

## Summary Report NSW ERA SMC meeting held Friday 1 July 2021

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### ATTENDANCE

**Present:** Tony Warren (chairman) [part meeting], Belinda Hopley, John Howe, Kerry Fowler-Smith, Kim Stephens, Kylie Jonkers, Andrew Jonkers, Alam Dastani, April Newman, Peter Bice, Noni Seagrim, Faith Robinson [7:37], Matthew Walker. **Apologies:** Peter Kelly

**In attendance:** Helen Rich (Minutes), Charlie Gauci, Ian Dreghorn, Jax Barlow, Brian Swan

### Conflicts of Interest.

None declared at this stage. Tony may have one later but will declare at the time.

### Acceptance of minutes of meeting.

Action log on hold for this meeting because it was called to deal with urgent matters. Need to approve the minutes from 10 June. Several people in attendance and matters that need to be held in camera so perhaps we could work out a strategy.

**MOVED** Kerry Fowler Smith Kim Stevens  
**THAT** the minutes from the Meeting of 3 June 2021 be accepted. **Carried** Unanimous

**MOVED** Peter Bice, Tony Warren  
**THAT** the minutes from the Meeting of 10 June 2021 be accepted. **Carried** Unanimous

Need to deal with the Roseberg ride issue and first.

### Roseberg points issue

The issue is the impact of the forced withdrawal of riders at the ride, as a result of COVID 19 restrictions which were imposed on the night of the ride. Tony advised that Kerry will read out the correspondence and the SMC can then comment on those emails. All emails have been sent to the SMC before the meeting for thought. Perhaps Ian and Brian might like to read their emails. Noted that Sydney may not open on Friday week so we need a plan that covers more than one ride as this may occur again.

Ian Dreghorn: Ian is not offering criticism of the decisions made at the ride. His point is that over a third of the field withdrew. A chart was inserted in the email sent by Ian previously and some of the statistics were read out by him here. 102 entries, 62 completed and 37 withdrew. There were 19 heavyweights and 12 of these withdrew. 36% unable to start. If this was a team sport say netball, there would be very few starting the event. Ian then gave a scenario which would have covered a team sport such as netball. Those who did the ride should be supported in distance and the placings need to be recognised. He feels that points for distance should not be recognised in either the State or National point score.

Brian Swan: Brian said Ian had covered the issues. We are not dealing with only one ride, this may happen at Canowindra. The Sydney region may not get to Tooraweenah. We should have a policy that anyone is more than welcome to attend a ride if they can, hope to make some money but we are in a competition here but it doesn't feel right with him as they cannot compete. If there was an outbreak from say, Mudgee, at least a third of the field would be removed from the ride.

Tony called for other comments and declared a conflict of interest. While he will discuss the matter he will not vote on it.

Leanne Hickson: email tabled and read by Kerry,

Kylie declared a slight conflict of interest, having a personal view on this matter. The RO is having a meeting to finalise refunds etc. They have spoken with Linda Tanian of AERA, asking that the AERA fee be waived due to the people who had to withdraw because of COVID restrictions. Is there a fee that has to be paid to NSW ERA? If so would NSW be prepared to waive that fee for the 35 people who withdrew? If we can remove the people who had to withdraw from the entry system, those who had to withdraw would no longer appear on AERAspace.

Kerry noted a problem with making riders disappear out of the ride as they would have no insurance cover if they are not entered. The non completion status could be changed from withdrawn to ineligible. Riders could be asked to produce their logbooks at their next ride and have the head vet make the ride as being ineligible. This change would be very easy to do.

Kylie enquired about fees. The AERA fee is \$4 per rider, NSWERA fee is \$30 so the majority of the fees get paid to NSW not the AERA. Kylie will advise her committee of this.

Alam asked why we don't just keep the points as they are. It gives NSW a better chance on the national score. A small sacrifice, looking at a bigger picture.

Brian: acknowledges Alam's point. In the heavyweight division, almost half of the field didn't compete so NSW points will be affected. People were at the ride ready to go. As Ian said the horses did the distance so they should be credited with the distance but the points in the heavyweight division should not. Advised the

SMC that the bigger picture needs to be considered. Current situation is not an equal playing field for all the riders.

Noted that Tony was offline. Alam to chair the meeting until Tony is on line.

Suggestion that we should include points for the riders who did the ride. Hoping that we won't get many more rides like this.

