



MINUTES

WASBA Committee Meeting Wednesday 24 April 2024
By teleconference

Meeting declared open at 6.03pm on 24 April 2024 by Chair J Diederich (President)

In Attendance (by teleconference)

J Diederich (Chair),
J Fletcher, J Schaper, H King, P Borg, M Holtham.

Apologies

P McAllister
W Morrison

2 Confirmation of Minutes

Moved J Schaper **Seconded** M Holtham that the minutes of the meeting held 27 March 2024, having been previously circulated to members of the Committee, are accepted (**Carried**).

3 Business Arising from the Minutes

1 Standing Item - Membership

1.1 - New Members

There were no new members.

1.2 – Reconciliation of membership

Ongoing. Membership is healthy but we will continue to follow up unfinancial members for payment. **Action: J Diederich.**

2 Standing Item – Industry Sponsorship

2.1 – Additional WASBA race sponsorship opportunities

J Diederich reported that little progress had been made. Narrogin is aware that advice is required before the end of April to enable timely ordering of presentation items for June.

There has also been little progress with Albany, but this is less time sensitive due to their racing season being December to February with December being the target month.

WASBA will be providing \$3,000 towards stakes for each of the two races, as well as the rug, trophy and garland.

J Diederich to liaise with Narrogin **Action: J Diederich**

P McAllister to discuss options with the Albany Club **Action: P McAllister**

2.2 – Busselton Sweetheart Series (final race 19 January 2024)

H King to follow up remaining winner..... **Action: H King**

2.3 – Race For Roses (5 April 2024)

J Diederich reported that the on-track presentation was disappointing due to the driver not remaining on the track for the parade **Action: Completed**

J Diederich noted that it will be necessary in the future for the driver to be available for a parade with the horse, outside of exceptional circumstances, if a rug and/or garland is being provided. WASBA will retain the garland for later use if the parade does not occur.

2.4 – WASBA King-Lethbridge at Pinjarra (22 April)

J Diederich reported that the support from the Pinjarra Club through Dale Putland and Barry Warwick was brilliant, including their participation in the awarding of Life Membership to Ed Dewar. Ed Dewar was very appreciative of the award and the invitation

to attend with his guests **Action: Completed**

2.5 – WASBA Breeders Stakes (3 May 2024)

J Diederich reported that all sponsors have been contacted. One sponsor declined.

J Diederich noted that it was very important for Committee members to support the Horse Sponsorship to assist with the fundraising **Action: Committee**

Horse sponsorships to be arranged with F McCaffery at Gloucester Park. Sponsor material to be provided to the race caller and RWWA **Action: J Diederich**

J Diederich has requested a hospitality package from Gloucester Park in Steelos, due to the success of the occasion last year. A response is expected soon ... **Action: J Diederich**

2.6 – 2024 Harry Capararo 4YO/5YO Westbred Mares (10 May 2024)

J Diederich reported that Peter Capararo has sent his apologies as the family will be overseas at the time. A trophy will be presented on track.

Committee attendance is requested **Action: Committee**

2.7 – \$50,000 Kerry Clarke Mares (21 June 2024)

J Diederich advised a trophy, rug and garland will be presented, with the rug yet to be ordered. Gloucester Park has approved a full presentation if some connections are available for the presentation..... **Action: J Diederich**

2.8 – \$30,000 Country Oaks

J Diederich reported that the changes agreed with Harness Manager Special Projects C Brown will not go ahead as it is apparent that those agreed changes – a golden ticket and a race date two weeks before the WA Oaks – had not been communicated to staff before the feature race program for August to December was released. C Brown subsequently advised that it was not possible to make those changes this year. J Diederich advised that WASBA will still seek a golden ticket for the 2024 Country Oaks winner, and a commitment to a change of date for 2025.

