



Meeting declared open at 6.08pm on 7 September 2022 by Chair J Diederich (President)

In Attendance (by teleconference)

J Diederich (Chair),
P Borg, L Tabbakh, J Fletcher, H King, M Holtham
6.13pm J Schaper, 6.22pm P McAllister

Apologies

W Morrison
J Coffey

Confirmation of Minutes

Moved J Fletcher **Seconded** P Borg that the minutes of the meeting held 27 July 2022, having been previously circulated to members of the Committee, are accepted **(Carried)**.

Business Arising from the Minutes

1 Standing Item - Membership

1.1 - New Members

J Diederich referred to the new member nominations as listed on the Agenda.

Moved J Fletcher and **Seconded** P Borg that the nominations received for Ordinary and Family Memberships be accepted as a new member of the Association, applicable from when membership was confirmed as financial by WASBA Treasurer. **(Carried)**.

1.2 – Reconciliation of membership

J Diederich reported that membership throughout the raffle was very encouraging, with around 50% of the usual annual members already financial for the 2022/23 membership year. The 2021/22 membership is probably the highest recorded for a decade.

H King advised that the online member registration now includes a capability to pay securely by credit card online through Square, and this process will be encouraged with membership reminders.

2 Standing Item – Industry Sponsorship

2.1 – \$50,000 WASBA Breeders Stakes (6 May 2022)

One payment remains outstanding. M Holtham to assist H King in following up payment from remaining sponsor **Action: H King**

End of season Sponsor thank you to be provided **Action: J Diederich**

2.2 – \$14,000 Virgil Queen at Northam (6 Aug 2022)

J Diederich reported that the race proceeded successfully, although unfortunately this was one of the few occasions that there was no one available to represent the winning connections for the presentation.

The invoice from the Northam HR Club has been paid **Action: Completed**

2.3 – WASBA 4YO/5YO Mares (12 August)

A rug, garland and trophy were supplied for this race and presented on course by J Diederich and J Fletcher..... **Action: Completed**

2.4 – WASBA Country Oaks (24 August)

J Diederich reported that she was greatly assisted on the day by Bunbury's Business Manager Jonathan Calver and Bruce Jones, President of WACHRA, who undertook the presentation on behalf of the Bunbury Club.

J Calver advised the Club would provide any support WASBA required that resulted in a more appropriate race date for the race.

J Diederich to liaise with some industry stakeholders to discuss a more appropriate time for the event, given the disappointing attitude of RWWA in removing the "excluded from the ballot clause" for the event and programming the race at an unsuitable time of year, and well away from the targeted WA Oaks **Action: J Diederich**

2.5 – WASBA Bob Humphries Memorial (Wednesday 9 Nov 2022)

J Diederich reported that the rug and trophy were in hand, and awaiting delivery of garland.

With the race being a midweek daytime event, J Diederich to liaise further with the Bunbury Club and the guests that WASBA would usually invite to the meeting.

Committee members to advise their availability to attend **Action: Committee**

3 Standing Item – Fillies and Mares Racing

J Diederich reported that this has yet to be progressed, but a recent change to the rules relating to drop backs (horses using novice driver concessions in selected races will draw in accordance with the level that he/she drops back to, rather than retaining the actual level) that commenced on 2 September, should assist some horses.

Suggestions/comments for discussion with the Harness Office remaining are:

- double concessions (mare and junior)
- preferential draw (fillies/mares/juniors)
- Heat opportunities (such as John Higgins, subsequent wins don't penalise eligibility for final)
- adjustment of \$L5 conditions to enable metro horses to start in midweek races
- Accumulating points in race series
- Issues around having adverse barrier draws when dropping back in class

Some options to be developed for horses that are not progressing, and improved racing opportunities for juveniles.

