

VICTORIAN ENDURANCE RIDERS' ASSOCIATION INC.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

4.00 PM SATURDAY 20TH JANUARY 2024

MELTON ENTERTAINMENT PARK

MINUTES

1. WELCOME - 4.00PM

The President and VERA SMC welcome all members and visitors to the VERA Annual General Meeting. Thank you for making the effort to travel to the meeting.

2. ATTENDANCE

Please see attached.

3. APOLOGIES

None

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM – 21ST JANUARY 2023

4.1 Amendments to the Minutes

4.2 Adoption of the Minutes

Motion (1) Jan 24 AGM The the minutes from the meeting of the 21st January, 2023 be adopted

Moved: Paul Nugent

Seconded: Jo Anne Francis

Carried: Yes

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Good afternoon everyone,

2023 was a great year for endurance in Victoria.

I would like to thank all our committee members for their efforts this year.

We have been very busy behind the scenes, working on the new ride trailers, incentives for ride organisers, new merchandise as well as many other things.

Thank you to all of our wonderful registrars who work hard behind the scenes,

Bronwyn Cuthbertson

Wendy Riha

Rebecca Williamson

Tanya Beacham

Mark Gabb

Jennifer Green

Sioux Reid

A huge thankyou to the ride organisers for 2023, without you we would not be able to do what we love. It is quite an arduous task and often thankless, so again we thank you.

To the many volunteers who are the backbone of a ride thankyou also.

I would like to congratulate those who travelled to Queensland to attend the Quilty, a massive effort, well done.

Moving forward we need more of our members to put their hand up and help in one form or another, be that volunteering at a ride (foregoing a ride for that weekend) running a ride or getting on the committee.

If we all work together we can keep endurance in Victoria for years to come, We just can't keep leaving it up to the same people to do everything.

Finally I would like to wish everyone a wonderful and successful 2024 season, kicking off in a couple of weeks at Eldorado.

Hope to see you all soon.

Paul Nugent
President
VERA

Paul spoke about the achievements that the Committee have achieved and been working on this year. VERA has 2 new trailers set up to be used in the 2024 season. We will be looking for sponsorship for advertising on the new trailers. Samantha Gay has been appointed to this role.

The Committee has established a ride organiser mentorship which we will be actively search for new ride organisers. Anyone thinking of running a ride will be able to contact established ride organisers for mentoring and help.

Shannon and Renee have been actively working on new merchandise to bring to the new season.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's report for AGM 2023
Held 20/1/2024

Audited financials have been emailed for all members to look over

Explanation of why there are difference in income, expenses and balance sheet items compared to last year (please remember our financial years run from 1/10/2022 to 30/9/2023, and not as per a calendar year like our memberships).

- A. The following Incomes and expenses vary greatly depending on how many rides are held each year and how many members we have, you will notice they bounce around a lot year to year:
- Logbook fees Income
 - Membership fees Income
 - Ride fees Income
 - All AERA fees
- B. AGM meals income – Increased due to being style of meal between the 2 years

- C. Merchandise income & expenses, this will be constantly changing depending on the demand for merch
- D. AGM/ EOY presentation increase dramatically due to the venue where they were held
- E. Vet reimbursements went down as this was a once off offer to the RO's for calendar year of 2021
- F. Sponsorship, this was for TQ 23
- G. State champs fees, increased due to there being 2 lots of vet fees being paid in the same financial year, 1 for the SC22 and 1 for the SC 23
- H. Tom Quilty Competition expenses, again as above, due to the dates, we had 2 lots of TQ teams uniforms fall in the same financial year.
- I. The decrease in the Term Depoist #2 was to help cover some of the payments towards the new trailers
- J. WIP – trailers, are the new trailers, they are still being worked on, therefore not converted to an asset as yet

With AERA not increasing their fees to VERA for the 2024 riding year, VERA will not be increasing any fees for RO's, members, horses and day members.

