



# MINUTES

WASBA Committee Meeting Wednesday 28 May 2025  
By teleconference

*Meeting declared open at 6.03pm on 28 May 2025 by Chair J Diederich (President)*

## In Attendance (by teleconference)

J Diederich (Chair),  
J Fletcher, P Borg, J Schaper, H King, W Morrison, J Coffey

## Apologies

M Holtham  
L Tabbakh

## 2 Confirmation of Minutes

**Moved** P Borg **Seconded** J Schaper that the Minutes of the meeting held 30 April 2025, having been previously circulated to members of the Committee, are accepted (**Carried**).

## 3 Business Arising from the Minutes

### 1 Standing Item - Membership

#### 1.1 - New Members

There were no new applications for membership.

#### 1.2 – Reconciliation of membership

There will be targeted follow up of some memberships and checks to ensure the membership list is up to date prior to supply to Harness Breeders Victoria (HBV), to enable our breeders to receive the HBV 2025 Stallion Guide ..... **Action: J Diederich.**

### 2 Standing Item – Industry Sponsorship

#### 2.1 – Additional sponsors

J Diederich requested Committee members put forward any new sponsors that could be approached to supplement our existing pool of sponsors ..... **Action: Committee**

#### 2.2 – \$50,000 WASBA Breeders Stakes (9 May 2025)

J Diederich reported that all sponsorship material was prepared and forwarded to Gloucester Park, including Horse Sponsors ..... **Action: Completed**

J Diederich thanked Committee members J Fletcher, W Morrison and J Schaper for their assistance and attendance at the presentation. J Diederich also acknowledged the support from Gloucester Park, including Committee member Bill Delaney.

The presentation of the trophy, garland and rug was well received, as indicated by the post race photos. J Diederich noted that two of the winning owners were WASBA members.

H King has invoiced all sponsors ..... **Action: Completed**

J Diederich to forward acknowledgements to sponsors ..... **Action: J Diederich**

#### 2.3 – \$30,000 Harry Capararo Westbred Mares (30 May 2025)

J Diederich requested Committee attendance for the on-track trophy presentation.

An invitation was forwarded to P Capararo and family for attendance at the trophy presentation, along with complimentary meals in Steelos ..... **Action: Completed.**

#### 2.4 – \$14,000 2025 Tribute to Color Glo Westbred Mares (14 June)

J Diederich advised that all arrangements have been made for the running of the event,

including clarification of conditions for this and the follow up Narrogin Red Vicar Westsired event in July ..... **Action: Completed**

J Diederich noted that conditions will remain consistent for the year for the \$14,000 races unless there are serious issues identified. Further review will follow, if necessary, to attract the target pool of horses..... **Action: Completed**

J Diederich to attend the Color Glo..... **Action: J Diederich**

## **2.5 – \$50,000 Kerry Clarke Fillies and Mares (20 June)**

J Diederich noted that Committee attendance would be appreciated for this event which is expected to involve dais presentation..... **Action: Committee.**

### **3 Standing Item – Fillies and Mares Racing**

J Diederich and H King referred to the positive discussion with C Brown and W Wishart involving improving the results for fillies and mares in the racing system and noted that the stakes earned by fillies and mares per race is above last year's results to this stage.

A WASBA request for barrier preference for mares in Group 1 races was noted, with no commitment made. However, consideration will be given to a barrier preference for some Group 3 races.

C Brown advised that HRA was having difficulty providing the figures WASBA requested (relating to earnings of Australian and overall fillies and mares in 2024) but the intent is to provide the figures.

J Diederich noted that WASBA will continue to put forward initiatives that provide a greater return for the owners of fillies and mares, who are underrepresented in premium meeting winners.

Follow up at future meetings ..... **Action: J Diederich/H King**

### **4 Standing Item – Liaison with RWWA**

#### **4.1 – Meetings with C Brown and W Wishart**

C Brown referred to his belief that HRA is considering providing some funds for states to run feature races for Australian bred horses, but this was not a firm commitment and would require states to provide some funds, meaning there would be some shrinking of funds for other races.

This approach was not supported by WASBA attendees, with the belief that monies that were extracted from breeders should be returned to breeders or support other elements of the WA bred racing pool other than elite performers. J Diederich noted that over the past 3 years, 75% of horses that raced are owned or part owned by breeders.

J Diederich provided a copy of an early draft letter that is intended for the Board.

