

**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 1st October 2009 Meeting commenced at 5.35 pm.**

**1. PRESENT.**

**R. Tomlinson (Chairman), H. Johnson, S. Radalj, M. Gray, R. Gartrell, J. Milentis, R. Warwick, T. Ferguson, and R. Deadman (Secretary).**

**2. APOLOGIES. B. Coffey, R. Bell, G. Bond**

**3. ABSENT R. Watson, J. Humphries.**

**The current situation with the whip use rule was discussed and a DVD relevant to this issue is expected to be released to the Industry in November this year. To Be further discussed.**

**4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.**

**On the motion by R. Warwick, seconded by H. Johnson, the minutes of the Committee meeting held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2009 were accepted as a true and correct record. Carried.**

**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.**

**The National Trainers and Drivers Association was discussed. There was some concern over the name given to the Association (Trainers and Drivers Association) which was thought to not recognise the concerns of Owners and Breeders. Clarification was given and a possible name change to United Trainers and Drivers Association which would encompass all facets of the various National BOTRA Committees, may be pursued.**

**R. Tomlinson will attend the next WACHRA meeting to address matters relevant to the Spider Fund and other issues.**

**Racing Programming Meeting Dates will be sent to all BOTRA Delegates who are welcomed to attend.**

**Contact details of the President of the Square Trotters Association will be sent to the BOTRA President.**

A meeting will be held with the RWWA Harness Racing Manager and the RWWA Handicapper on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2009 at 1pm, to discuss Handicapping Standing Starts and Field Selection Points.

## 6. CORRESPONDENCE.

### INWARD

1. Domain Names  
Opportunity offer
2. Gloucester Standardbeds  
Catalogue
3. Spider Fund  
Finance Reports
4. Matthew Scott  
New Address
5. Royalstar Farm  
Stallion Catalogue.
6. Byford Trotting Training Complex  
Response for BOTRA AGM
7. RWWA  
Minutes- Programme meeting 9.8.2009
8. WACHRA  
Minutes-17<sup>th</sup> September 2009
9. National Trainers and Drivers Association  
Draft Minutes and Information
10. BOTRA Update

### OUTWARD

- 1- 4. BIO John/BOTRA Award  
Appropriate letters
5. Tim Gossage  
BOTRA Quiz and Auction Function
6. Dianne Stampalia  
BOTRA Contribution to Breeding Industry
7. RWWA-M. Skipper  
Confirmation of meeting-Standing starts handicapping; field selection points

## 7. ACTION ON CORRESPONDENCE.

1. The BOTRA AGM date will now be held on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2009 (previously Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2009) at the Byford Trotting Training Complex between 12.30pm and 2.30pm.

On the motion by M. Gray seconded by S. Radalj, Inwards Correspondence was received and Outward Correspondence endorsed. Carried.

## **8. BUSINESS OUTSTANDING**

Nil

## **9. FINANCE**

The Financial Report to the 31.8.2009 was tabled and indicated a Credit Balance of \$20,813. 31.

The Term Deposit is currently \$12,396.05 (Maturity Date-5<sup>th</sup> October 2009)

On the motion by T. Ferguson seconded by H. Johnson, the Term Deposit plus interest will be rolled over for a 12 month period at the rate of 5%

The Financial Report tabled was accepted on the motion by J. Milentis seconded by H. Johnson. Carried.

## **10. REPORTS ON INDUSTRY MEETINGS**

### **1. Spider Fund.**

Monthly Financial Reports will now be made available to BOTRA and WACHRA.

### **2. Hardship Fund**

Meetings held when necessary

### **3. Harness Racing Consultative Group**

No meeting

### **4. Handicapping Sub Committee**

No Report

## **11. GENERAL BUSINESS**

The BOTRA Quiz and Auction Function will be held on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2009 between 12.30pm and 4.30pm in the Golden Nugget Room at Gloucester Park.

Tickets will only be \$10 per person (tables of ten), the bar will be open and nibbly's will be available to all.

A fun day out with great prizes to be won and fantastic goods available for auction

A special mystery guest speaker will be present on the day.

BOTRA Committee has commenced organising this function immediately to guarantee a successful day.

**\*\*A special meeting of the Committee to finalise the logistics of this function will be held on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2009 at 6pm at Gloucester Park.**

**\*\*BOTRA Committee members are requested to be at the Golden Nugget Room by 10am on the day of the Function to assist with Setting up and assisting with other work.**

**\*\* BOTRA Memberships for the 2009/2010 season has been circulated in current Racing Ahead. To attract membership, BOTRA will be offering two prize draws for members who are fully paid up by the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2009. The first prize will be a trip to Bali with 5 days accommodation and the second prize a full set of racing Harness.**

**Bio John/BOTRA Award winners are....Garry Johnson and Giles Inwood  
Appropriate letters will be sent.**

**Any remaining NZ Style Whips will be sold from the Spider room by John Milentis for \$20 to \$25 each. N. Z whips not sold from the Spider Room will be auctioned at the BOTRA Quiz and Auction Function.**

**\*\*\*The date for the BOTRA AGM has been altered to Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2009 between 12.30pm and 2.30pm at the Byford Trotting Training Complex. The Bar will be open after the AGM and Light refreshments will be served.**

**All Committee are urged to encourage Membership Growth for BOTRA to become a stronger Industry participant representative.**

**A meeting with RWWA Stewards will be organised for Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2009 to further 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**

**A letter will be sent to the WATA to organise a meeting to discuss various Industry matters of concern.**

**The closure of Gloucester Park as a training track appears to be unnecessary on many occasions and deprives trainers the paid for right to use the track to prepare their horses for racing. This matter will be addressed at the meeting with the WATA.**

**The WATA have renovated and upgraded the Bar and Entertainment area in and around the Pure Steel Room at Gloucester Park.**

**The condition of the Northam Track is of concern. A letter will be sent to Dianne Begg (RWWA) indicating that BOTRA has received complaints and this issue requires immediate attention.**

**The action by RWWA Stewards to ban certain Drivers from carrying a whip during racing has been addressed at a special meeting with Stewards. BOTRA believes this**

**decision to be selective with Drivers with a total ban of whip usage could lead to further problems that could affect participants, punters and ultimately the Industry.**

**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.**

**Nominations for the BOTRA Committee have been sent to Delegates who have the right to stand for re election in 2009/2010 and Sandra Hawkins who has indicated an interest to become a BOTRA Committee member.**

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

## **12. MEETING CLOSURE**

**There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 8.05pm.**

**13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING- 5.30pm THURSDAY 5<sup>th</sup> November 2009 in the Pure Steel Room at Gloucester Park  
(BOTRA Quiz and Auction Function Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2009- all Committee to be present at 10am.)**