

# News from the Board

[Member Forms](#) [Scale Of Fees](#) [Regulations](#)



## news from the board

Dear Members,

The Board met on two occasions in November as there were important matters to attend to.

### **Australian Arabian Championships**

Plans are now well under way for the Aussies, and the programme will soon be uploaded to the website.

Entries are scheduled to open through Nominate shortly, and as in previous years, members will have the ability to pay off their entry fees over the next three (3) months, with the closing date for entries being 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2025.

The committee has worked hard to keep the costs of the show as low as possible for next year, and have kept entry fees the same as the previous two years, with a decrease in the cost of Dressage entry fees. Unfortunately, we are governed by SIEC fees in other areas, and these have increased in line with CPI - this is unavoidable, but the committee is hopeful that by having three (3) months to pay off entries, this will help members.

Whilst there are often comments on social media regarding some members not always feeling confident to show in

classes where there are professional handlers, the Home-Produced and Non-Pro classes are a perfect opportunity for owners to exhibit their own horses, and remember that last year, our Champion Arabian Filly was 'home produced and shown.' This is an opportunity for all members to be involved.

More details regarding stable cleaning, cabins etc will be on the AANC Facebook page and website soon.

We are also very pleased to welcome Oso Arabians as our major sponsor for 2025, and thank them for their support.

### **Elections for the Board**

Nominations for the Board are closed and all nominees are published on the website.

There will only be an election in Victoria. The nominees are:

- Kerryn Aldridge
- Maria Daraio
- Helen Hardwick (now withdrawn)
- Carol Huxtable

Biographies for these nominees are published on the website. Voting will take place online and members will be notified shortly via email how to vote.

Other Directors who will return unopposed are:

- Qld - Sharyn Hungerford
- NSW - Helen Rutland
- Tas - Yvonne Downes
- WA - Jill Willoughby

### **Fee Changes**

The Board has, very reluctantly, raised some registry fees and removed others. We are very aware of the cost to members, therefore, membership have not been increased and will remain the same. Other fees for registrations, transfers and leases, etc. have been raised in line with the CPI. Again, these fees have not been increased for some time, and with costs continually rising, this was a difficult decision but made in the best interests of our Society.

The increases will take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2025, together with other changes, and will be on the Society's website, so if you have registrations, transfers etc. due, having them lodged before the fee increase will lock in the current lower fee for you. [The new Scale Of Fees \(effective from 1st January 2025\) can be viewed from this link.](#)

As mentioned previously, to date, our membership has remained relatively stable, with a loss of less than 3%. Much of this is due to returning members, both in the show and breeding areas, but also the endurance fraternity.

### **Constitution Committee**

Our Constitution last had a major overhaul in 2019, and it is evident from matters that have arisen, that it does need to be updated to bring it into line with modern corporate requirements.

To this end, the Board is looking for expressions of interest from members who may have a corporate/legal/accounting background who would be prepared to sit on such a committee. Expressions of interest can be emailed to the Secretary at [secretary@ahsa.asn.au](mailto:secretary@ahsa.asn.au)

### **WAHO Conference Abu Dhabi 2025**

The 2025 WAHO Conference is being hosted in Abu Dhabi by The Emirates Arabian Horse Society and they have invited two representatives from Australia to attend the conference. Our interests will be represented by Teresa Edwards, our Registrar, and myself, as Chair of The AHSA Ltd. There is no cost to the AHSA for this as The Emirates Arabian Horse Society are very generously paying for flights, accommodation, conference fees and pre-conference tours.

This extraordinary gesture means that many WAHO Registering Authority Countries who would not normally attend due to the cost, will be able to join us in Abu Dhabi for the 2025 Conference, which is wonderful.

It has been noted that at previous WAHO conferences, other member countries have provided videos showcasing their horses. In 2025 Australia would like to do the same, and are seeking expressions of interest from budding videographers who would like to have the opportunity to present a video showcasing our Australian Arabians on the world stage - this will be shown to all member countries, and is a wonderful opportunity for both our horses and the presenter.

### **Equitana**

I was privileged this year to be able to attend Equitana at the Australasian Arabian Breeders Cup.

