



# Australian Endurance Riders Association Inc.

## Minutes of Subsidiary Agenda for 17 September 2023

These items were received after the cut off time for inclusion in the main agenda for the AERA Management Committee Meeting.

Meeting commenced at 14.40.

### 1. Correspondence – late

Inwards			Action
LI-1	08/09/23	EA re AAF	
LI-2	10/09/23	VERA Member re information on AERASpace	Reply and FWD to VERA Registrar
LI-3	11/09/23	TQ24 Minutes of Meetings x 6	Agenda
LI-4	12/09/23	NSWERA appointment of Wayne Hegarty to AERA MC	Noted
LI-5		Gow Gates re Insurance	In discussion
LI-6	13/09/23	QERA re Hall of Fame nominations	Fwd to Registrar
Outwards			Author
LO1	08/09/23	NSW ERA Registrar response to query re merging horse records	KM
LO2	13/09/23	EA – results of QERA swabbing	KM
		ARFL re management of swabbing results noting QERA	KM
		ARFL re extension of time for AAF result B Sample	KM

**Motion: 2023/09/Sub1 Moved: Dick Collyer / Jil Bourton**

**That the Late Correspondence Inwards is received, and the Late Correspondence Outwards is endorsed.**

### 2. Business arising from Late Correspondence

#### 2.1. LI-1 EA re Adverse Analytical Finding

Noted that two positive swabs have been reported to AERA and are being reviewed by AERA Review Panel. It was noted that the AERA Review Panel would be made up of Mark Dunn, Pat Hodgetts and Jil Bourton due to perceived conflict of interest for Dick Collyer who was Chief Steward at the event.

#### 2.2. LI-3 TQ24 Minutes of Meetings

Meeting minutes had been received from six meetings and various points were put forward for discussion. The TQ24 Committee had been invited to have someone attend the meeting but no-one was available.

##### Discussion

AERA Representative to the TQ24 committee – Sioux Reid appointed, and Tom McCormack was previously appointed as AERA Advisor.

Buckles – price to be determined and advised to the TQ24 Committee to allow them to present a more relevant budget. Noted that the budget should reflect a realistic completion rate so the overall impact on budget of cost of buckles is not 100% of the cost per entry. AERA MC to determine cost of buckles to TQ24 once cost has been advised to AERA by Gerard Bou.

TQ Book – the historical data to be included in the TQ Book is being discussed at DA level and responses should be available for the next meeting. AERA contributes to the cost of the TQ Book proportional to the number of pages taken up by historical data. There was consensus that the book would remain as hardcopy and advice has been provided to the Committee that AERA has procured a licence to produce this in digital format as well, if they wish to do both types. Discussions about the benefits of having the same publisher

over several years to provide consistency and possible financial benefit but also acknowledge that local contacts are relevant to the current model of the event occurring in different states.

Test Event – the test event should replicate as near as possible to what will happen at the TQ event but acknowledge that the Committee knows what they are doing. There is a scheduled start of 2.00 am and this was thought to be because this is not a holiday weekend and also that as the State Champs it may be a reasonably fast event. Noted also that there have been occasions when a TQ has started at a time other than midnight generally due to weather.

Tevis model – there had been discussion minuted about the option of a completion buckle being paid for by those who complete and want a buckle. This was considered by AERA MC as not in keeping with the traditions of the Quilty.

Other matters still to be addressed –

- Biosecurity Plan to be requested.
- Treatment Vet to be confirmed.
- Course – some concerns noted in the minutes relating to access through private property to be clarified and also for vehicular access and therefore rescue float access.

Committee as extracted from Minutes.

Committee

Event Director	Tom Mc Cormack
Course Director	Mel Scott
Ride Base Director	Murray Peal Littles? Tania
Admin and Vols	Drever
Secretary	Amanda Penney
Risk Management	Tom Mc Cormack
Sponsorship	Mel Bright
Trade Stalls	
Catering	
Merchandise	Jess and Lyn
Media & Publicity	Mel Bright
Functions and Activities	Ieva Peters
Treasurer	Samayne Uren
SAERA	Lisa Brown
SAERA	Paula Van Eck

#### Action

Letter to the TQ24 Committee highlighting discussions points as above and invite someone from their committee to attend the next meeting.

### **3. Reports – late or addendum**

#### **3.1. NSW ERA Report – Annette Bailey**

Organisation of the State Championships at Willowvale on 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> November is in progress. We will be dual affiliating with Qld & Victoria for this event. Offering a stand-alone 80km event, plus an opportunity to retire at the 120km mark or continue on to complete 160km, will provide riders with lots of opportunity to participate.

Successful events have been run at Johns River, dual affiliation with the Eldorado ride after the cancellation of Mogendura due to low entry numbers, Currowan and the running of the Zone 2 championships at Woodstock with great attendance have been very positive events. There are four rides leading up to the State Champs – Watagan, Wiangaree, National Capital Ride and Mudgee.

Half price membership for Intermediate and Full membership has been a successful campaign with over 50 new members utilising the discount. Hopefully this will translate into the new members renewing for 2024.

