

Tasmania Equine Endurance Riders Association
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday 13/3/19
Latrobe



Meeting opened 6.35PM

SMC Committee Present: Blaine Astell, Raelene Smith, Roger Nichols, Tania Jago (from 8.00PM), Jill Hawks, Melissa Kelly, Trent Huxtable (from 6.45PM) and, remotely, Tara Nicklason and Mark Dunn.

Apologies: Kelly Woodhouse

Visitor (initially): Trent Huxtable

1. **Discussion on whether a quorum was present:** 5 members in the room and two on the phone. Are members on the phone 'present' as required by the Rules? President made a decision to deem them 'present'. Supported by those present.

2. Casual Vacancy on Committee

Motion moved for Trent Huxtable to fill the casual vacancy on SMC for the period until the next AGM
- **Blaine, Mel - carried**

3. Actions from previous meeting:

Actions from AGM:

- Jill to Send a letter to AERA regarding the weight limit for light weight riders – **done**.
- Mark to approach Andrew Miles regarding asset storage - **done** – Andrew has given an in principle 'yes' with the details to be worked out as the need arises. He has also offered to maintain a register of the gear.
- Blaine to approach Pat. L regarding current assets - **in progress**.
- Mark to approach Celine regarding being key horse welfare vet - **done** – Celine has agreed to be the vet contact for the Horse Welfare officer.
- Moved that Mark be authorised to arrange for fluids, giving sets and storage for same to be obtained to value of \$350 - **Blaine, Raelene – carried**.
- Mark to investigate chief steward report template and provide feedback to SMC - **in progress**
- Jill to obtain further quotes on insurance for electronic timing system – **done** - clubs to be asked first regarding the likelihood of them using the ETS gear, before progressing the insurance – **Blaine** to contact clubs
- Mark to investigate options for swabbing - **in progress**
- Jill to send a letter to the BEER committee asking them to pass remaining BEER assets to CCER – **done**. Blaine spoke to the wording of this letter – BEER contacts felt the request in the letter was poorly put. Discussion ensued. Blaine has spoken to the relevant people and believes the matter is likely at an end.

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- Jill to nominate Pat. H for AERA honorary membership - **done**
- Blaine to talk to Deb Grull regarding TPR list - **in progress**

4.

Minutes of SMC meeting 13/2/19: Moved that these be ratified - **Blaine, Mel** - carried

5.

Correspondence:

Noted that there was a large amount of correspondence, mostly by email. Significant correspondence was discussed as necessary in the main body of the agenda.

6.

Sponsorship:

Blaine spoke the desirability of sending two teams to TQ19, junior and open. Resolved to investigate and progress sponsorship opportunities both for this and in a more general sense to support TEERA activities. Blaine to draft a letter to go to potential sponsors. Noted that Donna Venn (TQ18 sponsorship person) should be contacted for advice. Blaine to report back next SMC meeting

Resolved that Jill will write to Blue Pegasos to thank them for their 2018 support and enquire about their willingness to continue this in 2019.

7.

Attracting people to the sport:

Strategies for attracting new members were discussed. Agreement that a key aim was attracting juniors. Specific initiatives may include:

- Introductory days like the recent one staged by Rebecca Ainslie.
- Subsidising ride entry fees for new/junior riders

The desirability of establishing new committees was discussed. Tara spoke to the potential to establish a central north club, based around the Agfest site. There was brief discussion about the notion of using the Agfest site as a ride base.

Resolved that TEERA would offer support to people wishing to set up new clubs in the form of:

- Monetary loans
- Assistance with advice
- The provision of relevant established documentation (eg model rules, policies etc)

Resolved that information about this would be posted on the TEERA website.

Horse Expo in April:

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Jill has offered to attend. Discussion around who else could go and what sort of presence could be mounted. Noted that relevant TEERA banners exist (eg TQ18) and that various documents (eg Intro to Endurance) existed and could be utilised. Suggested Rebecca Ainslie be contacted. Noted that the presence of a/some junior/s would be desirable. **Blain, Trent** to speak to their junior contacts.

8.

Annual Awards and TEERA Dinner:

Resolved to speak to members about what sort of event would best suit in 2019. Further discussion deferred to next SMC meeting. **All committee to progress** through their personal and club contacts

9.