This time last year NSW was in lockdown, now its smaller regions, likely to be a moveable feast for possibly another two years. Likely to occur again so the only real level playing field is those who are allowed to compete. Different people will be affected at different times. If you competed on the day, you get the result. Just a product of geography. We need to make a decision on the least bad option.

From the AERASpace results, seems that only 20 of the 35 were turned away because they live in Greater Sydney. Others not from that area seem to have chosen to withdraw. We may have two issues, the ones forced to withdraw and those who have chosen to withdraw.

There are people who care about the points, and those who don't. Possibly this should go back to the members to vote on this if this is going to be an ongoing issue. Survey could be done using Survey monkey or Facebook. John and Matt feel that surveying the members on this kind of issue negates the purpose of having a SMC.

Suggestion NSWERA forego the affiliation fee for the people who came from COVID areas.

From Tom McCormack's Chief Steward report: On Saturday Greater Sydney was locked down. At 8:15pm the RO was advised that the RFS were taken to their Level 2 meaning they could not continue to work or use their equipment at the ride. Community events could continue on Sunday so the RO put various arrangements in place so the ride could continue.

Suggested that all riders who withdrew did so because of COVID whether it was compulsory or not.

Kylie believes that refunds are up to LERC, and nothing to do with the SMC. LERC agrees. LERC are asking for the NSW fees to be waived. If the RO has to pay the NSWERA affiliation fees, this will affect the amount that could be paid back to riders. LERC is busy trying to work out the figures involved.

Two issues: 1) Point score and 2) refund.

Ian is asking for points and distance on the 2021 national point score to be struck off for this ride but the distance to remain on the AERA lifetime distance database. Belinda suggested the same.

Kylie: Two issues with what happened at Roseberg. The people who completed should get their reward. Some people who came out of the red zones who shouldn't have been there at all. Next week for Canowindra, Greater Sydney riders may not be able to attend. If half of NSW is locked down, may be its no points and distance for the current years' award but yes to lifetime awards so its fair to people who cannot attend. Need to make sure people know in advance what may happen at Canowindra. Roseberg should be separate from future rides.

We don't know where the next area or problem will be. Suggestion that the least bad option is to disadvantage the least number of people. The least number of people are the ones who couldn't compete at Roseberg. We need to recognise that NSW has no influence on what AERA does about the national point score.

Making Canowindra a total non-point score ride, could disadvantage that ride because people may not attend.

Perhaps should maintain the status quo. If you can compete you compete, if not - you can't.

Ian: agrees that we elect the SMC to make decisions. If what is proposed gets accepted by the SMC, it might be worthwhile to make an announcement to all members so that they know what the decision is. They enter a ride with their eyes wide open. There will be a lot of people interested in tonight's decision. Ian wants to see the decision public so that those entering Shahzada and the State Champs do this with their eyes open.

Brian suggested he put a motion: "That the horses and riders get their lifetime kilometres for NSW only, unless the full field is entitled to compete". Kerry reminded Brian that if he is mentioning AERA lifetime distance, NSW has no control over that. Matthew asked if we are not changing anything then why do we need a motion. Basically we are replying to correspondence.

Ian and Brian were asked if they have anything to add, if not they can leave the meeting. The decision will be made in camera and they will be advised.

Ian asked if NSW ERA would support his idea about the national pointscore and whether the delegates would take to the AERA. Thanks everyone for the robust conversation. Happy with the way things have gone with people putting forward their opinions. Noted that if a decision relating to the national pointscore came from this meeting, it would go to the AERA for discussion. Brian and Ian left the meeting at [8:44]. **The transcript now goes to In Camera.**

## Secretariat Report & Ride Calendar: Jacky Barlow and Kylie Jonkers.

### PART 1: MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS

	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
Adult	332	293	352	342	399	413
Junior	57	35	49	49	49	50
Intermediate	13	13	23	34	24	31
Associate	5	9	14	13	15	20
Honorary	11	11	8	8	7	6
Total	418	361	446	446	494	520

Newsletter	135	145	155	195	213	226
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### PART 2: RATIFY NEW MEMBERS

DATE	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	CATEGORY	ADDRESS
15-06-21	Elise	Fittler	Adult	WANDSWORTH
22-06-21	Hayley	Iggo	Adult	KIRIBILLI

### PART 3: RIDES CONDUCTED – ENTRIES RECEIVED.

Ride Name	Date	Intro	Train	80-99km	TOTAL
Mt Lagoon	6-6-21	36	35	75	149
Roseberg	26-6-21	40	36	102	178

### PART 4: STOCKTAKE

Logbooks - 20

Logbook covers- 20

### PART 5: ENDURANCE HORSE REGISTRATIONS (Year to Date)

ANNUAL - 9

LIFETIME - 21

### PART 6: OTHER BUSINESS

Logbooks

### PART 2: RATIFY NEW MEMBERS

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

Two riders at the Roseberg ride did the 84k, ride on day cards. This idea has been discussed and rejected before. One rider took the wrong logbook to the ride, the other rider's book was full. Jax doesn't think she should be responsible for changing these logbooks. The SMC to decide where to go from here.

The vet at the ride was approached at the ride and was happy for the horses to start. The point of logbooks is to see what the story is at the particular ride. Use of cards was permitted by the Chief Steward.

The horses had logbooks, this discussion is about the use of day cards. Jax will transcribe these rides into the logbooks because that was the agreement, but only for this event. The membership will be reminded that they must have their logbooks to enter 80km+ rides. The rules are clear: no logbook – no start. AERA may be discussing whether to allow day cards for 80km+ rides but currently the rule is clear:

Belinda will message the CSs that this must not be allowed in future. No logbook – no start in endurance ride. This note will go in the next rules update and on the website, FB and the newsletter.

**Resolved** that Jax Barlow will transcribe the information into the logbooks. This is the final time this will be allowed. .

Noni will advise on what happened at the AERA meeting. Need to include in our distribution of stuff that members need to get a new logbook. You don't have to wait until it is full to apply for a new book.

### 116. RIDES FOR APPROVAL

**Mt Lagoon** – 26/27 March 2022 – Saturday 20,40km – Sunday 20, 40, 80km. **Approved**

**Watagan Mountains** – 2/3<sup>rd</sup> April 2022 – Saturday 40km, Sunday 10, 20, 40km (alt 9-10 April)

Lots of messages concerning this ride date. Date not confirmed at this time. Needs more discussions.

**Tumbarumba** – 30th April/1st May 2022 – Sunday 20, 40, 80km (alt 7-8th May)

Think this should for 7 and 8 May 2022. Kylie to speak to them about the date.

**Wingello** 28/29th May 2022 – Saturday 5, 10, 20, 40km – Sunday 20, 40-60 elevator, 80km

Two weeks after Mudgee. **Approved.**

Amendment for the State Champs. 160 starts on Friday, 40k ride on Saturday. The State Ride Agreement was checked to confirm what ancillary rides can be run with the State ride. Approved. Belinda sent the Agreement but it hasn't been signed. LERC have not received anything as yet.

On behalf of ROs, Charlie requested a discussion about the ride matrix. SMC members mostly believe that the distance is 200k and 2 weeks apart, others say 300km and 2 weeks apart. Further discussion needed when time permits, need to be careful that we don't go outside this parameter. There is nearly a ride every single weekend next year. Charlie noted there will be problems in the future if we don't follow the previous rules for allocating ride dates.

Letter from Zone One was table and discussed, concerns support for rides. Kerry will respond as agreed.

An application has been received from Zone 6 for the grant for Johns River ride. The previous motion about ride assistance for new rides was read. Johns River meets the previous criteria as set out.

**MOVED** John Howe, Alam Dastani  
**THAT** NSW ERA award \$350 to the John's River committee to help with the running of their ride.  
**Carried** Unanimous

Another meeting is needed soon, there is a lot of business to get through Friday 16 July by tele conference.

## ***Standing Items***

**Ratification of decisions made between meetings:** Tooraweenah and Currowan issues.

## ***Committee Reports***

**Tony Warren: President,:** No report.

**Alam Dastani Vice President, Governance, Child Protection, International:** No report

**Noni Seagrim (Lou Piddington): AERA MC, Website, Facebook:** No report

**Kim Stephens: Treasurer, Snowy Zone delegate, Volunteer Coordinator**

*Treasurers Report for May 2021.*

*Current Balances are:*

*IBD 1 – 12,700.72*

*IBD 2 – 21,303.32*

*IBD 3 – 15,336.89*

*Tied Grant -*

14/6/21	Chief Steward Scanner	171.60	28,052.47	947.53
14/6/21	Zone 3 Scales	75.00	28,127.47	872.53
	Zone 3 Bibs	350.00	28,477.47	522.53
	Zone 3 Signs	294.65	28,772.12	227.88

