

**West Australian Harness Racing Breeders, Owners, Trainers and
Reinspersons Association**
PO Box 159 York WA 6302
Tel/Fax 96 412 105
Email botrot@westnet.com.au

**Minutes from the Committee meeting held at Gloucester Park on Thursday 9th July
2009 Meeting commenced at 6. 00pm**

1. PRESENT.

**R. Tomlinson (Chairman), G. Bond, T. Ferguson, H. Johnson, R. Gartrell,
B. Coffey, J. Humphries, R. Bell and R. Deadman (Secretary).**

2. APOLOGIES. M. Gray, R. Warwick, S. Radalj J. Milentis

3. ABSENT. Nil

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.

**On the motion by H. Johnson seconded by G. Bond, the minutes of the Committee
meeting held on Thursday 4th June 2009 were accepted as a true and correct record.
Carried.**

5. BUSINESS ARISING

Addressed in Correspondence.

6. CORRESPONDENCE.

INWARD

1. RWWA

Northam/ Gloucester Park-Meeting Swap

2. RWWA

Novice Concession-PBD FSP

3. Winstan Thomas

New Auditor for BOTRA

4. EHRB

Nomination for RWWA Selection Panel

5. Cc RWWA Letter to YHRC

Training Facilities at York

6. West Australian Harness Industry Hardship Fund

Minutes- 11th June 2009

7. RWWA

Harness Transport Subsidy

8. Brett Coffey

BOTRA Minutes-Rob Watson

9. Ellie Sarama

Stallion for Sale

10. **WATA-Spider Fund**
Acknowledgement of BOTRA Letter
11. **RWWA**
HRCG Minutes-21st May 2009
12. **RWWA**
Race Programmes Meetings
13. **WACHRA**
Minutes- 4th June 2009
14. **The Square Trotters Association**
Cc Letter to RWWA –Trotting Industry
15. **RWWA**
Harness Strategic Plan
16. **A. Cortopassi**
New Phone Number
17. **DOCEP**
Information
18. **RWWA**
National Whip Rule (Thoroughbred Racing)

OUTWARD

- 1- 4. **BIO John/BOTRA Award**
Appropriate letters
5. **WATA-Spider Fund(Cc Des Parr0**
Monthly Financial Reports
6. **Gloucester Standardbreds**
Facility for immediate payment after purchase

7. ACTION ON CORRESPONDENCE.

Nil

On the motion by B. Coffey seconded by R. Gartrell, Inwards Correspondence was received and Outward Correspondence endorsed. Carried.

8. BUSINESS OUTSTANDING

Nil

9. FINANCE

The Financial Report to the 31.5.2009 was tabled and indicated a Credit Balance of \$25,913.39

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

Winstan Thomas has been secured as the new BOTRA Auditor.

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

10. REPORTS ON INDUSTRY MEETINGS

1. Spider Fund.

Meeting Cancelled. 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

First meeting held in June to assist a licensed participant in need of financial assistance. A grant of \$1500 was made available.

3. Harness Racing Consultative Group

No Report

4. Handicapping Sub Committee

A letter will be sent to RWWA (M. Skipper) requesting clarification with the new Handicapping rule, with retrospectivity applied permitting horses that have not won races every ten starts will now drop several classes. The matter of how the Handicapper applies this new rule to standing starts races also requires clarification.

Field selection Points were discussed. The rule in Western Australia differs to the National Rule and is harder to comprehend.

The new Handicapping Rule benefits 3yo pacers that win 2 races at either Metropolitan or Country meetings still maintain the CO classification.

A request by BOTRA will be made for Matthew Skipper to print the information relating to the new Handicapping Rules in the next edition of Racing Ahead

A letter will be sent to RWWA (M. Skipper) requesting consideration to apply Random Barrier Draws to all Maiden Races (CO and MO etc.) and also to send text messages to all trainers in instances where field sizes for meetings are having difficulties in attracting starters.

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 will commence 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 are being organised.

**** BOTRA Memberships for the 2009/2010 season will be circulated in the next 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....Nathan Turvey and Dave Thompson
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.

A date for the BOTRA AGM has been confirmed for Sunday 8th 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.

There have been some concerns for Driver safety issues with the Gloucester Park track that must be addressed by the WATA. Drivers will report back to BOTRA after the next race meeting.

The Pinjarra Trotting Club will commence renovations at their track in September 2009 and racing there will not be interrupted. The estimated time for the renovations to be completed is 8 months.

A meeting will be organised with RWWA Stewards set for Wednesday 22nd July 2009 at 1pm (TBC) to discuss.....

1. Can Driving Suspensions be changed to meetings suspended instead of days (in line with thoroughbred racing)
2. What is the strategy by Stewards with applying penalties
3. Standing Starts
4. Whip Rule
5. Dress Code
6. Other matters.

This meeting date has yet to be confirmed with RWWA Stewards.

On the motion by J. Humphries seconded by R. Bell \$2,200.00 will be made available by BOTRA through sponsorship for a radio broadcast show “One Out and One Back” on 91.3 Sport FM. Internet and Pod cast of this programme is also available. Future broadcasting of this programme on Racing Radio will also be investigated. Carried.

The Tuesday 6th July 2010 date for the running of the “Super Tuesday” race meeting was criticised. With good racing and outstanding stakemoney a Sunday race date at a better time of the year was deemed to be better programming for this particular meeting.

The operation of the BOTRA Website is still of concern. It was recommended that a professional be engaged to administer and operate the botra.info website in future and this will be further investigated by the Committee.

Drivers Sponsorship is still being considered and BOTRA will investigate the possibility of securing sponsorship themselves. A plan of action to achieve this initiative will be undertaken by the Committee.

All Delegates are reminded to secure prizes for the various competitions and goods for auction to make the BOTRA Quiz and Auction Function a success. Wes Cameron and Tim Gossage will be invited as hosts for this Function and a Special Mystery Guest will be invited to speak on the day.

12. MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 8.40pm.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING- 5.30pm THURSDAY 6th AUGUST 2009 in the Pure Steel Room at Gloucester Park.