

Tasmania Equine Endurance Riders Association  
Annual General Meeting  
Saturday 1/2/2020  
Sheffield Football Club clubrooms



Meeting opened: 3.11 PM

**Present:** Amelia Napier, Felicity Perry, Tony Perry, Tania Perry, Raelene Smith, Melissa Kelly, Jill Hawks, Trent Huxtable, Blaine Astell, Mark Dunn, Pat Lamprey, Andrew Miles, Tara Nicklason, Trish Smith (from 3.27PM Denise Williams and Joanne Marshall)

Apologies: Pat Hodgetts, Greg Henry, Ian Sims, Tania Jago

Visitor: Ray Hawks

1. **To confirm the minutes of the 2019 AGM and the Special General Meeting held 8 June 2019** (*Minutes of both meetings available on the TEERA web site – Meetings page*)

**AGM minutes:** Melissa Kelly moved they be confirmed, Andrew Miles seconded - resolved.

**Special AGM minutes:** Trent Huxtable moved they be confirmed, Raelene Smith seconded – resolved.

2. **To receive reports from the Committee and Auditor.**

**President's report.** Blaine Astell read his report to the meeting.

Andrew Miles moved it be accepted, Trish Smith seconded – resolved.

**Treasurer's report:** Blaine read the treasurer's report. Mark Dunn moved it be accepted, Tara Nicklason seconded – resolved.

Additional comment from Blaine – the 2020 budget aims to reduce losses but maintain investment in growing the sport – this has meant a slightly increase in membership fees to offset the losses.

**Auditor's report:** Mark Dunn moved it be accepted, Tara Nicklason seconded – resolved.

**Webmaster:** Blaine read the webmaster's report. Andrew Miles moved it be accepted, Tara Nicklason seconded – resolved.

3. **To elect the Committee members**

Noted that the SMC members returning are Mark Dunn, Tara Nicklason, Melissa Kelly and Blaine Astell

Exiting are: Tania Jago, Kelly Woodhouse, Raelene Smith, Jill Hawks, Trent Huxtable and Roger Nichols.

SMC recommended that the five of the six vacancies be for two years and one for one year. This was accepted by the meeting.

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Three members lodged their nominations by the due date: Trish Smith, Andrew Miles and Tony Perry. It was noted that Roger Nichols had nominated but had withdrawn his nomination. Denise Williams moved that they be taken to be elected. Pat Hodgetts seconded this – resolved.

Nominations were called from the floor for additional SMC members: Trent Huxtable, Amelia Napier and Felicity Perry were nominated: Denise Williams moved these been accepted and that they be taken to be elected. This was seconded by Melissa Kelly – resolved.

**4. To appoint the auditors and their remuneration.**

Andrew Miles moved that we use the same company as in 2019 (Paragon) and accept their 2020 fee on the basis that their fees are fair and reasonable. Raelene Smith seconded this – resolved.

**5. Special Business - ([Details of motions and rationales are available here](#))**

To consider five proposals to amend the Rules of the Association, relating to:

**Rule 5** - Membership of Association - re. Age of Juniors, in effect, ratifying a rule change from 2009.

Roger Nichols moved and Jill Hawks seconded a motion:

Amend 5.1 a), b) and d) to replace “sixteen” with “eighteen”.

There was no discussion and the motion was carried by resolution.

**Rule 5** - Membership of Association - re. Associate members

Roger Nichols moved and Jill Hawks seconded a motion:

Amend 5.1 b) to

Associate members who shall be members who have attained the age of 18 years or more during the calendar year of application and who have the right to:

- hold office as a committee member
- vote at any general meeting

but shall not have the right to compete in affiliated rides.

There was no discussion and the motion was carried by resolution.

**Rule 21** – Committee – re. membership of committee

Roger Nichols moved and Jill Hawks seconded a motion:

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Renumber 21.5, 21.6 and 21.7 as 21.6, 21.7 and 21.8

Insert new 21.5 The committee shall include at least six Ordinary members

There was no discussion and the motion was carried by resolution.

**Rule 23** – Election of Members of Committee – re. verification of nominations

Roger Nichols moved and Tara Nicklason seconded a motion:

Amend 23.1 a) to be –

‘made in writing on an application form approved by the committee, supported by two members of the Association, verified by their signatures on the form or otherwise by the Secretary of the Association, and endorsed by the written consent of the nominee;’

There was no discussion and the motion was carried by resolution.

