



Australian Endurance Riders Association Inc.

Meeting Notes of the General Meeting of Members

Date: Saturday 18th & Sunday 19th March 2017.

Venue: Ciloms Airport Lodge, 398 Melrose Drive, Tullamarine, Melbourne, Victoria commencing at 8.30am.

MEETING NOTES

Meeting commenced –
Saturday: 9.30am. Closed 7.00pm.
Sunday: 8.30am. Closed at 3.30 pm.

1. Welcome by President.

Melanie Scott extended welcome to all members, new and returning.

2. Members Present.

2.1 Apologies. Talea Hasko-Stewart (NSW); Ieva Peters (WA) for 19 March.

2.2 AERA Delegates Present. Melanie Scott (SA), Ieva Peters (WA), Deb Jewell (WA), Gerard Bou (Qld), Steve Swan (Qld), Kim Moir (Qld), Kerry Spratt (NSW), Talea Hasko-Stewart (NSW), Alamdar Dastani (NSW), Pat Hodgetts (Tas), Sioux Reid (Vic), Tamara Atkinson (Vic).

Saturday, 18 March 2017 Gerard Bou joined the meeting at 9.50 am

2.3 Proxy Votes. Peter Bice – proxy for Talea Hasko-Stewart (NSW).

3. Portfolio Allocations 2017.

Liaison - AERA Webmaster / Chat-Line: Talea Hasko-Stewart and Sioux to continue

Liaison - National Veterinary Panel: Simon Bain to continue – Pat Hodgetts to liaise with Simon Bain

Document Library / WIP: Ieva Peters, Angus Smith, Steve Swan

CS & TPRs: Gerard Bou

Horse Welfare: Pat Hodgetts

Medication Control: Dorte Colje.

Constitution: Kerry Spratt (Chair), Steve Swan, Melanie Scott & Sioux Reid.

Database: Steve Swan, Chris Nichols, Jess Dastani

EA-International: Melanie Scott, Kim Moir in liaison with Linda Tanian

AERA rulebook: Gerard Bou

Strategic Plan: (wait for the new structure/constitution) Melanie Scott

Facebook: Ieva Peters, Talea Hasko-Stewart, Sioux Reid, Liz Rutherford

Sponsorship: Ruth Dixon, Sioux Reid

Quilty Advisory Panel: Tom McCormack, Pat Hodgetts, Ieva Peters - TBA

Insurance Advisor: TBA (Melanie Scott to have holding brief)

AERA/Quilty Awards: Kerry Spratt

AERA Distance Registrar Liaison: Deb Jewell.

Biosecurity: Melanie Scott, Simon Bain, Chris Nichols, Pat Hodgetts, Luke Annetts

EADCM Review Panel: Melanie Scott (President is first point of contact)

**4. Registration of Votes, based on previous year's membership numbers.
Adult & Junior Riding Membership (AeraSpace, 21/2/2017).**

	2013	2014	2015	2016	Votes
NSWERA	474	471	520	494	5
QERA	531	537	526	496	5
SAERA	71	65	76	81	1
TEERA	224	253	260	222	3
VERA	174	191	189	194	2
WAERA	141	187	190	178	2
Total	1,615	1,704	1,761	1,665	18

Table includes lifetime members.

Memberships at meeting date NSW 370; QERA 348; SAERA 66; TEERA 167; VERA 140; WAERA 108.

5. Previous Meeting Minutes.

5.1 Amendments to Minutes of the General Meeting held on 18th & 19th November 2016.

- Page 2 - Ref National Ride Standard: numbers amended to 5,000 arrows to be ordered with 800 supplied to Stirling's Crossing for their ride.
- Page 31 – Ref vaccinated only rides in NRZ to include the words “where the rides are QERA rides that NSW is dual affiliating the ride”.

Motion: 2017/03/01. Moved: Steve Swan/Kerry Spratt.

That the Minutes of General Meeting of 18/19 November 2016 are accepted with amendments as noted. Carried.

ACTION: Kim Moir to make amendments to previous minutes.

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

6.1 Webmaster

Steve Swan reported that Angus Smith has confirmed his availability to continue in the role of webmaster and has provided a proposal contract for consideration. Note that Angus can accept direction from anyone on the AERA – his contract will reflect this.

Steve reported that Angus has fulfilled all commitments efficiently and the committee voiced appreciation for his flexibility and responsiveness.

Motion: 2017/03/02. Moved: Deb Jewell / Sioux Reid.

That Angus Smith's proposal to continue as Webmaster is accepted on the proviso that confirmation is given that emergent tasks will be billed for 15 minute increments. This contract is to be reviewed in July. Carried.

6.2 Quilty

2018 - Tasmania – Helen Spencer accepted position as HV; Tom McCormack as CS; venue at Scotsdale first weekend in October.

2019 – Steve ongoing discussions with Stirling's Crossing.

