

2020 - 2021 Annual Report

Western Dressage Association of Australia **NATIONAL**

SHOW

Save the Date

6-8 MAY, 2022

QSEC CABOOLTURE QUEENSLAND

Western Dressage Association of Australia Inc.

Incorporated in Western Australia
Incorporation number: A1017989F

www.westerndressage.com.au
E: info@westerndressage.com.au



Board Members 2020 - 2021

Chairperson:
Jim Whitaker (QLD)



Vice Chair/Secretary/Judge Convenor:
Paula Byrne (QLD)



Treasurer & Events Coordinator:
Julie Sain (QLD)



Newsletters & Communications:
Teresa Russo (QLD)



Board Member
Lyn Robertson (QLD)



:

Board Member:
Terri-Ann Dietzel (VIC)



Board Member:
Beth Noble (WA)



Board Member:
Pam Nelson (WA)



Board Report

At the start of the 2020-21 year the duly elected board consisted of Jim Whitaker, Paula Byrne, Julie Sain, Lyn Robertson, Teresa Russo, Terri-Ann Dietzel, Pam Nelson and Beth Noble.

New members elected to the board at our AGM on 15 October 2020 , Lyn Robertson (Qld) & Beth Noble (WA) were welcomed to the board, as was Pam Nelson (WA) who re-nominated for another term.

Many sporting associations are run purely by volunteers and WDA-AUS is no different. All National, State, Affiliate and Branch board and committee management members are volunteers. They have businesses and or jobs to attend to, yet they are committed to progressing the sport across the country. Supporting them are members, family and volunteers. All of these people contribute so much to the success of this industry.

We are also fortunate to have dedicated Clinicians, Judges and Coaches out in the field who provide advice, training and guidance on all that is Western Dressage. This has been in the form of clinics, information sessions, training days, competition and social events. Some have had to travel in these uncertain times, at the risk of being caught up in a lock down.

The WDA-AUS board would like to acknowledge the contribution the above-mentioned people have made during the 2020-2021 year and extend our sincere gratitude to each and every one of them.

The WDA-AUS board also recognises the efforts made by our southern affiliates and branches to provide training and events for members and newcomers alike, that were thwarted by the COVID 19 pandemic. They did not lose heart and give up, instead they continued to do their best to provide what was possible and kept forward planning with a can do attitude.

New Rules & Tests

The board reviewed the current rule book, and some rules were amended and some new ones added. All changes have been highlighted for ease of identification. Some of the tests were amended slightly to correct typing errors and to clarify the movements - turns on the forehand and lead change requirements at certain levels.

Freestyle and Trail Class tests and rules were under development during this period. This takes time and involves a considerable amount of validation before they can be released. The Freestyle tests and rules are almost ready to go live, pending the final rules being approved.

The Trail Class tests are still under development. There was a delay in their progress but it is hoped they can be finalised in the not too distant future. Peripheral and Virtual competitions remain under review.

Planning for the writing of Level 4 tests commenced with assistance being enlisted from outside the board.

Judge Accreditation

Our judge numbers for 2020-21 remained reasonably constant with numbers being 10 x Qld, 5 x Vic and 5 x WA, 1 x NSW & 1 x SA.

Time constraints and other commitments has prevented a face to face judges seminar taking place so far. A request was made of the Western Dressage Association of America for assistance with obtaining educational materials for use in judging seminars. Unfortunately they could not assist as they were busy developing an online reaccreditation program for their judges, followed by a stage two development for applicant judges, all due to the pandemic.

Since then and outside the scope of this reporting period, our judging convenor has purchased a Judges Education package from WDAA, part of which is the Judging Musical Freestyle component which will be offered online to current judges as the Freestyle tests are published. It is hoped that a face to face seminar can be conducted post May 2022.

Certain rules regarding judges remain under review and an amendment has been made to the sections regarding Conflict of Interest & Meal Expenses.

