

SAERA Meeting Minutes

Date: October 28, 2024

Location: GOTO meeting

Time: 7:30pm

1. Attendance

Present: Lainie Ray, Lisa Brown, Kim Calway, Julia Field

2. Review of Previous Minutes

Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed, refreshed, and agreed upon by all members.

3. Updates

- **ETS PACKING INSTRUCTIONS AND SCANNER:**

Packing instructions were clarified, and scanner issues were resolved with Tom McCormack's assistance.

One printer is still experiencing issues and may require repair or replacement.

- **RIDE SETUP AND PACK-UP SUPPORT:**

Proposal to add a Ride Organiser (RO) handbook for setup and pack-up support.

This item will be included in the 2024 AGM agenda to formalise and support consistent ride management.

- **2024 AGM & END-OF-YEAR PRESENTATIONS:**

AGM scheduled at Bucks Bistro, Springton, from 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM, followed by presentations from 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM, and dinner after.

Presentation of awards based on points and distance, as updated by Kim and Jil.

Dergholm Ride results pending, but substantial changes to points or distance standings are not expected.

Discussions on awards, including five rugs (one per division) and five rider jackets (per division and weight class) with specific requirements for middleweight, heavyweight, and lightweight categories.

Suggestion for Newmarket navy rugs with red trim (5'9") at \$63.50 each.

Decision to use a work shirt rather than a vest for some awards, with final decisions to be confirmed after the Dergholm ride.

4. Discussion Topics

- **TROPHIES & AWARDS:**

The Mudge family will select a recipient for a specific trophy award. Jil will follow up with the family to finalise details.

Five rugs and jackets for each weight division have been confirmed, with Newmarket rugs at \$63.50 each.

Julia to post a call for 1,000 km distance sash applications on Facebook. Riders are encouraged to apply quickly for distance sashes awarded in 1,000 km increments during 2024.

Kim requested support for final result verifications before awards are presented, with assistance from available committee members.

- **2025 RIDE CALENDAR:**

Aim to schedule rides every 6-7 weeks, aligning with public holidays and avoiding congestion during peak traffic.

Tentative plans include the Towitta ride in July, Adelaide Cup Day weekend ride, and a potential State Championships on the June or October long weekend.

Waikerie Pony Club is interested in partnering for events, potentially providing free venue access if Pony Club riders are allowed free CATE entry.

Discussed holding a smaller CATE event (6 km) a week prior to a larger ride, followed by a Waikerie Pony Club event to encourage Riverland area riders.

Dual-affiliation rides with VERA were discussed to balance event distribution.

- **PRIZE PRESENTATION:**

Lainie independently presented saddle pads to a team at the TQ24 without prior committee approval; the issue was discussed to ensure future prizes match committee plans and budget.

A unanimous decision was made to involve the full committee in all prize selections moving forward.

5. Financial Report:

Lisa presented the Treasurer's report, noting a financial loss for 2024.

Suggestions to consider fee adjustments at the AGM to cover part of the \$50 significant volunteer rebate.

Membership fee review in alignment with AERA guidelines, including the potential continuation of the early bird discount for new and renewing members.

A discussion on promoting a training ride membership option, which is economical and can later be upgraded for riders wishing to participate in 80 km rides.

6. Membership & Sponsorship:

Objective for 2025 to boost membership numbers and club fundraising efforts.

VERA's model of allowing day members to convert to full membership with a discount was reviewed as a potential incentive model for SAERA.

Potential to offer half-price membership and/or continue day memberships at \$40, which covers the AERA fee.

7. AERA Updates:

New logbooks, compatible with FEI 1-star events, available starting January 1, 2025, with an increase in cost.

Updated Horse Health Declaration requires a 4-day temperature log, taken for three days prior to travel and the morning of travel. Additional requirements may apply based on specific events.

AERA's preliminary budget has been shared for review, with the final meeting date in November pending.

Swabbing targets are on course to be met nationally; minor rule changes were discussed.

8. Decisions Made

- **DUAL AFFILIATION:**

Brimpaen ride to be dual-affiliated with VERA; this was approved with Kim proposing and Lisa seconding.

• **MEMBERSHIP AND SPONSORSHIP ADJUSTMENTS:**

Committee agreed to review membership fees and related adjustments at the AGM.

Early bird membership discount and half-price membership incentives will be revisited in 2025.

Poll for Member Feedback:

Julia suggested using a Facebook poll for feedback instead of Survey Monkey; Lainie suggested Survey Monkey as more comprehensive.

Julia to formulate questions for feedback collection.

9. Action Items / Task List

KIM:

Confirm final rug and jacket sizes after the Dergholm ride and manage trophy details, including coordinating with the Mudge family on the specific award.

Support in verifying final point and distance calculations before awards.

JULIA:

Post on Facebook for 1,000 km distance sash applications and update the website with proposed 2025 ride dates.

Formulate Survey Monkey questions to gather member feedback on club activities.

LISA:

Contact Waikerie Pony Club to confirm logistics for a potential July ride, including entry terms for Pony Club riders.

Present the Treasurer's report with proposed membership fee adjustments for approval at the AGM.

JIL:

Follow up with Mudge family to confirm recipient for their award and provide cloth patch cost estimate for team prizes.

Include details of Mandy Bath in correspondence logs based on AERA's guidance.

LAINIE:

Confirm Adelaide Cup Day long weekend ride details and logistics.

Review pricing options for future prizes, including club-branded saddle pads.

Next Meeting: December 2, 2024, at 7:30 PM via GOTO Meeting link