



EQUESTRIAN
NEW SOUTH WALES

AWARDS NIGHT



08 | AUGUST | 2025

WEST HQ | ROOTY HILL



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Sue Cunningham
Alison McLean
Nicola Rockwell
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SERVICE TO SPORT AWARD WINNERS

Edwena Mitchell - Jumping

Edwena Mitchell has been recognised for her exceptional Services to Sport in jumping. Her boundless enthusiasm and energy are infectious. She has a can-do attitude that makes things happen in the equestrian community. Edwena has successfully organised a diverse array of events, including the Waratah and Willinga World Cup, State Championships, and Australian Championships. She is a steward and can often be seen with her yellow vest at the practice arena and around the grounds. Her extensive experience is further highlighted by her service on various boards and committees.



Pamela Russell-Green - Dressage

Pamela has contributed to the sport of dressage over countless years and in a multitude of capacities. Pamela has been involved with Sugarloaf Dressage Club since its first competition in September 1993 and continues to be involved today in a capacity of Technical Delegate, securing sponsorship and organising prizes and HOTY trophies. She was President of Sugarloaf DC for many years and remains a committee member and is a Life member. Pamela introduced YH classes, YR classes and Pony classes to the competitions at Sugarloaf. She is the driver behind their protocol days and training days at SIEC.



Danielle Duprez - Show Horse

Danielle is an outstanding and respected member of the show horse community, known for her unwavering dedication and generous contribution to the sport. As both a qualified judge and experienced coach, Danielle consistently gives her time and expertise to support riders, improve standards, and help develop the next generation of competitors. Her passion for the show horse discipline is evident in everything she does—from officiating with professionalism and integrity to coaching with care and commitment.



Ian Seppelt - Eventing

Ian Seppelt's medical expertise has been invaluable to numerous Organising Committees, offering critical support at events with a deep understanding of the unique demands of Eventing. His calm presence, professionalism, and willingness to assist wherever needed make him an essential part of the team behind the scenes. The Seppelt family as a whole have long been committed contributors to the sport, generously giving their time across many volunteer roles.



Helen Batson - Para Equibilty

Helen's unwavering dedication, enthusiasm, and service to Dressage and Para Dressage are truly inspiring. Her commitment to advancing the sport and making a meaningful impact shines through every initiative she supports. She embodies selfless leadership—advocating passionately and creating opportunities for athletes to excel, while bringing communities together around shared values of perseverance and respect. Through her efforts, Helen has not only raised the profile of Dressage but has also inspired countless others to generously share their time and talents.



Verity Muscat - Marketing

Verity and her husband Chris run a digital business called Pixeleight and have been incredibly generous in supporting Equestrian NSW. Verity has gone above and beyond, volunteering her time and expertise to design a wide range of marketing materials and collateral for ENSW. Her creativity has also extended to developing an engaging Kahoot quizz for the State Interschool Championships. We are extremely fortunate to benefit from her dedication, talent, and ongoing support.



OFFICIAL AWARD WINNERS

Tristyn Lowe - Vaulting

A long-term equestrian, Tristyn has a passion for working with horses to create a strong partnership between horse, lungers and vaulter. An EA Level 1 General coach, Tristyn competed not only in Dressage, show jumping & Eventing but most notably in Vaulting – including international competition for 10 years, with Australian representation at four World Equestrian Games.



Mark Atkins - Jumping

Mark is an FEI and Equestrian Australia course designer, and this year he is recognised as Official of the Year in jumping. Mark exemplifies dedication and professionalism in the equestrian community. Known for his hardworking nature and respectful demeanour, he has earned the admiration of peers and participants alike. As a mentor, Mark provides invaluable guidance, fostering the development of emerging talents in the sport. Mark's contributions are deeply appreciated, making him a respected figure within the equestrian landscape, inspiring excellence and passion in all those he encounters.



Linda Heuke - Eventing

Linda is currently FEI level 2 Eventing Judge and EA level 3 Eventing Judge. Linda usually posts a Facebook photo of "Her View" of the arena at most competitions. Her commitment to Eventing and Dressage is amazing and the kilometres travelled, from her home in Narrabri, to support ENSW Organising Committees, riders is appreciated by all involved.



