

43. ATTENDANCE

Present: Alam Dastani (chairman), John Howe, Noni Seagrim, Tony Warren, Neil Clarkson, April Newman, Kim Stephens, Andrew Jonkers, Kylie Jonkers, Kerry Fowler-Smith, Belinda Hopley

In attendance: Helen Rich (Minutes), Jax Barlow (part meeting)

44. Conflicts of Interest declaration.

Kerry Fowler-Smith declared a conflict of interest with Wingello and Watagan rides. As soon as discussion starts on this matter Kerry will leave the meeting and Peter Kelly (Zone 6 President) will dial in. Kerry has had no input into the discussions happening by email a week ago so she has taken no part in any of the discussion concerning this matter.

45. Secretariat Report and Ride Calendar (Jacky Barlow, Kylie):

Congratulations and welcome to Jax Barlow who continues with the secretariat during 2022. Warmly welcomed on behalf of the entire NSW ERA.

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Adult	274	344	293	352	342	399	413
Junior	34	59	35	49	49	49	50
Intermediate	13	13	13	23	34	24	31
Associate	6	5	9	14	13	15	20
Honorary	11	11	11	8	8	7	6
Total	338	432	361	446	446	494	520

Newsletter	112	145	155	195	213	226	233
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Date	First name	Last name	Number	Category	Address
08-03-22	Zaydan	Feltrin	170243	Junior	Holbrook
08-03-22	Rachel	Crease	170244	Intermediate	North wagga
08-03-22	Rob	Doubleday	170245	Intermediate	North wagga
08-03-22	Bec	Plummer	170246	Senior	Meadow flat
10-03-22	Diane	Clark	170247	Senior	Cowra
16-03-22	Alexa	Towersey	170248	Senior	Bondi
24-03-22	Scarlett	McQueen	170249	Senior (QLD)	Kyogle
24-03-22	Holly	Anderson	170250	Junior	Krambach
28-03-22	Hannah	Perrin	170251	Senior	Inverell
04-04-22	Ivy	Smith	170252	Junior	Macksville
04-04-22	Charlie	Perkins	170253	Junior	Congarinni north

MOVED Alam Dastani, John Howe
THAT the new members are accepted and their names will be published in the newsletter.
Carried Unanimous

PART 3: RIDES CONDUCTED – ENTRIES RECEIVED.

Ride Name	Date	Intro	Train	80-99km	100-119km	120-159km	160+	TOTAL
Glen Innes	26-2-22	4	19					23
Glen Innes	19-3-22	5	22	40				67
Central Ranges	23-3-22	16	40	42				98

PART 4: STOCKTAKE

Logbooks -44

Logbook covers- 44

PART 5: ENDURANCE HORSE REGISTRATIONS (Year to Date)

ANNUAL - 5

LIFETIME - 7

PART 6: OTHER BUSINESS

Horse ID in logbooks

An email was received from Clare Fleming. Why when a horse upgrades from novice to endurance, the vet has to fill in the picture and description with his details. That's what's always happened and then Jax transcribes that into the logbook. Occasionally a vet will put the ID into the logbook and that's fine but Jax prefers they don't as long as they sign the application form. Clare's question: to circumvent having to get them to sign the form, can we get them to just put it into the logbook without filling in the form. Jax explained to Clare the reason why it was done this way and she said she will take it to the SMC for instructions.

SMC discussion followed. Possible this should be taken up with AERA rather than NSW ERA. **Resolved** to keep things the way they currently are. Write to Clare Fleming advising of the discussion that just took place.

Bullio ride

The Bullio ride was run last month. Normally, with a standalone FEI ride, points and distance are not counted. Unfortunately points and distance have been added. Jax cannot make changes. Emailing Linda Tanian to get this fixed. She has been talking to Peter Johnson and as yet she does not have an answer. This shouldn't have happened. Waiting for Peter Johnson to fix the problem. **Resolved**: Noni to put a statement on the website advising of the problem and the steps to be taken to correct it..

46. Rides for approval

Falls Creek Endurance – 29-30th October 2022 (Alt date 5-6th November). 40km, 80km Sunday only. Discussion took place. Two weeks after Brookvale and four weeks after State Championship. Will fit into the calendar in October. Would also fit in with the possible Tumbarumba date. **Resolved** to approve this ride.

[7:28]. Jax Barlow signing out.

Kylie commented on the ride calendar. Letting you all know with Tumbarumba cancelling, cannot find anyone to fill those dates but has been advised that Scenic City may run. Different course to that used earlier in the year. It would be a little more challenging. Has nothing official from her yet, just wants to confirm a few more things. Hopefully something will come in later in the week. Tumbarumba looking at dates later in the year. Hopefully we will be able to get these two spots filled.

