

Entering young horse classes...

*Galerius
(Diamond De Semilly
x Sandro Boy)*

A Secret to Sovereign Equestrian's Success

At Sovereign Equestrian, we have consistently utilised age classes to help aid the development of our young horses into high-quality, consistent performers.

Age classes are an outstanding way to showcase and highlight the talent of young horses, enabling you to both produce your horse and subsequently promote them. At Sovereign Equestrian, we understand the value of age classes which is why we recently sponsored the 5-year-old class at the Northcote Young Horse Championships. As well as sponsoring this prestigious event, we also competed, with a selection of our horses entered into a variety of categories including the; 5, 6 and 7-year-olds and the Talent Seekers.

In terms of our own success story, the most recent example is Galerius. He is a 6-year-old stallion that Sovereign Equestrian owned as a 3-year-old, and then after a couple of years of development under our wing, sold as a 5-year-old. Galerius' career highlights include jumping triple clear and clinching victory in the Foxhunter second rounds at Keysoe. The key aspect for us, was seeing how exposure to age classes – even with a developed horse like Galerius – can still produce incredible results.

Whilst we understand completely that all horses develop at different rates, it's still imperative to put a plan in place for your horses' individual requirements. On many occasions we have had situations where a particular horse can appear to be a substantial way behind on their development pathway, only to experience a late surge and catch up before you know it. All of our horses are tailored to their own requirements, which is why some will start competing at the age of 4 and others can take an additional year to reach their potential. In either case, age classes remain an excellent avenue to showcase and highlight young horses and ensure that when they do begin to compete as 5 year olds, they're in a much stronger position than they otherwise would have been.

The photo opposite, is from the Northcote Stud Young Horse Championship. The ability of the Sovereign horses is evidence that sticking to a consistent plan of development can turn your young horses from prodigies into established performers. Our main advice, therefore, is always to identify how far along the development pathway a horse is early on, and then decide from there whether they require additional time to develop or are ready to start their competitive career.

At Sovereign Equestrian, we train, maintain, and care for our horses so that they become exceptional performers across all disciplines. We know that a fit and healthy horse is a happy horse, and a happy horse is a successful horse. We want to share some of our techniques with you because, with the right care and training, your horse can reach its true potential.

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*True Blue III
(Chacco Blue x Manhattari)*



Ginadina PP (Cabrio v/d Heffinck x Winningmood)



Cludo IV (Casall x Contender)



Highhope DD (Durrant x Gregor)



Heartdancer H (Dakar VDL x Lancelot)



Darien (Verdi x Larino)