A PROPOSAL TO GIVE EA MEMBERS A GREATER VOICE IN THE GOVERNANCE OF EQUESTRIAN AUSTRALIA

We need 100 Voting Members to ask EA to put this resolution to the Special General Meeting

Equestrian Australia has advised that a Special General Meeting will be held following the upcoming Annual General Meeting.

We are proposing a change to the EA Constitution that would significantly strengthen the ability of EA members to elect the people who govern our national organisation.

We need at least 100 Voting Members to support the request for this resolution to be put to the SGM.

If you are a Voting Member of Equestrian Australia and support greater member representation on the EA Board, we invite you to become one of those 100 members.

What is being proposed?

Under the current EA Constitution, the Board structure provides for:

- **4 Directors elected by members;**
- **4 Directors appointed by the Board; and**
- **1 Athlete Director.**

This means that only four of the eight ordinary Board positions are directly elected by EA members.

The proposed constitutional amendment would change this to:

8 Directors elected by EA members + 1 Athlete Director

The four Board-appointed Director positions would be removed and converted into elected positions.

The Athlete Director would remain.

This would mean that **all eight ordinary Director positions are determined by the members through elections**, rather than four being selected by the Board itself.

Why is this being proposed?

The Board is responsible for the governance and strategic direction of Equestrian Australia and makes decisions affecting the sport, its members, athletes, officials, clubs, branches and the wider equestrian community.

It is therefore important that members have a meaningful opportunity to choose the people who govern EA.

The proposal is based on a straightforward principle:

Those who govern Equestrian Australia should be accountable to the members of Equestrian Australia.

Increasing the number of member-elected Directors would give members a greater say in determining the composition of the Board and would make the Board more directly accountable to the membership.

It would also remove the situation where a significant proportion of the ordinary Board can be selected without a direct election by members.

How would the eight elected positions work?

The proposal does not simply create eight positions that all come up for election at once.

Instead, the eight elected positions would operate on a permanent **3–3–2 rotation**.

This means:

Year 1 — 3 Directors elected

Year 2 — 3 Directors elected

Year 3 — 2 Directors elected

Then the cycle repeats.

This provides continuity on the Board while ensuring that members have regular opportunities to elect Directors.

It also means there would not be a situation where the entire elected component of the Board changes at one election.

What happens to the current appointed Directors?

The proposal includes transitional arrangements specifically designed to avoid an abrupt disruption to the Board.

Existing Board-appointed Directors would continue in their positions until the conclusion of the first Annual General Meeting after the constitutional amendment takes effect.

They would be able to nominate for election like any other eligible candidate.

The four positions currently occupied by Board-appointed Directors would then become four of the eight member-elected positions.

The transition has been specifically structured to establish the permanent **3–3–2 election cycle**.

What about the Athlete Director?

The Athlete Director position is **not being removed**.

The proposal retains the Athlete Director as a separate position, recognising the importance of athlete representation at Board level.

The proposed changes simply ensure that the other eight ordinary Director positions are elected by members.

What happens if an elected Director leaves before their term ends?

The proposal also changes the casual-vacancy arrangements.

A person appointed to temporarily fill an elected Director vacancy would remain in office only until the next Annual General Meeting.

The vacancy would then be dealt with through the normal election process.

Importantly, a casual vacancy would **not disrupt the permanent 3–3–2 rotation**.

This prevents temporary appointments from gradually changing the election cycle.

This is not a proposal to remove individual Directors

The resolution does **not** seek to remove any particular Director.

It changes the constitutional structure of the Board.

The objective is to establish a permanent governance structure in which the eight ordinary Director positions are elected by EA members.

Any eligible person — including a person who currently serves as an appointed Director — would remain entitled to nominate for election.

Why are we asking for 100 members?

The EA Constitution provides a mechanism for Voting Members to put forward matters for consideration at a General Meeting.

EA has also provided a process for members to submit a Notice of Motion for the forthcoming SGM.

We need at least 100 Voting Members to support the request.

Signing the supporting schedule does not mean you are voting for a particular candidate.

It simply means that you support giving the proposed constitutional amendment an opportunity to be formally considered and voted on at the SGM.

The resolution itself will then be subject to the voting requirements of the Constitution.

There is also an additional constitutional requirement under Rule 40 concerning the Branches. Accordingly, supporting this request does not guarantee that the constitutional amendment will ultimately pass. It ensures that the proposal is properly brought before the members for consideration.

What are you being asked to do?

If you are a **Voting Member of Equestrian Australia** and support the principle of greater member representation on the EA Board, we ask you to:

Become one of the 100 members supporting the request.

You will be asked to provide your:

- name;
- EA membership details;
- Branch; and
- signature/confirmation of support.

The information will be used solely for the purpose of demonstrating that the required number of Voting Members support putting the resolution to the SGM and for submitting the Notice of Motion to Equestrian Australia.

The proposed constitutional change in one sentence

Change the EA Board from four member-elected Directors and four Board-appointed Directors to eight member-elected Directors, while retaining the Athlete Director and establishing a permanent 3–3–2 election cycle.

If you believe EA members should have a greater say in who governs their national organisation, please support the request.

We need 100 Voting Members.

Your support is not a vote for a particular person.

It is a request that EA members be given the opportunity to vote on the proposed constitutional change at the SGM.

If you would like to be one of the 100 supporting members, fill in the form below

Please provide your support as soon as possible so that the required 100 members can be confirmed before EA's submission deadline.