

**West Australian Harness Racing Breeders, Owners, Trainers and
Reinspersons Association**
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**Minutes from the Committee meeting held at Byford on Thursday 15th April 2010
meeting commenced at 5.35pm.**

1. PRESENT.

**R. Tomlinson (Chairman), H. Johnson, B. Coffey, S. Radalj, M. Gray, J. Milentis,
T. Ferguson, S. Hawkins, R. Gartrell, M. Woodley, M. Skipper (RWWA)
M. Hackett (WASBA) and R. Deadman (Secretary).**

2. APOLOGIES. R. Bell.

3. ABSENT Nil

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.

**The Minutes from the meeting held on 25th March and 4TH February 2010 were
confirmed to be a true and correct record of those meetings on the motion by T.
Ferguson and S. Radalj. Carried.**

5. BUSINESS ARISING

**All future copies of Reins and Sulkies will be circulated to all BOTRA Delegates for
comment prior to appearing on the BOTRA Website.**

The BOTRA News letter will be updated and new information added.

**BOTRA Membership for 2010/2011 will be on hold until June or July 2010 to
consider the creation of a new United Harness Racing Body and the new format for
its members..**

6. CORRESPONDENCE.

INWARD

1. RWWA

Rescheduled preview-Harness Strategic Plan

2. Rob Watson

Resignation from BOTRA

3. Diane Stampalia

Vacancies on BOTRA Committee; BOTRA Sponsorship

4. WATA

Cc Letter to RWWA-SMS Contact with trainers.

5. RWWA/Brett Coffey

Additional Races for 3YO

6. National Trainers and Drivers Association Inc

Draft Constitution; Whip Rule Submission

7. RWWA

Race Meeting Nomination Deadline

8. BOTRA/ WASBA meeting at Byford

All Papers

9. Rob Watson

Statistics/Information-Breeding; Yearling Sales.

10. RWWA

Tentative Dates –HRCG Meetings

11. Whitby Falls Pacing Stud

Invoice

12. WACHRA

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13. WATA

Cc letter from RWWA- Staffing

14. Bridgetown Trotting Club/WATA

Discretionary Handicapping Standing Starts

15. RWWA

Approved Sulkies for Races and Trials

16. Robbie Dewar

Botra.info-request to meet with BOTRA

17. Dawn Dickinson

Rescheduled meeting date- RWWA Review

18. SPPHAWA

Donation (\$300)

19. RWWA Stewards

Heat Policy

20. Terry Ferguson

Morgan Woodley-Reinsperson Representative on BOTRA

21. WA Harness Racing Spider Fund

Response to BOTRA letter

22. Brett Coffey

Handicapping System

23. RWWA

Rescheduled Meeting-RWWA Strategic Plan now 11am 25.3.2010

24. Robbie Dewar

Website Information

25. RWWA

Harness Racing Policies Sub Committee 17.3.201

26. Pinjarra Harness Racing Club

Letter of appreciation-Super Nines

27. Rob Watson

Nominations

28. Draft Document-Barry Hamilton

Special Meeting-Open letter to Industry

- 29. Bunbury Trotting Club**
Overnight accommodation/stables
- 30. RWWA/Rob Watson**
Pinjarra Super Nines
- 31. Barry/Linda Hamilton**
Minutes Harness Racing Bodies- 22.2.2010
- 32. Pinjarra Harness Racing Club**
Cc letter to F Kersley-Super Nines
- 33. WATA/RWWA**
Cc letter re June Racing Programmes
- 34. RWWA**
Race meeting Nomination Deadline
- 35. RWWA**
New Nomination Deadlines-Race Meetings and Trials
- 36. RWWA**
Race Programmes Meeting-GP 2pm 28.4.2010
- 37. Robbie Dewar**
Confirmation of Attendance to BOTRA meeting
- 38. NHRC**
Cc letter to Stewards-Alcohol and correct footwear in stalls.
- 39. BOTRA Newsletter**
- 40. RWWA**
Changes to Participants Licenses
- 41. Pinjarra Harness Racing Club**
Ambulance/First Aid Attendants-Procedures
- 42. RWWA**
Notice of HRCG Meeting 5.5.2010
- 43. Mick Murray MLA**
Country Racing Incentives
- 44. Reins and Sulkies (Robbie Dewar) 1st April 2010**
- 45. WATA**
Fraternity Stand- Gloucester Park
- 46. RWWA**
Race Dates
- 47. Frank Peczka WACHRA**
Whip Rule Review-Support for BOTRA
- 48. Wally Mann**
All Info Whip Rule-Meeting with HRA Etc.
- 49. Brett Coffey**
Geoff Winston Concerns

