



Australian Endurance Riders Association Inc.

Date: 19th and 20th July 2014.

Venue: Ciloms Airport Lodge, 398 Melrose Drive, Tullamarine, Melbourne, Victoria.

NOTES OF MEETING

Meeting commenced - Saturday 19th July 2014 at 8.45am to 6.25pm; Sunday 8.35am – 3.25pm.

1. Welcome by President.

Mel welcomed everybody to the meeting. Each person was asked to give a small resume about themselves for the sake of the newer members.

2. Members Present.

Trent Huxtable (Tas), Pat Hodgetts (Tas), Ellen Prestage (Vic), Tamara Atkinson (Vic), Steve Swan (Qld), Jan Tyrrell (Qld), Liz Rutherford (WA), Ieva Peters (WA), Melanie Scott (SA), Janne Harris (SA), Brad Dillon (NSW).

2.1 Apologies. Mark Grogan (Qld). Late Apology: Marlee Turnbull.

2.2 AERA Delegate Nominations.

Nominations have been received from: Janne Harris (SA), Tamara Atkinson (Vic), Brad Dillon (NSW) and Roy Barsby (NSW).

Motion 2014.07.01. Moved Pat Hodgetts/Liz Rutherford.

That Janne Harris, Tamara Atkinson, Brad Dillon and Roy Barsby are accepted as AERA delegates for 2014. Carried unanimously.

2.3 Visitors: Gerard Bou (proxy for Mark Grogan), Neil Clarkson (Saturday 12.00pm to 2.00pm), Tom McCormack (Skype – 3pm Saturday).

2.4 Proxy Votes. Gerard Bou on behalf of Mark Grogan.

3. Live SMC Document.

A document was created at the AERA meeting and keeps notes on what is to be distributed to the State Management Committees immediately following the meeting. Liz Rutherford to do this.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes (from Action Sheet).

- Training Ride Pointscores: from a horse welfare perspective, things seem to be going OK.
- National Ride Calendar: VERA rides were not on there. WAERA were not listed for a while. If Aon can't see the ride on the national calendar, they go to the state calendar. C of C won't be issued unless it's on the national calendar. Liz R can be the second go-to person. Ieva to let Elaine know and ask that Liz is to be given the passcodes. AeraSpace can be used to keep the national calendar up to date. Can be downloaded into a PDF or XL sheet and then put on the AERA website. AERA require the divisions to have next year's ride calendar entered into AeraSpace by the 1st January 2015. Can be updated by the State Calendar person. Needs to be kept updated, otherwise C of C may not be issued. Ride calendar is now sourced by AeraSpace.
- IVT Forms: About a week ago, Pat received some IVT forms from NSW. Some from Vic a couple of months ago. Rule revision: is taking blood samples invasive treatment? Do we need a form for authority to take bloods? Pat will look at this.
- CS/TPR/Vet Registers: AeraSpace should have all this. States must check that vets, TPRs and CS are up to date. Steve checked AeraSpace and they are pretty good. Vet lists seem to need attention.
- AERA Forms: Review all AERA forms and place on website. Someone needs to check each State's website and ensure that we all have the updated documents. Tom is available to do some work during August.
- Appreciation Buckle/Award: Still in progress. Steve to talk to Matthew K about this. Could be used for the static display in 2015.

