



Australian Endurance Riders Association Inc.

Notes of the General Meeting of Members of the Australian Endurance Riders Association Inc. held on 15th, 16th, 17th November, 2011 commencing on Friday at 1:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., Sat 8:45 a.m. – 6:40 p.m., Sun 8:02 a.m. – 1:10 p.m.

1. **Welcome by President:** Tom welcomed everyone and stated he is in the process of documenting goals for 2012. A lot has been happening.
 2. **Present :** Tom McCormack (NSW) Chair, Anne Jones (Qld), Mathew Krahn (Qld), Dorte Colja (QLD), Katrina Westerhoff (Vic), Liz Rutherford (WA), Sandy Little (Vic), Gary Tweedie (NSW), Melanie Scott (SA), Sarah Adams (SA) .
Visitors: Beverley Wright (Fri), Steve Swan, (Sat),
 3. **Apologies:** Kerry Spratt (Fri.)
 4. **Register of Pecuniary Interest and Conflict of Interest:** As and when they arise.
 5. **Registration of Votes:** Qld – 6 votes, NSW – 6 votes, Tas – 3 votes, WA – 2 votes, Vic – 2 votes, SA – 1 vote
 6. **Catastrophe and IT Forms:** Dorte has started collecting statistics on catastrophes and IVT treatments. Please make sure that all information and forms are sent to her
 7. **A3 Disclaimer Signs:** Tom has some quotes for signs 450x600. It was agreed to order 200 corflute signs at a cost of \$1,213.00 to be paid for out of AON sponsorship.
 8. **Scanners:** Dorte obtained a price for 10 scanners at \$685 + GST + postage. It was agreed to defer for the time being.
 9. **Medication Control Forms:** – advise of changes to entry form. The rider handout for swabbing could go on the website as a living document. It is part of the swabbing process. The entry form should be changed to direct riders to the link for the medication forms <http://www.fei.org/veterinary/veterinary-regulations-and-education>. Ride organisers will need copies of the forms at the ride
 10. **Constitution:** Costs to date are \$4,450.30.
 11. **AHIC:** Matthew has been liaising with Kent Wells
 12. **Report on Teleconference – 24/10/11** Tom advised that the executive had a teleconference for 2 hours on 24th October. One of the problems discussed was social media and it was agreed that the first way to attack the situation is through the rules in the Member Code of Conduct section.
 13. **Executive Decisions to be Ratified:**
 - “that 13 Chief Steward vests are purchased for the SA Quilty”
 - “that the proposal from Nigel Perkins to produce a Hendra document is accepted.”
 - “that Steve Roberts undertake a Rule Book re-write providing the intent of any motion is not changed.”
 - “that Kerry Spratt’s fuel fees up to \$300 are paid to transport the AERA awards to the Quilty.”
 - “that Tom McCormack attends The Future of Horse Related Research Forum on behalf of the AERA.”
 - “that Cedar Ridge be re-imbursed \$1,193.50 for overpayment of FEI Ride Fees.
 - “that a Database meeting be held in Brisbane on 8/10/11”
 - “A special condition of entry for the 2011 Tom Quilty is that horses shall only gain access to the Mt. Pleasant ride base upon presentation of the duly completed Horse Health Declaration as published by the AERA”
 - “that a part payment of \$1,000 is paid to Karl Jorgenson for the new cabinet for the Quilty Cup.”
 - “that 20,000 AERA Voting Slips for vets are ordered at a cost of \$234.85”
 - “that the draft IT Rider forms are trialled at the Quilty.”
 - “that the organising dues for the cancelled Oz Endurance ride of \$660 are refunded.”
 - “that Tom McCormack’s airfare for a site visit to Tasmania Quilty site of \$584.50 is refunded.”
 - “that Tom McCormack’s airfare to attend the Database meeting in Brisbane of \$418 is refunded.”
 - “that Karl Jorgenson is paid \$2,525.00 for the balance of the Quilty Trophy Cabinet.”
 - “that NSWERA is given permission to use the Teleconference facility at their cost.”
- The Quilty vests have been purchased, Nigel Perkins is still working on the Hendra document and Steve Roberts has not yet started work on the Rule Book.
14. **President:** Tom stated that a lot has happened since the last meeting, most of it on the Agenda. The Code of Conduct is the most important. If it is passed on the first vote, we can have a teleconference in 3 weeks time for the second vote so that it can be in place next year.
 15. **Treasurer’s Report:** Roy has sent the financial reports and also provided handouts on state affiliation numbers. He noted that females far outnumber males. He once again stated that he is resigning and that is final. March will be his last meeting.
Moved Matthew Krahn/Sandy Little
That a motion of thanks is given to Roy.

