

Notes of the General Meeting of Members of the Australian Endurance Riders Association Inc held on 4th and 5th July, 2009 commencing on Saturday at 8:30 a.m.

Welcome by President Ieva welcomed everyone to the meeting, All delegates signed a get well card for Meg.

Present: Anne Jones (Qld) Mathew Krahnman (Qld), Dorte Colja (Qld), Neil Clarkson (NSW), Tom Perkins (NSW), Kerry Spratt (NSW), Ieva Peters (WA), Ross McCamish (WA), Sarah Adams (SA), Helen Bowkett (TAS), Trish Smith (TAS), Sandy Horton (VIC), Roy Noble (Hon. Member), Tom McCormack, Jane McLoughlin,

Registration of Votes: QLD -7, NSW – 6, Vic – 3, WA – 2, TAS – 2, SA - 1

Business Arising from the Minutes (from Action Sheet)

- **Chief Steward Liaison:** Dorte has not received the details of the CS liaison person from all States.
- **CS Newsletter/Checklist:** Dorte reported that the newsletter is up and running well in Queensland and has been well received. She has been trying to get participation from the other States without success. The newsletter covers any changes, discussion, bloopers etc. It has been hard to get the chatline going. One issue to be reported is the boot situation. They can only be removed by the vet and cannot be changed/removed/added between trot outs. It was agreed to change the CS Handbook to a Checklist.
- Tom suggested that the forms should be standardised for all states. QERA has a comprehensive list of forms on the website. SA and TAS asked to trial the QERA time slip books. Trish advised that they will form an integral part of the database. Jane offered to compile a list of all the forms and standardise them and use the forms on the QERA website as a start, liaising with Anne. **Videos:** An ongoing process. Neil has about 20 to do.
- **Archived Material:** Kerry reported that Jo has input rides back to 2001 and is working on it when she has time.
- **Quilty Manual:** Jane has sent detailed job descriptions to Ieva and Dick. Ieva will contact Dick who is doing a total review of the manual including the Risk Management.
- **Technology:** Anne will send out Skype invitations again.
- **AERA Decals:** Neil has had trouble sourcing the fluoro ink for the decals. Matthew stated that he will get a quote from The Label Shop for 2,000.
- **Quilty Entry Form:** Will be standardised after the Victorian Quilty and will be included in the manual.
- **Guidelines for Ride Suspension:** Tom reported that he is still working on it. Cancellation, suspension and termination all have different connotations.
- **Quilty Portfolio:** Matthew has organised letters and information from Nanango and Boonah along with a copy of the sponsorship application that was submitted to Queensland Regional Events. He also included a copy of the DVD from Landline. Jane is to add to the portfolio after the Victorian Quilty.
- **Logbooks:** Roy will include the name of the vet and date of id on the next print run.

Executive Decisions to be Ratified

That any member cross posting from Aussie_Endurance will be put on moderation.

Payment of Database Development Invoices

That the WAERA are reimbursed for the expenses incurred to update the Blucher database for a teams event to the amount of \$935.

That the AERA authorise the upgrades to the Blucher program to accommodate the FEI Best Conditioned calculations to a maximum value of \$850 (was not necessary)

That AERA pays \$200 for sponsorship of the VERA State Championship trophies

That the AERA pays \$5,940 to purchase 4 Pat Slater Cups

Moved Neil Clarkson/Dorte Colja
That the executive decisions are ratified.
Voting Carried Unanimously

Quilty

Victoria 2009

Moved Neil Clarkson/Helen Bowkett

That in response to the hardship that they have suffered in relation to the bushfire disaster AERA donate \$5,000 to the Tonimbuk Quilty Committee.

Voting QLD – Yes, SA – Yes, TAS – Yes, Vic – Yes, NSW – Yes, WA – Yes. Carried Unanimously.

Selection of Disputes Committee: The Disputes Committee will be Tom McCormack (Chief Steward), Narelle Cribb (Head Vet), Ieva Peters (AERA representative), a member of the Ride Organising Committee and a representative from VERA (TBA). Tom will forward to Ieva a “Disputes” protocol and fee. This will be implemented at the Victorian Quilty and included in the Quilty Events Standard.

