



2026 BARE EQUESTRIAN HORSE OF THE YEAR

Judges : Childs/Junior Classes

Graham Smith - NSW
Claire Reynolds - TAS

Laura Conroy - VIC
Kylee Chandler - QLD

Judges: Show Hunter, Show Horse & Riding Classes

Michael Myers - QLD Tracie-Lee Wells - NSW
Jacqueline Johnson - VIC Alyson Emery - SA

GENERAL RULES AND CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

PROVISIONAL TIMETABLE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Friday 11 Sep 26	Indoor Arena	All National Qualifying Childs classes
Saturday 12 Sep 26	Indoor Arena	All National Qualifying Classes and Rider classes
Sunday 13 Sep 26	Indoor Arena	All National Qualifying Classes and Rider classes

FEES PAYABLE BY THIS EXHIBITOR

Compulsory Administration Fee per exhibitor	\$55.00
Compulsory Swabbing Levy per horse	\$12.00
Compulsory Volunteer Levy per exhibitor	\$10.00

ENTRY FEES

Riding Classes	\$75.00
Childs/Junior Qualifying Classes	\$75.00
Show Horse & Show Hunter Qualifying classes	\$75.00

STABLING & CAMPING FEES

Stables	\$47.00 per stable per night –allocations to be booked at the time of entry via Nominate
Stable Bond	\$100.00 per stable – refundable when cleaned
Shavings	\$18.00 per bag Must be purchased from SIEC 4 bags are compulsory with booking of stables
Camp Site	\$39.00 per night – to be allocated by the OC
Cabin	\$56.00 per night (2 single beds)
Cabin Key Bond	\$50.00 per cabin – refundable when key returned
Day Stay	\$18.00 per horse per day – if stables are not booked then you must pay this fee.

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

The Equestrian NSW Show Horse of the Year (HOTY) is to be run under Equestrian Australia (EA) rules and any other rules formulated by the Organising Committee (OC). We strongly recommend that all competitors obtain a copy of the relevant EA Rules through the Equestrian NSW website

www.nsw.equestrian.org.au.

It is a condition of entry that the owners and exhibitors are familiar with and abide by the EA Show Horse Rules and rules that may be introduced by the OC.

These Rules are to be read in conjunction with the EA Disciplinary By-Laws, Member Protection Policy and Medication Control Policy. Ignorance of the rules will not be accepted as an excuse for any breach of the rules. The appointment of a Steward or other Official, whether or not provided for in these rules, does not absolve the competitor from such responsibility.

MEMBERSHIP & HORSE REGISTRATION

All owners, riders and horses must have full registration, a necessary competition license and financial with Equestrian NSW.

Horses must be owned or leased by a financial member of Equestrian NSW.

Horses can only be shown at the HOTY by a financial member of Equestrian NSW. Show Horse, Show Hunter, Childs/Junior, Leading Rein and Rider of the Year Classes - All riders must be members of Equestrian NSW, (proof of residency maybe requested).

Show Horse, Show Hunter, Childs/Junior and Leading Rein Classes - Horses/Ponies must be currently EA registered and domiciled in NSW (including where appropriate within a 100 km radius of a border) for a total period of 90 days immediately preceding the date of the HOTY. However, if the horse has not competed under saddle (with the exception of horse racing) in any state prior to purchase and is registered and eligible/qualified in NSW by closing date of entries it shall be eligible to compete in the HOTY.

Show Horse, Show Hunter, Childs/Junior and Leading Rein Classes – Horse/Pony must be 3 years of age or over at 1 August 2026.

Show Horse, Show Hunter, Childs/Junior and Leading Rein - If a horse has competed in a qualifying class at an EA HOTY in the current year in another State it is not eligible to compete at Equestrian NSW HOTY in the same calendar year.

Rider Classes - If a rider has competed in another states HOTY in the current year in a qualifying class in another State they are not eligible to compete in Equestrian NSW HOTY in the same calendar year.

Show Hunters – If a horse/pony is entered as a Show Hunter at a State HOTY, it will be precluded from entering the Equestrian NSW Horse of the Year as a Show Horse.

