



Host Country: New Zealand

16th to 21st September 2024, Taupo New Zealand

Briefing Document

1. INTRODUCTION

Trans-Tasman Challenge is a cooperative effort of the Australian Quarter Horse Association and the New Zealand Quarter Horse Association, which is designed to foster leadership and camaraderie amongst Australian and New Zealand Competitors. Held every second year, the event is rotated between New Zealand and Australia.

Trans Tasman provides experience in international competition for both Youth and Amateurs.

Amateur and Youth members who participate at Trans Tasman will demonstrate superior horsemanship, leadership, camaraderie, showmanship, and international goodwill. Amateurs are given exemption to exhibit horses other than their own in this event.

Consisting of clinics and a competition, the event is generally staged over six to seven days, starting with clinics, and concluding with the Trans-Tasman Challenge.

Team Members will be required to compete in specific classes at the Challenge, which may include but are not limited to Showmanship, Western Horsemanship, Trail, Hunter Under Saddle, Hunt Seat Equitation and Ranch Riding.

Horses and tack are provided by the host country and each Team will be assigned a group of horses that are decided by ballot.

2024 Trans-Tasman will involve the Australian Teams travelling to New Zealand to participate in clinics then competing in the Amateur and Youth Team Challenge classes. Final schedule will be made available when received from the host country.

2. YOUTH QUALIFYING CRITERIA

- a) All applicants must be a minimum of 13 years of age as of 1st August 2024 and a maximum of 18 years of age on the 1st of August 2024.
- b) At the time of application Youth must have been a financial member of the Association for the previous twenty four (24) months. From date of application the Youth must remain a financial member until the 31 July 2025. All applicants must be Australian citizens and reside in Australia.
- c) Applications will only be accepted on the official application form and must be fully completed, and all requested information supplied at time of application, or application will not be accepted.
- d) The AQHA Youth Team will be made up of five (5) riders.

- e) All 2023 Youth World Cup Team riding members are ineligible to apply for the 2024 Youth Trans-Tasman Team.

3. AMATEUR QUALIFYING CRITERIA

- a) At the time of application Amateur applicants must have been a financial member of the Association for the previous twenty four (24) months. From date of application, the Amateur must remain a financial member until the 31st July 2025. All applicants must be Australian citizens and reside in Australia.
- b) All applicants must hold a current AQHA Amateur or Select Amateur Permit
- c) Applications will only be accepted on the official application form and must be fully completed, and all requested information supplied at time of application, or application will not be accepted.
- d) The AQHA Amateur Team will be made up of five (5) riders. Amateurs and Select Amateurs may apply.

An Amateur can only compete in three (3) consecutive Trans-Tasman events and will not be eligible to apply for the next one. Example: Team Member in 2018, 2020, 2022, not eligible for 2024. The member will be eligible for future Trans-Tasman events after 2024.

4. APPLICATIONS close 9am 10th November 2023.

A fee of \$100 (non-refundable) must accompany application form.

LATE APPLICATIONS will not be accepted.

6. SELECTION PROCESS

A panel of selectors, nominated by the Board of Directors, will be appointed whose identities will remain confidential.

The Selectors appointed to determine the Team Members of Team Australia for 2024 Trans-Tasman will:

- a) Observe applicants at shows, paying close attention to and evaluating their horsemanship skills, presentation skills, and in particular their attitude and sportsmanship. Applicants show results will be taken into consideration.
- b) Review the applications of each applicant to establish:
 - i) Proven show experience in a variety of AQHA events on “different horses”.
 - ii) Proven record of working co-operatively with peers, displaying sportsmanship skills and leadership qualities in various activities.
- c) The Selection committee will provide their selections to the General Manager of the AQHA, who will present the selections to the Board of Directors for ratification.
- d) The successful applicants will be notified by phone and email on the 14th March 2024.

7. COACHES

Two (2) Coach's will be selected by appointment by the Board of Directors. The Coach is responsible for the organisation and selection of horses and riders to take part in clinics and a show also the welfare of the horses regarding feed, water and stable cleaning and preparation of the horses for competition.