We are also still working on the trailers. At the time of writing this report, they were to be getting electrical work finished and sponsorship sorted. They should be out at rides as of next year.

With rides on the calendar for 2024, I hope everyone enjoys their year.

Kerrie Gabb - Ex Treasurer

Motion No: (2) Jan 24 AGM That the treasurers report be received.

Moved: Kerrie Gabb

Seconded: Helen Spencer

Carried: Yes

Many thanks to Kerrie Gabb for being treasurer who has stepped down this year.

7. ELECTIONS

7.1 Appointment of Scrutineers (2)

Nominations will be sought from the floor for 2 members to act as scrutineers in the collection and counting of votes for positions.

Scrutineers: Kerrie Gabb and Mezcal Manners

7.2 Stand Down of 2022 SMC Members at end of Term

The following SMC Members have reached the end of their term and their positions are now declared vacant:

- Kerrie Gabb – Treasurer & Ride Calendar Co-Ordinator
- Damien Little - General Committee
- Sandy Little - General Committee
- Louise Mackey - General Committee

7.3 Treasurer

Nominations for the position of Treasurer will be taken from the floor at the AGM.

Nominations were asked for and one was received. Our new treasurer is Sheree Haines Bishop.

Member	Proposer	Secunder
Sheree Haines Bishop	Bek Williamson	Nicole Porter

7.4 STATE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Nominations have been received from the following VERA members for the position of Committee Member, via email pre AGM

Sandy Little was reelected back into the State Management Committee.

Member	Proposer	Secunder
Sandy Little	Bek Williamson	Paul Nugent

7.5 Disciplinary Panel

5 positions are to be nominated and elected from those present at the AGM. The role is for a period of 1 year. The following members have been elected.

**Mezcal Manners
Bek Williamson
Linda Walkinshaw
Heather Stuchbree
Nikky Robinson**

7.6 Grievance Officer

1 position is to be nominated and elected from those present at the AGM. The role is for a period of 1 year.

Kasey Thomas

The SMC would like to thank Tanya Beacham our outgoing Grievance Officer for all the work that she has done in this role. We wish her every success for her future endeavours.

8. MOTIONS

Motion No (3) : That Bronwyn Cuthbertson be awarded a Life Membership of VERA.

MOVED: Paul Nugent SECONDED: Bek Williamson

For:

Against:

Carried: Yes

Bronwyn was unanimously voted in for the Life Membership Award.

9. SPECIAL RESOLUTION

To update the VERA Constitution was discussed and voted.

MOTION: That Clause 57 (4): That a member of the Management Committee cannot hold a committee position for more than six (6) consecutive years and must retire for a minimum of one (1) year before they can be eligible for re-election to any Management Committee position in VERA be removed from the VERA Constitution completely.

MOVED: SMC SECONDED: SMC

For:

Against:

Carried: Yes

A special resolution requires a 75% vote of approval to be successful.

A lot of discussion was had regarding the above.

Sandy Little spoke of how members numbers are limited. It is still a 2 year term and the members need to be relected after this 2 year term. Having committee members for only 4 – 6 years is very limiting.

Simon spoke of issues that had already been completed in the 2023 and continuity of member terms enables the SMC to move on rather than sourcing out history from previous years.

Linda spoke of continuity no relevance to 6 year term and that is was not an uncommon clause for a lot of committees. Linda said, "It is good for members to have a break and refresh".

Simon then spoke of how no one is banging on the VERA doors to be on the Committee.

MOTION NO (4) : That Clause 57 (4): That a member of the Management Committee cannot hold a committee position for more than six (6) consecutive years and must retire for a minimum of one (1) year before they can be eligible for re-election to any Management Committee position in VERA be removed from the VERA Constitution completely

For: 52

Against: 6

Abstain: 1

Carried: Yes

10. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

10.1 AERA Rule Changes for 2024.

There were no questions regarding the AERA rule changes for 2024. These are readily available on the AERA Website.

11. MEETING CLOSURE: 4.37PM.

DRAFT