

## Summary Report NSW ERA SMC Meeting held 19 March 2021.

### ATTENDANCE

**Present:** Tony Warren (President), Kim Stephens (Minutes) Noni Seagrim, Peter Kelly (phone in), Peter Bice, Belinda Hopley, April Newman, Kylie Jonkers, Andrew Jonkers, John Howe, Faith Robinson, Matt Walker, Kerry Fowler-Smith, Charlie Gauci (RO Panel). **Apologies:** Alam Dastani, Helen Rich, Jacky Barlow

**CONFLICTS OF INTEREST:** None declared at this time

### ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

MOVED Peter Bice, Noni Seagrim

THAT The minutes of the teleconference meeting held 15 January 2021 be accepted. CARRIED

MOVED Belinda Hopley, Tony Warren

THAT The minutes of the teleconference meeting held 11 February 2021 be accepted. CARRIED

### ACTION LOG

Minutes	Who	What
Oct 167	Jax	Timeline of tasks ongoing. <b>Ongoing.</b>
July 137	Bel Jax Kerry	Find details of MCP course, <b>ongoing</b> Set up Adobe basic Helen, and Jax <b>ongoing</b> Will chase up the Adobe situation
155	Noni	Set up Instagram (taken over from Jacque) <b>ongoing</b>
Nov 279	SMC	Succession planning, portfolio descriptions updated <b>ongoing</b>
Aug: 162	Kim/Kerry/Tony	Change CBA signatories <b>ongoing</b>
303	Kim/Jax	Reconciliation of AERA charges
305	Bel Kerry	Scales for zone 3, Bel to purchase Computer for zone 3 <b>ongoing</b>
Jan 344	Jax?	Archive material from Helen Lindsay, contact Deb Pevy re booklets,
348	Bel	Ride organisers re WWC training Send to Peter to distribute to the RO's
379	Kerry TomMcCormack	Antivirus and Office software for zone computers <b>ongoing</b> Organise remaining equipment for ETS

### NSWERA's PASSWORD FOR YOUTUBE

**Action: April, Noni and Faith** - continue to ask Jacque Wright for the Youtube password to enable material to be retained and new material posted to Youtube. Noted that many previous attempts to obtain this information have failed, and that all retired SMC members are obliged by law to return intellectual property to the Association. If this attempt is unsuccessful the next step will be a letter

### ZONE COMPUTERS

Office 365 has expired, Kerry has purchased the new Office 365 software to load onto the zone computers. Kaspersky Anti Virus has expired also but needs to be removed from the computers as it interferes with the ETS. It is suggested that we use Windows Defender 10 Antivirus. Zone 1 computer has been updated.

Kerry needs to know who has each zone computer so that she can arrange Office 365 renewal. Previously agreed to purchase a laptop for the newly reestablished Zone 3.

**Action: Kerry –organise Zone 3 computer for the next meeting**

### ELECTRONIC TIMING SYSTEM

The new ETS has been very well received at the last 3 rides. It is felt that star stakes and poly pipe won't be required for the smaller rides

## SECRETARIAT REPORT

### MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
<b>Adult</b>	264	293	352	342	399	413	438	410
<b>Junior</b>	38	35	49	49	49	50	50	29
<b>Intermediate</b>	9	13	23	34	24	31	32	31
<b>Associate</b>	3	9	14	13	15	20	20	20
<b>Honorary</b>	11	11	8	8	7	6	6	6
<b>Total</b>	325	361	446	446	494	520	546	496

### NEW MEMBERS

DATE	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	NUMBER	CATEGORY	ADDRESS
13-2-21	Saan	Ecker	162000	Adult Prev WA	YASS RIVER
13-02-21	Louise	Cairns	162001	Adult	BRANXTON
22-02-21	Michelle	Philpotts	162002	Adult	COROWA
22-2-21	Cassey	Taylor	162003	Adult	RICHMOND
22-02-21	Anna	Davenport	162004	Junior	ORANGE
22-01-21	Tracy	John	162005	Adult prev VIC	TUMBARUMBA
26-2-21	Emma	Wall	162006	Adult	HALFWAY CREEK
01-03-21	Montana	Ward	162007	Junior	MACKSVILLE
03-03-21	Samuel	Marcus	162008	Adult	BOTOBOLAR
03-03-21	Mark	Glanville	162009	Adult	PANUARA
08-03-21	Courtney	Wiltshire	162010	Adult	GARDEN SUBURB
08-03-21	Savannah	Duffy	162011	Junior	EUNGAI RAIL
08-03-21	Tayla	Hunt	162012	Junior	MARULAN
11-03-21	Gayle	Chambers	162013	Adult	MARANGAROO
11-03-21	Jaz	Gwilliam	162014	Junior	SOUTH ARM
12-03-21	Lennox	Reid	162015	Junior	NAMBUCCA HEADS
12-3-21	Beau	Willett	162016	Junior	GUMMA
12-3-21	Nadine	Woodhead	162017	Adult	VINCENTIA
16-03-21	Anne	Bailey	162018	Adult	CAMBEWARRA

