

Dressage WA Newsletter

October 2016

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There are still many competitions being held over the next few months and riders should support these events despite the sometimes unpredictable weather.

In this edition we meet Bethany Rainbow. Do you have a great idea for the newsletter? Contact us at www.dressagewa.org.

Message from the DWA Chair - Gill Botten

It was great to see such a high standard of dressage and some lovely young horses at the Masters Series Final, Horseland Young Horse and Penny Hill Park Rising Star competitions last month. Many thanks to all those involved in the officiating and running of these competitions as well as our amazing sponsors who provided some great prizes. Luciano D'Elia, one of our guest judges, has written his comments about young horses later in this newsletter.

I suppose we all thought we would have put away the winter rugs by now but spring is still hiding-at least the flies think it is still winter so there is some advantage to the late season!

The EA Committee elections are coming up so please check the EA website if you are interested in nominating for a position.

We will also shortly be asking for expressions of interest to join a working party to help run the State Dressage Championships in 2017 so look out on the DWA website and EA website for expression of interest if you are willing to help.

Quote for the month:

"The important thing in equestrian science, is not so much the gleaning of new facts, but to discover new ways of thinking about existing ones..."

Charles Harris. 1987. In: Ride With Your Mind by Mary Wanless. Methuen. London

Gill Botten (Chair DWA)



Dressage Western Australia Committee Members

Chair - Gill Botten
Vice Chair – Tracy Spackman
Treasurer - Dinah Fleming

Finance/Treasury - Dinah Fleming
DWA budget management, DDF
accounts, purchase orders and
payments

Issue of Information – Rebecca
DeVries
Website and Facebook

Correspondence - Gill Botten/Jo
Yacopetti
Minutes, Agendas, incoming and
outgoing correspondence.

Business/Strategic Planning - TBA

Events – Working Parties

Club Liaison – Marjory Stanger

Pony Representative – Steph Munro

Official Liaison - Elaine Greene
Judges, Stewards, liaising with other
disciplines, national issues.

High Performance - Gill Botten

EA/EWA - Gill Botten
liaising with EWA Board and CEO,
ADC etc.

Riders Representative - Tracy
Spackman
Includes downgrading applications,
Rider's forum etc.

Performance Trophies/Awards –Val
Mayger

DWA Newsletter - Suzanne Simons

Para Equestrian – Val Mayger

Young and Junior Rider Rep – Natalie
Sakich/Steph Munro

PROJECT NEON



2016 PROJECT NEON FEI SHOWCASE SERIES

16TH OCTOBER 2016
27TH NOVEMBER 2016



PRESENTED BY DRESSAGE WESTERN AUSTRALIA
WWW.DRESSAGEWA.ORG



Meet dressage rider Bethany Rainbow

Bethany and her two horses have shown that dedication and persistence is always rewarded no matter what breed of horse. They also show that distance is no obstacle when you have clear goals.

Tell us about Kellerrains Vancher and Kellerrains Royal Time.



Kellerrains Royal Time at Henty Dressage Championships 2016

Kellerrains Royal Time (aka Harry) is a 17.1 hh warmblood x thoroughbred. He by Narbethongs Royal Oak II and was locally bred by Deon Stokes and Sara Price. I bought Harry as a 4 year old in 2014 and what an adventure it's been from there! After only riding off the track thoroughbreds, I was not prepared for the small brained, immature, easily distracted warmbloods like Harry but I wouldn't have it any other way. Harry is incredibly cheeky, with a huge character and often loves to be over exuberant and have playful little bucks here and there (I say little but my Mum and onlookers says otherwise). He always tries his heart out and always tries to impress. We first competed in official show hunter until my coach and I managed to contain his massive bold canter into a 20 x 60 arena. We started our dressage campaign in 2015. Since then he has come a long way, facing challenges along the way, but can happily say he isn't as long legged wobbly horse he started out to be. I love everything about him from his cheeky big personality to his playful paddock behaviour.