Show Horse - Ruth Reeves

Ruth plays a vital role in the success of our Show Horse events, stewarding at competitions throughout the year. Her reliability, calm presence, and deep understanding of the sport make her a truly valuable asset to every event she supports. Ruth's quiet dedication and professionalism behind the scenes help ensure everything runs smoothly, and her contribution is both recognised and deeply appreciated by the entire community.



Cathie Drury-Klein - Para Equibilty

Cathie is the heart and soul of every Dressage event she's part of. Her unwavering support and encouragement for officials, organisers, and competitors is deeply felt by everyone. Whether offering a kind word, a quiet gesture of reassurance, or stepping in to help, Cathie makes each person feel valued and capable. What sets Cathie apart is not just her vast knowledge of dressage at all levels, but how she shares that knowledge with generosity, humility, and joy. Her calm, positive energy helps others believe in themselves, whether they're riding for the first time or judging internationally. Cathie never seeks the spotlight, but her impact is undeniable.





VOLUNTEER AWARD WINNERS

Leanne Bell - Dressage

Leanne has been a dedicated Hawkesbury Dressage Club committee member and secretary for the past 13 years. She is a generous contributor and an integral force behind the development and the success of the HDF, now in its fourth year. As secretary, Leanne works throughout the entire eight days of the huge Festival, running the event office, welcoming volunteers and competitors, and addressing logistical needs with professionalism and warmth. In addition to her secretarial duties, she also serves as our Volunteer Coordinator, successfully sourcing and managing well over 50 volunteers each year.



Shannon Sandlin - Vaulting

Shannon Sandlin joined the equestrian vaulting community when her daughter started competing in the sport in 2022. Shannon quickly put her hand up to volunteer and was given the job of assisting with the music for competitions. It wasn't long before she found herself in charge of collating and playing the music at every event. Each vaulter has four pieces of music that must be played while they compete, which requires many of hours collating the music before the event.



Cathy Brown - Jumping

Cathy Brown has dedicated countless years to the equestrian community, becoming a familiar face at events where she works tirelessly behind the scenes. Her efficient scoring keeps the judges' box running smoothly, showcasing her commitment to the sport. As Treasurer for Jumping NSW, Cathy plays a crucial role in organising and ensuring the success of events, contributing significantly as part of a small but effective committee. Additionally, her involvement with the Central Coast Jump Club has been invaluable. Cathy has also supported her husband Rod Brown and daughter Jess Brown, both prominent figures in the equestrian world, further solidifying her legacy in the sport.



Julie Fraser - Eventing

Julie has been a volunteer jump judge for many years. Her love of the sport and appreciation of the dedication it takes to complete drive her to give back whenever she can. Known for her reliability and calm presence, Julie helps events run smoothly and safely. She considers it a privilege to support the riders, horses, and fellow volunteers. Julie is grateful for the friendships and experiences. Julie volunteers at the local Sydney events and has also travelled to Scone, Quirindi and Tamworth.



Show Horse - Georgie Batten

Georgie has been an incredible asset to the show horse community, generously giving her time and support both inside and outside the ring. This season, she played a key role in assisting with the point score tally, demonstrating great attention to detail and a commitment to ensuring fair and accurate results. As a dedicated competitor, Georgie is a familiar face at most shows, always ready to lend a hand wherever needed. Her willingness to volunteer, even while managing her own horses and competition schedule, reflects her passion for the sport and her strong sense of community.



Nastasia Grovenor - Para Equibilty

"Stasi" has shown incredible passion and commitment to Dressage and Para Dressage alike, but especially to Young Dressage Association, always welcoming and supporting judges to foster a positive and inclusive environment. Eager to make a lasting difference, she has introduced meaningful changes and plays an active role on the DNSW Judges Sub-Committee. Stasi is always there and ready to help, bringing enthusiasm and support to the entire community with an optimistic and inviting mindset.





INTERSCHOOL AWARD WINNERS

Primary School Champion - Northholm Grammar

Northholm Grammar School is proud to be named Primary School Champion, with outstanding performances by Amelia Foster and Minnie Pembroke -Birss. Amelia competed in Primary Show Horse, Preliminary Dressage, and 45cm Combined Training, while Minnie impressed across multiple disciplines including Show Horse, Working Hunter, 70cm Show Jumping, Preliminary Dressage, and Combined Training. Their combined results demonstrated skill, dedication, and versatility, securing the championship for Northholm.