If a Judge knowingly permits an ineligible exhibit to compete, the Judge, the Exhibitor and the Competitor may be held in breach of the rules.

HOTY Event Date – Commencing 10:00am on Thursday 10 September 2026

90 days prior to the Event for all interstate transfers – Thursday 12 June 2026

AGE OF RIDERS

Riders may only compete in the class for which they are eligible. Age is as at 1 January 2026.

EA SHOW HORSE RULES

This event is conducted under the Equestrian Australia Show National Show Horse Rules, the EA General Regulations and any other rules the committee introduce for this event.

[EA NATIONAL SHOW HORSE RULES CLEAN JANUARY2026 \(1\).pdf](#)

PROTESTS ABOUT THE APPLICATION OF COMPETITION RULES & CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

Protests may be lodged against any person or body involved in any capacity at an Event or otherwise subject to the jurisdiction of EA including for failure to observe the Constitution and By-Laws, Regulations or Rules or violation of the common principles of behavior, fairness, or accepted standards of sportsmanship, whether occurring during or in connection with an EA event or at any other time.

Protests must be in writing, signed by the authorised person making the protest, and presented personally to the President of the Ground Jury, together with any supporting evidence, names of witnesses and the sum of \$200 (which is non-refundable). The Ground Jury will determine the protest and call such evidence as they see fit.

Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, protests against any of the following matters may only be lodged with the Ground Jury and within the following time limits:

1. Protests concerning the eligibility of a competitor or horse or to the conditions of the arena: not later than 30 minutes before the start of the relevant competition;
2. Protests concerning irregularities or incidents during a competition, or the classification of a competition: not later than 60 minutes after the posting of the results.

PROTESTS AGAINST HEIGHT MEASUREMENT

Any person/individual or state branch has a right to protest the height of a horse and can lodge a protest in accordance with EA National Show Horse Rules 1.5 (accompanied by a \$500 administration fee) for re-measurement of the protested horse. For the horse to be remeasured, it must be remeasured in accordance with the EA Measuring Rules, within 60 days of the protest and at a time mutually agreed upon. It is also a requirement that 2 Official EA Measurers be in attendance along with an EA official as an observer. One measurer must not have measured the horse for its current height certificate.

A maximum of one protest per horse annually, with any 2nd or subsequent protest about the horse, will only be allowed at the discretion of the EA Show Horse Committee.

Horses that are not remeasured within 60 days of the protest date are ineligible to compete at EA events until remeasuring occurs.

A horse that has a protest lodged against it is ineligible to compete at any EA State Horse of the Year Show and/or the EA Australasian Show Horse and Rider Championships until remeasuring has occurred.

For the Equestrian NSW HOTY, all protests must be lodged at least four hours before the advertised time of the start of the Event (not the class).

****Random measuring will take place at this event.**

COMPLAINTS ABOUT ABUSE OF HORSES, COMPETITORS, OFFICIALS

Complaints relating to anything occurring during an event, except any matter which can be or could have been the subject of a protest, may be lodged against, and by, any person or body involved in any capacity at an event

The subject of a complaint may include failing to observe EA rules or may include any contravention of the common principles of behaviour, fairness and accepted standards of sportsmanship as outlined in the EA Codes of Conduct, including such matters as the welfare of the horse, treatment by officials and behavior which is detrimental to the character and/or prejudicial to the interests of the sport and EA.

Mistreatment of a horse, a competitor or an official should be reported immediately to the Ground Jury who will take appropriate action on the day and will, if deemed necessary, refer the matter to the CEO of Equestrian NSW in accordance with EA Disciplinary By-Laws.

Where the matter cannot be, or is not, dealt with by the Ground Jury or other appropriate Event Officials at the event, the complaint must be lodged in writing to the CEO of Equestrian NSW within fourteen (14) days of the occurrence in accordance with EA Disciplinary By-Laws.

HEIGHT CERTIFICATES

All Horses must hold a current EA Height Certificate and be able to produce this if requested when competing at the HOTY.

Any Horse competing at this show must hold and be shown in accordance with the height recorded on its current EA Height Certificate.

Any Horse not in possession of a current EA Height Certificate, will be required to be measured for issue of an EA Height Certificate, prior to the horse competing at this show and the horse shall compete according to the height so measured.

All Height Certificates are valid for a stated period. Competitors shall carry their Performance Cards, EA Height Certificates and EA Membership Card at HOTY and make them available for inspection upon request by the OC or Official.

SWABBING

Drug testing of horses (swabbing) will occur in accordance with the EA National Medical Control Policy and the Equine Anti-Doping and Medical Control rules. Full rule details are available at www.equestrian.org.au

- EA has adopted the anti-doping policy of the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority
- Stimulating or calming drugs in any shape or form are forbidden
- Inquiries pertaining to legality of medication and substances should be made directly to the Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority on 1800 020 506 or www.asada.gov.au
- A full list of prohibited substances can be viewed at <http://www.feicleansport.org/prohibited.html>

HORSE AND RIDER WELFARE

For safety reasons, at all times when riding at an event all riders must wear suitable riding boots with a heel and little or no tread.

Riders must be mounted on entering and leaving the arena on penalty of elimination.

In the event of a rider fall, the rider must be checked out by the Event Paramedic and passed to continue riding at the Event. **If the rider fails to report to the Paramedic or fails to cooperate with the Paramedic, the OC or Ground Jury will eliminate the competitor for the remainder of the Event.**

If during a workout, or on the circle there is a fall of horse and/or rider it will entail elimination from that class.

If a horse leaves the workout area, other than at the direction of a judge or official, it will entail elimination from that class.

The Judge has the power to eliminate a horse or rider if it is deemed by the judge to be erratic and unruly.

APPROVED SAFETY HELMETS

Approved Safety helmets must be worn at all times when riding. The retaining harness must be secured and fastened at all times. Riders without approved headgear shall be ineligible to compete until rectified.

ENTRIES

The Exhibitor shall ensure that horse and Competitor are entered and shown only in the correct classes, and that the horse is entered and shown under its full EA registered name. Riders should be declared at the time of entries and riders must be current Competitor members at time of entry. Any changes must be notified prior to the horse competing.

Entries must be completed by the owner or the owners immediate family.

A horse is ineligible to compete if its brands and/or markings differ from those set out on its Registration Papers.

No Competitor/Exhibitor shall deface or alter EA Registration Papers, EA Performance Cards or EA Height Certificates. The Judge's decision shall be final.

Stallions are not permitted in show horse classes

ADDITIONAL RULES

The committee reserves the right to accept or reject entries without giving a reason or make changes to this schedule. By lodging entries, exhibitors agree to be bound by these terms and conditions.

No badge, patch, pin or emblem of any kind may be worn on a rider's jacket.

CLOSE OF ENTRIES

Entries close midnight Monday 24 Aug 26. All fees must be paid at the time of entry via www.nominate.com.au

REFUND POLICY

Entry fees will not be refunded after the close of entries.

ACCEPTANCES

Confirmation and a receipt of your entries will be emailed back to you via nominate. If there are any errors or if you do not receive confirmation of your entries, competitors must notify the Committee by email within one (1) week after the closing date of entries. The onus is on the competitor to ensure they have been entered correctly, please make sure you use a current valid email address with your entries.

COMPULSORY FEES

All competitors must pay compulsory fees, including a non-refundable administration fee of \$55.00 per Exhibitor at the time of entry.

SELECTION OF JUDGES

All judges from the Equestrian Australia state and national list were selected randomly by the EA National Committee Chair and contacted by Equestrian Australia in order of the selection until there were four accepting judges.

PRESENTATIONS

Presentations will take place at the completion of each class/competition and participation is compulsory.

COMPETITOR NOTICE BOARD

All official notices, time changes etc will be displayed on the Notice Board at the Event Office. Competitors are asked to check regularly.

INDOOR ARENA PRACTICE TIME

Please refer to notices at the Event Office which will be located at the Indoor Arena for times.

The Indoor arena use is not to be used for working down horses, but rather to familiarise them with the competition venue.

There are several arenas that will be available to exercise horses.