*CBA Cheque A/C – \$80,148.55*

*Secretariat A/C – 577.14*

*Bendigo A/C – 194.03*

*Regards, Kim Stephens*

**Kerry Fowler Smith: Secretary, Public Officer, AERA, IDP, Grants**

*Correspondence in:*

- Courtney Mc'Kell's (Chapman) membership application
- Ian Dregghorn's email re Roseberg
- Brian Swan's email re Roseberg
- Leeanne Hicksons email re Roseberg
- Karen Hocking's email re newsletter subscriptions

*You should have the last 4 emails either from the sender or from me.*

**Peter Bice: Ride Standards/Feedback:** No report

**Matthew Walker: Horse Welfare, Early Warning System, Vet Liaison, Biosecurity; No report**

**Belinda Hopley: Chief Stewards and TPRs, Grants,**

We need to set a date for the AGM next year. Belinda has found a venue that she thinks is quite reasonable. \$100 for room hire, meals buffet two courses between \$45 and 50. **Resolved:** To hold the AGM on the weekend of 19 and 20 February 2022.

Noted that all of the Office of Sport project grant has been used.

**Alam Dastani – International:** No report

**Andrew Jonkers – AERA Delegate, merchandise** No report

**April Newman: Zone 5 delegate. Promotions, Grants:** No report

**Kylie Jonkers: Ride Calendar, Zone 3 delegate, International :** No report

**117. Faith Robinson: Zone 1 Delegate, Grants, Promotion**

*As you all by now know, Greater Sydney has been placed in lockdown.*

**Roseberg**

*At the Roseberg Ride on the weekend, Ride Organisers called an emergency meeting at 4.30 am on Sunday. With everybody wearing masks, we were informed that all people who had been in the Greater Sydney area any time since June 21 must go home. There was no blame at all on the RO's. They were just doing their job, and a good one at that given the turn of events. I think all the riders who were sent home, took the bad news with good humour and no fuss. The issue is, however, that the riders who were withdrawn by the RO's have now been disadvantaged in relation to point score. I call upon the SMC to determine that completions, places and prizes from the ride be acknowledged and valid, but that the contribution to the state and national point score be annulled.*

*Whether the travel restrictions will be lifted before the Canowindra ride remains to be seen, let's hope the situation is not similar. I believe we must not allow discrimination against riders because they are from certain areas.*

**Mountain Lagoon Ride**

*Fifth time lucky! After three cancellations due to COVID last year and one this year due to floods this year, the Mountain Lagoon Ride finally went ahead and was a resounding success. 20km and 40km both days and 80km on Sunday. Weather was perfect and a total of 148 entrants rode over the two days.*

*As I understand it, the Ride Booking form has been submitted for the usual Mountain Lagoon date of late March (cancelled both last year and this year due to circumstances out of our control).*

**Other business**

*What can be done to address the lack of adherence to the rules about Horse Containment? At the Roseberg Ride, I noticed two horses sharing a yard. One of them had been withdrawn due to it having a cold.*

*I often see flimsy yards using step in posts of less than 1 meter high, and yards that are often not even energised.*

*It was noticed at the Mountain Lagoon Ride that more than one horse was in one yard too.*

*The paperwork that came with the Roseberg entries clearly stated the Horse Containment guidelines/rules. I did say something casually to the person at Roseberg with horses sharing a yard as she was a beginner.*

*Should someone be checking on this? Is it the RO or the Chief Steward's responsibility?*

**John Howe: Zone 2 Delegate, Newsletter, Promotion**

*Currently the July -August Newsletter is with the printer. We need to get a resolution in regard to the time frame when the Newsletter goes up onto the Website. Please note that this request was in my last report.*

*Zone Two:- Tooraweenah is preparing for the Quilty test event. There has been a lot of interest and the ride is shaping up to be quite successful. Windeyer is planning to run a standard ride later in the year, probably in November and will take the twilight format.*

*TQ 22. Currently the committee members are working on the upgrading of the track. Anthony Blessing from Dubbo, has had his Bobcat over on a couple of weekends and has been ""road working"" the more damaged sections of the track. Also there has been considerable re marking undertaken prior to the TQ22 test event. The local Shire Council has laid a new water main to the front gate of the camping area in preparation for TQ22. Naturally, these capital works will be of benefit for any further rides held at the Tooraweenah ride base.*

**Future meeting dates**

16 July 2021 via tele conference at 6.30, 13 August 2021 – Richmond Club. There being no further business the meeting closed **11:28** pm.