



Australian Endurance Riders Association Inc

AERA Accreditation Procedure for Veterinarians

This document details the process for Veterinarians to achieve and maintain accreditation as an “Accredited AERA Endurance Veterinarian” (hereinafter “Accredited Vet”).

The sport of endurance riding is becoming more professional, the pace of riding increasing and the level of competition is intensifying. To ensure that horse welfare always remains the highest priority, a system of accreditation for veterinarians officiating at endurance rides was introduced. This accreditation process ensures that veterinarians acquire the requisite level of skills and knowledge required to ensure that horse welfare is not compromised at an endurance ride.

The rules of the sport require that the Head Veterinarian must be an Accredited Vet and where possible, all other attending veterinarians should be an Accredited Vet.

HONORARY STATE VETERINARY PANELS (SVP)

All State Associations shall maintain a SVP comprising of a minimum of one Accredited Vet. The precise role and activities of the SVP is dictated by the Terms of Reference issued by the respective State Association, however, generally the SVP should (when appropriate) consult with the State Association on veterinary matters.

HONORARY NATIONAL VETERINARY PANEL (NVP)

The AERA shall maintain a NVP comprising a member from each SVP having been nominated by their respective SVP. The NVP shall be chaired by a member of the NVP in a manner determined by the members of the NVP. The role of the NVP is determined by the Terms of Reference provided by the AERA, however, generally the NVP should (when appropriate) consult with the AERA on veterinary matters.

ACCREDITATION REQUIREMENTS

To become an Accredited Vet, the veterinarian must be nominated to the AERA by a State Association. The State Association may nominate veterinarians who satisfy the following criteria:

- a) The veterinarian must be registered with a Veterinary Board in a State or Territory in the Commonwealth of Australia, and
- b) The veterinarian must have participated in an AERA Endurance Veterinarian Presentation in a manner and format approved by the NVP and sanctioned by the AERA within the preceding 24 months, and
- c) i) For a veterinarian with at least 2 years’ experience in practice since graduation, the veterinarian must have been a member of the veterinary team at a minimum of 3 Endurance rides in the preceding 24 months, or

ii) For a veterinarian with less than 2 years' experience in practice since graduation, the veterinarian must have been a member of the veterinary team at a minimum of 4 Endurance rides in the preceding 24 months.

If a veterinarian does not fulfil the requirements of (a) to (c) above, but a strong case exists for them to become an Accredited Vet, the State Association may nominate the veterinarian by providing a resume of the veterinarians experience and expertise, including references from Ride Organisers, Chief Stewards and other Accredited Vets or relevant parties. This may be appropriate for veterinarians with applicable overseas experience.

MAINTENANCE OF ACCREDITATION

To maintain accreditation, the veterinarian is required to:

- a) Be a member of the veterinary team at a minimum of one Endurance ride every 36 months, and
- b) Maintain registration with a Veterinary Board in a State or Territory in the Commonwealth of Australia

WITHDRAWAL OF ACCREDITATION

A veterinarian may:

- a) Resign their accreditation.
- b) Have their accreditation withdrawn if they fail to satisfy (a) above.
- c) Have their accreditation withdrawn if a complaint is lodged against the veterinarian and after the application of natural justice, due process and an investigation by the AERA or a State Association, the nature of the complaint warrants the withdrawal of the accreditation.

A veterinarian shall have their accreditation withdrawn if they fail to maintain registration a Veterinary Board in a State or Territory in the Commonwealth of Australia.

LIST OF AERA ACCREDITED VETS

The AERA and each State Association shall maintain a publicly available list of AERA Accredited Vets which are to be reviewed and updated annually.

- NVP are happy with the document.

Motion 2015/7/09. That the above document is accepted. Moved: Pat Hodgetts/Simon Bain. Carried.