NSW 2010

The Manilla Quilty Committee have forward a letter for response by AERA

1. Expenses of the Chief Steward – This is clear in the event standards and AERA will pay reasonable travel and accommodation costs.
 2. Payment and expenses of vets attending – AERA pays for the Head Vet and on-course vet. The State vets travel expenses are proportioned out to the States.
 3. Perpetual Trophies – are the responsibility of AERA
 4. Other compulsory awards – AERA pays for a replica cup. If there is a tie, the riders can apply to buy another but they have to pay for it. AERA Awards are the responsibility of AERA. The AHSA sponsor the Top 10 rugs. All other awards, Best Conditioned, 1-5 Rugs in each Division are the responsibility of the Quilty Committee.
 5. AERA officials attendance at meeting and prior to the event – AERA will pay if officials are sent at the AERA’s request.
 6. AERA Officials attendance at the event – AERA will pay for travel only
- AERA would not normally sponsor a rug. Buckles are charged at \$220 each.

SA 2011

Sarah gave a comprehensive report on progress to date with the SA Quilty.

The event will be run on the last full weekend in September. The course will include an away checkpoint at Bungaree Station. The FEI ride will be based at this checkpoint. Anne Barnes and Ieva have been invited. Bungaree Station has accommodation options on the site and it is likely that several officials will be accommodated there. They have been very helpful and there is a nice partnership developing. It is planned to hold small hosted events for members of the local community at the FEI ride.

The State Championships will be held at the Clare Showgrounds. The council are very supportive and the facilities at the showgrounds are being upgraded although extra toilets and showers will be required.

There is 25 acres so plenty of room for camping and the layout is conducive to the event. The quoted fee to use the showground is felt to be too low and could increase. There is a caravan site opposite the showground.

Concern may be expressed by some of the vineyard owners about horses bringing in an aphid that can destroy the vines. There will have to be some commitment from riders in winegrowing regions to guarantee that their horses hooves and floats are clean.

Discussion on the National Championship aspect of the Quilty

A discussion was held on whether the National Championship component should be dropped from the Quilty. It was agreed not to remove it and that there are no plans to change the name and no change to the status.

Vet Levy Guidelines: The vet levy does not need to be incorporated into the entry fee and will not attract the AERA levy. All consumables are to be payable by the rider and the logbook will be retained until the invoice is paid.

Moved Matthew Krahen/Sarah Adams

That the amended vet levy guidelines is accepted and incorporated into the Event Standards document from 2011.

Voting Carried Unanimously.

Pat Slater Cup

On a proportional basis, the States would be asked to pay the following amounts for the 4 cups:

Qld	\$2257
NSW	\$1663
Vic	\$950
W/A	\$653
Tas	\$237
SA	\$180

Moved Neil Clarkson/Helen Bowkett
That **the sponsorship of the Pat Slater cup for 2009-2012 is divided proportionally between the States as per Roy's figures, \$5,940 total.**

Voting QLD – Yes, SA – Yes, TAS – Yes, Vic – Yes, NSW – Yes, WA – No. Carried.

Selection of Judging Panel

It was agreed to invite: Narelle Cribb (Head Vet), Sue Reid (Vic) – Accepted, Sue Parsons (Vic) - Accepted, Frank Muddyman (Vic) - Accepted, Jill Ross (SA) – Accepted.

Reserves: Sally Cowan (Vic), Matthew Krahn (QLD), Ron Males (NSW)

Database

Trish reported that there has been a delay as Stuart Forge was overseas but he is now committing 2 days a week to the system. They have decided to give the Ride Management System a look and feel of the Blucher system as there are so many familiar with it. The generation of reports is being looked at. The server has been set up and a lot of background tasks have been done. She is hoping to start pilot testing in October. We may have to run parallel for some part of 2010. The current data is readily integrated into the new system.

The RMS may get priority for completion with the rest being built on.

AERA will own the copyright and the intellectual property.

Trish was thanked for her report and work on the system.

