

News from the Board

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MARCH BOARD REPORT

The March Board meeting of the AHSA commenced with an introduction by the Society's solicitor regarding the correct interpretation of referrals to the Disciplinary Committee. The Board felt they needed to receive a legal interpretation of the Society's constitution to follow the correct procedure due to complaints from members with respect to Directors.

The advice given was that the Disciplinary Committee is there for the referral of members' conduct at events or competitions, and not for the referral of Directors due to 'misconduct', and the Board does not have the power to refer Directors to the DC for misconduct. There are legal avenues that members can pursue subject to Section 203D of the Corporation Act 2001 should they wish to pursue this course of action. Subsequently, the Society will refund the money paid to these members who put forward their complaints to the Board.

Advice was also given regarding complaints of Director's 'misconduct' and the correct manner to address this under Corporation Law, since these matters are not addressed in our Constitution. It was pointed out that if members continually made complaints to be sent to the DC against Directors, not only does the Board not have the authority to refer them on, but it leads to increased insurance premiums and could impact on the Society's ability to obtain insurance in the future.

Our solicitor also reported that the reason there was a process to follow re complaints against Directors under the Act was to stop any disgruntled member from making vexatious and frivolous complaints as this would hinder the workings of the Board.

A deadline to the Auditors has been given of 13th April 2024 and it is hoped that the AGM will be held shortly after the Audit is completed.

Kerryn Aldridge then gave a report on the Australian Championships. Kerryn's report commenced with the challenges faced at this year's Championships, not least of which included the exceptionally high temperatures. Scoring at the event also created a couple of issues; it has already been suggested that this will be an area for review for 2025 Championships.

The inclusion of both Crabbet and Egyptian classes was a success, and the combination of the home-produced and non-pro saw 105 horses entered – most of whom then went on to compete in the open classes. It was gratifying and encouraging that the Champion in the open purebred filly class was 'home produced' and shown by her owner.

The Youth classes were exceptionally well attended and a joy to watch, and it was evident from those young competitors that we have some outstanding young riders and handlers for the future. The inclusion of the NZ contingent was well received, and they were warmly welcomed by all.



The Livestream was again popular, with visitors tuning in from overseas to watch – the comments received were overwhelming popular and suggestions for next year will be taken on board.

Unfortunately, in the large mare class of 20 mares, there was an error, which wasn't addressed until after the show had ended. This resulted in an incorrect placing on the night. The full details can be accessed on the Facebook Members page.

The Board wishes to thank all those who attended the Championships, together with our amazing sponsors who are so generous with supporting the event. Special thanks also need to go to Sable Farm for their hosting of the barbeque on Thursday night, which was very well attended. To those Directors, and their partners, who were able to be there to help, a huge vote of thanks, and to all the many volunteers

who gave up their time to help as well. Special thanks also to Tracey McManus, Dean Matthews, Nadine Frampton, Carolyn Potts, Graham Smith, and Vanessa Crosland.

So many people worked hard to make the 2024 Aussies a success, and the feedback has been generally positive. A very special vote of thanks also needs to go to Adam King and Kerryn Aldridge (and Peter) who spent countless hours of their time working hard behind the scenes to overcome several obstacles and solve problems to make the show work for members.

The JOC has recommended a new category for judge's who still wish to be involved but are currently unable to judge. The Board accepted the recommendation, and the Judge Advocate category was accepted with Karen Fletcher-Grieve to Chair. The Board also wishes to congratulate the two new judges who successfully passed both their Theory and Practical exams and will join the list of judges.

The Endurance and Racing sub-committee have been in talks with representatives of the AERA and has received a request for sponsorship for the up coming FEI ride in Qld at the end of May, which will feature riders from Malaysia, Singapore, ME and Japan as well as Australia. The Board will discuss this at the next meeting. Communications have also commenced with the ARC in Qld and a member in SA regarding Arabian Racing in these states.

Director Kerry Frame's report on the Youth committee was accepted and she reported that she is establishing a Youth Facebook page. Two new Youth Ambassadors have been appointed for Qld, Sarah Goodwin who is new to Arabians and Taylor Grogan, aged 12, who will be very familiar to many endurance riders, and who has an outstanding record in endurance. Last year Taylor successfully completed over 950 km's including the Far-A-Way Easter Endurance Ride and Winton to Longreach 220km which she won.

Finally, the Board, on behalf of the Society, would like to extend congratulations to Jessica Dertell for winning Junior Lady Rider, and then taking out Champion Lady Rider at Sydney Royal. This is a wonderful achievement and Jessica, as many would know, has 'come up through the ranks' riding Arabians. Her mount for the Royal was Volbeat (IMP DE), API recorded and owned by Sable Farms.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for 11th April 2024 and will discuss the Audit, finalise committee reports and address any outstanding issues.

Members will be advised in due course as to the date of the AGM, which, as in previous years, will be held via Zoom.

Helen Rutland
Senior Vice-Chair
seniorvicechair@ahsa.asn.au



A message from Equestrian New South Wales, requesting that our members take part in their survey to understand the needs and aspirations of all NSW Equestrians, including non-EA members.

ENSW - NSW Equestrians Survey

Dear Arabian Horse Society Of Australia Ltd,
Our recently formed Amateur Equestrian Committee is conducting a survey to understand the needs and

aspirations of equestrians in NSW. As an ENSW affiliated club, I would be grateful if you would share the attached letter with your members, especially those who are not EA members so that we build a comprehensive picture of the needs of ALL equestrians in NSW.

The survey can be completed anonymously, and the results will not be shared outside of Equestrian NSW.

The link to the survey is here: [NSW Equestrians Survey](#) and is also included in the attached letter.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

Warm regards,

Vireena Peacock

CEO - Equestrian NSW

vireena@ensw.org.au

Registry and Housekeeping Matters from the Office

- **Do not post items to the Society street address AND DO NOT MAIL CASH.** Please only mail to the PO Box address which is listed on all paperwork. The street post box is small, not secure and not waterproof. The AHSA Ltd will not be responsible if you post cash and it fails to arrive.

- **Registry Amnesty**

At the December Meeting of The Board of Directors, it was moved that "the Registration Amnesty end 31st July 2024".

This Amnesty came into place in July 2019, continued through Covid and was extended indefinitely in 2021 (with no end date). The details were published on the website and appeared multiple times in Members Newsletters, however, for those that were unaware, the amnesty is copied below:

The Board of Directors has resolved to put into place an Amnesty for any Applications for Registration of horses over 24months of age:

~ Registrations for Purebred Arabian Fillies/Mares and Stallions and any Derivative Stallions, received between 1st August 2019 and 31st December 2019, will only be charged the 18-24 month fee as per the current Scale of Fees dated 1/7/2019.

~ Registrations for Derivative Fillies and Mare, received between 1st August 2019 and 31st December 2019, will only be charged the 12-24 month fee as per the current Scale of Fees dated 1/7/2019.

Any Member that is experiencing difficulty beyond the Amnesty should contact The Registrar to discuss.

In order that you can take advantage of the amnesty before it ends, we would encourage all members to please complete and lodge all outstanding registrations for horses over two at your earliest convenience.

- **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.
- Almost all paperwork can be emailed to the Society, including Transfers and Leases. There is a requirement of returning the original hardcopy registration certificate with all Transfers, however, post-covid, 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.

- Similarly, **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.
 - Admin – 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](#)



Unit 12, 40 Bowman Street, RICHMOND NSW 2753, Australia

Post Office Box 415, RICHMOND NSW 2753, Australia

02-45775366 | secretary@ahsa.asn.au | www.ahsa.asn.au