- Voting** Carried Unanimously
16. **Webmaster:** Elaine has suggested that we run advertising on the website. She provided some useful figures on usage statistics.
- Moved** Anne Jones/Matthew Krahnen
- That** **we support in principal paid advertising on the AERA website**
- Voting** Carried Unanimously. Anne is to ask Elaine about policy and rates.
17. **Veterinary Panel Report:** As far as represents are concerned, a trot out may not be required. It is the role of the Chief Steward to interpret the rule; it is not the role of the vet. If a horse finishes the ride and comes back the Chief Steward makes a determination of the rules.

A motion was passed re vet fees. The vets want 4%. However after the Manilla Quilty we agreed that we would increase fees yearly by 2.5% or the CPI whichever is the greater.

- Moved** Garry Tweedie/Matthew Krahnen
- That** **we accept the fees as recommended by the vet panel but in future wish the fee I increase to be capped at 2.5% or the CPI whichever is the greater.**
- Voting** Carried. Tasmania abstained.

The fees for 2012 will be:

80klm - \$575
 \$120klm - \$645
 \$160klm - \$800
 Marathon \$415 per day + GST for endurance accredited vets
 Non accredited vet will be 75% of the accredited vet fee.

It was noted that not all states use the Body Condition Score. This should be made mandatory and will be in the new database.

Having a list of treatment vets was discussed. A training course is being held next weekend. AERA will assess how it progresses.

Matthew commented on the Hendra Virus. A policy will be written for AERA to adopt in future. In Queensland all veterinary practises have to have a policy for Hendra endorsed by the Queensland Workplace Health and Safety. It is envisioned that in the future it may be mandatory for all states. The risk of Hendra is different in all States.

A Hendra vaccine is being developed. It may not always be the be all and end all and we need to think about our approach to it.

18. **Accredited Vets:**
- Moved** QERA/SAERA
- That** **AERA accepts the accreditation of Luke Annetts as an Accredited Veterinarian.”; and**
- Moved** SAERA/QERA
- That** **AERA accepts the accreditation of Melissa Foord, Lindsay Young, Lidwien Verdegaal, Chris Riley as Accredited Veterinarians.”**
- Voting** Carried unanimously
19. **Insurance (Visit by Beverley Wright):**

Beverley Wright attended the meeting from AON to discuss our insurance options for next year. She went out to tender through the insurance market and showed the response. An executive summary was included. AON has a long relationship with the endurance riders and they have a pretty good understanding of the sport.

For liability insurance, she has gone to 7 insurers. We are currently using Lloyds. Two insurers have responded. Since 1999 over \$67,000 in claims has been paid. Liability claims have accounted for 20-30% of the claims at the present. There are unfinalised claims for liability relating to Yarloop (WA) and a couple of similar incidents.

Under the liability AERA and State branches, squads, members, officials etc. are covered. The limit of the indemnity is currently 20 million, 20 million for products liability, and \$100,000 cover for care, custody and control. Vets are covered as voluntary workers.

Bev continued that PA insurance has been reduced from \$30 to \$25 – down \$5. PL Insurance for Non-riding members \$5. Cost per day member is \$10. Intro ride - \$5.

Risk Management kits will also be made available to ride organisers or the website.

Sports Underwriting:

Sports Underwriting quoted for Liability and Professional Indemnity. Their quote is Non-adjustable. The premium is for 1641 members, premium is to be paid up front. There is no allowance for day and intro riders therefore it excludes any arrangements for day and intro riding. Bev would go back to them if necessary on how to base them. Cost per member would be \$36.00 per member.

Bev stated that there will be new legislation on 1/1/2012 where penalties apply to officers not meeting their due diligence. We must exercise “due diligence” in identifying risks and hazards, appropriate resources and processes, review incidents hazards and risks, OH & S laws and compliance up to date, also undertaking audits.

Directors and Officers: Association Liability insurance. Recommend that we consider that AERA increase the limit of liability to more than \$1 million.

CGU/Vero shared panel insurance. Statutory liability has been added.

Ace insurance: provided an Elite Management Liability. Some differences and exclusions. Premium is cheaper but has less cover.

Forefront Management Liability through SLE: no entity cover. The club's policy is too expensive.

Sports Underwriting: the premium is reasonably cheap but doesn't have as much cover as we would probably need.

Associations Liability QBE: doesn't cover much more than the associations liability. Premium is around \$20k.

Edge Management Liability: no cover for OH & S matters which fall back on the entity. Cost wise and cover-wise it is competitive.

In the end, Bev advised that there is really only two to look at – option 1 and 6. Others are not in the running.

Three PA Voluntary Workers quotes were received. These are the people who registered on the day as volunteers.

ACE supplied a quote. Limit of 85 years of age. Premium is about the same as last year.

Accident Health: variation in conditions is people over 65 people permanent disablement reduces to a paraplegia / quadriplegia cover. On par with the Ace policy. A bit cheaper than the ACE policy.

Sports Underwriting: will only pay out 80% of the salary, others are 85%. No partial weekly benefit. Age limit is 65. Members/volunteers combined policy is provided.