Kellerrains Vancher (Sunny) is a 16.2 hh, 9 year old thoroughbred who came off the track in 2011. He sold as a very pricy yearling but unfortunately, from the buyers' point of view, had no talent on the race track. Since then he has come from this awkward long necked giraffe to a big moving, bold horse who excels in eventing and dressage. Sunny has such a laid back character, often referred to as 'an old Man' who will do anything for some liquorice. He is my eventing horse but started competing more and more dressage while we slowly gained confidence jumping again after having a sticky patch. Since then Sunny has started competing elementary and scoring great novice scores even qualifying for the novice Masters finals, which just proves that thoroughbreds can excel at whatever discipline they are trained for and all have a chance at having a career after racing.

What has been the key to his training?

Sunny especially, I find their training happens in waves. One moment we are on an upward sprint with them continually working great, learning one thing after another but then the next month we are at a halt working over the same thing day after day, which I won't lie frustrates me extremely. However, the key to both horses training is time, patience and basics which gets them out of this downward wave and slowly starts to get them peaking at their best again. Time and patience works hand in hand. Miracles don't happen overnight, especially with both of them being brought at very green levels. I've struggled at times to keep my patience with them, forgetting that they're still learning and won't be doing Grand Prix overnight. However, I've been continually reminded by many coaches that I've got to have patience with them, especially Harry being young and green, and to let time tell. When I feel like we are going through our downward wave I go straight back to the basics and try to figure out why we are struggling. Majority of the time it's something so simple like not being in front of the leg or not listening to a half halt but by going back to basics and straightening everything up, we start progressing again. When I got Sunny his canter was terrible. Like most thoroughbreds off the track, there was no such thing as a three beat canter with his front end being a completely different part to his hind which frustrated me for months. I set myself a goal to get his canter out of scoring 5s and into 7s



or better and for months I worked on this until eventually one day it all clicked. I finally had a 3 beat canter horse which now has a canter that scores better than his trot! Their training is also influenced by what's coming up. As I live in Albany we have to travel to majority of competitions, with Perth competitions being a six hour drive away. Leading up to a competition their training intensity has to drop and I've found doing light work such as long and low or trail rides puts them in a good mood at competition day. They are now very used to the travel but it still does take stuff out of them and by the second day they can be tired and over it. So by having a chilled week leading up to a competition their mind is fresh and they feel good, ready to compete at their best.

What are your riding goals?

I have a positive outlook on life and always tell myself the sky's the limit. I'm an extremely hard worker and am determined to reach every goal I set whether it be in a month or a few years, I will get there eventually. I'm a huge team person, I love the team spirit and representing a team, and my goal one day, would be to represent Australia, whether it be at WEG or the Olympics. After watching the Rio Olympics and getting behind the eventing and dressage my urge to fulfil this goal got even greater. Sure, it may be many years away but if I don't start working towards this goal now, I'll never get there! However, for now my goal is to get Harry continually producing 70% novice tests and to start training him elementary to start competing at this level next year. By the end of next year I hope to be on the WA Young Rider Squad with him and to hopefully travel over east in 2017 for either the youth rider Nationals or Nationals. In 2017 Sunny will mainly focus on eventing but my goal is to have him solidly performing Elementary and even possibly start to train changes.

How did you start out in riding and dressage?

I started riding when I was 4 years old when my Mum took my three sisters and I out to a riding school just outside of Denmark for a little family outing. However, that family outing started to happen every Sunday and now, 14 years later, it has now turned into a lifestyle, owning twice the amount of horses than there are people in our family. I started out as a showjumper on my trooper jumping pony, Alice, a 13.3hh Australian Riding Pony x thoroughbred mare. We absolutely hated dressage and thought it was the most boring thing around, with Alice not even knowing what flexion or moving off your leg was. We evented up to intro 1 and show jumped



Alice and Beth, 2010

up to 1 m with jump offs being our thing. It wasn't until I was 12 years old when I did my first ever dressage competition, The Summer Solstice Dressage competition in Albany, competing in Preparatory and Preliminary. Surprisingly enough I ended up winning the 12 years and under champion and my interest in dressage began. I then got my first off the track thoroughbred, Dan, a 15.2 hh gelding, and I decided to focus on my flatwork more and got my first dressage coach, Kath Hardy. I'd probably say Dan was the one who made me love dressage. I eventually trained him up to

Elementary level with Dan



being the first horse I competed on in official dressage classes. I then made the super hard decision to sell him so I was able to buy Harry, who I planned to be my more serious dressage horse.

