



Victorian Endurance Riders Association Inc. 2017 Annual General Meeting

Held Saturday 20th January 2018: Tabcorp Park – Ferris Rd, Melton

1. Meeting opened 1537.

2. Apologies:

Sharee Court, Paul Bryson, Britnee Dhont, Steven Edwards, Janeen Smith, Jess Remfry, Sheryl Herbert, Steve Blackhurst, Geoff Jolly, Jennifer Green.

Motion2018.1: That the apologies be accepted. M:Pauline Wallace S:Carol Laidlaw.

3. Confirmation of Minutes of 2016 Annual General Meeting minutes held on 21st January 2017.

Motion2018.2: That the minutes of the 2016 AGM are true and correct.

M:Sioux Reid S:Vanessa Smith

4. Tabling and adoption of President's report. as read by Sandy Little. See attached.

Motion2018.3 That the presidents report be accepted. M:Pauline Wallace S:Ellen Prestage

5. Tabling and adoption of Treasurer's report.

The current book keeper has presented a profit and loss for the 2016 financial year and the balance sheets for 1st Oct 2016 and 30th Sept 2017. This has been audited by Patison Partners and found to meet all standards required of the organisation.

Comment from Treasurer, the final profit margin did not include fees owed to AERA for the year 2017 as VERA had been waiting on corrected invoicing. The invoices eventually received were greater than \$8,000.

Questions from the floor. Invoice are approved by 2 out of the following three - book keeper, treasurer, president. Venue hire includes 2016 AGM venue hire and 2017 SMC meeting venue.

Motion2018.4: That the treasurers report be accepted. M:Rebecca Williamson S:Lisa Warden

6. Election of members to vacant positions.

Stand down of 2017 State Management Committee members at end of their term – Martin Mizzi, Brittnee Dhondt, Tamara Atkinson, Paul Bryson and seconded to committee positions for 2017 – Hans Peuker, Paul Nugent Sandy Little, Geoff Jolly.

6.1 Nominations received for positions

Motion2018.5: That the voting for SMC positions be done by secret ballot M:Sheryl Symes S:Kerry Gabb
Vote: for-37 Against-Carl Adamson, Pauline Wallace, Eric Thomas

Motion2018.6 That returning officers will be Rebecca Williamson, Jane McLaughlan Shannon Decker, Maitland Wallace. Voting - majority carried.

6.1.1 President

Call for nominations from the floor

Eric Thomas - M:Julie Woods S:Pauline Wallace accepted by Eric Thomas

Alamdar Dastani – M: Tamara Atkinson S:Caroline Noble accepted by Alamdar Dastani

Brief speech from each candidate.

Vote: Alamdar-30 Eric-22

Congratulations to Alamdar Dastani



6.1.2 Vice President

Nominee	Nominated by	Seconded by
Carol Laidlaw	Geoff Jolly	Peter Laidlaw
Alamdar Dastani nomination no longer applicable.		

6.1.3 Committee Positions x 9 available

Nominee	Nominated by	Seconded by
Steve Noble	Martin Mizzi	Kim Noble
Paul Nugent	Martin Mizzi	Rebecca Williamson
Martin Mizzi	Rebecca Williamson	Paul Nugent
Tamara Atkinson	Fiona Passarin	Bronwyn Cuthbertson
Sandy Little	Sandy Little	Bronwyn Cuthbertson
Ellen Prestage	Geoff Jolly	Carol Laidlaw
Pauline Wallace	Digger Leehane	Rod Mills
Geoff Jolly	Carol Laidlaw	Peter Laidlaw
Jennie Armistead	Susan Gill	Linda Carney

Carol Laidlaw nomination no longer applicable.
All nominations for general committee positions accepted.

6.2 Other positions to be filled

6.2.1 Disputes Panel – 5 positions to be elected at the AGM from those present. Should a dispute arise - three will be chosen by ballot to create panel.

