

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE 2024 GENERAL MEETING OF THE
WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ENDURANCE RIDERS' ASSOCIATION INC.**

TO BE RATIFIED AT 2025 WAERA GENERAL MEETING

*Held on Saturday 7th December 2024 @ 2pm
Location: Serpentine Sports Ground, 1432 Karnup Road, Serpentine WA 6125*

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1. Meeting opened at: 3:05pm

2. Members Present: (see separate attendance & apologies list)

3. Apologies: (see separate attendance & apologies list)

4. Visitors: none recorded

5. Welcome by President: (As per AGM). Richard Summerfield added that the Constitutional Changes proposed in relation to intermediate memberships has now been passed, following the meeting at Easter; therefore, intermediate memberships will be available for the 2025 Season.

6. Register of Pecuniary and Conflict of Interest: none recorded

7. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

Motion: That the minutes of the previous GM Meeting held on 25th November 2023 be accepted as a true record.

Moved: Karen Karlovsky

Seconded: Ruth Morley

Decision: Minutes accepted (ratified) without questions or amendments

8. Honorary & Life Memberships: Kylie Day

9. Notions of Motions: none received

10. Reports

10.1. President's Report (see AGM & above)

10.2. 2024 Treasurer's Report (accepted at AGM)

Dear Members.

As can be seen by the Profit and Loss 31-Oct-2024, WAERA has come very close to breaking even this year. This is largely due to the increase in membership fees and ride entries. Also, many members have assisted by finding sponsorship and fundraising

opportunities, while also putting their hands in their own pockets to sponsor prizes and not request reimbursements for outlays associated with club related expenses.

We have also had vets donating their time for which we are thankful. Of course, we still need members to look for sponsorship and fundraising opportunities, but we cannot expect members and vets to continue to take losses on behalf of the club.

AERA Fees and Vet Fees are expected to increase this coming year. Therefore, in order to continue to run and break even, WAERA fees will likely need to be increased as well.

Tegan Symington has provided the Financial Review for 2023/2024. Tegan queried the Club's GST payments and suggested that perhaps we should not continue being registered for GST as our income is less than the \$150,000 required. The SMC will look into this for the coming year.

Please see attached: Financial Review for 2023/2024, Profit and Loss Report 31st October 24 and Balance Sheet 31st October 24.

Ride Fees 2025 will be increased by \$10.00, meaning all rides will cost \$40.00 more than the distance being ridden)

Membership fees 2025 will go up by \$10.

Vet fees and insurance have all gone up with AERA taking a larger fee as the cost of public liability insurance has increased.

Best Wishes for Christmas and the New Year

Lyn Summerfield

WAERA Treasurer

10.3. 2024 Logbook & Membership Secretary End of Year Report

2024 has seen an improvement on the previous year of 2023, with 116 members joining, up 17 from last year. This has been due to the committee's promotional efforts. Of these, 29 were new members.

Entries in main rides have increased this year, mainly due to the introductory rides with the new members.

Richard Summerfield saying WAERA has increased its membership, on a percentage basis, more than any other AERA division – up by 10% - and thanked Hannah Roscoe for all her work in organizing clinics as this seems to be where new members are coming from.

28 logbooks were issued in 2024 which was an increase on the previous year.

This will be my last report as I am relinquishing the role over to another member.

Enjoy your break from riding, and we all look forward to catching up with you all through the coming year.

The following has been issued over the past year:

Logbooks

Total of 28 logbooks issued, down 4 books from last year

- Novice: 20 books (-6)
- Endurance: 8 books (+2)
- Upgrades: 5 books

Membership

Total of 115 Members (up 16 members)

- Life: 10
- Junior: 4 (-1)
- Senior: 95 (+16)
- Non-Riding: 4 (-1)

Regards

Richard Summerfield

10.4. 2023 AERA Report (Natasha Ellery)