- Newbridge Trophy: Update the plaques. The AHSA are going to sell their premises. Need to keep an eye on our trophies. Ieva to get in touch with Denise Trollope/Val Males to see what belongs to the AERA.
- National Vet Panel: Generate a list of minimum additional gear and consumables required for treatments that could be carried to rides. Maximum additional gear list received from Kathy Webb which she used for Bet Bet. Minimum list still needs to be done. Pat has the list that she will send to Tom. To go on wip site and into TQ manual.
- Pat Slater Cup: sashes have been ordered.
- Vet Accreditation: Pat to send this document around. Should go on the wip site, as well. Current one is on the website: Feb 2000. Changes have been done. Pat has sent it to Tom for editing. Vet registration needed to be updated.
- Bookkeeper: Investigate credit card facility. Deb had long talks with the bank. They won't give credit cards to incorporated associations. Deb has agreed to use her card and we reimburse her.
- Quilty Cup: We need to get a valuation done (for insurance purposes) on the Quilty perpetual trophy and case. Cup is now in WA and will be heading to Wagin soon. Ieva will try and sort this out before the Cup goes to Wagin. Can we make a travel bag for it?
- Pat Slater Cup: Gerard will have a look at making it a perpetual trophy, including a case.
- Non-FEI Selection Policy: G is OK to do this. G will have a chat with Tom. This would be for non-FEI events, selection and managing international invitations.
- Website & AeraSpace: Steve to start doing something with AeraSpace and see where we go from there.
- AeraSpace: Compile a list of current star ratings for FEI horses and riders. Ongoing. Mel to write to someone in EA re: letting them know the processes required for FEI athletes and horses on AeraSpace.
- Quilty Buckles: Trent has spoken to Ray Fay (jeweller in Tas) is of the opinion that they can be made, but would struggle to compete price-wise. Trent to continue enquiries. Tom Mc has sent pictures of some of the buckles that he noticed whilst in the USA. Liz and Trent to get a quote from Montana Silversmiths in the USA.
- Auditor: MK Audits in Qld and another group in NSW were suggested. Deb Watson felt it would be better to work with someone in Qld. Steve suggested Kevin Dellow in Queensland (ex QERA member) in Caboolture. Deb will suss out a couple of people close to her. Should be finalised by November 2014.
- IT Forms: Steve to have a look at incorporating the IVT forms into AeraSpace. Already been done. The State Horse Welfare Officer can scan the form into AeraSpace and attach it to the horse. SMCs to be asked to scan the documents and attach to horse in AeraSpace – Steve to do this. Steve to be the contact. Steve can make it so that the horse cannot enter an event until the RO has been done.
- National Ride Standard: quotes for road crossing signs were sent to the States.
- Chief Stewards: vest has been sent to Caroline Windle.
- AERC: statistics have been sent to them.
- Timing/AeraSpace: Steve and Peter Johnson will be going to Canberra for a trial of the timing system in August. Steve explained the background about the electronic timing system. Will be done in Canberra with Tom and Lou's help. Will be tried out at the QERA State Champs as well, and then the Wagin Quilty. AERA would provide one working system to each state to start off with. Different to the system that is used in Tasmania.
- Rule Books: have been sent to the States.
- Waiver Form: Update waiver form to include Hendra. 2015? Should probably come from Aon? This needs to be included on the 2015 year.
- Quilty: Events Standards document still needs to be updated before it can go on the website.
- Teams Event: advertising has been done. No takers.
- National Magazine: Jan will organise some extra copies of the QERA magazine to be sent to the SMCs. Jan has brought some extras to this meeting. National magazine would need support from all the states. NSW are not supporting a national newsletter. QERA to put together a proposal/budget for AGMs about having a national newsletter. Would need someone from each state to organise articles. Members in the states would need to know what it would cost them. Presently, QERA magazine is every 3 months. QERA have engaged someone to chase up some advertising. Getting an editor from each state could be problematic. Could be someone from the southern/western states could be done. Would need a cost structure for the members.
- AeraSpace: SMC to nominate someone to have access rights to AeraSpace so that they can keep things up to date. It is best to have 2-3 people in each state who know how to access AeraSpace. The States to let Steve know who they want to be able to access AeraSpace and how much access they need.

5. State Reports.

5.1 NSW Report.

Ride organisers forum is going to be in September.

5.2 Queensland Report.

Nothing much to report. Great weather. Lots of rides. State Champs is going along well. SMC had a meeting at the venue – big showgrounds with lots of facilities. Track is fairly flat. Looks terrific. Near Toowoomba. Four FEI rides will be held. Invitations have sent to the states for Junior riders to partake in a Trans-Tasman series. Cannot source horses for everyone. NZL can't come. South Africans are sending a squad. MAS don't have many Jnrs and they are focussed on WEG. They will send a rider. Pat suggested that it could perhaps be a 2-3 day carnival. Kids could act as officials and help out with the younger riders. Gerard mentioned that next year the Trans-Tasman won't be at the State Championships. It will be less pressure to find horses. Pat suggested that QERA could tie it into an education and training day. This is a QERA thing, but would like to send our kids to other states. If other states want to come on board, that's great. Gerard has sourced some horses for the South Africans and the Malaysian. Won't be an FEI ride, will be an AERA event. NSW is sending a team.

