show Grounds

### Berwick & District Dressage Club Skye Park Rugs Classic

6 February 2022 - WPNEC

### Whittlesea Plenty Valley Dressage Club Summer Championship

26 February 2022 - WPNEC

### Victorian Dressage Club Summer & Young Horse Competition

27 February 2022 - WPNEC

## HORSE TRIALS

### Gisborne Horse Trials

29 - 30 January 2022 - IR Robertson Reserve

### Equestrian Victoria Summer Horse Trials

4 - 6 February 2022 - Ballarat Equestrian Precinct

### Marcus Oldham Geelong Horse Trials

19 - 20 February 2022 - 'Barwonleigh', Inverleigh

### Oxley Horse Trials

26 - 27 February 2022 - Oxley Recreation Reserve




**HORSE TRIALS**



**BEST PERFORMED IN EACH HEIGHT CLASS | RUGS AND \$500 PRIZE MONEY**




**JUMPING**



**2 HEIGHT CLASSES: 1.05M - 1.10M AND 90CM (NEW) | RUGS AND \$500 PRIZE MONEY**

## JUMPING

### Yarra Valley Jump Club Grand Valley Show

15 - 16 January 2022 - Wandin Park

### Port Phillip Showjumping Club Summer Show

22 - 23 January 2022 - Lang Lang Showgrounds



# Our 2021 EV Award Winners

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
**Administrator of the year**  
Lynne Brown




Brought to you by  
Animi Equine

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
**Coach of the year**  
Jamie Coman



Brought to you by  
The Dancing Horse

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
**Event of the year**  
2021 Camperdown  
Horse Trials



Brought to you by  
Sports Accounting Australia

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
**Event of the year**  
Northern Victorian  
Show Jumping Club




Brought to you by  
ZEEP

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
**Official of the year**  
David Sheppard




Brought to you by  
Equestrian Victoria

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
**Groom of the year**  
Mia Bartlett



Brought to you by  
Equestrian Victoria

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
**Volunteer of the year**  
Bronwyn Shortt



Brought to you by  
Equestrian Victoria

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
**Lifetime Service to Sport**  
Jan Smith



Brought to you by  
Barastoc



# Our 2021 EV Award Winners

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
**dressage horse of the year**  
Syriana



Brought to you by  
Barastoc

EQUESTRIAN VICTORIA

STEPHAN SCHNEIDER

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
**eventing horse of the year**  
Woodmount Lolita



Brought to you by  
Barastoc

EQUESTRIAN VICTORIA

TARA MENDOZA

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
**jumping horse of the year**  
Eagle Rock



Brought to you by  
Barastoc

EQUESTRIAN VICTORIA

JULIE WILSON

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
**show horse of the year**  
Malibu Park Tip Top



Brought to you by  
Barastoc

EQUESTRIAN VICTORIA

ANGIE ROBERTS

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
**show horse of the year**  
Owendale Beesting



Brought to you by  
Barastoc

EQUESTRIAN VICTORIA

ANGIE ROBERTS

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
**dressage rider of the year**  
Mary Hanna



Brought to you by  
Martin Collins Australia

EQUESTRIAN VICTORIA

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
**eventing rider of the year**  
Sam Jeffree



Brought to you by  
Martin Collins Australia

EQUESTRIAN VICTORIA

TARA MENDOZA

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
**jumping rider of the year**  
Allyson Lamb



Brought to you by  
Martin Collins Australia

EQUESTRIAN VICTORIA

JULIE WILSON



# Our 2021 EV Award Winners

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
show horse rider of the year  
Brynie Lee



Brought to you by  
Martin Collins Australia

USA SORREN

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
sior dressage rider of the year  
Julie Mills



Brought to you by  
Equisage

USA SORREN

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
young dressage rider of the year  
Jessica Dertell



Brought to you by  
Boutique Equines

USA SORREN

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
young eventing rider of the year  
Edward Darby



Brought to you by  
petstock

USA SORREN

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
young jumping rider of the year  
Georgia Price



Brought to you by  
Horseland

USA SORREN

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
young show horse rider of the year  
Aisha Heinrich



Brought to you by  
Heads to Tails

USA SORREN

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
para equestrian of the year  
Phoebe Roche



Brought to you by  
Catherine Shelley

USA SORREN

*Awards*  
2021 Equestrian Victoria  
carriage driver of the year  
Andrew Damsma



Brought to you by  
Equestrian Victoria

USA SORREN



## 2021 Equestrian Victoria Hall of Fame



Welcomes

**Gavin Chester**  
Hall of Fame 2021

*Gavin is a charismatic resource for all aspects of jumping not only on a Victorian level, but also nationally. His efforts in each of these individual areas would be worthy of recognition for the impact and influence that they have had on the sport – rarely is there a sportsman that excels in every aspect of a sport as Gavin has done.”*

*Gavin is one of the giants  
of showjumping in Australia.*

*With a huge legacy and impact in many aspects  
not just as a rider.*

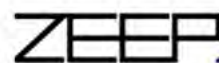
[WATCH OUR VIDEO TRIBUTE](#)

# Awards

2021 Equestrian Victoria  
celebrating achievements



## Thank-you for your support of the 2021 Equestrian Victoria Awards



Catherine  
Shelley





## Calendar Highlights

SUBJECT TO COVID CHANGES



- **Gisborne Horse Trials**  
29 - 30 January
- **Eventing Victoria Summer Horse Trials**  
4 - 6 February
- **Geelong Horse Trials**  
19 - 20 February
- **Oxley Horse Trials**  
26 - 27 February



- **EV Summer Show**  
15 - 16 January
- **Barastoc Horse of the Year**  
11 - 13 February
- **Ego Senses Show Horse Nationals**  
10 - 13 March



- **Boneo Monthly Jumping**  
8 - 9 January
- **Western Districts Junior Show**  
10 January
- **Western Districts Summer Show**  
15 - 16 January
- **Yarra Valley Jump Club**  
15 - 16 January
- **Geelong SJ Summer Classic**  
22 - 23 January
- **Port Phillip SJC Summer Show**  
22 - 23 January
- **World Wetlands Day - Boneo**  
28 - 30 January



- **HYGAIN DV YR Squads**  
2 January
- **HYGAIN Victorian HP Squad**  
10 - 11 January
- **Australian Youth Dressage Championships**  
13 - 16 January
- **Boneo Park Summer Dressage CDI**  
20 - 23 January
- **Wimmera Dressage**  
29 - 30 January
- **Sale SJ EA Open and Restricted Dressage**  
30 January

## SPORT DISCIPLINES

### MITAVITE EVENTING LEADERBOARD

Eventing Results after Camperdown Horse Trials are accessible [on our website](#). Please note the Victorian Team will be selected from the best three scores for riders over the season. This may not be evident until there have been a number of competitions completed.

### VICSPORT SUPPORT FOR INTERSCHOOL

Equestrian Victoria has received a grant from the Vicsport Guiding Sport project, to review and update standards at Interschool and Junior events. The EV Board has made a commitment to ensuring competitions are Child Safe and meet federal and state sport standards. A subcommittee will be formed (with a focus on the Child Safeguarding standards to be updated in July 2022), to assist clubs and schools in running compliant competitions.

Equestrian Australia has recently adopted the National Integrity Framework which is now in effect.

The policies within the Framework can be found on the EA Integrity page and includes:

- National Integrity Framework
- Member Protection Policy
- Child Safeguarding Policy
- Competition Manipulation and Sport Wagering Policy
- Improper Use of Drugs and Medicine Policy
- Complaints, Disputes and Discipline Policy



INTER SCHOOL  
VICTORIA

### COMING EVENTS SUBJECT TO COVID CHANGES

- Macarthur Pony Club Interschool Show Jumping  
8 - 9 January
- AYDC Interschool Classes  
13 - 14 January
- ISV at the EV Summer Show  
16 January
- Geelong SJC Summer Show  
22 - 23 January

### EV STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS 9 - 13 APRIL

The schedule will be released in early January. Entries will open on the 1st February and close 28th February. The "participation" period will be extended until Sunday, March 27th with the rider's nominated competition attendance being completed on entry and confirmed at the end of March. Riders may also enter with no participation but their entry will be pending. Non participation entries will be last priority and may not gain entry or be on a wait list.

## Official Measuring at Werribee Park



**\$15 for members and \$20 for non-members**

Entries open January 5th on Nominate

- January 14th Friday 5-7.00pm
- January 15th Saturday 7.00-9.30am

Entries open Feb 1st on Nominate

- February 10th Thursday 5-7.00pm
- February 11th Friday 7.00-9.30am
- February 11th Friday 5.00-7.00pm
- February 12th Saturday 7.00-9.30am
- February 12th Saturday 5.00-7.30pm



### EVENTING VICTORIA

#### FEI READY

Eventing Victoria held a Zoom session on Monday night (13 December) to hear about getting 'FEI Event ready' for the 2022 season.

Nina Clarke and Chris Wallis presented a highly informative session covering the new requirement for pre event temperature testing and recording, and other FEI rules. The session was particularly important for 1\* and above riders (even though 1\* riders don't need it, you might in the new season!).

FEI papers have a three week turn around, (at least). The EA office is closed from the 24th of December until the 10th of January so you need to be onto it NOW!

[VIEW NINA'S PRESENTATION](#)

[VIEW CHRIS' PRESENTATION](#)

### SHOW HORSE VICTORIA

#### EV SUMMER SHOW

Summer Show entries are open on [NOMINATE](#)

Remember that the Nominate office **closes this Thursday** and do not re open until the 10th January (after the close of entries!) If you need their help entering do not leave it too late!!!

The breed programs are starting to come in and will be published on the Summer Show website. It's going to be a breeds' extravaganza!!!

[EV SUMMER SHOW WEBSITE](#)

### JUMPING VICTORIA

#### HELMET TAGGING

Helmet tagging will be mandatory for all EA Affiliated Jumping events from 1 January 2022. All riders will need helmets tagged before competing from the set date above. Opportunities for Helmet Tagging will be made available in due time before the end of the year and at competitions early next year.

[Visit the EA website to view times and days](#) for helmet tagging that have already been arranged.



SHOW HORSE VICTORIA PRESENTS

# 2022 SUMMER SHOW

15 – 16 JANUARY 2022

WERRIBEE PARK EQUESTRIAN CENTRE

[EVENT WEBSITE](#)

### DRESSAGE VICTORIA

#### DV COMMITTEE

On Thursday, 2 December, Dressage Victoria held its general meeting online via Zoom.

#### OUTGOING COMMITTEE

Firstly, I wish to thank the outgoing Committee for their work and commitment. I especially thank the following retiring committee members. All have made an enormous contribution to the success of Dressage within Victoria.

**Veronica Steward** is an experienced A Level judge and Judge Educator. She has judged up to Grand Prix at State and National Championships and judges regularly at all levels. Veronica is also an FEI Steward, National Steward and State TD. Veronica has held positions on the EV Board, Dressage Victoria, and has also been a State Selector for several terms and has represented Para-Dressage on the DV Committee. With her background in Taxation Law, Veronica has also been a great help with finances. Veronica has brought to her roles a great wealth of knowledge and experience. Thank you, Veronica, for your tireless work over many years.

**Aengus Wright** is a current F Level judge and has over 12 years of experience in riding, EV Events, and providing technical support for competitions, including several CDIs. Aengus has been involved in Dressage and Jumping with the Stars and the Dressage Festival for several years and has been on the Dressage Victoria Committee for 3 years. I certainly look forward to Aengus' continued work with Black Horse One scoring. I am sure his outstanding ability with software and data analysis will continue to be utilised at state and national levels. Thank you, Aengus, for your valued and ongoing contribution to Dressage.

**Justine Greer** has been an outstanding Riders Representative. A respected and talented rider, Justine has produced many successful horses and achieved exceptional results up to FEI level. She has a friendly manner and has a great rapport with her fellow competitors. Justine's ability to maintain communication with the riders has undoubtedly been a strength. Justine is a popular and successful coach, and I have enjoyed working with her as a selector for the Youth Ambassador Awards for the past two years. Thank you, Justine, for your contribution as a Riders Rep on the DV Committee.

**Rae Ansell** has been involved as a State Selector for many years. She has a degree in Commerce and was a successful business owner for over 40 years. Rae has held positions on the Dressage Victoria Committee, Yarra Valley Dressage Club and is a valued member of the High-performance Squad Committee. Rae was also an FEI competitor. She has an impressive record of supporting competitions as a penciller, gear steward, Chef d'Equipe and event Director. I know that she is a highly valued member of the High-Performance Dressage Squad Committee, and the Committee will continue to benefit from Rae's outstanding administrative expertise. Thank you, Rae, for your ongoing commitment.

