

VICTORIAN ENDURANCE RIDERS ASSOCIATION INC.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE VICTORIAN ENDURANCE RIDERS INC. STATE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD AT QUEST WINDSOR ON SUNDAY 20TH JULY COMMENCING AT 10.00AM

1. WELCOME

Linda welcomed all to the meeting. The attendees were greeted with the new VERA banners suspended from the 4th floor balcony. They will be a great asset to each Region trailer.

2. PRESENT

Linda Tanian, Jen Green, Lissy Verity, Sandy Horton, Carl Adamson, Adrian Cavil, Sheryl Home, Ellen Prestage, Luke Steele, Chris Gates, Jane McLaughlin

3. APOLOGIES

Simon Thomas, Debi Chisholm, Lorraine Cubbin, Rohan Stanes, Julie Woods

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

4.1 Adoption of minutes

Motion 0708 001 To accept the Minutes of the previous meeting on 20th June 2008.

Moved Jane McLaughlin

2nd Ellen Prestage

Carried

4.2 Business Arising – Action List

The action List was addressed item by item and each responsible person reported on their tasks.

Motion 0708 002 That obsolete VERA equipment be made available for sale by tender in the VERA newsletter.

Moved Chris Gates

2nd Jen Green

Carried

DISCUSSION MOVED IN CAMERA

In Camera session finalised and open meeting resumed.

5. RATIFICATION OF ON-LINE DECISIONS

5.1 Sending of letter to T. Brundenell re MV Eternal Flame

5.2 Contents of further letter to Tim Brundenell re MV Eternal Flame

5.3 Allowing Bib Sponsorship

5.4 Floral tribute for Lyn Bailey

5.5 Point Score Secretary to select laptop computer

Motion 0708 003 That the online decisions be ratified

Moved Jen Green

2nd Jane McLaughlin

Carried

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Motion 0708 003 That the Inwards and Outwards Correspondence be accepted
Moved Ellen Prestage
2nd Jane McLaughlin
Carried

7. REPORTS

7.1 President

Discussion regarding format, venue and date for the AGM and presentations took place with input regarding previously successful formats. It was agreed that holding the AGM on a Saturday morning with a presentation night/dinner function being held that evening has been a successful and well attended format and one that should be followed for the next AGM/Presentation.

As a result of the discussions, SMC members from different regions will source some details of venues, dates and costings and report back to the next meeting.

7.2 Treasurer

Sandy Horton expanded on VERA's current financial position. Discussion also took place regarding investing reserves for the betterment of the sport.

Motion 0708 004 That \$10,000 be moved to a fixed deposit account.
Moved Sandy Horton
2nd Carl Adamson
Carried

Motion 0708 005 That the Treasurer's reports be accepted.
Moved Sandy Horton
2nd Ellen Prestage
Carried

The issue of half yearly memberships was raised again due to feedback from some members. Costs to VERA of insurance and affiliation fees make this counter productive.

7.6 Calender Co-ordinator

Julie reports that 2009 RO's need to have applications in by end of August 2008. Jen will do a website and newsletter alert. Julie also reports she is happy to take over the TPR coordinator role and has been slowly updating the records of VERA's TPR's.

7.7 Newsletter Editor

Katrina Westerhoff and Wendy Bootle are doing a 'run through' together on this edition to ensure Katrina will be happy to take over the role entirely.

7.9 Zones

Minutes from the GERZ Meeting held June 2008 were tabled and Ellen Prestage reported the Zone is flourishing with many rides this year.

7.10 AERA

Sandy Horton has compiled a report on VERA's year to date for the AERA meeting on 27th August 2008.

The AERA meeting agenda was reviewed. Discussion ensued regarding EFA Affiliation. The agreement has been signed so AERA will be affiliates with the EFA now. This will bring Endurance in line with other non Olympic disciplines such as Reining, Carriage Driving and Vaulting. Discussion also took place regarding costs and benefits. Our delegates will ask AERA to make some more information available to the general membership.

SAERA have made some suggestions for revision of the Quilty Agreement.

Discussion was held on upgrading the Pointscore data base onto VERA computers and Ian Blucher's involvement with the programme. Linda will discuss this with Ian. Linda will also discuss this with the AERA delegates further as she has some concerns.