OUTWARD

- 1-4 BIO JOHN/BOTRA Award**
Appropriate letters
- 5. Bunbury Trotting Club**
Nomination Deadlines

6. Jarrad Humphries

Acknowledgement of service with BOTRA

7. RWWA Stewards

Heat Policy; Letter of thanks

8. Dawn Dickinson

RWWA Review- request to reschedule meeting

9. Letter to all Clubs

Discretionary Handicapping-Standing Starts

10. Robbie Dewar

Botra.info.com.au-Administrator

11. Steve Radalj

Free Membership- BOTRA

12. Gloucester Standardbreds

BOTRA Sponsorship

13. Pinjarra Harness Racing Club

Super 9's race meeting

14. WACHRA

Invitation to attend Pinjarra Super 9's race meeting.

15. Pinjarra Harness Racing Club Inc

Super 9'S- BOTRA appreciation

16. RWWA-Annette Fowles

Confirmation of attendance- RWWA Review meeting (R. Tomlinson, B. Coffey and S. Radalj

17. RWWA

HRCG Meetings- Alternate Delegates

7. ACTION ON CORRESPONDENCE.

1. A letter will be sent WATA confirming that the 2010 BOTRA Cup will remain in the allocated scheduled programme to be run on Friday 1st October 2010.

2. A letter will be sent to Dianne Stampalia with the appropriate Application for BOTRA Committee Membership Form, stating she will be eligible to apply and be considered for Committee at the next BOTRA AGM.

3. An email will be sent to Dawn Dickinson (Parliamentary Review of RWWA, confirming the meeting date for BOTRA, WASBA and WAHROA to give evidence.

On the motion by B. Coffey seconded by R. Gartrell, Inward Correspondence was received and Outward correspondence endorsed. Carried.

8. BUSINESS OUTSTANDING

Nil

9. FINANCE

A Financial Report from 31.8.2009 to 28.2.2010 indicated a Credit Balance of \$33,760.63.

The Term Deposit is currently \$12,524.15

On the motion by H. Johnson seconded by S. Radalj the Financial Report tabled was received.

10. REPORTS ON INDUSTRY MEETINGS

1. Spider Fund.

There are still problems with the financial reporting and general operations of the Spider Fund. R. Tomlinson will attend the next Spider Fund meeting.

2. Hardship Fund

Meetings held when necessary

3. Harness Racing Consultative Group

Next Meetings 5th May 2010; 18th August 2010.

4. Handicapping Sub Committee

BOTRA will be represented by Greg Bond in future Handicapping matters. A report from Greg will be available in the near future. Any BOTRA Delegate wishing to attend these meetings is welcome to do so.

There was discussion on the current use of Field Selection Points which is currently under review, claiming Race Stakes, consideration to increase the minimum class from C2 TO C4 for Friday Metropolitan Races and the drop back in class rule that is causing some congestion with racing programmes.

It was recommended that the formation of a group outside BOTRA to seek Industry information on Handicapping issues and report back to the BOTRA Committee with recommendations be implemented. A letter will be sent to G. Bond advising him of his leadership role with this group which will also involve T. Warwick, R. Oliveri, S. Radalj and other interested parties.

