

VICTORIAN ENDURANCE RIDERS' ASSOCIATION INC.

MINUTES OF STATE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Date 13 April 2022
Time 7.35 pm

1. WELCOME BY PRESIDENT

Linda welcomed all to the meeting and thanked the SMC for their contribution.

2. PRESENT

The following SMC members were present:

Linda Tanian, Ellen Prestage, Kerrie Gabb, Paul Nugent, Paul Bryson, Sandy Little, Hans Peuker, Russell Robinson, Lyn Taylor

3. APOLOGIES

Apologies have been received from the following Committee Members:

- Mezcal Manners (Leave of Absence)

No apologies were received from Russell Gillingham, Sheree Bishop and Damien Little.

4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Sandy Little declared a conflict of interest in the initial matter on the agenda as he was the Chief Steward at the Eldorado Ride.

5. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

The two items for discussion are:

1. Finalise the complaint lodged by Jenny Shephard
2. Discuss request for use of VERA's ETS and Clocks by the TQ22 Committee

The Electronic Timing System and Asset Management policies were distributed to all SMC members in relation to Item 2.

6. COMPLAINT BY JENNY SHEPHEARD

Linda advised that the information that had been discussed at the previous meeting (9 April) was included in the minutes that had been sent out. A brief overview of what Jenny had put to the SMC, regarding Sandy's involvement, was provided. Sandy was requested to respond.

Sandy advised:

- He had watched the horse trot out at the end of the ride
- There were a couple of less experienced vets at the event
- Sarah also has not done a lot of vetting
- Judy was the most experienced endurance vet present at the ride
- Horse trotted out in front of the line vet

- The line vet called for a panel, which was formed
- Horse trotted out again
- The voting was 2 votes to 1 that the horse was lame
- Rider was not happy with the outcome
- At the time she made no protest before she left the vet ring
- Left the vet ring obviously unhappy
- Later she came up to Sandy to show him the video which Sandy said was a waste of time showing the CS a horse trotting as his opinion did not matter a damn
- There have been some horses that were unlucky and some that were lucky on the day
- In his opinion some of the unlucky horses were sound
- Sandy advised that he certainly did not say the horse was sound and strongly said that Jenny was putting words into his mouth as he did not say what she reported

The SMC members, excluding Sandy, discussed the matter. The specific rules that apply to this matter are

- Rule 3.5 – Relating to the vet’s decision being final
- Rules 67.5 & 67.6 – Relating to appealing a veterinary decision

The SMC determined that the appeal would not be upheld due to the following:

- The correct vetting processes had been followed in terms of the number of times the horse had been trotted up
- The vet panel’s decision is final
- No appeal had been made to the Chief Steward prior to the horse leaving the vet ring.

A letter will be sent to Jenny Shephard advising of the outcome of the SMC’s deliberations.

7. REQUEST FOR USE OF VERA’S ASSETS

A verbal request has been received from Tom McCormack (Head Chief Steward for TQ22) on behalf of the TQ22 Committee. The TQ22 Committee would like to utilise VERA’s:

- ETS (less the aerial, which is not required)
- Electronic Clocks

The ETS and Asset Management policies outline the requirements for hire of VERA’s assets which are:

- A written request is to be submitted
- No charge for the hire but payment for the repair of any damage incurred would be necessary

Linda will contact Tom and ask for a written request to be submitted.

Linda will organise to take the ETS and clocks with her and return after the event.

8. MEETING CLOSURE

Meeting closed at 7.57 pm.