- i. Kim Noble – N: Steve Noble, S by Alamdar Dastani - accepted
- ii. Jane McLaughlan --M:jenni Armistead S:Carol Laidlaw accepted
- iii. Carl Adamson – M:Shannon decker S:Ken Bradley accepted
- iv. Nicki Robinson - M:Caroline Noble S:Carl Adamson accepted by text
- v. Ken Bradley - M: Martin Mizzi S:Pauline Wallace accepted

6.2.2 Grievance Officer – to be appointed to mediate in disputes

- i. Eric Thomas, N by Alam Dastani S:Carl Adamson accepted.withdrawn prior to vote
- i. Sioux Reid – M:Pauline Wallace S: Lisa Worden accepted
- ii. Steve Noble – M:Ken Bradley S:Kerry Alderton accepted
- iii. Caroline Noble M: Kasey Thomas S: Kendal Noble accepted

Voting: Caroline Noble by majority

Welcome to the new committee. Incoming president Alamdar Dastani now takes control of further of meeting business.

7. Business for discussion

7.1 Motion for VERA Inc. Constitution change

Motion2018(7.1): That rule 57 of the Constitution of the Victorian Endurance Riders Association Incorporated, be amended to include a new sub-rule 4 which reads-

“A member of the Management committee cannot hold a committee position for more than four (4) consecutive years and must retire for a minimum of one (1) year before they will be eligible for re-election to any Committee of Management position”

Moved: Geoff Jolly M/No:3070 Seconded: Julie Woods M/No:3121



If this motion is passed it would require sub-rules 4,5&6 to be amended in numerical sequence to sub-rules 5,6&7.

Motion 2018(7.1a).move to amendment – that the wording be changed to “ a member of the management committee cannot hold a committee position for more than 3 consecutive terms (6yrs) and retirement for 1 term (2yrs). M:Sandy Little S:Sioux Reid.

Vote: for 22 against 28 amendment is lost

Vote for motion 2018(7.1) for-40 against- 6 carried

Action: that the secretary complete the required paperwork to consumer affairs within 28 day s

7.2 AERA proposal that all horse application for Novice Horse Logbook require Microchip.

Proposed Rule 6.3: An application for a novice horse logbook shall not be processed by the DA unless and until:

- a) the horse has been identified by a microchip implant, and
- b) a complete veterinary identification (including any legible brands at the time of the veterinary inspection) has been completed and lodged with the DA, and
- c) relevant processing fees have been paid to the DA.

Rationale: m'chips are universally accepted as adequate for confirming horse identification now and it is easier for a Chief Steward to ID horses with a microchip.

Considerations:

- o *not all horses are suitable for endurance but may want to try as a novice before the expense of vet id's and m'chips.*
- o *There is some push from state government*
- o *Management of biosecurity issues is more difficult without m'chips.*

Voting: for-5 against-majority carried by majority

Action: VERA Inc. AERA rep to vote in this manner at the next AGM.

7.3 Victorian Child Safe Standards Legislation. This legislation came into action during 2017 and has 7 standards for all sporting organisations to implement. VERA Inc. is seeking motivated members to establish a sub-committee to implement the 7 standards as they apply to the operations of VERA Inc. and affiliated events.

Jane and Sarah McLaughlan, Pauline Wallace Carol Laidlaw

Action Secretary to forward CSS info to interested parties.

7.4 Policy Review - VERA Annual Awards – should a VERA Inc. member be eligible for Annual Awards if they have received disciplinary action from VERA Inc. during that competition year?

Members discussed need to respond according to severity of disciplinary action. Disciplinary panel can give penalties to riders at their discretion and so inclusion in annual awards could be a consideration of the panel findings. Therefore no changes to be made.

7.5 VERA Inc. Rider Identification Bibs – currently these have a colour identification for the rider weight division. VIC is the only state to do this. This poses difficulties for riders who may change weight division. Should the colour identification be removed?

General member comment supported the colour identifying riding weight divisions on competitor bibs to remain. However, that it was the responsibility of the rider to ensure that they ride with the correct colour for their division.

7.6 Review 2017 Annual Awards Rule change regarding dual affiliation of the Tom Quilty Gold Cup event to the VERA Inc. Calendar. Does the dual affiliation of the TQ disadvantage some VERA members in the Annual Awards?

