

# AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL WORKING EQUITATION LTD

ANNUAL REPORT 2023-2024



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# Our purpose

Our purpose is to promote, develop and grow the sport of working equitation across Australia in a manner that mandates a culture of good sportsmanship, the welfare of the horse and the practice of skilled horsemanship.

## Values

- **HORSE FIRST** we are committed to the horse's welfare.
- **PERFORM AS ONE** we aim for the best partnership between horse and rider.
- **PERSONAL INTEGRITY** we always treat each other with respect and conduct ourselves in a manner that is ethical, honest and kind.
- **FAIR AND EQUAL** we are inclusive of all riders and horses so that they can compete in a safe environment from grassroots to the international arena.

# Message from the Chair

This has certainly been a very big year for Working Equitation in Australia. We have achieved so much in the past year and this wouldn't be possible without our amazing volunteers. I would firstly like to thank all the people who make our sport possible. Everything from helping your local club, to involvement at an international level contributes to making our sport great.

The start of the year saw the finalisation of the rule book changes and the completion of the new dressage tests with these going live on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2024. I would like to thank everyone who put in rule submissions and the TSC, who have worked countless hours. The dressage tests were the result of a collaboration between the TSC and EPC and they have been well received by riders.

Australia was invited to attend an International Judge Education Clinic in Spain by WAVE. We were delighted to send Maggie Cappon and Andrew Mulligan. This clinic was to establish International Judge Candidates. Out of thirteen participants, only three were successful. We would like to congratulate Maggie Cappon on becoming an International Judge Candidate. She joins our existing candidate Melissa Rush, and we wish them both luck on their journey to become International Judges. Maggie and Andrew have developed comprehensive, up to date judging resources and a judge education format for the update clinic of existing and new judges. Working closely with Claudia Matos, our International Judge coming from Portugal to judge at our championships, will further enhance the education of our judges.

Coaching has also received an overhaul this year with a pilot scheme currently being run in WA and expressions of interest being taken for the eastern states. We have already received a large amount of interest for this programme; and I would like to thank Megan Joerg for bringing across her skills and knowledge to make this come to life. This programme will be implemented in February 2025.

Planning for Nationals 2024 is underway, with Australia hosting its first ever International Qualifier. This will allow riders to qualify for the World Championships in 2026. This has been a steep learning curve, but one the committee has embraced and risen to the challenge. It is a complex task to coordinate and include all levels and I would like to thank the entire organising committee. We are lucky to have such an enthusiastic, hardworking group of people working on this huge project.

Lastly, we have held a strategic meeting with our National Board, State Presidents and National coordinators to focus on our future. We would like to thank the states for working so closely with us this year. This meeting was very productive with some big plans and goals coming out this to take us into the future.

Ally Mdean

Chair

Australian National Working Equitation Board

# Snapshot

Our member numbers have had a 14% increase from our previous year

**1388  
Members**

2 Additional clubs from the previous year

**2 New  
Clubs  
Total 42**

ANWEL Currently has four affiliated State Associations. NSW, QLD, Vic and WA South Australia and the Northern Territory have clubs but are currently under existing states

**4 State  
Associations**

**12  
Board  
Meetings**

The ANWEL Board meets every month, and quarterly meetings with states

**101  
Accredited  
Judges 3  
Accredited  
Coaches**

Our judge numbers has increased 33% from the previous year

**4  
State  
Championship  
Competitions**

ANWE supported 4 States to host State Championships in 2024

# Highlights of the last year

## RULEBOOK

The rule book was finalised and implemented 1 January 2024. The next rulebook submissions are due in March 2025. Dressage tests were also refreshed and implemented 1 January.

## JUDGING

Maggie Cappon and Andrew Mulligan are currently working on the roll out of the new Judge Accreditation process. They will work with International Judges to further enhance our Judge education process.

## STRATEGY

A strategy meeting was held with the National Board, State Presidents and National Coordinators to work on our future direction as a sport. The outcomes have been finalised and the board will move onto the planning stage as to how we achieve these outcomes.