PA members: Two policies: one for adults and one for the Juniors.

Claims/premiums ratio is about 120% which is why the insurer increases the premium. They have to take into account all of the expenses, i.e. administration. This year is better than last year, but last year was about 120%. 24/7 coverage is available for non-income earning equestrian activities. In an official event, a rider that is being paid is covered under the policy, but not whilst training.

ACE: is mandatory for all members. Same as last year: adults \$70, Jnrs \$18.40. They have Reduced cover whilst at official events: Adults \$60, Jnr \$18.40.

Accident and Health: optional cover – opt in or opt out. Age limit 80 years. Adults \$70, Jnr \$16. Cover whilst attending events/activities: Adults \$45, Jnr \$15.

Sports Underwriting:

Payable annually up front.

Weekly benefits of 80% of earnings.

Age limit up to 65. Mandatory take up by all members.

Non medicare expenses if \$5k up to 85%.

Bev's example Combined policy: Clubs \$94, members \$67.50.

Commercial: Quilty Cup and belt buckles.

The AES tent needs to be specified under the policy, so it's not covered.

The Premium is \$2,812.10, which is about 20% increase.

The Quilty Cup should be accompanied. It is not covered if it's in a car that's unlocked.

The Buckle value needs to be reviewed.

With Public Liability, we have a decision to make between the 1st quote and the 6th quote. The first is the existing one. Cover is the same as the previous year..

The Sports Underwriting option is a complete package and cannot be broken up. The claims history is at the back of the folder and the claims flow chart is also available. It will be a requirement that incorporated clubs will still need to complete the financial statements.

Bev noted that a Certificate of Currency had been manually readjusted by a person. This constitutes fraud. Under no circumstances are the C of C's to be altered. It is very simple to change by contacting AON.

Aon sponsorship remains at \$2,500 for 2012 and Bev is OK to get the sponsorship done for the corflute signs. Bev left the meeting and Tom opened the discussion around the table.

It would be better to stay with the existing insurer for Public Liability. We know what we're getting and it is \$5 per head cheaper. Associations liability has remained unchanged.

Gary stated at the NSWERA SMC it was resolved that following direction from members at 2 AGM's, NSW would like to opt out of the PA Insurance. This would mean that several states would have to go back to their members. Most delegates also thought that it would drive premiums up in subsequent years. Roy stated that PA was brought in because too many people were claiming through the PL policy. Once the PA was introduced there was a substantial reduction in the PL insurance claims.

PA claims are 120% more than what is being paid and they have been making 100% on the PL policy which has kept our premiums low. We have to represent our states but we are also here as a national body and make a democratic decision on the majority view of the membership. By taking the premium that allows us to opt out of PA, it costs more money for fewer benefits. Some of the quotes will not let us split the policies.

Moved Gary Tweedie/

That the AERA accept the Members Personal Accident Insurance Policy offered by Accident and Health insurers for their Optional Personal Accident proposal.

The motion lapsed due to the absence of a seconder.

Moved Matthew Krahn/Sandy Little

That AERA renew the current insurance policies (Public Liability, Associations Liability, Personal Accident and Commercial) as tabled and discussed.

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

20. Appointment of Insurance Officer:

Moved Katrina Westerhoff/Melanie Scott

That Sonya Ruprecht is appointed as the AERA Insurance Officer."

Voting Qld – Yes, Tas – Yes, SA – Yes, WA – Yes, Vic – Yes. Motion Carried

Moved Debbie Grull/Dorte Colja
That **the new insurance officer be appointed for 12 months after which it will be reviewed and the honorarium reviewed at this time**
Voting Qld – Yes, Tas – Yes, SA – Yes, WA – Yes, Vic – Yes. Motion Carried.

21. **CS/TPR/Horse Welfare/Medication Control:** Dorte has done a spreadsheet on IVT's. She does not think that she has received them all. Each state should have portfolio positions for Horse Welfare. Chief Stewards should send all IVT's to the portfolio holder who should then send them to Dorte.

Dorte will try to put an education package together for Chief Stewards with the view to maintaining currency. All states should list their Chief Stewards and keep the list updated. CS should do at least 1 ride per year. TPR requirements cease when a person becomes a Chief Steward. One idea is to star rate Chief Stewards.

Chief Steward records should be kept up to date and Dorte will design a template of all documents that should be maintained. It was agreed that 2 years was a reasonable timeframe to complete accreditation. Melanie suggested that one qualifying ride should be interstate or out of the local area.

Dorte stated that QERA has kept the trial of the disciplinary code running. They have found it to be a deterrent for bad behaviour if they are threatened with a yellow or red card. It also provides a chain that connects riders with strappers.

QERA will bring a motion to the next meeting about the disciplinary code with supporting documentation. In the meantime all states are to consult with their SMC's.

Dorte is to write to Chief Stewards in regards to leg distances and novice times.