5.3 Victorian Report.

Juniors wearing helmets in the vet ring has been an issue and is on the agenda. There's been a couple of near-misses. VERA also had an issue with a horse having different birth dates.

5.4 South Australian Report.

Pat: should SAERA's biosecurity/Hendra policy be forwarded to the states. Steve is not happy with this, especially the 250km distance. Qld are in the heart of Hendra issues and have a three day temperature chart. Yet states can come out with this, and sets a crazy precedent.

5.5 Western Australian Report.

As per agenda. Nothing to add.

5.6 Tasmanian Report.

Special meetings are scheduled just prior to each AERA meeting to discuss rule changes. If nobody shows up, the SMC decides what to do. Junior membership: increase of 10 more girls as members. All up, we have 42 juniors.

6. Financial Report.

Bookkeeper's Report 15/7/14

Buckles – Delivered 15.7.14 **Decision needs to be made on the 50th celebration buckle.**

Quilty: Nothing outstanding atm.

Cups: We have ordered 2 TQ cups. Sent buckle to be used for TQ14 cup. **Decision needs to be made regarding the TQ15 cup.** Also ordered 1x Pat Slater cup, awaiting delivery.

Logbooks: The colour of the cover remains incorrect, however according to the printer, if we want the same durability of cover we have no other blue colour option. **The only way to change colour is to either increase or decrease the quality of the stock. Please advise.....** We will have enough for 2014, I estimate, still 440 in stock..

Covers: Arrived with 1759 in stock.

Insurance: On track atm. Aeraspace reports now working well.

Arrows: The order and dispatch of arrows seems to be working well.

Audit: 2012 audit completed, filed with Office of Fair Trade and 2013 underway. Hope to have this completed in the next month or so.

Holidays: Please note, I will be overseas from 7 August to 30 August inclusive. Anything needing my attention has to be communicated to me at least 7 days prior. I will have email access most of the time but I am on holidays, so would like to only have to deal with urgent issues.

Deb Watson
15.07.14

6.1 Audit 2012/2013.

2012 – Has been done.

6.2 National Ride Standard.

Currently charging \$1.10 each arrow. Now will be \$1.20 each. Steve will re-design the markers to make the arrow a bit thicker so reflective easier to see.

7. Portfolio Reports.

7.1 AERA Registrar Report.

We don't need to keep adding the old Master Ride Sheets to AeraSpace. Steve is confident that we will migrate endurancedb into Aeraspace which is easier. Tom has had conversations with Ian Blucher and Peter Johnson.

7.1.1 AERA Rider Lifetime Distance Award.

We're already up to about 150 awards. Can't possibly fit them in for the Quilty awards 2015. We need to give this some thought. Could be done at AGMs.

7.2 Insurance Report.

Got a great deal from Aon for travel insurance. Ieva to write to Bev and ask her for something for our website. It is a good deal and we should spread the word. Send to the States, FB, etc. Logo and banner needed for the websites.

7.3 Hendra Virus – Biosecurity Committee.

Report from Chris Nichol was tabled.

7.3.1 AERA Horse Health Declaration Form – sent separately. Tabled.

7.3.2 AERA Event Biosecurity Plan – sent separately. Tabled.

7.3.3 Motion from NSWERA AGM regarding a Hendra subsidy.

At the 2014 NSWERA AGM a motion was passed from the floor. As a result the NSWERA SMC is asking the AERA to pursue with the Commonwealth government the aim of having a subsidised vaccine program for endurance horses for Hendra.

Mel will write the letter. Kerry Spratt has the details of where to send the letter.