Senior School Champion - Macarthur Anglican School

Macarthur Anglican School takes out the Senior School Champion title, thanks to the impressive efforts of riders Alex Oakley and Olivia Rose. Alex showcased her versatility by competing in Combined Training 60cm, 80cm Preliminary Dressage, Working Hunter 1m, and 1.10m Show Jumping. Olivia contributed valuable points in Combined Training 60cm and 80cm Show Jumping. Together, their strong performances across multiple disciplines secured the overall championship for their school.



Sportsmanship Award - Matilda Ewart

Matilda Ewart is the deserving recipient of the Interschool Sportsmanship Award, recognised for her honesty and integrity during competition. Her actions reflected the true spirit of fair play and set a positive example for her peers both in and out of the arena.

Volunteer of the Year - Chanda Brown

Chanda Brown was an incredible volunteer throughout the event, generously giving her time and energy to pencil for most of the day. Her commitment and support were truly appreciated, and we sincerely thank her for the invaluable help she provided.



School Age Volunteer of the Year - Sharon Wu

Sharon, a school-aged volunteer, generously offered her time to pencil on countless occasions throughout the event — often stepping in at the very last minute. Her enthusiasm, reliability, and willingness to help did not go unnoticed. Thank you, Sharon, for your valuable contribution.



SHOW HORSE AWARD WINNERS

Junior Athlete of the Year 5 and under 12 - Hallie Cowdroy

Hallie is an exceptional young talent. Her 24/25 season has been nothing short of remarkable, securing Champion Rider titles at some of the most prestigious events on the calendar, including Horse of the Year, The Summer Show, Owner Rider Championships and Nationals. What sets Hallie apart is not only her natural ability in the saddle but also her incredible work ethic and dedication to her craft.

Junior Athlete of the Year 12 and under 18 - Claudia Hughes

Claudia is a star in the show horse world, earning a reputation for her talent and dedication to the sport. In the 24-25 season, she delivered consistently outstanding performances, being awarded Champion Rider at the Owner Rider Championships, as well as Reserve Champion Rider at both the Summer Show and Horse of the Year. Claudia is quickly making her mark on the sport.

Senior Athlete of the Year over 18 - Taelar Rae Williams

Taelar has had another outstanding year. Throughout the 24–25 season, she has achieved remarkable results—being Champion Rider at the Owner Rider Show, Horse of the Year and the Summer Show, as well as taking out Reserve Champion Rider at Nationals. Taelar's consistency across such prestigious events reflects not only her talent in the saddle but also the commitment she brings to her training and preparation.

Owner Rider of the Year - Hallie Cowdroy - Yarra Heights Playmate

Hallie has had an incredible year aboard Yarra Heights Playmate. Their strong partnership and standout performances throughout the season have earned Hallie the well-deserved title of Owner Rider of the Year. Hallie has shown exceptional dedication, skill, and pride in presenting her pony to the highest standard. Her hard work and passion for the sport continue to shine through in every competition.

Show Horse of the Year - Hibrie Coco Ribbon

Hibrie Coco Ribbon has had an outstanding year. At the Summer Show, she was awarded Champion Small Open Pony, Child's Small Pony, Leading Rein, showcasing her versatility and elegance in every appearance, Horse of the Year, where she claimed two Champion titles and a third placing. At Nationals taking out three major class wins—Small Open Pony, Child's Small Pony, and Leading Rein. Her achievements are a testament to her quality, temperament, and the dedication of her rider and support team.

Show Hunter of the Year - Allambie Park Euphoria

Allambie Park Euphoria has enjoyed an impressive year, delivering consistent and polished performances. This stunning grey mare was awarded Champion Small Show Hunter Galloway at Horse of the Year and went on to claim Reserve Champion at the National, standing out among strong competition. A true picture of elegance and presence, Allambie Park Euphoria is not only beautifully conformed but also showcases exceptional movement and ringcraft. Her success this season is a testament to his quality and the dedication of his rider and team behind the scenes.





DRESSAGE AWARD WINNERS

Dressage Rider of the Year under 21 - Maddison Vallender

Maddison has had an impressive 18 months competing with her stunning horses Rubinell and Ronan R. Maddy is a young rider already competing at Grand Prix level at the age of 18. Maddy is currently ranked 2nd in the world in FEI - Juniors world rankings on her horse Rubinell (recently sold), and 30th at FEI - U25 with Ronan R. The combination of Maddy and Rubinell made its international show debut in February 2024 at the CDI Willinga Park, where she won the junior team and individual test and the freestyle.