6.3 IVT Forms

Each state is adding them to aeraspace so Pat as National HWO is no longer receiving these in hard copy. Process to be reviewed to ensure that IVT reports are being processed by the CS to ensure that they are uploaded. States to hold IVT forms.

6.4 Vetting DVD

Ongoing work with most recent version of powerpoint and videos sent to Simon Bain by Luke Annetts. Aiming to have this up on website by end March 2017.

7. Executive Decisions to be Ratified.

7.1 8/12/16: Following the notification from Equestrian Australia of a positive test from the Tom Quilty Gold Cup 2016, the AERA Forms an EADCM Review Panel that includes Ieva Peters, Dr Pat Hodgetts and Dr Narelle Cribb. Moved: Tamara Atkinson. Seconded: Steve Swan. Carried unanimously.

7.2 12/12/16: The AERA Review Panel are satisfied that the proper protocols and procedures have been followed regarding the positive test taken at the Tom Quilty Gold Cup 2016 and request AERA's permission to send the documentation to a member (Infraction Notice and Analysis Request form). Approved by QERA, NSWERA, VERA, TEERA, WAERA. (SAERA did not respond.)

Motion: 2016/03/03. Moved Tamara Atkinson/Deb Jewell.

That the Executive Decisions are ratified. Carried.

8. President's Report.

Well everyone has had their AGMs, thank you to those who have served us and welcome to the new people at the AERA table. Please participate, no question is too small and I feel sure if you are at your first AERA meeting you will have millions. I have been coming here for five years and I have questions. I will particularly miss the contribution of Simon Bain to our table but am pleased to report he is happy to continue with vet liaison.

We have signed a new affiliation agreement with Equestrian Australia which will secure our position as the peak body for endurance riding in Australia. The key features of the agreement being the three-year term, the affiliation amount and the requirement for FEI rides in Australia, with the exception of four star rides, to be affiliated by the AERA. This takes us to January 2020.

You will see from our treasurer report we made a small loss for 2016. We continue to struggle with insurance payments and some potential drops in membership numbers mean we will need to consider our way forward with the coverage in future.

The tension between the commercial and hobby interests of our sport continue. This tension is brought to the fore when we are called to act on confronting issues such as what is reported from the UAE with our sport. This tension also spills over into the expectations of the Tom Quilty and the support systems we provide to enable our sport to run. For example, the timing system used by riders at Lexton was well received but seen as a poor imitation of what is used at some overseas venues, yet we have some of our membership questioning the limited money we do spend on upgrading our system

Melanie Scott

9. State Reports.

9.1 NSW Report.

The NSWERA AGM was held on 11 February 2017 at Cowra. It was a great meeting and the best part was a lot of our members were presented with their AERA 10,000kms scrolls, it was a proud moment for all NSW members present. Another proud moment was inclusion of Ms. Kerry Spratt as life member.

I (Alam) was elected as the president of NSWERA taking over from Dr. Emily Streckfuss who did great job being the president and oversaw lots of projects.

I on behalf of NSWERA SMC, I would like to thank Dr. Emily Streckfuss, Dr. Simon Bain and Mr. Greg Moore for their kind support, time and unparalleled input into the sport. We also welcomed new members on the committee.

As President of the state division and on behalf of the SMC of NSWERA I look forward to a smooth, transparent, positive and productive term between AERA and NSW ERA.

Some great projects are in line for NSWERA with a few already started, like the intermediate distance awards, South Africa & NSW endurance riders exchange, sponsorship with a company to encourage new membership and a few more.

We wish AERA a good year ahead.

Regards,
Alamdar Dastani
President
NSW ERA

9.2 Queensland Report.

Queensland is again facing uncertainty as we head into our new season. There are currently very few rides on our calendar that are of open status with relation to the Hendra vaccination. Despite the best efforts of the management committee it has proven to be difficult to set in stone the vaccination status of our 2017 ride calendar in its entirety at this early stage.

More experienced vets have moved towards vaccinated rides only in the early part of 2017 and it is abundantly clear that we do not have enough accredited vets to man a full calendar of "open" events.

A new club's proposal to run an unvaccinated only ride on the Easter weekend was granted permission by QERA SMC after the traditional Easter Far A Way event was announced as being vaccinated only. The two events shall run over the same weekend in different locations.

Our Honorary vet, Luke Annetts, has resigned over the issue and it has also proven to be a catalyst for more vets to draw a line in the sand by choosing to attend vaccinated only events.

Time will tell as to what effect this decision will ultimately have on our association. There is no doubt that the divide at this time in philosophies is no closer to coming together. Although our records of vaccinated horses

indicate that 81% of our active endurance horses are vaccinated, those that choose not to vaccinate have a strong voice and the statistics do not tell the story in its entirety.

All of the issues facing QERA will of course have a large impact on our membership numbers and ride entries. Membership uptake has been slow at the time of writing this report.

