

Registrar and Office Managers 2024 AGM Report

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to the Office Staff for their dedication and service to The Arabian Horse Society of Australia Ltd (The AHSA Ltd) and its membership throughout 2023. The year witnessed changes within our team, with retired staff member Lindy Stewart rejoining us on a casual basis, while Kelly Anscombe resigned from her position. Lindy expressed her interest in returning permanently, prompting the creation of a job-share arrangement between Lindy and our newest team member, Deborah Hui. We are delighted to welcome Lindy back in a permanent capacity, and Deborah, who commenced her tenure in the new year, is adapting well to her role within our team. Juliet Burnett continues to excel in her role as Assistant Registrar, consistently exceeding expectations in serving our members. Despite the reduction in staff over recent years and the substantial workload faced by the team, I am proud to acknowledge that we possess an outstanding workforce dedicated to serving The AHSA Ltd Board and Members.

During 2023, The Board of Directors sanctioned the engagement of Employment Relations and Work Health and Safety experts to collaborate closely with us in reviewing our practices, activities, and documentation to ensure compliance within the workplace. I am pleased to report that our Employment Relations are now aligned with best practices, and the finalisation of our Work Health and Safety documentation is underway for implementation. While this process has been lengthy, it is imperative for ensuring a safe and compliant work environment.

In my capacity as office manager, I have worked diligently to identify opportunities for cost reductions where feasible. I emphasise our preference for corresponding with members via email whenever possible. Therefore, I urge members to ensure that we have their most current email addresses on record. The escalating costs of postage and the reliability issues with Australia Post necessitate minimising postal communications. Furthermore, I have successfully negotiated a new lease contract for printers, resulting in a remarkable 66% reduction in costs starting from 2024. We will be exploring avenues to negotiate reduced costs for our phone systems in the near future.

Turning to the Membership and Registration Data provided below, it is regrettable to note a continued downturn since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Memberships have decreased by 9.5%, Arabian Registrations by 12%, and overall Registrations by 8% compared to the previous year. Since 2019 (Pre-COVID), Memberships have declined by 27% and Registrations by 21%. According to data collected by WAHO from all Registering Authorities, fluctuations in numbers are observed globally, "some countries are seeing a rise and many a fall", indicating that the decline is not unique to us. This trend is likely exacerbated by the ongoing cost-of-living crisis. Members and Derivative Owners are compelled to prioritise family and animal care over registration, transfer, and membership maintenance with The AHSA Ltd., particularly those involved with multiple registries.

After five years, the Board of Directors has decided to conclude the Registration Amnesty. The Amnesty was initiated in 2019 as The Board of Directors felt that "due to the ongoing drought conditions being felt in most of Eastern Australia and its ongoing and devastating effects, that many are delaying lodging your AHSA paperwork", with the intention to encourage submission of delayed AHSA paperwork. Though initially slated to end in 2019, it was extended indefinitely by the Board at that time and while there was a slight increase in registrations in 2020, there has now been ample opportunity for breeders to take advantage of the amnesty. We urge those breeders with outstanding applications to submit them

promptly to take advantage of the remaining time of the amnesty, which will conclude on 31st July, 2024.

In conclusion, while we confront challenges, The Office Staff remain committed to serving The AHSA Ltd Board and Members with integrity and excellence and we appreciate your continued support.

Membership Data

Membership	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total	3003 (3360)	3289	3417	3389	3075	2951	2596	2022	1997	2067	1871
Life	27	30	28	28	30	29	30	31	30	34	34
Full		3071	3174	3142	2788	2656	2414	1847	1812	1840	1716
-Ordinary		2737	2484	2425	2170	1975	1721	1401	1369	1680	1574
- Company	2806 (3155)	26	27	24	20	24	18	15	16	17	22
-Overseas		24	17	15	12	12	14	8	5	7	8
-Associate		208	454	495	420	473	410	291	285	n/a	n/a
-Pension		76	192	183	166	172	158	132	137	136	112
Junior	170 (205)	175	192	201	159	154	140	81	88	103	77
Panel Judge		11	15	12	8	9	8	6	9	7	6
Friends Of		2	8	6	5	6	3	2	3	26	3
Participant					85	97	93	55	55	57	35

Registry Data

	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total registrations 2023
Purebred									
Mares	309	311	248	231	282	217	188	170	34634
Stallions/Geldings (incl colt to adult)	268	246	216	190	212	161	163	144	29123
Foal Record	115	122	98	89	99	66	85	69	9290
Partbred									
Mares	120	120	104	89	85	87	90	88	30924
Stallions/Geldings (incl colt to adult)	136	117	113	88	80	55	70	68	25844
Foal Record	43	51	26	34	21	18	26	31	2386
Anglo									
Mares	51	44	43	39	30	29	18	29	4616
Stallions/Geldings (incl colt to adult)	29	27	35	27	27	24	28	24	4006
Foal Record	20	10	11	12	11	9	4	7	1027
Arabian Pony									
Mares	74	54	46	61	36	31	34	37	4571
Stallions/Geldings (incl colt to adult)	49	51	39	24	27	34	34	33	3430
Foal Record	36	28	28	17	18	14	24	18	1363

CONTINUED.....	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Total registrations 2023
Arabian Riding Pony									
Mares	88	57	61	41	49	30	42	44	2790
Stallions/Geldings (incl colt to adult)	76	72	37	48	27	39	43	32	2463
Foal Record	35	19	15	11	10	10	15	14	983
Warmblood									
Mares	24	22	26	10	23	13	11	13	1198
Stallions/Geldings (incl colt to adult)	24	21	25	24	15	23	10	13	1019
Foal Record	17	5	13	5	9	10	6	3	473
Quarab									
Mares	13	3	8	2	6	4	3	5	232
Stallions/Geldings (incl colt to adult)	11	6	3	3	7	2	2	1	151
Foal Record	4	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	79
Stockhorse									
Mares	13	13	10	12	7	12	10	8	334
Stallions/Geldings (incl colt to adult)	10	7	4	9	8	14	3	9	236
Foal Record	1	3	7	6	6	1	2	2	108
Half Arabian									
Mares	28	20	21	19	41	17	21	16	167
Stallions/Geldings (incl colt to adult)	16	14	22	16	33	8	17	14	126
Foal Record	9	3	5	4	7	5	7	4	40
Performance Index									
Stallion/Mare/Gelding	74	37	74	92	146	91	74	52	563
Foal Record						7	5	4	16
Total	1693	1483	1338	1203	1323	1092	1035	953	
Horses DNA typed	651	613	540	728	563	436	453	422	
Transfers	1655	1409	1312	1105	1170	1168	948	845	
Leases	211	194	136	131	129	86	70	88	
Exports processed	67	46	16	27	29	42	56	7	
Imports processed	8	7	2	10	6	26	7	5	
Stud Prefixes	63	50	36	35	35	28	22	15	
Stallion Nominations	877	701	618	557	523	395	387	349	
Embryo Transfer Applications	17	7	15	12	11	20	18	12	