J Diederich and H King to progress discussions, with the possibility of inviting one of our member trainers to assist with expertise..... **Action: J Diederich/H King**

4 Standing Item – Liaison with RWWA

4.1 – Development of Training Requirements

No further update. **Action: M Holtham**

4.2 – Breeding Initiatives (Epona Proposal, HRA Breeding Report Initiatives, Other State/NZ Initiatives, Westbred Bonus Scheme)

J Diederich reported that RWWA has again been requested to provide the start date for the Westbred Bonus increases and the first start bonus.

M Holtham referred to some statistics about breeders in NSW mostly being in the older age category. With the likelihood of similar statistics for WA, younger people needed to be attracted to the breeding process through racing and breeding. J Diederich noted that some trainers are now becoming involved with breeding from mares raced by their stable clients, and this was a good outcome that should be encouraged.

Committee discussed the lack of commitment from RWWA to promote and support the breeding industry in WA, in comparison to the efforts of states like Victoria, NSW and Queensland who take the importance of the breeding industry in their state very seriously and produce a significant amount of supporting material, as well as financial support.

J Diederich to continue to follow up **Action: J Diederich**

4.3 – Life after racing / re-registration

J Diederich advised that the two issues discussed following the July WASBA meeting had been progressed as far as possible by WASBA with RWWA. It was now up to the previous owner of the retired mare to progress the issue with RWWA, and for the breeder whose mare was served by My Hard Copy to provide some documentation. H King advised that the owner of the retired mare did follow through with the advice provided, and was satisfied with the outcome **Action: Completed**

5 Off The Track Rehoming

J Diederich to discuss options with B Thomas **Action: J Diederich**

J Diederich to raise with RWWA the use of the OTT facility for approved horses, to alleviate issues that trainers had reported with holding onto retired stock while waiting acceptance by a re-trainer **Action: J Diederich**

J Diederich referred to the initiative that has been approved by RWWA and Gloucester Park, for an Off The Track showcase of horses to parade on Derby night along with one or two previous Derby winners. Work is ongoing with OTT, Gloucester Park and OTT participants in developing the format and timing **Action: J Diederich**

6 Honor Role for Broodmares

No further update **Action: J Diederich**

7 Expo Day

No further update **Action: J Diederich/H King**

8 Other Fund Raising Activities

No initiatives brought forward to date **Action: Committee**

9 Member benefits

J Diederich reported that there appeared to be a good response to the Stallion Service Voucher initiative and it was something that WASBA should consider on a continuing basis, to support those members who participated in the raffle of Stallion Tender.

The draws will take place at the end of September.

Other initiatives to be brought to Committee when formulated **Action: Completed**

10 APG SALES FUNCTION / WASBA AWARDS NIGHT

J Diederich to liaise with APG and Gloucester Park regarding support for a 2023 Awards night APG Sale function **Action: J Diederich**

M Holtham to assist in obtaining vendor perspective of Sale **Action: M Holtham**

11 3YO RACING OPPORTUNITIES

J Diederich and H King to pursue as part of the overall discussion around racing opportunities. **Action: J Diederich/H King**

12 RACE DISTANCES FOR 2YOS

Discussion to be progressed as this is an important matter that impacts the racing viability of some 2yos. If there is no progress, this item will be raised again for discussion at the HRCG meeting in November **Action: J Diederich**

The capability or willingness of RWWA to do more than simply administer the industry was discussed, including whether the dissatisfaction levels in the industry with respect to viability of racing, longevity of racing and ensuring the product continues at a sustainable level, needs to be raised with the RWWA Board. In comparison to the promotion of harness and breeding in other states, RWWA's efforts are substantially below desirable.

13 WASBA RAFFLE AND STALLION TENDER

H King reported that although the Raffle result started quite slowly, the end result was one of the better results for the raffle. After expenses, the net result should be approximately \$3,700. Although it required a lot of work, it did serve a good purpose in providing opportunity for breeders and raised awareness of the breeding season

A total of 11 stallions were provided through the Stallion Tender, covering all bloodlines and a variety of price points.

All advertising through Mailchimp, WASBA emails, Facebook and HRA have been arranged or requested.