The Hendra issue in Qld is a long way from being sorted out. Whilst it will evolve over time and most likely swing both ways until a conclusion is reached, QERA will need to very soon consider the 2019 TQ and its biosecurity requirements for this event. It will be a challenge to source 20 or so of our best vets to partake in this event if we cannot come to an agreement about Hendra vaccinations.

On the plus side our calendar is quite full and we do have many events that are worth looking forward to in Qld this year.

Gerard Bou

QERA President

9.3 Victorian Report.

Vic has gone off to a great start for 2017. We have two new committee members, Eric Thomas and Rebecca Williamson. Bek has taken on a lot for her first term, being the Treasurer so part of the Executive, and also the bib maker, and pointscore. Eric, alongside his partner Kerry Alderton, have landed a nationwide sponsorship deal for themselves with Harrison F trucks, to get them to rides within Vic and interstate.

Our calendar co-ordinator, Kasey Thomas, has turned the tables on rides dates, by setting up rides dates 3 weeks apart for the full year, and ride organisers choose which date they want. Doing it this way allows members to be able to plan ahead with their work and other commitments. At this stage we only have 3 vacant ride dates, with enthusiastic people waiting in the wings to form a committee for new rides.

Our President, Simon Thomas has come up with a wonderful scheme to help struggling ride organisers with sponsorship. We have non committee members willing to source sponsorship, where the sponsor can choose from different set amounts. Depending on what is offered, the sponsor can set up a marquee at the ride, have their name embroidered on a rug etc etc. All of the sponsors go into a pool, and when a ride comes up, if they do not have sponsorship of their own, VERA will offer the ride organiser the sponsorship out of the pool.

One of the items for discussion at our AGM in January was about horses and riders receiving state points for the National Championship. No matter what state it is in, points and distance are accrued if they successfully complete. Currently the National Championship is one and the same with the Tom Quilty, but if they separated, the points will only come from the National ride, not the Quilty. The members at the AGM thought this would be good, so it was taken to vote at the next SMC meeting. It was voted in favour.

All in all, we are looking at a great year for Victoria.

Tamara.

9.4 Western Australian Report.

WAERA had a good AGM in Feb, with not much on the agenda. One assumes then, that the membership on the whole, are happy with how things are going.

A couple of mile stones were reached in the WA rider ranks, firstly Frances Overhue and her beloved Poseidon Moon, aka Homer, achieved their 10,00km scrolls. This is an awesome achievement by 1 horse 1 rider and we in WA Endurance are very proud of them. Jane and Norbert Radny also reached their 10,00km scrolls, along with Lizzie Cullam, congrats to all 4 of these very experienced riders.

WAERA have formed a subcommittee to start the planning for the 2020 Tom Quilty. Although it does seem to be some time away, it can creep up on you before you know it, so now is the time to get the ball rolling, start looking at potential venues and working out what will be needed to make it a success.

Here's wishing all the states a successful 2017.

Deb Jewell

9.5 Tasmanian Report.

The 2016 Tasmanian State Championship ride was the final event for the year which resulted in the Cup being won by a Victorian rider and horse combination – so payback for the Tasmanians winning the Victorian Championship the previous year.

The presentation of annual awards was held prior to Christmas in conjunction with a dinner/dance at Penguin.

The AGM was scheduled for 21st January but was postponed to the following week due to lack of quorum and thus held at the first ride for the 2017 season with over 40 members attending.

Use of plantation property is now becoming an issue and TEERA have had several meetings with the managers of two of the companies. It may well be more of a problem for individuals that train their horses in these areas.

We are looking forward to the southern ride with Tom Mc bringing over the ETS gear and working with Peter Johnson.

The programme for the Easter weekend has been expanded with the inclusion of a 160km ride. This will be the last opportunity in Tasmania for riders to qualify for TQ17.

First weekend in October will be the Tasmanian State Championship ride as the final test ride for TQ18 (also the first weekend in Oct of 2018). Interstate riders and horses are invited to check out the ride base and track. Biosecurity measures will be as for the SA Quilty event.

Wendy Rand is the president of TEERA for 2017 and Pat Hodgetts has taken on the role of secretary.

Pat Hodgetts

10. Treasurer's Report.

The books have been audited for 2016, a copy of the auditors' report is presented for perusal.

On the face of it, with the profit we have shown for the 2016 financial year, AERA seems to be travelling well. And we are doing OK.

Reasons – we have had two good consecutive Quilty years, when lots of buckles were awarded, 334 in all, for a profit of about \$13K; we increased our Ride Entry Levy fees. The other side is that we will now need to start spending for our next supply of buckles, wherever we decide they are to come from.

Tom Quilty

After a time lapse of a couple of months, we now have the final invoices / re-imburements (Vets and CSs) from TQ16 underway. This should be just about finalised by the time of the meeting, so I will have some almost final figures then.

I would like to see a standing AERA TQ Sub-committee – rotating makeup of one AERA person from each of the four current Quilty divisions - last year's, this year's, and the next 2 years' – plus an AERA VP as chair. This committee would be in constant (as required) communication with TQ committees, with one person (from the division of the relative Quilty) as the main information conduit, who would attend TQ RO meetings, and discuss directly with the organisers whatever details were necessary for the RO's to stay on course, sourcing required info in both directions.