Activation of an NSW Endurance Riders Assoc account with Sport of NSW to redeem Active Kids vouchers has been a process but has finally been successful. This means that we can now redeem the \$100 vouchers taken in good faith against junior membership fees. Next year's voucher scheme has not been announced by the Office of Sport. However, if implemented it will be to the value of \$50 per voucher, which will still provide promotional opportunity for junior members.

Thanks to the good work of our Promotions portfolio, Endurance NSW is now affiliated with Pony Club Australia as a Discipline of the Month. We will be working with PCA to reintroduce Endurance Riding as Certificate requirement and to provide educational input for pony club members.

Costs of running rides continue to be a very big problem for ride organisers and we are considering ways we can reduce affiliation costs. In this respect, AERA needs to be very mindful of increasing any fees that lead to flow on effects for DAs and their ride organisers.

Lastly, as you are all aware, Sarah Pollard-Williams has had to step down as AERA Management Committee Representative due to health reasons. She remains on the Endurance NSW SMC in a limited capacity. We wish her all our best wishes for her speedy recovery. Her replacement as Casual MC Representative is Wayne Hegarty who has been in the sport for many years and brings with him a wealth of experience and knowledge of the sport.

#### Discussion

Note that dual affiliation with Victoria has not happened.

#### ***Report received.***

### **3.2. Governance – report from Kerry Fowler-Smith re Constitution**

#### *Sub 3.2 Constitution Review*

I have checked the AERA constitution for whether it addresses all the matters in the Associations Incorporation Act (NSW) as in schedule 1 of the Act.

The attached file indicates which clauses of the constitution cover the sections of the schedule. My view is that all the matters are addressed.

But... whether AERA wishes to review the ongoing appropriateness of how the matters are addressed is a discussion point for AERA. Personally, I think this is worthwhile now that the constitution is a few years old. This could be delegated to a subcommittee similar to the one we had to write the constitution; the current governance committee could undertake this job if willing. I think it's very worthwhile having involvement by people originally involved in writing the document because they have prior knowledge and understanding of how it was drafted and why.

#### Discussion

Recommendation from Kerry is that the AERA Constitution addresses the recent changes. Kerry noted that there is a process to be implemented for electronic voting which is not what happens in the AERA Meetings.

Kerry has also suggested that we review the AERA Constitution to get to a draft to be then checked by a lawyer.

#### Action

Refer to governance sub-committee requesting that they review the Constitution, noting that any DA may propose a change to the Constitution.

### **3.3. AERA Awards – report from Kerry Fowler-Smith**

As you're aware, I arranged for all the 2022 national awards, Quilty teams and Pat Slater Cup and current lifetime distance awards to be sourced and delivered to Kim. I trust this all worked out ok and the recipients liked their prizes. If the AERA would like me to, I'm willing to arrange the awards next year. Next year will be easier and slightly cheaper given that the Quilty and our suppliers are in SA.

I was more than disappointed to hear that one of the 2022 awards wasn't presented. I would like to know why there was any question about this result, given EADCM Rule 10.1. My interest in this, is that I was the person who contacted the winner of this award ( as advised to me) and I am embarrassed that the award wasn't presented as I and the recipient were advised would happen.

#### **Discussion**

MD acknowledged the work done by Kerry in organising all awards to be available for presentation at TQ23 and thanked her for her commitment to taking on this task for 2024.

With reference to an award not being presented, MD noted that this was due to correspondence from a lawyer with reference to an ongoing AAF matter. This correspondence was received on the afternoon of the AERA Awards. The young person who was to have received the award was advised that the presentation was on hold.

#### **4. General Business**

TQ Advisory Committee – Belinda Hopley had suggested that the TQ Advisory Committee should include some younger people to build knowledge. KM – this is not a group who meet but are available individually to advise anyone about the Quilty. DC noted that all the information is in the manual.

Pat noted that there has been confusion over the various roles.

The TQ Advisory Committee is made up of individuals – the “Oldies” who have been there, done that. They may be approached individual as general background people.

The AERA Representative to the committee is an official appointment to that committee to report back to AERA and may not require an AERA Advisor. This person may be a nominee and not necessarily a member of the DA Management Committee.

MD – there is a general need for younger people to be involved in all aspects of the sport.

AERA Award not presented – AM raised the question about where are we at with this matter and stated that it is not acceptable that this goes on indefinitely. MD responded that the legal representatives have adopted a particular strategy and things are progressing.

KM referred the rules that would support NSWERA to bring on a Hearing and present the parties with a timeframe within which they should be available to attend a Hearing Panel. At this time, no information has been presented by the parties for consideration by the Hearing Panel.

#### **Action**

AERA to write to NSWERA noting AERA's concern about the lack of progress and would encourage NSW ERA to bring on the Hearing Panel.

#### **5. Meeting Closure**

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 3.25 pm.

MD thanked everyone for their attendance and contribution to discussions.

**President: Mark Dunn**

Signature:  \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 2/12/2023