

2019/2020 Annual Report



Photo Credit: Jim Whitaker

Western Dressage Association of Australia Inc.

Incorporated in Western Australia
Incorporation number: A1017989F

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Board Members – 2019/2020

Chairperson: Jim Whitaker (QLD)



Secretary: Margaret Augerinos (VIC)



Treasurer & Events Coordinator:
Julie Sain (QLD)



Vice Chair/Judge Liaison/Interim Secretary:
Paula Byrne (QLD)



Newsletters & Communications:
Teresa Russo (QLD)



Board Member:
Pam Nelson (WA)



Board Member:
Terri-Ann Dietzel (VIC)



Board Report

At the start of the 2019-20 year the duly elected board consisted of Jim Whitaker, Margaret Augerinos, Julie Sain, Pam Nelson and Paula Byrne. We bid farewell to Stacey Locastro (QLD) and thanked her for the valued contributions she made to Western Dressage. Stacey was instrumental in the creation of the WDA-AUS Newsletter. We also said goodbye to Kim MacLean from WA whose contributions to the association were very gratefully received.

New members elected to the board, Teresa Russo (Qld) & Terri-Ann Dietzel (VIC) were welcomed to the board & they eagerly took on tasks and responsibilities.

Sadly June 2020 also saw the resignation of our long standing Secretary, Margaret Augerinos due to family commitments. Margaret gave so much of her time to the needs of the national body, she was very knowledgeable and passionate about developing the sport.

All board and committee management members of the WDA-AUS National, State, Affiliate and Branch Associations are volunteers. Their commitment to progressing the sport has been strong & consistent, resulting in positive progress across the country. They are backed up by tireless volunteers who willingly give up their time to assist these bodies host events and training sessions.

Clinicians, judges and coaches actively provide training, guidance and feedback to WDA-AUS members and newcomers alike so that they can progress their journey in achieving a harmonious partnership with their horse.

Without the aforementioned people, the achievements & growth of western dressage across Australia would not be possible. The WDA-AUS Board acknowledges involvement and offers sincere thanks to those persons.

2019-2020 was a challenging year for everyone due to the global pandemic. Australian restrictions were introduced in March 2020 which resulted in the cessation of sporting events across the nation. Unfortunately, planned Western Dressage events for the latter months of the 2019-2020 show year were unable to be conducted.

New Rules & Tests

The board collaboratively reviewed the rulebook and the 2020 version was published on the website – amendments were highlighted and included Ribbon colours & type, horse age requirements for Level 2, show approval fees, score sheet privacy with the option to publish the scores, equipment changes, Judges accreditation and virtual shows are still under review.

The Trail Class tests are under development. The rules are to be amended to include sufficient guidance for riders and judges and we hope to release them next year.

Judge Accreditation

Our judge numbers for 2019-20 remained steady with numbers being 13 x Qld, 5 x Vic and 6 x WA.

The president of the Western Dressage Association of America, Cindy Butler gave a live online presentation to our judges which was interesting and informative. She spoke on the differences between English & Western Dressage, rhythm/cadence, judges' strengths/challenges, tips for new judges & the code of dress for judges.

Cindy also talked about an online judge program which is being developed for judges outside the USA. WDA-AUS will follow up on this with hopes to further develop a collaborative relationship with WDAA & obtain judge education resources.

As new affiliates from South Australia and New South Wales form, judge applications from those locations will be considered.

State Associations

There are 3 state associations – Queensland, Western Australia and Victoria. They strive to promote & develop western dressage in their states.

They have strong committees that work very hard to provide events for members and to generate interest amongst non-members. Steady growth in numbers was evidenced by the increase in test nominations. One state grew from 8 tests at the beginning of the show year to 31 tests at the last show.

All of the associations were planning to host State Championship Shows, which were postponed due to Covid-19. It is anticipated the State Championship shows will be held in the next membership year.

Club Affiliates & Branches

We have a growing number of affiliate associations and branches across the country. Like the State Associations they work extremely hard to provide clinics, training days, sanctioned & non-sanctioned events in their areas. This in turn contributes to the ongoing growth and development of western dressage in Australia. Their events are not money-making ventures and quite often they seek grants & sponsorship and conduct fundraising events so they can offer quality events for their patrons.

Competitions & Events

Event numbers during the 19/20 year were on the increase, but of course Covid-19 did negatively impact on the outcomes.

Some affiliates have offered WD Series events which provide incentive to competitors for the show year.

Sponsorship is vital to the success of events and it's important to recognise and acknowledge sponsor support. Several businesses have returned each year with sponsorship offers and are marketed through the face book pages of the relevant state, affiliate and branch associations.