Normal TQ division rotation is SA | TAS | QLD | WA | VIC | NSW | SA | TAS | etc., so the members of the Sub-committee would come from 4 'consecutive' divisions. At the moment it would consist of VERA, SAERA, TEERA and QERA. Next year VERA would drop off and WAERA would come on. Each division would have a two-year rest in the cycle.

All members of this AERA TQ Sub-committee would need to be well versed in all things Quilty – Event Standards, Quilty Manual, Rulebook, Veterinary rotations, CS rotations etc etc., and by sharing that knowledge with individual TQ RO's would flatten out the learning curve. Most importantly, this arrangement would keep greater consistency on all quality levels, without diminishing the license of the RO committee to make their event individual and unique. As an addendum, Deb Edwards and myself are putting together a TQ financial report, looking at the TQ over the length of the 6-year cycle. I would hope that as more information comes from this, that we will be able to modify the financial interface between AERA and each TQ RO committee.

Steve Swan

Motion 2017/03/04. Moved by Steve Swan/Kim Moir.

That the Treasurer's Report be received.

Carried unanimously

Discussion regarding Vet fees with specific regard to 2IC vet fee; acceptance that fees paid need to reflect the professional services provided.

Motion: 2016/03/05 Moved by Melanie Scott/Steve Swan.

That 2IC Vet is paid a higher payment than a line vet, \$1200 (plus gst if invoiced) as was the case pre-2015 with clear expectations of what they might do to include need to be there for the duration, as with Head Vet, involved is setting up hospital and isolation area, attendance at NVP meeting and contribution to agenda and meeting processes.

Voting: NSWERA – yes; QERA – yes; TEERA – yes; SAERA – yes VERA – yes; WAERA - yes. Carried.

Aeraspace honorarium – not in line with other payments – Steve advised that he is spending up to 20 hours per week. Mel acknowledged that the demands of this role have become bigger since Steve first took this on. Conflict of interest declared by Steve Swan who left the meeting for the duration of this discussion

Motion: 2016/03/06. Moved Deb Jewell/Sioux Reid.

That AeraSpace Administrator monthly honorarium is increased to \$300 per month, to review in line with other Honorariums 12 months. To commence in January 2017.

Voting: NSWERA – yes; QERA – yes; TEERA – yes; SAERA – yes VERA – yes; WAERA - yes. Carried.

11. National Ride Entry Statistics 2016. (Source: AeraSpace.)

Division	Endurance	Training	Introductory	FEI	Total
NSWERA	1268	803	883	41	2995
QERA	1237	931	484	42	2694
SAERA	245	196	292	-	733
TEERA	526	329	93	-	948
VERA	637	311	136	-	1084
WAERA	352	297	344	-	993
Totals	4265	2867	2232	83	9447

Noted

12. Portfolio Reports.

12.1 AERA Registrar Report.

I am now working on missing data from Tom Quilties after which I will resume working on email requests and any other issues as they arise.

I propose that cut-off date for all AERA scrolls to be presented at TQ be 31/05/2017. Updated application form following.

WA and NSW have been in contact and their 10,000km rider scrolls have been done and presented, I have not heard from VIC, QLD, SA or TAS (there are applicants that have been waiting almost 2 years now for their scrolls). Updated application form following.

Jo Bailey

Registrar – AERA

12.2 Insurance Report.

We now have a Dangerous Activity Waiver form for Day members (thanks Mel Scott) which I am hoping will be used by ALL states as a 'universal' document.

12.3 National Veterinary Panel.

Following my November vet liaison report to the NVP via Dr Anne Barnes, the feedback was that the SAERA was to be congratulated re the stipulation that horses entered in 2017 Tom Quilty coming from Hendra risk zones must be vaccinated against the virus, and that this was very much a move in the right direction.

That report also included the fact that AERA would be happy to fund courses for treatment vet training. The current thinking is that a treatment course might be delivered at TQ 17, in conjunction with a larger endurance veterinary program.

Following the August 2016 meeting AERA asked the NVP to make recommendations relative to appropriate Rest Order periods following metabolic vet-outs in an attempt to get some consistency across the Australian endurance scene. This was in turn relayed through Ozendurovet to the endurance veterinary community at large.

Dr Luke Annett's endurance treatment document is currently available on the AERA website along with a relevant equipment list. Dr Annett's has also prepared a power point presentation for training line endurance vets. It has elements of video imbedded in it (eg for lameness assessment).

