



Jumping Victoria

2022-2023 Committee Election

Candidate Nomination Statements

IMPORTANT DATES

Member Voting Opens	28 th November 2021
Member Voting Closes	5 th December 2021
Election Meeting	13 th December 2021
New Committee Announced	13 th December 2021

IMPORTANT NOTES

Unfilled Positions: Unfilled positions will be filled via expression of interest application(s).

Multiple Positions: Candidates who are successful in their nominations for multiple positions will be required to select one position and vacate the other position(s) after the election meeting, resulting in expression of interest application(s) opening for the other vacated positions after the election meeting.

Yellow Highlight = Elected Unopposed

Order of Nominations: Candidates appear in the order of nomination submission time.

Please ensure you read the candidate nomination statements in this document to make an informed decision when voting.

SUMMARY OF CANDIDATE NOMINATIONS

- **Riders Representative (1)**
 - James Harvey
 - Phillip Lever
- **High – Performance Representative (1)**
 - Paul Williams
- **Young Rider Representative (1)**
 - Georgia Hodgetts
- **Officials Representative (1)**
 - Helen Ashby
- **General Representative (4)**
 - Suzannah Willis
 - Rachael Lovett
 - Kristy Bruhn
 - Aaron Mawhinney
 - Wendy van Sonsbeek

Riders Representative

1 Position Available

Name: James Harvey

Competition Experience and Results

I have ridden horses since I was 2yo. Through pony club, competing at state and nation level. I started EA through the state Showjumping development squads.

Since then I have competed through out Victoria, Australia and America.

I have done everything from breaking in through to competing for Victoria and competing successfully World Cup. And receiving a MER for both Tokyo 2020 and 2021

Sport Knowledge and Involvement

I have been competing Showjumping since I was 11yo.

I have done a little bit of everything in the Showjumping world.

Plus involved in Bmx and pony club

Administrative and Technology Skills

I am a qualified equine dentist and have been running my own business for the past 20 years.

Other relevant information that makes you suitable for this role

I have a keen interest in seeing the sport improve and progress. And represent Showjumping riders of all levels across the state.

Name: Phillip Lever

Competition Experience and Results

I have competed at five star Grand Prix level, Nations Cup and have won at four star Grand Prix, and have both local and international competition experience, having competed in the USA, Asia and North America. I also take pride in bringing horses through the ranks from youngsters all the way to the top levels.

Sport Knowledge and Involvement

I have been around the showjumping world since I was a small child, both in Australia and internationally, which has given me a broad understanding of the sport.

Administrative and Technology Skills

I am basically competent in my use of technology and social media and where I have gaps I have a great network of support to call on!

Other relevant information that makes you suitable for this role

I am approachable, and well respected in showjumping in Australia. I have connections at all levels of the sport, which means I can call on people to solve problems and I don't mind getting my hands dirty. I am also a collaborative and encouraging person who is passionate about seeing showjumping develop in Australia. I will bring good humour to the role and I want to genuinely help benefit the sport and our members.

High - Performance Representative (UNCONTESTED)

Name: Paul Williams

Competition Experience and Results

Past Show jumping rider, rode at all levels and was successful. D grade to A grade.

Sport Knowledge and Involvement

Level 3 show jump course designer
Past president PPSJ (life member)
Past level one coach

Sport Development Training and Strategic Initiatives Skills and Experience

Coach for all levels of young rider jump squad, including state squad
Team manager, Chef, two trips to UK squad team, plus team returns
Team manager, Chef, 3 trips to NZ plus team returns
Been involved with son at 3 Olympics plus one WEG plus international comps in Europe up to and including 5*

Administrative and Technology Skills

Past chairman of jumping Vic, plus board member

Other relevant information that makes you suitable for this role

Involved with and understand high performance, thru attending international competitions.
Have been chairman of selectors for Victoria, selecting teams for National championships.
Chairman of Aus Champs committee

Young Riders Representative (UNCONTESTED)

Name: Georgia Hodgetts

Experience and skills that make you suitable for the role

I have an extremely friendly personality including great communication skills. Being organised is a must for me. I love to be on top of things and get things done, especially when they need to be done. Honesty is my biggest policy. I will always input my honest opinion in a situation.

Competition Experience and Results

I have competed up to the Young Rider level. I have also been named the Jumping Young Ambassador of 2021. I am also in the Top 3 Young Rider of the year for Show Jumping. Victorian State Titles 6th Place in the Young Rider second round.