7.4 AERA Social Media Policy.

Purpose

Social media provides an excellent opportunity for people to gather in online communities of shared interest and create, share and utilise content. The interest and participation in social media is growing very quickly and this extends to the Australian Endurance Riders Association Inc. (AERA), the individual state associations and Ride Organising Committees (RO) who recognise that social media offers new opportunities to communicate with members and non-members alike.

AERA sees social media as an important tool for both member and non-member engagement. AERA's policy for Social Media Engagement is designed to protect the interests of the AERA Inc, State Divisions and their members, Volunteers, sponsors and the sport as a whole.

For queries or clarification about anything contained within this Policy, please refer to the AERA website at www.aera.asn.au

The states need to make their own policy. This policy applies to the AERA and its mediums.

***Motion 2014.07.04. Moved: Liz Rutherford/Ellen Prestage.
That the AERA accept the policy as tabled (14 Nov 2013).
Carried unanimously.***

leva will send it to Elaine to put on the wip site. Should be reference in the rule book. leva to let Tom know.

7.5 Equestrian Australia Endurance Committee.

- Equestrian Queensland is taking on EA National about the mandatory Hendra vaccination policy. Mediation process to go through. The new policy applies from the 1st October 2014. Should the by law be put in abeyance until the matter is resolved?
- Penny Toft has resigned from the EA EC. Position is being advertised.
- Calendar – have been a few rumblings about FEI rides clashing with State Champs etc. AERASpace can be used to check the national ride calendar.
- Write to EA and tell them we are concerned that we weren't consulted in the process of creating the Hendra policy. Especially considering this would profoundly affect the future of FEI events in NSW and Qld, and subsequently the ability for our riders and horses to qualify for WEG and WC events. And therefore to have representation at an international level. AERA to write to EA and tell them we are concerned with the future of FEI endurance events – they are effectively killing off FEI events in AUS.
- Pat suggested that we have a permanent FEI ride base in one of the south-eastern states that wouldn't be in a Hendra problem area and have a "fast" track to be used for qualifying for WEG and WCs, etc.

7.6 Veterinary Accreditation.

7.6.1 Veterinarians for Accreditation.

Motion 2014.07.05. Moved/NSW/Pat Hodgetts.

That the following accredited veterinarians are accepted: Albert Sole Guitart, Emma Davis, Tori Locke, Anthony Parker (re-accreditation), Lauren Fletcher, Aleona Swegen, Simon Bain, Amy Lovett, Heather Glover.

Carried unanimously.

leva to write to NSWERA.

7.7 AeraSpace.

- Electronic timing: meeting at Tom's in a few weeks for a trial. Costs for the equipment will probably be around \$3,000 for the initial set up. Chips have been changed. Minor changes in the costing, but not a lot.
- Back ups: on-line backup system is being used on SOS Backup. Peter Johnson also has access to the backup data. Steve to send leva the details for the backup system, just in case anything happens to Steve or PJ.
- Historical data: endurancedb appears to have all of the results done back to the beginning. There are some problems with some of the historical data on endurancedb. Tom Mc has been in touch with Ian B about moving the information to AeraSpace. It will need a lot of cleaning up once it is integrated. Need input from Jo Bailey as well as riders, etc. We also need a statement up front to let people know that we are merging the two and there is a process to ensure that the data is accurate. Huge thanks must be mentioned to Lyn Bailey and Ian Blucher for the work put into endurancedb.
- Divisions need to take more responsibility for officials to be kept up to date on the db.
- Thanks to Steve Swan for plugging on with this.
- EWS: still needs some work. NSW seem to have been having a problem. Updates on the server once a week.
- When we get all the new data from Omni into AeraSpace (things like horse and rider history) it will be complete once it's tidied up. We can also then have more reports like decade teams.

7.7.1 AERASPACE Intro Rides

From NSWERA: Is it possible to set up AERASPACE so that ride organisers can put less information into it for Intro rides 20km and smaller, IE name and DOB for rider and horse. The short answer is no, and there is a good reason for this. The main reason for needing this information on day riders is that we are hoping that they will become members and can save on duplications, if you know you have a repeat day rider, if you know her birth date and horse's name, you can match it, so you really only have to put it in once. You can now see the horse history and link the rider to the horse. The information is also used for the Day Membership register

7.8 Governance & Policy.

On hold until after the new constitution is adopted.

