

REPORT on AERA Inc. AGM and GENERAL MEETING held on 22/23 February 2003

AGM

Present were Jane Radny and Ieva Peters (W.A.), Brett Bingham and Denise Williams (Tas.), Philip O'Loughlin and Murray Peal (S.A.), Denise Trollope, Geoff Hurt and Kerry Spratt (N.S.W.), Randy Cowan and Roy Noble (Vic.), Erica Williams, Toby Crockett and Anne Jones (Qld). All were accepted as delegates for 2003. Helen Rich (NSW) took the minutes.

The AERA Executive are Denise Trollope (President), Toby Crockett and Ieva Peters (Vice Presidents), Geoff Hurt (Treasurer) and Anne Jones (Secretary)

General Meeting

Present – as above

In Attendance. Barb Timms. Peter Toft, Brian Sheahan (Saturday), Steve Roberts, Terry Cannacot (Sunday). Helen Rich (minutes).

Register of Votes: Qld - 7; NSW – 9, Tas.- 2, S.A.- 1; W.A - .3; Vic - 3.

Visit by Terry Cannacot of the AHSA to discuss AERA's database

Terry Cannacot and Laurie Nicole recently attended the NSWERA AGM to put forward ideas with regard to the AHSA allowing the AERA to link into their database, giving the NSW members the impression that this was going to be done at no cost. As a result, the NSW members voted overwhelmingly against the introduction of a registration fee. It was explained to him that they were out of line by doing this without first approaching the AERA to ascertain whether it was feasible to do this and the cost of doing so. The AERA believes that the AHSA is not fully aware of our requirements, however, we would like to link into their database for breed information. It was agreed that Chris Waters would make contact with the AHSA and discuss the matter further with the developers of the AHSA database.

Terry Cannacot was also informed that the AERA take a dim view of owners changing registered horse's names and have requested a copy of registration certificates to accompany logbook applications.

Visit by Brian Sheahan to present OzEndurance Proposal

Brian spoke on the background to the idea to form a National Squad and the need for funding which may not necessarily be all in the form of sponsorship. A group of interested people have met and wish to form a private commercial company that would be viable and attract shareholders to raise money to make profits and fund the National Squad. A Memorandum of Understanding between the AERA and this company was presented along with a Charter for the new company. AERA endorsement is required before the group can progress further.

Moved that the meeting agrees in principal with the concept presented by Brian Sheahan concerning OzEndurance and are happy for it to proceed under the conditions set out in that presentation and as set out in the document dated 24 January 2003.

Moved that Phillip O'Loughlin be appointed as the endurance Chef d'Equipe for the Australian International Team for the World Championships in Dubai in 2004.

The decision was made to appoint a Chef at this time as the Dubai ride has been brought forward from the end of 2004 to the beginning of 2004.

Moved that the AERA thank Brian Sheahan for attending the meeting and for his vision and the thought put into the presentation which he put before the meeting.

Australian Endurance Squad

The Operational Plan and Terms of Reference as presented by Barbara Timms in relation to the National Squad were accepted. Barbara Timms was appointed as the Squad Manager.

Moved that the Board of Management for the Endurance Squad consist of Denise Trollope, Phillip O'Loughlin, Peter Toft, Brian Sheahan and Chris Gates.

Peter Toft has agreed to sponsor the National Squad with \$10,000 initially and a further \$10,000 when necessary. Phillip O'Loughlin is the Chairman of the Board of Management for the Squad.

Treasurer

Moved that the AERA Treasurer be paid a honorarium of \$250 plus GST per month, such money to be used to cover expenses and outgoings.

International

The FEI forum and Toulouse Group Meeting attended by Toby Crockett, Allan Renner, Peter Toft, Meg Wade and Chris Gates was a success. The presentation given by Toby was well received and several countries were interested in our logbook and Early Warning system. Several suggestions made by the AERA were discussed at the General Meeting of the FEI

Horse Welfare

New Invasive Treatment forms have been distributed to all States. A Horse Welfare Officer should be appointed in every state if there is not already one in operation. Copies of all IT forms must be sent to the AERA Horse Welfare officer.

Logbooks

Moved that the States that wish, be permitted to run a trial of the one logbook proposal for a period of 2 years and report back to the AERA.

100 Logbooks will be printed and members of the states that wish to participate (QLD, VIC, WA) will be given the option of trialling the new logbook or continuing to use the two logbooks. Report forms for the new books will be developed for riders, ride organisers, vets, registrars to complete.

Insurance Excess

Public Liability Excess has been set at \$10,000 per club or ride body. AERA Excess is \$20,000.

Moved that the AERA accept the excess risk on the Public Liability Insurance so long as the organising committee of the ride has signed off on the risk management checklist and returned the signed form to the appropriate divisional SMC. In the event that this signed form is not sent back within 14 days of the running of the ride, the AERA will not accept the insurance excess liability.

