



WASBA Committee Meeting Wednesday 28 August 2024
By teleconference

MINUTES

Meeting declared open at 6.04pm on 28 August 2024 by Chair J Diederich (President)

In Attendance (by teleconference)

J Diederich (Chair),
L Tabbakh, P Borg, J Schaper, J Fletcher, M Holtham, H King.
6.05 J Coffey, 6.06 W Morrison

Apologies

NIL

2 Confirmation of Minutes

Moved J Fletcher **Seconded** P Borg that the minutes of the meeting held 31 July 2024, having been previously circulated to members of the Committee, are accepted (**Carried**).

J Diederich referred to the resignation from the Committee of P McAllister. J Diederich noted the significant contribution of P McAllister in developing the new WASBA Constitution. J Diederich responded to the notification of resignation, and thanked P McAllister for his support of WASBA.

3 Business Arising from the Minutes

1 Standing Item - Membership

1.1 - New Members

There were several applications for new Ordinary and Family membership, as listed on the Agenda.

Moved J Fletcher and **Seconded** J Schaper that the nominations received for Ordinary Membership and Family membership be accepted as new members of the Association, as soon as memberships are confirmed as financial. (**Carried**).

1.2 – Reconciliation of membership

Ongoing. Memberships continue to come through with raffle ticket purchases. A reconciliation will be completed after the raffle is finalised. **Action: J Diederich.**

2 Standing Item – Industry Sponsorship

2.1 – Additional WASBA race sponsorship opportunities

J Diederich reported that the invoice for the Narrogin race has just been received and payment will be arranged. **Action: Completed**

J Diederich referred to the resignation of P McAllister, who was to liaise with the Albany Club, and lack of progress regarding the proposed WASBA feature at Albany. Further action was dependent on the Club undertaking discussion with RWWA to arrange a mini feature in December. Therefore, no further action will be taken by WASBA to initiate the race without a request from the Albany Club **Action: Completed**

2.2 – Additional Sponsors

J Diederich advised that additional sponsors are yet to be contacted.. **Action: J Diederich**

2.3 – WASBA Allwood Stud Virgil Queen Celebration (3 August 2024)

J Diederich and J Fletcher, along with member D Trobe, attended the meeting for the presentation. It was another very successful race for mares, with appreciation for WASBA’s efforts J Diederich noted that under previous handicapping conditions (M C R system) the winner Sweet Vivienne would not have been eligible **Action: Completed**

2.4 – WASBA 4YO/5YO Mares (9 August 2024)

J Diederich referred to the on track presentation by WASBA and the strong support and recognition for WASBA by connections of the winner Rattlin Lilly **Action: Completed**

2.5 – \$30,000 Country Oaks (17 August)

J Diederich referred to the excellent support for WASBA’s activities by the Bunbury Club. While the inclement weather was unsettling, the meeting was very successful with trophy rug and garland presented to the winning connections of Miss Hepburn.

WASBA will continue to seek improved conditions for the race including timing and eligiibiity. **Action: J Diederich**

3 Standing Item – Fillies and Mares Racing

J Diederich referred to correspondence receiving regarding lack of opportunities for 3yo fillies. While discussion continues with C Brown from RWWA, no real progress has been made. Initiatives including separate races and preferential draws will continue to be pursued for fillies and mares. **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 referenced the recent meeting with Harness Manager Special Projects, with little progress being made on issues although there was generally recognition of the positives that WASBA was proposing. Some initiatives to be discussed directly with the Harness Code Director, aimed at creating a continual stream of foals.

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

4.2 - Media and Promotion

The Owners Booklet has still not been provided. J Diederich referenced the significant initiatives that RWWA had agreed for thoroughbreds, with nothing being announced for harness.

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

4.3 - Honor Role for Broodmares

No further update. Per H King proposal, A Parker was approached but is yet to respond.