Who has been your greatest influence?

My biggest influences would have to be the coaches and riders I've found myself surrounded by. My first dressage coach, Kath Hardy, would have to be one of the top. She somehow managed to transform me from this gung-ho jumper to someone whose mainly focuses on dressage and making sure all horses I train have a solid flatwork ability, before even considering jumping. She's put up with all my frustrations and complaining for years and has helped me transform my thoroughbreds into decent dressage and eventing horses. Kath also introduced me to Nadine Merewether, who regularly comes down to Albany for clinics, and has this inspiring outlook on training a horse.



Kellerains Vancher competing in the 2016 PCAWA State dressage individual freestyle

One of Albany's best local riders, Louise Hillman, would definitely be one of my biggest influences. Every horse she trains is trained well, never scoring less than a 65% on a bad day. Even with our rural disadvantage and lack of coaches down in Albany, has managed to work her way up the levels.

Another rider who influences me is Deon Stokes. Being both dressage and eventing rider and producing great horses after great horses, is something I inspire to do. You don't see many riders competing in two disciplines and at the moment I can't decide what I like best, so I hope in the future I'm able to produce great eventers and dressage horses like he can.

Last but not least is my Mum. She is my number one supporter, driving me all around the country side so I'm able to do what I do and fulfil my dream. If it wasn't for her I wouldn't be the rider I'm today and I definitely wouldn't have everything I have without her. I'm so grateful to have such a supportive mum and will forever be in her debt to repay her for everything she's done for me.

How could dressage in WA be improved?

Being 500 km away from Perth and living out in the country, support for dressage in rural WA could definitely be improved. I think dressage in rural towns needs more support to help build up the discipline in smaller towns and also help up and coming riders to progress up the levels. Things such as more support for clinics with coaches and judges in rural towns and include them in more involvement in state wide activities. Being on the Southern Solstice Dressage Committee I've seen the support has definitely been improved, as Dressage WA allowed Southern Districts Dressage Club have their 2016 Summer Solstice competition in Albany become a Masters Series qualifier. This was a first in the Great Southern region, and we were all very grateful which lead to multiple Great Southern riders qualifying for the finals.

Being a young rider, I also think that young riders could also be possibly more supported like they are over east. There are multiple really great young riders in WA and supporting them could really help them drive them towards their goal and get them into the "next level".



Steward's Corner

By Janet Reid

Spurs "Upside-Down"

It is quite common to see riders wearing spurs "upside down", particularly with the large number of up-and-coming riders entering dressage competitions.

Please note Dressage Rule 2.5(g) in which it states "the tip of the shank must not point up or point inwards".

Correct



Incorrect



The spurs below are "Permitted" in Dressage - for both riders of Ponies and Horses



Did you know.....

- Spurs, if worn, must be identical on both sides – they must be a pair (EA Dressage Rule 2.5a)
- Non-compliance or incorrect spurs will entail elimination (EA Dressage Rule 2.5b).
- Spurs may be worn by competitors at all levels (EA Dressage Rule 2.5c).



Steward Accreditation

Equestrian Australia are keen for the accreditation of more Stewards in all Equestrian Disciplines. A "generic" Steward Course will be held on the weekend of 15 and 16 October at the State Equestrian Centre in Brigadoon.

The Course will be conducted by FEI Steward Chris Wallis from Victoria, and will cover all aspects of Stewarding including officiating principles, supervision of competition, risk assessment and management, effective communication, conflict management, warm-up and schooling areas, horse inspections, medication control, reporting, etc. All interested parties are invited to attend from any Equestrian Discipline and particularly those that may like to pursue a stewarding pathway. Enquiries, and the following Registration Form, are to be directed to Di Saunders, Equestrian Australia. Telephone: 02-87627777, Email: officials@equestrian.org.au



National Level Stewards Accreditation National Level Stewards Refresher 2016 Course (All Disciplines)

Please complete this form with payment details to EA National Office:

DEADLINE FOR RETURN TO EA – 2 Weeks Prior to Course

PO BOX 673, SYDNEY MARKETS NSW 2129

Fax: + 61 2 9763 2466 Email: officials@equestrian.org.au

Your details (print clearly)