- 10.4.1. 7 meetings this year + the AGM. All are now done virtually, which saves significant time and cost.
- 10.4.2. The National database now links to the early warning system, memberships, etc.
- 10.4.3. It's getting harder and harder to source personal and public liability insurance and the premiums will increase by 10% next year. Natasha emphasized the importance of checking the coverage provided to ensure that it is suitable for your individual requirements.
- 10.4.4. AERA has decided to provide more support for TQ state committees. This will include producing the yearbook each Quilty provides for entrants. It has also undertaken more promotion of the sport via Horse Deals, the AHSA magazines, and so on.
- 10.4.5. Membership nationally is still low.
- 10.4.6. There are no significant changes to the rulebook at this stage, but some rules are still under review and have been for years. Each proposed change is subject to multiple reviews.
- 10.4.7. Natasha is also the AERA treasurer and on the finance committee. AERA retains a bookkeeper but there is still a large time commitment. There was also a face-to-face meeting at the Quilty in South Australia.
- 10.4.8. 2 people have been removed from AERA and state division Facebook pages as they were in breach of the AERA Social Media policy.
- 10.4.9. Richard Summerfield commented that the AERA meetings occasionally discussed contentious subjects, but the meetings were always cordial and well conducted.

10.5. 2024 Chief Steward Report (none provided as the current office holder is dealing some personal issues)

10.6. 2024 Veterinary Report

- 10.6.1. Vets work closely with the Chief Stewards and as far as the vets are concerned, they do a great job. We continue to need more Chief Stewards so please put applications in if you are interested. John Anderson did an outstanding job at the SA Quilty.
- 10.6.2. We continue to need more vets too – please encourage them!
- 10.6.3. Congratulations go to Kerri Jurgens who passed all of her additional exams this year.
- 10.6.4. Statistics:
- 10.6.4.1. There were 556 individual rides completed at 80km or above. A success rate of 77%, vet-out rate of 13%, so 10% were withdrawals, which reflects how well we look after our horses and always put them first.
- 10.6.4.2. 141 individual rides at 40km, 26 individual rides at 60km, and 175 individual rides at 20km, showing we are catering for social riders.
- 10.6.4.3. There were 50 entries at 10km or below, so we are encouraging new riders into the sport.
- 10.6.4.4. Our fastest ride was Cardiff, where the winner completed at an average speed of 17.8km. Only 2 rides were won at a speed above Novice pace.
- 10.6.5. Anne Barnes vetted at the South Australia Quilty: Hannah Roscoe and Anna Erickson attended as volunteers.
- 10.6.6. Anne Barnes would also like to say, on the record, that Natasha makes an awesome AERA delegate, and that the 2024 SMC has worked very well together.

10.7. 2024 Merchandise Report

We started the 2024 year with new long-sleeved shirts in five colours. About 35 people took up the option and the feedback has been positive. I have started a list to run these again, I need 15 to place an order.

I will have a stand at the AGM/Presentations for anyone wishing to place an order - the shirts are \$60. I will also have the orders from Easter that have not been collected available – along with Merchandise that we still carry.

Come and have a look and get a bargain.

Grandparents come and get a Christmas Gift from the Junior Range.

Hannah Roscoe and I will be putting Merchandise on the web page over the Summer.

Orders will then be available by email order.

I will continue to do Merchandise as an off Committee participant.

Thank you

Karen Karlovsky

In addition:

Karen Karlovsky would like to place another order for the new shirts – she needs 15 to place an order and at the moment she has 7. There are also some shirts from the previous order that have not been collected – could people please arrange to do so.

10.8. 2024 Sponsorship & Fundraising Report

I cannot say I have managed to cover this very well.

Most Ride Organisers have a list of Sponsors they look to for their rides and do very well in their local areas.

Major Funding in the areas of Sport & Recreation and other Government Bodies is difficult for Endurance as we do not fall into a category that most of these packages ask for and we cannot fulfill any of the listed requirements. E.g. 'How will this funding help to grow your Sport in the Community?' (we are Nomadic), and 'How will you encourage Indigenous participation?' A lot easier for a Soccer Club or Hockey Club to secure funding for a project.

We do, however, have Sponsorship from Off the Track (OTT) and we have had around 25 OTT horses come and complete Endurance, Training, and Encouragement distances this year. We have five trophies to present to OTT Riders at Presentations this year. We chose to Present to under the category of 'Distance Rider' and thank Off the Track for providing Silver Sponsorship for the Trophies. Also, for the Bronze Sponsorship of Rosettes, caps, socks, cap covers, and saddle covers throughout the year.

Easter Marathon trophies were carried over to State Championships, but unfortunately there was not a completion at either of these events and we will roll over into 2025.