5. National Trainers and Drivers Association

Outcome of the meeting with Harness Racing Australia regarding amendments to the Whip Rules is pending and should be available by the next BOTRA meeting.

BOTRA will be attending future meetings with NTDA and then participate through teleconferencing in future.

6. Proposed United Harness Racing Body

The draft letter to the Industry by Doppler Consulting (Barry Hamilton) requires acceptance by all the industry Group representatives who attended the previous meeting held at Byford. Upon agreement, a strategy can then be formed to communicate and promote the initiatives of the new United Harness Racing Body. A proposed meeting date for Wednesday 28th April 2010 has been tentatively set for Byford, commencing at 7pm. All attendees from the previous meeting will be invited.

The email address of K. Jeavons will be sent to Doppler Consulting.

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

The Bio John/BOTRA Award winners for February and March 2010 are-Giles Inwood, Cody Wallrodt, Steve Johnson and Tonia Stampalia. Appropriate letters will be sent to all concerned.

The future structure of the BOTRA Committee was briefly discussed and will be confirmed after other Industry groups consider their position and the direction they will take in the Harness Racing Industry in future.

The Constitution of the Hardship Fund will be emailed to B. Coffey to be placed on the BOTRA website and placed in the BOTRA Newsletter.

A letter will be sent to Gloucester Standardbreds (Cc R. Tomlinson, B. Coffey) indicating BOTRA support to maintain the current dates scheduled for the Annual Yearling Sales.

There is a need to modernise the current system of Stewards transporting portable Accident Warning Lights to some race tracks. This procedure is outdated and requires attention by RWWA.

A letter will be sent to RWWA Stewards concerning portable Accident Warning Lights and also requesting if clear procedures are in place to inform drivers of the necessary actions to be taken by drivers when Accident Warnings or No Races are declared.

Future Super 9's races at Pinjarra will involve Stallion Station and BOTRA Support by way of sponsorship.

The recent resurfacing of the Gloucester Park track was carried out without problems and all trainers were well informed beforehand.

WATA has announced new sponsors "the Gate" for the Sires Night race meeting to be held on 6th July 2010. A panel show is being organised and BOTRA has been invited to participate.

RWWA is proposing 3 and 4yo venue based races at major country tracks with a final held at Gloucester Park.

There is major concern with the lack of procedure whereby clubs employ Catchers/Clerk of Course and their horses without really knowing the capability of

the horse and the rider. WACHRA has expressed concern over the lack of initiative by RWWA in not setting criteria for applicants for the position (particularly Catcher) and for not implementing licensing for persons employed for this important role. A letter sent to RWWA by WACHRA will be circulated to all Delegates of BOTRA and on approval, a letter of support on this issue will be sent to RWWA by BOTRA.

A letter will be sent to RWWA indicating the urgent need for more cameras on race tracks for better vision by Stewards at race meeting enquiries. The current scenario does not support the evidence by drivers when being challenged by Stewards, as the true version of events as evidence is compromised by poor on track vision. The Vision equipment (TV's, Recorders, DVD Players etc.) at some tracks are substandard and need replacement. This item will be on the agenda for the HRCG.

The BOTRA Quiz and Auction Function will be discussed next Committee meeting. Some ideas for venues were forthcoming with the idea of a bowling club or various other function centres recommended. The BOTRA Committee is invited to bring their ideas for this function to the next Committee meeting. The BOTRA Quiz and Auction Function will be held on a Sunday in October 2010 preferably on a non racing day.

The initial stages of the introduction of Sky Channels One and Two is causing problems in Pubs etc. The choice of one channel over another by patrons is causing disharmony.

12. MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 8.25pm.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING- 5.30pm **THURSDAY 13th MAY 2010 at the Byford Trotting Training Complex

THESE MINUTES HAVE YET TO BE CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD

