

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday, 28 November 2011

Expansion of The Qld Horse Industry Alliance (QHIA) To Benefit the Equestrian Community of Queensland.

The Queensland Horse Industry Alliance was formed in May 2009 under a memorandum of understanding of Queensland's peak Performance Horse Organisations which each represent the interests of the Queensland equestrian community across a diverse range of sporting and breed organisations.

Following the success of the QHIA Inc. as a formal voice on behalf of the equestrian industry on state and federal issues, particularly in light of viral and disease outbreaks and the subsequent government recognition, a number of additional horse industry organisations have requested to become involved, asking for the QHIA Inc. to also represent their needs.

As such, the QHIA Inc., previously QPHIA (Qld 'Performance' Horse Industry Alliance) now incorporates an industry alliance which represents breed societies as well as the performance horse sector, creating comprehensive coverage of the Queensland equine communities. Organisations working together within the QHIA Inc. now include Equestrian Queensland, Pony Club Association of Queensland, Polocrosse Association of Queensland, Queensland Endurance Riders Association, South Queensland Management Council of The Australian Stock Horse Society, Riding for the Disabled Association of Queensland, The Australian Professional Rodeo Association, Arabian Horse Association of Queensland, and the Australian Campdrafting Association.

With the mantle as the peak Performance Horse Industry Body, the QHIA Inc. will continue to work as a group with other equine industry organisations such as Thoroughbred breeders, racehorse owners, Racing Queensland and Harness Racing Queensland to work collectively in representing the entire horse industry throughout Queensland.

QHIA Inc. looks forward to continuing its representation to engage all Industry organisations in positive and constructive communication with a view of uniting the Queensland horse Industry. The Queensland horse industry is unique in its diversity and although our organisations may use their horses for different disciplines, we have many commonalities. QHIA Inc. invites all Horse Organisations to join the Alliance and share in the future of the Queensland Horse Industry.

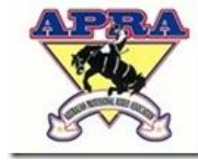
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For more information, please contact:

Mr Kent Wells
President, QHIA Inc.
0414 742112

Mr Rob Ferguson
Secretary, QHIA Inc.
General Manager, EQUESTRIAN QUEENSLAND
(07) 3891 6611

***ATTACHMENT**
The Charter of the QHIA



QLD HORSE INDUSTRY ALLIANCE, INC.

1. Preamble

The Qld Horse Industry Alliance organisations are committed to improving the level of recognition of the performance horse industry, providing a united voice to the Government on industry needs and national equine issues, as well as providing a mechanism through which the industry can be rallied and represented in times of horse related crises.

As such, there is a history of various levels of collaboration and information sharing between the parties in the pursuit of or a more united and proactive performance horse community.

2. Aim of the Alliance

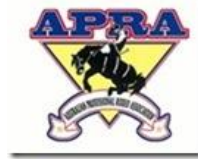
The Alliance aims to:

- Maintain communication and co-operation and enhance partnership opportunities between members of the Alliance.
- Clarify the roles and responsibilities to improve planning and collaboration between Alliance members in relation to the performance horse industry.
- Gain a greater awareness and understanding of the demographics of the performance horse industry and its subsequent economic impact.
- Address directed issues or business related matters of concern to industry members.
- Be at the forefront of policy formulation
- Become a Department of Primary Industry and Forestry stakeholder.

3. Purpose of the Alliance

The purpose of the Alliance is to strengthen the working relationship between all member bodies in their approach to the performance horse industry, by providing a process for the:

- Enhancement of collaborative and/or complimentary action in the support, development and growth of the performance horse industry.
- Articulation of the respective roles and responsibilities of Alliance members in relation to the performance horse industry.
- Identification of mutual priorities and the development and implementation of joint plans to address such roles and responsibilities where appropriate
- Co-ordination where possible of policy, planning, infrastructure and service provision as it impacts on the performance horse industry.
- Joint negotiation with the State and Federal Government, where necessary, on the implications of State or Federal Government equine policy within Queensland.



4. Role and responsibility of each party

Arabian Horse Association of Qld Inc.

To encourage and promote the breeding, showing and performance of Arabian and Derivative Arabian horses in Queensland, to hold and promote shows and exhibitions of Arabian and Arabian Derivative horses, to advertise, print and publish articles and magazines supporting the Arabian and Arabian Derivative horse and to establish harmonious relations with Societies, clubs and groups having similar objects and goals.