It's not possible to have judges in every affiliate location. Some affiliates were very industrious in fundraising and event planning so they could cover the cost of flights and accommodation for judges. They incorporated other events with the western dressage shows and often just broke even to be able to provide training and sanctioned shows for members. Incentives were offered to encourage participation and it's amazing the distances some members travel to attend events.

State Associations, Regional Affiliates and Branches

There are 3 state associations – Queensland, Western Australia and Victoria.

There are 6 regional affiliate associations – Queensland, New South Wales and South Australia.

There are 2 branch associations – Queensland and Victoria.

State Championship Shows were conducted in Western Australia and Queensland. Lockdowns and border closures presented difficult challenges for all, none more so than Victoria.

Our regional affiliates and branches saw some growth and changes in numbers. Our SEQ branch became an incorporated association, and we welcomed the new affiliate Fraser Coast Western Dressage Association. Inquiries were fielded from other interested associations in NSW, NT, WA and Qld, most were encouraged to affiliate.

As incorporated associations, our regional affiliates are able to apply for grants, whereas the state associations and branches are not eligible. Some affiliates were successful in their grant submissions which went towards equipment and resources.

Nominate - Livescore was successfully trialled by Queensland and Western Australia. Some issues were identified and rectified. Our WA board members did a lot of work towards this and commenced working on some video tutorials for our affiliates who wish to use the system.

Regulations for its use are being written for the rulebook. Victoria has also successfully used the system and it was used for a week long event in Qld, saving invaluable time for the show committees.

Various venues were utilised by our associations which gave a good amount of exposure of the sport to other groups and interested parties.

An online Q & A session was conducted to assist new affiliates with an objective to help them get a good start and decrease the unknowns. Members of a long-standing affiliate took part and gave advice based on previous experiences.

Current affiliates were consulted on the process to follow when other associations in close proximity, express interest in affiliating. It was determined that all applications will be considered on a case by case basis, in consultation with the closest affiliate/s for opinion.

Competitions & Events

A total of 31 shows were held during the 2020-21 year, many of those were 2 day events, a few were even longer. Clinics, training days and club days were conducted in addition to shows. This was in spite of the negative impact of COVID-19.

Even though there were challenges in running the aforementioned events, our affiliates stepped up to the challenge and some ventured outside their home grounds to host shows or events in partnership with other equestrian groups.

A number of our members represented Australia favourably again this year when taking part in the WDAA Western Dressage Online International Challenge.

Support from sponsors played a crucial role in the ability of our affiliates to conduct events. Many businesses returned again in this period to provide sponsorship in the form of cash and or products and services. Affiliates formally recognised these sponsors and provided ongoing marketing and promotion of their valued sponsorship. Members were encouraged to support the sponsors in return. The generosity of sponsors is incredible and never taken for granted.

As a commitment to our members, the National Board commenced planning and preparation for the **Inaugural Western Dressage Association of Australia National Show** to be held at QSEC on 6-8 May 2022. This is a first for Australia and the current board are honoured to initiate this event.

Communications & Marketing

The quarterly newsletter grew in content and style. 10 quarterly newsletters had been produced at the end of this reporting period, most of this done by just one board member. The objective is to provide our members & those that access the newsletter from the website, a comprehensive insight into all things Western Dressage across Australia. The articles were varied, relevant, personal and interesting. It's very difficult to source the necessary information and we encourage members to make suggestions on topics of interest and provide articles, information and photos for inclusion in the newsletter.

Our website also evolved during this twelve-month period. A calendar of events and an FAQ page was added. A significant amount of work was done to manually list all horses that have been registered with WDA-AUS. As at the end of June 2021 a total of 377 horses were registered with WDA-AUS and uploaded to the website, including their grading points where applicable.

National High Point Awards 2020 - 2021

Positive feedback was again received from judges and show committees in regard to the consistent improvements seen in horse and rider combinations.

The performance and sportsmanship of the youth competitors was exceptional.

Overall, the level of support and genuine friendliness of our members and families was to be commended. This was especially evident in difficult times when a helping hand was needed.

