



Working Equitation Lancefield Districts Inc (W.E.L.D.)

New Member Information

Working Equitation Lancefield Districts Inc. (W.E.L.D.) is a club of likeminded adults who foster an environment of camaraderie, support and fun. The club is built around the principles of classical horsemanship, developing the partnership between horse and rider, and building partnerships between members.

W.E.L.D. is a new club that was founded in July 2021. It is affiliated with Australian National Working Equitation Limited (ANWE) who is the official governing body for working equitation in Australia having signed a Protocol Agreement with the World Association of Working Equitation in 2016.

The discipline of working equitation was created to celebrate the partnership between horse and rider with a focus on versatility, agility, athleticism and training. Open to all breeds of horse and levels of rider, Australian National Working Equitation upholds the principles of classical dressage.

Working equitation was pioneered by four countries: Italy, Portugal, Spain, and France, with the first International competition being held in 1996. In 2004, the World Association for Working Equitation was established to govern the sport internationally. Since that time, the sport has continued to grow around the world.

Working Equitation competitions have four phases.

- **Phase 1: Working Dressage:** Riders showcase the partnership and their level of training in a working dressage test conducted on a 40 x 20 metre dressage arena.
- **Phase 2: Maneability:** Riders negotiate a course of obstacles which replicate what they would encounter doing farm or stock work, or out on a ride. This phase is judged on style and accuracy.
- **Phase 3: Maneability Speed:** This is an obstacle course that is judged on speed and accuracy.
- **Phase 4: Team Cattle Yarding: (optional phase)** Working Equitation features a unique cattle event which is something of a cross between cutting, drafting and team yarding. Riders work as a team of 4 to showcase the versatility of their working horse.

Some clubs are just beginning to introduce cattle and not all competitions include the Cattle Phase yet and it is still optional depending on the level you choose to compete.

At W.E.L.D. we have a great group of friendly members and a strict code of conduct which we believe will guide our club to become a strong social club. On club days we ask members to bring a shared lunch and we take the time to sit together and connect. We like to support each other during rallies and at competitions.

Uniform

Official base club colour is red with white and navy trims/offset/pipping and denim coloured pants/jodhpurs.

We do not have uniform items for sale as yet - members are encouraged to purchase items that are aligned with the uniform policy and are comfortable for themselves and horse.

Club Days:

Our Club Days are held on the 3rd Saturday of each month in Lancefield or surrounding areas, but on occasion we may have club days on the 1st Saturday of the month.

We aim to offer a variety of club days, but our goal is to have consistency with our coaches:

- Casual obstacle practice days
- Dressage/flat coaching days
- Maneability coaching days

The structure of each club day will normally consist of group sessions, the length of which will vary depending on the instructor, focus of the day and number of members attending.

Lessons with club coaches will incur an additional fee between \$50 to \$85 (depending on instructor). There is also a facility fee for each ride to cover the costs of the indoor arena hire.

Bookings for club days will be via TryBooking.com or Google forms on a first in basis.

During club days we have to continue to follow the Australian National Working Equitation rules.

<https://anwe.org.au/compete-and-learn/rules-and-tests/>

Membership:

We currently offer adult membership (18+) for \$65 and junior membership (12 to under 18s) for \$40.

You will also require an ANWE membership, which is the National body for Working Equitation in Australia. If you are not already a member of ANWE the cost of this registration is \$30 per year.

The membership year is from 1st July to 30th June.

New memberships to Working Equitation Lancefield Districts Inc. (*W.E.L.D.*) or where memberships have lapsed for 12 months or more are subject to committee approval.

Please note, in accordance with club policy, all applications require committee approval. In the unlikely event an application is not approved, a full refund of fees will be provided. *W.E.L.D.* reserves the right to deny membership at any time without reason.

W.E.L.D. has the right to revoke any person's membership at any time if the committee deems fit to do so. This may occur for any of the following but not exclusively including; failure to abide by the Club's code of conduct, persons partaking in any non-law-abiding activity, bullying and harassment and other reasons the committee deem inappropriate

Insurance

The club is affiliated and insured with Affinity Insurance. **Please note: Membership to WELD does not with personal accident insurance.** WELD recommends all riders, or parents or guardians of under 18 riders, consider obtaining their own insurance before participating in any equestrian related activities. We do strongly encourage Ambulance Victoria cover as in case of an accident we will err on the side of caution and call an ambulance.

For more information about the discipline please look at these links;

<https://anwe.org.au/>

<https://anwevic.com.au/>