



Australian Endurance Riders Association Inc.

Minutes of the General Meeting of Members

Date: 18th and 19th July 2015.

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

MEETING NOTES

1. Members Present.

Meeting commenced Saturday: 8.30am to 6.15pm.

Meeting commenced Sunday: 8.35am to 3.45pm.

1.1 SAERA Delegate. Janne Harris has resigned as SAERA delegate. Jessica Aistrope has been nominated as her replacement. Nomination form and Confidentiality Agreement have been received. A vote of thanks goes to Janne Harris for her contribution.

Motion 2015/7/01. Moved Melanie Scott/Simon Bain.

That Jessica Aistrope is accepted as the SAERA delegate to the AERA for 2015. Carried.

1.2 AERA Delegates Present. Melanie Scott (SA), Jessica Aistrope (SA), Ieva Peters (WA), Deb Jewell (WA), Steve Swan (Qld), Gerard Bou (Qld), Brad Dillon (NSW), Roy Barsby (NSW), Simon Bain (NSW), Tamara Atkinson (Vic), Sioux Reid (Vic), Pat Hodgetts (Tas), Trent Huxtable (Tas).
Trent, Simon and Pat left the meeting at 3.30pm, Sunday 19th July.

1.3 Visitors. Julie Haigh, Sandy Little and Bronwyn Cuthbertson.

2. Registration of Votes.

	Votes	Adult & Junior Riding Membership				
2/7/2015	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010
New South Wales	5	471	478	505	524	575
Queensland	6	535	548	565	566	599
South Australia	1	65	67	71	77	79
Tasmania	3	249	204	229	224	223
Victoria	2	189	167	207	209	186
Western Australia	2	179	151	153	156	189
	19	1688	1615	1730	1756	1851

3. Previous Meeting Minutes.

3.1 Amendments to Minutes of the General Meeting held on 21st & 22nd March 2015.

- 15.4 VERA would need to commit in writing to holding the event in the same state ~~at the same place~~ in another six years.
- NRZ. 16.2.3 Trent is OK with what is recorded in the minutes. Conversation has been recorded as per the minutes.

Motion 2015/7/02.

That the minutes of the March 21 & 22 meeting are accepted with the above amendments.

Moved: Tamara Atkinson/Deb Jewell. Carried.

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

- Archives: Steve has been to Anne Jones' place and picked up all the stuff from the shipping container. It's QERA and AERA stuff.
- Quilty buckles: Trent has found a supplier in Australia (Vic) that can custom make them. Trent has sent them some pics and they could be competitive. Brad has spoken to some importers who can do it in China. Need to know what materials are used.
- Rest Orders: Steve has updated AeraSpace so that horses on rest orders cannot enter events and the IT forms can be attached. Steve to contact the States and advise of the updates.
- Biosecurity: Biosecurity protocols – need a common document to share with the states.

Motion 2015/7/03.

That the AERA Hendra Biosecurity subcommittee is limited in its membership to Melanie Scott, Simon Bain and Chris Nichols to create a workable document as soon as possible.

Moved: Gerard Bou/Simon Bain. Carried.

- Registration of Votes: Steve to sort out the voting numbers. It was agreed that the votes are recorded as those members of a division with voting rights should be counted at this table. Different divisions have different requirements. States to advise SS of their members that have voting rights.
- National Ride Standard: Next order to be done in black and white – for those that are colour blind.

5. Financial Report.

Financial Reports sent separately as PDF files.

5.1 Treasurer's Report.

Deb Watson has provided all the MYOB reports.

Motion 2015/7/05.

That the Treasurer's report is accepted. Moved: Steve Swan/Melanie Scott. Carried.

5.2 Bookkeeper's Report.

Affiliation fees - Nov 2014 meeting there was an increase to the affiliation fees and the message didn't get to the bookkeeper, so she hasn't been charging it. So, we have been charging the divisions the 2014 fees. 1st July to do an increase.

Affiliation Fees 2016.

	2015	2016 (proposed)
Adult	\$30 (27.27 + gst)	\$31 (28.18 + gst)
Junior	\$15 (13.64 + gst)	\$16 (14.55 + gst)

2016 fees are OK.

National Ride Entry Levy

\$1 (0.91 + gst) for all entries – endurance, training, Intro.

Steve suggested raising this to \$2 per entry inc. GST. Mel would like to see a rationale and how it has gone this year. Steve to put together some information.

5,463 ride entries so far this year.

Horse Rego

Annual \$25 (22.73 + gst) No increase.

Lifetime \$60 (54.55 + gst) No increase.

Still to stay as AeraSpace is an ongoing project and is constantly being upgraded.

Horse Transfers

\$20 (18.18 + gst) No increase.

6.Portfolio Reports.

6.1 AERA Registrar Report.

- Tom Quilty - What a marathon event this was for the data entry team! Unfortunately a hiccup with the updating process meant that results got distorted on the ground resulting in data having to be re-entered putting the team a long way behind. It has been confirmed that it was not any error on the part of any one of the data entry team.

I would like to thank Kim Stephens and Cris Schafer for the work they put in at TQ, a marathon effort with such a large number of log books to process. A huge thank you also to Tom McCormack for assisting us to try and get things right and sorted, he worked well into the wee hours of Sunday morning too and then backed up assisting with Best Conditioned calculations the next morning, all this after strapping for his wife Louise, thanks Tom.