Hendra remains a hot topic for all endurance vets but particularly those operating in Hendra risk zones in Queensland and Northern NSW. The Queensland Government Inquiry into the Use of Hendra Vaccine in Queensland was of considerable interest to the endurance community, particularly to veterinarians involved in the sport. An important finding was that workplace health and safety legislation be amended so that veterinarians are not responsible for creating a safe workplace for any person other than their staff and themselves when treating a horse suspected of being, or known to be, infected with Hendra virus. The committee has also supported the right of veterinarians to choose not to treat unvaccinated horses. Re equestrian events the inquiry stated that Hendra virus vaccination should not be made mandatory but left to the discretion of organisers to require as a condition of entry and for horse owners to decide based on risk. It appears that it may be difficult to get veterinarians to vet at rides in Hendra risk zones where Hendra vaccination is not a condition of entry.

Simon Bain

12.4 Equestrian Australia - Endurance Committee.

Horse Welfare

Once again the issue of horse welfare in Group 7 is first and foremost with 12 horse deaths recorded in the current season. It seems that no matter what approach is tried that not a lot of improvement is achieved. Having had a Committee member attend events in the UAE recently and from discussions with people who have been visiting there is news that some improvements have occurred.

The EA Endurance Committee has submitted some suggestions on further rule changes that may lead to improvements in horse welfare and decreases in speeds during events by lowering the heart rates. These have been submitted to the FEI's Endurance Technical Committee via Brian Sheahan.

The results from the latest research from the GEIS data will be presented at the FEI Sports Forum in April covering speed, injuries and rest periods. The FEI's Endurance Forum will be held in May in Spain and the EA Endurance Committee is intending to be represented at this event.

The EA Endurance Committee will continue to monitor the situation and will again raise this with AERA where support is required.

Appointment of Committee Members

Committee members recently appointed to the Committee are:

Robyn Parnell – Re-elected Chris Bailey – New appointment

Both these people are elected for a term of two years, retiring at the end of 2018.

Australian Endurance Team

The focus of the Australian Endurance Team for 2017 will be the World Youth Championships, to be held in Verona Italy in September. The long listed riders for this event have been announced and include:

<i>Jessyca Dakin</i>	<i>Colleen Krahn</i>
<i>Tahlia Franke</i>	<i>Liberty Mercer</i>
<i>Tayla Hadzi</i>	<i>Rebecca Radny</i>

The EA Endurance Committee will be running a Team Camp in April to provide information on this event and the preparations required as well as for the WEG event in 2018. The Camp will be open to all who have expressed expressions of interest for this events and to anyone who may be interested in competing internationally.

Our Chef d'Equip, Andrew Kettlewell, will be very ably supported by Trish Annetts who has had a lot of experience in managing international teams. Unfortunately, Tom McCormack has submitted his resignation from the role of Assistant Chef due to the pressures of his new job. Our Vet team will consist of our Team Veterinarian, Narelle Cribb, and she will be assisted by Anne Barnes who is stepping into the role as our Assistant Vet (Albert Sole-Guitart) is unable to attend the event.

Trans Tasman Competition

The Committee has been working closely with ESNZ Endurance to resurrect the Trans Tasman competition. This friendly international competition is a great introduction for people who have not previously competed at this level as it does not require travelling horses to a foreign country. Horses are supplied by the host nation making the cost of competing much more affordable and achievable.

It is hoped that by re-introducing this competition we will see an increase in interest in international competition.

The event will be hosted by Australia in 2017 and will be run at the Stirling's Crossing 2 event. It will also co-incide with the running the Equestrian Australia Championships run over the 3* event. Sponsorship of the entry fees for both teams and for the trophies has been provided by Bullio Arabians.*

2017 FEI Ride Calendar

Ride applications have been received from 3 Organising Committees – Faraway, Table Top Endurance and Stirling's Crossing. While 3 events is still not a large number the rides are well spaced on the calendar providing opportunities for riders to qualify their horses through the various levels.

Dates for events on the calendar are:

- *8th & 9th April – Team Camp (Sydney environs)*
- *14th & 15th April – Far-A-Way Easter Endurance Carnival FEI**
- *13th & 14th May – Table Top Endurance Ride*
- *5th & 6th August – Imbil Endurance Ride*

Endurance Australia Committee Manager

The EA have added a new role to their organisational structure – Committee Manager. Kirsty Pasto has been appointed to this role and she brings a wealth of experience to the role from her involvement in organising several international equestrian events. Kirsty's first project in 2017 is to review the current Committee by-laws. As part of this undertaking she will also be looking at the Committee selection process and the roles and requirements of Committee members.

Linda Tanian

12.5 Chief Stewards and TPRs.

12.5.1 Chief Stewards for Accreditation.

**Motion 2017/03/07. Moved: Gerard Bou/Steve Swan.
That Chris Nichols (QERA) be accredited as a Chief Steward.
Carried.**

12.6 Medication Control.

12.6.1 Quilty (Victoria) 2016 Swabbing.

One positive swabbing resulted from MC procedures at TQ16. Three samples had been submitted, two of which were horses who had received treatment; they also resulted in positive readings.