The motions on notice for the meeting were discussed in depth and the SMC directed the AERA Delegates to vote "Yes" to the following motions:

- Age of Junior Riders being raised to 18 years.
- Removal of Omeprazole from Prohibited Substances list
- Addition of Body Scoring to logbooks

Delegates were directed to vote "No" to the following motions:

- Compulsory microchipping and that it be performed 6 days prior to an event if a prohibited substance is used in the procedure.
- Adjustment to training ride non novice minimum times.
- Delegates were also instructed to vote for an amendment to the proposal regarding EWS points so that the EWS points can apply to day riders

7.11 VERA Webmaster

Linda Tanian has compiled a Website Upgrade description which will be publicised calling for expressions of interest.

7.12 2009 Tom Quilty Committee

Linda has queried the requirement for the VERA President to sign the agreement and the legal relationship between VERA and AERA but has signed regardless.

Lissy reported verbally on the progress of the Quilty including showing one of the new Jackets that will be available as part of their merchandise range.

The present focus is on the Quilty 'Pre Ride' being the Tonimbuk ride on August 9th. Preparations have been comprehensive and indicate huge involvement from various individuals and groups, ensuring a quality event.

7.13 Ride Reports

As tabled.

8. GENERAL BUSINESS

8.1 Tom Quilty (Nanango) Teams

Sandy Horton is attending the 2008 Tom Quilty and can arrange a team should enough Victorians be attending. The committee believe Sandy is more than capable of selecting the team.

Motion 0708 006 That Sandy Horton be authorised to select the Victorian Quilty team and pay for team entry at the 2008 Tom Quilty.

Moved Jane McLaughlin

2nd Adrian Cavin

Carried

8.2 Candidates for Discounted Membership

The following candidates were put forward: Maitland Wallace, Bronny Cuthbertson, Phil Garner. Linda will advise these candidates of their successful nomination.

8.3 Training Seminar

The Training Seminar was discussed in detail including likely schedule of events, guest speakers, catering and entry fees. Discussion also took place regarding a budget and costings for trophies, expenses and publicity. The SMC is prepared to spend several thousand dollars to ensure a quality event that will attract much needed new members. Jen Green was approved to spend \$400 on advertising and publicity. There is a slight doubt regarding the venue and date which will be clarified by Jane McLaughlin.

8.4 Lifetime Distances

AERA have responded regarding Junior lifetime accrual of points/distance as opposed to National Points/ Distance awards. Lifetime awards attract distances.

Motion 0708 007 That VERA lifetime distance will accrue for horses ridden by Juniors in FEI rides.

Moved Carl Adamson

2nd Luke Steele

Carried

8.5 VERA Merchandise

It was agreed that VERA is in need of a fresh image supported by new merchandise. Jen Green will source suitable suppliers and report back to the next meeting.

8.6 Honorariums

Discussion took place regarding the sometimes considerable outgoing expenses incurred by SMC members. It was agreed that reasonable expenses can be reimbursed on provision of suitable receipts/paperwork.

Motion 0708 008 That the VERA Secretary be reimbursed for an email connection for the VERA Secretary Laptop.

Moved Jen Green

2nd Sandy Horton

Carried

8.7 Position Descriptions

To assist each SMC member in his/her role, both now and for future Committees, it was agreed that position descriptions need to be updated. Each person with a specific role is to provide a position description to be tabled at the next meeting.

8.8 Drug Testing

Lissy is following up on this important task with Derek Armitage and will provide feedback at the next meeting.

8.9 State of Origin Competition

South Australia are eager to commence this competition and their recent report and suggestions were tabled for consideration.

8.10 Adoption of Newsletter guidelines

Motion 0708 011 That the newsletter guidelines be adopted.

Moved Luke Steele

2nd Sheryl Herbrt

Carried

8.11 Adoption of Rider Bib Policy

Motion 0708 0012 That the rider bib policy and supporting documentation be adopted and submitted to the newsletter for member comment.

Moved Ellen Prestage

2nd Jen Green

Carried

8.12 Website Upgrade

Motion 0708 0013 That a notice calling for Expressions of Interest for the VERA website upgrade be published in the newsletter.

Moved Ellen Prestage

2nd Cal Adamson

Carried

8.13 Ride Calendar Policy

Sandy has developed and distributed a comprehensive draft policy. Due to time constraints further discussion will be scheduled for next meeting.

8.14 Committee positions

Sandy Little has indicated verbally that he is no longer able to fulfil his role on the VERA SMC. Jen will write to Sandy requesting a letter stating same and thanking him for his past contribution.

9. NEXT MEETING

31 August 2008 commencing at 10.00 a.m.

10. MEETING CLOSURE 4.25pm