- Mel and Steve are going to put together a position description and a plan for the future. Mel has thanked Jo for her help at the TQ.
- We need someone to help get the 10,000km rider awards distributed to the states. Scrolls need to be sent to the states so that they can be distributed to the riders. The list has been generated. Need to identify which state the people on the list belong to. Get in touch with them to verify that the info is correct. Around 120 people involved. Send the info to the registrar of each state to check the info is correct. The expectation is that the scrolls are handed out at the AGMs/awards ceremony. The states can print out the scrolls and buy the frames and AERA can reimburse.

6.2 Webmaster Report.

Summary by Month										
Month	Daily Avg				Monthly Totals					
	Hits	Files	Pages	Visits	Sites	KBytes	Visits	Pages	Files	Hits
Jun 2015	22821	21317	1626	536	9393	25787710	15557	47164	618212	661816
May 2015	11491	10299	1344	456	8196	16951428	14143	41666	319282	356238
Apr 2015	7249	6106	1225	467	7607	15324856	14023	36779	183203	217477
Mar 2015	8077	6873	1240	469	8318	14775555	14539	38468	213093	250392
Feb 2015	5475	4337	1217	454	7959	9984556	12728	34085	121458	153327
Jan 2015	7117	5991	1104	429	7817	14690616	13308	34227	185741	220635
Dec 2014	5037	4089	1010	396	7003	11429896	12294	31316	126760	156148
Nov 2014	5730	4653	1123	427	3511	5412660	5551	14609	60491	74497
Oct 2014	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sep 2014	5684	4500	1209	477	8009	9713044	13849	35085	130514	164841
Aug 2014	5216	4184	1348	500	8673	7288913	15523	41805	129704	161718
Jul 2014	6842	5879	1267	502	18937	7385948	15584	39289	182268	212110
Totals						138745182	147099	394493	2270726	2629199

Bandwith

April – 14.1Gig

May- 15.19Gig

June- 23.97Gig

The above figures show just how much interest the Tom Quilty Gold Cup Endurance Ride attracts, double the amount of hits in June compared to the previous month.

Work is well underway for the new layout of the website, which should be up and running within 6 weeks. It will be compatible across all devices, bringing the online face of Endurance in Australia well into the digital age.

6.3 Insurance Report.

6.3.1 Personal Accident Insurance/AeraSpace.

Importance of updating AERA space within the same month so when declarations are provided by Deb Watson we have accurate data and then there will be no disputes over claims.

6.4 National Veterinary Panel.

6.4.1 Terms of Reference - NVP.

Terms of Reference needs to be reviewed and possibly modernised. Pat will do this.

6.5 Media and Publicity.

Position Description:

- Act as point of contact for all Media and Publicity enquiries.
- Co-ordinate, write and distribute an AERA newsletter to keep members and relevant parties informed after each AERA meeting.

Write and issue regular media releases via the AERA Facebook page and / or website concerning upcoming events, interesting personalities and relevant endurance activities and achievements.

- Publicise and promote all events, programs and competitions within the AERA's jurisdiction as required.
- Monitor publicly available material on social media relevant to endurance and inform the AERA and / or members as required.
- Administer and maintain the AERA's Social Media Policy.

Facebook

- Administer the AERA Facebook page.
- Respond to messages and correspondence sent to the AERA Facebook page.
- Attend AERA's major event (TQ) each year and provide the following:
 - a. Comprehensive and continual photographic and video coverage. Upload live in real time for the duration of the event starting on Thursday through to Monday morning.
 - b. Provide conduit for AERA releasing results over and above those released on event sites or the like.
 - c. Write and release news items before, during and after the event as required.
 - d. Report to AERA after the event (to the next meeting following the event). Provide summary and statistics extracted from Facebook Insights facility.
 - e. Make all photographs and videos taken at the event on behalf of the AERA available post event.
 - f. Be identifiable as AERA official by wearing a pink or purple fluoro vest printed with AERA.

Advertising

- Under direction from AERA; organise advertising in appropriate publications. This will include but not be limited to: getting cost quotes, setting ad themes (with AERA approval), sourcing material, designing ads and ensuring they are best placed in relation to publication content.
- Act as point of contact for AERA on all advertising related matters.
- Identify and suggest locations and publications that would benefit AERA in promoting endurance here in Australia and possibly overseas.

Sponsorship

- Assist AERA in sourcing and securing sponsorship.
- Provide secured sponsors with written updates, photos and information to highlight or acknowledge their generosity.
- Look after sponsors at events (this would have to be farmed out to a 3rd party chosen by this person because in the case of the TQ, their focus needs to be 100% on coverage etc especially given the amount of time it takes to upload data).

- *Maintain and distribute "Certificates of Appreciation" for sponsors or any other recipient, deemed required by the AERA.*

Motion 2015/7/06.

Thanks to Liz for her contribution to this year's Quilty. Send her a coffee table book as a thank you.

Moved: Brad Dillon/Melanie Scott. Carried

6.6 Equestrian Australia - Endurance Committee.

Horse Welfare – Region 7

The EA and the EA Endurance Committee continue to monitor the situation in regard to the suspension of Region 7 and horse welfare issues. The change in attitude of Region 7 was very welcomed and a lot of work is being done by the FEI to work with Region 7 to improve their procedures and processes to achieve adherence to rules and reintroduce fairness and equity.