Dressage Senior Rider of the Year - Robbie McKinnon

Robbie was the winner of the Dressage NSW Medium Horse of the Year on QS Sierra and the Dressage NSW Advanced Horse of the Year on SPH Fortino. Robbie also won DNSW Gold Performance medals with Divine 18, SPH Fortino, QS Sierra and a silver on Felicity. Robbie is a member of the DNSW High Performance Team and is a professional rider and coach based in the Southern Highlands.



Dressage Horse of the Year - TS Firestorm

TS Firestorm is an impressive 10 year old Hanoverian gelding owned by Cheryl Smith and campaigned Matthew Dowsley. TS Firestorm's performances in 2024/2025 are both outstanding and consistent and were recognised in being awarded the 2024 DNSW FEI Small Tour Horse of the Year. The combination also achieved a DNSW Gold performance medal. The combination had a successful 2025 Sydney CDI with a win in the CDI 1* Inter I and 2nd place in the hotly contested CDI 1* Prix St Georges. TS Firestorm is a confident top level competition horse regularly achieving scores of over 70%.



Dressage Official of the Year - Liz Mudd

Liz Mudd is a volunteer who stands out from the crowd with her warm smile and her vibrant personality. Liz is currently the Vice-President of Alexander Park Dressage Club and has been on the committee for over 15 years. She is an FEI steward, an EA steward and a Para steward who regularly attends competitions, both local competitions and major shows such as the Sydney CDI and NSW and Australian Championships. Liz is an official EA measurer and an accredited EA coach. As if that is not enough Liz is currently finalising her swabbing steward credentials. Little wonder Liz Mudd is the dressage Volunteer of the Year.



Dressage Volunteer of the Year - Fiona David

Fiona David is President of Bowral Dressage Club, and has been the driving force behind the success of this proactive club in the Southern Highlands. She was instrumental in securing a one million dollar grant for the construction of a club house for Bowral DC, which entailed an inordinate amount of paperwork and red tape including the renewal of the lease for the grounds with the Bong Bong Race Club. A DA was required, builders and draftspersons engaged as well as a myriad of legal work to finalise the project. It took well over a year of demanding work from Fiona.



COACHING AWARD WINNERS

Outstanding Achievement – Stuart Tinney OAM

As an Olympic Gold and Bronze Medalist, an EA Level 3 Eventing Specialist Coach and Coach Educator, a Level 4 Cross Country Course Designer and a rider who continues to win at an elite level, Stuart Tinney OAM needs no introduction. Together, with wife Karen, Stuart focuses on campaigning eventers and providing an elite training centre for up-and-coming performance riders. Taking Coaching and Leadership to a new level, this year Stuart has taken on the role of 'Eventing High Performance Technical Lead'. This role will monitor National Squad Development and Performance, whilst providing technical coaching direction to athletes and their personal coaches. With Stuart's vast experience and knowledge in riding, coaching and course design this role will identify and develop the Eventing Athletes for years to come at World Games and Olympics.



Service to Coaching- Tristyn Lowe

Tristyn is a passionate advocate for sport, movement, and athlete care. A former international equestrian vaulter and National Coach, she has represented Australia at the World Equestrian Games as both competitor and Chef d'Équipe. With a medical degree from the University of Wollongong and a Diploma in Sports Medicine from the IOC, Tristyn blends elite sporting experience with medical expertise. Now a GP and team doctor for Canberra United (A-League Women), she has broad experience in mountain and snow sport injuries. Tristyn is committed to helping others enhance performance and quality of life through movement, musculoskeletal care, and adventure.



Lifetime Achievement- George Sanna

George Sanna has the rare ability to cut through the noise, offering clear, effective principles that help riders achieve real success. Despite a crumbling back and velvet hands, he represented Australia at two Olympics, a World Championship, and three World Cup Finals—choosing horses over a law career. As a coach, George brought still legs, steely eyes, and a belief in flatwork that reshaped Australian jumping. Named Australian Coach of the Year in 2010, he's guided riders like Edwina Tops-Alexander to the top.

As George says: "Never be surprised by what was always going to happen."