The Endurance Medication Control Protocol is now with Warwick Vale being reviewed. Dorte has re-written the section on feeding as endurance horses require feed between legs and is therefore different to other disciplines. The signature of the responsible person can also be different. Tom is to work with Dorte on tidying it up and keeping it updated.

22. **Notification of Horse Deaths:** All horse deaths have been notified according to the procedures and inquiries held. All paperwork has been taken into consideration and no further action is required.
23. **Leg Distance and Speed at Victorian Rides**
Moved Dorte Colja/Matthew Krahn
That **the Moyston ride in Victoria records be amended to a total distance of 85km and records amended accordingly**
Voting Qld – Yes, WA – Yes, SA – Yes, Vic – abstain, Tas – Yes, NSW – Yes. Motion carried.
 Anne is to advise Jo Bailey and Janeen Smith. Chief Stewards need to be aware of the distance of legs as they relate to the rules.
24. **FEI Ride Compulsory Swabbing:** Swabbing is compulsory at FEI rides and is part of the EA Agreement. FEI officials organise swabbing without advising the SMC's and Ride Organisers, and then expect them to pay. Queensland has a swabbing levy so do not care what type of ride it is. States need to be aware and allocate money for swabbing. They need to decide who pays, Unused kits have to be returned. Bills in future will be sent to the Treasurer of the State. .
25. **AeraSpace (Database):** Steve Swan attended the meeting from 3.25pm. He spoke about the progress to date on the database. The timeline on the final specifications is about 2 weeks then programming will commence. Existing data will be imported and testing will start with the Registrars. There will be a Ride Management System to work at rides, then the Website will be where division SMCs, or AERA, would access information to different levels. The website will be similar to the existing one – anybody can access ride results. SMC members or AERA will be able to access other info like EWS and point scores – different levels of logon.

Madeline Fisher has been fantastic and very supportive. Steve has spent quite a lot of time with her and she has put a lot of otherwise abstract thoughts into a concrete form. Good feedback has been received from other people: Dee, Bronwyn, Jo Bailey, Sonya from NSW. We will continue to keep in touch with them.

AeraSpace has been registered.

Ride organisers send the results to the state division person. State division “cleanses” the system to ensure the results are correct and matches up horses and members. The Division registrar then sends info to the national registrar who will import the results. The platform will be Microsoft SQL.

Steve gave a demonstration of the progress made to date'

All states memberships will have six numbers. This is to be able to cope with future growth. Horses will lose the three letter prefix.

Moved Dorte Colja/Sarah Adams

That the AERA reimburses QERA for the 2012 membership for Steve Swan, Madeline and Geoff Fisher.

Voting Carried unanimously.

Moved Dorte Colja/Kerry Spratt

That the AERA purchase a \$250 gift voucher, each, for Madeline Fisher and Steve Swan as a token of thanks for their work on the new AERA database.

Voting Carried unanimously.

It may be necessary to have another meeting between Steve, Peter and Ian Blucher. Otherwise, the trial DB could be sent to Ian for comment. It will also be necessary to have a meeting with the ride registrars.

All the archived events of the rides that have been held in Australia need to be put into the new system. One of the things that makes data entry easy is for the person doing the entry to have the screen and the page's visual layout similar. It would be really good if we could have membership forms and ride entry forms as a standard format. Each division could put their own logo on the form.

The DB will be the property of the AERA. The intellectual property will belong to AERA.

Steve has already started on a new version which includes electronic timing. At an event, the vets could have a tablet PC. No logbooks. Horses are scanned and the logbook page appears on the tablet. Details are completed on the PC tablet. Electronically transferred and printed logbook page that could be glued into the logbook.

26 International:

26.1 EA-AERA Agreement: The final EA-AERA agreement has not been received from EA. Passports will definitely be required for 2012 and there could be other issues regarding membership requirements.

26.2 Positive Swabs: EA Medication Control Protocol is required for all rides. AERA will be responsible for disciplinary action if a positive swab is identified at an AERA ride, EA disciplinary procedures are to be used at an FEI ride.

26.3 World Youth Event: The rider agreements have been signed. QERA stated that \$3,000 was given to Queensland Riders from the International Fund. NSW gave \$1,500.

26.4 Squad: The Selection was announced for the TransTasman to be held in March

Trans Tasman Team 2011

Junior:

Brooke Brown Cordell Tas

Erin Krahn Qld

Reserve: Noni Seagram NSW

Senior:

Jane Radny WA

Stephen Gray Qld

Reserve: Wendy Dower Vic

Chef d'Equipe: Linda Tanian Vic

Roy is to pay for 2 jackets at a cost of \$440. The Squad membership fees are to be looked at. A large focus of the Squad next year will be on education.

26.5 International Funding: Once the issues with EA are sorted out a workshop will be held on the International arm of the sport and how it can be funded.