Thank you to all the Sponsors we have had for Best Conditioned, Best Managed, Raffles, and Prizes. Thanks to Members who have given discounts to Members for using their Businesses. With all this generosity we can continue to provide a high standard for our Association.

Thank you
Karen Karlovsky

10.9. 2024 Property Report

This includes Ride Trailer and Water Cart. Both these units will be serviced over the Summer Break and will continue to be stored in the shed at Chris Haddon's. For this we are very grateful as they are under cover and safe. Thanks Chris.

I will be going through all the paperwork boxes and bring them up to standard with photocopying and printing of certificates for 2025 before I hand over to the new Committee.
Thank you,
Karen Karlovsky

10.10. 2024 Awards & Trophies Report

10.11. 2024 Website/Facebook/Social Media Report

- 10.11.1. **Website:** Now fully updated. The ride organizers pack is up, and all the documents are current. People seeking the latest ride information should use the website
- 10.11.2. **Facebook:** we continue to run 2 pages, one official and used for announcements and one that is more informal. There are 4.2 thousand members on the informal page: we

also have international and interstate followers, so people need to bear this in mind when posting. Most followers are from Perth.

10.12. 2024 Collie Race Club Report

- 10.12.1. No report. Richard Summerfield commented that Caitlin Liebmann and Jack continue to do a power of work with the race club and with the Shire prior to rides held there.
- 10.12.2. The vet ring needs to be weeded, and the watering started again. There will be a busy bee there to get everything updated.

10.13. 2024 Volunteers Report

Volunteer Hand: From discussion with Ride Organizers, it was decided that most have a list of volunteers they use and prefer to do a call out on the WAERA FB page if some areas are not covered. We will leave it available for anyone to request it.

Thank you

Karen Karlovsky

I have enjoyed my time on the Committee for the last four years and have only taken on these tasks over time when opportunities have arisen.

The State Management Committee for the last few years has been reduced mainly due to the fact we have had a drop in Membership, this is slowly changing, and we are hoping that the trend will keep growing.

I thank all the Committee people I have worked with and thank Kylie Day for her enormous contribution to doing the Prizes and Presentation Trophies for the last six years; we have been very blessed that she chose to continue with this task and is now handing this over.

I wish the incoming Committee all the best and am available for a chat anytime, thanks.

Karen Karlovsky

10.14. Calendar 2025

- 10.14.1. Denmark is confirmed. The 2-day ride, for 2025, will be at Ravensthorpe with a stand-alone 80km offered on the Sunday. There are vacant spots on the calendar – anyone able to help can contact Emma Wilcock

10.15. 2024 Promotions & Publicity Report

10.16. 2024 Training Workshops Report

11. General Business

11.1. Swabbing Stewards

- 11.1.1. There has been correspondence about an EA swabbing course. Attending the course means qualified swab stewards would be able to act as swab stewards at ANY EA event, as well as, WAERA. There is a requirement to retain currency. Currently we only have 4 EA stewards in WA.

11.2. Tiered Refunds - for discussion (see attachment)

- 11.2.1. WAERA currently does not have a policy regarding refunds – it is up to the ride organizer.
- 11.2.2. Late withdrawals at rides, which have required an additional vet to be retained due to entry numbers, can result in the ride running at a loss. Late withdrawals still get a refund at some rides, whereas you could be eliminated at the pre-ride vet check and would not get any money back.
- 11.2.3. For these reasons, a tiered refund is proposed:
- 11.2.3.1. Withdrawals up to Thursday afternoon – full refund (less \$40 deposit)
- 11.2.3.2. Withdrawals from Thursday to Friday 4pm – 50% refund (less \$40)
- 11.2.3.3. Withdrawals after 4pm Friday – no refund.

Proposed by: Hannah Roscoe. **Seconded by:** Natasha Ellery.

Outcome: Motion was carried.

- 11.3. **Temperature Logs** – comment made that there will be a new temperature log requirement for 2025: it is now **4 days** with the final temperature being recorded on Friday morning. Requirements will vary if you are travelling interstate – check with ride organizer

Meeting Closed at: 4:15pm

Date of Next Meeting: 22nd November 2025

Motion:

Moved:

Second:

Decision: