



News from the Board

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BOARD REPORT

Since the last Board report, three meetings have been held, on 22/6/23, 13/7/23 and again on 10/8/23.

There was a backlog of business to get through, and except for the last meeting, each one lasted two hours.

For the first two meetings, there were no reports from Publicity and Promotions, Youth, or Affiliation, however subsequent reports were tabled at the meeting of 10/8/23, together with extensive reports from the Finance Committee, AANC and JOC.

The **Finance Committee**, chaired by Treasurer, Jody Pickering, reported that although income is down, the AHSA is still in profit to the tune of \$40,102. Our drop in income is largely due to a decrease in membership and registrations, something that is impacting all breed societies currently.

The Board has decided to invest \$45k into term deposits to maximise interest rates, whilst still leaving enough working capital for the AHSA to work effectively. This is additional to the other assets the AHSA holds, which have increased in value.

The Board has also authorised getting quotes for some of the office equipment with a view to making things more economically viable.

In the **Registry** report, Teresa Edwards reported on issues clarifying transfers and how the Board could facilitate transfers when horses had passed through a number of owners without requisite memberships and transfers taking place. Any up-dated rules will be placed on the website.

The **JOC** has had a name change, and will now be known as the Judges Organising Committee.

One training day has been held in Queensland, and there are future training days to be held in each state. Training days are to be consistent across each state, and judges will be required to attend one day every two (2) years to maintain accreditation.

A new Judges' contract has been drawn up, and will be discussed and ratified at the next Board meeting

for all judges to sign.

The **Events Committee**, under the stewardship of Kerryn Aldridge, continues to move forward at a fast pace, with judges now announced for the Championships.

See the [AANC Website Page](#) and Facebook announcements for further details.

The Board has also adopted the EA regulation regarding trimming of facial hair and whiskers – the wording is *'A Horses sensory Hairs may not be clipped and/or shaven or otherwise modified in any way. Individual sensory hairs may be removed by a veterinarian to prevent discomfort for the horse. Areas of Hair that must be clipped, shaven or removed to allow veterinary treatment are exempt from this rule.'*

This will take effect from the end of August and will apply to all Affiliate shows including the AANC

Qualifications have also been put in place for the Championships that each horse from the age of two (2) entered for the AANC in 2024 will require the following: 'Attend at least one Affiliate event or one Agricultural show in the last three (3) years. Exemptions from the above may be granted in extenuating circumstances.' And due to the late notice of this, the exemptions will be flexible for 2024.

Sponsorship packages are on the website, and as with previous shows, the AANC remains extremely appreciative of Sponsors' generosity to help run a premier show such as this.

The **Promotions and Publicity Committee** presented a report outlining possible ideas for promotion, and a plan of action is to be presented to the Board for the next Board meeting.

Some **Affiliates** have asked for permission to use the AHSA Ltd database for Nominate to verify registration details for shows – the Board agreed that this is a good idea, but that non-affiliates should pay for this service should they wish to use it.

Judy Meade and Kerry Frame have been invited to sit on the Affiliates sub- committee as externals.

The Board has still not appointed a Company Secretary, however we are entering into a trial period with a candidate for three (3) months and will review after that.

NSW Director, Glenys Lilley has resigned due to illness in her family and the Board will address her resignation at the next meeting. The Board thanks her for her past contributions and wishes her family well for the future.

The Board has passed the following motion: *'From 1st October, 2023, the AHSA requires all Judges, Officials (volunteers), Professional Handlers, Professional Riders and Professional Trainers over the age of 18, competing at any AHSA event or an AHSA Affiliated event, to carry a current 'Working with Children' card.'*

This brings the AHSA Ltd into line with regulations similar to EA, as well as most other sporting bodies such as soccer, cricket, athletics, netball and pony club.

It was suggested by some members that this could infringe on the Trade Practices Act, however this is not the case, and the Board has taken legal advice on this, and given that teachers etc. in most states also have this requirement, we are simply making sure we are doing our duty of care for children who attend and participate in our events.

The WWC card is free in most states, however professionals do need to pay a nominal fee.

For more information on how to apply for one, the EA link has the most information
<https://www.equestrian.org.au/content/working-children-check>

A new award has been created for the Endurance Sire and Dam of the Year – the awards for 2022 and 2023 will be presented at the Championships in 2024, and the Board thanks Dick Collyer for his involvement in this.