Motions to be Re-tabled for Second Vote – Rule Changes

Overseas Riders

R7 International RIDERS (delete IN FEI EVENTS)

7.1 to be deleted and replaced with:

7.1 **International** Riders competing in any Australian Endurance Ride/Event must -

- Provide proof of membership of their National Federation (NF)
- Ride under AERA Novice rules **unless they can provide proof of successful completion of not less than 240kml in endurance competition.**
- Pay a day membership for each event to cover them for Public Liability Insurance, **or provide proof of current riding membership of a Division of the AERA.**

7.2 **International** Riders who compete in Australian FEI Rides must also -

- Present a Letter of No Objection (LNO) from their NF
- Meet any qualification criteria set by the AERA from time to time

Discussion was held on overseas qualifications as some NF's have less requirements than we do.

The motion was amended as above.

Moved Kerry Spratt/Helen Bowkett
That **the amended motion be accepted.**
Voting Carried Unanimously

The amended motion was put to the vote.

QLD – Yes, SA – Yes, TAS – Yes, Vic – Yes, NSW – Yes, WA – Yes. Carried unanimously. New Rule in 2010.

Unlimited events for International riders

That 7.3 is added

“Without limiting any other provision of these rules, an International rider shall be entitled to compete in an unlimited number of endurance events.

This committee is exercising its discretion as per Clause 7.4 of the AERA Constitution and it will allow International riders to enter an unlimited number of endurance events by adding 7.3 into the rule book

Moved Jane McLoughlin/Ross McCamish

Qld – Yes, SA – Yes, TAS – Yes, Vic – yes, WA – Yes, NSW – Yes. Carried and will be a new rule in 2010

Motions on Notice for Discussion and First Vote

Prohibited Substance Rules

Moved Kerry Spratt/Sandy Horton

That in accordance with the agreement with the EA, AERA takes all necessary steps to implement the EA Anti Doping and Medication Control rules

Voting Qld – Yes, SA – Yes, TAS – Yes, Vic – Yes, NSW – Yes, WA – Yes. Carried and will be brought to the next meeting for the second vote.

Minimum Riding Times (TEERA)

That Rules A14.3, A 45.5, R3.6a, H5.4a are amended to read

“All horses competing in training rides 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 kph”

This motion is clarifying the intent of the existing rule.

Qld – Yes, SA – Yes, TAS – Yes, Vic – Yes, NSW – Yes, WA – Yes. Carried and will be brought to the next meeting for the second vote.

Invasive Treatments for Intro/Training Rides and for Owners/Trainers

“that a new Guideline H24 is added:

1. Vet cards to be retained by ride committee and forwarded to Horse Welfare Officer along with IT forms and original entry form.
2. A letter to go to day member in question offering advice re IT and a possible RO (depending on the severity)
3. Numbers to be issued today member's horses so that they can remain in the data base for any future scrutiny.

It was agreed that at least these are some practical steps to follow to be able to keep track of these riders and their horse should the need arise. However as such horses are not "registered" with the AERA, have no log books and therefore no ID it will be difficult to police. Basically if we have the horse's name and an ID number that's about the best we can do apart from relying on honesty of the rider.

The Motion was withdrawn and it was agreed that Anne would send it to the States as a recommendation from AERA

VERA - Propose No Smoking on Course

That a New Rule R14 is added

R14. A rider must not smoke at any time while on the course of an affiliated ride. If a rider fails to comply, the Chief Steward may take any disciplinary action the Chief Steward thinks fit including disqualification from the ride.

Rationale: Permission for entry into public (and in some cases, private) land for the passage of the course have a condition that there is no smoking. This condition applies while on course – not just during the event. The rule change will assist ride organisers to ensure these conditions are met and to encourage future access to land.

Also, we wish to promote endurance as a healthy and family orientated sport – consistent with some government sponsorship arrangements.

Jane explained that the intent of this is that the rider only becomes a rider on entry. Permits often state that no smoking is allowed. Some ride organisers implement a local rule to cover this. Matthew agreed that it should be a local rule. There is no-one out on course to enforce the rule.

Voting Qld – No, SA – No, Tas – No, Vic – Yes, NSW – No, WA – No. Motion lost.

