



Australian Endurance Riders Association Inc.

Minutes of the Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday 15 April 7.30 pm AEST - Continuance of AERA Meeting held 21 and 22 March

Venue: Note due to travel restrictions related to Covid-19 virus this meeting was conducted through the digital platform GoToMeeting.

Meeting commenced at 7.30 pm AEST

Sioux Reid left the meeting at 8.32 pm.

1. Welcome by President

It was noted that this was an adjourned meeting from the AERA meeting of 21/22 March that no new business could be presented; as per the constitution, matters could only be considered that were on the original agenda.

2. Members Present

2.1. AERA Delegates Present:

Linda Tanian (Chair), Peter Bice (NSWERA), Noni Seagrim (NSWERA), Dick Collyer (QERA), Leigh Ann Sample (QERA), Kim Moir (QERA), Stella Harbison (SAERA), Pat Hodgetts (TEERA), Mark Dunn (TEERA), Sioux Reid (VERA), Sarah Dumbrell (WAERA), Elsje Brandis (WAERA).

2.2. Apologies

Jodie Luck (SAERA).

2.3. Proxy Votes:

Nil received

2.4. Visitors

Anna Erickson attended the meeting until 8.26 pm for discussion on TQ20.

3. Portfolio Allocations

Portfolios allocated at meeting held on 4 April 2020

4. Register of Pecuniary Interest and Conflict of Interest

Addressed as arises during the meeting.

Committee Member	Point of Conflict	Reason
Kim Moir	Correspondence item 15.2.2.2	Author
TQ20 / TQ21	WAERA and NSWERA delegates	Hosts of respective events
Elsje Brandis	Members of Portfolio Sub-committees	Correspondence from WAERA

5. Registration of votes - noted

Based on Adult & Junior Riding Membership (AeraSpace, 31/12/2019).

Voting: NSWERA - 5; QERA - 6; SAERA - 1 ; TEERA - 2; VERA - 2; WAERA - 2. Total 18

6. Previous Meeting Minutes

All minutes to be presented at next meeting of the AERA Management Committee with a clean copy to be circulated by the Secretary.

7. Matters Arising from previous meetings

7.1. Legal Advice Procedures - item generated from discussion at AGM

New business to be presented at next meeting.

7.2. From meeting of 4 April 2020

7.2.1. National Ride Standard

Report from Kim Moir - information received from Tom McCormack that the National Ride Standard was a 3-year project from 2011 – 2013 to establish a standard for how rides would be organised; noted motion from July 2010 to support funding by AERA.

Recommendation that this is no longer required to be identified as a separate portfolio with reporting requirements.

Recommendation accepted but reminder that the same standards still need to be upheld and monitored.

Action

Original document to be circulated to MC members to be reviewed for consideration as a guide.

7.3. Report from COVID-19 Workgroup

New business to be accepted at next meeting.

7.4. AERA Horse Distance Scroll and AERA Rider Lifetime Distance Scroll

Discussion re presentation of annual distance and points awards as well as AERA Horse Distance and Rider Lifetime Distance Awards in light of uncertainty of the TQ20 event happening

Revised forms were provided to MC Members.

If no Quilty happens in 2020 annual awards will be sent to DAs to distribute.

Recipients of AERA Horse Distance and Rider Lifetime Distance Awards have the option to apply to receive this award now and have it sent to DAs to present or they can elect to wait to have these presented at the next Quilty. Close off date for application of these awards is 30 June 2020.

Actions

Annual Awards, points and distance, to be sent to DAs to be presented – Kerry.

Information to Jo Bailey re process - Kerry

Notification that application forms are available via website providing closing date – Kim.

Notification to DAs that annual awards will be sent to them to be presented – Kim

Applicants for AERA Lifetime Distance Awards will be given the option to have these sent to the relevant DA to be presented now, or they can choose to wait to have them presented at the TQ event most appropriate to them - Kerry to discuss when application is made.

A notification is to be posted on social media to advise DA members of the actions being taken - Linda

7.5. Insurance

New business to be discussed via email with decision to be noted in agenda for next meeting.

8 Correspondence Inwards

8.1 Correspondence Inwards

8.1.2.7 Matthew Walker re research project – email received 25 February 2020

Matthew has put forward a proposal to study the risk factors influencing invasive treatment rate in endurance horses in Australia. He has stated his willingness to sign an agreement to support the integrity of the process and AERA, before sharing any data.

Note that a Data Usage Agreement, draft shared with delegates, is still to be approved by AERA and that any access to AERA data would be dependent on such an agreement being signed.