MOVED: Kerry Fowler-Smith, Peter Bice

THAT: The new members as listed be approved and their names be published in the newsletter. CARRIED

### RIDES RUN – ENTRIES RECEIVED

Ride Name	Date	Intro	Train	80-99km	100-119km	120-159km	160+	TOTAL
Scenic City	27-02-21	42	43					85
Mogendoura	06-3-21	44	37	32				113
Central Ranges	14-3-21	32	77			7 mini marathon		116
Autumn in Pinkett	14-3-21	11	23	22				56

### STOCKTAKE

Logbooks 48

Logbook covers 48

### ENDURANCE HORSE REGISTRATIONS (Year to Date)

ANNUAL - 5

LIFETIME - 4

TEAMS - 11 teams entered so far 2021

## **RIDES FOR APPROVAL**

Noted Jacky confirms the receipt of the ride booking and forwards it to the Ride Calendar (Kylie)

JOHNS RIVER – 25/26 Sept 21 - Sat 20 and 40, Sun 20 and 40, Peter Kelly was asked if their ridebase could accommodate an 80km ride. The reply was that the Forest has a limited area and their committee would like to have a trial run first. APPROVED

FALLS CREEK – Zone 5 – 27/28 Nov 21 – Sun 40 and 80. APPROVED.

BULLIO FEI QUALIFIER – 21/22 Aug 21 or 14/15 Aug 21 – Sat 1\* Youth & Open, Sun 2\* Youth & Open. This ride will be for FEI horses and riders only to enable them to keep their FEI status. Do FEI riders distance and points count towards the Point Score? Yes. The ride must be an open ride to gain distance and points, RO is prepared to have the event closed only open to FEI.

Mogendura are interested in running a second ride in July 21. Kylie has given them some available dates. 40km was quite tough with up to 1033 metres of elevation in parts.

**Action: Kylie - check with Shahzada RO if they are OK with Bullio taking either of these dates**

**Action: Kylie - check with Bullio RO that it is OK to have a closed event, no distance and points will count towards the 2021 Point Score**

## **NSW STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**

Tooraweenah - 24 Jul 21 – 160km No Frills Quilty Test Event. It was already decided that this date was OK for a no frills 160km event as it didn't affect the South Coast Zone championship too much but preferably not the State ride.

Windeyer – Oct long weekend – 160km – RO have expressed interest in running the NSW State Championship for 2021 but this is the Quilty weekend in WA. Discussion about possible AERA restrictions on rides being that weekend. It was felt that if there was a state in between it was OK to run another 160km event. The AERA Secretary was consulted on whether there are any restrictions but Kim Moir has no recollection of any. It was decided that Windeyer should fill in an expression of interest to run the NSW State Championship for 2021

## **VOLUNTEER SUB-COMMITTEE**

Fia Hasko-Stewart, Ian Curtis, Shawn Griffin, Linda Jonkers, Annette Bailey and Georgie Pankhurst are the members of the volunteer sub-committee but Fia has excused herself. Georgie has written a letter outlining the sub-committee's suggestions:

- Establish a volunteer database to be made available to ride secretaries
- Need a volunteer co-ordinator on the SMC
- Advertising through the newsletter, web
- Education and information package put together for the volunteers
- Getting started notes for new riders to include information on the need for volunteers, which can be made available through newsletter, website, Youtube etc
- Incentives and or rewards such as a super draw

Annette explained how the Bullio volunteers are managed, which is a good blanket approach for volunteers.

**Action: Belinda to forward Annette's email on how to look after the volunteers to Peter Bice and Charile Gauci for circulation to RO's**

Action: Charlie to take this subject to the RO panel to see if they want input into the lack of volunteer help

## **OFFICE OF SPORT GRANT**

### **Advertising Campaign**

Some have seen the add and it made endurance riding look interesting. There has been a lot of Facebook traffic. Watagan area has received quite a bit of interest as well. We have received 2 invoices for The March advertising and we are in credit, this is then used in April and we will receive further invoices to the value of the credit.

### **First Aid Courses**

We need people who are prepared to work at some rides. Kylie and Jacky are interested.