Service to Community- Jessica Meredith

Jessica Meredith is an accomplished international driver and the current Australian Small Pony Carriage Driving Champion, but her greatest legacy lies in the way she gives back to the sport that has shaped her. As an EA Level 1 Driving Coach, she works with drivers of all ages and stages through grassroots clinics, youth camps, and club days — always focused on building confidence, connection, and a genuine passion for the sport. Beyond coaching, she has championed the sport, quietly advocating for the discipline of Driving on national boards and local committees — creating pathways for participation, growth, and community. Her commitment to coaching is driven by a belief that supporting others strengthens the sport as a whole — and that lasting impact starts with giving back.



PARA EQUITILTY AWARD WINNERS

FEI Para Rider of the Year - Lisa Martin

Lisa Martin is a true force in Australian Para Dressage. At the 2024 Paris Paralympics, Lisa and her horse Vilaggio wowed us all, finishing fifth in the Grade V Freestyle with a fantastic score of 71.905%, an example of her dedication to excellence. This award is a small way of recognising her achievements and to say thanks for the inspiration she brings to the arena.



EA Para Rider of the Year - Felicity Weal

Felicity Weal and her talented horse, FTF Florita (affectionately known as Pepper), demonstrated exceptional skill and dedication in Para Dressage. Receiving outstanding performances, this award acknowledges their achievements and the hard work they've invested to reach this milestone.



Virtus Rider of the Year - Grace Murphie-Ryan

Grace Murphie-Ryan is being recognised for her achievements in Virtus Equestrian sport. Grace and her horse (Pemberton Show Bizz) have had consistent strong performances and achieved excellent results demonstrating skill and determination, always doing so with a high standard of presentation that impresses judges and inspires fellow riders. This award celebrates Grace's success and we look forward to her continued journey ahead.



Equibilty Rider of the Year - Vicky Buckley

Vicky Buckley has achieved many great results in the Equibilty program. She exemplifies the values of inclusivity, determination, and excellence in Equestrian sport. Her strong performances and commitment to personal growth highlight her passion for riding and her dedication to achieving her best. This award celebrates Vicky's well-earned success and her continued commitment to progress.



Support Worker or Groom Recognition Award - Maddison McAndrew

Maddison is a dedicated professional who consistently goes above and beyond to support riders and care for horses. Her attention to detail and focus on animal welfare sets her apart. With experience across Australia and internationally, including the Paris Paralympic Games, Maddison brings professionalism and compassion to every role. Her tireless work ethic and genuine care make her an invaluable team member and truly deserving of this recognition.





VAULTING
NEW SOUTH WALES

VAULTING AWARD WINNERS

Junior Vaultler of the Year - Marlia Stewart

In March, at just 15, Marly was invited onto the six-week European Vaulting Circuit, representing Australia and competing in France, Austria, and Italy. At the first competition in Saumur, France, she placed 2nd in Freestyle with a 7.5 and 4th overall, earning the score needed to move into 2*. She then competed in her first 2* in Austria and again in Italy, scoring a commendable 6.2. In June, fresh from Europe, Marly entered the NSW State Championships in Advanced and won — this time on her boy Rapha, the horse she helped train. Marly is booked to return to Saumur in 2026 as she begins her campaign to qualify for the 2027 Junior World Championships.



Youth Vaultler of the Year - Ella Darmanin

Ella Darmanin has delivered an outstanding 2024 season, placing 1st in every competition she entered, including the CVI 1* and 2* at the Great Southern CVI, Advanced at the Australian National Vaulting Championships, and the Christmas Competition. Her success reflects her dedication, precision, and artistry in the arena. Ella had been preparing to represent Australia at the 2025 Youth World Championships in Austria, a goal paused due to an ACL injury earlier this year. Despite this setback, Ella has shown incredible resilience in her recovery and is determined to return stronger than ever.



Senior Vaultler of the Year - Ginger Kennett

Ginger Kennett is driven by determination, heart, and the fire to compete at the highest level having just recently returned from her international campaign consisting of The World Cup Final Basel, Wiesbaden Master Class and CHIO Aachen. Ginger is setting her sights firmly on the 2026 World Championships. With a strong foundation built on years of dedication, she is now entering the most focused and ambitious chapter of her athletic journey 2026 -2030. Ginger's campaign for the 2026 World Championships is more than just a training plan — it's a full-scale commitment to excellence.



Horse and Lunger of the Year - Gina Sykes and Springtime Park Rustic Stomp

Springtime Park Rustic Stomp, more fondly known as Rusty, is a very quirky horse well loved by all who get to know him and those in the wider vaulting community. Gina is extremely dedicated and works hard to ensure Rusty is able to perform at his absolute best. Rusty and Gina have formed an incredible partnership over the past 5 years, learning so much from each other, resulting in some fantastic achievements over the last 18 months.