NSW Motion 1 – AERA IC Funding

“that no funding from the general account of the AERA be directed to the international arm of the sport”

Rationale: At the NSWERA AGM, it was decided that the above motion was to be put to the AERA:

A member said that he is not happy with the AERA allocating funds to international events. The AERA pays for the meeting costs of the international committee. The member doesn't think this is right. The general membership should not have to contribute to the international events or riders and should not have to pay for members to attend an international committee meeting. These costs should not come out of the general AERA account. Wants this view put to the AERA. These comments were discussed at length and the above motion passed by a large majority vote. Referred to AERA accordingly.

It was agreed that this motion is against the constitution and is not a valid motion.

Voting Qld – No, SA – No, Tas – Yes, Vic – No, NSW – Yes, WA – No. Motion Lost.

NSW Motion 2 – Publishing of Financial Accounts

“that the AERA require the secretary of the AERA to publish the audited financial accounts in each divisional newsletter each year - by June in each year”

It was agreed that these are available on request. Anne will send a copy to the states.

Voting Qld – No, SA – No, Tas – Yes, Vic – No, NSW – Yes, WA – No. Motion Lost.

NSW Motion 3 – AERA Report Summary

“that after each AERA meeting, the AERA president be requested to publish a one page report on what's happening at AERA level in each division newsletter”

Kerry explained that the whole intent of this motion is to change the public perception in NSW that AERA is a closed society. Anne replied that a full report is done after the meeting and sent to the newsletters and published on the website. Not all States print the report.

Matthew stated that he accepts the intent and it is valid, there is a perception in the membership. The majority of members have no idea how rules are changed. Ieva stated that she does not have the time and it would leave her open to attack. Very little could be included on one page. She did state that she would endeavour to do it. Sandy believes that the Action list should be published too. Anne disagreed as it would put some delegates in a bad light when tasks are carried over from one meeting to the next. It is the responsibility of the delegates and the State Secretaries to ensure that the report is printed in the newsletter.

Voting Qld – No, SA – No, Tas – Yes, Vic – No, NSW – Yes, WA – No. Motion Lost.

WA Motion – Weigh Ins

That WAERA to make a recommendation to AERA that Rule R5.7 be amended to read,

“Ride committees make arrangements for all riders to weigh in at pre ride, and at the completion of the ride, and at random throughout the ride where appropriate. A record of all weigh ins must be recorded.

This is actually a reflection of what goes on.

Tom stated that random weighing can cause discrimination and he random weighs by division. This is more accepted. The motion gives the Ride Organiser and Chief Steward the opportunity to not have to weigh at peak times such as the end of the first leg at the Quilty.

Voting Qld – Yes, SA – Yes, Vic – Yes, NSW – Yes, WA – Yes, TAS – Yes. Motion carried and will be brought to the next meeting for the second vote.

Rule Clarification, Revision and Discussion Items

Yellow Cards (QERA)

QERA have finalised the Disciplinary Code documents and are currently conducting a trial as per the updated document attached. One yellow card has already been issued.

Best Conditioned Sheet (SAERA)

Sarah stated that it is working well and a report will be provided at the end of the year.

Teleconferencing/Video Conferencing (NSWERA)

Anne advised that she has sent invitations to delegates to be able to communicate on Skype either as a Group, individually or set up a chatroom. To date she has received very little response but will send the invitations out again. Tom would like to see a fourth meeting by teleconference. He will submit a proposal to the next meeting.

Insurance EA vs AERA (NSWERA)

Tom wanted a clarification for future reference. If a rider is injured doing a FEI ride, would the insurance look at the AERA policy or the EA one. The ride is run by an incorporated club and the Certificate of Currency is issued by our insurer. A PA claim would go direct to AON.

80 klm plus rides without three vet checks (NSWERA)

There is evidence from the national registrar records that some states are running rides of over 80 km distance with only 2 legs. These rides are processed on the national pointscore as their correct distance. It is a breach of rule A 6.1 to have average leg lengths of more than 40km, so rides greater than 80 km should have 3 legs. This was agreed at an AERA meeting last year. Another problem is that these rides, while being run in contravention of the rule, give riders extra distance and an advantage on the national pointscore. We request the AERA to enforce the rule as it stands. Alternatively, riders should be credited with 80km maximum.