**Lizzy Schirmer** is stepping down from her Board Appointed position. However, she will still be with us, representing Major Events. Lizzy is an extraordinarily talented Event Director, and I am sure you will all agree that the Dressage Festival and Dressage and Jumping with the Stars are a testimony to her amazing organisational skills. Lizzy has also been the driving force with the AOR committee, raising the profile of this branch of our sport to create the benchmark for the rest of Australia. Hopefully Lizzy will now have more time to ride her horse and enjoy competing as an AOR. Thank you, Lizzy.

#### NEW DRESSAGE VICTORIA COMMITTEE AND SELECTORS

##### Board Appointments - Kate Parsisson and Emma Thomerson

**Kate** has been riding for over 35 years. She came through the ranks of Pony Club, competing at 3 State Championships and was a member of our inaugural Young Rider Squad. She is now on the AOR Squad. Kate is currently working on her Level 2 Dressage Coaching qualification and is competing on several horses up to Prix St Georges. Kate brings to the committee her experience and expertise in business marketing, communications and customer engagement, both federal and state, as well as governance and risk in government, corporate and private enterprise.

**Emma** is a keen dressage rider and competitor. She is an active AOR squad member and is a current member of the AOR committee. Emma has volunteered at major events and is keen to help build a supportive EV Community through our squad structure. Emma is a mixed animal



veterinarian and has a great depth of knowledge regarding the welfare of our Equestrian Athletes, which underpins our Code of Conduct. She will be a great addition to the Committee.

### Riders' Representative – Karen Blythe

**Karen** has competed in Dressage for 14 years, and has ridden to FEI Medium Tour as well as competing in Young Horse classes at State and National Championships. Karen is also a respected level 1 EA Coach. She has been a Western Victorian Dressage Club Committee member for 5 years and is the club representative at Dressage Victoria Calendar meetings. Karen has also been a member of the Victorian Dressage Club for 4 years. With her experience as a professional researcher and writer, Karen brings a range of skills to the role of riders' representative.

### Para-Dressage Representative – Sally Francis

**Sally** will be taking up a co-opted position representing Para-Dressage. Sally has been involved in horses her entire life and has an impressive history of involvement in the Pony Club movement. Sally was Chef d'Equipe for the WEG Para-Dressage teams in Kentucky Normandy and the Paralympics in London and Rio. She was also the assistant team coach in Hartbury and Beijing. In 2019, Sally was awarded the OAM for her services to equestrian sport and people with disabilities.

### Coach and Selectors

**Lone Joergensen** has been re-appointed as the State Coach and selector. Lone needs no introduction, however, she continues to bring to this role her vast experience as an international rider and coach, and we are indeed lucky to have someone of her calibre in this position.

**Moya Jess and Natalie Frew** have been appointed as the other two selectors.

**Moya** is an experienced and respected A level Judge, Young Horse Judge, Judge Mentor and EA Steward. As well as her judging, Moya is a past member of the EA Victoria Branch and the Western Victoria Dressage Club. She is a life member and current Vice President of the Victorian Dressage Club and a life member of the RASV. Moya has a sound knowledge of the Dressage Rules and EV Bylaws, and we look forward to her contribution as a selector.

**Natalie Frew** is a B level Judge and has judged regularly throughout Victoria as well as interstate at State and National Championships. She has also judged eventing dressage at Wandin and Tooradin. Natalie was State Pony Club secretary in South Australia and was a successful FEI rider. Natalie brings excellent communication skills, no doubt learned as an Air Hostess in a previous life!

*Virginia Creed*

Dressage Victoria Chair



*Hygain Victorian Young Rider A Squad members Madison Growcott, Jessica Dertell and Bella Plumridge.  
Photo courtesy: Bella Plumridge*

*Justine Greer riding  
Steph Crittenden's  
Otway Bojangles.  
Photo: James Abernethy*

## HYGAIN VICTORIAN DRESSAGE FESTIVAL

*James Abernethy*  
PHOTOGRAPHY



We saw some fantastic competition, with close to 500 competitors and their horses dancing their way across the arena throughout the four days.

Well done to everyone who rode and congratulations to all of the winners and place-getters.

A huge thank you to all of our event sponsors for their support of the event. Without their support events like this would not be possible...