The EA called for expressions of interest for the vacant position on the Committee following the resignation of Mark Grogan as a result of his venture into setting up his own business. Expressions of interest have been called.

Following the selection process we now welcome the following people to our Selection Panel:

- Anne Barnes – Chair (returning member)
- Trish Annetts (returning member)
- Jane McLaughlin (Vic)
- Alamdar Dastani (NSW)

We also welcome the following team officials:

- Andrew Kettlewell (Chef)
- Tom McCormack (Assistant Chef)
- Narelle Cribb (Team Vet)
- Albert Sole-Guitart (Assistant Team Vet)

Trish Annetts has offered to act as mentor for the team officials to assist them in getting up to speed on the requirements of the positions. Work is well under way for the selection panel and the team management in regards to preparations for the World Youth Championship events.

Championship Events

Australia did not field a team for the Test Event in Chile in April 2015 and at this point there is only one of the long listed riders who is qualified to attend the World Championship event in October 2015. This means that an Australian team cannot be sent to the event due to insufficient numbers. Any Australian riders who wish to attend will do as an individual.

The difficulties associated with travel to the event may prove unsurmountable in terms of getting Australian horses to Chile and it has been indicated by the rider that leasing a horse (which was an option made available to us by some very generous Chileans) is not an option.

The processes have commenced for the calling for Expressions of Interest for the following championship events:

- World Endurance Championships, currently scheduled to be held in Dubai in December 2016
- World Youth Championships in Verona, Italy in 2017
- World Equestrian Games in Bromont, Canada in 2018

Changes to Championship Event Formats

Following the FEI Sports Forum and the suggested changes to the World Equestrian Games and Olympic formats for Olympic & non-Olympic disciplines, the National Federations were asked to complete a questionnaire as further feedback for the FEI. The format suggested for endurance was 2 days x 100kms with an increased set of qualification criteria (6 rides for riders and 5 rides for horses).

Strategic Planning Meeting

Members of the EA Endurance Committee, Selection Panel and Team Officials travelled to Yass NSW on the weekend of the 20th and 21st June to work through a strategic planning exercise for the Australian Team. The focus for the team will be on returning to the podium within a six year time frame and we will all now be looking at preparation of documentation, amendment of procedures and communication of these changes to the endurance membership.

As always the lack of FEI rides on the calendar is a big blocker to the achievement of these goals and while we have not yet solved this problem there will be renewed efforts to try to afford our members the opportunity to represent their country.

Education for Officials

The EA Endurance Committee is currently working to have an education seminar scheduled for later in the year to assist our officials in maintaining their training and qualifications

6.7 AERA/EA Agreement.

Current agreement expires 31 October 2016. SMCs and this table need to think about this agreement. Need feedback for the next meeting.

6.8 Chief Stewards and TPRs.

It has been suggested that a Facebook page for CS's only should be set up, so discussions can take place amongst CS's nationwide.

Motion 2015/7/07.

That Gerard Bou is appointed as the AERA Chief Steward Liaison person. Moved Steve Swan/Simon Bain. Carried.

- Sincere thanks to Dorte for all of her hard work over the years and thanks for her support. Gerard to pass on our thanks.
- G to bring an updated list of the AERA CS and devise method to educate and keep them updated.
- G to create an avenue of communication for the CS and the AERA, probably email.
- G to send the CS the updated rules for discussion. Steve would like to see each state have a get together with the CS and go through the new rule book. Skills area: people and anger management, conflict resolution. Each state to cover their child protection policy. Each state has different legislation.

6.8.1 Chief Stewards for Accreditation.

Lynette Taylor from NSWERA.

Richard Jeggo from WAERA.

Motion 2015/7/08.

That Lynette Taylor (NSWERA) and Richard Jeggo (WAERA) are accepted as AERA accredited Chief Stewards. Moved Deb Jewell/Simon Bain. Carried.

6.9 Veterinary Accreditation – last updated 14/5/2015 (to be ratified).

AERA Accreditation Procedure for Veterinarians

This document details the process for Veterinarians to achieve and maintain accreditation as an 'Accredited AERA Endurance Veterinarian' (hereinafter 'Accredited Vet').

The sport of Endurance riding is continually becoming more professional with the pace of riding increasing and the level of competition intensifying. To ensure that horse welfare always remains the highest priority, a system of accreditation for veterinarians officiating at endurance rides was introduced. This accreditation process ensures that veterinarians acquire the requisite level of skills and knowledge required to ensure that horse welfare is not compromised at an Endurance ride.

The Rules of the Sport require that the Head Veterinarian must an Accredited Vet and where possible, all other attending veterinarians should be Accredited Vet.

HONORARY STATE VETERINARY PANELS (SVP)

Each State Association shall maintain a SVP comprising a minimum of one Accredited Vet. The precise role and activities of the SVP is dictated by the Terms of Reference issued by the respective State Association, however, generally the SVP should (when appropriate) consult with the State Association on veterinary matters.

HONORARY NATIONAL VETERINARY PANEL (NVP)

The AERA shall maintain a NVP comprising a member from each SVP having been nominated by their respective SVP. The NVP shall be chaired by a member of the NVP in a manner determined by the members of the NVP. The role of the NVP is determined by the Terms of Reference provided by the AERA, however, generally the NVP should (when appropriate) consult with the AERA on veterinary matters.

ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS

To become an Accredited Vet, the veterinarian must be nominated to the AERA by a State Association. The State Association may nominate veterinarians who satisfy the following criteria:

- a) The veterinarian must be registered with a Veterinary Board in a State or Territory in the Commonwealth of Australia, and
- b) The veterinarian must have participated in an AERA Endurance Veterinarian Presentation in a manner and format approved by the NVP and sanctioned by the AERA within the preceding 24 months, and
- c)
 - i) For a veterinarian with at least 2 years' experience in practice since graduation, the veterinarian must have been a member of the veterinary team at a minimum of 3 Endurance rides in the preceding 24 months, or
 - ii) For a veterinarian with less than 2 years' experience in practice since graduation, the veterinarian must have been a member of the veterinary team at a minimum of 4 Endurance rides in the preceding 24 months.

If a veterinarian does not fulfil the requirements of (a) to (c) above, but a strong case exists for them to become an Accredited Vet, the State Association may nominate the veterinarian by providing a resume of the veterinarians experience and expertise, including references from Ride Organisers, Chief Stewards and other Accredited Vets or relevant parties. This may be appropriate for veterinarians with applicable overseas experience.

MAINTENANCE OF ACCREDITATION

To maintain accreditation, the veterinarian is required to;

- a) Be a member of the veterinary team at a minimum of one Endurance ride every 36 months, and
- b) Maintain registration a Veterinary Board in a State or Territory in the Commonwealth of Australia.

WITHDRAWAL OF ACCREDITATION

A veterinarian may;

- a) Resign their accreditation.
- b) Have their accreditation withdrawn if they fail to satisfy (a) above.
- c) Have their accreditation withdrawn if a complaint is lodged against the veterinarian and after the application of natural justice, due process and an investigation by the AERA or a State Association, the nature of the complaint warrants the withdrawal of the accreditation.

A veterinarian shall have their accreditation withdrawn if they fail to maintain registration a Veterinary Board in a State or Territory in the Commonwealth of Australia.

LIST OF AERA ACCREDITED VETS

The AERA and each State Association shall maintain a publically available list of AERA Accredited Vets which are to be reviewed and updated annually.

- NVP are happy with the document.

Motion 2015/7/09. That the above document is accepted. Moved: Pat Hodgetts/Simon Bain. Carried.

6.9.1 Veterinarians for Accreditation.

WAERA – Dr. Anna Erickson.

SAERA - Dr James Meyer and Dr Kyle Lowery.

Motion 2015/7/10.

That Anna Erickson (WAERA), James Meyer (SAERA) and Kyle Lowery (SAERA) are accepted as AERA accredited veterinarians. Moved Brad Dillon/Simon Bain. Carried.

6.9.2 Treatment Veterinarians.

Treatment Vets – Grandfather List - July 2015

The following names have been put forward by state vet representative. Not all vets on the list have been contacted or confirmed as willing to be treatment vet at endurance rides.

WA. - Anne Barnes, Joan Deetman, Arun Ramachandran, Kate Forster, Rita Perry

Tas – Khyle Stewart, Debbie Grull

Vic - Narelle Cribb, Viv Stockill, Helen Spencer

NSW - Robyn Mather, Emily Streckfuss, David Brown

SA – James Vowes, Dan Sims, Bill and Sandy Harbison, Lucas van Oijen, Lidwien Verdegaal

Q'ld - Kathy Webb, Brian Sheahan, Benjamin Poole, Ian Palmer, Katherine Lutz, Judy Law, Rachel

Kent, Jo Hamilton-Branigan, John Glazebrook, Jessie Flynn, Jon Fearnley, Andrew Easton, Janine

Dwyer, Tony Doherty, Celia Dodd, Steve Dennis, Denis Denais, Frank Condon, Madonna Butler, John

Brown, David Bartholomeuse, Monica Baffy, Nathon Anthony, Luke Annetts, Peter Agnew.

- SERA would like to add to this list.
- The above will be contacted to confirm that they are able to be treatment vets.
- Also identify potential Quilty vets.
- Pat and Mel write a letter to the vets.

6.10 Horse Welfare & Invasive Treatments.

- Quilty vet hospital was very quiet.
- Last year’s IT summaries. Highlight is that very few ITs involve novice horses and novice riders. Conclusion is that the Novice Horse system is working.

6.11 Medication Control.

- Dorte is OK to do the refresher courses. States to organise themselves. leva to advise that Dorte is available to do the refresher courses.
- All Quilty swabs were clear. 16 tests taken.

6.12 AeraSpace.

- There is a new upgrade planned for 1st Jan 2016, so there will be some ongoing work to be done. More work toward the end of the year, particularly regarding the new rule book.

6.13 AERA Handbook/Rulebook.

Since the March meeting, the Sub-Committee has continued to work through the draft Rulebook utilising weekly teleconferences. On the 28th of May, a public draft (14) was released on the AERA website with a formal mechanism for personal submissions to each State Management Committee. The sub-committee requested SMC’s to formulate their submission to the sub-committee by the 30th June 2015.

The Sub-committee will meet by teleconference in early July to consider the 30 submissions and make any changes deemed appropriate and release draft 15 prior to the AERA meeting for further consideration by the AERA.

