

**West Australian Harness Racing Breeders, Owners, Trainers and
Reinspersons Association**
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**Minutes from the Committee meeting held at Byford on Thursday 7th January 2010
meeting commenced at 5.40pm.**

1. PRESENT.

**R. Tomlinson (Chairman), H. Johnson, B. Coffey, S. Radalj, R. Gartrell,
T. Ferguson, S. Hawkins, R. Bell, R. Watson and R. Deadman (Secretary).**

2. APOLOGIES. M. Gray, J. Milentis.

3. ABSENT J. Humphries, ,

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.

**The Minutes from the meeting held 3rd December 2009 were confirmed to be a true
and correct record of that meeting on the motion by T. Ferguson and S. Radalj.
Carried.**

5. BUSINESS ARISING

Addressed in Correspondence.

6. CORRESPONDENCE.

INWARD

1. WATA

Sectional Times at GP

2. WATA

WATA/BOTRA Meetings

3. Garry Jones

Letter of appreciation

4. RWVA

Policy Change-Novice Concession on FSP

5. Ryan Warwick

Letter of Resignation

6. RWVA

Publication of Licensees Contact Details

7. WATA

EHRB Letter to R. Burt/R. Burt to attend EHRB meeting

8. RWVA

Minutes HRCG Meeting 26.11.2009

9. Byford Trotting Training Complex

Confirmation to use facilities for future meetings/ Invoice for refreshments AGM

- 10. Byford Trotting Training Complex
No to Wednesday Trials**
- 11. Parliament of WA-Dawn Dickinson
Extension for submissions RWWA Review**

OUTWARD

- 1-6 BIO JOHN/BOTRA Award
Appropriate letters**
- 7. Byford Trotting Training Complex
Request to hold future BOTRA Committee meetings at Byford**
- 8. RWWA
Wednesday Trials at Byford**
- 9. WATA
Response in relation to future BOTRA/WATA meetings**

7. ACTION ON CORRESPONDENCE.

- 1. A letter of acknowledgement and appreciation will be sent to Ryan Warwick in recognition for his service to BOTRA prior to his resignation.**
- 2. A letter of thanks will be sent to the Byford Trotting Training Complex Committee for their assistance with the BOTRA AGM.**
- 3. Appropriate letters will be sent to the sponsors and winners of the Bio John/BOTRA Award.**

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

The Financial Report from 31.8.2009 to 30.11.2009 was tabled and indicated a Credit Balance of \$31,256.71.

The Term Deposit is currently \$12,524.15 (Maturity Date-5th January 2010). On the motion by B. Coffey seconded by T. Ferguson, the Term Deposit will be rolled over at the best interest and term available with Bendigo Bank. Carried.

On the motion by B. Coffey seconded by S. Radalj, the Secretary will receive a \$50 per week increase in wages commencing January 2010. Carried.

The Finance Report tabled was received on the motion by T. Ferguson seconded by B. Coffey. Carried.

10. REPORTS ON INDUSTRY MEETINGS

1. Spider Fund.

A letter requesting a meeting with WACHRA (next WACHRA meeting will be held 21st January 2010) to further discuss the future of the Spider Fund will be confirmed.

2. Hardship Fund

Meetings held when necessary

3. Harness Racing Consultative Group

Discretionary Handicapping with standing starts is still a contentious issue and must be revisited. A letter will be sent to WACHRA seeking their support in this matter.

Reinsmen Ryan Bell and Terry Ferguson are alternative representatives for BOTRA at future HRCG meetings.

Items for the Agenda for the next Harness Racing Consultative Group meeting are...

1. RWWA should contact trainers by text and/or internet when there is a shortage of starters in race fields at any meeting. Minimum number of starters in 2 & 3yo races should be 5 with the use of technology endeavouring to secure at least 8 (or more) starters by extending nominations to achieve bigger fields leading to better betting turnovers.

2. Discretionary Handicapping Standing Starts is still a contentious issue that requires re assessment by RWWA.

3. Claiming Races need the flexibility of claiming prices varying with maximum values at \$50,000 or \$100,000. More Claiming races should be held with this concept in mind.

4. Handicapping Sub Committee

No Report

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

The Special Pinjarra race meeting “Summer Sizzler” has been supported well by many sponsors and is progressing towards being a very successful event.

The Bio John/BOTRA Award winners for January 2010 are-Callan Suvaljko and Gary Hall Senior. Appropriate letters will be sent to all concerned.

The BOTRA Membership Raffle closed on November 30th 2009 and was drawn by Sandra Hawkins at the Committee meeting held Thursday 7th January 2010,

Winners were...

1st Prize... Trevor Lindsay (Trip to Bali or \$1000 cash)

2nd Prize... Peter Anderson (Full Set of Racing Harness)

Congratulations to the lucky recipients of these great prizes.

Presentations from Industry Groups for the Parliamentary Review of RWWA have been extended until late January, 2010. Letters will be sent to WASBA and WAHROA requesting 3 Delegates from each group to meet with 3 Delegates from BOTRA to formulate a professional presentation that will document the current Industry concerns and make recommendations that will contribute to a sustainable future for participation, ownership and breeding in the harness industry in this State. This meeting is scheduled for 6pm Wednesday 13th January 2010 at Gloucester Park.

On the motion by R. Watsion seconded by B. Coffey, BOTRA will be represented with this concept by Rob Tomlinson, Steve Radalj and Brett Coffey at this meeting. All BOTRA Committee are encouraged to contribute to the agenda for this meeting.

The proposed meeting to be held between a delegation from BOTRA and the WATA Committee on Thursday 28th January 2010 was finalised when it was resolved that Rob Tomlinson, Steve Radalj, Rob Gartrell and Rob Watson would attend to discuss the following agenda....

- 1. Sunday Sky Channel Meetings at Gloucester Park**
- 2. Ease Out Rule-? Possibility of introducing a Sprint Lane (Discussion)**
- 3. Sectional Times**
- 4. Fraternity Stand-Future Plans**
- 5. Future Strategy to encourage growth in participation in the Industry and on course attendances.**

The AGM for the Square Trotters Association will be held at Byford at 2pm Sunday 17th January 2010.

The current heat rule was queried, this matter will be further researched and discussed at the next Committee meeting.

The Australian Pacing Championship Nomination Conditions need clarification prior to the running of next year's event. A letter will be sent to RWWA requesting

a clear description of requirements for this event to assist trainers with their nominations.

BOTRA expressed disappointment with the lack of effort by Gloucester Standardbreds by not obtaining and using the available support in this year's yearling sale catalogue. A request to sponsor and man a marquee at this year's sales was not popular with the Committee. There is an opportunity to attend a pre sale dinner by way of support. A letter will be sent to Gloucester Standardbreds expressing disappointment with their lack of interest in securing BOTRA support.

On the motion by R. Gartrell seconded by R. Watson, the BOTRA Country Cup Series will continue in 2010 with a \$4,500.00 sponsorship to the Pinjarra Trotting Club for the "Summer Sizzler" race meeting. An appropriate letter will be sent to WACHRA and the Pinjarra Club. Carried.

RWWA has committed to printing names and addresses of participants in Racing Ahead (with permission). BOTRA will be seeking this information by email from RWWA prior to the next edition of Racing Ahead.

BOTRA intends to hold the 2010 AGM in early October, Auditor Winstan Thomas will be notified for him to complete the audit earlier.

The safety of Drivers and Horses racing at Busselton was of concern. This matter will be further discussed with RWWA Stewards.

12. MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING- 5.30pm THURSDAY 4th FEBRUARY 2010 at the Byford Trotting Training Complex

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