Communications & Marketing

Our website is important to us so we can stay connected with our members, communicate with our members and to help potential members by providing as much information as they need. It is in the process of being updated, but this slowed somewhat due to the other competing commitments of our website administrator & information updates from annual returns. Updates will continue and we are grateful for members patience while this is occurring.

The quarterly newsletter has continued and grown in content. 8 quarterly newsletters have been produced so far. We encourage members to make suggestions and provide articles for inclusion in the newsletter.

Hi-Points & Grading

This is our second year of conducting National Hi-Points Awards. Show results are submitted to WDA-AUS by event convenors throughout the year. All show competition licensed horses have been added to the website and their grading points from 1/7/18 to 30/6/20 are being added to their listing.

National Hi-Points 2019/2020

Feedback received by WDA-AUS indicates that there is a constant improvement in the performance of horses and riders across the country. The camaraderie amongst participants is quite outstanding. Our Youth competitor numbers are growing and there is a lot of support and encouragement offered.

Whilst there can be only one hi-point winner in each category, the national Board would like to recognise and acknowledge the hard work demonstrated by each and every competitor to present themselves and their horse according to the ideals and objectives of the sport.

Basic Level Youth Champion - Zoe Gravagna - Hollywood Chandel - QLD

Basic Level Champion - Catherine Woodbridge - Rockin the Blues - QLD

Level 1 Champion - Catherine Woodbridge - Rockin the Blues - QLD

Level 2 Champion - Mandy Camfferman - Mondure Dunitlikeacowboy - QLD

Level 3 Champion - Mandy Camfferman - Mondure Dunitlikeacowboy - QLD

Financial Results for the year ended 30 June 2020

Revenue for year to June 2020 was \$21,733 up \$5,087 on this time last year. Net Loss was \$1,339 compared to Net Profit \$12,058 last year, due to timing of Insurance payments.

Profit and Loss for the year ended 30 June 2020

Membership period:	Jun-20				Jun-19			
June 2020	YTD Actual		YTD Budget		2019		Variance on prior year	
Senior Members (\$90pa) \$21.25 to state	210	18,900	140	12,600	170	15,300	40	3,600
Life Members (\$1000) \$381.25 to state	-	-	-	-	1	1,000	(1)	(1,000)
Associate Members (\$110pa) \$31.25 to state	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Youth Members (\$110pa) \$0 to state	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Affiliate Members - State (\$350pa <50, \$500 50-100, \$750 >100)	4	1,550	4	1,550	3	1,200	1	350
Affiliate Members - Club (\$180pa)	9	1,620	3	540	3	540	6	1,080
Horse Registration (\$25 per horse per lifetime)	77	1,925	50	1,250	59	1,499	18	426
Event only	48	801	50	750	110	1,642	(62)	(841)
Affiliate Show Fee	27	1,350	10	500	7	350	20	1,000
Donation		-		-		15	-	(15)
Merchandise		487		350		-	-	487
		<u>26,633</u>		<u>17,540</u>		<u>21,546</u>		<u>5,087</u>
Net Profit YTD		(1,339)		1,513		12,028		(13,367)

	<i>Actual</i>
COSTS	
Insurance	21,595
Nominate Fees	343
Webex	647
Website	307
Audios	181
	\$ 23,073

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2020

Balance Sheet as at 30th June 2020			
Asset			
Bank	29,615.69		
Nominate	3,748.99		33,364.68
Liability			
Event Insurance	(286.70)		
WDA-QLD	(1,987.50)		
WDA-WA	(271.25)		
WDA-VIC	(441.25)		
WDA-NSW	265.00		(2,721.70)
Long Term Liability			
WDA-QLD (Life Memberships)	(485.00)		
WDA-WA (Life Membership)	(90.00)		
WDA-VIC (Life Membership)	(90.00)		(665.00)
Net Assets			29,977.98
Equity			
Retained Earning			31,317.03
Current Year Earnings			(1,339.05)
			29,977.98

State Associations

The following amounts are reimbursed to State Associations each year after 30th June.

	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	Total
WDA-QLD	556.25	2,840.00	2,667.50	2,008.75	1,987.50	10,060.00
WDA-WA	112.50	797.50	415.00	356.25	271.25	1,952.50
WDA-VIC	370.00	355.00	231.25	243.75	420.00	1,620.00
WDA-NSW					(265.00) -	265.00
	<u>1,038.75</u>	<u>3,992.50</u>	<u>3,313.75</u>	<u>2,608.75</u>	<u>2,413.75</u>	<u>13,632.50</u>

Thank you to all of our Members & their families, Supporters & Sponsors who have continued to have trust and confidence in the development of western dressage in Australia.

Your National Board

Jim Whitaker, Julie Sain, Pam Nelson, Paula Byrne, Teresa Russo, & Terri-Ann Dietzel.