**Action: Kerry:- request Jacky to arrange to attend a 1<sup>st</sup> Aid course**

**Action: April - check with Bindi and Eric to see if they will do the 1<sup>st</sup> Aid course**

## **Play by the Rules**

This is very simple and all of the SMC should be up to date. There are various topics that you can choose from Volunteers, Working with Children, Bullying, Harassment . Please note that this is a condition of us obtaining certain grants. Equally useful for volunteers and ride organisers.

**Action: Belinda - re-forward the links for Play by the Rules**

## **WEBINAR – Sport Governance**

John has registered to attend. Belinda should also attend because this is to do with the questionnaire that she has filled for Office of Sport.

**AGM 2022** – reminder, hold over

**TQ 2021** – Possible that there will be less people attending from Qld and NSW because they still have the 21 day biosecurity plan. COVID is still a risk.

## **PORTFOLIO ALLOCATIONS**

Ride Calendar – Kylie

Governance – Alam

Child Protection - Alam

Volunteer Co-ordinator – Kim

Website, Facebook – Noni, Bridget Maher and Lou Piddington are prepared to help

Newsletter – John

Horse Welfare, Early Warning System – Matt

Vet Liaison – Matt

Biosecurity - Matt

IDP – Kerry

Ride Administration, Feedback – Peter

Chief Stewards, TPRs – Belinda

Promotions – Faith, April, John – promotions could also help obtaining information for the newsletter

Merchandise – Andrew

Grants – Kerry, Faith, Belinda, April

International – Alam, Kylie

## **NEWSLETTER**

Suggested that we put the Newsletter up for tender as it is time for an upgrade – more colour pictures, more articles, more advertising to help pay for its cost. A different format would be nice as the current format is very antiquated, some feedback received that it is boring to read. The website and Facebook have been upgraded. Ride results can be sourced via AERASpace and quite a lot of the other information can be found on social media. The newsletter needs to be more useful and attractive. Agreement to not put out for tender this year, but it really needs to be revamped – glossiness, more interesting articles. There needs to be a bigger commitment in producing the newsletter: more attention to detail in finding good articles, interviewing people and getting interesting material to publish eg articles on nutrition, shoeing, barefoot trimming, vetting processes, featured rules, electrolytes and juniors etc. Agreement that this is the role of the newsletter portfolio holder.

The current Newsletter cost is \$40.98 per year for everyone that gets a newsletter but we are only charging \$35 per newsletter. Currently the online newsletter online is free and can be printed. Perhaps we should put the printed newsletter up to \$50 and charge \$35 for the online newsletter. Last year it was pointed out that the newsletter cost \$19.94 per member but in actual fact it was \$17.30/member.

The new website will allow us to charge for the online subscription for the newsletter and it is a fully secure process. Members need to be encouraged to get the newsletter as it has rule updates etc which they need to be aware of.

Working on last year's membership number of 361, the \$140 NSWERA membership fee is broken down as follows:

\$70 – Secretariat – Should be \$78.90

\$16 – Newsletter Editor – Should be \$19.95

\$32 – Area Affiliation

\$25 – Liability Insurance

\$143.00 – so less than costs allocated on that number of members. If we have a membership of more than 450, the \$70 & \$16 are correct but in general the membership is lowering each year

**Action: John to revamp the newsletter through the portfolio**

## **HORSE WELFARE EARLY WARNING**

Rhys Powell is eligible to be accredited.

## **FACEBOOK**

Feedback received that photos used on Facebook seem to be the same riders. Photo consent needs to be obtained and more importantly photographers need to be aware that the photos they are publishing need to promote the sport.

Should there be a photo / photographer protocol or guidelines? Maybe AERA should look into this as it is a national issue

**Action: Kerry write to AERA suggesting they look into photo publishing / photographer protocol or guidelines**

## **MERCHANDISE**

Bridget Maher is interested in re-designing the NSWERA merchandise range. A clearing sale is needed for the old stock as there are boxes and boxes of merchandise. Agreed to donate some merchandise to new rides for completion prizes or raffles

**Action: Noni to create a list of the items for sale and advertise in the newsletter**

## **GRANTS**

An important job is keeping an eye on what and when grants become available – it would be nice to be able to notify members/clubs when a grant becomes available in their area. Need to be inventive about possible projects. Grants are available from various sources eg : Office of Sports Infrastructure Grants, Club Grant Scheme, regional council grants

The SMC also needs to plan what projects could be carried out with future grant funding. The Office of Sports Development Grant usually closes the week of Shahzada. Since the current project is almost complete, we should apply for this grant again. SMC to ask zones and other clubs what they would like or need funding for. The SMC needs to have a workshop to plan the grant application.