Finance:

Roger spoke to the attached Finance report and moved it be accepted. **Roger, Tara** – carried.

Brief discussion followed regarding the most appropriate way to reimburse members for costs incurred. Resolved that this be left with individuals to claim as suited them.

Roger reported that there is significant disparity in TEERA records and what AERA has charged TEERA for day memberships. Noted the progression of this matter awaits a response from AERA to questions put to them about this.

Moved that day memberships for junior riders be reduced to \$15 (this being approximately (40%) the same % of an adult day membership as is applied to full membership) - **Blaine, Jill. - carried.** To commence at Pyengana ride.

Moved that the \$10 introductory ride fee (line 2 on finance part of ride organiser ride return) be removed – achieved / done in concert with consolidating the first two lines of the relevant part of the ride return. Line 1 on the relevant part of the ride return will now apply to all riders. **Blaine, Trent - resolved**

There was considerable general discussion about TEERA income and costs. Resolved to review Roger's finance proposals next SMC meeting

TQ18 surplus:

Uncertain where this will go as no report from TQ18 committee yet.

10.

Other Business

- a. **Timing Gear Insurance Quotes:** two quotes received - ACS \$708/yr for \$12,000. NMGW - \$560/yr for \$12,000. No further action until feedback received from clubs - see above.

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- b. **BEER Bank Account:** BEER has closed the account and gifted the residual funds and equipment to CCER.
- c. **AERA recommended vet fees:** - Resolved that this document be provided to clubs for reference.
- d. **National Ride Statistics** - Mark reported that Tassie sits third in the number of **endurance** rides per annum but much further down the list when 20/40k rides are included. Brief discussion followed on this. May be a need to do more to encourage 20/40k rides.
- e. **Reimbursement to committee members for costs incurred:** Resolved that committee members are able to claim back from TEERA costs incurred in performing TEERA business. Noted that suitable documentation (eg receipts) is required.
- f. **TQ19:**

Chief Steward from Tassie: Discussion deferred until next SMC meeting.

Vet from Tassie: Noted that TQ19 (Kim Moir) has already approached Celine Lee, Pat Hodgetts and Deb Grull. Discussion around whether another vet could be sourced or whether one of the above three could be designated the Tassie supplied vet.

- g. **Day membership being available at rides:** Resolved that day memberships would now be able to be obtained at rides, not in advance, commencing at the Pyengana ride. Noted that the relevant information regarding horse health declarations could be highlighted on the web entry form. Links to other relevant information could also be provided for new riders in this way (eg yarding requirements, link to 'Starting out in Endurance'). Member Registrar Tara to work out the details.
- h. **Horse welfare:** Mark reported that the 'position description' is still a work in progress. 'Passed' by Celine Lee and currently off with Pat H for comment. Blaine requested that words be added to the effect that SMC must be consulted regarding any action taken as a consequence of an 'early warning system' alert.

Resolved that Mark write to club secretaries reminding them of their obligations regarding treatment vets and alerting them to the existence / availability of TEERA fluids. Letter to be run past SMC before sending.

- i. **Article in Advocate newspaper**

Blaine commended Mark on getting the newspaper article published but also highlighted concerns about Deborah Wyllie's name being misspelt / misrepresented (she dislikes 'Debbie'). Blaine suggested any future articles be run past anyone named in them.

- j. **Electronic banking and remote attendance at meetings**

Roger to develop proposal to take to next AGM (or, possibly, an SGM) to allow for electronic banking and remote attendance at meetings. Changes to the Rules are required to provide for this.

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k. AERA constitution

Brief discussion on Tassie AERA delegate's likely vote. Noted that a significant amount of correspondence has been circulated to delegates about this in recent times and is ongoing. Noted that Tassie delegates will decide how to vote at the AERA meeting after hearing everyone's arguments.

l. Hendra

Mark noted that this continues to feature in AERA business. Blaine commented that he had written to AERA (on behalf of TEERA) seeking advice on the final biosecurity arrangements for TQ19. Mark noted it is likely this will be decided at the AERA meeting 16/7 March 2019.

m. TEERA banking

Roger spoke to logistic issues re TEERA banking. Discussion ensued.

n. Uberconference

Noted that this worked OK.

o. The following motions, due to be voted on at the AERA meeting were discussed. Tassie will support all motions

1. Rule Changes

1.1. Motions for a second vote

1.1.1. Motion from QERA re Rule 15.4

Motion: 2018/11/08 Moved QERA/ VERA

That rule 15.4 "For rides of 120 kms or more a separate additional treatment veterinarian is required to be present at the ride base" be removed.