J Diederich to forward Harness Expo request to RWWA ..... **Action: J Diederich**

Follow up meeting request ..... **Action: J Diederich**

#### **4.2 – Breeding Initiatives (Epona Proposal, HRA Breeding Report Initiatives, Other State/NZ Initiatives, Westbred Bonus Scheme)**

J Diederich reported that WASBA will continue to pursue the breeding incentives previously put forward for the existing broodmare pool, which included a non-transferable credit for a broodmare for any winning progeny in a season, as well as payment (as an either/or) of 50% of the first win on the registration of a Westbred foal.

#### **4.3 - Media and Promotion**

At the Brown/Wishart meeting J Diederich and H King referenced the previous discussion in the RWA Office between C Brown, D Hunter and WASBA, where D Hunter referred to the merit in providing Harness with a dedicated media/promotion person. This has not eventuated, or in our view being progressed, by the RWWA Executive.

WASBA to continue to raise as an issue that should be addressed, along with reinstatement of Harness The Dream..... **Action: J Diederich**

**4.4 - Honor Role for Broodmares**

On hold ..... **Action: On hold**

**4.5 – Request to RWWA to withdraw from Eureka and return breeding funds**

J Diederich referred to the early draft of the correspondence, which has been provided to C Brown. J Diederich to finalise with H King ..... **Action: J Diederich**

**5 Off The Track Rehoming**

J Diederich referred to the attachment included with the Agenda that detailed the request from SPPHAWA, for support for 4 events – the State Championships, the Scorecard Showdown, the Dual Code Spectacular, and Dressage.

**Moved** J Fletcher **Seconded** H King that Committee agree to the provision of \$1600 to SPPHAWA across the 4 nominated events **(Carried)**.

J Diederich to advise SPPHAWA ..... **Action: J Diederich**

**6 Fund Raising Activities**

H King referenced difficulties in contacting relevant studs for raffle prizes.

H King to follow up options with the studs..... **Action: H King**

**7 Qualifying Times – proposal to remove mile rate requirements**

J Diederich to liaise with contacts at HRNZ to determine the status of the proposed change before any further action is taken ..... **Action: J Diederich**

**4 Treasurers Report****Financial Report to 27 May 2025**

Bank Details: BSB 036 043 Account 129810

<b><u>Opening Balance (28 April 2025)</u></b>	<b><u>\$56,159.01</u></b>
INCOME over the period	\$ 2,525.31
EXPENDITURE over the period	\$ 840.29
<b><u>Closing Balance</u></b>	<b><u>\$57,844.03</u></b>

Represented by	Cheque Account	\$5,294.56
	Business Cash Reserve	\$52,549.47
	Cheques Drawn Not Yet Presented	\$0.00
	Deposits Not Yet Banked	\$0.00

**For noting:**

- J Diederich – trophies \$206.29

**Moved** J Schaper and **Seconded** P Borg that the Treasurers Reports for 26 May 2025 be accepted. **(Carried)**

**Moved** J Fletcher and **Seconded** J Coffey that the payments to J Diederich of \$206.29 for Secretarial is accepted. **(Carried)**

## 5 Correspondence

### IN

- F Mellors (RWWA) 'HRCG | Amendment to Minutes from Meeting held 9 April 2025', email 12 May 2025
- J Scotney resignation letter, email 1 May 2025, reply 1 May
- K Morrone "Dual Code Spectacular – thank you", email 12 May 2025, reply 12 May
- **A Markowski (SPPHAWA) "Request for Sponsorship", email 20 May 2025**
- M Meylan "Next Pegasus-EWA EduSeries Seminar - Equine Asthma", email 20 May 2025, reply 22 May
- **C Brown (RWWA) "Consultation – Whip free racing trial", email 23 May 2025, to Committee in Agenda 26 May 2025**
- Crucial "Tax Invoice 729306", email 26 May 2025

### OUT

- M Lee-Newland (M K Garlands) "Request for two garlands", email 28 April 2025
- Slater Gartrell, Regency Foods "Request for Sponsorship – WASBA Breeders Stakes night", email 28 April 2025
- C Brown (RWWA) "Follow up meeting request of 1 April 2025", email 2 May 2025
- Gloucester Park reception "Breeders Stakes Night - Friday 9 May 2025 - Race names and racebook advertisements for sponsors", email 4 May 2025, reply 5 May
- W Wishart (RWWA) "Narrogin race program 14 June not available", email 5 May 2025, reply 5 May
- Gloucester Park reception "Breeders Stakes Night - Friday 9 May 2025 –Horse Sponsors", email 6 May 2025
- Gloucester Park reception "Breeders Stakes Night - Friday 9 May 2025 – Complimentary table for WASBA", email 7 May 2025
- Gloucester Park reception WASBA on course scripts for race caller - Breeders Stakes meeting", email 8 May 2025, reply 9 May
- D Trobe "Thank you – Facebook posts for sponsors", email 12 May 2025, reply 20 May
- WASBA "Meeting 30 April 2025 Draft Minutes", email to Committee 18 May 2025
- C Brown (RWWA) "Agenda - meeting with WASBA 27 May 2025", email 25 May 2025
- P Capararo "Invitation - Harry Capararo Westbred 4YO & 5YO Mares Pace Friday 30 May", email 26 May 2025
- WASBA "Meeting 28 May 2025 Agenda and Treasurers Report", email to Committee 26 May 2025

### Information Only

- Harnesslink "Harness Link Insider #135: The Stories That Matter in Harness Racing!", email 29 April 2025 March 2025
- LeTrot "French Trotting Week #175", email 29 April 2025
- Nevele R Stud "Group 1 Glory", email 1 May 2025
- E Clauson (RWWA) "Media release: Upgrades boost safety and atmosphere at Harvey Show", email 1 May 2025
- S Scott (FFTITC) "Save The date - Industry Forum: Advancing Skills & Innovation in the Food, Fibre & Timber Industries CRM:0295652", email 6 May 2025
- E Clauson (RWWA) "Media release: West Plantagenet Pony Club celebrates 60 years with record riding school attendance", email 7 May 2025
- LeTrot "French Trotting Week #176", email 7 May 2025
- FFTITC "Nimble News - Apprentices and Trainees are our future workforce + other handy information and links.", email 7 May 2025
- LeTrot "French Trotting Week #177", email 13 May 2025
- E Clauson (RWWA) "Media release: Regional riders shine at Dardanup event", email 13 May 2025
- Nevele R Stud "A Quartet of Group winners", email 15 May 2025
- APG "APG Goldtalk – May 2025, email 16 May 2025
- HBV "Breeders Bulletin May 2025", email 16 May 2025
- LeTrot "French Trotting Week #178", email 20 May 2025
- HBV "Australasian Standardbred Stallion Guide 2025 Bookings NOW OPEN", email 20 May 2025
- FFTITC "Nimble News - Celebrating National Careers Week + other handy information and links", email 21 May 2025

- Nevele R Stud “2Yos shine in Stakes wins”, email 22 May 2025
- Hoofbeats :Dont Miss This Issue Show Scene and Hoofbeats”, email 23 May 2025
- “WASBA May Newsletter and reminder for APG Autumn Mixed Sale on now”, email to members 24 May 2025
- C Milner (Skills Insight) “Re: New Skills Insight Stakeholder Engagement Manger Introduction”, email 25 May 2025, reply 26 May.
- WASBA “Meeting 30 April 2025 Agenda and Treasurers Report”, email 29 April 2025

**Moved** J Fletcher and **Seconded** W Morrison the Inward correspondence is accepted, the Outward correspondence be endorsed and Information Only correspondence is noted (**Carried**).

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## 6 Reports

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### 6.1 Balance of items discussed with Meeting with C Brown and W Wishart

C Brown did not see an issue with providing HBV with the WA Breeders mailing list for the purpose of distributing the HBV Stallion Guide, or with supplying a Westbred advertisement in the Stallion Guide

J Diederich to confirm that position with J Coffey and C Brown, with J Coffey to follow up with C Brown if any issues arise, and cc J Diederich ..... **Action: J Diederich**

C Brown provided some thoughts on possible funding from HRA under item 4.1

The date for the Country Oaks was clarified.

J Diederich referenced C Brown’s comments regarding trainer feedback on 2yo race distances. This will be referenced in the WASBA feature race feedback.

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## 7 General Business

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### 7.1 Whip Free Proposal

Committee discussed the proposal.

Committee opposed the proposal.

J Diederich to reply to C Brown ..... **Action: J Diederich**

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## 8 Next Meeting

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The next meeting of the WASBA Committee will be held on Wednesday 25 June 2025 unless otherwise advised. **Format by teleconference unless otherwise advised.**

There being no further business, the President declared the meeting closed at 6.49pm.

J Diederich  
Chair



28 May 2025  
Date