Australian Campdrafting Association

The Australians' Campdraft Association Inc. was formed in 1972 for the purpose of conducting campdrafts.

In general, since 1972, the objectives of the Association have been:

- To develop consistency and fairness in competition
- To make uniform rules and encourage consistency in their application
- To assist committees to successfully conduct campdraft events
- To actively assist in the growth of campdrafting, and to develop national recognition of the sport of campdrafting.

The ACA engages in activities which provide information to committees and members and potential members, printing a bi-monthly newsletter and maintaining its own website. The ACA keeps accurate records including financial records and high point standings, runs education programs for judges and new competitors, upholds the rules of campdrafting and holds regular meetings of the Management Committee. The ACA is a member of the National Campdraft Council.

The ACA takes pride in the achievements of its past champions, individuals and committees that have promoted the objectives of the ACA and recognises these achievements with its Roll of Honour.

Equestrian Queensland

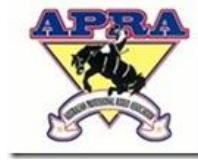
Equestrian Queensland is the peak horse sports organisation for Queensland. Approximately 3,300 individuals are currently members of EQ with additional 8,000 persons represented through 140 clubs/groups that are affiliated with the organisation.

Our Vision is:

That Equestrian Queensland be truly representative of equestrian and horse sports activities in Queensland for all interested persons and organisations and develop programs and services to support this vision.

Our Mission is:

To conduct, promote, develop, administer and regulate the participation in FEI/EA equestrian sports in Queensland for all interested persons and organisations and to affiliate with other bodies having an interest in the promotion of sport or recreation, equestrian or otherwise, or in horse sport activities.



Pony Club Association of Queensland Inc.

The Pony Club Association of Qld (PCAQ) is the State Governing Body for the 270 Pony Club organisations throughout Queensland.

Its combined direct membership is 12,000 members of all ages and it is affiliated with all other Pony Club Associations throughout Australia and the International Pony Club.

Pony Clubs are the incubators for riders in all Equestrian activities Commercial, Sporting and Recreational. Riders participate in activities from the introductory to the highest competition levels and have subscribed to a simple mission for the last 50 years, namely:

“TO ENCOURAGE YOUNG PEOPLE TO RIDE AND TO LEARN TO ENJOY ALL KINDS OF SPORT CONNECTED WITH HORSES AND RIDING.

TO PROVIDE INSTRUCTION IN RIDING AND HORSEMASTERSHIP AND TO INSTIL IN MEMBERS THE PROPER CARE OF THEIR ANIMALS.

TO PROMOTE THE HIGHEST IDEALS OF SPORTSMANSHIP, CITIZENSHIP AND LOYALTY, THEREBY CULTIVATING STRENGTH OF CHARACTER AND SELF-DISCIPLINE”

PCAQ and its Members are also proud of their support (with fundraising, technology and knowledge) of other organisations including the Riding for the Disabled Association of Queensland.

Polocrosse Association of Queensland Inc.

Polocrosse is an Australian Made – Internationally played sport. Queensland Polocrosse was formed in 1957, and has a State structure of 6 Zones, and 44 clubs representing some 3116 members.

Mission:

Develop the sport of Polocrosse throughout Queensland

Vision:

The vision of the Queensland Polocrosse Association is aligned with the national vision of the National body, the Polocrosse Association of Australia (PAA)

The Queensland Polocrosse Association Management, Coaches, Officials & Volunteers strive to provide quality service and personal achievement in all aspects of Polocrosse programs and operations

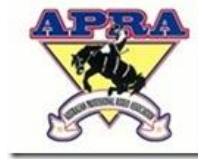
Purpose:

Our organisation exists to:

- * Provide programs in the areas of coaching, umpiring and athlete development to such a degree as to make the sport enjoyable, well run and safe for all participants and visitors
- * Retain the existing member base and attract new members of whatever colour, gender, race or disability who may wish to participate in the sport.

Queensland Endurance Riders Association

We have almost 800 members and will have 51 events scheduled for next year. Our National body the Australian Endurance Riders Association also affiliates with the EFA. Our mission statement is to promote and foster the highest ideals of sportsmanship and horsemanship and the spirit of endurance riding as embodied in the motto “to complete is to win”



South Queensland Management Council of The Australian Stock Horse Society Inc.