The board recognises and acknowledges the hard work and dedication shown by each and every competitor in presenting themselves and their horses according to the ideals and objectives of western dressage in Australia.

The Board is proud to announce the 2020-2021 National Level Champions & Reserve Champions.

YOUTH	RIDER	HORSE
Champion	Chloe Lough	Chesalon Shocker
Reserve Champion	Hanna Corica	Haverbecks Luna

BASIC LEVEL	RIDER	HORSE
Champion	Chloe Lough	Chesalon Shocker
Reserve Champion	Julie-Anne Beck	Ricky

LEVEL 1	RIDER	HORSE
Champion	Chloe Lough	Chesalon Shocker
Reserve Champion	Vivian Wearing	Tassawoods Ace

LEVEL 2	RIDER	HORSE
Champion	Catherine Woodbridge	Rockin The Blues
Reserve Champion	Vivian Wearing	Tassawoods Ace

LEVEL 3	RIDER	HORSE
Champion	Mandy Camfferman	Mondure Dunitlikeacowboy
Reserve Champion	Natalie Mitchell	Statford Mojave

Financial Results for the year ended June 2021

Revenue for year to June 2021 was \$ 21,806, a decrease of \$6,007 compared to the previous year's revenue. Nett Loss was \$1,506 at year end compared to a nett loss of \$1,339 as at June 2020.

Profit and Loss for the year ended 30 June 2021

Membership period:	Jun-21		Jun-20				
June 2021	YTD Actual		YTD Budget		YTD		Variance on prior year
Senior Members (\$90pa) \$21.25 to state	178	16,020	170	15,300	210	18,900	(32) (2,880)
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)	3	1,050	4	1,200	4	1,730	(1) (680)
Affiliate Members - Club (\$180pa)	3	540	7	900	9	1,620	(6) (1,080)
Horse Registration (\$25 per horse per lifetime)	59	1,475	45	1,125	77	1,925	(18) (450)
Event only	51	779	45	675	52	801	(1) (22)
Affiliate Show Fee	28	1,400	13	550	27	1,350	1 50
Donation	-	-	-	-	-	-	- -
Merchandise		542		350		487	- 56
		<u>21,806</u>		<u>20,100</u>		<u>27,812</u>	<u>(6,007)</u>
Net Profit/Loss YTD		(1,506)		2,282		(1,339)	(167)

	Actual
COSTS	
Insurance	11,333
Audios	198
State donations	3,600
Webex/Website	213
National Awards	439
QSEC Arena deposit	1,483
Legal Fees	<u>1,960</u>
	<u>\$ 19,226</u>

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2021

Balance Sheet as at 30th June 2021			
Asset			
Bank	26,945.93		
Nominate	5,047.82		31,993.75
Liability			
Event Insurance	-		
WDA-QLD	(1,766.25)		
WDA-WA	(266.25)		
WDA-VIC	(245.00)		
WDA-NSW	116.25		(2,161.25)
Long Term Liability			
WDA-QLD (Life Memberships)	(76.25)		
WDA-WA (Life Membership)			
WDA-VIC (Life Membership)			(76.25)
Net Assets			29,756.25
Equity			
Retained Earning			31,292.42
Current Year Earnings			(1,506.17)
			29,786.25

State Association payments

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

	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20	FY21	Total
WDA-QLD	2840	2667.5	2008.75	1987.5	1766.25	\$ 11,826.25
WDA-WA	797.5	415	356.25	271.25	266.25	\$ 2,218.75
WDA-VIC	355	231.25	243.75	420	245	\$ 1,865.00
	<u>3992.5</u>	<u>3313.75</u>	<u>2608.75</u>	<u>2678.75</u>	<u>2277.5</u>	<u>\$ 15,910.00</u>

A Heartfelt Thank You To All Of Our Members & Their Families, Supporters, Volunteers & 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, Lyn Roberton & Beth Noble.