12.7 AeraSpace.

A reasonably major End of Year update was done over the New Year period, and then a smaller update released in early February. As well as doing quite a lot of improvements to Ride side of program, the EoY update included some major additions involving horse welfare, in particular to do with the saving of IT documentation, and the reporting of IT outcomes. The Feb version was more about some revisions requested by registrars from QERA and NSWERA.

Electronic Timing System

The system has not been used at a ride since Lexton. Peter J has been working on building two of the new unbreakable Gate Units, and has them nearly done.

We did a live test of these units at the STER ride on 11th/12th March. Will let you know the outcome at the meeting. There may be a bit of adjustment necessary, and when that is done, along with the software changes we included in the recent EoY update, the unit will be ready for sale.

We will do another final costing, but most likely the cost price of the sale units will be –

<i>Half system</i>	<i>up to 150 horses</i>	<i>3 gate units</i>	<i>\$8200</i>
<i>Full system</i>	<i>300+ horses</i>	<i>6 gate units</i>	<i>\$14200</i>

**Motion: 2017/03/08. Moved by Steve Swan/Pat Hodgetts.
That the AERA purchase one full Electronic Timing system for use at the SA Tom Quilty 2017.
Carried unanimously.**

Motion: 2017/03/09. Moved: Steve Swan/Deb Jewell.
That the AERA write to Divisions advising of terms as agreed regarding purchase of Electronic Timing Systems.
Carried unanimously.

12.8 Tom Quilty Gold Cup.

12.8.1 2017, Wirrina Cove, South Australia.

12.8.1.1 Event Director's Report.

Preparations for TQ17 are progressing fairly smoothly at this time.

The Bio Security Document has been our biggest challenge but I feel the sub-committee of Head vet Lidwein Verdegaal, SAERA Pres Bill Harbison, Mel Scott and myself, have come up with a workable document which I hope AERA will approve.

The BioSecurity Gate, 12km before Ride Base, on the main road through Yankalilla, is the safest way to fulfil our Vets requests for a serious response to the Quarantine option we have allowed owners from Hendra Risk areas. Once checks are complete the vehicle will have a BioSecurity sticker placed on its windscreen, and they can continue on to Ride Base. They will be met by our Camp Bosses and shown quickly and efficiently to their camp site. Horse vehicles will not be permitted access to Ride Base if they do not display the sticker. Vehicles without horses may proceed directly to Ride base.

Our Head vet, Lidwein Verdegaal, has extended invitations to Vets from NZ, USA and Ireland to attend, at their own expense. She has also requested that Robyn Mather be approved as Head Treatment vet for TQ17.

We welcome the attendance of 10 NZ riders and horses to compete as a team in TQ17. I am happy to help with accommodation and agistment for horses if necessary.

Jean Sims

Motion 2017/03/10. Moved Melanie Scott/Peter Bice.
That Robyn Mather is appointed as the Treatment Veterinarian for the Tom Quilty 2017 in South Australia.
Carried unanimously.

12.8.1.2 Biosecurity Policy.

From the November 2016 AERA meeting:

Motion: 2016/11/10. Moved: Melanie Scott/Sioux Reid.

SAERA require that all horses attending the Tom Quilty Gold Cup 2017, whose property of origin lies within a known Hendra risk area as identified in the AERA Bio security document, present at the event with a current Hendra vaccination certificate, in addition to any other bio security measures, which will form part of the TQ17 biosecurity document.

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

Carried 8-0.

Final Biosecurity document has been forwarded to the delegates.

12.8.1.3 TQ17 Entry Fee and Vet Levy.

Motion: that the AERA approve the entry fee and vet levy for the Tom Quilty Gold Cup 2017 in South Australia:

\$100 – pre-nomination

\$20 - Vet Levy

\$380 - Ride Fee

Total \$500

This was discussed by email and approved by all members Refer to Motion 2017/03/03

**12.8.1.4 NZ/AUS Team Event at the Quilty.
Correspondence sent to NZ Endurance Board, 2nd August 2016:**

The Australian Endurance Riders Association would like to extend an invitation to ESNZ Endurance to field a national team at our Tom Quilty Gold Cup event in South Australia in July 2017.

The AERA will sponsor the ride entry fees for a team of 4 New Zealand horses and riders. The AERA shall also, where possible, assist with coordinating suitable travel arrangements and accommodation for horses and riders on their journey to ride base once they have arrived in Australia, and also for their trip home. We understand that it is important to keep the financial costs of such a venture achievable.

The AERA would very much like to see a New Zealand squad mounted on New Zealand horses ride against an Australian team in our National Championship event.

We hope to hear from your board so together our associations can plan for a successful, highly anticipated event where our best horse and rider combinations can compete at Australia's premier endurance ride.

We look forward to your participation and hope that you can join us at this prestigious event. Please let me know if you require any further information.

12.8.2 TQ 18, Tasmania.

Update provided by Pat Hodgetts– ride base is confirmed as rodeo ground; rides will be run over Easter and in October for State Championships; Tom McCormack and Helen Spencer will be there as CS and HV respectively; logo and merchandise are done; website is being done by Mark Dunne; bibs are being done and will have a pocket; ETS will be used; catering arranged; noted that this event does clash with the Grand Final.

Interstate riders will be invited to test out ride venue – will be implementing same bio-security policy as SA. Tara Nicholson as understudy for Event Director.

Entry fee still to be decided; anticipate camping fees will be more moderate than SA Quilty.

Anticipate 110 – 125 nominations – and that sponsorship will create surplus.

12.8.3 Quilty Buckles.

Gerard has been doing further research. Most cost effective way is to make a stamp, inform from Roland Engraving, but stalled because of design process. Machine is \$13000 with other costs for cutting tips – silver from suppliers cut to size; clasps to make – training in software, included in quote. Machine guaranteed for 2 years. Currently purchasing 100 buckles per annum at cost of \$240 per buckle (\$24,000) – buckles are not made in Australia, we have little quality control, cost increases every year. Machine can be used for other buckles, medallions etc.

12.8.4 Quilty Team Event.

Alam to come up with some guidelines to ensure that the state teams are nominated properly with reference to restrictions that two members must be over 73kg and must be nominated by their MC.

To be circulated by 18 April 2017. Division teams will be identified from teams nominated – three team events to be awarded with goblets – one for division team, one for restricted and one for unrestricted.

A rider horse combination can only enter one event.

12.9 AERA Awards/AERA Lifetime Awards.

RE: the 2016 point score and distance awards and lifetime awards to be presented at the SA Quilty:

At the last AERA meeting Deb Jewell offered to source rugs suitable for the 3000 km awards. I hope this is still ok?

The cut off for lifetime distance applications has been set as 31 May which doesn't leave much time. Please let your members know to apply to Jo Bailey well before this date if possible.

Thanks, Kerry Spratt.

12.10 AERA Constitution.

The Subcommittee has continued meeting (mostly) weekly and working our way through the Constitution. There's been a slowing over Christmas, New Year and AGM period, but we're back on it now. Please note that Dick Collyer has (unfortunately) resigned from the group. As a reminder:

1. We are continuing with an incorporated association model (incorporated in NSW).

2. The AERA will (subject to agreement) have three classes of membership:
- The State Division Associations (not all the individual members of the State Associations, eg NSWERA will be the member, not all the NSWERA members).
 - Honorary members recognised for their contribution to the sport
 - Appointed members will be people selected for their expertise and appointed as members of the Committee of Management for a fixed time

I plan to have a draft available before the meeting, for discussion at the meeting.

We are discussing the content of an 'affiliation agreement' between the AERA and the Division Associations. The agreement will provide detail to support the Constitution, likely including:

- setting up a reciprocal binding connection between the AERA and the Division Associations so that the rules can be properly applied
- details of the roles of the AERA and the Divisions
- details of the role of delegates including management of conflicts of interest between state and national matters
- how delegates to the AERA will be appointed, for example terms and measures to help ensure continuity and engagement
- how expenses will be met
- confidentiality agreements
- arrangements for providing records such as financial statements and meeting minutes
- procedure for postal and electronic voting IF we have these
- disciplinary processes
- anything else that we identify

Kerry Spratt, for the Constitution Subcommittee.

Discussion:

Final version will have to go to Divisions for approval and all Divisions will be required to review their constitution – specifically to reflect the AERA by-laws regarding disciplinary matters. Topics discussed specifically included that each Division will be required to have an Independent Disciplinary Panel and an appeals process. The Independent Appeals Panel will advise the committee – note individual has the right of appeal but the Committee does not.

John Mullins will draft clauses for the Divisions.

Affiliation Agreement with Divisions must be signed annually by 1st March of each year and will be reviewed annually at the November meeting.

Timeline – review completed by J Mullins by end May and could be sent to Divisions by end June and returned to the July meeting.

Motion: 2017/03/11. Moved: Kerry Spratt/Deb Jewell.

That the subcommittee has permission to forward Draft Constitution and Affiliation Agreement to John Mullins for his review as soon as possible.

Carried unanimously.

12.11 Child Protection Policy.

Kim Moir presented Member Protection Policy that has been adopted by QERA to support need for Association to have a Child Protection Policy. This policy is developed from a template provided by *Play by the Rules* and that is recommended by the Australian Institute of Sport. This policy incorporates Harassment and Bullying, Discrimination and Complaints management.

Notes that the Affiliation Agreement to support the new Constitution requires this policy.

13 Rule Changes.

13.1 Rule Changes – Motions for Second Vote.

From the November 2016 AERA meeting (from VERA):

Motion: 2017/03/12

Rule D - Management of Disciplinary Matters, 3.8C, page 7: is changed to read:

3.8c the right of the accused to be represented by counsel at the accused's own expense (subject to the incorporation laws in respective states).

Carried.

