



WASBA Committee Meeting Wednesday 6 November 2024
By teleconference

MINUTES

Meeting declared open at 6.05pm on 6 November 2024 by Chair J Diederich (President)

In Attendance (by teleconference)

J Diederich (Chair),
P Borg, J Fletcher, H King, J Coffey, J Schaper

Apologies

W Morrison
M Holtham

2 Confirmation of Minutes

Moved P Borg **Seconded** J Fletcher that the minutes of the meeting held 2 October 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 applications for membership.

1.2 – Reconciliation of membership

Ongoing, with all paid memberships reconciled. Follow up of unfinancial members is continuing..... **Action: J Diederich.**

2 Standing Item – Industry Sponsorship

2.1 – Additional sponsors

J Diederich advised that additional sponsors are yet to be contacted. Many prospective sponsors are providing funds in other directions and there is concern that sponsors are being burdened. However, WASBA does need to raise funds even if it means that funds are sought from these same companies or individuals **Action: J Diederich**

2.2 – WASBA Bob Humphries Memorial (Bunbury 9 November)

J Diederich referred to the forthcoming event at Bunbury, with the Club very forthcoming in providing support for WASBA’s activities on the night. The rug, trophy and garland have been arranged and a good field of mares will run.

J Diederich and P Borg to attend..... **Action: J Diederich/P Borg**

2.3 – \$30,000 Westsired 2YO Fillies (Bunbury 9 November)

J Diederich referred to the very positive response to the race with a full field of 2yo fillies. The WASBA Facebook page was used to promote the event as soon as the timing of the postponement was made available. J Diederich reported that this was clear evidence that promoting events to participants, in sufficient time for them to prepare, does encourage greater participation. The previous two times the race was scheduled drew only 5 nominations.

A sash provided by WASBA will be presented as per normal for the Westsired races.

J Diederich and P Borg to attend..... **Action: J Diederich/P Borg**

2.4 – Busselton Sweetheart Series (December 2024 – January 2025)

J Diederich referred to the request from Busselton for the continued sponsorship from WASBA, noting the conditions as listed on the Agenda. A minimum of 3 starts is required

over the 5 nights to be eligible for the bonuses> Winners are required to contact WASBA within a month to avoid the issues that occurred early 2024 with the WASBA sponsorship.

Moved P Borg Seconded J Fletcher that the Busselton Sweetheart Series sponsorship continue at \$1500 from WASBA, as listed in the Agenda, with additional qualifying conditions of a minimum of 3 starts and recipients to contact WASBA **(Carried)**.

J Diederich to attend **Action: J Diederich**

2.5 – WASBA race conditions under NRS

J Diederich referenced the previous week meeting with Harness Manager Special Projects (HMSP) Cameron Brown and race programmer Warren Wishart.

There was support from HMSP and W Wishart for the conditions of the WASBA races to reflect their original intent, to ensure they support the relevant race pool and encourage good racing numbers.

This includes the \$30,000 4YO/5YO races (intended for those horses who had not won a race of equal or better stakes) and the \$14,000 races - for mares/Westsired who had not won at metropolitan level.

The WASBA Country Oaks was again requested to be removed from it’s association with the Country Derby rules in the Racing Policies and General Racing Information, and placed closer to the WA Oaks as was originally in place. A reduced qualification timeframe to reflect one racing preparation, which was in line with the original timing of the Country Oaks and WA Oaks in the April/May timeframe.

Further meetings to be arranged with HMSP.....**Action: J Diederich/H King**

3 Standing Item – Fillies and Mares Racing

J Diederich referred to the discussion with C Brown and W Wishart, reporting the positive response to improving opportunities for this group. It is likely that some new initiatives will be tested in the new race program including preferences to mares.

Follow up at future meetings**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 reported that the breeding initiatives previously discussed with HMSP were not brought forward, as the priority was to arrive at appropriate outcomes for the WASBA races. However, promoting initiatives to support the broodmare pool with incentives will continue at future meetings.

The initiative to introduce mini race series to qualify towards higher stakes finals was supported by the RWWA representatives.

WASBA referred to the need to discontinue with the Stallion Levy propping up Eureka. Any money collected should be input directly to breeding initiatives.