- Hygain
- Victorian Amateur Owner Rider Group
- Future Farms Arabians
- Horse Bit Emporium
- Interpath
- The Dancing Horse Shop
- Lara Tweedie Equestrian
- Equissage Therapy Australia
- Fager Equestrian
- Horse-In-The-Box Equestrian Clothing and Giftware
- Black Horse Clothing
- Whittlesea Plenty Valley Dressage Club
- Wagners Saddlery
- Virginia Creed
- The NRG Team
- Victorian Dressage Club
- Macedon Ranges Dressage Club
- Westernport Dressage Club
- Western Victoria Dressage Club
- Kelato Animal Health

Lastly, we would like to thank the riders, judges, stewards, team members, committee members and volunteers for all their hard work pre, during (and post) event. We are so grateful have so many people work so hard to create such great event.

We wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year. We look forward to welcoming you all back again next time!!

*Lizzy Schirmer*  
EVENT DIRECTOR



# Hygain Victorian Dressage Festival 2021





### EA GENERAL REGULATIONS UPDATE.

Equestrian Australia General Regulations (Effective 1 January 2022 updated 15 December 2021)

Please note that the EA General Regulations have had some minor updates completed effective 1 January 2022 and these have been published on the website at

<https://www.equestrian.org.au/policies>

A Summary of updates to EA General Regulations 1 January 2022 has been published on the [EA website HERE](#).

### EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA'S COMMITMENT TO PROTECTING OUR SPORT

Equestrian Australia has recently adopted the National Integrity Framework which is now in effect.

We endeavour to provide a safe, fair, and healthy environment for our participants at all levels and the National Integrity Framework has been designed to help us achieve this.

[READ MORE](#)

### EA HIGH PERFORMANCE TOKYO 2020 OLYMPIC GAMES REVIEW

Equestrian Australia (EA) High Performance (HP) is pleased to share a summary of the key findings and recommendations identified during the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games internal review.

These findings, along with a full campaign evaluation, were presented in detail to key stakeholders during the EA High Performance Forum, held on December 1st 2021.

[READ MORE](#)



*The Australian Eventing Team won Silver at Tokyo 2020 Australian Equestrian Team / Libby Law*

### NATIONAL JUMPING RULES

The updated 2022 National Jumping Rules effective 1 January 2022 have been published on the EA website.

<https://www.equestrian.org.au/Jumping-rules>

These updates now include the FEI updates following their General Assembly and publication of the updated FEI Rules.



### CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST: EA RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN WORKING GROUP

As the peak equestrian body, Equestrian Australia (EA) is committed to reconciliation.

The development of our Reflect Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) will lay the foundations for reconciliation initiatives and is a public commitment to the practical actions that we will take to build strong connections with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

[READ MORE](#)

### FEI OFFICIALS 2022 - COMPETENCY-BASED EVALUATION SYSTEM

As of 16 December 2021, the 2022 FEI CES Assessments will be accessible. Separate enrolment notifications will be sent for each CES Assessment directly to FEI Officials via FEI Campus. This means that depending on the function and discipline, several CES Assessments might have to be taken by Officials.

[READ MORE](#)



## OUR PARTNERS

### *Animi Equine - Our Preferred Supplier of Clothing, Merchandise and Team Uniforms.*

In October we formalised our partnership with Animi Equine as our preferred supplier of clothing, merchandise and team uniforms.

Animi Equine is the specialist equestrian brand of well-known and respected merchandise company, Twenty4Seven, with more than 20 years' experience designing and manufacturing custom uniforms and merchandise for equestrian teams, clubs and events across Australia and around the world. Animi Equine is a welcomed addition to our stable of preferred suppliers serving our equestrian community in Victoria.

Our members have experienced Animi merchandise at prestigious events such as Melbourne International 3 Day Event, Marcus Oldham Interschools Championships, and Barastoc Horse of the Year. Through this partnership, we hope to see members across all areas of our sport connecting with the team at Animi Equine to enquire about uniform and merchandise needs, making the most of Animi's quality products and their ability to customise and deliver for large scale events as well as smaller orders for club uniforms.

Stefan Treurniet, Managing Director of Animi Equine said, "Animi Equine is delighted to continue its long association with Equestrian Victoria through the signing of an agreement to become Equestrian Victoria's preferred merchandise and team uniform supplier. With the reopening of the nation ahead of us we are hopeful to see Equestrian Victoria's world class events proceed. We look forward to seeing Equestrian Victoria's members, riders and volunteers for a busy 2022 and beyond. We thank Equestrian Victoria for their ongoing support."

