

ANWEL NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2021

THE GARROCHA

Welcome to our edition of THE GARROCHA! We hope you find these quarterly communications useful and informative. Your editor is Lanie Clark, ANWEL Board Director and Liaison Officer anwelaissonofficer@anwe.org.au. Feedback and contributions are eagerly received.

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ONLINE COMPETITION

Sadly due to the COVID-19 situation, the ANWEL Board recently made the difficult decision to cancel the 2021 National Competition.

We are however very keen in keeping you in the saddle and your spirits up. With the support of a dedicated working group, we are now finalising details for an online competition.

In partnership with Horse Competition Online, ANWEL members will be able to participate in a two phase competition that will be judged by Accredited Judges.

We have endeavoured to make it fun, easy and achievable for you. You can participate from home or at a venue that suits you. And you don't need to be an expert photographer or have any fancy camera equipment.

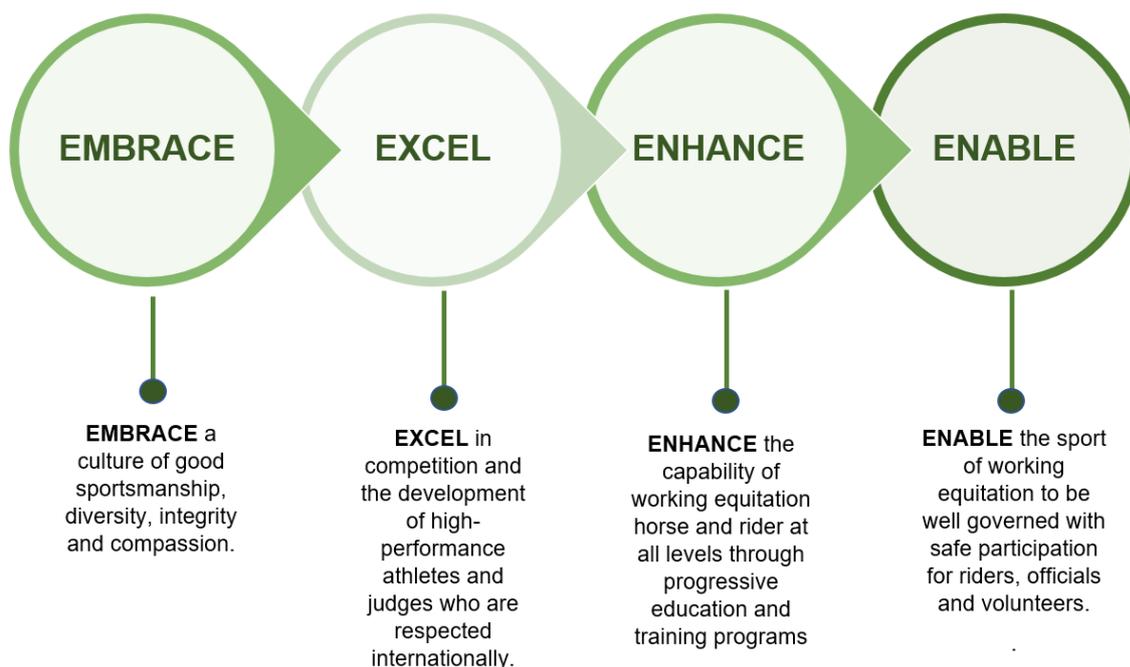
It is hoped most of all that you enjoy the opportunity to challenge each other and get some valuable pointers on your riding skills.

We will be awarding each level, along with the top three scores from each State to go to a State Team Award.

Entries are now open on nominate. Riders will have the **month of October to compete and submit their video's.**

SETTING DIRECTION

Recently we asked you for feedback on the new Strategic Plan – thank you very much to all those that took the time to respond. We were able to gauge where most people think we should be heading and got some valuable responses on what values are important for our sport. The publication of your Strategic Plan is anticipated in September 2021.