7.9 AERA Handbook/Rulebook.

Has been completed and sent to the states. A new, updated draft has been sent around by Tom. Format and concept is good. There are several rule changes that may be worth thinking about. The document will contain the rules for the sport and every person who participates i.e. rider strapper, CS, checkpoints, etc. This will be a rule book for everyone that participates in the sport.

7.10 Tom Quilty Gold Cup.

Pat Slater Cup Judges: needs to be decided at this AERA meeting. Amanda Rayner, Harry O'Brien, Jane Radny, Norbert Radny (not both), Melanie Scott, Plus a couple of reserves. Ieva can sort it out at the event, if needs.

7.10.1 WAERA/TQ14 – Hendra.

- As per agenda. Costs of getting horses drenched for Liver Fluke? Costs involved and are they drenched twice? Ieva to find out and will update the Quilty website.
- Are we doing "merchandise" for officials and vets? Probably.
- Brook sample is coming to defend his title, which is great.
- Mel noted that Anne Barnes was very helpful when discussing the Horse Health declarations and requirements.

7.10.2 2015, Hawkesbury, New South Wales.

As per agenda.

- Neil Clarkson attended the meeting.
- State Champs went very well. The committee did a fantastic course. Course was challenging and there have been some changes made. Legs 2 and 3 have been swapped around and will be done in the daylight hours. First leg will have 2 hills, second leg 3, third has 3, 2 in fourth, one in the last. 250m is probably the biggest hills. Neil would recommend getting off whilst going down hills. Boyds and Bakers have been taken out. It's OK to repeat legs. Track will hold up well in wet weather. He would prefer for the final leg to be easier. GPS map to be done.
- Start of the event could be moved to the paddock down the road. Could be a staggered start for the TQ. Riders could choose to start in a later group. They would not be credited for times.
- The marshal's car will set a walk speed and riders would be made to walk. Riders could be asked to dismount. There would need to be another area to help riders mount up again. Agreed that it would be a group start until they can get off the bitumen and onto the gravel road.
- Horses and vehicles would have to share the road three times. May have to use a mini bus and park the cars in the paddock. A big bus has also been used from the ferry to the ride base.
- Finish line would be the same as it was this year – along the river on the grass.
- No limit on entry numbers at the moment. Can fit 300 on the golf course.
- Vets will be accommodated in the other cabins near the treatment area. Golf Buggies could be available for them to use.
- Vet hospital could be in a marquee. Float would be used to move horses from the vet ring to the vet hospital.
- Horses in the vet ring needing immediate treatment – have a kit easily accessible at the vet ring. Privacy screens would also be needed.

- When was the last time that David Brown vetted/treated at a ride? Robyn has nominated David Brown. Need more than one treatment vet. Could have a triage (two horse) area, and then move them on to the vet hospital.
- Gallop finish area – can be organised and a line will be drawn next to the river.
- Debriefing meeting is next weekend.
- Electronic time keeping – in trial stages this year. Should be OK to be used for the 2015 TQ.
- Quilty manual – Tom is updating the one from July 2010.
- Marlee has resigned from the TQ2015 meeting. Mel is OK to be the contact between the AERA and the TQ2015 committee. Brad will bring a report from Neil to the meetings.
- AERA website is available for the TQ2015 a committee, or you can divert to another web site. Neil can have a chat to Elaine about this.
- Accommodation: Del Rio would like to open camp bookings in August for 2015 event. How much accommodation do the AERA want to reserve? Need to know in the next couple of weeks.
- Letters from Councils about having Quilties in their areas: ask Tom Mc – he may have them. Pat will chase up the letters.
- Budget XL spread sheet – Neil broke it.
- Extra camping will be \$30 per horse/per day.
- Sponsorship: RM Williams is a no go. Some sponsorships are being chased up. Bec is overseas at the moment, and will be back in a couple of weeks.
- Ride bib naming: may be using existing ride bibs with CRT on them. Would be nice to have a commemorative bib.
- Entry fee: - needs to come to the next meeting.
- Updated budget – next meeting.
- Are we happy with the planned Quilty course? There have been several complaints about how hard it was for the State Championships. Particularly leg 2 – two way traffic. Do we need to send someone to look at the course? Tom McCormack? Dick Collyer? Gerard Bou? Trent Huxtable? Tom said no. Melanie Scott agreed to go. G would be second (has three buckles).