J Diederich noted the difficulties associated with bulk emails being treated as spam.

The Stallion Tender closes midnight Sunday 11 September.....**Action: H King**

14 STATUS OF HRA MICROCHIP APP

J Diederich referred to the attachment to the Agenda regarding a HRA media release.

RISE is conducting testing with several brands of Bluetooth enabled microchip scanners that will work with HarnessWeb, and hopes to have a variety of compatible options identified in coming months. These Bluetooth enabled devices will be able to communicate directly with the mobile version of HarnessWeb via a smart phone or tablet device. Microchip scanners are only capable of providing the number on screen, which can then be manually entered into HarnessWeb or HRA's horse search option.

Progress will be forwarded when advised.....**Action: Completed**

Treasurers Report

Financial Report to 31 August 2022

Bank Details: BSB 036 043 Account 129810

<u>Opening Balance</u>		<u>\$69,081.78</u>
INCOME		\$15,973.28
EXPENDITURE		\$ 4,640.48
<u>Closing Balance</u>		<u>\$80,414.58</u>
Represented by	Cheque Account	\$ 5,354.55
	Business Cash Reserve	\$75,060.03
	Cheques Drawn Not Yet Presented	\$0.00
	Deposits Not Yet Banked	\$0.00

For noting:

- H King Stationery \$104.98
- J Diederich Secretarial Jun/Jul 2022 \$600.00

Moved J Schaper and **Seconded** M Holtham that the Treasurers Report be accepted. **(Carried)**

Moved J Fletcher and **Seconded** J Schaper that payment to H King for reimbursement for Stationery, and to J Diederich for Secretarial honorarium, be ratified **(Carried)**

IN

- Exclusive Trophies “Invoice 00060361; From Exclusive Trophies Base for Mares 4YO/5YO”, email 22 July 2022, to H King 11 Aug
- R Goulden (Northam HRC) “Virgil Queen Celebration”, 25 July 2022, reply 25 Jul
- R Deadman (WACHRA) “Country Derby”, email 26 July 2022, to Committee 27 Jul
- Dept of Primary Industries “Have Your Say” email 27 July 2022, to members 27 Jul
- Exclusive Trophies “Invoice 00060380; From Exclusive Trophies Base for Mares 4YO/5YO”, email 29 July 2022, to H King 30 Jul
- M Kemp (RWWA) “Amendments to RWWA Rules of Harness Racing”, email 29 July 2022
- C Van Niekerk (Swan View & Districts Ag and Art Society) “Invoice Swan View Show”, email 1 August 2022, to H King 1 Aug
- D Hunter (RWWA) “Country Oaks and Country Derby”, email 1 Aug 2022
- R Goulden (Northam HRC) “Virgil Queen Celebration racebook”, email 2 August 2022, reply 2 Aug
- N Scott (RWWA) “2YO Westbred Finals – Field Selection”, email 2 Aug, reply 2 Aug
- F Mellors (RWWA) “HRCG | Agenda for 17 August 2022”, email 5 Aug 2022
- RISE Advertising “WASBA Raffle in HRA Top Stories”, email 6 August 2022, reply 6 Aug
- R Goulden (Northam HRC) “Virgil Queen Celebration Invoice 00416475”, email 11 August 2022, to H King 11 Aug
- C Gannon (Gannons) “TAX INVOICE 11498 Trophy Rug Country Oaks”, email 15 Aug 2022, to H King 15 Aug
- AGENDA – WASBA Committee Meeting Wednesday 7 September 2022 Page 3 of 4
- N Scott (RWWA) “Novice Driver Changes”, email 26 August 2022, to Committee 29 Aug
- F Mellors (RWWA) “Unconfirmed Minutes and Action List | HRCG Meeting held 17 August 2022”, email 1 Sep 2022
- S Ferguson (RWWA) “The TrotsWA E-Newsletter”, email 18 August 2022, reply 18 Aug
- S Hughes (RWWA) “Re: OTT Celebration - WA Derby night 4 November”, email 2 September 2022, reply 2 Sep
- D Hunter (RWWA) “Item 3 Action List HRCG Unconfirmed Minutes- Update”, email 5 September 2022
- F Mellors (RWWA) “HRCG | FY24 Industry Funding Initiatives”, email 5 September 2022, to Committee 5 Sept