**Action: Belinda to forward the think tank list to the Grant sub-committee**

## **INTERNATIONAL**

At the moment the UAE is shut down due to EI. The World Champs may still happen but horses are unable to move around to complete their qualifications

## **PROMOTIONS**

Our sport needs to be pushed more as we are rather insular. You see some sports advertising all over the place. Promotion seems to be our biggest challenge in dealing with the declining membership

## **RIDE ORGANISER's PANEL (Charlie)**

Every ride has a spokesperson, we have a private group but not everyone is on this group yet. Charlie, Jo Davis, Fia are the three who are on the panel that will alternate between meetings with Bec Hogan as a stand in. Each ride was asked to nominate a spokesperson. Agreed some confidential subjects that need to stay at the SMC table. Charlie will be the main person to consult with the RO's and if the RO's across the board have a say in what affects them and it is reported back to the SMC, hopefully this will become the norm.

One of the RO attendees will take information back to the group and the feedback will come back to the meeting for information or sorting out.

Often a decision needs to have a quick answer – it is envisioned that the RO panel representative will put issues on social media and should have an answer in a few minutes of those ROs who choose to reply. If a quick answer could not be achieved it should be held off till the next meeting. We would like to give this RO group a couple of months to settle in

The RO Group will report to meetings and submit agenda items as needed. It was felt that confidentially agreements should be signed, but if it is in camera the representatives should leave the room – no actual decision was made.

## **PUBLICATION IN THE LAND NEWSPAPER – regarding Wollemi National Park**

The article was passed around the SMC. Fiona Meller contacted Tony to see if NSWERA had endorsed the comments made in The Land. Brian Swan was interviewed for the Gazette paper. The Land (both papers have the same owners) used this article and extended the information without obtaining any permission. Contrary to

the article, Brian Swan did not say that NSW Endurance Riders called a meeting with John Barilaro. Zone 1- Garry Weis, Charlie Gauci (local land owner), Brian Swan (local rider rep) are having a meeting with John Barilaro's senior advisor, Matt Kean the NSW Environment Minister on 22.3.21.

Brian Swan had been talking about endurance in general and Zone 1 asked him to use Zone 1 Endurance because Zone 1 would like it to stay a local issue.

NSWERA have worked hard in not aligning the association with politicians, working strategically through the Course Preservation Sub committee and Fiona Meller. Fiona emailed a senator involved with Matt Kean to advise that the article had no connection to NSWERA and involved a private group.

The SMC feels that Zone 1 needs to correct the mistake that The Land Newspaper has misrepresented NSWERA, letting it be known that it is Zone 1 who are the local group lobbying.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> draft Horse Riding Management Plan is just the same as the 1<sup>st</sup> draft – no extra trails are being reopened and all single tracks (bridle trail) will be closed to horse riders. This is of concern to everyone because it will eventually filter through all National Parks.

**Action:Noni will seek some clarification from Peter Cochran (former National Party MP)**

## **ETS CARETAKER**

Tom McCormack is prepared to transport and operate the ETS for the NSW rides that wish to use it. After this we need to plan how the ETS can be transported around the state as the boxes weigh 30 kilos each. We need to have a north and a south ETS helper to learn the system. Great care needs to be taken when packing the equipment away. If it goes to individual rides the system needs to come back to a carer/committee member to repack the equipment and make sure nothing is missing or broken.

We should offer to pay the ETS Caretaker fuel costs and ROs could be encouraged to offer accommodation and food.

The NSWERA FM radio transmitter is available for ride use and could possibly be transported with the ETS.

**Action:Noni will re-advertise the transmitter on Facebook**

**Action:Peter will supply information to the newsletter**

**Action: Kerry obtain ETS Insurance for replacement value \$15,000 – theft and accidental damage**

**Action: Belinda contact Tom McCormack to forward his fuel receipts for reimbursement**

**Action: Charlie approach the RO group about extra costs associated with the ETS, and decide what additional costs ROs are willing to accept**

## **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR NEW RIDES**

Kerry declared a conflict of interest in relation to support of the Watagan ride.

Guidelines are needed as to what parameters are going to be used to offer assistance ie the club has no financial backing, a new bank account, newly incorporated, new name or the same name for the club

Watagan Club (who are completely new, with a new incorporation number and no pre existing funds) have asked for help to alleviate the arrow costs. The committee thought that \$300 would be appropriate.

Discussion that for new rides assistance with course markers would be better than money. Need to decide what a set of course markers includes. Maybe an arrow set should be given to the zones for used within their clubs. No final decision was reached on the monetary value of the financial assistance for new clubs/rides. Need to consult with clubs on what they need.

