



IQ School Convenors Meeting

14th October 2014, 6.30pm. Sports House South, Woolloongabba

Attendees: Matt Helmers (EQ CEO), Tracey Vardy (IQ Chair), Christine Thompson (EQ Sport Development Officer), Karla Farrell (IQ Dressage Convenor and Our Lady of the Way school convenor), Maria Gould (IQ Secretary and Emmaus College convenor), Yvonne Bradford (St Peters Lutheran College), Alison Sewell (Somerville House Girls School), Anna Starosta (Stuartholme School), Kate Vietheer (James Nash State High School), Gina Willmore (St Aidan's Anglican Girls School), Jane Davis (Fairholme College), Fiona Maloney (SEQ Dressage Convenor and St Aidan's Anglican Girls School) and Nikki McGregor (Moreton Bay College)

1. Welcome

Thank you to all Interschool Equestrian School Convenors who were able to attend the meeting. The attendance reflected the value that school convenors saw in this meeting, with many travelling some distance to join the meeting, including one convenor from Gympie.

2. Membership Renewals

Regarding EQ junior memberships, the EQ Sports Committees will meet at the end of November to discuss 2015 memberships, however the structure is unlikely to change from the current structure.

IQ will update school 2015 membership forms and will aim to have these available by the start of November to allow schools to renew their membership prior to breaking for the school holidays.

Horse registration- all horses must be EA registered to attend the State Championships. This was not enforced in 2014 but clarification will be sought to confirm whether this will be enforced in 2015. The concern from various parties is that below the line IQ competitors probably do not compete at any other championships or above the line competitions and so mandatory horse registration may become a prohibitive cost for some members.

Dual EA/PC junior membership is seen as beneficial for junior members, and this feedback will be provided to the EQ board.

3. IQ 2015 Calendar

IQ will allow less tag on events in SEQ and DD regions to encourage schools to run events and to encourage IQ riders to attend school events and therefore support the schools.

2015 State Championships qualifying criteria has been updated and is now available on the EQ website: <http://www.qld.equestrian.org.au/interschool/information/handbook-and-rules>

Age and grade of riders for competing at Nationals will be reworked for 2015 (this is done nationally, not by Qld)

Eventing teams- there was some discussion about whether the eventing teams format was working. The schools who have teams competing in these events feel that it is working and therefore will remain the same for 2015.

Spirit of IQ award- this is an award to encourage kids to continue to compete after States.

Information can be found at

<http://www.qld.equestrian.org.au/sites/default/files/SPIRIT%20OF%20IQ%20Application%20Form.pdf>

4. Running IQ events

Any promotional material regarding IQ events to go to Christine (interschool@equestrianqld.com.au). This information will be put on the IQ calendar, EQ facebook page and relevant EQ & IQ groups. If you would like an event re-posted on facebook please email or call Christine to ask for this.

Some assistance towards the cost of having medics at IQ events was requested by the schools. IQ cannot subsidise this cost but will get quotes from medics to see if a reduced rate can be arranged.

5. New equipment that is being purchased for schools to use free of charge

A new Showjumping trailer has been purchased and will be kept at Toowoomba for school in the DD region to use for events.

Comments were made about the state of some of the equipment on the dressage trailer- this is being reviewed by the IQ Dressage convenor and new ropes will be purchased.

6. Biosecurity and Hendra Updates

94% of IQ horses at the States were Hendra vaccinated, and 100% of those who went to Nationals.

The Hendra by-law has been suspended and is being reviewed by EA. There is a required 3 month notice period before implementation of any new by-law.

All agreed that biosecurity is important, and riders/owners knowing how to check the health of their horse is vital. A health checklist was provided at one school, and this will be made available for everyone and will be sent out in a newsletter in due course.

Armbands to identify those riders who had submitted Horse Health Declarations was considered to be very successful by those who had implemented this. No competitor should be allowed to compete unless a HHD is completed and given to the organiser of the event, and the armband made this easy for stewards to identify those riders. IQ will purchase armbands and will distribute them to schools upon request for their IQ events.

7. Succession planning

There are 2 positions currently available on the IQ committee. Vice Chair (role is primarily related to sponsorship liaison although other aspects are involved) and Treasurer. If anyone would like to apply to join the IQ committee or knows of any IQ parents who would like to join the committee please email Tracey Vardy (tvardy@bigpond.net.au)

Ideally, the IQ committee would also like to find someone who is interested in taking over the position of Chair in 12 months. This person would spend the next 12 months working alongside Tracey Vardy and replace her when she steps down. Other roles that will become vacant in the next 12 months include IQ Secretary and Showman Convenor. Interested parties are invited to contact the committee for further information.

We are also looking for people who would like to help out at States and join the SEQ regional committee to help run Regionals.

If there are any issues that members feel should be raised at an IQ committee meeting, they are welcome to submit these to the committee.

8. Feedback on Championships

It was noted that everyone needs to ensure front and back gates at the championships are closed, as it is extremely easy for a loose horse to get on to major roads.

Better lighting needs to be provided for the yards and bollard lighting near the camping area is required.

Many of the stables are too small and therefore not usable. It has been suggested that 2 stables are turned into 1 which allows additional stabling.

The social aspect was good, i.e. the bucking bull and jumping castle. It was mentioned that the members enjoyed the pizzas at SEQ Regionals and perhaps that could be continued.

9. AOB

Some schools commented on the lack of communication- this is being reviewed as some contact information is out of date. It is important that when a school convenor leaves, their replacements contact details are forwarded to interschool@equestrianqld.com.au

IQ letters- State Representative letters have always been addressed to the school principals as a courtesy, however it was requested that we copy school convenors in on any correspondence in future as this information does not always get passed on.

Comments were made about information on the new website being hard to find- this will be reviewed and further feedback will be requested in the future.

It was requested that IQ committee meeting minutes be made available to all members. This will be done either via email or the website (to be confirmed) and will be implemented as of this meeting.

It was agreed that this meeting was beneficial and perhaps could be held annually. It would also be worthwhile investigating alternatives for those in regional areas, such as teleconference, to allow all convenors to participate.

Close of meeting 9.30pm.