27. Rule Changes

27.1 Motions for Second Vote

10.1.1 Autopsies

That subject to any amendments from the Vet Panel, V16.4, 16.5 and 16.7 be amended to read:

(Amended Motion from the vet panel)

V16.4 If any horse living or deceased at an endurance ride is suspected to have Hendra Virus infection, the appropriate investigative and management measures must be taken according to the relevant state government guidelines.

V16.5 In the event of an equine death, in principle, a necropsy should be conducted. Prior to any necropsy being performed, the veterinarian must complete a risk assessment to establish whether the procedure can be conducted without presenting an unacceptable risk to human or animal health and wellbeing. In particular, the risk of zoonotic disease must be assessed.

Should the risk assessment indicate that an unacceptable risk is present, the necropsy is not to be conducted. In this case, the veterinarian must provide a report which is as comprehensive as possible, detailing the clinical condition of the horse and any diagnosis made.

Where the risk assessment indicates that a necropsy is able to be conducted, the following procedures shall be followed:

- a) all observations at the necropsy must be accurately recorded;
- b) samples should be taken from target organs as appropriate to the circumstances;
- c) blood samples should be collected if possible and submitted to a recognised laboratory for histopathology, haematology and metabolic profile ;
- d) catastrophe report must be completed.

V16.6 A necropsy should divide cases into two main categories:

- a) Accidental-type death due to trauma or some pre-existing problem that has reappeared under exercise conditions;
- b) Metabolic-type death. These are the cases about which we know little and gross pathology may be quite normal. In these cases thorough collection of samples for histopathology is most important.

V16.8 The veterinarian shall pass all fees for the treatment, euthanasia and necropsy to the owner

The rule should be about following the prevailing advice from the relative government department. Need to have some sort of ruling that if the HV is suspected. There is no mention of quarantine in the recommendations/rules. Is an autopsy necessary for every horse death? Should an autopsy be performed on a horse that has been euthenised because of a broken leg.

Could we say that all horse deaths because of a metabolic collapse have an autopsy/necropsy?

If it's a Hendra issue, vets need to conform to the proper protective gear. If it is not a Hendra issue, the vets may choose not to use the P2 etc. gear.

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

27.2 VERA Motion 1 – Early Vetting.

Rule V5.3. ~~On presentation, if the horse's heart rate exceeds the maximum set for that leg of the ride, the horse it will be eliminated~~ Horses that do not meet the heartrate criteria on presentation will be eliminated.

Voting: Qld – yes, WA – yes, SA – yes, Vic – yes, Tas - yes, NSW – yes. Carried. New Rule 2012.

27.3 QERA Motion 1

“that H5.3 is amended to read:

H5.3 A novice horse may only enter a maximum of four affiliated endurance rides of between 80 and 120 kilometres inclusive in any 90 day period, retrospective from the date of the ride to be entered, and only 2 rides in any 22 day period.

Voting: Qld – yes, WA – yes, SA – yes, Vic – yes, Tas – yes, NSW – yes. Carried. New Rule 2012.

27.3 QERA Motion 2

“that Rule A17.4d be deleted.”

Voting: Qld – yes, WA – yes, SA – yes, Vic – yes, Tas – yes, NSW – yes. Carried. New Rule 2012.

27.4 Ride Suspension

That A11.4cii is amended to read:

ii. suspend the ride by extending the hold time for a period sufficient to allow the relevant issues to be resolved. The ride suspension should not exceed 2 hours but may be extended when there is a reasonable expectation that the ride can be re-commenced without compromising the health and welfare of the horses, competitors, ride officials and volunteers.

Voting: Qld – yes, WA – yes, SA – yes, Vic – yes, Tas – yes, NSW – yes. Carried. New Rule 2012.

27.5 Represents

That H14.2 and V1.8 be amended to read

~~At the discretion of the HV any horse may be required to represent for a metabolic assessment in the period of 1-2 hours after the horse finishes the ride. This assessment does not involve a trot out. The status of the horse's completion at the end of the ride cannot be altered unless the horse subsequently receives IT, in which case, Rule H24.6 shall govern whether the completion status may be altered.~~

Proposed amendment from the Vet Panel

It was considered by the meeting that this was not an appropriate change to that rule. We thought that the intent probably was to stop horses being vetted out lame after having already passed the end of ride veterinary examination. However, it was not considered appropriate to limit the type of examination conducted by the veterinarians; in particular it was not appropriate to explicitly prevent a horse from being trotted out at that time – there are many reasons why it might be useful to trot a horse, eg if it is tying up, if it has become uncomfortable etc. Therefore we propose an amendment to this motion to go back to AERA:

That H14.2 and V1.8 be amended to read

At the discretion of the Head Veterinarian, any horse may be required to re-present for a veterinary examination in the period 1-2 hours after each horse finishes its ride. The status of the horse's completion at the end of the ride cannot be altered unless the horse subsequently receives IT, in which case, Rule H24.6 shall govern whether the completion status may be altered.

