

**West Australian Harness Racing Breeders, Owners, Trainers and
Reinspersons Association**
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**Minutes from the Committee meeting held at Gloucester Park on Thursday 5th
November 2009 meeting commenced at 5.45 pm.**

1. PRESENT.

**G. Bond (A/Chairman), H. Johnson, B. Coffey, S. Radalj, R. Gartrell, J. Milentis
and R. Deadman (Secretary).**

2. APOLOGIES. R. Tomlinson, M. Gray, R. Watson.

3. ABSENT J. Humphries, T. Ferguson, R. Warwick, R. Bell.

**Owing to insufficient numbers in attendance to form a quorum, a meeting was held
to discuss correspondence and general business.**

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.

To be addressed next Committee meeting

5. BUSINESS ARISING

**BOTRA is still seeking a professional person to administer the botra.info website.
Matthew Young has been approached and will consider this position.**

6. CORRESPONDENCE.

INWARD

1. WACHRA

Minutes 29th October 2009

2. RWVA

j. Zucal unable to attend AGM

3. RWVA

Byford Trials- Wednesday??

4. Parliament of WA

Review of RWVA Acts

5. Spider Fund

Financial Report

6. RWVA

Agenda Items HRCG 26.11.2009

7. WATA

Sectional Times Policy

8. Garry Johnson

Letter of Appreciation

9. Julian Phillips
Trainer Communication System (Website)
10. Rob Watson/Rob Tomlinson
Fillies and Mares Racing
11. New Zealand Standardbred Breeders Association
Breeding Glossaries
12. RWWA
Discretionary Handicapping Standing Start Races
13. RWWA-Ross Cooper
RWWA and Harness Racing Issues
14. RWWA Media Release
Operating Structure Changes
15. WATA
WATA/BOTRA MEETING
16. RWWA-Dianne Begg
Northam Track`
17. RWWA
Race Programme Meetings-Schedule
18. RWWA
Pinjarra/ Gloucester Park- Race Date Changes
19. Spider Fund
AGM Report

OUTWARD

- 1- 4. BIO John/BOTRA Award
Appropriate letters
5. WATA
Request for a meeting
6. RWWA- Bill Delaney/J. Zucal
Request for a meeting (to be rescheduled mid November 09)
7. RWWA-D. Begg
Northam Track
8. RWWA-R. Cooper/J. Zucal
Invitation to AGM

7. ACTION ON CORRESPONDENCE.

1. A letter will be sent to the Byford Trotting Training Complex to seek their views on the initiative by RWWA to conduct trot trials on Wednesdays.
2. Copies of information relating to the Parliamentary Review of RWWA will be sent to all Committee members.
3. Copies of the draft proposed sectional times policy for GP will be sent to all Committee members.

4. A response to Julian Phillips regarding trainer communications will be indicating this information will be passed on to the Industry Participants.

5. The RWWA Stewards/BOTRA meeting scheduled to be held on 14.10.2009 will be rescheduled to a date to be confirmed in mid November '09

8. BUSINESS OUTSTANDING

Nil

9. FINANCE

The Financial Report from 31.8.2009 to 30.9.2009 was tabled and indicated a Credit Balance of \$19,611.24.

The Term Deposit is currently \$12,524.15 (Maturity Date-5th January2010)

10. REPORTS ON INDUSTRY MEETINGS

1. Spider Fund.

No meeting

2. Hardship Fund

Meetings held when necessary

3. Harness Racing Consultative Group

Next meeting 26th November 2009

4. Handicapping Sub Committee

No Report

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

A meeting with RWWA Stewards will be rescheduled for a date in mid November 2009 to discuss...

1. Standing Start Procedures

2. Dress Code

3. Sectional Times

4. Push Out Rule

5. On course arrivals- Acceptance procedures at race meetings

6. Other matters

BOTRA is continuing to proceed with the initiative to become a stronger Industry Body by merging with other existing Industry Groups and pursuing a strong Membership base.

The possibility of conducting BOTRA Committee meetings at the Byford Trotting Training Complex will be discussed with all Delegates in the near future.

A final wrap up for the BOTRA Quiz and Auction Function indicated a successful function with estimated income of around \$24,000.00.

The additional Sky Channel Stations were discussed, there is no certainty on which codes were to be programmed on what channel at this stage, however it is likely that thoroughbred racing will take the prime spot. It is highly likely that in future, paying viewers will pay more per month to watch their channel of preference. There will be further meetings in future to discuss this matter.

There are still concerns with the handicapping system that allows horses to run out of their class and in many instances produces poor turnovers and uncompetitive racing.

The push out rule is still a contentious subject with some participants.

There is a possibility of a track curator seminar being conducted by RWWA involving a specialist from the Eastern States and Pinjarra's Fred Harrison. A letter will be sent to RWWA (Dudley Corbett) requesting more information.

The Awards night was thought to be disappointing this year. Additional tickets were not available for purchase and many persons in attendance were not known to be participants in the Harness Racing Industry. A letter will be sent to Julio Santarelli (RWWA) requesting an explanation of the procedure with invitations etc.

A letter sent to BOTRA by Ross Cooper expressing concerns with the Harness Industry, in BOTRA's view, highlighted the necessity for RWWA to pursue an initiative of punter education on industry changes and other matters concerning racing.

The unpopular Discretionary Handicapping for standing starts is still a work in progress and is again under review. BOTRA has requested that status quo remain.

The reclassification of horses under the new rules (10 starts with no wins – a drop in class) is being reviewed with some changes that could affect a concession claim with horses already benefited by a drop in class. This matter is still under review.

12. MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 7.35pm.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING- 5.30pm THURSDAY 3rd DECEMBER 2009 in the BEAU DON ROOM at Gloucester Park

BOTRA AGM TO BE HELD 12.30pm 15TH NOV. 2009 AT THE BYFORD TROTting TRAINING COMPLEX. PLEASE BE EARLY TO HELP WITH SETTING UP THE MEETING ROOM.