Proposed timeline:

July 10 th	Draft 15 released to AERA delegates and State SMC’s.
July 18 th	Draft 15 discussed at AERA meeting.
July 25 th	Changes discussed at the AERA meeting are communicated to the sub-committee.
August 15 th	Draft 16 publically released. Submissions to sub-committee by existing mechanism by September 15 th .
October 1 st	Draft 17 released to AERA delegates and State SMC’s.
October 15 th	First vote by AERA teleconference – should only take 20 minutes.
November	Second vote at AERA meeting.

Motion 2015/7/11. For First Vote.

That the AERA accept all sections of the Draft 15 of the AERA Inc. Rule Book subject to the minor administrative changes. Moved Pat Hodgetts/Brad Dillon.

Qld – yes, NSW – yes, SA – yes, WA – yes, Tas – yes, Vic – yes. Carried. Passed first vote. Trent was absent from the room.

7. Tom Quilty Gold Cup.

7.1 2015, Hawkesbury, New South Wales.

7.1.1 Chief Steward's Report.

The 50th Tom Quilty Gold Cup was run from the Del Rio resort on the banks of the Hawkesbury River at Wiseman's Ferry in New South Wales. Competitor details are available on the AeraSpace website.

The weather for Quilty week was fine and mild. The ride grounds were wet and boggy in places from heavy rain in previous weeks. Vehicle access was limited because of this and some camp sites were abandoned. The horse camping areas were used very efficiently, laid out well and all available space was used. The strapping area and vet ring were likewise well planned and no area was wasted.

Bio-security protocols were rigorous with a sixteen day temperature log required at entry to the camp as well as the Hendra immunity status of the horse. Horses that were considered to have a current Hendra vaccination status were identified with a ribbon in the mane or tail and connections were asked to keep the ribbons on the horses for the time in which they were in the camp. An isolation area was established in the hospital and protocols established for processing any horses that could be considered to be of higher risk. PPE was available if required.

The Vet team was very experienced and provided accurate and consistent assessment of horses. The Vet Gate Into Hold method of vetting was used with a three vet panel review of any horse that failed any parameter. As usual some riders were disappointed but there were no protests against any 'vet outs'.

Given the perceived degree of difficulty of the course the completion rate was high.

All comments from riders praised the course marking, although some parts of the track took some out of their comfort zone. There were many challenges faced by the organising committee and I am sure many lessons were learnt. An outstanding feature was the ability of the ride committee to get on with the job. Problems were assessed and plans changed to suit the circumstances.

I believe that the committee delivered on their promise to provide a worthy course and a worthy event for the fiftieth Tom Quilty Gold Cup.

Sandy Little.

7.1.2 Head Veterinarian's Report.

- Robyn Mather did a fantastic job.
- Suggested that the trot-outs could be videoed and used as an educational tool for the vets. Liz could do this at a Quilty.

7.2 2015, TQ50th Celebration Committee.

- Previous TQ winners
- Those winners who did attend pre 1990: Tom Thompson 1988-9, Jenny Oliver 1985-7, Alan Mackinder 1984 (competitor), David Marshall 1982, Les Coyle 1970, Les Bailey 1968, Gabriel Stecher 1966.
- Apologies were received from Erica Williams and was represented by Peter, June Petersen (travel arrangements unwound at last minute), Sam Timms, (age and distance), Col Adams, represented by Jeff
- Quilty Founders HOF
- The recognition of these people was organised and occurred on Thursday evening prior to the AERA annual awards. Framed certificates prepared by Denise a lanyard and commemorative pin were presented to the Founders.
- Recipients were:
- Ron and Val Males present
- Chuck (Charles Stevens) present
- Marty (Martha Stevens) deceased 2007 and accepted by Kim
- Kevin Rozzoli present

- Ron Rozzoli present
- RW Williams deceased 1997
- Erica Williams not present, certificate etc given to Peter
- Prof David Hutchins Apology certificate will be sent
- Tom Quilty deceased
- As pre-arranged the Founders were taken to the VIP tent and given a very nice meal and a glass or two of red, a nice evening on the past versus the future
- The TQ Celebration Committee all did an awesome job. Everybody that visited the display was very impressed.

7.3 2016, Lexton, Victoria.

- Granite Hill Quilty Inc. is the subcommittee, but is also a subcommittee of VERA according to the Quilty Events and Agreement. Three VERA SMC members, one AERA person (Sioux Reid) are on the committee.
- Bulldozers have been through the vet ring, which is great. Test event coming up on the last weekend in August (VERA State Championships).
- Biosecurity temperature log will be for 10 days.
- There have been rides in the area for 15-20 years, including previous State Championships.
- Communications would be done by CFA. They will do a test run at the SC this year and will work with an experienced person.
- Accommodation: Lexton, Beaufort, Avoca.
- On-site vans are available for the CS and vets.

7.4 AERA Awards.

The annual AERA awards were held on the Thursday evening prior to the Quilty in the Big Tent at the ride base. The evening was very well attended. As usual, Kerry Spratt did an awesome job in organising the awards and the prizes were of exceptional quality and standard. The Rider Lifetime Distance Awards were very well received, in particular, Meg Wade who brought the house down. Huge thanks to Janne Harris and Gerard Bou for organising such fantastic glass trophies for the recipients.

7.5 Pat Slater Cup.

This year's judges were: Claudia Reid, Jeff Adams, Jo Arblaster, Louise McCormack and Luke Annetts. Sincere thanks to them for coming to the event and giving up their time for this prestigious award. The winning horse was La Battista Shadow Fax ridden by Erin Krahn. This horse was not in the Best Conditioned selections and was the only "outsider" to qualify for the Pat Slater Cup. Thanks to Gerard Bou for making a lovely new box to put the perpetual trophy in. The winner also received a bronze trophy to keep forever. All horses qualifying for the Pat Slater Cup were given a sash to keep as a memento.