For more information, or to enquire with Animi Equine about your merchandise or uniform needs, please visit their website.

[ANIMIEQUINE.COM.AU](https://animiequine.com.au)



### *Tim Calkin - EA Coach of the Month.*

*Story & Photos courtesy of Equestrian Australia*

COACH OF THE MONTH is a regular Education series on the EA website. It is a way of highlighting the EA coaches and educators who work with dedication and passion all over Australia.

Tim Calkin is an EA Level Two General Coach and Coach Educator, based in Badger Creek, VIC.

"My family emigrated to Australia from the UK in 1960 when I was 5 years old. When I was 14, my Aunt saw how desperate I was to learn to ride and gave me a few lessons for my birthday.

My first instructor was Eric Blinden, who was based in Croydon in Victoria; old-school, but a great start. A little bay gelding, called Jimmy, was my first pony and together we attended the Mountain District Pony Club. In those days we used to hack 10km to rallies, ride all day and ride home again. The horses were certainly fit!

In 1970, my family decided to return to the UK and, after a year at high school, I started as a working pupil at Heather Hall Riding School, in Leicestershire. I achieved my BHSAI in 1971.

The next three years were spent in Manchester at the Lodge Riding School; probably the funniest, craziest place I've ever worked. Thanks to Facebook, I'm back in touch with some of those friends after 40 years.

I then worked for show jumpers Mannie Beavan and, Olympian, Tim Grubb. What an experience that was! Although no matter how hard they tried, my show jumping

never really improved. With their support, I sat and passed my BHSII in 1979.

I took a job at Wellow Park Stables, in Nottinghamshire, as Chief Instructor in 1980. Riding clients' horses, I was lucky to have the opportunity to event to 3\*. In 1985 I passed my BHSI.

They were good days, as we did hunter hire and got our event horses going by hunting with the Grove and Rufford and Belvoir Hunts. The scariest thing I ever did was team chasing and a couple of Point to Points. They always started and finished in the beer tent, funny that...

After turning freelance and spending some time teaching in the United Arab Emirates, I started travelling to Australia for six months of each year. I established myself teaching at Pony Clubs and clinics around the Yarra Valley and Gippsland, where I still coach regularly.

In 1988, I emigrated permanently to Australia. I married Rachael in 1994 and, thanks to Stephen Coffey, we managed and eventually bought Braidwood Equestrian Centre, near Healesville in Victoria.

From Braidwood, we ran clinics for riders on our school horses and on their own horses. We also stood thoroughbred stallion, Balmoral Kinsman, at stud. He was by the well-known stallion Balmoral Boy. At that time, I competed Balmoral Kinsman (Tosh) to Medium and started having lessons with Miguel Tavora. Over more than 20 years, Miguel became my friend and mentor until his death in 2017.



*Tim Calkin and Burgi at a Miguel Tavora Clinic  
Photos courtesy of Georgia Hogg*



Things changed drastically in 2009 when Braidwood was hit by the Black Saturday bushfires. In the space of a couple of hours, we lost our best school horse, Zebedee, along with four cows and a calf. We also lost 80% of our fences, along with sheds, hay and most of the pasture and surrounding bush. Luckily, thanks to a good fire plan, we saved the house, indoor arena and 17 horses.

After the trauma of the fire, Braidwood was never quite the same and so, in 2013, we purchased a much smaller property on the other side of Healesville and downsized the business to one school horse with more emphasis on private lessons and clinics.

Up until International travel stopped in 2020, I was returning to Europe more regularly, combining visiting family and friends with clinics in the UK and the Netherlands.

In 2001, I crossed over into the then NCAS system, becoming a Level 2 General Coach. This introduced me to the new path of Coach Education. This is a subject I'm passionate about because, without new and younger coaches coming into the system, equestrian sports can't evolve and improve.

I'm very lucky to have trained under the British Horse Society system which is based on riding schools. This differs from the Australian system, which is more competition-based. Both systems have their advantages and disadvantages.

Since becoming a Coach Educator, I've been lucky enough to sit on the Victorian Coaching Committee and the Equestrian Australia Coaching Committee. In 2019, I was one of Australia's delegates for the International Group for Equestrian Qualifications (IGEIQ), travelling to Germany for the annual conference.

