

**VICTORIAN ENDURANCE RIDERS ASSOCIATION INC A0008959W  
("VERA")  
MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF MEMBERS**

**DATE:** Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2008  
**TIME:** Commenced at 12.05 p.m.  
**VENUE:** Yarragon Catholic Church Hall, Shady Creek Road, Yarragon

### **1. Welcome**

Sandy Little, introduced himself as chair of the meeting as the only remaining member of the executive of the State Management Committee. He welcomed everyone and thanked them for the large number that had chosen to attend.

### **2. Present**

See attached attendance register

Apologies;- M. Broom, K. Armistead, S. Court, J. Osboldstone, M. Oakley, C. Morris, D. Woods, S. Herbert, L. Sharam, L. Riley, J. Carland, M. Heim

Motion that apologies accepted

Proposed by S. Horton Seconded L. Tanian Carried

### **3. Previous Minutes**

Motion that the minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on the 13<sup>th</sup> January 2007 were accepted

Proposed by M. Hughes Seconded B. Punicki Carried

Sandy Little referred to two items of business from the previous AGM:

(a) Sandy had been a Chief Steward where early presentation to vet ring under standard vetting had been trialed. Sandy believed that most riders were happier with the option to present early and he expected it would be adopted under the national rules.

(b) The AERA national newsletter was not supported at previous AGM. It appears that each State will continue with their own newsletter at this stage and the national newsletter was "dead in the water".

### **4. Reports**

#### TREASURERS REPORT

Sandy Little tabled his report which he said was self explanatory. VERA has \$55,000 in funds. Sandy thanked Monica Heim who has handled all the bookwork for VERA during 2007 even though not on the SMC.

VERA purchased 3 computers at a good price. Each is loaded with basic ride data programme but need to be loaded with updated programme. Old computers were unable to run updated ride programme.

Motion that VERA receive and accept the Treasurer's Report, the Profit and Loss Account and Balance Sheet for the 2007 year

Proposed by S. Little Seconded J. Gauci Carried

#### ACTING CHAIRPERSON REPORT

Sandy Little recognized it was a departure from standard protocol for him to present the report as Acting Chairperson. He then read his report.

Motion that Acting Chairperson's Report be received  
Proposed by S. Little Seconded: E. Prestage Carried

## **5. Election**

Sandy handed the meeting over to Mary Hughes as returning officer for the election. She explained that each candidate would have up to 2 minutes to make a presentation to the meeting and that candidate's names would be drawn from a hat for the order of presenting.

As there was only one nomination for Treasurer and Sandy Little was standing down as Treasurer, Sandy Horton automatically appointed as Treasurer.

Sandy Horton then withdrew his nomination for President.

Each of the remaining candidates presented to the meeting.

Motion that the election of the executive is conducted and the outcome made known before the election of ordinary members is conducted

Proposed by A. Salter Seconded L. Verity Carried

### **5.1 Outcome of Election for the Executive Officers**

- President  
Linda Tanian elected; 55 votes  
Tony Thorneycroft; 27 votes
- Vice President  
Chris Gates elected; 43 votes  
Lorraine Cubbin; 41 votes
- Secretary  
Jen Green elected; 50 votes  
Pauline Wallace; 32 votes

### **5.2 Election of ordinary members of State Management Committee**

Confirmed that there were 7 vacancies on the committee. Ballots collected.

#### **Tonimbuk Tom Quilty Gold Cup Report**

While the ballots were counted, Sandy Little discussed the Tonimbuk Tom Quilty. AERA at its last meeting in November 2007 agreed to defer all States Quilty for 1 year in response to the uncertainties created by outbreak of EI. The Tonimbuk Tom Quilty Gold Cup is therefore postponed from 2008 until 2009. The decision was based on the information available at that time in the interests of all Australian endurance riders taking into account the issues such as quarantine requirements, time for horses to recover from EI, number of infected horses, time for riders & horses to qualify. The Tonimbuk committee did not want to run a Victoria only Quilty and agreed to defer in the interests of maintaining the Quilty as a prestigious event open to all Australian endurance riders. The Tonimbuk committee is disappointed with the talk of a proposal from Queensland to conduct a "no frills" Tom Quilty as it considers it inconsistent with the profile of the Tom Quilty Gold Cup and Australia's National Endurance Championship.

The Tonimbuk committee thanks Cardinia Shire for its continuing vital support for the Tonimbuk Tom Quilty Gold Cup and Victorian endurance.

#### **Heather Saunders Update**

Sandy Little related the history of Heather's heart attack at the Glendhu ride. We are all grateful that Heather survived. Heather wanted to thank all that helped her on that day, including Bronwyn Cuthbertson and Vanessa Smith for their role in helping Heather survive a very narrow escape.

AGM adjourned at 13.35 for a short recess. Meeting Resumed at 14.11

Mary read the list for first 6 places: Carl Adamson, Debi Chisholm, Luke Steele, Sandy Little, Lissy Verity, Adrian Cavill. Members were then asked to vote for either Julie Woods or Rohan Stanes. Julie Woods was elected to the position of ordinary member as a result of a secret ballot.  
Motion that Mary Hughes, Wendy Bootle and Jo Brock all be thanked for all their work in preparing for and conducting the election  
Proposed by A. Cavill Seconded D. Chisholm Carried

## 6. SPECIAL RESOLUTION

Linda Tanian as the elected President assumed the Chair. She read the Motion relating to increase the age of Junior members from sixteen years to eighteen years, within the Constitution, as listed on the agenda:

**Special Resolution that, effective from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009, Rule 8.3(a) and Rule 8.6 of the Victorian Endurance Riders Association A0008959W Constitution (Rules, Statement of Purposes) is altered by deleting “sixteen” wherever appearing and substituting “eighteen”.**

Jane McLaughlin explained that a VERA SMC proposal that the age limit, within the Member Rules, for Juniors be increased from 16 to 18 years had been presented to November 2007 AERA meeting. The proposal was accepted by AERA and each State was requested to amend their constitution to be consistent with proposed change to national rules. The change in national rules will require a second vote and not be effective until 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009. The overwhelming majority were in favour of the Special Resolution.

## 7. Other business

Debi Chisholm advised the intention of NCER Inc to conduct 2 x 80km and 4 x 40km rides at Easter at Rosedale and sought approval for that ride. This was proposed as a replacement due to ill health of one of the Toongabbie Ride organisers. Linda stated that it was the consensus of the meeting that the proposed ride had support from members at the meeting.

There was discussion of EI and the attitude to commencement of rides, bio-security and the lifting of restrictions by DPI.

### **Election of Appeal Committee; Five Members require election under Rule 13.7(a) of VERA's Constitution**

Motion that J. Moncur be elected  
Proposed by D. Chisholm Seconded J. De Groot Carried  
Motion that M. Hughes be elected  
Proposed by B. Rayner Mason Seconded S. Horton Carried  
Motion that K. McGaffin be elected  
Proposed by C. Gates Seconded L. Verity Carried  
Motion that B. Rayner Mason be elected  
Proposed by J. Moncur Seconded E. Prestage Carried  
Motion that S. Poon be elected  
Proposed by J. Green Seconded E. Prestage Carried

There being no further nominations, these people were appointed to the Appeal Committee.

Kelly Jol tabled a submission regarding bio-security from ride organizers for the consideration of the SMC.

Linda thanked Sandy Little and Jane McLaughlin for their assistance with running the AGM.

Meeting Closed at 15.05.