Alam: can we please go back to pre Covid times and keep these ride dates for meetings rather than discussing over emails.

General and New Business

47. Portfolios

Portfolios	
Biosecurity	Tony Warren. Tony said he did not know he had this. Inherited from Matthew. Would someone else like to take it on? It goes with vet liaison which is what Belinda was doing in the past. Bigger than just animal biosecurity. Really covers equine and humans. Tony WarrenBelinda Hopley.
Chief Stewards & TPRs	Belinda Hopley
Child Protection	Currently with Alam. Does anyone want this? Usually VP so that would be Kylie. Kylie Jonkers
Early Warning System	Tony Warren
Grants	Kerry and Belinda. Kerry asked to keep this before the AGM. Are you all happy with this allocation? Kerry not going to take this on unless she has the confidence and agreement of the whole SMC. Unanimous that she does. Kerry Fowler-Smith to stay with this portfolio
Horse Welfare	Tony Warren
IDP	Kerry happy to keep this. Anyone else want to shadow this portfolio? No answer. Kerry Fowler-Smith.
International	Currently with Alam. He to keep this one. Kylie said she is happy to share this. Restart trying to get foreign riders. Alam Dastani and Kylie Jonkers.
Merchandise	Andrew. Happy to keep this one. Anyone want to help Andrew? Noni did a survey so we know what members are looking for. Will start looking at products. Andrew Jonkers
Newsletter	Neil said he will take this on. Neil Clarkson.
Promotions	Could we combine promotions, newsletter. April happy to help out but not take this on, on her own. Kerry: what if we have somebody as the lead for the SMC but with a subcommittee? Lots of skills out there of people who could help with this. Merchandise and newsletter. SMC liaison and then seek a subcommittee. Faith Robinson has some very good ideas. She could be of help. Andrew happy to work with April. John are you on or off? Happy to help but that is not his deal. Try and tap into Faith and Bec Hogan for their expertise. Set up subcommittee: April liaison for promotions. You would need to contact Faith and Bec and see if you can come up with a plan for promotions. Also push up

	merchandise into promotions. Need to promote our newsletter. Resolved April to take the lead and report back to the SMC. April Newman.
Ride Calendar	Kylie Jonkers. Happy to keep this portfolio. Alam said he would like to apologize on behalf of the members who were not all that polite. Moving forward. Kylie Jonkers.
Ride Standards	Neil said he has a Zone meeting next weekend. Could help out. What exactly is involved in ride standards? Noni: When Peter Bice did it, it mainly involved the surveys sent back to the ROs as feedback. Also take any messages back to ROs. It is called Ride Administration on the position descriptions. It used to have the job of dealing with complaints about a ride, marking etc. then feeding that back to the ROs. Andrew Jonkers.
Social Media	Noni. Is there anyone else who could take this on? Would like to move on from FB and social media. Is this something that we could look at for our new members to take on? It is a big job with the social media and website on top of the secretarial. Need to find someone else to do this. Noni happy to keep it for now. At the moment we have Tony, Kerry and Noni as moderators. Is there anyone else who would like to take this on? Noni just has too much on her plate right now. April has intermittent internet so would not be a good one for this. Kylie said she also has enough on her plate. When the new people come on, they make take it on.
Vet Liaison	Belinda Hopley and Kim Stephens.
Volunteer Coordinator	It was a subject that really did not get off the ground. Possibly remove this. Alam: asked Kim to keep it for now and have a look at the new people and there might be someone there who might kick it off. Kim Stephens
Website	Noni for now. See comments above. Has not had a chance to touch the new website. Hope to get this up and running in the next six weeks or so. Happy for now but we need to start teaching someone how to take this over. On the new website it should be simple. Train someone up to take this on. Alam: how about newsletter and website working together? Neil happy to help Noni with the website. Noni Seagrim and Neil Clarkson

48. Correspondence update

Letter to J. Barlow	Done 3.4	Jolene Resignation	Acknowledged by Alam 30.3
Letter to H. Rich	Done 3.4	Letter from Z6	Acknowledged & forwarded to SMC 3.4
Letter to E. Dunger	Done 3.4	Letter from Watagans	Forwarded to SMC 3.4
Letter of thanks to Simon Bain	drafted		

49. Filling casual vacancies

Alam: How are we going to do this? Open up for online nominations and election or is there any other plan. We still need to note that Jolene has resigned. Electronic nomination and voting. Is anyone happy? Questions: Neil: great idea. Do it online. Vote yes.