EVENTING AWARD WINNERS

Eventing Junior Rider of the Year Jesper Barrett

Jesper has successfully competed on two horses in 2024 and the first half of 2025 SOMERSBY BELLE, BALLYHOO and SATODAZE.

When not busy Jesper can always be called upon to help at competitions. Jesper has competed in both long and short formats and was the highest place Junior at Sydney 3DE 1*-Long.



Eventing Junior Rider and Horse of the Year Lydia Proctor and SANDHILLS STYLE

Lydia and Sandhills Style, a 16-year-old Thoroughbred/Warmblood owned and ridden by Lydia, had an impressive season in 2024–2025, earning 38 Junior Points. The pair competed at a wide range of major events including Tamworth, National Interschools, Equestriad, Sydney 3DE, ISHE, Sydney Eventing, Quirindi, and Bodangora. Their consistency and commitment across such a demanding calendar highlight their dedication to the sport.



Eventing Horse of the Year KPH KINGFISHER Alexandra Fisher

KPH Kingfisher is an 11-year-old Warmblood X gelding, proudly owned by Alexandra Fisher and ridden by Emma Mason. Bred for eventing, Kingfisher carries exceptional bloodlines—his dam, Sandhills Glamour, is by the renowned Staccato, and she herself was sired by the legendary Kannan. With his proven pedigree and performance, Kingfisher exemplifies the qualities of a top-level event horse.



Eventing Volunteer of the Year - Tina McTavish

Tina has been a dedicated member of the equestrian community for over 25 years. As a founding member of TIE, she has played a vital role in supporting and running events such as Quirindi, EXPO, and ISHE Interschools. Her passion for the sport extends across multiple disciplines—she is actively involved not only in Eventing but also with clubs including Tamworth Dressage Club (TDC) and North/Northwest Show Jump Club (NNWSJC). Tina is a qualified dressage judge and is currently working towards becoming a Technical Delegate (TD), continuing her commitment to the sport through both officiating and volunteering.





JUMPING AWARD WINNERS

Jumping Junior Rider of the Year - Jumping: Reese Keenan

Reese and her horse, PPP Vive Le Mop, have been named the Junior Jumping Rider of the Year for 2024, a testament to their exceptional talent and dedication. Their success at several prestigious events, including clinching the NSW State Title for junior riders, has made them a formidable duo in the equestrian scene. Frequently seen on the winner's podium, Reese and PPP Vive Le Mop demonstrate a remarkable partnership built on hard work and mutual trust. Their achievements reflect not only their skill but also their commitment to excellence in the sport.



Jumping Young Rider of the Year - Jumping: Charlie Magnier

We celebrate Charlie Magnier for his remarkable achievements in 2024. With unwavering focus and commitment, Charlie has excelled in numerous prestigious competitions, including the Sydney Royal, Jumping at Willinga, the NSW State Titles, and the Australian Titles. His determination and dedication to the sport have not only resulted in impressive performances but have also inspired his peers. Charlie's passion for equestrian excellence and his relentless pursuit of success make him a deserving recipient of this award. Congratulations, Charlie, on your outstanding accomplishments.



Jumping Amateur Rider of the Year - Jumping: Courtney Cusack

Courtney and her talented horse Sandhills Slide won the Jumping NSW Amateur Series for 2024. Their journey to this prestigious title has been marked by a series of solid performances at various events throughout the year. Courtney's skillful riding and understanding of Sandhills Slide's capabilities have contributed significantly to their success. Their partnership was characterised by trust and communication, essential elements for achieving excellence in show jumping. Each event they participated in showcased their ability to navigate challenging courses with precision, earning them high placings. The duo's consistent results reflect their dedication to training and improvement, making them a standout team in the amateur jumping series for 2024.



Jumping Senior Rider of the Year - Jumping: Tom McDermott

It is a pleasure to recognise Tom McDermott for his outstanding achievements in 2024. As a senior rider, Tom has demonstrated remarkable skill and dedication, achieving significant results at prestigious events such as Jumping@Willinga, the NSW State Titles, the Australian Titles, and Summer Classic. His unwavering commitment and hard work over the years have solidified his reputation as a strong competitor in the equestrian community. Tom's passion for the sport and relentless pursuit of excellence inspire those around him.



