



## AUSTRALIAN ENDURANCE RIDERS ASSOCIATION INC.

Inc No	Y1458516
ABN	14 684 748 206
ARBN	095 622 914

# AERA Business Plan 2023 - 2025

## PREAMBLE

AERA is defined in Section 3 of its Constitution:

*'AERA will act as a coordinating body for the sport of endurance in Australia and it will aim to promote all aspects of the sport, including the highest ideals of sportsmanship and horsemanship, with horse welfare being of prime consideration, as embodied in the mission "to complete is to win".'*

This could serve as its 'mission statement' or 'vision'.

## WHAT AERA ACTUALLY DOES (OR SHOULD DO)

Section 3 (appended in full below) of the AERA Constitution lists a number of Objects (roles, functions) which can be summarised (with some extrapolation – 8,9) as follows:

1. To act as the coordinating body for the sport of endurance in Australia that promotes all aspects of the sport.
2. To maintain the Rulebook and associated guidelines, standards etc and monitor compliance with these.
3. To maintain the AERAspace database and manage a number of annual national awards for riders and horses.
4. To supervise, in association with an incorporated Divisional Endurance Club, the organisation of an annual Australian National Championship Endurance Ride, The Tom Quilty Gold Cup.
5. To formulate standards and processes for the accreditation of officials.
6. To encourage and assist Division Association (DA) members to compete in international competition and to encourage, promote, and conduct Endurance Events with international standing within Australia.
7. To encourage and assist interested parties to conduct relevant research and, where appropriate, disseminate the results of such research to DAs and their members.
8. Manage the AERA finances in such a way that AERA remains viable and is able to support activities to achieve its stated Objects.
9. Maintain competent governance in order to achieve its stated Objects and be accountable to its members, the DAs.

In all of these functions:

1. Horse welfare must be considered the prime requirement.
2. AERA must consult and work with the Division Associations.
3. AERA must, where relevant, consult and work with appropriate veterinary bodies.

4. AERA must, where necessary or desirable, consult and work with other organisations, for example Equestrian Australia.

## **HOW SHOULD AERA PERFORM THESE FUNCTIONS?**

The AERA Management Committee comprises 8 people, each of whom should participate in one or more Sub-Committees (SCs), whose role it is to perform one or more of the nine functions listed above. In addition to this, a person or persons will need to accept a leadership role (president, vice president). Another will need to accept a co-ordinating role (secretary).

The Sub-Committees required to manage the nine functions are:

1. A Promotional / Communication SC (Object 1 [and 7?])
2. A Rulebook SC (Object 2 [with Governance SC])
3. An AERAspace SC (Object 3)
4. A Tom Quilty SC (Object 4)
5. An international SC (Objects 6+7)
6. A finance SC (Objects 8)
7. A Governance SC (All objects, in association with other SCs)

Each SC shall comprise at least two (and preferably three) people, one of whom must be an AERA management committee (MC) member. Other members can be drawn, where necessary or desirable, from the broad endurance community.

By the April 2023 AERA MC meeting each SC shall have compiled a plan to cover the period 2023 – 2025, for review by the AERA MC, that is consistent with the AERA vision and objects, contains specific, measurable objectives and details how these will be achieved benchmarked against a timeline.

## **FROM THE AERA CONSTITUTION:**

### **3 Objects**

3.1 AERA will act as a coordinating body for the sport of endurance in Australia and it will aim to promote all aspects of the sport, including the highest ideals of sportsmanship and horsemanship, with horse welfare being of prime consideration, as embodied in the mission “to complete is to win”.

3.2 To promote and foster the sport of Endurance Riding by formulating AERA Rules as defined in clause 2(c) of this Constitution and veterinary procedures to be observed by all organisers of Endurance Events affiliated with AERA through the Division Associations.

3.3 To ensure that the AERA Rules and veterinary procedures are observed in a manner that provides protection for the wellbeing of horses ridden in Endurance Events.

3.4 To maintain complete and accurate records of the results of Endurance Events conducted in Australia, to conduct a national annual point score and to maintain a Registry of the performance and welfare of endurance horses and an archive for the sport.

3.5 To liaise with properly accredited members of the veterinary profession, or any recognised body, in relation to the welfare of horses in Endurance Events.

3.6 To supervise the organisation of an annual Australian National Championship Endurance Ride over a distance of not less than 160kms, within a maximum elapsed time of 24 hours to be known as the Tom Quilty Gold Cup Endurance Ride, in accordance with the guidelines and procedures as current from time to time

3.7 To establish and liaise with Division Associations of AERA.

3.8 To formulate standards by which Division Associations can accredit their members to be stewards and officials so as to assist in the efficient conduct of Endurance Events and to maintain Registries of such accredited members.

3.9 To encourage and assist members of the Division Associations to compete in international Endurance Riding competitions and to select team members to represent Australia when necessary.

3.10 To encourage, promote, and conduct Endurance Events with international standing within Australia and to negotiate or contract with any organisation or administrative body as may be necessary.

3.11 To encourage the conduct of research into, and to disseminate information collected in relation to, the performance, training, feeding, husbandry, diseases, physiology, injuries and genetics of horses in the sport of Endurance Riding.