8. Rule Changes.

8.1 Rule Changes – Motions for Second Vote.

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 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.*

And then the following section added where needed:

Ride and Tie

- GENERAL RULES

1. All AERA Inc. rules and procedures apply, except as provided within these Ride and Tie Rules.

2. All Novice horses and or Riders including day Members competing in Ride and Ties shall comply with a minimum riding time determined by the ride committee in consultation with the Chief Steward and Head Veterinarian. The minimum riding time shall be calculated by dividing the distance of the ride or leg by 14 kms per hour or less.
3. All horses competing in Ride and Ties will comply with a maximum heart rate criterion of 55 beats per minute or below on all legs of the ride.
4. A Horse may enter only one Ride and Tie event per day.
5. At all affiliated Ride and Tie events, horses must comply with Rule H 3.2 (Horse age).
6. If a horse has been issued with a Logbook, that Logbook must be used when that horse is entered in an affiliated Ride and Tie event.
7. Horse Welfare Rules, H2, must be observed.
8. Each team will consist of two persons who are members of a Division of the AERA Inc. and one horse.
 - 8.1 Day members are permitted in events up to 40km in total distance.
9. All horses must be submitted for a pre and post examination.
10. Each team must tie its horse and switch from rider to runner and runner to rider at least two (2) times during an event. Teams may tie as many times as they desire anywhere along the trail as long as the ties do not obstruct the trail or are not made in designated "No Tie Areas." A required tie will occur at each vet check. If a runner on a team has not been overtaken by his partner before the next vet check, then the runner must wait at the vet check for his/her partner to arrive in order to meet the required vet check tie.
11. With the exception of securing a loose horse, no person other than the team members and designated race officials may handle a team's horse on the trail during the race. Designated team crew may work with the horse at any vet check specified by race officials to be open to crews. Race officials may require crew to obtain a pass. Only contestants may take a horse through the vet checks during the race.
12. It is not permissible for both members of a team to use their horse at the same time for forward movement. "Tailing" (meaning the rider dismounts, grips the horse's tail and allows the horse to pull him/her) is allowed but it is not permissible for one team member to ride while another tails.
13. No pacing by an un-entered horse, vehicle or runner is allowed for any contestant.
14. Teams must pass and report to any trail marshals who are positioned along the course. Competitors inadvertently off course must return to the point at which they left the marked trail and complete the course correctly. Teams must stay on the marked trail.
15. A team has not completed the event until both human teammates and their horse have reached the finish line.

RIDE AND TIE RIDERS

1. Ride and Tie events are open to both novice and endurance riders.
 - 1.1 Day Members are permitted in events under 40km.
2. There are no riding divisions for Ride and Ties. Riders do not need to weigh.
3. All riders must attend the pre-ride briefing or risk disqualification.
4. All riders entering Ride and Ties must be identified as Ride and Tie riders.
5. All riders must conduct themselves in accordance with the Member Conduct Rules M1 (Code of Conduct), M2 (Membership Rights and Responsibilities) and M3 (Guidelines for Right of Appeal against a Ride Decision).
6. All riders must wear an equestrian standard helmet that complies with the Equestrian Standards in Australia, the U.S.A. or Europe, current at the time of manufacture.

RIDE AND TIE DISTANCE

1. The ride distance will usually be between 5 kms and 80 kms per day. State Management Committees must sanction proposed rides over or under this distance..
2. Events longer than 40kms must comply with rule A6.

RIDE AND TIE AWARDS

1. All successful ride and tie teams must receive a completion award.
2. Placing awards are allowed
3. Awards must not contradict rules A2.2, 2.3 and 2.4

Voting: Vic – yes, Tas – yes, WA – yes, SA – yes, NSW – yes, Qld – yes. Carried. New Rule 2016.

8.2 Rule Changes – Motions for Discussion and First Vote.

8.2.1 Northern Rivers Zone.

Julie Haigh (NRZ) attended the meeting, Saturday 18/7/15.

March 2014, Motion: That any resident living in the Northern Rivers Zone has the option to join either QERA or NSWERA.

M2 MEMBERSHIP RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1 Riding members pay their membership fee to the ~~Division or zone~~ State in which they are resident.

Correspondence tabled from NSWERA and QERA.

Trent chaired this part of the meeting.

- Late documentation received by QERA. Trent stands by his comments from the last meeting and the comments that he has received from others. Now there is two motions on the table: NRZ have the option to be Qld or NSW, or state boundaries.
- NRZ Inc. have re-formed and had a meeting. Julie Haigh is their president and she will be attending the meeting. Last week's teleconference brought up a resolution. NRZ took a vote and they voted to have the option to join either NSW or Qld. Qld were OK to go with this decision.
- The motion that has come through from Qld has taken a lot of discussion to get to this stage.
- Map has been supplied.
- QERA's position has always been about what the members require.
- Dual affiliations can be sorted out between the states for any event.
- Brad pointed out that there is a massive conflict of interest with NSWERA and QLD. It was agreed that Qld and NSW shouldn't vote due to a conflict of interest.

Motion 2015/7/12.

