Ferny Grove Equestrian Team has been going since the beginning on 2012. The team currently consists of; Alice Ferrier, Ella Lovett and Allegra Frunz. We compete in many different events such as; Dressage, Eventing, Show Jumping, Combined Training, Show horse and Interschool Challenge. There is also a special category for our disable riders called Para Equestrian. We compete in regionals, states and if qualified you go to nationals to ride for Queensland.

**Dressage** is the guiding of a horse through a series of complex manoeuvres by slight movements of the rider's hands, legs, and weight. You have to complete a test which are categorised by difficulty of the movements. The simple tests are preliminary 1A, 1B, 1C and 1D. Next comes, Novice 2A, 2B, 2C and 2D, followed by elementary 3A, 3B, 3C and 3D, continuing in the same pattern with Medium, Advance. The highest levels of the phase are; PST George, Inter1, Inter2 and Grand Prix (Olympian).

**Eventing** (also known as horse trials) is an equestrian event where a single horse and rider compete against other combinations across the three disciplines of dressage, cross-country, and show jumping. This event is centred around a comprehensive cavalry test requiring the mastery of several types of riding. The competition may be run as a one-day event (ODE), where all three events are completed in one day (dressage, followed by show jumping and then cross country) or a three-day event (3DE), which is more commonly now run over four days, with dressage on the first two days followed by cross country on the third and then show jumping in reverse order of placing’s on the final day.

**Show Jumping** classes are held over a course of obstacles, including verticals, spreads, double and triple combinations, usually with many turns and changes of direction. The intent is to jump cleanly over a set course within an allotted time. Time faults are assessed for exceeding the time allowance. Jumping faults are incurred for knockdowns and blatant disobedience, such as refusals (when the horse stops before a fence or "runs out"). Horses are allowed a limited number of refusals before being disqualified (usually 3). A refusal may lead to a rider exceeding the time allowed on course. Placing’s are based on the lowest number of points or "faults" accumulated. A horse and rider who have not accumulated any jumping faults or penalty points are said to have scored a "clear round." Tied entries usually have a jump-off over a raised and shortened course, and the course is timed; if entries are tied for faults accumulated in the jump-off, the fastest time wins.

**The Combined Training** competition, while not a true Olympic discipline is run under the EA Eventing Rules. The competition requires skills in both Dressage and Jumping. IQ recognises the importance of such a competition which may encourage riders to widen their horizons by participating in a discipline that they would not normally enter.

**Interschool Challenge** consists of 2 or 3 phase events. All classes require an individual ridden display with both the rider and the horse being judged concurrently by 2 independent judges and then an in-hand presentation. The three-phase Interschool Challenge also includes a jumping phase. The same horse and rider combination must compete in all phases. Interschool Challenge has been derived from the Showman competition. The dressage phase has been removed to encourage greater participation from a range of horses and riders.
It has been designed to reward the all-round equestrian athlete who has a well-developed capacity to present a horse under saddle, in hand and to complete a clear show jumping round.

The Show Horse competition is a judged exhibition of horses and ponies. A show horse competition consists of a series of different performances, called classes, wherein a group of horses with similar training or characteristics compete against each other for awards. Interschool Show Horse competitions do not have a breed class but they do offer hack, hunter and rider classes as well as pleasure and pair classes which do not have qualifying requirements. Show Horse qualifying events are run along the lines of Agricultural shows with a range of height classes and school year based rider classes. Maiden classes may be included to encourage new riders into the discipline.

Overall interschool is great way to get into the competitive streak of horse riding in the many different disciplines they offer.

**International students to Ferny Grove SHS are most welcome to join our equestrian team!**

Equestrian Queensland websites