My reasons for becoming involved in these committees is simple; the more we put into our system the better it gets, and ultimately, it's the horse that benefits.

My involvement has also led to some great friendships. As coaches, we work by ourselves for much of our working lives and being involved with the coaching committees I've met some very talented, experienced coaches from all over Australia and the world, who I now count as friends.

I also administrate the Equestrian Victoria Coaching Facebook Page with over 600 followers. I try and share as much relevant content as I can, because I feel that helps to connect coaches, both in Australia and overseas.

Although my competition days are probably over, I am still riding and I'm lucky enough to own a lovely six-year-old Sandro mare, who has made me re-evaluate and refine my training skills, especially in these long periods of lockdown.

I've come to realise how unique every horse and rider is, and while it's important to have a solid foundation, there is no one way to get the best out of both. That comes from experience, hard work and knowledge.

My skill set seems suited for working with young riders to develop their understanding for training often difficult horses and ponies. I believe this ability has come from training & watching coaches, from every horse I've ridden, trained and watched, from every competition I've entered and from every job I've had. In short, my ability as a coach is the sum total of all my life experiences to date, and I'm still learning.



*Tim and Little John at the Osberton Horse Trials, UK*

My friends know I love new technology, but also renovating old stuff. It's the same with horses. I love working with young horses but there's nothing better than helping a damaged or difficult horse to work in a soft and relaxed way with a rider who understands what they are doing."

*Tim Calkin*

## *HYGAIN Dressage Victoria Young Rider Squads and Development Program*



The Hygain Dressage Victoria Young Rider Squads and Development Program Training weekend at Boneo Park exceeded a lot of expectations. For many it was their first experience of Squad and the Committee of dedicated parents were thrown in the deep end when Co-ordinator Jan Smith was laid low with a mystery illness.

The committee really stepped up and, led by Adele Plumridge, Andrea and Emily Yeoman and head of catering Lauren Braniff, ran the Squad for over forty riders including a very popular Trivia Quiz on the Saturday night. Five coaches worked with the riders over two days including Olympian Mary Hanna, Bianca Veneziano, Gitte Donvig, Karen Blythe, Jenny Bray and Debra Court. Former Grand Prix rider Tracy Lee introduced her new training handbook in workshops that included an entertaining escape room and our major sponsor Hygain ran nutrition workshops. International judges Susie Hoevenaars and Jane Ventura

ran a workshop on the FEI Children's tests which will be on offer, for the first time in Victoria, at the upcoming Australian Youth Dressage Championships. All up it was a very successful first Squad for the year and gave many people a new insight into the complexity of running such a training weekend.

A fantastic effort by the committee, with great support from riders and parents, rewarded with lots of praise for how Victoria is fostering and educating young dressage riders.

*Jan Smith*

*"A fantastic effort by the committee, with great support from riders and parents..."*



*Thankyou to everyone who has entered the Stotts Hill Frankston South Australian Youth Dressage Championships - and what a championship it wil be. With an incredible number of entries, we promise this will be THE event of 2022 for Young Dressage Riders.*



## EV Young Ambassadors

The Equestrian Victoria Young Ambassador of the Year award recognises athletes aged between 16 – 21 (14 – 21 Show Horse) who demonstrate outstanding sportsmanship, performance, contribution to sport, and leadership qualities in their chosen discipline. To our Top 3 and Top 10 finalists, we also extend our congratulations. In what continues to be a disruptive year, our sport is fortunate to have such a fantastic group of young people across all disciplines. The future is in good hands.



**DANA KRUSE - DRESSAGE**



**EDWARD DARBY - EVENTING**



**GEORGIA HODGETTS - JUMPING**



**CHARLOTTE OBERIN - SHOW HORSESE**



# FEEDING TIPS TO SUPPORT GUT HEALTH

Horses have a specialised digestive system designed for the continuous ingestion of grass and other forage. When we mess with this system, such as limiting forage, we can very quickly cause gastrointestinal upsets that can have serious consequences. Problems are more often due to poor feeding management rather than the feed itself.

The following points are important in keeping a horse's digestive system functioning smoothly.