Name:	EA#:	
Address:		
Suburb:	State:	Post Code:
Tel :	Mobile :	
E-Mail:		
Dietary Concerns:		

Stewarding Seminar for all Disciplines to be held on Sat/Sun 15 & 16th October at:
WA – State Equestrian Centre, 303 Cathedral Avenue, Brigadoon:

Payment Details:

Course Fees

Promotion \$70 AUD (incl. GST)

Refresher \$40 AUD (incl. GST)

EA Budget Code: 4-6150 (Stewards)

Includes

- Certificate of Participation
- EA Stewards Vest on completed accreditation
- National Steward accreditation card and certificate
- Course participant material
- Morning Tea, Afternoon Tea and Light Lunch provided

Important Notes:

Payment will not be banked until acceptances have been advised 1 Week prior to the course

Upon payment this form will become a TAX INVOICE for GST purposes. ABN: 19 077 455 755

Course fees are not refundable within 1 week of course. Any cancellation request prior to this must be addressed in writing to the EA National Office attention – Pathways Manager Officials.

Payment Method

Cheque

☐ Australia Post Money Order (payable to 'Equestrian Australia') or

Credit Card:

☐ VISA

☐ MasterCard

Credit Card Number: / / / / / / / /

Expiry Date:

/ /

CCV (Last 3 digits on back of card):

(destroyed upon successful processing of payment)

Card Holder's Name:

Signature: _____



2016 Masters Series Final 10th September 2016

Photos by Rebecca De Vries – Horseplay Photography

The Masters Series Final was a full show at the State Equestrian Centre with over 100 tests ridden on the day. Two Eastern States judges, Luciano D'Elia and Felicity Yunken, were part of the judging panel. Many of the invited riders produced the quality work that they have previously showed to make all of the classes hotly contested. The winners of each of the classes are listed below.

Pony

Preliminary	BORDERSHOW DARK N STORMY	Amber Gales
Novice	BOOHILL BOND 24	Kristina Suiter
Elementary	BOOHILL BOND 24	Kristina Suiter
Medium	LETS RUMBA RUBY	Eliza Hebiton
Advanced	PENLEY GEOMETRIC	Jessica Bartlett

Para Equestrian

PE Grade 1	WEDGEWOOD CHERISH	Kate Eiszele
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Horse

Prelim	FELICE DE JEU	Marjorie Radford
Novice	WANDIERA FANTANGO	Pia Kelly
Elementary	JAYBEE ROYALTY	Anna Johnson
Medium	LORD LOUIE	Louise Hillman
Advanced	LORD LOUIE	Louise Hillman
Prix St Georges	REVELWOOD DONATELLO	Louise Holland
Intermediate 1	SAVIO H	Terrina Fairbrother
Intermediate A	FOXWOOD WHIRLWIND	Suzanne Simons
Grand Prix	BONITA	Colin Chantler

Horseland 2016 Young Dressage Horse Competition 10th September 2016

Photos by Rebecca De Vries – Horseplay Photography

The Horseland Young Dressage Horse and Pony competition was held at the Master Series Final on the 10th September 2016 and was judged by Luciano D'Elia, Felicity Yunken and Hannie Byrne. The 4 year old class and 6 year old class has only single entrants, the 5 year old class was large with 5 entrants.



The Horseland Champion of Champions
Horseland Champion Young Dressage Horse

Penny Hill Park Veritas



DWA Master Series © HorsePlay Photos



4 year old Young Dressage Horse Winner

BML Silhouette

owned and ridden by Astrid Grov

Warmblood, Starnber x Regardez Moi mare, 16.3 hands



Ebony has been a part of the Grov family since December 2015. Ebony loves her food and always searching for liquorice in people's pockets. She has a great character, although cheeky like most three year olds she is a quick learner and a pleasure to ride. With the guidance from my coach and mentors Colin Chantler and Nadine Herbert, I'm very excited for the future with her. We have formed such a strong bond already and she gains a lot of confidence from me.

We had a successful first show at the amazing 2016 WA Dressage Master Series Final! BML Silhouette performed amazingly, she won the 4 year old class on a great score of 70.4 and qualified for the Horseland Young Horse competition. In the final Ebony gathered some really great comments from the judges and I was pleased with her performance. For her first show I was ecstatic with the way she handled the atmosphere! She loved having a crowd to show off to!