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

4.2 - Media and Promotion

J Diederich referred to discussions with HMSP and W Wishart. RWWA may take a different approach to the way the marketing and promotions budget is used, with the intention of increasing the participant base to provide possible benefits in the form of participation levels and turnover.

The USTA booklet promoting harness racing was briefly discussed, with C Brown aware of the booklet and its potential. J Diederich advised that there was an opportunity for the booklet to be used as the basis for a promotion of WA harness racing, breeding and how to read a form guide and invest. Reference was made to the availability of sectional times on the HRA website and the need to better promote the available information.

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

4.3 - Honor Role for Broodmares

No further update. A Parker will be approached again after the Yearling Sales have completed.

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 referred to the continuing efforts by WASBA in support of rehoming and the excellent work done by SPPHAWA. There appears to be a good response to our incentives towards entering standardbreds in the SPPHAWA shows and the Royal Show. At this stage we will limit our activities to what we currently provide as increased financial support to WASBA is required to support further initiatives.

Further discussion needs to occur with RWWA regarding OTT **Action: J Diederich**

6 Fund Raising Activities

6.1 – WASBA Stallion Tender

H King reported that one Tenderer was unable to continue with their Tender. Attempts to sell the stallion have not been successful to date.

The total amount expected to be raised remains positive but the loss of the funds from the remaining stallion is disappointing.

H King reported that a Stallion service from a previous year requires refunding, with monies paid back to WASBA by the relevant stud due to the stallion not returning to Australia. The refund will be balanced against the successful Tender from this year, for the same breeder.

Invoices have been prepared and will be forwarded in due course **Action: Completed**

6.2 – Stallion Service fee vouchers for members

J Diederich reported that the winners of the \$500 Stallion Service fee Vouchers have all been advised, along with the actions required to claim the voucher. Some breeders lost their opportunity due to not paying membership by the required timeframe.

Some of the winners have advised WASBA that they will not be breeding this year.

WASBA has agreed to transfer one of the vouchers to next year as the mare is not expected to foal until late November/December.

Recipients will be followed up in the new year **Action: Completed**

7 WASBA AGM

7.1 – Life Membership Nomination

J Diederich proposed the nomination of D Trobe for Life Membership. D Trobe has been a significant contributor to WASBA over 10 years in attendance at and assistance in setting up events, support with presentations, work on the WASBA Facebook page, support with the WASBA Raffle and communicating with industry at all levels.

Moved P Borg Seconded H King that D Trobe be nominated for Life Membership at the forthcoming 2024 AGM (Carried).

7.2 – Committee Nominations

J Diederich reported that 3 nominations have been received, with 9 days remaining for nominations to be provided

Nominations from returning Committee members J Fletcher and P Borg have been received along with a nomination from member J Scotney. All nominations meet the conditions as laid out in the WASBA Constitution.

Nominations to be acknowledged and Minuted **Action: J Diederich**

7.3 – Audit of Accounts

H King advised that the appointed Auditor G Scott was progressing with the audit, and would provide signed copies for the AGM.

7.4 – Incentives to attend AGM

There was general discussion around the effectiveness of incentives to attend the AGM. J Diederich noted that it was imperative that AGMs were held in accordance with the rules and sufficient attendees were on hand to make up a quorum.

J Diederich to discuss further with H King..... **Action: J Diederich**

4 Treasurers Report

Financial Report to 31 October 2024

Bank Details: BSB 036 043 Account 129810

<u>Opening Balance (30 Sept)</u>	<u>\$75,387.98</u>
INCOME over the period	\$ 1,230.75
EXPENDITURE over the period	\$15,639.06
<u>Closing Balance</u>	<u>\$60,979.67</u>

Represented by	Cheque Account	\$ 3,755.64
	Business Cash Reserve	\$57,224.03
	Cheques Drawn Not Yet Presented	\$0.00
	Deposits Not Yet Banked	\$0.00

For noting:

- J Diederich - Trophies (Breeders Stakes and Broodmare of Year) \$253.95
- J Diederich - RDO Trophies and Secretarial \$730.65