Discussion

Concerns included:

- that there should be no use of membership numbers or logbook numbers and that these details are not required to aggregate data or to draw conclusions;
- that there is a lack of information and that we might ask for further information;
- assumptions are not listed and concern that these can change results if not acknowledged; they are crucial to statistical analysis;
- concerns about privacy issues, potentially unauthorised access to the database; consent for use of information by owners, Zoetis, etc; what information has been transferred from the Zoetis horses4health database to AERA database; is there an agreement about how Zoetis information is used and how it is linked to AERASpace; has consent been given for publication of microchip numbers, noting that vets gather that as sensitive information. A list of questions about how AERA is managing privacy of information and how it is managing the use of data that for purpose other than that for which it has been gathered has been put forward;
- principle concern is about access to our data – to satisfy ourselves that the process so far has been ok, and we are not exposed in any way and that we are operating with all legislative requirements;
- any research should be consistent with the objects of the Association;
- note that Matt Walker is an active endurance vet and concern was expressed this access would allow him to have access to a level of information that may prejudice his decisions.

Comments:

- that Data Use Agreement could take care of some to the privacy issues and will specify how data may be used;
- use of membership numbers or logbook numbers may be used just to provide an initial system to manage data but would not be allowed in any final public document;
- when the outcomes of projects are presented, we will be able to see assumptions, any breaches of privacy and have these managed before any publication;
- Pat's questions to be circulated to all MC members to allow for full consideration.
- Connection between Zoetis and AERASpace dropped out early last year and was restored; connection has been given since 2016 when vaxed only rides were first introduced to allow ROs to confirm vaccination status of horses;

- Objects of Association include support of research;
- What is the purpose of the data we gather?

Actions

Request for more information from Matthew Walker to support AERA's decision-making and that he will be required to sign a Data Use Agreement.

Pat to circulate questions for consideration and AERA to consider what advice is provided to members about use of information.

8.1.1.8 Jewel Azaria Tan – asthma in horses

Request to publicise survey to members via Facebook and Website. Members who sign in will be asked to complete a 15-minute survey; project has ethics approval through the University of South Australia. Survey is open until 27 April 2020.

Concerns included:

- Survey is being promoted by an international company that is likely to benefit from the results of the survey;
- Members data may then be mined by the companies involved.

Comments

- this is not accessing our data and members can opt in or not and do not have to provide contact information;
- commercial interest has been disclosed;
- considered a worthwhile project given the amount of respiratory illnesses being seen;
- this is being done through a University and has ethics approval.

Motion: Moved: Mark Dunn/ Kerry Fowler-Smith

That the survey be publicised on AERA Facebook page and on the AERA Website with information re personal participation if they wish. AERA does not endorse this survey in any way.

Voting: NSWERA – yes; QERA – no; SAERA – yes; TEERA – yes; VERA – abstain; WAERA – yes Carried by majority. Voting: For – 10; Against – 6; Abstain – 2.

8.2 Late Correspondence Inwards

Date	Late Correspondence Inwards	Action
06/03/20	M Denton query re aged horses	Responded
09/03/20	K Pascoe – EOI for FEI world championships (had been posted on Fb)	Fwd to delegates
10/03/20	QERA response to AERA re motion 6	Agenda
12/03/20	C Richardson re rider history	Responded
13/03/20	K Moir & M Williams research project request	Agenda
	TEERA minutes of February meeting	Fwd to delegates
16/03/20	D Somerville re QERA AGM	Agenda
19/03/20	SAERA – J Luck – leave of absence till 20/05/20	Noted
20/03/20	G Bou – information video re 1000-mile buckle	Agenda

8.2.1 QERA response to AERA re motion 6

This letter had been provided as a response to a request to AERA to understand how motion 6 had been managed by the DA and with reference to correspondence from Pam Karner, Luke Annetts and Mark Grogan.

Secretary to provide a response for review.

8.2.2. K Moir and M Williams request for research project

Kim Moir did not attend for this part of the meeting due to conflict of interest.

Moved that the research can proceed subject to the submission of a Data Usage Agreement and Subject to AERA's satisfaction of the resolution of the data access concerns.

Moved: QERA/TEERA

Voting: Q – Yes, N – No, T – Yes, V – Yes, SA – Yes, WA – No
Carried.

8.2.3 D Sommerville re QERA AGM

Secretary to provide a response for review.