5 year old Young Dressage Horse Winner

Azarro

Owned by Jules and Judy Webber and ridden by Gabriella Robson

Westphalian, 16.1 hands, gelding



DWA Master Series © HorsePlay Photos

Zorro was imported from Germany in 2015 as a green broken 3 year old. After working and riding in Germany with Australian Olympian Hayley Beresford for 5 years I returned home in March 2016 and began riding Zorro under the supportive guidance of Judy Weber and Robin Allen. He is consistently willing to please his rider and learn new things. Nothing is ever too much for him! He loves to 'go, go, go!', in a good way of course but sometimes a chill out is needed and a little more focus!

The Young Horse Final was our first competition together and I am beyond excited about what his future may hold. He is an absolute dream to ride and work with. I so lucky to have this opportunity given to me by Jules and Judy Weber!

6 year old Young Dressage Horse Winner



Penny Hill Park Veritas

Owned Michelle James and ridden by Emma Hayward

Warmblood, Vivaldi (KWPN) x Anamour (Hannoverian), 16.1 hands



Michelle James bred the horse out of an Anamour mare by the incredible stallion Vivaldi (IFS). Her dam has produced a National Young Horse Champion and is an AWWA National Champion. She was the first Vivaldi bred in Australia and is still the only one bred here. She has a wonderful temperament and learns very quickly. She has a very good active and quick hind leg, is very uphill with super paces and has great rideability. She has made a super partnership with talented rider Emma Hayward. We feel this horse is for the big tour and are excited about her future.



The Horseland Young Pony Dressage Champion

Trapalanda Downs Money Penny



DWA Master Series © HorsePlay Photos



4 year old Young Dressage Pony Winner

Windy Hill Bianca

owned Rachel de Mamiel and ridden by Kelly Genge

Warmblood Sports Pony, Bellario x Windy Hill Sorciere, 14.1 hh



DWA Master Series © HorsePlay Photos

Rachel de Mamiel bred Bianca through her small boutique Warmblood Sports Pony stud Windy Hill. Rachel bred Bianca's dam from her Trakhener mare (by Valuta) crossed with a Welsh Riding Pony stallion Salisbury Pierre.

Windy Hill Bianca was started a year ago by Fred Watkins (Watkins Horse Handlers). Fred did a fabulous job starting her in 3 weeks. Kelly began riding her when she returned home and has undertaken all of her education to date.

Kelly has said that Bianca has always been delightful to ride and a pleasure to train. During the last year she has attended numerous competitions, all with great success. She is competing against more experienced ponies with excellent results and is an absolute pleasure to take out and about. Her scores are also very competitive against horses in the same competition.



5 year old Young Dressage Pony Winner

Deveron Di Mojo

Owned by Tasma Harper and ridden by Tanita Rutherford

Warmblood Sports Pony, Deveron Di Maggio (Arabian warmblood stallion) out of Mirabel Madonna (Welsh C mare), 14.2 hh



DWA Master Series © HorsePlay Photos

'JJ' was bred in Victoria at Deveron stud owned by Paula and Niels Hoffman. He was originally brought into WA for a harness pair and I brought him in August last year (as he was a little bit too smart for harness). As JJ was more trained for harness, he needed quite a bit of re-education, especially as he wouldn't canter (not even in the paddock) so I sent him to Tanita in January for 7 weeks of training and I have been very fortunate to have her riding him for me in competitions this year (she has done a fantastic job with him). JJ, although quiet, has not been entirely easy due both to him not being able to canter in the beginning and his quirkiness/intelligence. He gets bored very easily and likes to 'try' his rider with new games/tricks (sometimes in the middle of a competition) He is a very lovable character and we are looking forward to the future with him.



6 year old Young Dressage Pony Winner

Trapalanda Downs Money Penny

Owned and ridden by Kristina Suiter

Welsh cob, Trapalanda Downs Maestro x Trapalanda Downs Meredith, 13.2 $\frac{3}{4}$ hh



DWA Master Series © HorsePlay Photos

She is an amazing moving child's pony and is a joy to train. She has a beautiful big moving trot with natural cadence. MP seems to be in her own "happy bubble" all the time! Just gives her all, every ride. True honest stunning mount!