J Diederich noted that most of the annual trophies have now been purchased, with the major expense remaining being the monthly Breeder of the Month trophies

Moved L Tabbakh and **Seconded** J Coffey that the Treasurers Reports for 31 October 2024 be accepted. **(Carried)**

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

5 Correspondence

IN

- K Hymers (Tourello Standardbreds) "Request to share competition with members", email 30 September 2024, to members 1 Oct
- SPPHAWA "Invoice 210 – WASBA Sponsorship Royal Show entries", email 3 October 2024, to H King 3 Oct
- S King (Busselton TC) "Request for Sponsorship for Sweetheart Series", email 14 October 2024, interim reply 16 Oct

OFFICIAL

- D Smith (Food, Fibre and Timber Industries Training Council) “Racing and Horse Breeding Skills Network Mtg CRM:0128922”, email 17 October 2024, confirming with Skills Insight 18 Oct, reply 23 Oct
- Exclusive Trophies “Invoice 00063609; trophy etching”, email 24 October 2024, to H King 26 Oct
- T Keenan “Request Suggestion For Action”, email 26 October 2024
- F Mellors (RWWA) “Draft Minutes and Action List HRCG Meeting 16 October 2024”, email 30 October 2024
- J Scotney “Request for Committee Nomination Form”, 30 October 2024, form sent 31 Oct, completed form received 3 Nov
- F Mellors (RWWA) Eligible Bodies Contact Details Update”, email 4 November 2024

OUT

- WASBA “September Agenda – Committee Meeting 2 October 2024”, to Committee 30 September 2024
- Various “Congratulations on winning a \$500 Stallion Service Voucher”, email 6-11 and 30 October 2024
- WASBA “Draft Minutes – Meeting 2 October 2024”, to Committee 9 October 2024
- C Brown (RWWA) “Request for Meeting”, email 10 October 2024
- Exclusive Trophies “Request for Trophy etching”, email 10 October 2024
- F Mellors (RWWA) “Inability to attend HRCG Meeting of 16 October – WASBA Comments on Agenda items”, email 16 October 2024
- GPHR “Request for Room for AGM”, email 10 October, follow up 16 and 24 Oct, reply 24 Oct
- WASBA October Newsletter and AGM Notice, email 24 October 2024
- C Brown, W Wishart (RWWA) “Topics for discussion”, email 29 October 2024
- R and K Humphries “Invitation to Bob Humphries at Bunbury”, email 3 November 2024

Information Only

- “LeTrot “French Trotting Week #145”, email 1 October 2024
- Harnesslink “Harness Link Insider #118”, email 3 October 2024
- Off The Track (RWWA) “OTTWA Newsletter | What's Happening in October with OTTWA”, email 5 October 2024
- Off The Track (RWWA) “Entries now OPEN | OTTWA Encouragement Clinic | Magenup Equestrian Centre”, email 8 October 2024
- “LeTrot “French Trotting Week #146”, email 8 October 2024
- Harnesslink “Harness Link Insider #119”, email 9 October 2024
- “LeTrot “French Trotting Week #147”, email 15 October 2024
- HBV “Breeders Bulletin October”, email 15 October 2024
- Harnesslink “Harness Link Insider #120”, email 17 October 2024
- “LeTrot “French Trotting Week #148”, email 22 October 2024
- Harnesslink “Harness Link Insider #121”, email 24 October 2024
- “LeTrot “French Trotting Week #149”, email 29 October 2024
- Harnesslink “Harness Link Insider #122”, email 30 October 2024
- Nevele R “Stakes winners for Nevele R Trotting Sires”, email 3 October 2024
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Moved H King and **Seconded** J Coffey 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 WASBA response to letter

J Diederich referred to the letter which had been forwarded to Committee.

J Diederich reported that in order to address the letter, additional information was required to ascertain what funding is paid by the industry to the WA government.

RWWA will be approached to provide the information. Any further action will be discussed at the next Committee meeting..... **Action: J Diederich**

8 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the WASBA Committee will be held on 4 December 2024, the first opportunity after the AGM. **Format by teleconference unless otherwise advised.**

There being no further business, the President declared the meeting closed at 6.50pm.

J Diederich
Chair



6 November 2024
Date