As in previous years, this year was an outstanding success - and these photographs by Samantha Taylor sum up the

interaction of our Arabians with the public superbly. Equitana, has, for the past 13 years been a wonderful way to showcase the temperaments, beauty and versatility of the breed, and this year was no exception. It gives the general equine public, the ability to interact and admire them.

On a similar note, but not related to Equitana, so many members appear to be participating with their Arabians at Agricultural shows - again a terrific way to showcase our horses to a wider audience.



### Resignation

The Board has accepted the resignation of Victorian Director, Hasan Rifat, due to ongoing health issues. Hasan has a great passion for his Arabian horses, and we wish him well for the future. His resignation will give him time to enjoy his family, horses and to travel.

### Appointment

The Board has appointed Vanessa Crosland to fill the casual position in Victoria. Vanessa brings a wealth of corporate and financial skills to the Board as well as a wealth of knowledge and will be valuable to our current team.

I know some members may ask why we did not use one of the current nominees for the position, however, members do need to vote on those nominees and it would be inappropriate to appoint one over the other in this instance.

As always, please feel free to contact me, either via email or phone if you have issues that you wish to discuss or ideas to help promote the Society.

*Helen Rutland*

*Helen Rutland - AHSA Chair*

[chair@ahsa.asn.au](mailto:chair@ahsa.asn.au)

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*from the Office*

**AHSA Office Closure:** 12.00noon, Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2024 until Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2025

Although not officially advised to date, we anticipate that **RAEGRC Scone Closure (for any DNA and/or Genetic Testing)** will close from Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024 until Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2025. This will mean that the last date for accepting samples for processing in 2024, will likely be Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024. We will publish the official dates as soon as they are confirmed to us.

**Showing and Show Checks**



A reminder that The Australian Championships, Royal and various other Shows will be checking entries, therefore, please ensure that:

- That all horses are registered, transferred or leased to their correct owner/lessee, and entered as such,
- all owners / exhibitors / handlers / riders are current financial members of the The Arabian Horse Society of Australia Ltd. AND
- that you allow adequate time prior to the close of entries to have your unregistered or not transferred/leased horse paperwork completed.

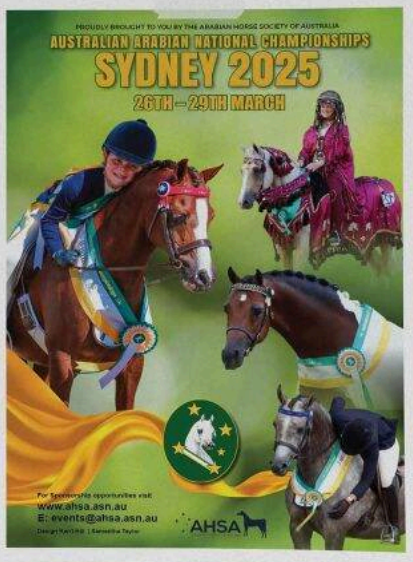
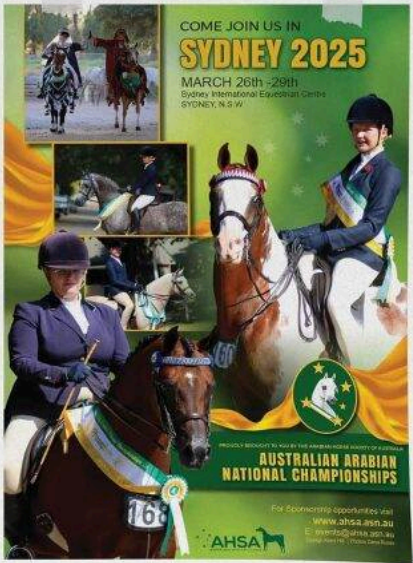
Members requesting transactions to be processed at short notice will be charged a Rush Fee AND are not guaranteed that they will be completed if lodged at the eleventh hour prior to a show.

Our office staff always try their best to accommodate members lodging paperwork and requiring it quickly, however, some matters are beyond our control, particularly if your paperwork is incomplete or incorrect.

Please be sure to renew your 2025 Membership in ample time for show entries and show checks so as not to be disappointed when your entries are not accepted.

# SYDNEY 2025

MARCH 26th -29th  
Sydney International Equestrian Centre



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

[AHSA Ltd Board of Directors](#)



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