The issue is to not allow a vet to vet out a horse post two hours. Some vets are calling for a represent and then asking for a trot-out, and marking the logbook that the horse was lame. The vet is not changing the status of the completion, they are recording that the horse is lame in the logbook. Some riders do not want

this recorded on a represent. It would be up to the Chief Steward to advise the vet not to do this. It comes back to the people at the event and the Chief Steward.

The CS needs to step in and lay some ground rules prior to the commencement of the event.

If a vet has a genuine concern, the vets will flag the concern prior to the horse leaving the vet ring. Horses passing a vet check, it may be unreasonable to keep asking the horse to come back. It is not appropriate for a vet to require a detailed description as to the nature of the horse's logbook.

Ride organisers should check with the HV and CS when a rider requests their logbook to enable them to leave early, prior to releasing the logbook.

A pre-ride meeting between the ride organisers, CS and vet should be held and protocols explained prior to the commencement of the event.

Voting on the motion submitted by the NVP.

Qld – yes, WA – yes, SA – yes, Vic – yes, Tas – yes, NSW – yes. Carried. New Rule 2012.

28. Motions for Discussion and First Vote

28.1 VERA Motion 1

Rule V5 page 37

The VERA SMC moves that the following clause be added to rule V5.

“At the discretion of the head vet and chief steward the actual time of presentation may be entered in the ‘vet time’ space in the logbook or vet card.”

Rationale:

The VERA SMC strongly believes that having the actual present time recorded in the logbook or card would be of great benefit to both examining veterinarians and the connections of the horse. Easy reference to the time taken to ‘strap’ the horse gives a vet a better view of the where the horse is metabolically. It is also a useful guide to connections on how to better manage their horse. In general the VERA SMC sees this clause as adding to general horse management and welfare.

The recording of the actual present time would be optional, would not affect the hold time and would make no difference to the recording of data to the database. This addition to the rules has the strong support of VERA members and honorary state vets.

VERA feel strongly that the time should be entered in the logbook when the horse presents to the vets. The Vic vet panel are very much in support of this idea, as are the riders. A TPR steward commented that some riders were presenting their horses very close, or past the present time and some TPR stewards might be a bit remiss in pointing this out to the CS. Noting the time prior to the 30 minutes would be good.

If a TPR is having anything to do with what time a horse presents, it's a problem as it's outside the TPRs jurisdiction. The CS should (or a delegated steward) be looking after the situation.

It seems like it is another job for another person. Arrival time is in the logbook and can be checked.

At a larger ride, someone would have to be delegated to that job prior to the TPR steward seeing the horse.

It comes down to the intent of the rule, which is to not record the times in early vetting. If it's re-worded to “may”, some rides will do it and some won't. This could create confusion at other events when things are not done the same. Otherwise it's a defacto VGIH event. Some rides have a compulsory 10 minutes prior to presenting the horse so it's not a level playing field when other rides and states do not. Anybody writing the times would also have to have an “official” time. Some vets want to know if the horse has been in 3 minutes or 23 minutes. The arrival time is written in the logbook. The vets would like to know what time the horse has come in off the track.

The intent of VERA is that it was seen as a tool for the vets, also as a tool for riders in their preparation of their horse and basically a horse welfare issue. Riders and strappers could use it as a method for assessment.

Voting: Qld – no, WA – no, SA – yes, Vic – yes, Tas – yes, NSW – no. Motion lost.

28.2 VERA Motion 2

Rule H11 page 28.

The VERA SMC moves that the following changes be made to rule H11 2. This rule relates to the control of stallions at rides and would read as follows.

“Stallions must be under control with a suitable bit or mechanical hackamore (not including a halter), when outside their yards, being led at ride bases or when being ridden at any time before, during or after an endurance event.”

Rationale:

The VERA SMC believes that the existing rule regarding control of stallions is not strong enough and does not give ride organisers and chief stewards clear direction. Removing the recommendation, defining the means of control, (suitable bit or mechanical hackamore), and including a 'before and after' will provide ride administrators with all necessary powers.

Removing it as a recommendation. Defining the means of control. Perhaps re-word the present rule. Horse racing, all horses must be lead in a bit. And we allow discretionary use for stallions. From time to time, if a stallion is problematic, it's a major cause for concern.

This has such significance to so many people; perhaps this should go to the AGMs for discussions.

Recommendation: that the above motion is forwarded to the states for discussion.

28.3 AERA Motion – Social Internet Media**That Rule M1.3.1 is added**

Members, ride officials, ride committees, their family and friends must not use social networking or the internet to bring the sport into disrepute. For example, all persons must refrain from posting disparaging, harassing, bullying or other inappropriate comments and/or material via electronic media, including, but not limited to chat lists, Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. It is also ~~considered~~ a breach of the Members Code of Conduct if you assist someone else to breach this Code of Conduct.