J Diederich to request 2024 golden ticket and 2025 date change **Action: J Diederich**

3 Standing Item – Fillies and Mares Racing

HRCG item was raised and supported by C Brown requesting the Group Racing Panel support a different approach for fillies and mares feature races, either by stakes increases or negotiation with HRA Group Racing Panel

WASBA to continue discussions regarding initiatives **Action: J Diederich/H King**

4 Standing Item – Liaison with RWWA

4.1 – Breeding Initiatives (Epona Proposal, HRA Breeding Report Initiatives, Other State/NZ Initiatives, Westbred Bonus Scheme)

J Diederich referred to:

- initiatives in other jurisdictions (US, NZ, other States) to provide improved opportunities for the older and lower level horses,
- race distances for 2yos to be restricted in the early part of the year
- timing of features particularly for juveniles and an extended race program for juveniles
- field sizes
- free returns outside the stallion cap
- extended race
- Options for First Win Breeder Bonus (a choice of possibly \$1500 or a Service Fee Voucher as an alternative to waiting for the \$3000)
- A proposed drop back rule was no longer relevant, with the announcement that the HWOE system will be abandoned.

All matters to be discussed at next meeting with C Brown..... **Action: J Diederich/ H King**

4.2 – Life after racing / re-registration

No further action.....

4.3 – Training Opportunities

No activity. M Holtham to update Committee on any initiatives as they occur

4.4 - Media and Promotion

The Owners Booklet has still not been provided.

J Diederich referred to the positive response to the Facebook promotion of the Nullarbor, but commented these promotions need to be expanded outside the harness audience.

All matters to be discussed further with C Brown.....**Action: J Diederich/H King**

4.4 - Honor Role for Broodmares

No further update **Action: J Diederich**

4.5 - Expo Day

To be raised with Harness Manager Special Projects.....**Action: J Diederich/H King**

5 Off The Track Rehoming

J Diederich reported on her follow up discussion with SPPHAWA regarding extending the WASBA sponsorship of event entries for WA bred horses and mares. SPPHAWA to identify events and advise WASBA in due course **Action: Completed**

J Diederich reported on a follow up from RWWA regarding rules for Off The Track eligibility. As a result, they have committed to review the rules to consider circumstances where horses have injuries which require significant time away from the track, that makes them ineligible for the assistance.

6 Fund Raising Activities

J Diederich requested Committee members advise of any potential sponsors that might be able to assist WASBA with sponsorship.

H King reiterated the difficulties expected with raising funds.

7 APG Sales Vendor Liaison

Comment is being sought from major vendors regarding yearling sale dates, the overall sales process and any other comments relevant to timing and support.

J Diederich to summarise and advise APG and RWWA **Action: J Diederich**

4 Treasurers Report

Financial Report to 26 March 2024

Bank Details: BSB 036 043 Account 129810

<u>Opening Balance</u>		<u>\$66,094.34</u>
INCOME		\$ 1,786.35
EXPENDITURE		\$ 2,639.19
<u>Closing Balance</u>		<u>\$65,241.50</u>
Represented by	Cheque Account	\$ 1,530.13
	Business Cash Reserve	\$63,711.37
	Cheques Drawn Not Yet Presented	\$0.00
	Deposits Not Yet Banked	\$0.00

For noting:

- J Diederich - trophies \$869.79
- J Diederich – Busselton accom and Secretarial \$586.00

H King noted the payment to ASBA from funds that WASBA is holding for ASBA.

H King noted that payment was still due for APG's share of the Awards night

Moved J Fletcher and Seconded M Holtham that the Treasurers Report be accepted. (Carried)

Moved P Borg and Seconded J Schaper that the payments to J Diederich for trophies, accommodation and Secretarial be accepted. (Carried)

5 Correspondence

IN

- S Spallarossa (Dept LGSC) "Request for contact details", email 25 March 2024, reply 26 March
- D Borovica (RWWA) "Clarification regarding Regumate", email 27 March 2024, reply 27 March including follow up on on-course hydration
- A Walmsley "Query on Timing of Sales Classic Races", email 2 April 2024, reply 3 April
- A Markowski (SPPHAWA) "WASBA Subsidy", email 8 April 2024
- C Trefort (Narrogin Race and Pace) "Support for Narrogin Race", email 8 April, reply 10 April
- F Mellors (RWWA) "HRCG | Draft Minutes of Meeting 10 April 2024 and Additional Correspondence", email 18 April 2024
- M Lee Newland (MK Garlands) "WASBA Invoice April - WASBA King-Lethbridge garland", email 18 April 2024, to H King 18 April
- J Currie "Request for assistance with Epona Credits", email 18 April 2024, reply 18 April