## INTERNATIONAL

Maggie Cappon and Melissa Rush as International Judge Candidates are working towards being accredited as International Judges. Our National competition in November will be our first International Qualifier. Our riders could qualify for the 2026 World Championships in Spain.

# Exciting steps How did we go?

## COMPETITION

Plan and host a successful 2024 National Championships as a WAVE International Qualifier and secure a WAVE accredited Judge to officiate our event.

## HIGH PERFORMANCE

The ANWE Education and Performance Committee will implement the ANWE Development Squad EOI to attract and develop high performance riders

## MEMBER PROTECTION.

Continue to support States and Clubs with Member Protection support and policy implementation

## ONE VOICE

Strive for 'one voice' Australian working equitation organisation. Continue to share relevant and current information with State Members more regularly.

## AFFILIATION GOVERNANCE

Continue to ensure State and Club affiliation is practicable and administered in a timely manner

## INSURANCE

Work is ongoing in the search for appropriate insurance options. The ANWE Board is will consult with States and Members before any changes occur.

## JUDGE COMPETENCY

Continuously improve our Judge performance an provide support with development. Support the opportunities for Australian Judges to become WAVE Judges.

## COACH ACCREDITATION

Continue to develop Coaches for Working Equitation for all States

**OUR FOCUS  
FOR 2023-  
2024**

# Exciting steps for 2024-2025





# Governance

## STRUCTURE

In accordance with the ANWEL Constitution 2016, ANWEL presently has a Board consisting of six Directors.

Each Affiliated State Association is a recognised Member of ANWEL with voting rights at the AGM and General Meetings.

State Associations have elected Officials and Affiliated Club representation.

Currently ANWEL has four member States – New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria and Western Australia

ANWEL Members (individual rider/family) belong to ANWEL Affiliated Clubs of which there are 42 across Australia.

## BOARD ROLE

The objective and the regulation of ANWEL are set out in the Constitution, in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001. It is the responsibility of the board to look after the affairs of ANWEL and ensure it lives up to its objective and staying within the rules governing it.

The purpose of the ANWEL Board is to provide the equestrian sport of working equitation in Australia with strategic direction and purpose. The Board also has ultimate responsibility for the governance and sustainability of the sport and holds responsibility for its national ventures, finances and actions.

At a high level, key responsibilities include:

- Establish vision, purpose and values
- Set strategy and structure
- Promote and develop the sport
- Stewardship, administration and control

# Governance

## COMMITTEES

The Technical Subcommittee (TSC) is a subcommittee of the ANWEL Board and exists to advise the Board.

Appointed by the Board, they offer technical expertise and insight, to put forward rulebook recommendations, proposals for new initiatives, as well as provide help, support and guidance for implementation of activity at regional level.

The Education and Performance Subcommittee (EPC) is also a subcommittee of the Board of ANWEL. It assists the ANWEL Board in fulfilling its oversight and responsibilities relating to the development of working equitation judges, coaches and competition.

Both the TSC and EPC meet regularly to undertake their responsibilities.

## ISSUES

Key risks and opportunities for ANWEL have been identified as:

- Opportunity to run first international qualifier
- Opportunity to qualify riders for the 2026 World Championships
- Opportunity to have own International Judges
- With International Judges, increased opportunity to run Nationals in a more cost-effective way
- Opportunity to upskill our Judges and use International Judges to assist
- Opportunity to upskill coaches with International Coaches
- Effective communication with States, Clubs and Members
- Board and Committee fatigue due to commitment requirements/expectation

# The Board 2023-24

## Board Membership FY 2023/2024

- Alison Mclean ( Chair) – New South Wales
- Megan Joerg (Deputy Chair) – New South Wales
- Therese Simms – (Treasurer) - Victoria
- Hermine Zielinski (Director) – Western Australia
- Kath Smith (Director) – Western Australia
- Anita Marchesani (Director) – Western Australia

# Financial Statements

Financial Statements for FY2024 have been completed. The Financial Statements are not required to be audited.

Financial sustainability is important, ANWEL year end Net Assets was \$41,813.