Agreed assistance should be offered to Watagan, Canowindra, Mogendura, Tumarumba

Noni has sourced a cheaper printer who with charge \$1.00/arrow and arrows have been purchased for Tumarumba by Tumarumba

MOVED Belinda, Peter

THAT NSWERA forward \$300 worth of course markers to the new Watagan Club

CARRIED Abstained – Kerry

**Action:Noni order course markers for Watagan. An invoice will be supplied for payment from the printer**

**Action:All In the meantime, further thought needs to be given to financial assistance to new clubs/rides**

## THINK TANK

Ideas from last year's think tank are as follows:

- Mentors
- Dollars assistance to new rides / clubs
- Discounts for bring a friend
- Decrease in entry fees
- Encouraging older riders to stay
- Some of these ideas could be discussed when we have a bit more time.

The new step up program has been put in place, about 5 riders currently participating. There needs to be more advertising carried out in 2021 promoting the step up program

## BURRAGA PRIZES

Decided best to see what feedback is received from Noni's email sent today. If is no reply by next meeting a letter should be sent asking for a resolution to the problem

## POSITION DESCRIPTIONS

**Action: Everyone to update their position description, currently on the website under Governance. An overall precise of what is entailed to carry out your position. A date should be listed at the bottom so that we know what is current**

**Action: Alam to follow up the position descriptions as part of governance**

## MOTIONS

How are past SMC and AGM motions recorded? Several attempts have been made to collate them. There is a black book in storage but it hasn't been kept up to date since the electronic age. Noted that motions become contradictory over time or irrelevant because issues have been superseded, or no longer listed and or intentionally changed

The minutes are the official register of motions and are published on the website with all motions included. Kerry has records of the AGM and other minutes.

The Constitution records special resolutions passed relating to its alteration. These changes are recorded with historic notes in the Constitution which has a version control on it

## TREASURERS REPORT

Currently 2 people are required to be in the same room to authorise a payment. An option of instead of 2 to sign is to transfer funds to the Bendigo Bank, then payments can be made instantaneously and the account topped up as agreed. Decided that 2 signatories were required to sign. With CommBiz the 2<sup>nd</sup> authoriser can log on and approve the payments to be made that the 1<sup>st</sup> authoriser has set up, making two to sign/authorise.

**Action: Kim set up the cheque account as a Commbiz account**

The interest bearing deposits are considered as individual accounts and will require the executive to go through the same procedure of visiting the bank to sign again for investing, re-investing and withdrawing as it is 2 to authorise. The bank have stated that for investing & re-investing the back can speak over the phone to the 2<sup>nd</sup> authoriser to gain approval. If a withdrawal is required each authoriser will have to attend their respective bank to sign. The committee felt that it was better having 2 to sign or as the bank suggested that they ring the 2<sup>nd</sup> authoriser to approve.

MOVED: Belinda, Noni

THAT: The NSWERA Interest Bearing Deposits have as signatories any 2 of the following to authorise investing, re-investing or withdrawing: President - Anthony Warren, Secretary - Kerry Spratt, Treasurer –Kim Stephens. CARRIED

The current IBD Numbers being 062 595 5016 1784, 062 622 5015 9428, 062 577 5011 1088

Query expressed as to whether the Treasurer was valid to be a Treasurer and on the executive. The Constitution was quoted as follows:

## Constitution and Membership

16. (1) Subject in the case of the first members of the Committee to section 21 of the Act, the Committee shall consist of-

1. (a) four office bearers; and
2. (b) six management members;

all of whom shall be members of the Association and each of whom shall be elected at an Annual General Meeting of the Association pursuant to Rule 17.

(c) zone representatives, all of whom shall be members of the Association and appointed by Incorporated Zone Associations.

The office bearers of the Association shall be-

1. (a) the President;
2. (b) the Vice President;
3. (c) the Treasurer; and
4. (d) the Secretary

who shall all be appointed by the Committee annually from amongst its members.

Resolved that Zone Delegates are part of the committee and can hold an executive position.

## CORRESPONDENCE

Neil Clarkson: email as read relating to the Windeyer ride and communications from the SMC. Neil was phoned for clarification of his email and he reiterated what he had written. Issues discussed at length.

**Action: Charlie will talk to Windeyer ROs to find out what their frustrations are**

Ride Booking Form –due to the trouble Windeyer had obtaining a Head Vet for Friday, the Ride Booking Form should nominate who is Head Vet, Chief Steward and the fees for the event. Recognised that this information is possibly not available when the booking form is submitted, the form requesting this further information should be submitted 3 months before the ride instead of 6 weeks

**Action:Kylie will institute this as of now**

Email from Sarah Pollard-Williams with suggestions about obtaining ride vets.

**Action: Kerry to respond as agreed, including information about vet accreditation.**

Email from a member concerned about the inappropriate use of personal information. Lengthy discussion about how this information may have been obtained, likely source identified. Agreed strongly that this was completely inappropriate use of the information. Notice to be made suggesting to members that they do not give their proxy votes to people they don't know and trust to vote on their behalf. Checks made with AERA indicate that the information in AERASpace is secure. Information has been put of the website re unacceptability of soliciting proxies and votes. The potential source of the information will also be addressed.

