ASHS NATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Australian Stock Horse

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to contact the ASHS via Email: info@ashs.com.au or Fax: 02 6545 2165 Phone: 02 6545 1122 International: +61 2 65645 1122.

Question 1. Do I need to be a member of the ASHS?

Answer: Yes. All participants in the National Youth Exchange Program need to be financial members of the Society.

Question 2. When can I go on Exchange?

Answer: The National Youth Exchange Program will generally run during school holiday periods.

Question 3. What are the age requirements?

Answer: Currently the NYEP is open to participants from 14 to 18 years.

Question 4. How do I apply for the ASHS National Youth Exchange Program?

Answer: By contacting Head Office via Email: <u>info@ashs.com.au</u> or Phone: 02 6545 1122 or by submitting an Expression of Interest which are available on the ASHS Website.

Question 5. What is the selection process?

Answer: Interested persons are required to submit an ASHS National Youth Exchange Application Form along with two references. They are then required to be available for an interview with the NYE Selection Panel. For applicants from remote areas or who live outside a reasonable travelling distance from Head Office these interviews can be done via Skype. If successful and a suitable match can be made with a Host Family that meets the requirements of the Youth Ambassador and the Host Family then the Youth Ambassador will be notified and the final arrangements and preparations will be made.

Question 6. How are the Host Families selected?

Answer: Host Families are required to submit an ASHS National Youth Exchange Application Form along with the names and contact details of two referees. Potential Host Families will be contacted and required to submit relevant documents and once approved and a suitable match has been made with a ASHS Youth Ambassador the exchange can be finalised.

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Question 7. How much does it cost to participate in the NYEP?

Answer: Travel expenses are the responsibility of the Youth Ambassador and his or her family. Pocket money is also to be provided by the Youth Ambassador's family. The Host Family will provide meals and accommodation.

The Australian Stock Horse Society Youth Exchange Program will cover the cost of the Youth Ambassador's entries at pre-approved ASHS events over the duration of the exchange.

Question 8. What insurance will I need to participate in the NYEP?

Answer: It is a requirement that Youth Ambassador have ambulance and health cover. The ASHS will supply successful applicants with corporate travel cover.

Question 9. Can I apply to travel interstate or am I restricted to my home state?

Answer: Youth Ambassadors can apply to travel within their home state or interstate. The availability of a Host Family will determine the final destination of the exchange.

Question 10. What if I have problems while I am on exchange?

Answer: All youth exchange participants will be given 24-hour emergency contact numbers. Where possible there will be arrangements in place with local Branch members who will provide a support network.

Question 11. What gear will I be required to take?

Answer: The Youth Ambassador must take all safety equipment such as a standard approved helmet and riding boots and supply his or her own saddle where possible. Where the Youth Ambassador is required to travel by air and baggage restrictions apply it will be negotiated with the Host Family as to whether a saddle can be supplied.

Question 12. What level of riding experience do I need to apply and will I be excluded from the program if I have never competed at an ASHS Event?

Answer: The exchange is open to riders of all levels and there is no prerequisite that requires the Youth Ambassador to have competed in ASHS Events. The Youth Ambassador's riding experience will be taken in to account when determining the Host Family, as a suitable mount needs to be available before any exchange is approved.

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