Horses must have adequate fibre intake throughout the day, which closely mimics the horse's evolutionary adaption to eating. Always offer at least 1% of body weight in forage (hay, chaff, pasture), ideally 1.5%. For example, a 500kg horse requires between 5-7.5kg forage (dry matter) per day. Look for low-sugar hays for over-weight horses, so that recommended daily intake can be achieved to maintain gut health.



Ensure forage is available 24/7. If pasture grazing is unavailable, then ad-lib hay must be provided. Hay nets or constant small hay meals ensure your horse never has an empty stomach. Slow-feeder hay nets are helpful for greedy or overweight horses.



More frequent and smaller meals greatly decrease feeding-related problems. Never offer more than 2.5kg of grain per meal. Divide grain into 2 or more feeds per day.



Within reason, regularity of feeding is crucial. Horses thrive on routine – upsetting the routine can cause stress, which can negatively affect gut function.



Offer hay or chaff before exercise so that the horse is not worked on an empty stomach. A small meal of high fibre feed/hay will provide a 'raft' within the stomach preventing acid splash during exercise and protect the sensitive gastric mucosa. Research has shown lucerne hay/chaff, has a buffering effect on the stomach and is a good choice to feed before exercise.



Eliminate the possibility of bad feed. Proper storage of feed is crucial to the prevention of mould, rancidity, and loss of feed quality.



Feed by weight, not volume. The bulk densities of feeds vary significantly, and feeding "by the scoop" is not appropriate.



Free choice access to clean water, except immediately after intense exercise, will keep the digestive system functioning.



Ensure regular checks by a veterinarian or qualified equine dentist to maintain functional dentition.



Routinely worm your horse, ideally after a regular faecal worm counts to ensure the correct anthelmintic is used.



Engage the help of a qualified equine nutritionist to design the best diet for your individual horse.





## Say 'Hello' to Adriana ...

Let us introduce you to the newest member of the EV Team, Adriana Felsztynski, who joins us as a Sport Administrator and provides full-time support to the Sport Development Team.

Adriana is currently studying in several fields: classical history, literature, and librarianship. With those subjects in mind, it should be no surprise that Adriana is passionate about languages and has a passion for cultural preservation.

Due to Adriana's heritage (she is proudly Polish), she particularly loves mounted archery and medieval horse sports, including jousting, an incredibly popular discipline in Poland, both competitively and recreationally. Currently, she owns three horses (two horses and one pony), the first of which she adopted from the RSPCA.

"I have a relatively diverse work history and have worked in education (as an OSHC program coordinator), construction (in administration), the information industry (as a library and bookshop customer service officer with Kangan Library), and the multicultural community services sector (in administration and as a receptionist)."

"In addition to the time I spend with my horses, I also participate in some CrossFit and paint. I am delighted to join EV and am looking forward to the year ahead", said Adriana.

There is no doubt Adriana will strengthen the EV team with her experience. She will be more than able to assist all members in addressing any event-related inquiries, entry checks, measuring questions, or general event administration and support.

Welcome aboard, Adriana!

### ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

**ROS AGIUS**

[admin@equestrianvictoria.com.au](mailto:admin@equestrianvictoria.com.au)

### MEMBER SERVICES

**VERITY WOLF**

[member.services@equestrianvictoria.com.au](mailto:member.services@equestrianvictoria.com.au)

### SPORT DEVELOPMENT

**DEENA PETERS**

[sport.development@equestrianvictoria.com.au](mailto:sport.development@equestrianvictoria.com.au)

**ADRIANA FELSZTYNSKI**

[sport.administrator@equestrianvictoria.com.au](mailto:sport.administrator@equestrianvictoria.com.au)

### WORKFORCE EDUCATION

**KIM JACOBSEN**

[workforce.education@equestrianvictoria.com.au](mailto:workforce.education@equestrianvictoria.com.au)

### MARKETING & DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS

**CORINNE MCINERNEY**

[comms@equestrianvictoria.com.au](mailto:comms@equestrianvictoria.com.au)

### EQUESTRIAN VICTORIA

170 K Road  
WERRIBEE SOUTH VIC 3030  
ABN 80 362 146 367

Phone (03) 9013 07070

Email [member.services@equestrianvictoria.com.au](mailto:member.services@equestrianvictoria.com.au)



@equestrian.vic



@EQUESTRIANVICTORIA



[vic.equestrian.org.au](http://vic.equestrian.org.au)  
[evarena.org.au](http://evarena.org.au)