The Board has also decided to use the firm 'Employsure' to handle issues that are HR related or any employee issues which may arise.

Members are asked to address all correspondence to the email address for the secretary on secretary@ahsa.asn.au and it will be passed on to the appropriate Director or the Board to respond.

The Board has decided that they will meet on 2nd Thursday evening of every month, so the next meeting

will be on 14th September, 2023

Helen Rutland
Senior Vice-Chair.

As an addendum after the meeting, the information below was sent by Richard Shipton regarding Affiliates.

The board acknowledges that affiliation requirements need change over time and we need a review of our affiliates and affiliation agreement. Since these haven't occurred for some time the Board has formed a new subcommittee to undertake a review of how we interact with our Affiliates, how or where we can improve service and any other concerns that may impact our current affiliates and how we can attract other groups to apply for affiliation.

We are planning on inviting state affiliates to provide a representative to take part in our online meeting and may also invite input from non-affiliates that have suggestions to make becoming an affiliate more attractive.

At our first meeting we will formulate a strategy. Affiliates and members will be kept informed. We welcome input from current affiliates, please forward suggestions or ideas to secretary@ahsa.asn.au

Registry and Housekeeping Matters from the Office

- Is it time to adult register your Foal Recorded Colt? All Foal Recording owners were emailed last month as a reminder that those turning four needed to be adult registered by 1st August. Please contact the office immediately if you have not yet applied.
- 1st September is almost upon us so it is time to Nominate your Stallions. Please ensure your stallion meets all the requirements to Nominate prior to lodging the **Notification of Intention to Use a Stallion**. Requirements are listed on the form.
- IMPORTANT - Before lodging any Registration Application, please ensure that not only the new application is complete and correct, but that both the sire and dams registration (including registered ownership) and all breeding requirements are complete and in order. Our Scale Of Fees allows for a Requisition Fee of \$20.00 to be imposed for incomplete and/or incorrect paperwork that needs to be returned to the applicant and it will soon be imposed if necessary.
- Markings - if ever you are unsure about markings, then please simply take a good set of clear photos of your horses "washed" legs from all sides (front, back, each side, front of back legs and back of front legs) and face, lips and chin. We are only too glad to draw your markings if you have supplied good photographs. Remember, your markings are described and published on the horses certificate so MUST to be accurate.
- Do not post items to the Society street address, only mail to the PO Box address which is listed on all paperwork. The street post box is small, not secure and not waterproof. Also, please **DO NOT SEND CASH** (yes, it still happens).
- Almost all paperwork can be emailed to the Society, including Transfers and Leases. Pre-covid, there was a requirement of returning the original hardcopy registration certificate with all Transfers, however, this can now be handled via email. Please email the transfer and the front of the certificate and await further instructions from the staff. This is an important detail as we do need to be assured that there is no more than one certificate in circulation at any time.
- When emailing paperwork to the office please do not email and then post the same document. The Society receives a large amount of paperwork and it is likely that your credit card will be debited twice if you do this.
- Like the above, when emailing paperwork to the office, DO NOT email the same paperwork to multiple staff members as they do not have time to check every submission with each other before beginning the process and again it is likely that your credit card will be debited twice if you do this.
- Please ensure that all attachments are indeed attached, not embedded and LEGIBLE. Diagrams of horse markings are scanned onto the registration certificates; they need to be received full size and not crumpled, illegible or in your shadow. The markings on your certificate are only as good as the diagrams you submit.
- When corresponding with a staff member about an issue please ensure that you return any relevant paperwork to that person. A large amount of time is taken in asking which staff member is waiting for

a random form that is emailed to the secretary email address.

- Kelly Anscombe – office@ahsa.asn.au
- Juliet Burnett – breeding@ahsa.asn.au
- Teresa Edwards – general@ahsa.asn.au

A full list of your current AHSA Ltd Board of Directors,
their profiles and contacts can be found here:

[AHSA Ltd Board of Directors](#)



THE PREMIER ARABIAN HORSE EVENT OF THE SEASON

Announcing our 2024 Judges



Bérengère Fayt
🇫🇷 France



Paul Kostial
🇺🇸 USA



Kym Dyball
🇦🇺 Australia



Peter Pond
🇦🇺 Australia

AUSTRALIAN ARABIAN NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2024 (AAA Class)

Werribee Park National Equestrian Centre.
6th March – 9th March



www.ahsa.asn.au

The Arabian Horse Society of Australia LTD

events@ahsa.asn.au

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