**Kerry write to the member as agreed.**

Approximately 50% of votes at the AGM over recent years are proxies. Discussion about presenting a special resolution to the AGM to reduce the number of proxies permitted, this requires further thought, as does the pros and cons of electronic voting.

Mudgee Ride has to change their ride base location to Neil Clarkson's property as one of the property owners is not allowing access through their property.

**Action: Kylie to let the Mudgee ROs know that the ride base change has been noted**

Request from a Chief Steward to replace his aluminium case which is falling apart. Agreed to replace using the Tied Grant

**Action: Belinda to check with the other Chief Stewards to see if they need a new case and obtain as needed**

Hand sanitiser: 7 boxes, each of 12 x 1 litre containers are available from Office of Sport. Needs to be picked up from Chullora. Kerry requested one box per zone with a spare.

**Action: Tony will try and collect the hand sanitiser.**

East Coast Championship QERA have suggested that between Qld and NSW we could run a 160km ride in alternate years called the East Coast Championship. The committee felt that some of the guidelines need to be discussed but the principle is worth further discussion. Agenda item next meeting.

**Action: Kerry to reply to saying we are interested in principle but NSWERA are not likely to be able achieve this until possibly 2023 and some of the rules need to be negotiated**

### **TOILETS AT RIDES**

There have been quite a few complaints about the lack of hand sanitizer or hand soap in the toilets at rides. The sanitizer is required as part of the Covid Safety Plan. It is a Duty of Care to have sanitizer available at all rides

### **ZONE 3 EQUIPMENT**

The scales will cost approx. \$100 (inclusive of the exchange rate) from America. Bibs will be \$35 each, total \$350 – 5 Mentor Bibs (to be used out on track) and 5 Ask Me Bibs (used at Ride Base). Arrows to ride base, Office, TPR & Vetting with cost \$1570

**Action: Belinda to check with Noni's printer to see if these signs can be printed cheaper & forward information to Peter to remind RO's about the Mentor and Ask Me bibs**

### **CHIEF STEWARD SCANNERS**

All the Chief Stewards have now got a new Halo scanner. Snowy Zone have a spare Halo scanner which can be forwarded to Zone 3

MOVED: Kylie, Tony

THAT: We purchase a new scanner for John Howe. CARRIED

### **MEETING DATES**

Friday 30 April

Friday 4 June

Friday 2 July

Friday 13 August

All the above meeting to be held at the Richmond Club with a 6.00pm start. John to organise the Richmond Club for the meeting dates

**MEETING CLOSED: 12.20am**

### **Committee Reports follow:**

#### **President's Report Tony**

Hi everyone,

Yippee a face to face, hopefully we can get some work done. As you all know GoTo meetings have been great for Covid times but a lot of work was missed, hopefully we get enough done in most face to face that we can agree to some GoTo meetings from time to time.

Let me start by welcoming back all re-elected committee members and also welcome Andrew Jonkers back to the committee, and I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new zone delegate Peter Kelly from Zone 6 who has also been before.

I have said this before, but I feel we have a great mix of experience, age & diversity around the table, which I believe will work very well as a group for the benefit of the sport we all enjoy.

I am looking forward to working with you all, and hope we have a positive and productive year.

- Portfolio Positions: would everyone please have a think about the committee portfolios, if we could spread this load evenly among us it would make things so much easier for everyone. If you have an interest in something please put your hat in the ring.

Now some housekeeping,

I would like to remind everyone on the committee and people acting as zone delegates that we have all signed confidentiality agreements. There is a difference between speaking about general committee interests and speaking about something that is delicate in nature, please think before you speak. We have a small community and information whether right or wrong spreads rapidly.

## **Ride Calendar. John Howe**

With the success of Windeyer and Modendoura, both of whom have indicated that as their rides were so successful, Windeyer had 116 entries, both have indicated that they will run further rides later in the year.

Sadly John's River has had to cancel due to weather but have re booked for September. Windeyer volunteered to run the weekend that John's River cancelled but as they would have been one week before Mt Lagoon, this would have not worked. However, the zeal of the Windeyer R.O's must be commended. The calendar is filling fast and this bodes exceptionally well for the year ahead.

I would like to thank Kylie for her fantastic support and please note that I will be supporting her bid to take on the Ride Calendar portfolio for the upcoming year. I have offered to assist Kylie in this matter.

## **Newsletter.**

The Treasurer has raised some interesting points in regard to the financial viability of the Newsletter. Some years ago as Treasurer, I asked the same questions and came up with the following answers:- as the Newsletter is now available on the Website in electronic form and we have a falling paper subscription, how do we pay for the Newsletter?