Sport Knowledge and Involvement

I love to help everyone. When I am not on my horse at a competition I am generally out in the warm-up helping. When the course is being built I do like to go out and help so the course builder isn't doing everything themselves.

When I am back in my home town I give up my spare time to junior riders to help them achieve their goals and dreams in riding.

Administrative and Technology Skills

I am efficient on every social media platform. I am very creative and love to help put my boss with composing winners' posts for his social media. At the Western Districts Showjumping Championships, I have live-streamed classes.

Other relevant information that makes you suitable for this role

I would be suitable for this role as I love to be kept well informed at all times. Being able to speak on the behalf of Young Riders in our sport would be such an amazing privilege for me.

Officials Representative (UNCONTESTED)

Name: Helen Ashby

Training and Education (relative to this position)

Current EA Level 3 Showjumping Judge

Sport Governance and Strategic Initiatives Skills and Experience

I have been a member of many committees starting with Pony Club, Interschools, Horse Trials and finally Showjumping (my passion) rather than my daughters.

I have been Vice President of BDSJC. I have had active involvement in the planning, organising and running of many EA competitions and training days.

I applied for and received a grant for BDSJC from the NSW government to help us with our fixed costs whilst we were unable to conduct our usual activities.

I have developed the risk management plan for BDSJC, as well as our various Covid safe plans which have been provided to EV so we can run our events safely.

Sport Knowledge and Involvement

Since my children started their equestrian journey in the early 2000's I have been an active volunteer. This enthusiasm finally meant I took a more active role in 2007 at a Pony Club committee level then in 2010 when The Scots School Albury first held their Interschool Competition I joined their organising committee, a role I still had until this year.

I have also been a discipline coordinator for the Albury International Horse Trials for 3 years, until I achieved my judging qualification and have since judged the showjumping phase at their competitions.

More recently I joined the committee of BDSJC 4 years ago, firstly as a committee member and for the past 2 years as Vice President.

I started my officials journey in 2013 and recently achieved my Level 3 Showjumping qualification.

Administrative and Technology Skills

I have a basic knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel and Powerpoint. Appropriate use of Social media and strong awareness of its use for communication and its misuse for the same purpose.

Other relevant information that makes your suitable for this role

I am approachable, willing to listen and can change my opinion if I am presented with information that I have not considered or areas in which I may have erred.

I am passionate about trying to sell our sport to a wider audience without compromising the riders; enjoyment of the sport and overstressing our valuable officials and volunteers resources.

I am also keen to encourage more people to start their officials journey and make sure we support them on that journey.

General Representative

4 Positions Available

Name: Suzannah Willis

Sport Knowledge and Involvement

A rider competing at many of the shows in VIC. I have ridden overseas in Europe, USA and NZ. I was previously a rider in NSW and now have been a Vic member for almost 5 years.

Member of Melbourne Showjumping Club.

Sport Governance and Strategic Initiatives Skills and Experience

None to date, happy to learn. I am a fast learner.

Business and Related Skills and Experience

I have excellent written and verbal communication skills which are highly necessary when on a committee. I am experienced in working with a team to achieve an outcome and be able to problem-solve effectively.

Administrative and Technology Skills

Competent at Zoom, all word processing, excel, social media etc.

Other relevant information that makes you suitable for this role

I am a registered psychologist currently completing a PhD. My many years of education mean I am able to apply research to the situation and have years of experience in complex problem-solving.

Name: Rachael Lovett

Sport Knowledge and Involvement

I am the current secretary of Port Phillip Showjumping Club and have been for the last 5 years. I was part of the organising committee for Interschool Showjumping and have run competitions for 10 years.

I am a showjumping competitor and enjoy being involved in the sport.

Sport Governance and Strategic Initiatives Skills and Experience

Whilst I may not have ridden at the highest level, I have a solid understanding of how decisions made will affect all stakeholders involved in the sport.

None to date, happy to learn. I am a fast learner.

Business and Related Skills and Experience

I am a marketing and events co-ordinator so have problem solving and advertising skills. I am able to look at the bigger picture and avoid conflict (at all costs). I work well in a team and have good communication skills.

Administrative and Technology Skills

I manage the social media advertising for the business I work for. I have a high level of technological and administrative skills.

Other relevant information that makes you suitable for this role

I am level headed and want to see positive future within Jumping Victoria. I have extensive knowledge how events, organisers, volunteers work and so feel I would be an asset to the Victorian Jumping committee.

Name: Kristy Bruhn

Sport Knowledge and Involvement

I have extensive experience in jumping as a long time competitor, committee member, club member and volunteer.