8.3 Correspondence Outwards

Date	Correspondence Outwards	Author
19/11/19	WAERA re Child Protection Policy	KM
24/11/19	TQ20 re Biosecurity plan- cc AERA Delegates	KM
25/11/19	T Hasko-Stewart	KM
26/11/19	S Little request for CS Reports TQ19 and others	KM/MD
	VERA re CS Compliance	KM
	TQ20 re sale of Coffee Table Books	KM
27/11/19	AERA Delegates – Financial Reports to 31 October	DE/KM
01/12/19	DA Secretaries – notes from AERA November meeting	LAS
02/12/19	C Gurtner re horse history	KM
	K Sulaiman re horse history	KM
04/12/19	R Jego response from meeting	KM
	DA secretaries re Vet fees	KM
	I Peters response from meeting	KM
	A Barnes – response to email of 02/12/19	KM
06/12/19	D Colja – thank you letter	KM
08/12/19	EVA via J Wilkinson – AERA response	KM
10/12/19	DA Secretaries re AERA Fees and charges	KM
11/12/19	QERA re Horse Welfare	MD /HWSC
	DA Secretaries – minutes of AERA meeting 16/17 November	KM
13/12/19	WAERA – response re vet fees and insurance	KM
14/12/19	S Swan – AERA request for further information	KM
	DAs update of AERA Rulebook and summary of rule changes	KM
15/12/19	G Bucknell / TQ18 thank you letter	KM
18/12/19	NSWERA re horse catastrophe	MD/HWSC
	QERA re horse catastrophe	MD/HWSC
	S Swan response re QERA AGM	KM
	D Somerville response re financial reporting	KM
	M Scott – fwd letter from S Swan	KM
19/12/19	EA re AERA Affiliation Agreement	KM
	G Bou re TQ buckles, cup etc	KM
	QERA re Horse Catastrophe – further information re Fernvale	MD/HWSC
21/12/19	S Swan response re Qld State Championships	KM
22/12/19	TQ20 Committee - various	KM

23/12/19	DA Secretaries and AERA Delegates re AGM	KM
	M Walker – response re Research Project	KM
	S Swan – response re IT reports	KM
	VERA re CS Compliance	KM/MD
09/01/20	DA Secretaries – Terms of Reference for NVP	MD
28/01/20	WAERA response to complaint about correspondence sent to WAERA member	LT
05/02/20	DA Secretaries re appointment of EADCM Coordinator	KM
	Dorte Colja re appointment of EADCM Coordinator	KM
07/02/20	Delegates and DA Secretaries – Notice of Meeting AGM and scheduling	KM
10/02/20	Dr S Rodes re Head Vet accreditation	KM
	QERA response to letter ref Brookleigh Delaware	MD/HWSC
12/02/20	K Howie re Bob Gurr's loss of TQ buckle	KM
13/02/19	EA – contact details for EADCM Coordinator	KM
	Hall and Wilcox re insurance matter	KM
	Invoice to TQ19 re WA Vet accommodation	LT
14/02/20	K Moir response re research request	LT
17/02/20	QERA re Horse Catastrophe - Fernvale	
18/02/19	QERA – response to correspondence re Brookleigh Delaware dated 11/02/19	MD (HWSC)
21/02/19	AERA members re notice to present a special resolution	KFS
	DA Secretaries re notice to present a special resolution	KFS
22/02/20	NSWERA – reminder re correspondence re equine catastrophe sent on 18/12/20	MD
	DA Chief Steward Liaison – request for updates	MD
28/02/20	QERA re correspondence re QERA AGM Motions and impact on ROs	PB
02/03/20	DA Secretaries to update AERASpace users	LT
03/03/19	P Karner, Luke Annetts and Mark Grogan – response to correspondence	PB

8.4 Late Correspondence Outwards

	LATE CORRESPONDENCE OUTWARD:	
13/03/20	Quality Inn – confirmation of event orders	KM
16/03/20	Quality Inn – cancellation of event booking – acknowledged and accepted	KM

8.5 Business Arising from Correspondence Outwards

Nil

8.6 Business Arising from Late Correspondence Outwards

Quality Inn accepted late cancellation of our booking at no cost.

Motion Moved Mark Dunn/ Dick Collyer

***That the inwards correspondence is received, and the outwards correspondence is endorsed.
Carried unanimously.***

9. Late Agenda items

9.1 Correspondence WAERA re TQ20

Correspondence was received to this agenda as it related to discussions from an earlier part of this adjourned meeting. Advice had been sought by AERA to inform further discussion about TQ20 and the impact of the COVID-19 restrictions.

Significant points from WAERA Correspondence:

- The probable need to postpone this event is beyond the control of WAERA and the TQ20 Ride Organising Committee and has been influenced by government and AERA decisions regarding restrictions imposed due to COVID-19.

- The suggested date of 1 May for a decision to be made is about capacity of the committee to finalise contracts from suppliers and to resume preparation to have everything in place for a September event.
- The current restrictions will impact on preparation and qualifying of horses to be ready for a September 160 km.
- Hosting a Tom Quilty event is offered to States/DAs with relevance to AERA's objects to maintain Division Associations and to foster endurance. This is an AERA event.
- WAERA members are disadvantaged due to location from attending other Quilty events.
- WAERA has already invested significant funds to support TQ20 in WA.
- Significant sponsorship has been committed and will still be available in 2021 but may not be committed beyond that. Sponsors have written supporting letters to this effect. Also, significant amounts of sponsorship money have already been spent.
- Preparation for TQ20 qualifies the committee to be able to host TQ21 and the committee is able to keep going until 2021.