The Australian Stock Horse Society Limited was established in 1971, with the Head Office located at Scone NSW. There are currently approximately 9500 members Australia Wide. The SQMC represents in The Society at state level. There are 13 active branches within the South Queensland area, which represent around 3000 members.

Mission:

To maintain the heritage and to promote the bloodlines and high performance of the Australian Stock Horse among equestrian activities and the general public.

Aims:

- To preserve the heritage and identity of the Australian Stock Horse.
- To promote the development and popularity of Australian Stock Horses throughout Australia and the world.
- To maximise the benefits of owning a Registered Australian Stock Horse and being a Member of The Australian Stock Horse Society

Vision:

The Australian Stock Horse Society wants the Australian Stock Horse to have the highest profile of any breed of horse in Australia with worldwide recognition.

Riding for the Disabled Association of Qld (RDAQ)

RDAQ is the State Administrative and Coaching Regulatory body for regional RDA centres throughout Queensland, most of which are voluntary, non-funded and non-profit community groups.

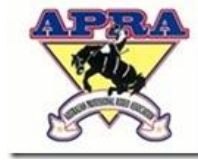
The purpose of RDAQ in Australia is to assist the large population of people with disabilities to access the benefits that can be accrued from contact with horses, participation in horse riding and involvement in physical activity, sport and therapeutic programs. There are 1000 riding members of RDAQ.

Our Vision:

Riding for Disabled is the first choice provider in sporting and therapeutic equestrian programs for people with disabilities and volunteers.

Our Mission:

RDAQ enables people with varying abilities and volunteers the opportunity to experience enjoyment and achieve personal goals through participation in sporting and therapeutic equestrian programmes in a safe and supportive environment, resulting in improved quality of life.



Australian Professional Rodeo Association

Formed in 1944 the Australian Professional Rodeo Association is the governing body of Professional Rodeo in Australia and a founding member of the International Federation of Professional Rodeo.

The objectives for which the Association was established are:

- *To encourage the development of all aspects of Professional Rodeo and represent the interest of the sport to Government and non Government bodies.
- *To provide a program of advice and assistance for members and stakeholders.
- *To support the efforts of professional rodeo in improving the standards and recognition of judges, officials and livestock providers and equipment.
- *To encourage participation in and access to professional rodeo for all those interested in the sport.

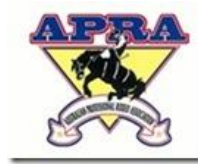
The role of the APRA is to administer Professional Rodeo, which includes maintaining rankings and records, ensuring compliance with all rules, standards and conditions and to offer support and advice to all members, contactors, committees and event organisers.

The APRA maintains a fully staffed office where entries are accepted for every APRA affiliated event throughout Australia. The APRA publishes a monthly magazine for over 1500 members and contacts and negotiates insurances on behalf of the Associations financial members and event organisers.

5. Mutual Interests of Alliance Members

The following represents the agreed interests of the Qld Horse Industry Alliance members:

- Raise awareness to the longer term benefits of a co-ordinated and unified approach to industry issues
- Ensure the equine community and relevant stakeholders are appropriately engaged in decision-making that impacts on the performance horse industry
- Promote the development and growth of the performance horse industry
- Maximise resources to ensure an effective, efficient and co-ordinated approach to the industry's development
- Identify, foster and promote economic outcomes for the performance horse industry and its impact within Queensland
- Maximise opportunities to promote equine industry good practice within the performance horse industry.



6. Implementation Agreement

Alliance members agree to progress the responsibilities and interests as outlined above and actively participate in the establishment and implementation of a formal mechanism to improve collaborative performance horse industry activity throughout Queensland by agreeing to:

- Communicate regularly and effectively on the progress/outcomes of the Alliance and other related activities
- Members of the Alliance will provide two (2) representatives from their respective member body to attend meetings or support a sub-committee where asked as the case maybe
- Conduct an annual meeting or other meetings where necessary to review issues of the previous year and examine forthcoming issues and their potential impact on the performance horse industry.

7. Review

The parties agree the Alliance will:

- Initially undertake a 6 month review of the progress and then an annual review and update of the Alliance
- Monitor the projects and initiatives that fall within the interests of the Alliance
- Report back to member bodies on the progress of the Alliance following all reviews as undertaken.