ANWEL AND WAVE AMALGAMATION

As you may have heard, we have started discussions with Working Equitation Down Under (WEDU) to consider an amalgamation. The benefits are thought to include:

- consistency in our sport and less confusion
- tremendous potential for growth
- increased international recognition and presence
- utilisation of the incredible talent and volunteers in both organisations
- accredited officials having one organisation to align
- preservation of the culture of working equitation; and importantly
- a unified camaraderie with a love for working equitation

A working group has been formed comprising of three representatives from each Board. The first meeting held on 27 August 2021 was very positive and the importance of keeping everyone informed was identified as a priority. We will be establishing a separate Facebook Page where members of both organisations will be able to get regular updates on progress; as well as a dedicated email address so that you can contribute to this promising initiative.

RULE BOOK AMENDMENTS

We consider the safety and wellbeing of our members a priority. In consideration of risk, current research and safe riding practices the 2020 Rule Book, Section 7 Tack and Attire has been amended as follows:

Riders participating in competitions or events of ANWEL or its affiliated States and Clubs are strongly recommended to wear an approved safety helmet with the chin strap fastened. All safety helmets are to conform with Equestrian Australia standards (refer to Rule 6.2)

It is the responsibility of riders to comply with the Conditions of Entry when participating in any ANWEL National, State or Club competition.

Riders under the age of 18 must wear an approved safety helmet in all phases of all competitions and whenever riding a horse at any ANWEL (or ANWEL affiliate's) event.

The *Akubra* has been removed from the National Uniform.

No changes have been made to the Rulebook relating to State and Club uniform requirements

GETTING INVOLVED

With busy lives it can sometimes be hard to find the time to volunteer. We also like the saying 'ask a busy person'!

We would love your help and for you to get involved in supporting working equitation. Helping us out will enable you to make new contacts, strengthen the sport, develop your skills as well as make you healthy (according to research).

The Board has three subcommittees to support it in developing, promoting and administering working equitation in Australia

- Technical Subcommittee (TSC)
- Education and Performance Subcommittee (EPC)
- Governance Committee (yet to be formed)

If you have skills and experience that will help ANWEL please give us a shout by contacting Lanie e: anwelliaisonofficer@anwe.org.au

UPCOMING AGM

The next ANWEL AGM is scheduled for 9 October 2021, so now is the time to consider nominating as Director. Please contact your State Association or anwelsecretary@anwe.org.au for an application form if you haven't received one already.

Under the constitution, member States, represented by your President will be voting on your behalf. Be sure that you have communicated your consideration on any of the Proposed Resolutions and or Board Nominations through to your State Association.

USEFUL STUFF

Take a little tour of the ANWEL website [here](#) – it's full of useful information that will be relevant and helpful to you, including

- Rule Books and Dressage Tests
- Judge Lists
- Judge Accreditation Framework and Forms
- Course Building Guidelines
- Club Support Pack
- Maneability Icons
- Constitution, Policies, Committee Terms of Reference and much more ...

If you note that any of our stuff is '*not quite right*' please let us know so that we can fix it by contacting Lanie e: anwelliaisonofficer@anwe.org.au

We are soon to be releasing updated and new policies and guidance materials. Please be sure to make yourself acquainted with these important documents.

INSURANCE UPDATE

Confusion regarding Equestrian Australia insurance required that we formulate a clear and consistent message to all States and Clubs. A communication was prepared and sent in collaboration with the ANWEL NSW President to all State Associations and Clubs. In summary, Equestrian Australia insurance will cover Working Equitation events providing endorsement has been received from Equestrian Australia for cattle events as described in the communication.

We are also in the process of exploring with Affinity insurers the opportunity of a national insurance program. The offer includes a staged approach which will enable Clubs to join progressively over the next 18 months - should they choose. We will first need to conduct a proper cost benefit analysis to ensure that adequate cover and value for money is obtained.

SUBMIT A VIDEO OR PHOTO

Want to share your story? How about submitting us an example of your riding skills and or training tips? Send us a YouTube video or Photo to be included in our next GARROCHA. Submit to Lanie e: anwelliaisonofficer@anwe.org.au so we can make you our next showstopper.