Clarification sought from WAERA about their wish to postpone the TQ20 as scheduled from September 2020.

- WA is in firm shut down and there is no sense of when this will change though it is anticipated to be at least 6 months; this related to movement into and out of the state and also between regions of the state. Most recent announcement by WA Premier, just prior to this meeting suggested borders would be closed for possibly 6 months.
- Decision-making had been discussed at meeting on 25 March and it was determined that though this was a decision to be made by WAERA/TQ20 that any announcement would be done in conjunction with AERA.
- Any notice to members should give some clarity about when the next Quilty event will be held and where.
- It is WAERA's preference that the TQ scheduled for September 2020 is postponed and WAERA is allowed to host this event in 2021.
- WAERA could stand to make a loss of \$55,000 and could face bankruptcy.
- Linda advised that initial discussions with NSWERA had occurred and they had requested much the same information that AERA has sought from WAERA. They wanted a proposal that outlined options about when they would host their TQ event.

Comment sought from NSWERA about their thoughts:

- NSWERA has not yet had the opportunity to discuss as a MC group with TQ21 Committee and would like to receive more formal advice on options that might be considered to inform this discussion. Any decision from NSWERA would be made in conjunction with the TQ21 Committee.
- Requesting advice on behalf of NSWERA and TQ21 what are the other possibilities other than running a Quilty in WA in 2021; it could be there are other options without impact on TQ21 in NSW.
- NSWERA delegates would not decide without consulting fully with their MC and with the Quilty committee.

Discussion

As AERA, all MC members need to consider the financial impacts on AERA. This year's income is affected by less rides and a WA Quilty does not bring income so to move the WA Quilty to 2021 will result in little or

no income for 2 years. A NSW Quilty will have anywhere from 250 – 300 entries; WA will have 100 to 120 entries.

Reminder that this is no one's fault and something we have to manage. This is a government decision to suspend most activities and this means that TQ20 most probably cannot happen.

AERA has the capacity to make a decision but the preference is that we involve members in the decision-making process and fully consider all options that may be brought to the table.

Reminder that the decision to rotate the Quilty was based on fairness and giving all members access to the national event. It has become an income stream for AERA over the 6-year period, but it is also a significant income stream for the host DAs – at present WAERA is out of pocket and hosting the event in 2021 would support their recovery. NSWERA hoping to run in 2021 and an option would be for WA to run in 2022.

WAERA has suggested that they needed to know by 1 May and that this allowed some time for NSWERA to have discussions and for a resolution to be reached. The preference from WAERA was to announce the decision about the WA Quilty at the same time as any decision about the future Quilties.

Members in WA are isolated, and it is a major thing for them to attend the Quilty.

AERA's responsibility is also to consult with everyone who might be impacted but the decisions we make – if there is a reasonable alternative this needs to be considered. We have to live with the impact of Corona virus.

NSWERA proposed a possible solution for 2021 to be NSW and WA to go to 2022 – WAERA has said that this is not an option for them.

WAERA noted that they are very cognisant of the fact that this is not an easy decision to make.

Agreement to wait until 1 May to allow for full discussion and any announcement to provide information about where TQ21 will happen and the Quilties thereafter.

Consultation will occur with NSW.

Other matters that arose from discussion;

- Event Insurance – WAERA indicated that they had thought this was covered in AERA insurance policies – need to clarify this in manual.

Action

Add to review of TQ Event Standard

9.2 Correspondence WAERA re members of AERA Sub-committees.

Portfolios were allocated at meeting on 4 April with further discussion relevant to correspondence from WAERA regarding status of a WAERA member.

Conflict of interest

Linda Tanian suggested that due to the sensitivity of this matter and as Elsje was a member of the WAERA Management Committee, she had a conflict of interest and was asked to leave the meeting. Elsje agreed but asked if she was entitled to respond to Dick's comments on his email.

Linda invited Elsje, in the interest of fairness, to make comment.

Elsje commented on the need for AERA to respect the decisions made by DAs and restated the position of WAERA on the merits of the appointment of Ieva Peters to the Facebook Sub-committee.

Decision that it was appropriate for Ieva Peters to continue as a member of Sub-committees for AERA Awards, Facebook and as a member of the AERA Quilty Advisory Panel.

Action

The Secretary to draft up a response for review.

18. Meeting Closed

Meeting closed at 10.10 pm AEST

19. Meeting Dates

Next scheduled meeting – 18/19 July 2020 - tbc