8. TEAM MANAGER

One (1) Team Manager will accompany both teams to New Zealand and oversee the travel, welfare, and organisation of the Teams whilst in New Zealand. The Team Manager will be selected by appointment.

9. DISCIPLINARY

As members of the Australian Quarter Horse Association, Team Members are subject to the rules and regulations of the Australian Quarter Horse Association regarding their behaviour and will be subject to the disciplinary procedures of the Australian Quarter Horse Association in the event of a breach. Whilst competing in New Zealand, Team Members, Coaches and Managers will be under the rules of the New Zealand Quarter Horse Association and must abide by these rules or be subject to disciplinary action by the AQHA.

10. FLIGHTS, INSURANCE AND ACCOMMODATION

It is the Team Members responsibility and cost, to make their way to the international airport within the State where they live. E.g. If you live in NSW, you will pay for your travel to Sydney International Airport.

The AQHA Office will organise and pay for flights to and from New Zealand.

NB: Any Youth Team Member, who is not accompanied by a family member who is over the age of 21, must travel with the Team Manager, a Coach, or an Amateur Team Member to and from New Zealand.

An Unaccompanied Minor form must be completed and signed by parent or guardian and sent to the AQHA Office.

Travel Insurance is the responsibility of the individual Team Member and the insurance must state that the Team Member will be involved in an equine sporting event in New Zealand.

Accommodation will either be B&B or motel plus transport for Team Members and will be organised by the AQHA.

11. FAMILY AND SUPPORTERS are welcome to accompany the teams to New Zealand. However, no person, other than the Coach of each team, will make decisions regarding the allocation of horses and classes contested and work schedules. Care of horses including, but not limited to, feeding, grooming, cleaning of stables, will be done by the Team Members.

Family and friends are encouraged to accompany the teams to New Zealand and support Team Australia and are responsible for their own flights, accommodation, and transport whilst in New Zealand.

Meals – we are waiting for information from New Zealand regarding family and supporters taking part in the lunch and dinner provided by the Host country as to whether this is available and at what cost.

12. COST FOR EACH APPLICANT

All successful applicants will be required to raise by sponsorship, donations etc. the minimum amount of \$3,000

This amount will be required to be paid to the AQHA Office in the following instalments:

- a) With application form \$100
- b) **30th May 2024** \$1500
- c) **30th July 2024** \$1500

Successful Team Members will send by email, to the AQHA Office, receipt of money raised and banked by Direct Deposit, to melanie@aqha.com.au using their membership number as reference plus the initials TT.

E.g. TT489765

A copy of Team Members passport to be in the AQHA office no later than the **22nd April 2024** and expiry date cannot be before **31st December 2024**.

Lunch and dinner will be provided by the Host country, but in the case that the Team Members, Coaches and Manager make the decision to have dinner at a different venue, then the cost will be paid by each person.

Breakfast, water, fruit, and snacks will be provided by the Team Manager daily.

13. TEAM UNIFORMS –a final decision on design and colours will be made by the Team Manager and Coaches and ordered by the 3rd May 2024. Please note that the Australian colours are green and gold and must be incorporated in the uniform consisting of:

Trans-Tasman jacket, Trans-Tasman polo shirt long sleeve, short sleeve polo shirt, cap and back-pack.

Team Members to supply a black hat and blue jeans that will be part of the uniform when the Team Manager informs them that the Team Uniform must be worn.

14. SHOW CLOTHES

To be supplied by all Team Members.

15. Any successful Team Member that does not abide by the rules and instructions, in this document will be removed from the Team and any funds raised will be put aside for the next Trans-Tasman event.

16. All applicants will be notified by phone and individual emails on the 14th March 2024. Applicants and their family will not disclose their successful or unsuccessful place on the Team until such times they receive an email from the General Manager stating the names of all successful applicants.

Please fill out the attached application form and for Youth, the Parent/Guardian section to be completed.

If there are any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the AQHA Office 02 6762 6444 and speak Michelle or email pa@aqha.com.au