



AUSTRALIAN ENDURANCE RIDERS ASSOCIATION INC.



CALENDAR POLICY & PROCDEURES

For

FEI ENDURANCE EVENTS WITHIN AUSTRALIA

It is the Policy of the Australian Endurance Riders Association (AERA) to establish a regular and consistent approach to the scheduling of FEI events and harmonise the National calendar to create the maximum opportunity and benefit for members to participate in their chosen events throughout the year.

It is AERA Policy that Australian FEI endurance events be conducted at regular intervals throughout a calendar year so that competitors are given sufficient time to be able to attend the maximum number of FEI events scheduled, taking distance and progress through the star rating system into account.

Adopting this Policy means that when planning of FEI events within Australia, ride organisers, State Divisions and the AERA (or other designated Group) are provided with a standard reference when considering FEI endurance events to be held within Australia and prior to such events being listed in the FEI Official Calendar.

Reference to this Policy will mean that the annual Australian FEI calendar of events does not negatively impact the level of entry for AERA major events which should not be compromised by the scheduling of any FEI event.

The Policy aims are to:

1. Maintain a balanced calendar of FEI events that will encourage participation at all levels of the discipline and benefit competitors as well as the sport of endurance overall.
2. Assist AERA and SMC's to allocate and approve **FEI** endurance ride dates at regulated intervals throughout the calendar year taking into consideration regional climate variations, distance and the star rating system.
3. Provide Australian riders with the opportunity to experience International endurance competitions and enter, early in the season a qualifying 1* event and progress within a geographical region, where reasonably practical.
4. Provide suitable and sufficient events for both horses and riders who aim to qualify for World Championships and World Equestrian Games events.
5. Create sufficient opportunities to qualify FEI Officials and enable their promotion taking travel and distance into account.
6. Ensure that any **FEI** endurance event within an AERA Division does not negatively affect a major AERA event within a geographical region (1000kms).
7. To ensure that the "The Tom Quilty Gold Cup is not likely to be negatively affected by any FEI endurance event within Australia.

Guidelines:

These guidelines are intended to remain flexible so that the International element of the discipline is supported.



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1. Early in the season for each Division, there will be 1* events scheduled to encourage the participation of new competitors and unqualified horses that must commence with the 1* events.
2. No FEI endurance event shall be proposed or approved on the same weekend or within 2 weeks either side (i.e. 14 days) of the Tom Quilty Gold Cup Endurance Ride.
3. No FEI 1* endurance event shall be conducted on the same or consecutive weekends to any other AERA and Australian FEI 1* or higher endurance event within a state division.
4. No FEI 2* or higher endurance event shall be conducted on the same or consecutive weekends as any other Australian FEI 2* or higher endurance event.
5. Guideline 3 and 4 do not apply where the categories are conducted at the same venue form part of the same event.
6. No Australian FEI 3* endurance event shall be conducted within 14 days of any World Championship or WEG endurance event.
7. Events will, as far as reasonably possible be programmed to reflect geographic equalization. Preference will be given to rides that have traditionally used the same date in previous years, provided that they are within the parameters of the guidelines set out here.
8. FEI events should be scheduled to take into account climate and seasonal variations to provide completion in the best achievable conditions for the level of competition.

Procedures:

1. Ride Organising Committee (OC) to submit two ride dates (with a preferred date) to the relevant State Management Committee (SMC). All fees to be paid at the time of application.
2. On approval from the SMC, the OC shall submit both dates on a pro-forma application document to the AERA Ride Calendar Officer / National Endurance Committee (NEC) by the date previously announced.
3. AERA Ride Calendar Officer / NEC shall prepare a draft FEI ride calendar taking into consideration this Policy and guidelines.
4. The AERA International Subcommittee / NEC shall approve the FEI events calendar and no later than the advertised deadline of the year preceding the events.
5. The AERA Ride Calendar Officer / NEC shall give notice to the AERA Secretary, OCs and SMC's of all event date approvals by the advertised deadline of the year preceding the events.
6. The FEI calendar must be approved by the AERA Executive before the EA is notified.



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7. The AERA Ride Calendar Officer / NEC shall notify the EA of the official International endurance events to be listed in the FEI calendar by the prescribed deadline which may be varied from time to time.
8. Any additional FEI event submitted after the 1st September of the year preceding the event shall be approved only with the endorsement of the AERA International Subcommittee / NEC and the Organising Committee is responsible for paying the late fee to the FEI.
9. Changes in date or star rating of the event must be submitted to the AERA International Subcommittee / NEC for approval. The AERA International Secretary shall notify the EA of these changes which must be accompanied by the appropriate late fee(s).

Note: The role of the AERA International Subcommittee and Ride Calendar Officer may be subsumed within the National Endurance Committee

Duties of the AERA International Ride Calendar Officer:

The AERA International Ride Calendar Officer shall ensure that all events submitted for approval are in accordance with the AERA International/National Endurance Committee Policy guidelines. In performing this task the following system is recommended:

1. On request, provide a pro-forma ride date application document to Ride Organising Committees. Ensure that the pro-forma ride date application document and these Guidelines are available in downloadable form on the AERA website.
2. Examine all ride applications dates and schedules and develop a draft AERA International Calendar, noting the date of receipt (in the event that there may be two competing applications).
3. Post a draft calendar (AERA web site) to keep Ride Organisers and others informed.
4. Prepare a final list of events for the AERA International Subcommittee / NEC to discuss and endorse.
5. Consult with SMC's regarding any abnormalities regarding the application from the relevant OC.
6. Issue an approved list of proposed Australian International events to the AERA as soon as reasonably practical, preferably by October 31st in the year preceding the events.
7. Any changes or updates approved should be supplied to the State Management Committees as soon as practical.
8. Any late applications (after the advertised date) that have been endorsed by the AERA International/ NEC and approved by the AERA Executive (or other designated Group) for listing on the FEI Official Calendar shall be issued to all Divisions and placed on the AERA web site.