Voting: Vic - Yes; NSW – Yes; Qld – Yes; SA- Yes; WA – Yes; TEERA – Yes. Carried. *New Rule 2018.*

13.2 Rule Changes – Motions for Discussion and First Vote.

13.2.1 Motion from QERA.

Motion: 2017/03/13. Moved: QERA/SAERA.

That table 13 is amended to reflect a minimum riding age for intro riders is 4 years.

Voting: NSWERA – yes; QERA – yes; SAERA – yes; TEERA – yes; VERA – yes; WAERA – yes.

Carried. Passed first vote. Agenda item for July 2017 meeting for second vote.

Motion: 2017/03/14. Moved: QERA/SAERA.

That tables 6 and 9 are amended to reflect a minimum tabled kilometre distance for intro rides be changed to 1 kilometre.

First vote

Voting: NSWERA – no; QERA – yes; SAERA – yes; TEERA – yes; VERA – yes; WAERA – yes.

Carried. Passed first vote. Agenda item for July 2017 meeting for second vote.

13.2.2 Motion from QERA.

Motion: 2017/03/15.

Rule 40.1 – Every rider in every endurance, marathon, mini marathon and Intermediate ride is subject to the Rider Early Warning System (REWS). The rider attracts penalty points as per Table 15 (The change being that a vet out with a pulse of 66bpm or higher will attract a penalty of 20 points) (The rule currently states 15 points).

Voting: NSWERA – yes; QERA – yes; SAERA – yes; TEERA – yes; VERA – yes; WAERA – yes.

Carried. Passed first vote. Agenda item for July 2017 meeting for second vote.

13.2.3 Motion from QERA.

Motion: 2017/03/16.

Rule 60.1: Every horse in every endurance, marathon, mini marathon and Intermediate ride is subject to the Horse Early Warning System (HEWS). The horse attracts penalty points as per Table 18 (The change being that a vet out with a pulse of 66bpm or higher will attract a penalty of 20 points) (The rule currently states 15 points).

Voting: NSWERA – yes; QERA – yes; SAERA – yes; TEERA – yes; VERA – yes; WAERA – yes.

Carried. Passed first vote. Agenda item for July 2017 meeting for second vote.

13.2.4 Motion from QERA.

Motion: 2017/03/17.

Rule 40.2: On the first 12 month anniversary of an individual penalty being imposed, 6 points are credited to the rider. Additional credits occur for the successful completion of intermediate, endurance, marathon and mini marathon rides.

- (a) 4 points for rides 40km and up to 59km
- (b) 6 points for rides 60km and up to 79km
- (c) 8 points for rides 80km up to 90km
- (d) 10 points for rides 91km up to 120km
- (e) 12 points for rides 121km up to 159km
- (f) 15 points for rides of 160km and above

Change Credit points for both Rider EWS and Horse EWS

Voting: NSWERA – yes; QERA – yes; SAERA – yes; TEERA – yes; VERA – yes; WAERA – yes.

Carried. Passed first vote. Agenda item for July 2017 meeting for second vote.

13.2.5 Motion from QERA.

Motion: 2017/03/18.

Rule 60.2: On the first 12 month anniversary of an individual penalty being imposed, 6 points are credited to the horse. Additional credits occur for the successful completion of intermediate, endurance, marathon and mini marathon rides.

- (a) 4 points for rides 40km and up to 59km
- (b) 6 points for rides 60km and up to 79km
- (c) 8 points for rides 80km up to 90km
- (d) 10 points for rides 91km up to 120km
- (e) 12 points for rides 121km up to 159km
- (f) 15 points for rides of 160km and above

Change Credit points for both Rider EWS and Horse EWS.

**Voting: NSWERA – yes; QERA – yes; SAERA – yes; TEERA – yes; VERA – yes; WAERA – yes.
Carried. Passed first vote. Agenda item for July 2017 meeting for second vote.**

14. General Business.

14.1 Murrumba Club, Qld: is celebrating 50 years as a Ride Organiser Committee – AERA to publish comments, photographs and ongoing information updates on AERA facebook page and website.

14.2 Horse Early Warning System

Process for HWS person in each division to provide advice to a novice rider who accumulates – Victoria to trial and report back.

14.3 Bouthieb Initiative (Melanie Scott).

THE POINTS SYSTEM EXPLAINED

The Boudheib Initiative has been developed to encourage good horsemanship and welfare of the endurance horse. It is also an attempt to return endurance riding back to the roots of the sport as an all round test of horse and horsemanship. The Initiative has attracted worldwide favourable comment, and there is an ongoing development process, to meet the challenges of a new system for use in a variety of different situations. Nevertheless the objective remains to develop a format, which rewards good horsemanship and sportsmanship, with horse welfare at its core.

The current simplified system has been made in response to the constructive feedback gathered throughout the first season's use. The system also aims to of minimize the subjective assessment of veterinarians at the vet gate through the scale of points awarded.

15. Meeting Closed 3.30 pm

16. Meeting Dates 2017.

29th and 30th July 2017 – to be confirmed

25th and 26th November 2017 – to be confirmed