

2016 Australian Interschool Equestrian Championships

Tasmanian Report

The 2016 Australian Interschool Equestrian Championships were held at the Sydney International Equestrian Centre at Horsley Park, Sydney from the 26th to the 30th September. The competitions included Show Horse, Dressage, Combined Training, Eventing and Show Jumping.

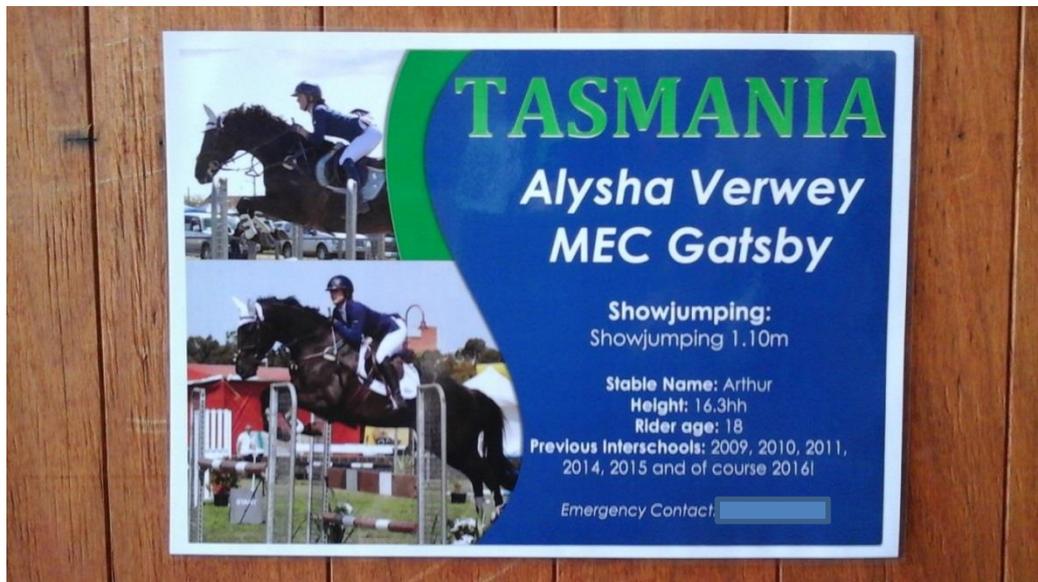
We had 8 riders make the team from Tasmania, out of some 390+ horses from every state in Australia. Apparently the Interschool's is the biggest event for the SIEC venue. The event started with a vet inspection on arrival over the weekend prior and followed by an opening ceremony in the indoor where every rider wore their state uniforms and were introduced to the crowd state by state. The usual rider, parent and official oaths were read.

The riders that were able to make the trip were;

- Caitlin Radford (Captain) XL Overtime
- Alysha Verwey El Cairo
- Alysha Verwey MEC Gatsby
- Alanah Monty Springlodge Mack
- Laura Monty Augustus Park Casper
- Samantha Bessell Irish Riviera
- Shantel Radford RL Dragon Dance
- Shantel Radford Video Flyer
- Jordan Gale Phoenix Park Rebel
- Chloe McFarlane Aglaia Hippios



On arrival the girls got together to decorate their stables, an encouragement from the organisers for a prize for the best team stable tidiness and display. Many thanks go to Caitlin for producing laminated individual stable posters with horse and rider details for every rider.



Day 1 (Monday) was dedicated to Show Horse classes and as we didn't have any competitors for this class, it was an opportunity for parents and other riders to walk the X/C course with our riders getting a chance to look at some of the jumps used in the 2000 Olympics.



Day 2 (Tuesday) saw the commencement of the Dressage, Show Jumping (day 1), Combined Training, and Eventing Dressage, therefore was a busy day for all of us with trying to make sure riders in multiple disciplines didn't clash with times. The highlight was, that evening when all of us knew Jordan was placed 5th in the Combined Training, however she didn't know until her name was called out during the evening presentations in front of all the riders and spectators. Her amazed look was caught on camera and there was tears of joy all round.

Day 3 (Wednesday) was X/C day with Shantel, Alanah and Chloe all getting clear rounds. Show jumping round two was also done. It was also Dressage day for Jordan.



Wednesday finished with a dinner at the local restaurant for all riders and supporters.



Day 4 (Thursday) was the conclusion of the Show Jumping, Eventing Show Jumping and start of Dressage classes for Caitlin. The evening was then taken up with presentations for all classes and overall team winners.



Final Prize Winners

Caitlin Radford

- 1st Secondary Dressage, Intermediate 1, Champion
- 2nd Secondary Dressage, Prix St George, Reserve Champion

Jordon Gale

- 2nd Primary dressage, Preliminary 1.3
- 4th Overall Primary Preliminary Dressage
- 5th Primary Combined training, 60cm

Chloe McFarlane

- 6th EVA80 Eventing
- 4th Secondary Show jumping, A2

Laura Monty

- 6th Secondary Show Jumping, 2 phase

Alysha Verwey

- 4th Secondary Show Jumping, A2

In summary I would like to thank all riders and parents for the help and comradery I received during our time away, especially Caitlin for her Team Captain's leadership. All riders should be congratulated for their behaviour and willingness to help each other and hope they get the opportunity to continue in their favourite discipline and future trips. We say farewell to Caitlin (competed in 8 consecutive Interschool Championships) and Alysha as this is their last year to be eligible for Interschool's and wish them well in future endeavours.

Next year Interschool Championship is in Toowoomba, Queensland with the Pony Club Nationals the following week (I believe) therefore riders should be thinking of this opportunity now. Pool horses maybe available so keep this in mind.

Regards

Jamie Buckby
Team Manager