That QERA and NSWERA are not eligible to vote on matters at this meeting regarding the Northern Rivers Zone due to a conflict of interest. Moved Pat Hodgetts/Tamara Atkinson. Carried unanimously. Trent abstained.

Julie tabled some documentation for each state and addressed the meeting.

NRZ Inc. has had an informal meeting that had 30 plus members there, which is about half as well as the ride organisers.

Julie went through the documentation that she tabled, including maps and old minutes. NRZ people didn't know what was going on. It is now just a matter of catching up with the fees and incorporation. Julie will be doing this.

The main reason for staying with QERA was the distances involved to go to rides. It is still the case now.

NRZ needs to be affiliated with NSW. Qld and NSW calendar people need to talk to each other about clashes on the ride calendar.

When ride applications are lodged in Qld, they need to liaise with NSW calendar people. Need better coordination.

Discussion: can see why NSWERA would be a bit upset about being forced to dual affiliate the rides without any financial compensation. There has been up to 10 rides a year in the NRZ in the past, which QERA has supported the NRZ and also been paid for same.

Are we setting a precedent by allowing people to be a member of a state in which they do not reside? Could this be an issue in the future? We need it recorded that the NRZ situation is unique. We are trying to conciliate, not dictate. Motions from the NRZ were discussed.

Motion 2015/7/13.

**That the motion tabled at the March 2014 is voted on:
That any resident living in the NRZ has the option to join either QERA or NSWERA.
Qld – abstain, NSW – abstain, SA – no, WA – no, Tas – no, Vic – no. Motion is lost.**

leva withdrew the following motion:

M2, 2.1 Riding members pay their membership fee to the State in which they are resident.

Motion 2015/7/14.

MOTION RE THE NRZ

That the AERA ratifies the affiliation of the Northern Rivers Zone to QERA, and that:

- (a) Any person that is a ~~Riding members who are~~ resident in the NRZ may pay their membership to either QERA or NSWERA.**
- (b) the boundary of the NRZ is as per the attached map. (Northern boundary is the NSW/QLD state border. Southern boundary is the Gwydir Hwy from Inverell to Grafton and then the Glenreagh road from Grafton to Coffs Harbour. Western boundary is the main road from Inverell to Bonshaw via Ashford). Map to be dated 18/7/2015.**
- (c) all rides in the NRZ are dual-affiliated with NSWERA, with associated fees to be negotiated between NRZ and NSWERA.**
- (d) AERA will consider a review of this arrangement if there is substantial evidence to show that the majority of the members in the NRZ request it to the AERA by a motion from their state division, but in any instance not before 31 December 2018.**

Moved Sioux Reid/Deb Jewell.

Vic – Yes, Tas – Yes, WA – Yes, SA – Yes. Motion carried.

QERA and NSWERA were not present during the voting process.

QERA and NSWERA and Julie Haigh returned to the meeting.

NSWERA should review their dual affiliation fees to reflect the service and member numbers.

Motion 2015/7/15.

That the provisions and principles of Part 3 (5) c, of the current AERA constitution are included in any new AERA constitution.

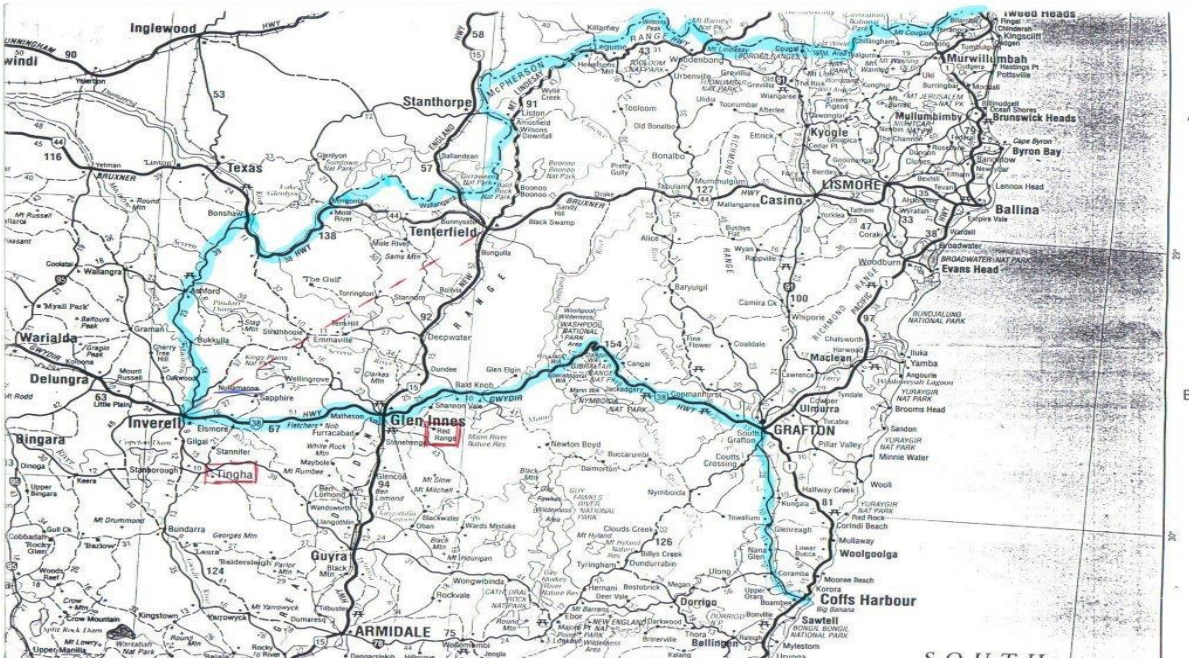
Moved Steve Swan/Trent Huxtable.

