

AERA Meeting Report

Held on 22/23 November 2003 at Hawkesbury Conference Centre, University of Western Sydney, Richmond commencing on Saturday at 8.15 am

PRESENT

Ieva Peters (WA), Jane Radney (WA), Anne Jones (Qld), Toby Crockett (Qld), Erica Williams (Qld), Phillip O'Loughlin (SA), Denise Trollope (NSW), Kerry Spratt (NSW), Geoff Hurt (NSW), Randy Cowan (Vic), Roy Noble (Vic), Laurie Nicolle (Tas), Brett Bingham (Tas)

In attendance: Helen Rich (Minutes). Lyn Bailey, Barb Timms, Adrian Bailey, Glenda Armitage (Saturday). Graeme Gilbertson (Sunday)

Resignation of Denise Williams and acceptance of Laurie Nicolle to the casual vacancy

Laurie Nicolle was accepted as the Tasmanian delegate.

APOLOGIES

Dorte Colja

REGISTRATION OF VOTES

NSW – 850 members, 9 votes, QLD – 603 members, 7 votes, VIC – 292 members, 3 votes, WA – 232 members, 3 votes, TAS – 141 members, 2 votes, SA – 67 members, 1 vote

AERA Book

The new endurance book has been distributed. It is available at newsagents and from the State SMC's.

International

Glenda Armitage and Sandy Horton are new members of the AERAIC. It was agreed to keep a register of people who attend courses to ensure that they are on the official list and that they are promoted at the appropriate times. Agreement all communication with EFA should go through Jane. Allan Renner's appointment to FEI begins in 2004.

Trans Tasman Challenge – NZ would like us to send a team. Have about 7 people interested in competing. Horses to be borrowed. Amount payable will be about \$2500 per rider. It has been agreed that these riders would be second tier riders, people who have not done a lot of riding overseas. This will give them exposure to international events. AERA is to fund uniforms out of the International Fund.

Dubai team will probably need to be self funded.

Distance Registrar

Lyn Bailey asked whether AERA might be interested in recognising riders when they get to certain mileage? Some have over 20,000 klm. Lyn will print out distances and ask for corrections from the members via the newsletters.

Horse Welfare

No reports have been received from VERA for 2002. A letter of thanks is to be sent Jo Hamilton Branigan thanking her for her excellent report on Horse Welfare. A letter is to be sent to the States reminding them of horse catastrophe reporting requirements.

It is essential that all entry forms should include a space for the "Responsible member" to sign if this is not the rider.

Discussions will be held at the next meeting on disciplinary matters, especially as to whether a member riding in another State can be disciplined in that State rather than their own.

Membership

Some riders who reside in Victoria but who are NSW members will be asked to join the State they are resident in.

Logbooks

If a member chooses to ride on a novice log book, even if the horse has successfully completed its 3 novice rides, that rider must ride under novice rules. It does not matter how many rides the horse has done. A horse must have a yellow book to ride under open rules.

Horse Registration

It was agreed that a yellow book horse does not require a registration label to enter training rides. Any endurance horse entering an 80km or above ride will be required to be registered including the horses under the 13 month rule.

Rule Books

New rule books will be printed with a blue cover. A new booklet for Vets and Chief Stewards will also be written containing relevant information such as Drug Testing Procedures, Protocol for Swabbing, Issuing Rest Orders etc.

Distance Awards/Special Achievement Awards

It was agreed to change the name of the annual AERA distance awards to the the "RM Williams Distance Awards". Discussion is continuing on the format of the Pat Slater award.

Harness

The crew of a harness vehicle must wear an approved equestrian helmet. This statement will be added on the end of the appropriate rule (A29.1)

Quilty Reports

Canowindra will be asked to provide a copy of the final audited accounts as per the terms of the Quilty Agreement.

A Lightweight horse has been disqualified from the Quilty following a positive drug test result. The rider has been exonerated. All results will be adjusted accordingly and trophies re-allocated.

The Arabian Horse Society will continue to sponsor the Top 10 Rugs MWT/HWT at the Quilty. They will also sponsor a rug for the first registered Arabian Horse competing under its registered name at each State Championship.

Port Elliot Quilty will have a 5 a.m. start as the first two legs are the most difficult and traverse over open country.

Sheffield Quilty preparations are progressing well. They hope to announce a major sponsor early in 2004. The event agreement has been signed.

The AERA have accepted QERA's recommendation that **Boonah** host the 2006 Quilty, despite claims from an unsuccessful bidder about the selection process. A Terms of Reference for Quilty Selection will be developed to avoid these problems in the future. Delegates were amazed that Queensland received four applications to host the Quilty.

Meeting closed at 5.23 pm.

Meeting recommenced at 8.25 am on Sunday 23 November 2003. Geoff Hurt was not present. Graeme Gilbertson in attendance.

MOTIONS ON NOTICE FOR DISCUSSION AND FIRST VOTE

1.1 NSWERA Motion No. 1

"that rule A 3.2 be amended to read

"Ride and veterinary controls will commence at the pre ride veterinary check and conclude when the logbook or vet card of each horse has been signed off by the Head Veterinarian and released by the ride organising committee."

Qld yes SA yes Tas yes WA yes Vic yes NSW yes. RETURN to the next meeting

1.2 NSWERA Motion No. 2

"that rule H 14.1 be amended to read

Once under the control of the veterinarian at the pre ride check every horse shall remain on the ride base except while competing in the ride, or where the horse leaves the ride base on veterinarian instruction. Any horse must not be removed until the veterinarian releases the horse by signing off the horse's logbook or vet card and until the horse's logbook or vet card is released by the ride organising committee.

Qld yes SA yes Tas yes WA yes Vic yes NSW yes. RETURN to the next meeting.

1.3 NSWERA Motion No. 3

“that rule P 1.1(b) be amended to read

“Competition means any class of affiliated competition sanctioned and run under the AERA Inc rules, procedures and guidelines and includes all time from when the horse is formally entered in the event and until the horse's logbook is signed off by the Veterinarian and released by the ride organising committee.”

Qld yes SA yes Tas yes WA yes Vic yes NSW yes RETURN to the next meeting

Revision of Quilty Guidelines The Guidelines have been altered in accordance with the decisions made by the committee at this November 2003 meeting.

It was agreed that AERA will pay the airfares for those AERA delegates who wish to travel to the Quilty and assist with the running of the event.

Containment Guidelines

Containment Guidelines were adopted and will be printed in the newsletters and as an appendix at the back of the rule book.

Proof of horse's age

Rules H3.1 and H3.2 Horse Age will have statements added to ensure correct interpretation of the rule.

Strategic Plan.

Kerry Spratt went through the plan. The Committee was asked to give some thought to the structure of the AERA, bearing in mind that we are living in a litigious society. Would a limited company structure be better than an incorporated association? The Limited company is more protected. The committee members would be the directors, the members the shareholders. The capital, which consists of the assets, is the limit to which someone can sue the company. Advice should be sought on this aspect with a view to deciding which is the better option.

Risk Management Procedures

Victoria is compiling a suggested disaster plan. Delegates were asked to bring something back to the next meeting.

Monetary reward for ride officials

Delegates were requested to document what rewards, incentives etc they each have in place for their members with regard to the assistance they give to the running of rides.

Next meeting

It was agreed that the meetings would remain in Sydney at present. A suggestion was made to reduce costs by having the AERAIC meeting at the airport. The Executive will decide on the next venue.

Meeting date for AGM

The next meeting will be held on 27/28/29 February 2004.

The meeting was closed at 2.22 pm on Sunday.