J Diederich to liaise with A Parker in due course **Action: J Diederich**

4.4 - Expo Day

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

5 Off The Track Rehoming

J Diederich to approach RWWA in due course to consider an alternate acceptance method for retired horses that would see their suitability assessed earlier than is currently occurring **Action: J Diederich**

6 Fund Raising Activities

6.1 – WASBA Raffle

H King advised that there were 237 tickets sold in the raffle, making it relatively successful from a fundraising perspective. The financial return is to be provided to the department to and public notice to be placed to close out activities..... **Action: H King**

6.2 – WASBA Stallion Tender

H King advised that we are waiting on the final stallions to be provided before advertising the Stallion Tender. Tender will close approximately a fortnight after opening but no later than mid September **Action: H King**

J Diederich to prepare promotional material **Action: J Diederich**

7 Thoroughbred Breeders Seminar

M Holtham reported that the event was very intense, very informative with great coverage

of relevant topics and exceptionally good speakers.

Noteworthy information presented included:

- Research in the eastern states concluded that a major reason for abortion in mares was due to mares ingesting hairs of the hairy caterpillar embedded in grass;
- Horses failing yearling sale scopes were as likely to do well as others, as juveniles.
- The Ag Department will test aborted foals for free, by arrangement with breeders
- Money from each stallion breeding and mare service in thoroughbreds goes forward to research, as well as government and industry financial backing.

4 Treasurers Report

Financial Report to 28 August 2024

Bank Details: BSB 036 043 Account 129810

Opening Balance

\$66,641.80

Due to the extensive business associated with the raffle, closing 28 August, the Treasurer's Report has not been prepared for this Committee meeting. A Treasurer's report will be prepared for the next Committee meeting in September.

5 Correspondence

IN

- K Morrone "Complaint from member of the public", response to email 1 August 2024
- M Lee-Newland (Penrose Park Garlands) "Invoice Virgil Queen garland", email 1 August 2024, to H King 1 Aug
- TBWA Invoice INV-1026 Breeders Seminar Attendance", email 4 August 2024, to H King 4 Aug
- L Gorrige (Garlands by Leigh) "Invoice Garlands Bob Humphries", email 6 August 2024, to H King 6 Aug
- D Trobe "3YO Fillies races", email to C Brown 8 Aug copied to WASBA
- J Sortras "Broodmare for Sale – Mon Lillies" email 8 August 2024, reply 8 Aug
- R Goulden (Northam HRC) "Invoice 00416746 WASBA Allwood Stud Virgil Queen Celebration", email 12 August 2024, clarification 13 Aug, to H King 13 Aug
- J Anderson "Stallion Levy for Return services from seasons prior to intro of Stallion Levy", cc of email to HRA NSW Representative Peter Buckman, email 13 Aug 2024
- A Markowski (SPPHAWA) State Championship Sponsorship Invoice", email 15 August 2024, to H King 15 Aug
- D Trobe "Barrier Draw Anomalies" cc of email to RWVA 16 August 2024, response C Brown 16 Aug
- Central Wheatbelt Club "Invitation - Kellerberrin Harness Racing 100 Years Celebration", email 19 and 27 August 2024, to Committee 27 Aug
- F Mellors (RWVA) "HRCG | Notice of Meeting 16 October 2024", email 26 August 2024

OUT

- Members "WASBA Member Subsidy for Thoroughbred Breeders Seminar", email 24 July and 30 July 2024
- R Goulden (Northam HRC) "WASBA Allwood Stud Virgil Queen Celebration Mares at Northam on 3 August", email 28 July 2024
- WASBA "July Agenda and June Draft Minutes – Committee Meeting 31 July 2024", to Committee 29 July 2024
- C Brown (RWVA) "Meeting with WASBA – Discussion Topics", email 6 August 2024, reply 6 Aug
- C Brown, R Fowler "Historical Horse Racing", email 6 August 2024
- Kate (Bunbury Trotting Club) "WASBA Country Oaks", email 7 August 2024, reply 7 Aug
- F McCaffery (GPHR) "WASBA On track Presentation WASBA 4YO/5YO Mares", email 7 August 2024
- J Med (RWVA) "RE: Traceability and Euthanasia", email 9 August 2024
- T Starling (RWVA) "Late foal registration – request for consideration", email 9 August 2024, reply 13 Aug, response to Giles 13 Aug

