



Equestrian Australia Coaching Committee (EACC) - UPDATE

Meeting Held: Tuesday 14 April 2020
Below is a summary of the meeting

MEETING DISCUSSION

Update from EA office

- **Sasha Ulasowski** has extended her leave for a further 12 weeks to mid-July.
- **Member engagement** – EA are collaborating with the States through a weekly CEO meeting to discuss the impact of Covid-19 and any membership engagement opportunities that may be available. The Coaching administrators across the network are staying connected and sharing ideas and advertising opportunities where appropriate.
- **Nominate/online learning** - Content has been developed and shared with the EACC for the compulsory parts of Orientation to Coaching. There are some additions that are required following feedback. This will form the foundation for developing the 'dry' content for online coach updates and CE/SSTA updates so that face to face professional development can be more targeted. Discussions have started with Nominate to improve efficiencies and reporting capabilities including ordering of resources online, capturing of Coach and CE/SSTA Update information and developing an opportunity for online learning through MyEA. This is not a Learning Management System but a simple solution to the current Covid-19 environment that will allow compulsory updates to take place.
- **FAQs pages** – a large volume of questions have been received from the coaching community specifically around the 2 topics below. Responses to these questions and concerns have been provided on the FAQ coaching pages:
 - First aid for remote lessons
 - Insurance for online coaching

Review of Video Assessment

The EACC discussed the guidelines for video assessment in the Covid-19 period of hibernation.

The EACC agreed that CEs can determine which coaching candidates they will accept video assessments from and agreed it is more appropriate for coaches who have some experience and have attended a number of face to face assessments. The appropriateness and competency of the candidate should always be considered. The current guidelines allow for up to 50% of assessments to be conducted via video.

It was agreed that the current guidelines should remain to allow candidates to continue the education pathway. It is also important to remember there is a difference between assessment and training. Video assessment is appropriate as someone is assessed as component or not. When training, feedback should be provided in real time and this should be conducted face to face or during a 'live' coaching session using technology.

It was agreed that the requirements to complete group lessons should not be made flexible despite the current social distancing rules in place and candidates will need to wait until restrictions are lifted to complete this part of their assessment.

Update on TAE and ASQA alignment.

A meeting of the TAE working party was held. It was agreed that further information was required before this project could progress and a Business Case was requested. The Business Case will include the following:

- Alternative modelling on how EA can be involved with ASQA - What are the pathways to outcome and the processes to get there
- Expectations of EA to be outlined as part of each modelled scenario including financial implications, resources and risks including assessment/EA Syllabus review requirements to meet ASQA needs including the way it is being delivered
- The options discussed at the meeting include:
 - RTO delivery
 - Aligning EA to an RTO – an MOU, licencing, develop a register of approved RTOs via application etc
 - CE independent delivery
- Who is the competition in this space and what does this look like?
- What are the benefits and impacts on EA eg resources – people, time and money etc

POST MEETING UPDATE: *On 16 April a Business Case was provided to EA - further information was requested. A date for finalising has not yet been confirmed.*

Orientation to EA Coaching Accreditation

There was some intense debate regarding the current structure and process for the Orientation to Coaching course. The debate was centred around what elements are compulsory and which are not.

The EACC discussed that the compulsory 2 Day Orientation to Coaching course was disbanded 8 years ago on the advice of the Australian Sports Commission. The advice was that competency-based training should be flexible in delivery and not mandated. The 2 Day Orientation to Coaching course ceased and EA identified compulsory elements that needed to be delivered prior to commencing Introductory Coaching. These compulsory elements could be delivered in a number of ways and usually over a 3 -4 hour period.

The EACC agreed that these elements are 'dry' and can be delivered online so that greater value is gained from face to face delivery of the practical teaching elements. The compulsory orientation elements include:

- Part 1: Introduction to EA and the EA Coaching Scheme
- Part 2: Coaching Principles, the Role of the Coach and Effective Communication
- Part 3: Safety and Risk Management
- Part 4: Insurance

The change made 8 years ago resulted in other elements of the original compulsory 2 Day Orientation to Coaching course, such as developing lesson plans etc to be worked through with the candidate and their CE in a flexible approach that suited both the candidate and CE. Some states are delivering this in a group setting such as an intensive Introductory Coach workshop, other states are still delivering the compulsory 2 Day Orientation to Coaching course. The discussion focussed on:

1. The workshops have not been compulsory for 8 years and cannot be referred to as such
2. Should these workshops be reinstated as compulsory or not?

It was agreed that the status quo will remain:

- Compulsory elements (outlined above) of Orientation to Coaching to be developed by EA with the potential to deliver online
- Flexible delivery for the remainder of the Introductory Coaching Course is possible by States/Territory Branches, CEs etc. This will allow the opportunity for attendance at Intensive Coaching workshops and/or individual learning

Clarity of role on EACC as a state representative

Members of the EACC were asked to refer to the EACC Charter – the third point under membership: *The EA member States and all representatives understand and agree that representatives are encouraged to relay and lobby respectfully, the views of their State during discussion but when voting all EACC members must vote in the best interests of the coaching scheme and the sport.*

Syllabus review initial meeting

The first meeting of all syllabus working group members is scheduled for Wednesday 29 April at 19:00 AEST. Each working group member has been invited to access a Dropbox file specific to the area they are reviewing and they will also be delivered a hard copy of all relevant resources.

The meeting content will include:

- 2017 Review v 2020 Review
- Phased approach
- Identification of a Chair for each group
- Scheduling of Meetings – working groups and chairs meetings
- Timeframes for delivery of phase 1 (26 June but will be reviewed in May based on progress)
- General items included in the pack:
 - Instructions
 - Working group contacts
 - Who is reviewing what?
 - EA coach Syllabus outline
 - Who can sign what and what level can I coach?
- Syllabus specific content:
 - Review of content only to remove repetition throughout the levels, ensure we are referencing appropriate rules and standards, ensure the syllabus is reflective of current practice etc
 - Where larger changes are being proposed, this should be discussed with the EA office and in the context of wider sport implications
 - Reminder to assess Riding and Horse Management as standalone courses – not everyone completing this education is training to be a coach.
 - Lunging the horse and lunging the rider should be considered as separate certificates before Introductory Coaching
 - Where we are assessing knowledge in the syllabus, we need not only the questions but for the answers to be developed.

Coach, CE & SSTA updates 2020

The EACC discussed the delivery of Coach and CE/SSTA Updates due in 2020. It was agreed in principle that Coach, CE/SSTA updates could be delivered in 2 components:

- Compulsory update information – could be delivered online
- Professional Development opportunities - topics could be determined by the EACC on a bi-annual basis and those wishing to deliver the PD could apply to the EA office to do so.

The following was agreed for implementation 2020/2021:

1. Compulsory components of Coach Updates to be completed every two years with Professional Development to be completed every other year.
2. Compulsory component of 2020 Coach Updates to be developed and delivered online through EA
3. Professional Development topics to be determined by EACC. Individual Coach Educators and State/Territory Branches to apply to the EA office for approval to deliver with courses/workshops commencing in 2021.
4. CE/SSTA renewal dates to be extended by 12 months in light of Covid-19.

Assessment tools review

Depending on the outcome of the Business Case for TAE and ASQA alignment, all assessment tasks may need to be reviewed to align with ASQA requirements. This will not be known until the Business Case has been reviewed and a position has been adopted by EA.

Online waiver availability

This has been on the Active Actions register since 29 August and was put on hold waiting for staffing to be resolved within the EA Office. This has been activated again as a writable document will assist in the current Covid-19 situation.