

POSITION DESCRIPTION: TEAM CAPTAIN / VICE CAPTAIN – INTERSCHOOL SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Position Title(s):

1. Captain – ESA Interschool Representative Team
2. Vice Captain – ESA Interschool Representative Team

Status:

Volunteer student leadership positions appointed by the ESA Interschool Committee following a competitive Expression of Interest (EOI) process.

Purpose of the Role(s):

The Team Captain and Vice-Captain are the student leaders of Team SA at the Australian Interschool Championships.

These prestigious appointments recognise students who consistently demonstrate leadership, integrity, sportsmanship and a commitment to serving others. The positions exist to promote a positive, inclusive and supportive team culture while representing South Australia with pride, professionalism and respect.

The Captain and Vice-Captain are expected to lead by example both on and off the competition arena, supporting riders across all disciplines and helping create an environment where every team member feels welcomed, valued and encouraged to achieve their best.

These appointments recognise service to Team SA and leadership potential, rather than competitive success alone.

The successful applicants will be supported throughout the Championships by the Chef d'Équipe, Team Management and the ESA Interschool Committee.

Relationship with the ESA Interschool Committee:

The Team Captain and Vice-Captain are appointed by, and serve as student representatives of, the ESA Interschool Committee. In undertaking these roles, they are expected to uphold the values, standards and objectives of Team SA and to act as positive ambassadors for South Australian Interschool equestrian sport.

While the Committee provides governance and strategic oversight of the Team SA program, the Captain and Vice-Captain work collaboratively with the Chef d'Équipe and Team Management throughout the Championships to promote a positive, inclusive and supportive team culture.

Team SA Leadership Structure:

The leadership of Team SA comprises four complementary roles:

1. **ESA Interschool Committee** – provides governance, appoints the leadership positions, establishes policy and oversees the Team SA program.
2. **Chef d'Équipe** – leads the team operationally during the Championships and is responsible for team management, official communications and compliance with Australian Interschool rules.
3. **Team Captain** – provides student leadership, promotes team culture, represents Team SA and supports fellow riders across all disciplines.
4. **Vice-Captain** – supports the Captain and Chef d'Équipe, assisting with student leadership and undertaking the Captain's responsibilities when required.

Reporting Relationship:

During the Australian Interschool Championships, the Captain and Vice-Captain operate under the direction of the appointed Chef d'Équipe and Team Management.

The Vice-Captain supports the Captain in fulfilling their leadership responsibilities and assumes the Captain's duties when required.

Key Responsibilities:

1. Leadership:

- Lead by example through exemplary conduct, sportsmanship and professionalism.
- Promote the values of Equestrian South Australia and Australian Interschool.
- Encourage a positive, respectful and inclusive team culture.
- Foster pride in representing South Australia.

2. Team Support:

- Welcome and support riders across all disciplines.
- Encourage participation in team activities.
- Assist younger and first-time team members to feel included.
- Promote teamwork, encouragement and mutual respect amongst all riders.

3. Representation:

- Represent Team SA at official functions and presentations as requested by Team Management.
- Assist with official team announcements, presentations and ceremonies.
- Speak confidently, respectfully and professionally when representing Team SA.
- Act as a positive ambassador for South Australian Interschool equestrian sport.
- Serve as a liaison between student riders and Team Management, communicating feedback, concerns and suggestions in a constructive manner to help enhance the Team SA experience.
- Encourage open communication and assist in identifying opportunities to strengthen team culture, wellbeing and the overall championship experience for all members of Team SA.

4. Team Culture:

- Assist Team Management in developing activities that encourage team spirit and camaraderie.
- Encourage positive behaviour and high standards of presentation within stabling areas and team facilities.
- Promote respectful relationships between riders, families, officials and volunteers.
- Celebrate the achievements of all Team SA riders.

5. Communication:

- Work collaboratively with the Chef d'Équipe, Team Management and the ESA Interschool Committee.
- Bring any concerns affecting rider wellbeing or team culture to Team Management promptly.
- Encourage respectful and constructive communication amongst team members.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Eligibility:

Applicants must:

- be a full-time secondary school student in Year 11 or Year 12;
- be selected to represent Team SA at the Australian Interschool Championships; and
- demonstrate an understanding of Australian Interschool competition and the expectations of State Team members.

Preference may be given to:

- Year 12 students;
- riders who have previously represented South Australia; and
- applicants who have demonstrated leadership, cooperation and exemplary sportsmanship.

Attributes and Personal Qualities:

Successful applicants will demonstrate:

- Integrity, honesty and maturity.
- Pride in representing South Australia.
- A genuine commitment to supporting fellow riders.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills.
- Confidence to speak publicly where required.
- Empathy, kindness and approachability.
- Sound judgement and the ability to remain calm under pressure.
- Positive sportsmanship and respect for officials, volunteers and competitors.
- A willingness to place the interests of Team SA ahead of individual or personal success.

APPOINTMENT PROCESS:

1. Appointments are made following a written Expression of Interest.
2. Applicants will be assessed against the published selection criteria, including:
 1. motivation for seeking the position;
 2. demonstrated leadership experience and potential;
 3. commitment to supporting Team SA;
 4. communication skills;
 5. previous conduct and sportsmanship;
 6. ability to positively influence team culture.
3. The ESA Interschool Committee may consider feedback from previous Team Managers, Coaches or Officials as part of the assessment process.

Term of Appointment:

Appointments apply for the relevant Australian Interschool Championships and conclude following completion of that event.

The ESA Interschool Committee reserves the right to revoke an appointment where the role is not performed in accordance with the expectations of Team SA or where conduct is inconsistent with the values of Equestrian South Australia or Australian Interschool.

2026 APPLICATIONS CLOSE
THURSDAY 30 JULY AT 6PM (SA TIME)

TO BE SENT VIA EMAIL:
interschool@equestriansa.com.au