Rationale:

More and more sporting associations are being confronted with problems arising from inappropriate use of internet networking media by members and other associated persons.

The first platform to counter this inappropriate use is to ensure that our Member Code of Conduct specifically forbids such inappropriate use.

The AERA would like all States to discuss this motion with a view to avoid the 2nd vote and bring it in for the start of 2012.

Kerry is of the opinion that this is not a rule change. It is already a crime to do this.

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

It was agreed that an email vote would be held prior to the end of the year for a second voting and discussion of this rule to enable this rule to be enacted from the beginning of 2012, if necessary.

28.4 Motion 1 from NVP**Rule V16.3 should include a further point eg**

V16.3 f) The owner should contact their insurance company and receive permission for the euthanasia to be conducted. If the insurance company cannot be contacted, the veterinarian should make and record reasonable attempts to confer with veterinary colleagues to seek their opinion of the necessity to euthanase.

Rationale: Rule 16.2 is not really relevant or true, being extremely simplistic, therefore could be removed. In some cases PM examinations have been carried out to gather information so as to be able to apportion blame for the death. It was considered a more useful exercise to analyse treatment records and find out what we had been doing right for all the other horses to survive!

There could be too much delay. Part of the IV forms, state that all effort must be made. It is more of a matter between the owner and the insurance company. Pat believes it should relate more to the vet IVT form..

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

28.5 Motion 2 from NVP

Propose a new rule: could replace A13.6

It is the Ride Organiser's responsibility to ensure horse health and welfare are protected at the ride. The Ride Organiser will liaise and negotiate with the head Veterinarian at least 4 weeks before the ride to ensure there is adequate treatment for horses available at the ride. This will include provision of equipment, facilities, consumables and competent personnel to cover expected treatments.

Rationale: There must be provision made for adequate and competent treatment of endurance horses at all rides, from championship events through to small local rides. Endurance horses can suffer many, complicated, metabolic and physical problems at any of these rides, and each ride must have the capacity to provide treatment for these horses, to ensure horse health and welfare are optimised. It is the Ride Organiser's responsibility to put in place processes for this to happen.

Each situation will differ, such that negotiation between the RO and Head Vet should lead to the best option for treatment, whether that is an onsite fully equipped, staffed hospital, or the provision of emergency first aid before referral to another site. The RO should be aware of the costs involved and if necessary underwrite those costs so that veterinarians are not left with large bills, as has happened in the past.

The first sentence is not necessary. Make it 11.7. Cut and paste 13.6 =, make 11-8

The Ride Organiser will liaise and negotiate with the head Veterinarian at least 4 weeks before the ride to ensure there is adequate treatment for horses available at the ride. This will include provision of equipment, facilities, consumables and competent personnel to cover expected treatments.

It will become A11.3. Rule A13.6 changed to A11.4 existing 11.3 onwards to be renumbered from 11.5

Voting: Qld – Yes, WA – Yes, SA – Yes, Vic – Yes, Tas – Yes, NSW – Yes. Motion carried and will be returned for a second vote.

28.6 WAERA Motion 1

That the Middleweight Riding Division be changed to all-up riding weight of 75kg and over at pre-ride weigh-in. This automatically creates the situation that Lightweight is All-up riding weight of less than 75kg at the pre-ride weigh-in.

Rationale: This change would bring Australia into line with International Rules.

Endurance in Australia needs to move with current requirements.

Australia is the only country in the world with a separate rule system in endurance. We need to be proactive with bringing about change to bring us in line with the rest of the world. This gives our riders the opportunity to manage this now in readiness for these changes.

This change would encourage Lightweight riders on the cusp of Lightweight/Middleweight divisions who wished to ride middleweight to regularly weigh up. They, and their horses, are then prepared and have the experience of carrying weight, if required, to compete at an International level.

The general way of thinking here in this country is to leave things as they have always been. This is very negative for the progress of this sport in this country.

If this is introduced at the beginning of a year it would not affect point scores etc. Horses can now accumulate distance in all divisions so this would not be affected.

It was agreed to take this to the AGMs to discuss,

29. Discussion Items

29.1 National Newsletter

A letter that was received from a member regarding the feasibility of a National Magazine was discussed.

Moved Ieva Peters/Sarah Adams

That QERA put together a proposal and costs to produce 2 magazines a year, the first one ready for June.

Voting Carried Unanimously. QERA is offering to rebadge the June edition of their hard copy newsletter as a national edition and will come back with a proposal. The proposal will be ratified in March. It is important to consider new logos for each state.

Matthew will get Jo and Melissa's approval first then get QERA approval to use the June edition.

