

**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 3rd
September 2009 Meeting commenced at 5.45 pm.**

1. PRESENT.

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

2. APOLOGIES. R. Tomlinson, M. Gray, J. Humphries, J. Milentis, R. Bell.

3. ABSENT. T. Ferguson.

The A/Chairman welcomed Rob Watson to the Committee.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.

**On the motion by H. Johnson seconded by R. Warwick, the minutes of the
Committee meeting held on Thursday 6th August 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.

6. CORRESPONDENCE.

INWARD

1. RWWA

Aerspoke Sulky Wheels Mark 2

2. WATA

BOTRA Quiz and Auction Function

3. R. Tomlinson

Whip Use Rule Changes

4. Ilisys

Renewal Host BOTRA Website

5. RWWA

Late Items HRCG meeting

6. Brett Coffey

Whip Rules

7. WATA

Punters Corner

8. HRCG

Agenda- 20th August 2009

9. RWVA

Race Names- Changes

10. RWVA

Race Programme Meeting Dates

11. RWVA

Changes to Claiming Procedure

12. RWVA

RWVA Board Appointments.

13. S. Radalj

New Email address

14. RWVA

Important Meeting Changes Pinjarra & WATA

15. HRA

Rio Speed Wheels approved

OUTWARD

1- 4. BIO John/BOTRA Award

Appropriate letters

5. Red Pepper Catering

BOTRA Quiz and Auction Function

6. WATA

BOTRA Quiz and Auction Function

7. ACTION ON CORRESPONDENCE.

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

2. A letter will be sent to M. Skipper requesting consideration for future Driving Fines to be a direct debit from Driving Fees.

3. Letters will be sent to Tim Gossage and Wes Cameron confirming their attendance and the date for the BOTRA Quiz and Auction Function.

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

8. BUSINESS OUTSTANDING

Nil

9. FINANCE

The Financial Report to the 30.6.2009 was tabled and indicated a Credit Balance of \$18,549.71.

The Term Deposit is currently \$12,396.05 (Maturity Date- April 2010).

The Financial Report tabled was accepted on the motion by R. Gartrell seconded by H. Johnson. Carried.

10. REPORTS ON INDUSTRY MEETINGS

1. Spider Fund.

The BOTRA and WACHRA request for the Secretary of the Spider Fund to present monthly financial reports for Committee meetings is yet to be addressed.

2. Hardship Fund

Meetings held when necessary

3. Harness Racing Consultative Group

Product Fees that were expected to be an impost to the Industry of around 5 million dollars will now be a lot less.

The “Player” betting initiative is going very well.

Standing Start Handicapping will change in future with the Handicapper using discretionary powers to handicap form horses irrespective of class.

4. Handicapping Sub Committee

No Report

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

The BOTRA Quiz and Auction Function will be held on Sunday 11th 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 discuss the logistics of this function will be held on Thursday 24th September 2009 at 6pm at the “Gate.”

The 2009 BOTRA Cup will be held on Friday 2nd October 2009.

** BOTRA Memberships for the 2009/2010 season has been circulated in the current edition of Racing Ahead. To attract membership, BOTRA will be offering two prize draws for members who are fully paid up by the 30th 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....Chris Lewis and Murray Hanson.

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 15th 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.**

R. Warwick gave a comprehensive report from a conference he attended (as the WA BOTRA representative) in Sydney between Eastern States BOTRA and Trainer Driver Industry representatives from the major harness racing States. The focus of the conference was on the Whip Use Rules and the interpretation by governing bodies. This and other Industry matters of major importance will be addressed at a meeting with Harness Racing Australia in the near future. The need for a National approach for rules and regulations on important matters such as whip use will be requested by this newly formed body which will meet on a regular basis in future through teleconferencing.

The Gloucester Standardbred catalogue will be supported by BOTRA through advertising Membership Forms and relevant information regarding the BOTRA Cup and the BOTRA Quiz and Auction Function. The cost of this advertising will be around \$200.

The need for the Harness Industry to become more professional and reinvigorated to remain a major player in the Racing Industry must be urgently addressed by all Industry groups. Better incentives for participants, particularly Owners and Breeders, must be introduced through increased stakemoney and the creation of more races and better programming for juvenile pacers, has to be addressed. This matter will be constantly on the Agenda for the BOTRA Committee.

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

12. MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 8.15pm.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING- 5.30pm THURSDAY 1st October 2009 in the Pure Steel Room at Gloucester Park. (BOTRA Cup Friday 2nd October 2009; BOTRA Quiz and Auction Function Sunday 11th October 2009).