NSW Disciplinary Matter

Moved that the AERA supports the NSWERA in its disciplinary action against member No. 20225.

AussieEndurance

Mention was made on the high cost of maintaining the AussieEndurance email list. It is felt that as the members pay for the list, it should be restricted to members only. Non-members should pay a fee.

Moved that Luke Steele be instructed to restrict membership of the AussieEndurance chat line to members of the divisions of AERA. Overseas residents will be permitted to join upon payments of an annual fee of \$50.00 payable to the AERA.

Non-members within Australia should join their respective State division even as a non-riding member.

Registration Fee

Moved that as of 1st January 2004 a registration fee for horses will be introduced.

Voting – QLD – Yes, NSW – No, SA – Yes, VIC – Yes, WA – Yes, Tas – No.

The format of the fee will be discussed at State management committees and a proposal brought back to the next meeting.

Rider Injury Prevention and Management

A document prepared by Jenny Moncur was tabled and discussed. Several recommendations were made. Refer elsewhere in the newsletter for details.

Moved that all previous motions concerning the use of mobile phones at affiliated events be rescinded.

Moved that mobile phones may be used at all AERA affiliated events.

Database

A list was prepared of the information AERA would like to extract from a database. This will be passed on to Chris Waters.

AERA Book

This is now being prepared by Vink Publishing. Erica is liaising with them and it is hoped to be completed by the Quilty.

EWS Review

A review has been conducted on the Early Warning System and recommendations made. Suggested changes are – Vet out mild metabolic – 15 points, Vet out severe metabolic – 30 points, Vet out lame once – 6 points, Vet out lame 2nd consecutive – 12 points, vet out lame 3rd consecutive – 18 points, Vet out other back – 6 points, vet out gall or injury – 4 points. Completion points will be increased to 6 but there will be no Anniversary point reduction. The committee are currently looking at a vet out non-invasive metabolic – 10 points. The review will be discussed at the SMC's and be returned to the next meeting for finalisation.

Canowindra Quilty

IRT have agreed to sponsor the AERA Teams competition.

Quilty Cup

A letter from RM Williams has nominated Ron Males to be a trustee of the Quilty Gold Cup currently held in the Stockmans Hall of Fame at Longreach. Ron is to be asked to suggest another person.

Motions to be Tabled for the Second Vote which will become Rule Changes for 2004.

NSWERA Motion No. 1

“that in 160kkm and marathon rides, junior riders under 12 years of age must be accompanied by a responsible adult, and in endurance rides excepting 160kkm and marathon rides, junior riders under 10 years of age must be accompanied by a responsible adult.”

Motions on Notice for Discussion and First Vote (only Motions passed are listed)

QERA Motion 2

“that M2.3 is amended to read:

“If any horse and/or rider is found to have been misrepresented in any affiliated ride, the horse and/or rider will be disqualified from that ride *and/or the owner and/or the person responsible for the horse at that ride* will be subject to suspension or other disciplinary action as determined by the State Management Committee.”

QERA Motion 3

“that H24.5 is amended to read:

The rider and/or responsible person of a horse which has received invasive treatment must complete the relevant sections of the Invasive Treatment form. *Failure to do so will risk suspension.*”

VERA Motion No. 2

“that stallions must be under effective control with a suitable bit in their mouths when outside their yards at affiliated events.”

TEERA Motion No. 5

“that Rule H.4.4 be amended to read:

- (a) **Information, excepting entry details, about a horse competing at an affiliated ride can only be entered onto the page of the logbook designated for that ride, by a ride veterinarian or nominated ride official.**
- (b) **Any required alterations to rectify incorrect information already entered to a logbook can only be made while the event is in progress, by the head veterinarian or nominated ride official who must sign the change. The incorrect information should be crossed out so it is still readable and the correct information placed along-side.**
- (c) **No information already entered into a logbook can be altered using whiteout or similar substance.”**

TEERA Motion No. 8

“that Rule V.5.1.b) be amended to:

“a gate-into-hold, heart-rate-gate (or similar) examination.”

NSWERA Motion No. 1

“That rule H 13.1 is amended to read:

‘Horses may be ridden with or without shoes, but in all cases the shoes and hooves must be in a suitable condition for the competition. Horses which are shod at the start of the ride may cross the finish line without one or more shoes, or may have a lost horseshoe replaced on course in accordance with the outside assistance rule (RI 0). Boots and pads are allowed.’

SAERA Motion No. 1

“that Rule H24.6 is added to read:

“Any horse requiring invasive treatment due to metabolic condition during or as a result of the event is eliminated. The event being defined as from the pre-ride veterinary check until 2 hours after the end of ride veterinary check for that horse. At that time, at the discretion of the head veterinarian, a further vet check may be undertaken.”