7.10.3 Hendra Biosecurity Plan for TQ15.

As per agenda. Need the final for the next meeting.

7.10.4 TQ50th Buckles.

- As per agenda. Deb has sent sample pictures of the buckles for discussion.
- Years should be 1966-2015. Make sure they are aware of it. To be outside of the circle around the rider with a large “50th” second and third line “1966-2015”. Picture number 3.
- Need to be ordered now. Order 150. Plus the 12 placing buckles.
- Get Deb to ask how much extra it would be if we were to order more after the event. When is the cut-off date where we can change the quantity required? Must ensure that they are received in adequate time, unlike the buckles we are still waiting for.

Motion 2014.07.07. Moved: Steve Swan/Ellen Prestage.

Motion; that the AERA pay the deposit in the order of \$40,000 (or the amount necessary) for the purchase of the TQ 2015 buckles.

7.10.5 Tom Quilty Gold Cup – 50th Anniversary.

Cups: We have ordered 2 TQ cups. Sent buckle to be used for TQ14 cup. Decision needs to be made regarding the TQ15 cup. Also ordered 1x Pat Slater cup, awaiting delivery.
Engraving on the 2015 cup: have the same, and use a 2015 buckle which will have the years on it.
Do we want a 2015 buckle? Yes.

7.10.6 2015, TQ50th Celebration Committee.

Questions for AERA submitted from the Celebration Committee, awaiting response.

7.11 TQ 2016, Victoria.

- Submission sent separately to delegates on 7/7/14.
- Event Agreement needs to be signed.
- Letter from VERA was tabled.

- Steve went through the background information. Basically, this is an instrument to have the state working with the organising committee working with AERA. AERA delegate needs to be on the organising committee, as well.
- Narelle Cribb would be the Head Vet. Need a Chief Steward.
- TQ subcommittee hasn't been formed yet, but was discussed at the VERA SMC meeting. Were there other contenders apart from Sandy?
- Our desire is to have a quality event, to do that we need to keep the links between the AERA and the event organisers strong and flexible.
- VERA will sign the agreement.
- Pat suggested that the funding from Tonimbuk is released in increments.
- Ask VERA and Southern Crosse to nominate a CS and Head Vet. (Doesn't need to be from Victoria)
- Test event would be the VERA state champs next year sometime between August and October. Would VERA consider bringing it forward closer to the long weekend in June? Could run a shorter event in June and still have the State Champs in June. Could be a fortnight before as preparation and as practise for VGIH. Electronic timing would be available too and a three leg 90 would be a good test.
- Ask Tom to do a template for TQ submissions.
- Write to Bet Bet and thank them for the submission, give them a list of things to do.
- Write to VERA and say without the benefit of the results of the 14 June meeting, in principle we like their adopted motions, with the exception of one point (we would like VERA or the subcommittee to sign the event agreement) and we have written to Southern Cross (copy to VERA) asking information and then sign the agreement. Include in the letter that the event "belongs" to the AERA and we have the final say regarding the appointment of the CS and HV. Acknowledge that the time frame for the signing of the agreement has not been met, however, we want to move forward and are viewing this as the successful bid but we need a few more details prior to signing of the agreement document.
- TQ manual needs updating – **do this first** prior to signing.

8. **AHSA Rug Sponsorship.**

Ieva had a call from Virginia Dodson at the AHSA. They are proposing a one horse one rider award – end of year. Waiting for something in writing. We need to draft up a set of guidelines with a minimum standard. Has to be kersey rugs and must be embroidered.

