

The Board Members of Equestrian Australia,  
CC: Mr Grant Baldock, Mr Bruce Farrar, Mrs Judy Fasher.

12<sup>th</sup> October 2014

Dear Equestrian Australia Committee,

I am writing to you on behalf of the members and committee of Jumping NSW regarding the introduction of the EA Hendra By-law to be enforced on October 1<sup>st</sup> 2014.

Firstly I wish to state that we are not against vaccinating with a fully approved drug as we are aware of the danger this virus presents and will support the policy, if and when it is off the permit list and is fully approved by the appropriate authorities..

After long discussions with members of our committee and general members, we have decided that as representatives of Jumping in this state, we cannot support this By-law in its present form. This policy has caused confusion and uncertainty within our ranks for the following reasons;

- Owners are understandably extremely reluctant to vaccinate a horse that they love, with a drug that is still under a permit, and frankly it seems unreasonable to force this on to them.
- Why won't EA delay the enforcement of this policy until the vaccine is fully approved?
- Why did EA rush into this policy without any consultation with the general members?
- The number of adverse reactions seem to be far higher than EA are quoting, there are many members informing us of problems, they claim have not been reported by their veterinarian.
- Who will compensate owners if a horse's reaction is so great that it cannot compete or breed again?
- The information being supplied is very confusing and members are informing me that they are not going to Vaccinate until they can be confident that all information from Equestrian Australia is supported by factual information supplied by the Vaccine Manufacturer, with an absolute guarantee that the vaccine is safe.
- We believe that the check list is unworkable in the current format, as any event of significance will attract an initial score of 15 from the first question, making it certain that the event will be declared a HVE, the immediate effect is that it will not be financially viable to hold large shows, without a large increase in entry fees and a reduction in prize money to offset the reduced of entry revenue. Without the major events there is very real possibility that our sport will suffer irreparable damage.

**Jumping NSW will not support Equestrian Australia's Hendra Policy By-law in its present form, and strongly disagree with the implementation of the policy until the Vaccine has been fully approved and taken off the minor use permit.**

Yours Faithfully,

Brad Longhurst  
President Jumping New South Wales

**Original to follow by mail**