

EQUESTRIAN VICTORIA



YOUNG AMBASSADOR
OF THE YEAR

INFORMATION GUIDE FOR APPLICANTS

Program Mission

The purpose of the Young Ambassador Program is to support and facilitate the development of emerging leaders in our sport by providing access to opportunities designed to foster the growth of leadership and collaborative capabilities, in addition to mentorship opportunities.

Role of Young Ambassadors

To demonstrate sportsmanship, leadership qualities, encourage participation, and contribute/promote the sport through volunteering, communication and equestrian exceptionalism, with a focus on their chosen discipline.

Selection Criteria

Refer to selection criteria below.

Physical Requirements of the Position

The Young Ambassador of the Year will be expected to have a face to face and online presence for a range of activities from local competitions to more targeted Ambassador events/activities.

This role will require the incumbent to be able to travel to a range of locations and may involve periods of sitting at a desk operating office equipment and computers. All abilities will be considered and accommodated for.

Time Requirements

Time requirements will change throughout the year to accommodate discipline needs and ambassadors' additional commitments to school, work, equestrian careers and other extracurricular activities.

Selection Criteria for Top 10

Key Area	Major Activities
Support	The applicant has previously volunteered and contributed their time to support their discipline and has provided a reference (non-relative) who can provide further information about their engagement.
Leadership	<p>Initiative & Innovation: They have exhibited an insight into valuable leadership skills and identified ways in which they have demonstrated these skills in the past during the application process.</p> <p>Collaboration & Guidance: The Young Ambassador would have demonstrated some capacity for collaboration and guidance as demonstrated through their participation in team events or Squads, or other group activities.</p>
Performance	The applicant is consistently involved in events, regardless of their performance level or placings. They exhibit a keen interest of engaging with their sport and participating in events.
Critical Assessment Capabilities & Problem Solving Skills	The applicant has identified a moment during which they were able to apply critical assessment capabilities to resolve a problem.
Communication	They are able to communicate well and clearly articulate their goals and ideas.

Position Description

The description below outlines many of the responsibilities that may be required of a Young Ambassador. Each Discipline Committee may evolve these responsibilities, as needed.

Key Area	Major Activities
Volunteering	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Attend committee meetings as a non-voting invitee Young Rider Representative (if 18 years or older).• Help in organising State or National level events for your discipline.• Attend and support clinics and seminars for your discipline.• Volunteer at the Equestrian Victoria Interschool State Championships with the relevant discipline.• Help organise and attend the Young Ambassador Program initiatives for the following year.
Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promote team building and good sportsmanship with members and competitors.
Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Promote your discipline's events on Facebook in collaboration with the relevant Discipline Manager.• Provide newsletter updates about your equestrian pursuits for Around the Stables.• Tagging EV/your Discipline and sponsors in social media posts for your discipline.• Thanking and tagging sponsors of all classes competed in, in any event wrap up social media posts.
Ethics and Behaviour	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Both horse and person well presented and appropriately dressed at all equestrian competitions and training activities.• Be a role model for younger generation riders.• Maintain a friendly and approachable personality.• Be seen supporting other members at competitions.• Greet and thank any officials, training staff, event organisers and administration staff at equestrian associated events/activities.• Comply with the EA/EV Code of Conduct.

2025 Top 10 & Winner Program Inclusions

Develop leadership capabilities and engage with existing industry leaders through attendance at EV facilitated training opportunities.

Key Area	Major Activities
Young Ambassador Leadership & Training Experiences	Top Ten participants will be involved in three days of leadership and personal development experiences. Educational Seminars, Leadership Opportunities, Riding lessons, Activity Night, Presentations and Q&As from Industry Leaders.
Leadership & Skill Development	Through mentorship and leadership training, winners gain the tools to become effective leaders within the equestrian community.
Unmounted Leadership Day (May)	Unmounted day jam packed with guest speakers, fun activations and an opportunity to grow and learn more about your strengths whilst connecting with peers.
2 Day Training Weekend (July)	Top 10 participants will receive two days of complimentary coaching, exclusive merchandise and much more!
Industry Connections	Top 10 participants have the opportunity to engage with program athlete peers, alumni, industry experts, special guests, sponsors and other influential connections.
Sport Engagement	<p>Events: Young Ambassador Winners will receive support to engage with events as volunteers and competitors. They will receive an inside view into the operations of events and receive opportunities to develop soft and hard skills relevant to professional and personal growth.</p> <p>Committees: Young Ambassador Winners will have the opportunity to engage with their committees and support their committee's goals by acting as a Youth Representative.</p>

Key Dates

January 2026	Nominations Open
March 1 st 2026	Nominations Close
March 2-16, 2026	Selectors Review Period
Week of March 24, 2026	Top 10 Announced
May 30	Top 10 Leadership Day WPNEC (no horses)
July 11-12, 2026	Training Weekend - WPNEC
Week of July 13, 2026	Top 3 Announced
Week of July 20, 2026	Final Interviews (Online)
August 2026 (Date TBC)	2026 Winners Announced - Annual Awards Night
Young Ambassador Period September 2026 - August 2027	

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