9. **AERA Awards.**

- Ieva has had a chat with Kerry about the quality and type of awards that will be needed. Ieva and Liz will organise them for the 2014 event.
- Tom has sent some samples of trophies and buckles that he has spotted while he was in the USA.
- Jan Tyrrell will take on the awards portfolio.
- Jan will bring back some ideas for the next meeting for the TQ50th distance awards for riders.

10. **Dress Standard.**

- Several complaints have been received regarding the standard of dress – in particular veterinarians that have dressed in costume. Is this appropriate for our national event? WEG and WC – if you showed up like that you'd get thrown out of the vet ring. Some people are OK with this. However, this is our national event and attracts global attention. This is not appropriate for our National Endurance event. OK to have at your state rides, but not appropriate for a Quilty.
- Where are the ProVet vests and the CS vests? In Queensland, and they need some repairs done.
- Ieva to write to the vets and remind them to dress appropriately and no frivolous costumes or such.

11. **AERA Constitution.**

- Tom has put aside the month of August for doing AERA stuff, including the constitution.
- Would like to set up passwords on the AERA WIP site.
- Kerry Spratt would like to stay involved with the constitution sub-committee. OK with us. Mel to talk to Tom about this.

12. **Rule Changes.**

12.1 **Rule Changes – Motions for Discussion and First Vote.**

12.1.1 Submitted by QERA:

Motion - That rule H3 3.3 be changed from "A horse must be six years of age before it can start in a 160 kilometre AERA endurance event" to "A horse must be seven years of age before it can start in a 160 kilometre AERA endurance event".

Discussion:

We had riders at a Quilty in SA that wanted to enter a young horse, and wasn't happy when they couldn't. Not all endurance horses are Arabians. Have a problem with distance but not speed. Perhaps we should be limiting the speed and not the distance. Sometimes it's a combination of both, but mostly its speed. While it's commonly accepted that Arabs mature later than other breeds, if you over stress any horse they are still susceptible to damage, regardless of the breed. If passed this would apply from 1st Jan 2015. This could affect the TQ15 and some of the horses that are planning to attend. If this passes this year and is applies from 1st January 2015, and does not apply this year. Are there any statistics to back the claims in the rationale? Steve could get the figures out. Where is the scientific data please? Doesn't seem to be anything documented. Steve happy to withdraw/suspend motion at this time then QERA will provide more information for the next meeting.

From the March meeting:

Motion 2014.03.16. Moved Steve Swan/Liz Rutherford.

That motion 14.2.1 (above) is set aside until the July meeting pending further information from QERA, the NVP and any interested parties.

Voting: Tas – yes, Vic – yes, Qld – yes, WA – yes, NSW – yes, SA – yes. Carried.

From the NVP:

Given the data and information that has been accessed and analysed by Dr Debbie Grull, in particular comparing 6 and 7 year old horses, there is no evidence to specifically support that age change for horses.

Perhaps at this stage a more comprehensive rule, that provides protection for horses of any age, might consider how many years of active competition are required before we consider a horse adequately mature to undertake a 160 km event.

Discussion:

Data received is from AeraSpace. Noting further received from QERA. Needed references from QERA for the research that they were referring to. QERA asked that this motion is deferred until the next meeting. Agenda item for November 2014 meeting. Should this go to AGMs? We need more information.

12.1.2 Submitted by NSWERA.

Motion: That any resident living in the Northern Rivers Zone has the option to join either QERA or NSWERA.

From the March 2014 AERA meeting:

Motion 2014.03.17. Moved: Steve Swan/Marlee Turnbull.

That we form another constitution subcommittee to discuss and make a recommendation to the AERA constitution subcommittee for the new AERA constitution regarding the NRZ.

Voting: Tas – yes, Vic – yes, Qld – yes, WA – yes, NSW – yes, SA – yes. Carried.

Discussion:

Steve believe that the divisions are happy with the status quo. Steve has emailed some documentation to Trent (and now Ieva) – historical documents. Started in 1983 and was agreed to by the States (NSW and Qld). Current AERA constitution may reflect those decisions. There has been nothing done as far as discussions between QERA, NRZ and the subcommittee. NSWERA want the members to have a choice. Brad to have a chat with Dick Collyer. Defer until the next meeting.

