

17 October 2022

Dear ESA Members

ESA Board Update to Members

ESA Constitution

As members are aware the ESA Board put a draft marked-up Constitution to the membership for review and feedback. The Board considered and adopted some of that feedback and then sent a final marked-up Constitution to the membership for voting on at the 2022 AGM.

It is apparent that one of the marked-up changes has caused some discussion amongst the membership. In effect, Rule 2 of the Constitution sets out numerous purpose statements for ESA.

It is proposed that the existing Rule 2(j) be removed from the Constitution which currently reads “*at all times to act on behalf of, and in the interests of, the Members and Equestrian*”. One of the reasons for the removal of this sub-rule is that it could be interpreted that ESA has to act on behalf of, and in the interest of, Members on matters outside of equestrian. It should not be ESA’s responsibility to act on behalf of, and in the interest of, Members outside of equestrian. ESA does not have the resources or financial capability to act for members outside of equestrian matters.

The proposed Constitution requires the Board to act in all matters for Members pertaining to Equestrian. These statements are contained in Rule 2 and read:

- (d) represent and act for its Members in all matters pertaining to Equestrian;
- (x) represent the interests of the Members and of Equestrian generally in any appropriate forum;

(note that the underlined words are a new addition in the proposed Constitution and that (x) becomes (w) in the proposed Constitution)

It is the ESA Board’s view that the above purpose statements provide the same coverage to members as (j) but limits that coverage to Equestrian matters. ESA will still act on behalf of, and in the interests of, Members in equestrian matters.

I hope this provides clarification for members on this point. If you are still unclear please do not hesitate to contact JP, at the ESA office, or myself.

ESA AGM

As previously advised the Annual General Meeting for ESA will be held on 26th of October 2022 at Auchendarroch House. All the required notices have been sent to members and are located on the ESA website under the “About Us” tab.

I take this opportunity to remind members that the ballot papers for the election of Jumping Committee members together with the AGM Attendance form are due no later than Friday, 21 October 2022. These completed forms must be submitted to the email address agm@equestriansa.com.au and can be located at <https://www.sa.equestrian.org.au/content/2022-agm-info> Thank you to those members who have already submitted their ballot papers and attendance forms. The ESA Board looks forward to seeing you at the AGM.

ESA Board Changes

Kass Dalitz

The ESA Board is pleased to announce that Ms Kathleen (Kass Dalitz) has, early this month, joined the ESA Board. Kass will be filling a casual vacancy on the Board. Kass is a long time horse enthusiast and is regularly at competitions and training days riding her stallion Azraff Amir (Booka). Kass also breeds Arabians. Kass is motivated, energetic, a results-driven professional with an active personal and professional philosophy of continuous learning.

Kass brings valuable skills to the ESA Board as a highly qualified professional currently in the role as an Agribusiness Portfolio Specialist. Kass has significant experience in insurance (specialising in Agribusiness), risk management including identification and mitigation, project management, together with financial management. We welcome Kass to the Board and look forward to working with her for the betterment of ESA.

One of the final tasks on the Governance Review Implementation Plan is the adoption of a Risk Register with a continual Risk Audit. Whilst the ESA Board has commenced work on this we look forward to Kass' input and expert knowledge on this matter.

Sara Beazley

The ESA Board would like to let the membership know that Sara Beazley has decided, for personal reasons, not to renominate for a Board position at this year's AGM. On behalf of the Board and myself personally, I would like to thank Sara for significant contribution to the ESA Board and to ESA, in a volunteer capacity. Sara's work has been tireless as she has been heavily involved in the amended Discipline and Coaching Committee By-Law, the Strategic Plan, working through the introduction of the National Integrity Framework and Sports Integrity Australia (from an SA perspective), the introduction of the Child Safe Policy, amending and updating all of ESA policies, changes to the ESA Constitution and assisting in the complaint matters that ESA is involved in.

Whilst a lot of Sara's work has been behind the scenes it has certainly assisted the Board in conducting its functions and roles including working towards the finalisation of the Governance Review Implementation Plan. I again take this opportunity to thank Sara for her volunteer service to ESA. We look forward to working with you in the future should the opportunity arise.

ESA Strategic Plan

As members are aware the ESA Board and the ESA EO have been working to finalise the ESA Strategic Plan for 2022-2025. I am very pleased to announced that the Strategic Plan has now been finalised and approved by the Board. The new Strategic Plan will be placed on the ESA website today at <https://www.sa.equestrian.org.au/content/policies-bylaw> I again take this opportunity thank all members who participated in the Strategic Plan Working Group and to all members who took the time to complete the survey and provide detailed feedback on the draft plan.

The ESA Board is now in the process of finalising the ESA Operational Plan for 2022-2025, which will detail how the Strategic plan will be implemented.

ESA Policies

As previously advised to members, the ESA Board has been undertaking a review of all ESA policies. This review included updating polices, writing new policies and deleting policies that are no longer relevant. The ESA Board is very pleased to let the membership know that all policies have now been reviewed.

Since the last letter to members in August 2022, the ESA Board has reviewed and updated the following policies which are available at <https://www.sa.equestrian.org.au/content/policies-bylaws>:

- Honorary Membership
- Conflict of Interest
- Governance Management Framework
- Work Health & Safety Policy
- Delegation of Authority
- Expenses Reimbursement Procedure
- Social Media Policy

It should also be noted that the Lightning Safety Protocol & the Catastrophic Fire Rating documents have been removed from the website as the information contained in these documents was out of date. These documents will now be considered as part of the Risk Register review.

Whilst all ESA policies have now been reviewed with a designated review date for each document, the ESA Board will continually review these policies.

Governance Review Implementation Plan

The ESA Board continues to implement the Governance Review Implementation Plan. This plan focuses on governance policies, processes and practices. The Board is very pleased to announce that we are now nearing the completion of the plan and hope to finalise it in the coming months.

Thankyou

On behalf of the ESA Board, I take this opportunity to thank all of our renewed and new members for their continued support and engagement. I also thank all of our volunteer Discipline Committee members who put so much of their personal time and effort into supporting ESA and its membership.

Kind regards



Craig

Craig Hannam

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