

Where the term "Applicant" is used it is referring to Youth who wish to apply to be a team member of Team Australia Trans Tasman 2009.

Where the term "Participant" is used it is referring to Youth who only wish to participate in the Clinics and are not applying to be a part of Team Australia Trans Tasman 2009.

Trans Tasman Clinics will be held from 30th September 2009 to 4th October 2009 with 4th October being an "AA" Class Show which attendance is compulsory for the members selected for Team Australia Trans Tasman 2009, unsuccessful Applicants and Participants are also encouraged to compete at the "AA" Class Show.

1. INTRODUCTION

The Trans Tasman Youth Challenge is a cooperative effort of the Australian Quarter Horse Association and the American Quarter Horse Association of New Zealand and New Caledonia.

- 1.1. It is designed to provide experience in international competition to Youth who aspire to be a future member of Team Australia – Youth World Cup.
- 1.2. This competition is also designed to foster leadership and camaraderie amongst Australian, New Zealand & New Caledonia Youth.
- 1.3. Trans Tasman for 2009 will involve Youth arriving from New Caledonia & New Zealand to participate in a training camp on borrowed horses for 4 days then competing at an "AA" Class Show on the Sunday.
- 1.4. All Applicants and Participants are encouraged to compete at the "AA" Class Show on the Sunday.
- 1.5. Youth selected for Team Australia - Trans Tasman will demonstrate superior horsemanship, leadership, camaraderie, showmanship and international goodwill.

2. SPONSORSHIP

- 2.1. As with any major undertaking such as Trans Tasman, funding will be a significant issue. The AQHA has begun its sponsorship activities in the hope of securing corporate sponsorship for Team Australia -Trans Tasman 2009. Should corporate sponsorship be secured early in the campaign, all applicants and ultimately, successful team members will be required to promote any and all corporate sponsors as part of their activities.
- 2.2. Parents/guardians that are able to assist in introducing corporate sponsorship to cover the costs of the team are encouraged to contact the AQHA Manager.

3. QUALIFYING CRITERIA - AUSTRALIA

- 3.1. All applicants must be 18 years or under as at 1st August 2009.
- 3.2. All applicants must have been full financial youth members for a period of two (2) consecutive years and be in good standing with the Australian Quarter Horse Association.
- 3.3. All applicants must be Australian Citizens and Residents.
- 3.4. Applications will only be accepted on the official application form.
- 3.5. For an application to be accepted applicants **must** fully complete the official application form ensuring that **all** requested information is supplied.

2009 Trans Tasman Clinic & Competition Briefing Document

- 3.6. Completed Trans Tasman application forms **must** be received in the AQHA office **postmarked no later than 30th June 2009** with the non refundable application fee of \$275 attached. All cheques are to be made payable to AQHA and credit card payments will be accepted.

PLEASE NOTE: Applications for Team Australia Trans Tasman 2009 received with a postmark after 30th June 2009 will NOT be considered.

- 3.7. Youth who wish to attend as a "Participant" only, and who do not wish to be considered for Team Australia - Trans Tasman 2009 must ensure their nomination form is received by AQHA post marked not later than 31st August 2009 with the nomination fee of \$200.00 attached.

4. SELECTION PROCESS

- 4.1. A panel of selectors has been appointed whose identities will remain confidential.
- 4.2. All applicants will be required to attend the Trans Tasman camp from 30th September 2009 to 4th October 2009.
- 4.3. Applicants will be required to bring their own horse to the selection camp. Over the duration of the selection camp applicants will be required to ride horses other than their own and agree to allow their horses to be ridden by other applicants.
- 4.4. The Selectors appointed to determine the team members for Team Australia-Trans Tasman 2009 will:
- 4.4.1. Observe applicants leading up to the selection camp where possible, paying close attention to and evaluating their horsemanship skills, presentation skills, and in particular their attitude and sportsmanship.
- 4.4.2. Observe applicants at the Trans Tasman selection camp paying close attention to all applicants in relation to but not limited to:
- The demonstration of exemplary standards of attitude, behaviour, ethics and sportsmanship skills.
 - The ability to work cooperatively with peers and displaying leadership qualities in various activities.
 - Demonstrated horsemanship skills that can get the best results from horses of varying abilities and training levels.
 - Demonstrated grooming and presentation skills.
- 4.4.3. Review the applications of each applicant to establish:
- Proven show experience in a variety of AQHA events and preferably on more than one horse.
 - Proven record of working co-operatively with peers and displaying leadership qualities in various activities.
- 4.5. Up to five (5) Youth applicants will be selected as riding members of Team Australia-Trans Tasman.
- 4.6. The decision of the team coach will be final in all cases.

5. PARENT/GUARDIAN INVOLVEMENT

- 5.1. The AQHA is mindful that each and every parent/guardian wishes the best for their child. This has on occasion led to circumstances where there has been direct parental interference in the management of previous youth teams. This is a situation that can not and will not be tolerated.
- 5.2. The Team Manager and Coach will assume responsibility for the Team Members from the announcement of the Team until the completion of the Trans Tasman Challenge.
- 5.3. Parents planning to be present at the Trans Tasman event while their child is involved or competing in Trans Tasman activities do so as 'tourists' and understand and agree that there will be limited time available for any interaction with their child during the event.
- 5.4. Parents will be required to assist with meal preparation and other duties as directed by Event Management.
- 5.5. In agreeing to allow their child to participate in the Trans Tasman program each parent/guardian accepts:
 - 5.5.1. He/she agrees that they will not interfere, attempt to influence or deliberately disrupt the planning, execution or management of any Trans Tasman related activity.
 - 5.5.2. He/she agrees that they make their own travel and accommodation arrangements and will do so as 'tourists', wholly independent of the team and be self-sufficient.

6. DISCIPLINARY

- 6.1. As members of the Australian Quarter Horse Association, Team Members are subject to the Rules & Regulations of the Australian Quarter Horse Association in regard to their behaviour and will be subject to the disciplinary procedures of the Australian Quarter Horse Association in the event of a breach.
- 6.2. Should a disciplinary matter arise while the team is travelling the Team Manager and the Team Coach will be required to determine any appropriate action or penalty.
- 6.3. Serious disciplinary matters may see the team member removed from the team and sent home at the expense of the team member's parents/guardian.
- 6.4. It is an express condition of the acceptance of an application from any applicant for Trans Tasman 2009 that the applicant's parents acknowledge, agree to and accept the conditions in relation to disciplinary matters.