Discussion on how this could work. Noni explained that every member has a vote and if they choose not to vote by an electronic platform, we could supply paper or text message voting. We can set it up how we want. There is also the option for postal voting for anyone who doesn't have email options. Online voting process is easy. You receive an email which sets out how to vote. No proxies. If you don't vote then that's it. Nomination, seconder, person accepts, sent to the secretary. Have a time period then we put them on the ballot, email gets sent out with the details, coming from the voting platform, unique vote, we have an answer in whatever time frame we wish. Job done.

Kerry: sounds good. We are filling casual vacancies not having an election. The SMC decides how we will fill casual vacancies. Legitimate to say we are going to do as Noni suggested. We can work out for ourselves how the members want. No proxies, this is not an AGM, not even a SGM, merely filling a number of casual vacancies, less confusing so that is what allows us to make up a way for this to work. What Noni is proposing sounds good.

Andrew: Had a discussion at the ride a week or so ago. He discussed this proposal with a long time endurance rider who thought this was a great idea. Need to make sure that it is only until the next AGM and these are casual vacancies. There will be only one person who doesn't have to stand for re-election. Belinda is a casual vacancy so she will need to stand again at the end of the year.

What happens with the two year terms? Possible top five and then the next five get a one year term.

In the past casual vacancies were filled for the remainder of the term that the person had. Alternatively, could do as suggested above, the people with the least number of votes get the one year term. We need to read the Constitution. Don't need to discuss this further right now.

Alam: are you happy that we put a note out on electronic voting with an explanation of how it works? How do we inform all the membership in one go? Not everyone is on FB or has access to the website. We could do a mail out that would cost about \$800 or so. Alternatively use email addresses. Generate a report with email addresses out of AERASpace.

Alam: Any further questions before we draft a motion?

Andrew suggested the following motion: **that nominations be called from the membership to fill three casual vacancies and be voted on electronically as soon as possible.**

Neil: should we invite those who resigned from the SMC to return? Do we give them the opportunity: Agreed we don't need to invite them? They can apply like everyone else.

Kerry: If we are going to do a mail out we need to think carefully about how to do it. Someone is going to have draw up a letter, someone is going to put all of them in envelopes and get the letters to the post office. Three or four days for this to get to people. Two weeks to organise, two weeks to vote, messy if they don't all vote the same way. Realistically we are looking at least four weeks.

We could use Kwikkopy; they know how it works and could do it pretty quickly. Alternatively, can we just notify the members by email?

Noni said there is a program called an 'election buddy' – we supply the information and they do all the work. Queensland use a postal option, we could ask how they do it.

Those who have email addresses get the information via email. Those without email, they would receive a paper copy.

Noni read from the website what this program can provide. Get a couple of votes, Noni to check out how QERA does it. She will check this out and get back to the SMC. Can we have the motion to get the ball rolling?

MOVED Andrew Jonkers, Neil Clarkson
THAT that nominations be called for from the membership to fill three casual vacancies to be voted on using the Election Buddy platform. This to be done as soon as possible.
Carried Unanimous

50. Watagan ride

Kerry left the meeting at [8:37] she will call Peter Kelly. Send her a message when you are done and she will return to the meeting.

Peter Kelly came on the line at [8:40].

Alam welcomed Peter. Alam advised that we have emails from both ROs. Keep in mind the SMC will get hit hard no matter what decision is made. Alam suggests we don't discuss the proposal. He suggests that on Thursday we have a tele conference. People from Watagan and Wingello ride committees, the ride committee group and the entire membership. The NSW SMC does not want to get stuck in the middle. There is an RO matrix in place. That runs rides. Various scenarios keep getting put forward. Another situation is being put forward, unbiased and unruly. Get the ROs and the RO matrix to see the problem. This ride is not the same day it's a week apart between the two rides. Anyone have an alternative plan?

April noted that Bec will not be available this Thursday. Bec discussed this matter with April, she is not comfortable discussing her financial situation with the running of her ride. Does not want to open that up to the membership.

Belinda: Need to get a statement from both of the ride committees.

This criteria is 297k and one week. Matrix 300k and ~~two-one~~ weeks. The only reason this has become an issue is because we advised Bec about the Watagan ride. The whole idea was that rides know what was coming up. If you have a weekend after that is free, that is 300k away, you have to budget accordingly.