OFFICIAL

- M Stewart (RWVA) "Request article on HRA Website", email 11 August 2024, reply 12 Aug
- WASBA "July Draft Minutes – Committee Meeting 31 July 2024", to Committee 12 August 2024
- Bunbury Trotting Club "Race Names and follow up ", emails 13 and 14 August 2024
- R Fowler (RWVA/HRA) "Stallion Levy for Return services from seasons prior to intro of Stallion Levy", email 14 August 2024
- HBV "Mailing List – Stallion Guide", email 19 August 2024
- T Starling (RWVA) "Request for mare services 2023/24 season", email 20 August 2024
- C Brown, R Fowler (RWVA) "Breeding Initiatives", email 23 August 2024
- R Fowler (RWVA) "WASBA Breeding Proposals", email 26 August 2024
- A Parker "Honour Roll For Broodmares – Broodmare Gems", email 26 August 2024
- C Trefort (Narrogin Race and Pace), WASBA \$14,000 Color Glo Tribute Invoice request", email 26 August 2024

Information Only

- "WASBA July 2024 Newsletter" , email to members 24 and 25 July 2024
- E Clauson (RWVA) "Media release: Roebourne racing community shines a light on mental health", email 29 July 2024
- Nevele R "Breeding Packages Available", email 30 July 2024
- LeTrot "French Trotting Week #136", email 30 July 2024
- Off The Track (RWVA) "Entries now OPEN | OTTWA Classic Clinic | Baldivis" email 31 July 2024
- WASBA "Sweet Lou raffle", mailchimp 1 August 2024
- Harnesslink "Harness Link Insider #109", email 2 Aug 2024
- E Clauson (RWVA) "TABtouch Secures Five-Year Partnership with Perth Racing", email 5 August 2024
- LeTrot "French Trotting Week #137", email 6 August 2024
- Harnesslink "Harness Link Insider #110", email 7 and 8 Aug 2024
- Off The Track (RWVA) "Entries now OPEN | OTTWA Training Day | State Equestrian Centre" email 8 August 2024
- Off The Track (RWVA) "Entries now OPEN | OTTWA Encouragement Clinic | Baldivis", email 9 August 2024
- Off The Track (RWVA) "OTTWA August Newsletter | What's Happening in August with OTTWA" email 9 August 2024
- HBV "The Breeders Bulletin August", email 13 August 2024
- LeTrot "French Trotting Week #138", email 13 August 2024
- Harnesslink "Harness Link Insider #111", email 14 Aug 2024
- D McNaughton (Skills Insight) "Thank You for Your Contribution to Our RTO-Employer Connections", email 15 August 2024
- E Clauson "Media release: Kalgoorlie race day raises \$50,000 for Variety WA", email 16 August 2024
- J Van Niekerk "Swan View Breed Rescheduled", email 18 August 2024
- LeTrot "French Trotting Week #139", email 20 August 2024
- Harnesslink "Harness Link Insider #112", email 21 Aug 2024
- APG GoldTalk – August 2024 " Word from the GM", email 22 August 2024
- E Clauson "Media release: New digital platform a one-stop-shop for Western Australian racing", email 22 August 2024
- N Scott (RWVA) "2024 Group 1 features and Golden Ticket Races", email 23 August 2024
- WASBA "Last days Sweet Lou raffle", mailchimp 25 August 2024
- HBV "2024 IRT Australasian Standardbred Stallion Guide available online", email 27 August 2024
- LeTrot "French Trotting Week #140", email 27 August 2024

Moved J Schaper and **Seconded** P Borg the Inward correspondence is accepted, the Outward correspondence be endorsed and Information Only correspondence is noted (**Carried**).

6 Reports

NIL

7 General Business

7.1 Harness Racing in Victoria

J Coffey provided a summary of the financial situation in Victoria and the industry meeting held to discuss the issues facing Victoria

The meeting arranged by the Kindred Bodies was heavily attended with participants travelling long distances to attend.

The situation in Victoria is dire and may result in land being held for the future of harness racing being ceded to the government, including the Melton track itself.

Significant losses have occurred over the last 5 years.

It is unsure what the next steps are to recover the situation.

There will be a follow up meeting to discuss the failures of the National Rating System and how to address that issue

Victoria will withdraw funding from Eureka

All participants were encouraged to lobby their local members of parliament.

8 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the WASBA Committee will be held on 25 September 2024. **Format by teleconference unless otherwise advised.**

There being no further business, the President declared the meeting closed at 7.12pm.

J Diederich
Chair



28 August 2024
Date