It was noted that several rides of over 80klm are being run with only 2 legs instead of 3. It was agreed that this would be discussed at the next meeting. Anne is also to instruct all states to round to the nearest klm. .

Who has to microchip a horse? (NSWERA)

Tom advised that there is a possibility of people microchipping their own horse. They can be accredited as a pet implanter. The rules state that only veterinarians can insert the microchips and the rules should be followed. Tom to come back to the next meeting with any suggestions.

The lessor and lessee of a horse? (NSWERA)

Seeking clarification on the procedure for leasing a horse - there is a form in the back of the new logbooks and it seeks the signature of the Registrar. What is the AERA's intent as regards that form?

The form has never been used and is not mandatory.

Magic Millions Sale

The Magic Millions sale has this year included a section for Sport Horses, as well as the normal Thoroughbred sale. The Sport Horse sale is being promoted by Equestrian Australia with all of its main disciplines being represented including Endurance. The sale catalogue will be circulated all over the world both electronically and in print.

This is a major opportunity for the AERA to promote our sport at the sale to a international audience. Matthew is to provide more information and put a proposal together. QERA members happy to man the stall. Would be happy to sell Quilty merchandise.

SA, Vic part NSW and part Tas plus NT left meeting at 2:30/3:00

Treasurer – Annexure K – Financial Reports Sent Separately

Tom advised that he intends to spend a weekend with Roy to familiarise himself with the accounts. He has ideas on how it can be restructured to make it clearer and wants to bring the 2010 budget to the next meeting.

Moved Neil Clarkson/Helen Bowkett
That **Tom McCormack is re-imbursed for travel and accommodation expenses to meet with Roy.**
Voting Carried Unanimously

Justification for Increase in Affiliation Fees : The fees have not been put up since 2002. Roy stated that we are facing increased costs across the board and are always being asked to do more.

Moved Kerry Spratt/Helen Bowkett
That **we support in principle the proposal to increase the affiliation fees for 2010 subject to a budget review for presentation at the November meeting.**
Voting Carried Unanimously. Sincere thanks to Roy for putting it all together.

International

Moved **AERA/AERA**
That **the AERA negotiates with EA to manage Anti doping and Medication Control matters through the National structure through 2009 and Ultimately that the AERA will remain the hearing body through its current structures regarding Anti Doping and Medication Control.**

That the AERA obtains legal advice on the manner in which the EA Equine Anti Doping and Medication Control Rules can be implemented for AERA National rides with the AERA and its current structures being the hearing body there under.

The appropriate manner to introduce the rules and AERA and its structures as the hearing body into the members handbook or

Any other viable alternative.

Voting Carried Unanimously

Moved Sarah Adams/Ross McCamish
That **AERA accepts the recommendation from the AERA IC re the WA Squad Camp complaint.**
Voting Carried. Qld Against.

Moved Sandy Horton/Dorte Colja

That **a recommendation is made to all States except Queensland to introduce a levy per rider per “ride to support the growth and development of international competition in that State.**

Voting Qld – Yes, SA – Yes, Tas – No, Vic – Yes, NSW – Yes, WA – Yes. Carried.

A proposal was made to remove the \$2,500 assistance to groups outside Queensland was held over until the next meeting.

Brian Sheahan attended to discuss Endurance Committee issues. Thumps has been removed as an automatic elimination if the horse does not show signs of dehydration

The FEA/AERA Calendar Policy is to be reviewed particularly in relation to timeframes between the Quilty and FEI rides.

Ieva is to write to NZ advising them that from 2010 horses that do not have an accurate identification process will not be accredited with endurance status and will have to compete as novice horses. It is recommended that the horses coming to Australia are microchipped and/or branded.

Robyn Mather has been appointed as the team vet to the WEG in Kentucky.

Linda Meredith and Penny Toft have been selected to compete in the Kentucky pre-ride in October.

EA Sports Committee

The document of the Sports Committee was presented and discussed. The recommendation is to set up a skills based committee. This consists of 5 members with a maximum of 2 or 3 terms of 2 years. At the end of this time, they have to have 12 months off. The appointment of the members will be based on their knowledge of National and International Rules. Expressions of Interest will be called from EA and AERA members. There will be 5 members with the chair selected by the members.