OUT

- WASBA "Agenda – Committee Meeting 27 March 2024", to Committee 25 March 2024
- A Essex (APG) "Reminder - Invoice APG Awards Night 50% costs", email 2 April 2024
- A Essex (APG) "Reminder - Invoice APG Sponsorship", email 2 April 2024
- C Brown (RWWA) "Update on WASBA \$14,000 races at Narrogin and Albany", email 3 April 2024
- F McCaffery (GPHR) "Race For Roses Presentation", email 4 April 2024
- C Brown (RWWA) "Agreed Country Oaks Timing not reflected in new calendar", email 7 April 2024, interim reply 9 April
- Various "Request for Sponsorship – WASBA Breeders Stakes 3 May 2024", email 10 and 11 April 2024
- C Brown (RWWA) "Harness Stablehand License Renewals including Botra Membership link", email 11 April 2024
- C Brown (RWWA) "Further Request for Meeting", email 11 April 2024, reply 18 April
- C Brown (RWWA) "Request for provision of Handicapping Policy advice to industry", email 11 April 2024
- Exclusive Trophies "Bases for WASBA Trophies", email 15 April 2024
- P Capararo "Invitation to attend Harry Capararo 4YO/5YO Mares", email 15 April, reply 18 Apr
- D Putland (Pinjarra HRC) "Further arrangements and racebook material for WASBA King-Lethbridge meeting", email 16 April 2024, reply 16 April

Information Only

- LeTrot "French Trotting Week #118", email 26 March 2024
- Harnesslink "Harness Link Insider #91", email 27 March 2024
- E Clauson (RWWA) "Media release: Pingrup Cup boosts Golf Club revival", email 28 March 2024
- LeTrot "French Trotting Week #119", email 2 April 2024
- "WASBA March Newsletter", email 2 and 3 April 2024
- E Clauson (RWWA) "Media release: Bridgetown Cup boosts high school P&C kitty", email 3 April 2024
- Harnesslink "Harness Link Insider #92", email 4 April 2024

- Off The Track (RWWA) "OTTWA April Newsletter | A Busy Month for OTT", email 8 April 2024
- N Scott (RWWA) "Third Round Fremantle Cup Rankings", email 8 April 2024
- LeTrot "French Trotting Week #120", email 9 April 2024
- Harnesslink "Harness Link Insider #93", email 10 April 2024
- HBV "The Breeders Bulletin April", email 11 April 2024
- Nevele R Stud "The reigning US Trotter of the Year is heading downunder", email 12 April 2024
- Z Relph (RWWA) "Media Release Western Trilogy to showcase WA and its \$1.3 billion racing industry", email 12 April 2024
- LeTrot "French Trotting Week #121", email 15 April 2024
- N Scott (RWWA) "Fourth Round Fremantle Cup Rankings", email 15 April 2024
- Dr A Smet (RWWA) "Have your say: Renewing the Australian Animal Welfare Strategy", email 16 April 2024
- E Clauson (RWWA) "Media release: Retrainers leading racehorses to new skills after racing", email 16 April 2024
- Harnesslink "Harness Link Insider #94", email 18 April 2024

Moved H King and **Seconded** J Fletcher the Inward correspondence is accepted, the Outward correspondence be endorsed and Information Only correspondence is noted (**Carried**).

6 Reports

6.1 HRCG Report

H King noted the change to the HRCG cycle which is now bi-annual to match the RWWA Board funding cycle. As a result the Eligible Bodies should meet directly with the relevant RWWA staff. Should a full HRCG meeting be considered necessary, RWWA will arrange it.

7 General Business

7.1 Changes to WA Handicapping System

J Diederich emphasised the need for people to contribute when the opportunity is presented. WASBA must be pro-active in pushing for components of the system that are advantageous to WA bred horses in particular. This includes maiden races and juvenile races that enable owners to earn bonuses.

H King noted that the most important component of the system is the race program.

J Diederich requested Committee members put forward any ideas regarding how the national rating system could be successfully applied in WA.

7.2 Death Notices

M Holtham noted the recent deaths of former WASBA Committee member L Ewers and Bill Godecke.

8 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Western Australian Standardbred Breeders Association Inc (WASBA) is proposed for 29 May 2024. **Format by teleconference unless otherwise advised.**

There being no further business, the President declared the meeting closed at 7.00pm.

J Diederich
Chair



24 April 2024
Date