WORKOUTS

All Show Horse, Show Hunter and Childs/Junior classes (including Leading Rein and Rider classes) will have a set workout that will be included in the show catalogue.

OWNER/RIDER

Horses must be owned and registered in the name of the competitor or an immediate family member (mother, father, brother, sister, grandmother, grandfather).

CHILDS/ JUNIOR

A person who is under eighteen (18) years of age. Age determined as at 1 January 2026.

QUALIFIERS

Winners, runners up and third place in the open show horse, open show hunter, leading rein, open riders and Child's/ Junior classes will be expected to represent New South Wales at the 2026 Equestrian Australia Show Horse and Rider Championships.

OPEN OR HUNTER

Horses are to be shown as either Show Horse or Show Hunter (not both).

ASSEMBLY IN THE MARSHALLING AREA

Exhibitors should have their horses in the Marshalling Area not later than 10 minutes prior to the start of their class. Any exhibitors not present with their horse at the time of the commencement of their class may miss their event. No refunds will be given for any missed events. Horses compete in allocated catalogue number order.

HORSE WELFARE

The lunging of horses is only permitted in the round yards. Horses may only be lunged for 1 (one) hour at a time and a maximum of 2 (two) hours in a 24 hour period. Lunging compromising the welfare of the horse will be referred to the Ground Jury and may result in elimination of the horse from the competition.

INDEMNITY

Riders and/or owners whose entries have been accepted, undertake to indemnify Equestrian NSW, SIEC, the OC and Officials against all claims, losses, suits and damages made against or suffered by the Committee by reason of any negligent act or omission on the part of any riders, trainers or attendants whilst they are attending, riding or otherwise handling a horse, and agree that any act or omission on the part of such riders or attendants found in any action against the Committee to be negligent, shall be deemed to have been negligent for the purpose of any claim under this indemnity. Riders are required to sign the declaration form included in the entry section. Neither Equestrian NSW, SIEC, nor the Organising Committee or their appointed officials accept any liability for any accident, theft or illness to horses, riders, grooms or any person or property whatsoever.

Important Notes: • Article 116 of the EA General Regulations, which apply to this event, entitles the Organising Committee in its absolute and unfettered discretion to reject any entry, even after an entry has been accepted. • This Competition Schedule is subject to change as Sponsorship Agreements are finalised. • The Organising Committee reserves the right to change the judges and/or alter the timetable.

ACCOMMODATION

Competitors staying at the venue must pay the camping or cabin hire fees at the time of entry. Cabins are to be booked and selected at the time of entry. A map will be available via Nominate with the cabins available for selection. There are a limited number of cabins, and it will be a first in best dressed policy.

STABLING AND CAMPING

Competitors are required to book their stables and camping when entering the event via Nominate.

***Provisional Timetable

All classes will take place in the Indoor arena.

Friday 11th

	Class	Judge 1	Judge 2	Judge 3
Q01.	Childs/Junior Open Small Pony ne 12h	Graham Smith	Laura Conroy	Claire Reynolds
Q02.	Childs/ Junior Medium Open Pony over 12h ne 13h	Kylee Chandler	Graham Smith	Laura Conroy
Q03.	Childs/Junior Large Open Pony over 13h ne 14h	Claire Reynolds	Kylee Chandler	Graham Smith
Q04.	Child's/Junior Small Open Galloway over 14hh ne 14.2h	Laura Conroy	Claire Reynolds	Kylee Chandler
Q05.	Child's/Junior Large Open Galloway over 14.2hh ne 15h	Graham Smith	Laura Conroy	Claire Reynolds
Q06.	Child's/Junior Small Open Hack over 15h ne 16h	Kylee Chandler	Graham Smith	Laura Conroy
Q07.	Child's/Junior Large Open Hack over 16h	Claire Reynolds	Kylee Chandler	Graham Smith
Q08.	Childs/Junior Small Show Hunter Pony ne 12h	Laura Conroy	Claire Reynolds	Kylee Chandler
Q09.	Child's/Junior Medium Show Hunter Pony over 12h ne 13h	Graham Smith	Laura Conroy	Claire Reynolds
Q10.	Child's/Junior Large Show Hunter Pony over 13h ne 14h	Kylee Chandler	Graham Smith	Laura Conroy
Q11.	Child's/Junior Small Show Hunter Galloway over 14h ne 14.2h	Claire Reynolds	Kylee Chandler	Graham Smith
Q12.	Child's/Junior Large Show Hunter Galloway over 14.2h ne 15h	Laura Conroy	Graham Smith	Kylee Chandler
Q13.	Child's/Junior Small Show Hunter Hack over 15h ne 16h	Brooke Higgins	Laura Conroy	Claire Reynolds
Q14.	Child's/Junior Large Show Hunter Hack over 16h	Kylee Chandler	Graham Smith	Laura Conroy