OUT

- Crystal and Glass “Online Order CGD17235”, email 18 July 2022
- C Brown (HRA) “HRA Top Stories – WASBA Raffle”, email 26 July 2022, reply 1 Aug
- K Gebert (HRA) “Deregistered Mare”, email 28 July 2022, reply 28 July
- C Gannon (Gannons) “Follow up on Trophy rug”, email 5 August 2022, reply 5 Aug
- J Calver (Bunbury TC) “WASBA Country Oaks arrangements”, email 16 Aug 2022, reply 17 Aug
- J Calver (Bunbury TC) “WASBA Country Oaks on course material”, email 23 Aug 2022, reply 23 Aug
- T Starling (RWWA) “Service Certificates”, email 30 August 2022, reply 31 Aug
- Members “Late Service Certificates”, email 31 August 2022
- RISE Advertising “WASBA Stallion Tender Article for HRA Top Stories”, email 4 September 2022

Information Only

- WASBA 2022 Stallion Raffle - Two free services and three \$1,000 vouchers!, email to mail-list 24 July 2022
- Ministers Office “Appointments to the RWWA Board”, email 26 July, to Committee 27 July
- APG “Bidding Now Open for 2022 APG Mixed Sale”, email 28 July, to members 28 Jul
- C Van Niekerk (Swan View & Districts Ag and Art Society) “Swan View Breed and HIA programmes”, email 30 July 2022
- SPPHAWA “Upcoming Windup and Dressage Day” email 31 July 2022
- B Thomas “Lokenzo Park Newsletter Edition 4”, email 4 Aug 2022
- Harness Breeders Victoria “Breeders Bulletin August”, email 4 Aug 2022
- WASBA 2022 Stallion Raffle - Two weeks to go”, email to mail-list 10 August 2022
- WAHC “WAHC AGM 2022”, email 12 Aug 2022
- OTTWA “OTTWA August Newsletter: WIN \$100 Merch Voucher - Celebrate Two Years of the OTTWA Passport”, email 17 August 2022
- “WASBA August Newsletter”, to members 18 August 2022
- APG “APG Perth Sale 2023”, email 20 August 2022, to members 29 Aug

- Hoofbeats “August September Hoofbeats”, email 28 August
- WASBA Stallion Tender Open”, to mail list 28 August 2022
- HBV “Welcome to the 2022 Breeding Season”, email 29 August 2022
- F Mellors (RWWA) “Monthly Activists Report – June/July”, email 2 September 2022, to Committee 5 Sep
- WASBA Stallion Tender Closes 11 September”, email to mail list 4 September 2022

Moved H King and **Seconded** P McAllister the Inward correspondence is accepted, the Outward correspondence be endorsed and Information Only correspondence is noted (**Carried**).

Reports

NIL

General Business

1. HRCG November meeting - Funding Initiatives

J Diederich referred to the initiatives that had been agreed to at the early June Committee meeting.

These initiatives included the previously advised Broodmare Bonus, cash incentive on a live foal, breeder bonus increase, Epona increase, aged Westbred win bonus, Westbred Bonus promotion, and an increased ability of country clubs to create their own mini features.

A summary of these initiatives will be prepared using the RWWA template and forwarded to RWWA for inclusion in the November HRCG discussions **Action: J Diederich**

In view of the material being discussed, a representative of WASBA will attend the HRCG meeting.

2. WASBA AGM

J Diederich advised that the 2021 AGM was held Friday 26th November, with the 2022 AGM required to be held before 30 November. Available dates are 28 October (Navy Cup), 11 (Norms Daughter Classic), 18 (4YO Championship) and 25 November (Mares Classic)

Committee members whose term expire at the 2022 AGM are P Borg, P McAllister, J Schaper, M Holtham and J Fletcher.