**Rule 25** – Committee Meetings – re. make up of quorum

Roger Nichols moved and Jill Hawks seconded a motion:

Renumber 25.15 as 25.14 and delete “Other than with respect to making up a quorum,”.

Also, Replace “a Committee member” with “A Committee Member”.

Mark Dunn spoke to the motion noting that this rule was restrictive for a geographically widespread committee and that, in his experience, was not a requirement for any other group with which he has been associated, including numerous statewide and national organisations.

Pat Hodgetts spoke against the motion noting that other state Associations travel distances to attend meeting and often stay overnight. She also noted that the cost of travel for SMC members travelling longer distances has been reimbursed in the past by TEERA . She floated the idea that alternate meetings could be teleconference or face to face – better allows for members to attend meetings.

Jill Hawks supported the motion on a cost minimisation basis (saves TEERA money)

Trish Smith supported the motion noting that travelling to the NW was difficult for time poor SMC members and suggested that the current ‘quorum in the room’ requirement restricts SMC membership.

Tara Nicklason supported the motion also noting the quorum requirement is restrictive, suggesting that TEERA needed to move with the times and become truly state-wide in its SMC representation.

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Joanne Marshall supported the motion but added the view that a central venue remains important so that other TEERA members can attend

Trent Huxtable spoke against the motion noting that Latrobe hasn't always been the meeting venue and that SMC meetings can be held wherever needed. He added that people know the Rules when they nominate and that fully teleconferenced meetings makes attendance by ordinary members difficult. Trent also commented that, in his experience, other organisations have similar constitutional requirements.

Tara Nicklason spoke again noting that the proposed Rule change provides more options for people to participate in TEERA business.

Andrew Miles supported the motion expressing the view that this was not a case of 'technology for technology's sake'. He added that the in-room experience of meetings where some SMC members attended remotely was OK. He said the technology adds an option but that it is also important to maintain a physical location so other TEERA members can attend.

Trent Huxtable added that the proposal introduces the potential for all members to attend remotely and that this may introduce logistic problems.

Tara Nicklason responded, saying that physical attendance can be arranged if necessary.

Trish Smith spoke again, saying she appreciated Trent's concerns but that the intention of the motion rather than the potential should be debated.

Denise Williams spoke noting she is 'old school of course' but saying we have 'got to go forward of course'. She also raised concerns about the potential for all members to attend remotely, adding that meeting control is difficult in such circumstances.

Mark Dunn commented that meetings held remotely, such as AERA holds, do run well if well controlled by the Chair, adding that the TEERA SMC experience had improved through the year as people got used to the logistics.

At this point Mel Kelly proposed an amendment:

That 25.14 be amended per:

25.14 A 50% of the quorum must be physically present at one of the venues.

The amendment was seconded by Andrew Miles with the motion to accept it as a good compromise carried by all present except Trent Huxtable and Pat Hodgetts. Blaine Astell abstained.

The amendment then became the motion with the same mover and seconder.

The motion is that 25.14 be amended to:

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25.14 50% of the quorum must be physically present at one of the venues.

The motion was carried with the same voting pattern as the amendment.

**Ride trailer** – a motion was moved by Dr Pat Hodgetts , seconded by Jill Hawks that ‘TEERA purchase a ride trailer to house and carry essential equipment to rides.’

A number of people spoke in support of the motion adding the caveat that such a purchase raised numerous logistic issues such as who maintains and restocks it, where is it stored, how it is transported to rides, what would its internal design be etc.

Tony Perry informed the meeting that Roberts has a potentially suitable trailer currently for sale – price \$8,000.

Jill Hawks suggested a motion be moved to buy it.

Andrew Miles suggested this was best left to SMC to finalise – the meeting agreed.

The motion was put to a vote with all present voting for the motion except Trent Huxtable.

Blaine Astell abstained

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### **Other business**

Mark Dunn spoke to Blaine’s excellent performance in his, at times challenging, first year as President.

The meeting applauded, acknowledging the comment and Blaine’s good work.

Tara Nicklason noted that in light of Roger Nichol’s departure from the SMC, there are lots of jobs to be filled. She encouraged all those present to talk to non-SMC members about filling the necessary jobs.

Pat Hodgetts raised the possibility of TEERA utilising a book-keeper, Tracey Nutting or Greg Burford.

Mark Dunn noted that, after discussion with Roger Nichols, such a role might take up to take three or four hours a week.

A number of those present noted that Roger has offered to continue to do TEERA related work.

**Meeting closed 4.37PM**