Saturday 13	Class			
Q15	SMALL SHOW HACK OVER 15h ne 16h	Michael Myers	Tracie-Lee Wells	Jacqueline Johnson
Q16	LARGE SHOW PONY over 13h ne 14h	Alyson Emery	Michael Myers	Tracie-Lee Wells
Q17	SMALL SHOW GALLOWAY over 14h ne 14.2h	Jacqueline Johnson	Alyson Emery	Michael Myers
Q18	RIDER 15, 16 & 17 YEARS	Tracie-Lee Wells	Jacqueline Johnson	Alyson Emery
Q19	SMALL SHOW PONY NE 12h (rider 14yrs & under)	Michael Myers	Tracie-Lee Wells	Jacqueline Johnson
Q20	LARGE SHOW HACK OVER 16h	Alyson Emery	Michael Myers	Tracie-Lee Wells
Q22	First Ridden Show Hunter Pony not exceeding 12.2hh	Jacqueline Johnson	Alyson Emery	Michael Myers
Q23	MEDIUM SHOW PONY over 12h ne 13h	Tracie-Lee Wells	Jacqueline Johnson	Alyson Emery
Q24	LARGE SHOW GALLOWAY OVER 14.2h ne 15h	Michael Myers	Tracie-Lee Wells	Jacqueline Johnson
Q25	RIDER 5 & UNDER 9 YEARS	Alyson Emery	Michael Myers	Tracie-Lee Wells
Q26	ADULT RIDER 18 YEARS – 25 YEARS INCL	Jacqueline Johnson	Alyson Emery	Michael Myers
Q27	First Ridden Show Pony not exceeding 12.2hh	Tracie-Lee Wells	Jacqueline Johnson	Alyson Emery
Q28	ADULT RIDER 26 YEARS AND OVER	Michael Myers	Tracie-Lee Wells	Jacqueline Johnson

Sunday 14	Class			
Q29	SMALL HUNTER GALLOWAY over 14h ne 14.2h	Alyson Emery	Michael Myers	Tracie-Lee Wells
Q30	LARGE HUNTER HACK OVER 16hh	Jacqueline Johnson	Alyson Emery	Michael Myers
Q31	LEADING REIN SHOW PONY NE 12h- rider 5yrs &u 8yrs	Tracie-Lee Wells	Jacqueline Johnson	Alyson Emery
Q32	SMALL HUNTER HACK OVER 15h ne 16h	Michael Myers	Tracie-Lee Wells	Jacqueline Johnson
Q33	RIDER 9, 10 & 11 YEARS	Alyson Emery	Michael Myers	Tracie-Lee Wells
Q34	LEADING REIN HUNTER PONY NE 12h	Jacqueline Johnson	Alyson Emery	Michael Myers
Q35	RIDER 12,13 & 14 YEARS	Tracie-Lee Wells	Jacqueline Johnson	Alyson Emery
Q36	MEDIUM HUNTER PONY over 12h ne 13h	Michael Myers	Tracie-Lee Wells	Jacqueline Johnson
Q37	LARGE HUNTER GALLOWAY OVER 14.2h ne 15h	Alyson Emery	Michael Myers	Tracie-Lee Wells
Q38	SMALL HUNTER PONY NE 12h (rider 14yrs & under)	Jacqueline Johnson	Alyson Emery	Michael Myers
Q39	LARGE HUNTER PONY over 13h ne 14h	Tracie-Lee Wells	Jacqueline Johnson	Alyson Emery