At the same time I looked at our major fixed costs and published in the AGM booklet of 2.3.19 the following formula. I identified 4 main fixed costs:- Secretariat, Editorial, Public Liability Insurance and AERA Affiliation annual fees. I took the first two figures and divided them by the previous years membership and arrived at the following for Adult riders. Secretariat \$70.00, Editorial \$16.00, AERA Annual affiliation \$32.00 and Public Liability \$22.00 total \$140.00. I also applied similar formulas to both Junior and Intermediate membership. That way our annual Editorial fee would be covered.

In regard to paper newsletters. At the time if any member chose to receive a paper Newsletter they would pay \$35.00 per annum for the privilege. However, costs have increased. Today it costs \$3.97 per Newsletter to print and \$2.86 to mail a cost per annum of \$40.98, so a simple rise would solve that problem. It has come to my notice that of each Newsletter print, 12 Newsletters are sent out as regular freebies, this has been sanctioned by NSW for some years and currently costing \$491.76 per annum. On top of this Jacky has extra Newsletters printed, this last run, I believe 40. These Newsletters go out to new members. Obviously, these last 2 costs should be expended not as Newsletter costs but as promotion. By adding these costs to the Newsletter a falsely inflated cost figure is arrived at. My plan was to have the Newsletter cost neutral by the Editorial component of our annual membership and the paper newsletter fee. This goal has been achieved. So I believe that The Treasurers questions re money have been asked and answered. I would also like to take this opportunity to remind the SMC that the membership at successive AGM's have reaffirmed their desire to continue the Newsletter in it's current format.

Also we must be cognizant of the fact that under our Constitution Objects and Powers 2 i and j.

Keep the members of the Association informed of the activities of the Association. and To encourage the conduct of research into and disseminate information collected in relation to the performance, training, diseases, genetics, animal husbandry and feeding of Equines used in the sport of endurance horse riding..

Our Newsletter does all these and while I agree that for swift one off information sessions the Internet is probably much faster. However, we need to have a timely release of information that is served by the Newsletters bi monthly release. I will remind you that there are members who are not tech savvy and rely upon the printed Newsletters. I keep all mine and use them for reference material. A fact that is known to you all. There are many others who can and do quote from old newsletters and these members do not deserve disenfranchisement. Regardless of what medium we use we still have to have an Editor to put it all together.

I will also point out that at no point was the Newsletter meant to be a profit making enterprise, it is simply a news and information dissemination service. In the matter of advertising revenue, I doubt that any print publications in the last 12 months made money. An incredible number of small newspapers and publications went bankrupt. Thanks to Covid 19. I hope that this report has answered the questions raised.

## **Zone Two:-**

Windeyer ran a very successful training weekend on 12,13 and 14th March with 116 entries received, though some riders chose not to ride on Sunday due to Saturday nights heavy rain. Windeyer will run again later this year. Our next ride will be Tooraweenah on 10 and 11 of April. The Zone Two AGM will be held at Tooraweenah.

Tooraweenah will host it's stand alone 160km ride 24 and 25th July. We hope that we will have a big rollup to sample the TQ22 track. Bullio will run as usual at the end of October. 2021 is shaping up to be a big year in Zone Two.

Zone Two, the Best in the West.

## **Zone 6 Report Peter Kelly Zone President**

Our small but experienced committee has been working hard to revitalise our sport on the mid north coast after a few lean years in the doldrums. Our Johns River Ride was looking great with around 120 nominations and good local sponsorship but for the past month the weather had been against us. We had to postpone the ride this week and it now looks like flooding. We plan to run a sunny ride in Spring time hopefully with the same interest.

Our Kiwarra ride had to be cancelled for this year due to damage from last years fires but we are hoping to get a ride at Bago up and running on the Kiwarra date.

The Watagans ride has come across to Zone 6 which is wonderful and we will give strong support to them for their two rides running this year.

We had a setback with the misplacement or loss? of our ride computer which is a mystery yet to be solved but hopefully we can remedy the situation somehow. We had a new SMC delegate nominated but they withdrew due to personal reasons so I have taken on the delegate role in their place. So overall a mixture of positives and negatives but we are still alive and kicking.

## **Zone One Delegate Report Faith Robinson**

Entries are coming for Mountain Lagoon Ride which is next weekend. This year everything is/was going to plan and now we have a huge deluge forecast – oh great! We are marking tracks on horseback and setting up the Ride Base. Let's hope that rain is not the thorn in the side that COVID was last year!