MP was purchased as a three year old from the Breakers directly from Trapalanda Stud. After a period of being a very 'wayward' ride with legs going every direction, MP got the handle on where to put her legs! Since then, we have trained together, bush riding, low level cross country courses, and of course dressage! MP's favourite hobby is breaking the sprinklers in her paddock and having a good roll wherever she has a chance!

MP is just a pure joy to ride. She is always reliable and willing to give everything a go. She loves the beach and we think she is part dolphin! She is the quietest horse I have ever had the privilege to own. MP has had great success in her short career, successfully competing from Prelim through to Elementary over the last two years.



Comments from Luciano D'Elia

I would like to thank Dressage West Australia for your kind invitation to judge at this year's Masters Final and Young Horse Championships. A very well run show, huge congratulations to the extremely hard working committee.

For me it was an excellent showcase of your up and coming dressage horses as well as your young horses.

It is so exciting to see these youngsters starting their careers. You have some quality horses and ponies over here. Please continue developing these lovely youngsters with much care and attention to the Training Scale.

The expectations of these young horse classes as a 4, 5 and 6 year old give a very clear indication and direction of where they should be at their applicable age group. When judging these classes we judges are looking for the foundation of the dressage horse as per the Training Scale.

I cannot stress the importance of it.

RHYTHM, SUPPLENESS, CONTACT, IMPULSION, STRAIGHTNESS & COLLECTION

We are not judging these horses and ponies as a standard dressage test. We are assessing their potential and ability as per the training scale together with their strengths and weaknesses, their potential as a high level dressage horse for the future. We forgive small mistakes and some minor lapses of concentration but we are looking for clear and regular paces in all three gaits, i.e. 4 beat walk, 2 beat trot and 3 beat canter.

We want to see them swinging over a consistently relaxed back, accepting a steady, consistent and supple contact. We want to see their expression and willingness in their work. A soft supple energetic and willing horse clearly showing us their level of Training, naturally enough dependant on their age group it should be very clear to us they are on the right way of going.

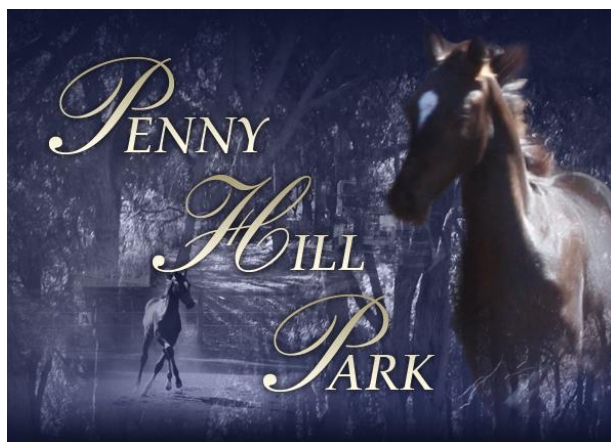
It is this early training which sets them up for the future. It is our duty to assess these youngsters and clearly give positive constructive and informative feed back to their riders, trainers and coaches. We as judges look forward to seeing these horses and ponies develop over the seasons to FEI.

They are the future.

It is so exciting that numbers of young horses and ponies are growing steadily in the West, the future is looking very bright.

Luciano D'Elia





Penny Hill Park Rising Star Award September 10th 2016

This award is for horse and pony "newcomers" competing in their first year of Competitive Dressage. The Penny Hill Park Dressage Rising Star Final showcased the talent in WA of horses and ponies, young and old who make the move into Competitive Dressage. The Penny Hill Park Rising Star competition was held at the Masters Series Final on the 10th September 2016 and was judged by Hazel Hikins and Felicity Yunken.