Carried. Roy is against the motion.

Motion 2015/7/16.

That in the new rule book, all references to State Associations (SA) is changed to Division Associations (DA). Moved Steve Swan/Melanie Scott. Carried. Roy is against the motion. Brad abstained.

Northern Rivers Zone map.



8.2.2 Motion from WAERA – Micro Marathon.

MICRO-MARATHON RIDE RULES

A47 MICRO-Marathon Ride Definition and Interpretation

- 47.1 A Micro-Marathon is an affiliated ride, conducted as a single event where a maximum of 25 kilometres are ridden each day for three consecutive days.
- 47.2 These MICRO-MARATHON RIDE RULES are to be read in conjunction with all AERA Inc. rules and procedures.
- 47.3 Local rules can apply but they must not be in conflict with any of the AERA Inc. rules and procedures, and will need to be sanctioned by the State Management Committee where the ride is being held.
- 47.4 These MICRO-MARATHON RIDE RULES will take precedence over other rules and procedures where there is a conflict or contradiction.

A48 MICRO- Marathon Ride - General Rules

- 48.1 A MICRO-Marathon is a non-competitive event. No places are to be recognised. Points and Distance are not recorded for Division or National Points and Distance Awards.
- 48.2 Horse age: Horses must be a minimum of 4 ½ years of age with the corner incisors erupted, but not necessarily in wear.
- 48.3 Early Warning System points will not accrue for horses and riders who vet out.
- 48.4 Non-Members are eligible to enter a Micro Marathon event.
- 48.5 All riders are restricted to a pace as designated under the Training Ride Rules. (i.e. to be determined by the Ride Organisers, but no faster than 14 kms/hr.)
- 48.6 Day one of the ride must be at least 20 kilometres in distance.
- 48.7 Each leg must be ridden in the correct order and within the time limits as set by the ride committee.
- 48.9 All successful horses are eligible for best managed horse awards, if one is given.
- 48.10 Each competitor's riding time will be recorded daily. These times should be made available at the completion of each day.
- 48.11 It is advisable to hold a riders' meeting at the completion of each day, because veterinarians and the Chief Steward may be rostered over different days of the event. The names of these key personnel must be announced at this meeting.
- 48.12 The veterinary team may require lameness tests and general inspections of some or all horses prior to the start each day.

A49 MICRO-Marathon Ride - Start Times and Rest Periods

- 49.1 The ride committee may elect to have a shot-gun start each day, or, if a staggered start is required due to large numbers entered, may allow riders to nominate departure times for any leg or legs of the event. Riders must be on course within 15 minutes of their designated departure time.

- 49.2 *The maximum time horses are allowed on course each day must be announced prior to the commencement of that day but may be subject to change due to exceptional circumstances.*
- 49.3 *In the case of MICRO-marathon rides with travelling ride bases, rest periods are at the discretion of the ride committees, subject to these rules.*

Rationale:

WAERA held this event in conjunction with our Easter Marathon here in WA in March 2015. We had 22 entries which included members and non-members. Three riders withdrew and one was vetted out lame. Successful completions received a small prize (lucky dip) and a completion certificate.

Those that competed complimented the event and said that it was a good way to introduce their horses to endurance riding and the concept of Marathon riding. They stayed for the three days and did their rides early in the morning (20km per day, total 60km), and were back in plenty of time to mingle and help during the ride. They enjoyed watching the Mini and Marathon riders throughout the weekend.

Due to the great feedback from those at the event, WAERA intends on continuing with this concept. AeraSpace is already geared up to do this.

Voting: Qld – yes, NSW – yes, SA – yes, WA – yes, Tas – Yes, Vic – yes. Carried. Passed first vote.

9. Correspondence.

Discussion items:

- **Substitute Rider/SAERA.** Outcome was that the AERA lets all CS know that it's a one/horse one rider competition. Write to SAERA about this.

Motion 2015/7/17. That the minutes from the teleconference regarding this matter are accepted. Moved Brad Dillon/Sioux Reid. Carried.

10. General Business.

10.1 National Magazine.

Need Qld to update the figures to be more realistic for the sponsorship.

10.2 Facebook.

AERA, Facebook and the 50th Anniversary Tom Quilty Gold Cup 2015

Facebook has once again proven its worth by providing 'pseudo-live' coverage when the live streaming didn't and connected the global endurance family like never before.

The midnight start was viewed 9.5k times and attracted (46) comments from around the world and had a reach (defined as 'the number of people who have seen any content associated with the page') of 26.7k.

Ben Hudson crossing the finish line was viewed 12.5k times and also attracted (67) comments from around the world and had a reach of 35.4k.

Ben Hudson vetting was viewed 6.4k times and attracted (25) comments from around the world and had a reach of 15.6k.

Speaking of around the world; a lot of people around the world were watching our event thanks to Facebook. Plenty of Aussies were also watching; the breakdown of location numbers is also interesting with international locations highlighted amongst the Australian ones.

The number of likes for the page also increased during the event which further cements the expectation for this coverage to continue.

11. Meeting Dates 2015.

21st and 22nd November 2015.