J Diederich to liaise with Gloucester Park concerning an appropriate date. H King to liaise with Auditor G Scott regarding auditing of accounts..... **Action: J Diederich/H King**

J Diederich requested advice prior to the next Committee meeting regarding any intentions to renominate for Committee **Action: Committee**

3. GLOUCESTER PARK REDEVELOPMENT

J Diederich referred to correspondence received late the previous evening.

WASBA does not have a position on the decision to redevelop or not – this is a decision for the members of Gloucester Park.

All parties must wait until the members of Gloucester Park make their decision. Subsequent to that there will be opportunity for discussion on various aspects.

J Diederich noted that there were many other matters that could be addressed that would have no cost associated and would make a difference to the racing. These items include handicapping, programming, size of fields, racing style. barrier draw, starters on each line, These items should all be raised for discussion and resolved before there is any effort to make changes to physical infrastructure.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Western Australian Standardbred Breeders Association Inc (WASBA) will be held on 5 October, **format by teleconference unless otherwise advised.**

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 7.04pm.

J Diederich
Chair



7 September 2022
Date

ATTACHMENT TO THE MINUTES 7 September 2022

SUMMARY - WASBA FUNDING PRIORITIES

WASBA initiated and fully supported the funding proposals put forward by RWWA in May 2022, but notes the significant delay in implementation considering the benefits were developed from a review that was intended to commence in 2017, and was presented to the Board in 2019. There was an expectation that the options identified would be implemented in 2020.

The proposals put forward by RWWA include timely increases to the Westbred Bonus payments, and commencement of a first starter payment additional to the current first win (both very positive moves that should see an increase in starters. The first starter payment must only apply to WA bred horses.

RWWA is yet to confirm commencement dates for the first starter payment and the Westbred Bonus increases. They are considering bringing the dates forward if the budget can accommodate this.

The remaining initiatives include:

- Changes to the distribution of the Westbred Bonus to 60% winner, 20% second, 12% third, 8% 4th (currently 68/18/9/5) when the Westbred Bonus levels increase.
- Drop the proposed 3rd (and lowest) tier of Westbred Bonus when stakes are above \$6,000

Additional funding options:

1. Broodmare Bonus. (first raised with MHR Noel Reilly) a successful broodmare bonus voucher system, for those mares that have produced winners – suggested level \$500 per winner per season and cumulative. The resulting vouchers are based on the success of a specific mare in producing winners, and are therefore not transferable.
2. Cash incentive on a live foal, as per other State Administrations.
3. Breeder Bonus increase. to 20% (currently 12.5%).
4. Increase the EPONA limit to \$8,000.
5. Promotion by RWWA of breeding and the advantages of the Westbred incentives
6. Aged Westbred win bonus in races less than \$12,000. ie Westbred winners 4yo and over to receive a \$250 bonus for a win . Consider in lieu of or in conjunction with stakes increases.

Incentives that do not require additional funding, (on the basis of unspent money from each years budget, of around \$150,000 to \$250,000):

1. Increase the current RWWA “mini features” races to \$11,500.
2. Increase the Pearl and Diamond 2yo Heats to \$10,000
3. Increase the current Group 1 status Pearl and Diamond to \$150,000
4. Increase RWWA component of WASBA races to \$12,000
5. Review all country mini feature races including races like the DeCampos (were \$20,000, now \$10,000), the Village Kid Sprint at Northam (was \$20,000) and allow clubs to use unused race money to elevate those races up to their previous levels (eg where there are less races run than initially programmed) OR
6. Re- Introduce some feature racing at country meetings which could be accommodated if country clubs were allowed to downgrade a race occasionally to supplement stakes for a mini feature.

We are in the business of supporting more of our local product into racing and continuing to race and subsequent breeding

J Diederich
President of WASBA

1 September 2022