An interim committee will be put in place in the initial stage from January for two years, which will take us through to the WEG. It will include the Squad manager, the Chef and 2 others nominated by the AERA. The Chair will be a member of the EA. We are going to seek to endorse the current chef and selected officials for Kentucky and the EA will recognise the Squad as a development squad.

Moved Neil Clarkson/Ross McCamish

That this document is accepted in principal and the AERA agrees to accept the recommendation that a skills based committee is formed.

Voting Carried Unanimously

State Reports

New South Wales: Neil noted that all future overseas selected riders will get \$1,500 to attend overseas events.

Queensland: Matthew discussed the Horse Industry Alliance that QERA has just become a part of. There are no real day to day tasks to do. They will be involved in any government policy that affects the PPHI. They are trying to have an influence on policy that affects the industry. In time, they want to be involved in the Australian Horse Industry Council that deals with the Federal Government.

Kerry asked if Matthew could advise if he hears of similar organisations in the other states. Only clubs with over 500 members can be involved.

South Australia: Sarah stated that SA now has 82 adult, 1 life and 10 junior members so far this year.

Victoria: Sandy noted that the State Championships were a success.

Western Australia: Ross advised that the Collie raceclub has been given a grant of \$16,400 plus \$10,000 from the miners retirement fund and \$3,300 from a mining company. The Shire has been given an undertaking to provide \$5,000 work in kind. WAERA will contribute to upgrade the water. The Forestry are allowing 4 events a year to be run. A SGM is being held to change the constitution to bring it in line to the Junior rules.

Tasmania: Tasmania now have 230 members.. **Wow** 😊👍

National Newsletter: Neil provided samples of a National newsletter. A graphic artist would cost \$45 - \$50 per page to produce a mock up. He will get quotes for up to 2,000 copies and a price for a mock up of 8 pages. Neil proposes that each State would have an editor and an AERA appointed central person would control the project,

and put in a format to go to a graphic artist. Each State would have a different colour. Postage would depend on where it is printed and where it is being posted to. Advertising revenue would be around \$10 - \$12,000 per issue.

Correspondence

- A copy of a letter was received from the NRZ to NSW – they wish to remain as part of QERA. There will be no further discussion on this. The matter has now been resolved.
- VERA re motions: Jane stated that there was a misunderstanding how Motions 10.1 to 10.4 were linked. The VERA members did not appreciate that if one fell, they all fell. It was noted that these motions have been on the table for several meetings. The vote was taken at the last meeting and it was acknowledged that the votes were recorded correctly. On this basis to engage in a debate about the inter dependency of the motion is not the best use of the time left. The motions cannot be changed unless a new motion is tabled, they will be rules in 2010.

Moved Sandy Horton/Ross McCamish

That Motions 10.1 to 10.4 from the February 2009 meeting be rescinded.

Voting Qld – No, SA – Yes, Tas – Yes, Vic – yes, NSW – Yes, WA – Yes. Carried.

Kerry stated that she is in favour of the motion. She concurs with Sandy that we have to act if we want this implemented to become a rule in 2010. Assuming that the original intention was to allow Ride Organisers to run FEI and AERA rides on the same weekend, using the same vetting parameters.

Moved Tom McCormack/Ross McCamish

That a new rule is created and the rule book amended:

“that if an AERA VGIIH ride is run in conjunction with an FEI ride that the Organising Committee has the option for the AERA ride to be conducted under prevailing FEI criteria for heartrate and present times.”

and

Rule A12.1 is amended to add

“unless run in conjunction with an FEI ride as per rule XX”

Voting Qld – Yes, SA – Abstain, TAS – Yes, Vic – yes, NSW – Yes, WA – Yes. Motion carried and will be brought to the next meeting for a second vote.

Delegates are instructed to take it back to the SMC's for a final vote in November.

TPR and Chief Steward Registrar: Dorte presented an updated Chief Steward and TPR Exam for ratification.

Next Meeting: 20, 21, 22 November, 2009

Meeting Closed: 4:25p.m.