Veterinary Panel Motion No. 1

“that Rule V2.11 be added:

“that if the head veterinarian deems that a horse is compromised sufficiently that it requires invasive treatment, the person responsible for that horse must comply with directives from the head veterinarian to have the horse treated. Failure to comply will be reported to the chief steward who will refer the matter to the State Management Committee for disciplinary action.”

Veterinary Panel Motion No. 2

“that a horse should not compete in consecutive 160 klm or more rides within 28 days.”

Veterinary Panel Motion No. 3

“that at the discretion of the Head Veterinarian, any horse may be required to represent for a veterinary examination in the period of 1 – 2 hours after each horse finishes its ride, whether that be after a successful completion or at an earlier stage of the ride.”

Western Australia – Motion No. 1

Rule A17.4 Course Marking

In the absence (or withdrawal) of a suitable entrant to act as a Pace Rider, the Ride Committee will mark the training ride course with cumulative distance markers from the ride base, preferably every 5 klm but minimally every 10 km.

TEERA Motion

“that rule H4.3 be amended to read:

“if a horse has been issued with a logbook, that logbook must be used when that horse is entered in an affiliated training ride.”

AUSTRALIAN ENDURANCE SQUAD

THANK-YOU PETER TOFT

The AERA would like to sincerely thank Peter Toft for sponsoring the Australian Endurance Squad – see AERA report. His generosity will ensure the success of the formation and ongoing management of the Squad.

Rider Injury Prevention and Management

From a document prepared by Jenny Moncur, the following recommendations were made with AERA's comments on the recommendations in Italics. The AERA would sincerely like to thank Jenny for the time and effort she has put into this document.

RECOMMENDATION 1.

That AERA make it a mandatory requirement of participation that all persons who are mounted on a horse at any stage in connection with an endurance ride, wear a riding helmet that complies with the standard current in Australia, the U.S.A. or Europe.

AERA agrees..

RECOMMENDATION 2.

That AERA require that riders at endurance rides, who do not have heeled footwear, to have stirrups fitted with a cage, or similar device, to prevent the foot sliding through the stirrup and becoming caught up in the event of a fall.

AERA agrees but makes it a recommendation not a requirement.

RECOMMENDATION 3

That all official ride number vests have reflective tape fitted, such as to be visible from both the front or rear of the vest when it is worn by a rider.

AERA agrees.

RECOMMENDATION 4

That all riders who will be riding at times other than in daylight, have a functioning head lamp fitted to their helmet.

AERA does not agree.

RECOMMENDATION 5

That all riders are required to adhere to the relevant road rules when mounted on a horse during the conduct of an endurance ride.

AERA agrees.

RECOMMENDATION 6

That it be a requirement of participation in endurance rides that riders wear a personal medical armband or may leave relevant personal medical information with the ride secretary.

AERA believes that this should be a recommendation only

RECOMMENDATION 7

That it be a requirement of conducting an endurance event that ride organisers develop a risk management plan for all endurance rides.

AERA agrees with this and most States already have a risk management plan in operation.

RECOMMENDATION 8

That an effective communication system between ride base and all checkpoints be a mandatory requirement of course design for endurance rides. This can include mobile phones.

AERA agrees where possible and accepts the use of mobile phones. Refer AERA report.

RECOMMENDATION 9

That each state division compile a register of suitable persons willing to act as First Aid Providers at endurance rides. This list to be made available to ride organisers.

AERA accepts this recommendation and requests any members willing to be on this list to contact their State Secretary.

RECOMMENDATION 10

That ride organisers be required to provide first aid services at all endurance rides held within Australia.

AERA agrees in principle.

RECOMMENDATION 11

That AERA investigate the development and implementation of a policy regarding the mandatory retirement of riders on medical grounds.

AERA agrees in principle and recommends that a medical certificate be obtained for older riders.

RECOMMENDATION 12

That AERA explore the formation of a Medical Advisory Body for Endurance Riding, similar in structure to the Veterinary Advisory Panel, whose role and function will be to implement and monitor various programs aimed at preventing and managing injury to participants in endurance events in Australia.

AERA would like to explore this option further. Any member who is interested in being part of the Medical Advisory Body should contact the AERA Secretary on (07) 5447 9308 or email at anne@businessmanagement.com.au

RECOMMENDATION 13

That AERA investigate the implementation of a 'Medical Levy' to fund on-course first aid services, and implementation and development of rider safety policies throughout Australia

AERA does not agree.

RECOMMENDATION 14

That AERA investigate development of a database to maintain statistics on injury rates among endurance riders.

AERA will explore this option as part of Risk management.

RECOMMENDATION 15

That all ride organisers be required to designate an Incident Investigations Officer, who will record details of incidents and forward these to AERA or the relevant State Body, in accordance with current requirements.

AERA believes this is part of Risk Management. An Incident Report Form has been designed and distributed to all States.