Voting: NSWERA – yes; QERA – yes; TEERA – yes; SAERA - absent; VERA – yes; WAERA - yes. Carried.

Motion passed for second vote at next meeting.

Rationale

This rule has proved problematic and its interpretation differs depending on to whom you speak. It has already been amended to include "in one day" which removes the onus on ride organisers running mini marathon events to pay for an extra treatment vet to be present however this rule is very onerous on smaller rides and clubs that have already a treatment vet or vets in place to deal with what may happen in a ride that has very low numbers of entries.

It is unreasonable for a ride club that is hosting a 120 or 160k ride with small entry numbers to employ another treatment vet. This rule as it currently stands means that smaller ride clubs cannot afford to run a 120 or 160km event as ride entries will not cover the expense of an extra vet. The number of treatments at a ride is usually relevant to the number of entries, or other factors such as travelling distance to the event, temperature, humidity, etc (not the distance of

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the ride), and the vet ratio rules already determine that there will be more vets if there are more horses which allows more vets to come off the line to treat horses if needed.

Support.

1.1.2. Motion from NSWERA re Rule 27.4

Motion: 2018/11/09 Moved NSWERA/ VERA

That rule 27.4 will include the additional sentence to include “At every ride, riders should show their current membership card to the ride secretary and must have their membership number recorded on the ride entry form.”.

Voting: NSWERA – yes; QERA – no; TEERA – no; SAERA – absent; VERA – yes; WAERA – yes

Carried

Motion passed for second vote at next meeting

The current wording of rule 27.4 follows this sentence and does not need changing. The aim is to encourage riders to present their membership cards.

It used to be a rule that membership cards had to be shown. The proposed wording is from the rulebooks from 2010, 2008, 2006 and 2004. The rule was removed from the 2016 rulebook, which attempts to rely on AERASpace. The problem is that entries can be put in AERASpace well after ride entries are taken, and it's difficult to address anomalies after entries are taken. An example is a novice rider who claims endurance status on the entry form and the ride secretary later finds out the rider hasn't upgraded their status. Another example is intermediate members entering endurance rides. These anomalies can be identified and managed at the time of entry if the card is shown.

Support.

1.2. Motions on notice for discussion and first vote

1.2.1. TEERA re Rule 30.2 Table 14

TEERA Motion:

That Rule 30.2 Table 14 be changed to include an Upper Weight limit for Lightweight riders at time of nomination be re-instated as 72.9 kg.

No penalty will ensure for a Lightweight rider weighing in over the weight at the end of the ride.

Support.

1.2.2. QERA re rule 20.4

QERA Motion:

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That the wording of Rule 20.4 is changed to show a prize value limit of \$5000 instead of \$3500.

Rationale

This is particularly relevant for a TQ event when the replica cup and buckle will be valued at over \$2000 and with other in-kind sponsorship having included saddles in recent years it is easy to reach a prize value of over \$3500. This change is seen to be in line with CPI and inflation.

The new rule will read:

Cash prizes money is not permitted and the total value of all prizes and /or trophies awarded to an individual rider must not exceed \$5000 unless prior written approval has been obtained from the relevant DA and the AERA.

Support.

1.2.3.QERA re rule 26.5

QERA Motion

That the wording of rule 26.5 is changed to read:

Dogs must be secured in a structure or on a leash that is attached to a solid structure or a human handler when at an endurance event.

The current rule is:

Dogs must be secured in a structure or on a leash at all times when on ride base.

Rational

This is a wonderful family sport and we encourage competitors to include their family which does include dogs. However, first and foremost this is a horse event. Uninvited dogs in other competitors' camps and dog fights are becoming very common. Not to mention the unwelcome deposits these unsupervised dogs leave behind.

Support with possible amendment

Next meeting

Wednesday April 10, 6.30PM, Latrobe.

Meeting closed 9.34PM