I am a member of and the current secretary of the Mount Gambier jumping club. I have been involved with for many years and continue to be involved with running jumping events including the Mount Gambier Easter show and Junior/Young Rider shows held at the velodrome, Mount Gambier Ag show, Mundulla Ag show and Millel Ag show. I am also committed to running a monthly training day and Winter series for Mount Gambier jumping club members.

I have trained, competed and managed a team of jumping horses since I was a junior competitor. I have had many successes up to and including world cup level. I have had experience with many aspects of the Equestrian world including racing, carriage driving, dressage, showing, eventing and jumping.

Sport Governance and Strategic Initiatives Skills and Experience

I have gained a great deal of experience from my time on multiple committees over the years. In particular being an active participant in the running of events has given me a lot of insight into different areas of the jumping sport and community.

I have also been a part of the racing industry for many years as an owner, foreman, track rider and strapper. My involvement in the racing industry has made me familiar with working in an industry that operates under and requires strict governance.

Business and Related Skills and Experience

I hold a Bachelor of Commerce majoring in accounting.

I operate in partnership a substantial family dairy farm enterprise. I am responsible for the daily operation of the dairy including attending to book work and staff. I also have close involvement with the strategic direction and growth of the farm.

I have a team of jumping horses under my care that I compete from youngsters to grand prix. I am involved in all aspects of the horses' care, training, development, management and competition schedule.

As foreman I am also involved in both the operational side and strategic planning of the racehorses careers.

Administrative and Technology Skills

I am the current secretary of Mount Gambier show jumping club. I am very familiar with what it takes to run both a jumping club and a jumping show.

I am comfortable with all facets of communication technology. I administer the Mount Gambier jumping club Facebook Page.

I have had experience with and used various data platforms during my time as club secretary and in my role as event's secretary including Main-events, Global events online and Equipe.

As a competitor I am very familiar with all the online entry systems.

Other relevant information that makes you suitable for this role

I consider myself to have much knowledge pertinent to running equestrian sports. I have been involved from grass roots to the highest level as both a competitor and organiser. I am keen to see any improvements that can be made implemented across the board.

My strengths are my organisation skills and ability to communicate clearly and effectively. I am level headed and want to see positive future within Jumping Victoria. I have extensive knowledge how events, organisers, volunteers work and so feel I would be an asset to the Victorian Jumping committee.

I am a registered psychologist currently completing a PhD. My many years of education mean I am able to apply research to the situation and have years of experience in complex problem-solving.

Name: Aaron Mawhinney

Sport Knowledge and Involvement

Show jumping Competitor, Committee member of Melbourne showjumping club and Geelong showjumping club

Sport Governance and Strategic Initiatives Skills and Experience

Sat on Previous JV Committee as representative of Melbourne show jumping club

Business and Related Skills and Experience

Currently run a fencing and construction Company previously ran a horse breaking and pertaining business

Administrative and Technology Skills

Have run my own company for 22 years

Other relevant information that makes you suitable for this role

Have been involved in horses all my life across a range of disciplines

Name: Wendy van Sonsbeek

Sport Knowledge and Involvement

I have been a member of many committees involved with Equestrian for the past 15 years. Including but not limited Yarra Jump Club until 2018, Equestrian Victoria Interschools, Jumping Victoria State Titles, I was also part of the committee bringing the Australian Jumping Championships moving to Werribee until it moved to Boneo.

Sport Governance and Strategic Initiatives Skills and Experience

I am highly skilled in sport governance, being the Event Director for the Victorian Interschools means I need to stay on top of all government regulations from COVID 19 right through to Safe Sport Initiatives and Working with Children.

Business and Related Skills and Experience

I have previously run my own business employing approximately 20 people and for the past 10 years worked in Private Industry as a National Account Manager and Business Analyst in the commercial team. This experience coupled with the event management experience sees me highly knowledgeable in P&L, balance sheets and business best practice.

Administrative and Technology Skills

Being highly skilled in Marketing (from Business) and Event Management. I have advanced skills in Technology. Including but not limited to all digital platforms, Adobe suite, design. Branding and messaging are a big part of my skillset and I spend a bit of downtime also building websites for other businesses. I have used these marketing skills in my equestrian experience as well as throughout my working career.

Other relevant information that makes you suitable for this role

My family have been involved with Equestrian Victoria Jumping since approximately 2008. I'm Passionate about jumping in Victoria and seeing the sport grow, I'm also a big advocate to seeing the sport be fair across the board for all members who love it. Right from grassroots to High Performance level. I'm not afraid of hard work and not afraid to pitch in to get things done.