

**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 6th
August 2009 Meeting commenced at 5.45 pm**

1. PRESENT.

**R. Tomlinson (Chairman), G. Bond, H. Johnson, R. Gartrell, B. Coffey,
R. Warwick, J. Milentis, and R. Deadman (Secretary).**

2. APOLOGIES. M. Gray, J. Humphries, S. Radalj.

3. ABSENT. T. Ferguson, R. Bell.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.

**On the motion by B. Coffey seconded by R. Gartrell, the minutes of the Committee
meeting held on Thursday 9th July 2009 were accepted as a true and correct record.
Carried.**

5. BUSINESS ARISING

**BOTRA Membership forms will be sent to all Breeders and Owners with the
assistance of M. Skipper.**

BOTRA is still seeking a professional person to administer the botra.info website.

6. CORRESPONDENCE.

INWARD

1. Sandra Hawkins

Request for Application Form to join Committee

2. Burswood Advertising

Free Printing of Tickets (BOTRA Q & A Function)

3. RWWA

Jackpot Carryovers

4. Agenda for Stewards/BOTRA meeting

5. One Out and One Back (Brett Coffey)

Contract etc.

6. WASBA

Contact List

7. RWWA

Country Cup Series Info.

8. Harness Racing Australia

National Handicapping Rules Approved.

9. RWWA

Media Release- Interim Stakes Amendment and Country Programmes for 2009/2010

10. RWWA

Harness Racing Policies- Corrections

11. RWWA

2009/2010 Community Club Country Cup Series- Classification

12. Garry Torto

Botra.info-information to B. Coffey and R. Tomlinson

13. Information for botra.info (horses for sale)

14. RWWA/BOTRA

National Handicapping-Drop in Class; Novice Concession Claims

15. RWWA/BOTRA

Reduction in Class

16. RWWA

Notice of HRCG Meeting- 20.8.2009

17. RWWA

Change of Policy- Big Screen Cancellations

18. RWWA

Minutes-Special Handicapping Meeting

19. RWWA

Harness Racing Policies-September 2009

20. RWWA

Revised Meeting Schedule- Programmes Sub Committee

21. RWWA

Racing Ahead-Contact List

OUTWARD

1- 4. BIO John/BOTRA Award

Appropriate letters

5. Byford Trotting Training Complex

Request to use facilities and catering for AGM- Still not confirmed with Terry Naylor

6. RWWA

Drop in Class; Standing Star Races; National Points System.

7. RWWA

Maiden Races-Random Barrier Draw; Novice Concession

7. ACTION ON CORRESPONDENCE.

1. A request by Sandra Hawkins for an application form to join the BOTRA Committee will be processed at the appropriate time. Currently there are no vacancies within the BOTRA Committee.

2. A letter will be sent to WACHRA requesting their advice for which club/venue is to be the recipient of BOTRA Sponsorship for the running of the BOTRA Country Cup.

3. 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.

On the motion by R. Warwick seconded by B. Coffey, 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 \$22,477.46

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

Next meeting to be held on 20th August 2009

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.

The 2009 BOTRA Cup will be held on Friday 2nd October 2009. Letters to sponsors, horse raffle tickets etc have been organised. A trophy will be presented to the winning Driver.

**** 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....Peter Kimberley and Debra Sweet. 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.

*****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.**

A meeting with RWWA Stewards on the 22nd July 2009 discussed the following issues----

1. Can Driving Suspensions be changed to meetings suspended instead of days (in line with thoroughbred racing)-

Response-- Suspensions will remain in days and not meetings.

2. What is the strategy by Stewards with applying penalties.

Response- penalties vary in accordance with misdemeanor and length of time between penalties (low; medium; high offences are considered). Other considerations are taken before penalties are applied.

3. Standing Starts-verbal instructions differ between starters etc.

Response-Uniformity in starting instructions by starters is required but not always controlled with the number of race meetings being held.

4. Whip Rule

Response- Penalties are still being applied, generally reinspersons have accepted the new rule. A DVD depicting the new rules relating to whip use will be available to participants in late August. BOTRA Committees Australia wide will be contacted for their views on Whip Use and penalties.

5. Dress Code- lapse in application of rules by Stewards

Response- Stewards will apply fines to those who abuse dress code.

The Gloucester Park track conditions are still being monitored.

A meeting between Breeders, Richard Burt and Charlotte Mills (RWWA) discussed the Breeding Industry in Western Australia. A stimulus package supporting a \$200,000 Westbred Final is proposed. Future funding initiatives for this event are to be further discussed.

12. MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 7.30pm.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING- 5.30pm THURSDAY 3rd September 2009 in the Pure Steel Room at Gloucester Park.