12.1.3 Ride and Tie Rules into the AERA Member's Handbook – Submitted by NSWERA.

Rule A2, 2.1

Be amended to include the following:

F) A **Ride and Tie** (including an elevated ride and tie) ~~which~~ is a competitive horse ride, **where each entry consists** ~~Consisting~~ of 2 riders and one horse, with riders taking turns in riding. Rules specifically for affiliated Ride and Tie events are contained in the **RIDE AND TIE RULES** section.

Discussion:

We are concerned about the safety issues, as some horses don't tie very well. The horse is unattended with other horses running past. Can the tie up area be controlled? Safety of the horse whilst unattended?

NSW had people all around the course so they could see what was going on. If there was a problem it was dealt with quickly. Worked out very well. They had a 5km and 10km event. Can have designated tie points.

12.1.4 VERA SMC would like to submit for discussion and possible first vote;

Motion: That all juniors at affiliated endurance events be ~~compelled~~ to wear helmets when handling horses.

Rationale: Reason for this request; incident at Bet Bet where a junior was in danger of being kicked in the head. Hoof only just missed her head. Pony Clubs require children to wear helmets at all times when handling horses.

Discussion:

Remove "compelled". Must wear helmets when handling horses. There has been some near-misses with Juniors handling horses. This is what is done at Pony Club whilst you are handling a horse. "Handling horses", when is that? In the vet ring, in the yard, going for a walk? Pat would like to see them wear helmets in the vet ring. How do we police this if it applies to all areas? Makes the Chief Steward's job harder. Pat suggested that in the vet ring it would be compulsory, would be "recommended" for everywhere else. Could we make this a recommendation instead?

Voting: QLD – no, Tas – no, SA – no, WA – no, VIC – yes, NSW – no. Not carried.

***Motion 2014.07.08. Moved: Liz Rutherford/Ellen Prestage.
That a new rule is created:***

Page 50 – Guidelines for Supervision of Children at Rides.

2 c) All children are encouraged to wear a helmet when handling horses, especially in the vet ring.

***Voting: NSW – no, VIC – yes, WA – yes, SA – yes, Tas – yes, Qld – yes.
Passed first vote. Agenda for November meeting.***

13. General Business.

13.1 Horse Age for Introductory Rides.

Discussion item submitted by QERA. Horses can do an intro ride at 3 years old. Very concerning. Would have had to have been worked for at least a few months to get it to the stage where it can go to an introductory ride. Would mean that the horse was about 2 ½ years when it was being ridden. Is this what we want? Teeth can tell you a horse age. Tom has highlighted this in the re-draft of the rule book. Rule A44.2 must be 3 years or over on the day of the ride. Steve suggested that the age of the horse should be at least 4 years would be good, and how do you determine that a horse is 4 years old? Trent would like to see some documentation or evidence that a 3 year old horse is worse off than a 4 year old horse. QERA to bring back a motion and rationale for the next meeting. NVP need to comment, as well.

13.2 Best Conditioned Horse – Rule Review.

Who gets invited to the BC? It's in the rules. Don't have to present the horse. Early vetting and VGIH can sometimes be a bit tricky spotting the horses as they present to the vet at different times. The first five should be given the opportunity to present for BC. Ask Tom to have a look at this for the new rule book. 15.2 needs to be reworded something like: To be **eligible** to be chosen in the BC horse ...
Mel will do something for the next meeting.

13.3 Recognition and Appreciation of Long-Term AERA Delegates.

We have three long-term AERA delegates. Pat suggesting that we have an appreciation award.

13.4 Minutes on the AERA website.

Used to have "Meeting Notes" on the AERA website. Minutes are confidential and not for distribution without the permission of the AERA. Delegates are a conduit to the members and SMC. Delegates are OK to send the minutes and agenda to their SMCs. Tamara will do the meeting notes from now on.

14. Meeting Dates 2014.

Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd November 2014 in Melbourne.