- 29.2 Overseas Rides (NSWERA):** Confirmation that rides done overseas can be recognised as part of a rider's qualifications in Australia. For example: 80k rides overseas can be used by novice riders to qualify as endurance riders in Australia. Yes, with support documentation
- 29.3 VGIH Heartrates/Novice Horses (NSWERA):** How do we reconcile the rule permitting heartrates to be 60 bpm at VGIH rides, in the case of novice horses? Under this criteria a horse could pass the vetcheck and qualify with a heartrate higher than 55? Please note that we are not suggesting 55 bpm is an appropriate HR for VGIH. It's more about the novice horse qualification issue.

The point was made that novices cannot enter FEI Rides. Novice horses are all about Novice times not heartrates and is all about riding at minimum times. The extra heartrate is set off against the vetting times – 30 minutes vs, 20 minutes. The only time the heartrate is mentioned is in training rides..

- 29.4 Proposed New Logo:** Adopt new proposed AERA logo – yes or no.
Apart from Qld are any other Divisions going to adopt the new proposed logo for their Division?

Ieva commented that when the logos were sent around she got in touch with Jo, who redesigned the logo for them and they will take it to their AGM. Jo will change colours and horses as wanted.

Moved Matthew Krahn/leeva Peters

That AERA amends the logo to the proposed new one with agreed changes

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

29.5 New Rider IVT forms:

Moved Melanie Scott/Liz Rutherford

That the new IVT forms are adopted

Voting Carried Unanimously.

30. Tom Quilty

30.1 SA Tom Quilty

AERA will continue to assist the ride organisers and try to support them as much as possible in the holding of the event. It was felt that the AERA/SA Quilty committee relationship was quite good.

The AERA delegates should wear some sort of identification so that the members know that the AERA is assisting at the Quilty.

- 30.2 Chief Steward's Report:** All Quilty vets should be experienced vets and any vet that is vetting at the Quilty should have done at least 4 events prior to the Quilty date.

James Vowles did an excellent job at the SA Quilty. James did a lot of research regarding the Hendra Virus and how to cope with potential problems.

- 30.3** Profit and loss also needs to be submitted to AERA.

Meeting Closed on Saturday at 6.40 p.m.

- 30.4 Tasmanian Tom Quilty:** The cost of buckles was discussed. A better quality buckle has been purchased and the costs will be passed on. Additional costs for place buckles and long distance buckles are not passed on.

A discussion was held on the entry fees, and late entry fees. Full payment is required by 25th May. Entries open on 1st February, All entries should be received by 12th May and late entries will incur a \$100 late entry fee. Refunds will be paid less \$100.

Jackie has quoted \$70 each for vet vests. The vet number should be added and the vest should be green with white lettering. Melanie thinks she may be able to get sponsorship for the vests from Provet.

Moved Ieva Peters/Dorte Colja

That Provet are asked to sponsor the vet vests and that the AERA will organise 20 vests

Voting: Carried unanimously

- 30.5 Queensland Tom Quilty:** Matthew stated that the venue is good and there is a new infrastructure after the floods including a new arena and administration building. He rode there and it was a very competitive ride with the front runners completing 80klm in 4:10. There is not a lot in Kilkivan but it is close to other towns.

Moved Ieva Peters/Sarah Adams

That the Quilty Event Standards Agreement, Q4 4.2 should read:

“that the Head veterinarian for the ride shall be an AERA Inc. State Honorary Vet.

Voting Carried. Queensland abstained. Melanie commented that as the AERA is paying for the vet we must have a say.

Matthew rang the ride organisers who stated that they would accept Brian Sheahan

- 30.6 Tom Quilty Working Party:** The Pat Slater Cup Eligibility and format will be looked at.

Moved Sandy Little/Liz Rutherford

That AERA purchases 5 Pat Slater Cups to be billed to the States one per year.

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

- 30.7 External Contractual Agreements made by the Quilty Committee:** Quilty Committees should advise AERA if external contractual arrangements are made. This will avoid situations that occurred this year with photographers.

- 30.8 Presentation Ceremony:** Debbie outlined her ideas and the Quilty Working Party will look at it.

- 30.9 Quilty Teams event:** There was no saving to AERA for the D-Lua Park sponsorship. AERA still have to purchase the goblets. AERA will put the sponsorship out to tender on the proviso that the goblets are sponsored and the sponsor may also donate product. Goblets cost \$272. The AERA will offer \$300 for Naming Rights get naming rights and an invitation to hand out the product. D-Lua Park has the right for the first refusal.

40. Correspondence

- 40.1 Further correspondence from John Robertson:** Anne is to reply

- 40.2 Letter from NSWERA re ride dates:** Anne is to write and advise that we will continue to promote state rides and events but we cannot guarantee co-ordination on Long Weekends.

- 40.3 Letter from Ross McCamish re horse health: Anne is to thank Ross for his letter and suggestions**

- 40.4** Correspondence from Fia Haskow-Stewart and Ian Curtis re a dispute with NSW. In Camera

Next Meeting Date: 2nd, 3rd, 4th March, 2012

Meeting Closed: 1:10 p.m.