Submissions closed on the South East Wollemi Draft Horse Riding Plan, and a meeting is scheduled next week between various horse riding groups and individuals. I believe there were a good amount of submissions made and hope that the reviews of the submissions will influence NPWS to make horse riding in the park is not restricted to just a few wide tracks.

The Mentor Program is slowly coming to fruition with various Mentors taking on and nurturing "mentees". Active Mentors include Renee Kirk, Karen Rhodes, Fiona Meller and myself. The Mentor Program is complemented by the online information sessions that Belinda has been indispensable in organising.

## **21.03 SMC Report. Belinda**

### ***Ride Report roads***

*Matar Stables, Bullio Cup 31.10.20, 40, 80, 100 & 120km.*

A challenging course consisting of gravel roads, pine forest and green paddocks (with high elevation in places) that is very achievable for the novice combination. The weekend faced every season. There were plenty of willing and capable volunteers over the weekend. There was 1 invasive treatment for acute abdo pain and was on a RO for 6 weeks.

### ***CS/TPR:***

TPR school - We have 7ish participants from NSWERA, and quite a few from CSU (to be finalised). For both groups the theory and test will be done online, with the practical being done at Tumbarumba ride for the NSW group. The CSU group will be done at Anne and Stuart Lymbery's place.

### ***Information Sessions:***

We have presented 5 sessions with an average 10 – 12 attendees, with 5 to go. Attendees are mostly newcomers – they interact, give good feedback and are very appreciative.

ROC Forum for the AGM - Was very well attended with 20 participants. Tom McCormack spoke very briefly on how riders and strappers can get the most out of the ETS and what not to do. Then went into using AERAspace, had morning tea at about 11, and followed on using the ETS with AERAspace. Could encourage the ROC's to use the Mentor and ? ASK ME bibs please?

### ***Other:***

ETS Co-ordinator - no interest. Do we need to revisit the requirements?

The Volunteer Incentive Group has been contacted to organise a date to meet - scheduled for Tuesday 16/3, and I should have a report to present.

I would like to remind all SMC members (inc zone reps) to please undertake their Working With Children Check and Harassment and Discrimination Courses with Play By The Rules. It is free and doesn't take very long. Please send me a copy of your certificate when done. Could the RO/Zone Liaison please pass on to RO's?

<http://www.playbytherules.net.au/online-courses>

I am following up quotes for equipment for Riverina Zone –

- Scales – ordered from the US, should be less than \$100.
- Bibs (approx. \$350) – 5 x ASK ME? 5 x Mentor
- Signs 600x900 with NSWERA logo (\$1570) - 5 x Rt arrows, 5 x Lt arrows, 5 x straight ahead arrows, 1 @ of Office, TPR and Vetting. Do we want the NSW gov logo in the corner?
- Scanner – All CS's have their own scanner now, do we need to buy one for the zone?

RO Advisor Group – Do we need to get some guidelines from them? It appears that the committees need to nominate from their committee who will stand, and who the voting delegate is/are – possibly 3 / committee (1/committee for last year, this year and next year.

Zones - where to from here? We should invite ALL rides for their comment as this affects them more than riders. DO we need rides to stick to their zone?

Capping – Start with proposed doc at the AGM??

### **Facebook - Noni**

Has seen a good rise in traffic and reasonable engagement from members, of course the ever fluid FB algorithms mean that you can never rely on even a majority of members seeing a post but the more it's shared, liked or commented on the more people it reaches! The group has also soon an increase in traffic and no troubles that I've seen. It has been excellent to see a lot of new "faces" amongst those engaging, the efforts of the advertising and information sessions of both Belindas and the hugely attended Watagans Q&A have had a good affect I think!

Instagram - still been slack, sorry. On my to do list (that's about 4 miles long!)

Website - New Website is coming along well, my lack of time at the minute has held up the launch but it's still progressing well! Getting plenty of requests directly from ROs for updates to their info, most very polite and happy, although there was one quite disgruntled person contacting me for the first time who was quite irritated that the information had not been updated by osmosis. I can only update what has been sent to me and get it up as quick as I'm able to get in front of a computer!

YouTube - videos sent by Faith have been copied and formatted ready for upload, unfortunately the passwords and access to the original YouTube account have never been forthcoming from Jacque Wright so that account is in limbo. Another email has been sent requesting access.

It would be much better to keep it as one channel but if I dont get access I will start a new account and roll it out with the new website.

AERA - Another AERA AGM done and dusted.

Committee for 2021 is President - Linda Tania, Vice President - Mark Dunn, Treasurer - Mark Dunn, Secretary - Kim Moir.

Special Resolutions, passed and amended as we agreed upon with exception of the last one which was not passed - again as we agreed. Think that's me done, no doubt I'll remember something on the 5hr drive... see you all tonight folks!