Jumping Horse of Year - Cooley Gangster

This evening we acknowledge the significant accomplishments of Cooley Gangster, a distinguished competitor in the equestrian arena. At Willinga, Cooley Gangster demonstrated a strong performance. He secured notable results at the NSW State Titles, the Australian Titles, and the Summer Classic. This horse has consistently exhibited a high level of skill, establishing himself as a formidable equine presence in the sport. Cooley Gangster's achievements reflect not only his remarkable capabilities but also set a high standard within the equestrian community.





LIFE MEMBER AWARD WINNERS

Shenae Lowings

Shenae Lowings is an Australian Eventing Rider. She competed at the 2022 World Championships in Pratoni del Vivaro and won the CCI4*-L at the 2022 Melbourne International 3 Day Event. Lowings represented Australia at the 2024 Summer Olympics in Paris. Initially named as a reserve for the eventing team, she was called up to compete in the show-jumping phase after Kevin McNab withdrew from the competition.



Hilary Scott

Hilary Scott is an Australian show-jumping rider from Moree, NSW, now based in the Netherlands. Riding her home-bred mare Oaks Milky Way, Scott was selected for the Australian team at the 2024 Paris Olympic Games, forming part of the nation's first all-female Olympic jumping team. A dedicated athlete and breeder, she continues to represent Australia at top international events.



Thaisa Erwin

Thaisa Erwin is a British-born Australian show-jumping rider who represented Australia at the 2024 Paris Olympic Games. Originally from Aberdeen, Scotland, and raised in Russia and rural New South Wales, Erwin transitioned from dressage to show-jumping early in her career. After turning professional in 2006, she built a successful international riding and training career based in the USA. Selected for Australia's first all-female Olympic jumping team, Erwin competed aboard Hialita B, proudly flying the flag for Australia on the world stage.



Amber Fuller

Amber Fuller is a highly respected Australian show-jumping rider based in New South Wales. She rose to prominence after winning the 2018 Australian Senior Championship with her home-bred horse CP Aretino, and has since gone on to secure multiple World Cup Qualifier victories with Nopal Van Tallaert. Known for her consistency and professionalism, Fuller has represented Australia at top-level international competitions, including the 2024 CSIO5* Nations Cup in Rome and was a travelling reserve for 2024 Olympics.





LIFE MEMBER AWARD WINNERS

Vincent Roche

Vince has been a pillar of the eventing community for over 30 years, contributing across multiple roles with unwavering dedication and expertise. He has served as President of the Berrima Horse Trials for more than three decades, as well as holding positions as President and Vice President of Eventing NSW. Vince is also an active member of the Equestrian Australia Safety and Medical Committee, bringing his medical background to the sport as a doctor at numerous official competitions. As a Level 3 FEI Course Designer and Technical Delegate, Vince's influence extends well beyond Australia. He has officiated at countless events, both nationally and internationally, and has played a key role in supporting the development of eventing in emerging FEI nations across Asia. His commitment, versatility, and leadership have made a lasting impact on the sport, and his contribution continues to shape the future of eventing both at home and abroad.

Bronwen and John Lowe

Bronwen and John Lowe have been at the heart of Australian Equestrian Vaulting since its inception in 1982. As sporting administrators, coaches, lungers, stewards, and coach educators, they have worn many hats — always leading with generosity, integrity, and passion. They have served as mentors and role models to countless athletes and volunteers across generations. Together with their daughter Tristyn, they established the National Vaulting Workshop, a cornerstone event held annually for over 15 years. They also facilitated international clinics, welcoming vaulters, coaches, and lungers from around the world, helping shape the future of the sport in Australia. As Chef d'Équipe at many international competitions, hosts of numerous State and National events, and organisers of German cultural exchange programs, Bronwen and John have consistently gone above and beyond for the vaulting community. Equestrian Vaulting in Australia simply would not be where it is today without their unwavering dedication, tireless work, and love for the sport. Their legacy spans over 35 years and continues to inspire all who follow.



EQUESTRIAN NEW SOUTH WALES

CONTACT US

Sydney International Equestrian Centre
Saxony Road, Horsley Park New South Wales 2175

P: 02 9620 2660

E: info@ensw.org.au

W: <https://www.nsw.equestrian.org.au/>



Equestrian NSW



[equestriannsw](https://www.instagram.com/equestriannsw)



DRIVING
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