



Australian Endurance Riders Association Inc.

Minutes of the AERA Management Committee Meeting

Date: Commencing at 6.00 pm AEDT on Wednesday 26 October 2022.

Venue: Webinar – meeting recorded

1. Attendees

Mark Dunn (President) (TEERA); Kim Moir (Secretary) (QERA); Dick Collyer (Vice President) (QERA); Belinda Hopley (NSWERA); Noni Seagrim (NSWERA); Jil Bourton (SAERA).

2. Apologies

Natasha Ellery (WAERA)

3. Proxy Votes

Paul Nugent as proxy for Sandy Little

4. Purpose of Meeting

This meeting was called to discuss issues relating to the hosting of TQ23.

5. Correspondence Received

25 October 2022 VERA

Correspondence received from Paul Nugent, VERA President to advise that they were unable to host TQ23 and were relinquishing their place on the schedule.

Motion: 2022/10/25-1 Moved; Dick Collyer / Belinda Hopley

That the correspondence from VERA advising that they were relinquishing the hosting of TQ23 is received

Paul Nugent noted that members in Victoria are devastated that they have not been able to host TQ in their State.

Carried unanimously

Business Arising from Correspondence

Discussion points

Process to move forward and that this needs to be done as soon as possible, given the timeframe now available to nay host committee.

Actions

1. Advice via Facebook to advise members that -

AERA has received correspondence from Victorian Endurance Riders Association that they are unable to form a committee to host Tom Quilty Gold Cup 2023. The AERA Management Committee extends its thanks to the VERA Management Committee and to VERA members for their consideration of this task and the effort that many have put into endeavouring to make this happen.

AERA will be sending correspondence to Division Associations to invite Expressions of Interest to host TQ23 and will advise on the date and location of TQ23 once all offers have been received and considered.

2. Correspondence to DAs to call for EOIs

AERA has received correspondence from Victorian Endurance Riders Association that they are unable to form a committee to host Tom Quilty Gold Cup 2023. The AERA Management Committee extends

its thanks to the VERA Management Committee and to VERA members for their consideration of this task and the effort that many have put into endeavouring to make this happen.

The AERA Management Committee is aware of the work involved in hosting a Tom Quilty Gold Cup event and aware that an invitation to host this event is usually sent out 3 years before the year when the event is to be hosted.

AERA invites all Division Associations to forward an Expression of Interest to AERA by 7 November 2022 with a recommendation of a Ride Organising Committee who is considered able to host TQ23. The EOI should include:

- Committee members who will fill key positions and who, as a team, have the skills and experience required to run this event;
- Recommendations for Head Vet, Treatment Vet, On-course Vet and Chief Steward, preferably from the host DA. **Note that the Assistant Head Vet and Assistant Chief Steward should be appointed to officiate at South Australia, in October 2024.**
- Identification of off-site equine referral options;
- Proposed date of event;
- Proposed venue with advice on facilities, infrastructure, and access to local services;
- Consideration that has already been given to a Risk Management Plan with specific information about Biosecurity requirements
- Basic information that will contribute to the development of a budget to include known costs.
- Advice on whether hosting TQ23 will affect the TQ event already scheduled for your DA.

3. Process for selection of successful candidate

DAs to receive bids by 7th November and forward to AERA with their recommendation that a committee and proposal is supported by the DA. Again timeline is short but doable.

AERA MC to then meet on Thursday 10th and would aim to provide an outcome by next day unless there is more advice required.

Motion: 2022/25/10-2 Moved: Dick Collyer / Belinda Hopley

That we invite all DAs to forwards Expressions of Interest to host TQ23 to AERA by 7 November as per the agenda.

Carried unanimously

6. How does this affect scheduling of future Tom Quilty events

PN advised that he did not think that VERA would be able to offer anything for TQ24 but may be able to pull something together by 2025. What has happened this year has caused shock among members. VERA has lots of riders but few who are willing to organise rides. Acknowledged that Sioux Reid put a great effort in to thinking about how to offer an alternative option.

Resolved that consideration of the future schedule may depend on where TQ23 does happen and to decide on this at the next AERA Meeting. The call for EOI to include that DAs provide advice on how hosting TQ23 may affect the next scheduled event.

Concerns expressed included –

- Not wanting to exclude VERA from the cycle
- Need to ensure that the requirements of the Event Standard are considered in any change to scheduling
- TQ23 may be a bonus year for that host DA and this may happen again
- The scheduling was to support members having access to a Quilty and was aimed at inclusivity
- Cycle has been there since 1986 but we may be entering a period of change
- Concern that the expectations of what a Quilty should be makes it harder for smaller member DAs

- Opportunity for a 6-year cycle of sponsorship may assist
- Stats show that on average 13% of the membership have attended a Quilty

7. Other business

7.1. Response to TQ22 re use of surplus funds

The final report from TQ22 noted that there had been a surplus from the event and that they will give \$25,000 to the Tooraweenah Show Grounds. In discussions about this prior to signing the agreement AERA was advised that the TQ22 committee would contribute to the purchase of a PA System, costing \$21,000 along with other community groups.

Resolved that the MC Members were generally disappointed with this outcome, acknowledging that the event had been well supported by the community, and that no funds had been given to NSW ERA by way of paying back the seed funding or by payment of affiliation fees. AERA has also given further support by charging no fee for use of the Online Nomination System.

There was concern that in raising this matter, we may cause some negative reaction from members of the TQ22 Committee.

Motion: 22/10/26-3 Moved: Dick Collyer / Kim Moir
That AERA write to TQ22 noting disappointment about use of surplus funds.
Carried unanimously

8. Sponsorship option

In August there was a message from Al Maghaweer Stables, who have been in discussion with us about use of the Mindari app. They were offering sponsorship to AERA for the hosting of TQ23 and this was discussed at the September meeting and members were to consider this in line with ensuring that there is no concern about accepting funds from this group.

Noted that sponsorship is generally done by the host committee but this is being discussed as something that AERA will be looking to take some part in. This level of funding should come to AERA to be disseminated to the host committee and used for general support of the sport.

Resolved to write to them to formalise the offer and seek to understand what they would expect for this level of funding.

Noted that there have been concerned previously about accepting funds from UAE stables

Action

Letter to be sent to members for review.

9. Meeting Closure

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 6.43 pm AED

President: Mark Dunn

Signature:  _____

Date: 30/11/22 _____