Robust discussion included that for riders who did not aspire or could not attend a TQ Australian Championship event this could disadvantage them in the VERA annual awards, however, for the riders who chose to include the national event and not attend VERA events, this supported their



decisions. Referral made to the convincing yes vote at the 2016 AGM. Before the policy change in 2017, VERA was the only state who had not previously dual affiliated the National Championship.

Outcome: the policy to dual affiliate the Tom Quilty Gold Cup National Championship to remain.

7.7 Motion2018(7.7): That all rides be run under VERA Inc. so removing the financial burden from Ride organisers (unless they specifically want to eg. Moyston done for charity).

Moved: Caroline C. Noble Seconded: Kendall E. Noble.

Discussion: VERA currently has a plan for a 'grant support' for ride organisers who anticipate they may run at a loss and submit 'good cause' application for financial support from VERA.

Outcome: Caroline and Kendall Noble are happy to let this motion not be voted on today and review progress with VERA SMC in 6mths time to discuss progress.

7.8 Life Membership Nomination

I would like to nominate Ellen Prestage for Life Membership of VERA. Ellen has worked tirelessly over many decades to support the sport of Endurance Riding in Victoria. Ellen has served on the State Management Committee and Zone Committees for many years and in many roles. Currently Ellen is secretary of Gippsland endurance Riders Zone, and is an active Ride Organiser, Ride Secretary and Chief Steward. She has trained TPR's over many decades, as well as mentoring and supporting Ride Organisers, Chief Stewards and Ride Secretaries into these vital roles. Ellen continues to be very active in the sport, despite not having participated as a rider for many years due to health issues. Her continuous contribution to enable the riders to enjoy this wonderful sport is deserving of recognition by awarding of life membership. I am proud to nominate Ellen for this honour, and it is seconded by Susan Gill.

Moved: Jenny Moncur M/No 30802 Seconded: Susan Gill M/No 31127

Vote: carried on majority

8. Meeting Closure. 18.12



Attendance

30640	adamson carl	31320	noble alison (non voting/junior)
314289	alderton kerry	30745	noble steven
31087	armistead jennie	132183	nugent paul
31218	atkinson tamara	112204	porter nicole
130464	blank kerrie	30855	prestage ellen
30166	bradley ken	31438	reid sioux
30022	cuthbertson bronwyn	31152	robinson russell
103060	dastani alamdar	31441	robinson april
30779	decker shannon	30737	smith vanessa
31118	duke sallyann	119474	symes sheryl
31127	gill susan	31083	thomas simon
117670	henry renee	31082	thomas kasey
30064	laidlaw carol	127761	thomas eric
30181	little alexander	108091	venezia jasmine
30956	mclaughlin jane	30691	wallace maitland (non voting
30984	mclaughlin sarah	associate)	
30669	mizzi martin	30676	wallace pauline
31309	noble caroline	109462	williamson rebecca
31420	noble kendall	31088	worden lisa
30744	noble kim	30021	woods julie
31221	noble daniel		

Proxy votes received by Secretary

Janeen Smith	30600	Secretary	7.1,7.2,7.3,7.4,7.5,7.6,7.7,7.8	
Stephen Edwards	109474	Secretary	7.1,7.2,7.3,7.4,7.5,7.6,7.7,7.8	
Tammy Woodgate	31415	Susan Gill	Unknown	
Shea Reynolds	134960	Susan Gill		Yes
Jennifer Moncur	30802	Susan Gill		Yes
Linda Carney	31359	Susan Gill		Yes
Tarryn Marshall	31322	Jenni Armistead	7.1	Yes
Trish Van Donk	31274	Jenni Armistead	7.1	Yes
Pamela Cox	31156	Jenni Armistead	7.1	Yes
Jake Verspaandonk	31270	Jenni Armistead	7.1	Yes
Tabitha Verspaandonk	31272	Ellen Prestage	7.1	Yes
Bill Verspaandonk	31269	Ellen Prestage	7.1	Yes
Zeke Verspaandonk	31271	Ellen Prestage	7.1	Yes
Dianne Williams	31321	Ellen Prestage	7.1	Yes
Kerrie Hart	31442	Ellen Prestage	7.1	yes
Peter Laidlaw	Life	Carol Laidlaw	?	Yes