Peter said it is hard enough to come to a decision with just a few people. It would be difficult to get a cohesive decision with the membership involved. If Watagan was approved, would Wingello still go ahead? April said yes, they will still run this year.

Peter: we need to make a decision which is in the interests of the membership not just a ride committee. We have lost rides this year. Anyone preparing for the Quilty needs as many opportunities as possible. If Wingello had to cancel there would be virtually no rides in that time period for a person to prepare. We cannot make a decision to favour one ride over the other. Hard to believe that if the Wingello numbers are down a little that the RO will not make a profit.

April said the whole forest needs to be closed. \$1500 closure fee for the forest. She has a table with a breakdown of the expenses that comes out of every entry fee.

Peter: Don't need a breakdown of the costs. Does know that Bec doesn't need to run an 80 ride because she makes most of the money from the smaller rides. The 80 ride, their entry does not cover their expenses. If she had 300 social riders, the event would at least break even.

Ongoing discussion on the numbers of riders that usually go to Wingello. Very few riders would be going to Watagan as opposed to Wingello. Bec seems to believe she needs 300 riders to cover her costs. The important riders are those in the 5, 10 and 20. They are not the people who would be going to Watagan. Those numbers won't change.

Alam: look where we are heading here. NSW SMC is the bad person, whichever way we go.

Peter: as a rider, I would say fantastic. The rest of the riders would say, great, I don't have to drive an extra few hours. The only one complaining is Wingello. Kim feels that Watagan should go ahead. We need more riders. We need the availability for all riders.

Alternate scenario was put. Last time St Albans ran, it lost money and it didn't run again. These are potentially the biggest rides in our state. One ride has all their figures all their vets and through no fault of their own they are being asked to share it and potentially lose money. Matrix: still 300k and a week. Watagan does not meet the matrix.

Andrew: Almost six months ago, on the same page, having the same arguments that we are having now. Start of mayhem, kicked from one place to the other for not making a definite decision. Spent time getting this matrix. Feels that the one kicking up the stink is the original ride. Watagan are coming in a week later and it is that ride that's running the risk, not Wingello. We need to start working for the members. They want us to run by the rules. Allow the rides to run and let the members make the choice.

John: One ride per weekend until we could get our membership numbers up to be able to support two rides on a weekend. The fact that these two are a week apart should allow both of them under the matrix to run.

April: sent through a graph today. Generated on the computer. That's what the matrix would be. Radius not by road, pin drop. There are numerous ways you can go. There is only one way which is 300k. Geographically there are alternative routes

Kylie: Google mapped – base to base comes up as 300k. Her understanding is it has always worked on driving distance. This is how she has used it. John you may have more experience than me. My mapping has 300k.

The matrix was has always been calculated by road, not as the crow flies. John said it is mapping. Radius is almost like an aeroplanes type deal. Belinda: it was always done by road distance. We have not used Google. Always used the matrix. April suggested it would be better to use a radius. John: he can see Orange from the hills behind his house. But to get there it is a three hour drive. We drive on roads, not by air. Peter said it has to be via the road. Not as the crow flies. April: said riders go different ways to get to the same place.

Discussion back and forth on how to agree on distance between rides and how that distance is calculated. We cannot change it just like that. Matrix was done on roads using the safest most common route.

A vote was taken. Seven voted yes, Alam abstained. Two voted no. **Resolved** by majority vote that the Watagan ride can go ahead. It was noted that Kerry is on the Watagan committee; she has also worked at the Wingello ride and is on the Zone Six committee.

51. Minutes format

Belinda: commenting on the minutes. Would like to see the minutes recorded. That way the minutes secretary can check that everything is correct. Note lengthy discussions. Arguments for and against. List what they are. Still be quite comprehensive, and Helen has something to go back to refer to, to ensure they are a complete set of minutes.

Neil: can we leave this discussion until we have an open SMC meeting. Thinks minutes should be discussed at an open SMC meeting. Rather than now.

Alam: wanted this meeting as a portfolio meeting only. Not discussing other topics. Just portfolios.

Agreement we need our next meeting date. Hold the question of minutes over to the next meeting for a full discussion on the best way to go. Agreement the casual vacancies can be decided by email. Noni to discuss this with Kerry and get the ball rolling.

Thanks to Peter Kelly for helping us out as Zone delegate and helping Kerry to step down from the watagan mountains and Wingello matter, because of her conflict of interest.

Kerry is back on line.

52. **Next meeting date**
Wednesday 4 May 2022.

There being no further business the meeting closed 9:36.

These Minutes of NSWERA SMC of 4 April were approved on 24 June 2022 as per Item 119.