Rising Star Horse Winner

Penny Hill Park Veritas

Owned by Michelle James and ridden by
Emma Hayward



Rising Star Pony Winner

Windy Hill Bianca

owned Rachel de Mamiel and ridden by
Kelly Genge





2016 Horserail Australia Crystals in Kellerberrin Dressage Gala September 17th 2016

By Emma Crofts

Photography by Sonny's Snaps and Nicole Lockyer Photography



Overall winner of both the Preparatory and Novice Champion prizes, Ella Jones and Gem Park Da Vinci (Preparatory) and San Del Earl (Novice)

Dressage in the Wheatbelt is a partnership between Kellerberrin Riding & Pony Club and Eastern Wheatbelt Riding Club. Our annual competition '2016 Horserail Australia Crystals in Kellerberrin Dressage Gala' was held on Saturday 17th September on the manicured turf of the Kellerberrin Greater Sports Ground. Thank you to the Shire of Kellerberrin for providing us with the grounds. The oval presented perfectly and was fantastic to ride on, with many competitors commenting on the quality of the surface.

Crystals in Kellerberrin includes PCAWA, EA Competitor, EA Participant and Adult Riding Club classes and is also part of the PCAWA Dressage Leaderboard Series. The event continues to grow in popularity, and this year we attracted almost 120 tests with competitors travelling from the metropolitan area as well as other regional

clubs. Camping on Friday night was popular with campfires stoked for a chilly night. A frost early on Saturday morning soon gave way to cloudless skies and glorious sunshine.

Brand new arenas debuted at this year's event, thanks to the CBH Group Grass Roots Fund. We also had trade stands from La Noir Saddleworld Wangara, Good Earth Farming, Zija International, Needen Embroidery and Equine Stocks by Kathy, as well as local gourmet catering from Passenger Platform.

Overall winners of the CHAMPION prizes (sponsored by Horserail Australia) received lovely embroidered vests, as well as prize packs. The lucky recipients were:

Preparatory Champion Ella Jones & Gem Park Da Vinci
Preliminary Champion Courtney Crockart & Bellingara Florencio
Novice Champion Ella Jones & San Del Earl
Elementary Champion Morgan Ware & Steigers Dexter



Rosettes were awarded to fourth place in all classes with first place winners having a choice of prizes including hay bale carriers, gear bags, luggage, camp chairs and grooming aprons - all beautifully embroidered by Needen Embroidery.

An event like this couldn't go ahead without generous sponsors and supporters. Dressage in the Wheatbelt would like to extend our sincere appreciation to the following sponsors for their contributions in making the 2016 Horserail Australia Crystals in Kellerberrin Dressage Gala such a success.

Platinum Sponsor - Horserail Australia

Gold Sponsors - Needen Embroidery, La Noir Saddleworld Wangara and Zija International Independent Distributor Yvette Boyland

Silver Sponsors - Merredin Panel & Paint, Avon Valley Contractors, Good Earth Farming, Nicole Lockyer Photography, Kylagh Cattle Company, Liberty Rural, DKT Rural Agencies, Farmways Kellerberrin, Off the Track WA and Doheny Grain & Transport

Bronze Sponsors - Swann Contracting and Tanita May Equestrian

Feedback from competitors was very positive, with people already marking it in their calendars as a 'must attend' event for 2017. We also run the Dust & Diamonds Dressage Summer Series - training tests held over 5 dates from December to February. Competitors who travelled from Perth and surrounds were pleasantly surprised at just how easy the drive is, the excellent camping facilities and friendly country atmosphere. Like our Facebook page, Dressage in the Wheatbelt, to stay up to date with upcoming events including the release of the date for Crystals in Kellerberrin 2017.



Above: Noelene Cochrane and Kerry Duggan, both from Avon Valley ARC. Left: Preliminary Champions Courtney Crockart and Bellingara Florencio.



2016 Horserail Australia

Crystals in Kellerberrin Sponsors





Participant members proposal – 4th October 2016

By Gill Botten

Members of the DWA committee have been working on a proposal to create a State Rule whereby EA Participant members would be able to compete at Elementary to Advanced levels. This has been something that has been frequently requested and was raised at both riders' forums. The Chair of DWA and a committee member met with the CEO for discussion and the proposal was put to the EA Board last week. Unfortunately, the EA Board did not pass this proposal in its current form. DWA has been informed the EA Board are working towards a restructuring of membership which may give these riders an opportunity in the future but the situation will remain as it currently stands for Participant riders in 2017.

www.dressagewa.org
www.facebook.com/DressageWesternAustralia

