

**West Australian Harness Racing Breeders, Owners, Trainers and
Reinspersons Association**
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**Minutes from Committee meeting held at Gloucester Park on Thursday 8th January
2009 Meeting commenced at 5.35pm**

**Standing Orders were suspended at 5.35 pm when Garry Torto was welcomed to the
meeting.**

**The botra.info website was discussed in length with proposals to change the format
into a user friendly, informative and interesting website. The possibility of earning
from sponsorships on the site was discussed. The final analysis was for the
Committee to organise and structure the website to the desired design within the
next 6 months and continue to liaise with Garry Torto.**

Garry Torto was again thanked for his assistance and left th meeting at 6.05pm.

Standing Orders were resumed at 6.05pm.

1. PRESENT.

**R. Tomlinson(Chairman), R. Warwick, H. Johnson, R. Gartrell,
J. Humphries, G. Bond, A. Cortopassi, S. Radalj, B. Coffey, T. Ferguson and
R. Deadman (Secretary).**

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

**John Milentis will approach R. Culleton with regard to his future on the BOTRA
Committee. BOTRA fully supports the retention of R. Culleton on the BOTRA
Committee, should his health allow him to continue.**

3. ABSENT.

Nil.

4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES.

**On the motion by G. Bond seconded by J. Humphries, the minutes of the Committee
meeting held on Thursday 4th December 2008 were accepted as a true and correct
record. Carried.**

5. BUSINESS ARISING

**A meeting with the Stewards will be scheduled for Thursday 15th January 2009 at
1pm.**

6. CORRESPONDENCE.

INWARD

6.1. RWWA

Media Release- 66 Nominations for Fremantle Cup.

6.2. RWWA

Media Release- Richard Bell Appointed

6.3. WATA

Trotters Races-WATA Proposal

6.4. RWWA

Media Release- death of Ray Holloway

6.5. Byford Trotting Training Complex

Permission to use facilities 21.1.2009.

6.6. RWWA

Recap of meeting held –Drivers Fees; Handicapping Review etc.

6.7. RWWA

Media Release- New Programme to assist Clubs in WA

6.8. RWWA

Media Release- James Matthew

6.9. DOCEP

News Letter

6.10. RWWA

Responses to BOTRA's support for Standing Starts.

6.11. RWWA

Minutes HRCG.

6.12 RWWA

Media Release- Fremantle Cup

OUTWARD

1. To all Licensed Drivers

Notification of meeting; Membership form

2. WASBA-Brett Coffey

Catalogue launch

3. RWWA Stewards

Agends for Meeting- 10.12.2008

4. BOTRA Committee

Meeting cancelled

5. RWWA

Request for a meeting

6. All Industry Bodies

BOTRA 100% supportive of standing starts

7. Garry Torto

Invitation to attenmd BOTRA Meeting

8. RWWA

Statistics comparison 2007/2008 2yo races

9/13. BIO John/BOTRA Award

All letters

14. RWVA

Racing Ahead-BOTRA Update

7. ACTION ON CORRESPONDENCE

1. A reminder letter will be sent to A. Parker for the statistical report on 2 year pacers.

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

8. BUSINESS OUTSTANDING

Nil

9. FINANCE

The Finance Report Tabled reflected a current balance in the working account of \$29,539.07.

The Term Deposit is currently \$11,707.17. (Maturity Date- September 2009)

The Financial Report tabled was received by J. Humphries seconded by S. Radalj. Carried.

10. REPORTS ON INDUSTRY MEETINGS

1. Spider Fund.

An improved version of the financial report was received from the Secretary of the Spider Fund.

The issue of non recognition by the Spider Fund with claims for damaged tyres and tubes is still unresolved.

2. Hardship Fund

Meetings are held when necessary.

3. Harness Racing Consultative Group

A letter has been sent to the Harness Racing Manager (Cc Alan Parker) requesting statistic comparisons between 2007 and 2008 season for 2yo pacers with regard to races programmed, how many raced, stakes budgeted for last year compared with 2008. No response to date.

4. Handicapping Sub Committee.

No meeting

5. RWVA Stewards/BOTRA Meeting

The next meeting with RWVA Stewards is scheduled to be held on Thursday 15th January 2009

Agenda Items at this stage are.....

1. Whip use-? current policy that is in place
2. Standing start races – same procedures must be used by all RWWA starters at all tracks.
3. Taping of hobble carriers
4. Declaration of non runners at race meetings
5. Other matters

11. GENERAL BUSINESS

The President has allocated specific responsibility to each BOTRA Committeeman.

Breeders.

Representatives- Terry Ferguson and Bret Coffey

- Work with Gloucester Standardbreds
- Westbred Bonus Scheme
- Meetings with Matthew Skipper
- BOTRA Member recruitment.
- Website Updates.

Owners.

Representatives- Rob Gartrell and Steve Radalj

- Work with WATA
- Fundraising Events
- BOTRA Cup
- Sponsorship
- BOTRA Member recruitment
- Website Updates

Trainers.

Representatives- Greg Bond and Jarrad Humphries

- Meetings with RWWA Stewards
- Meetings with Matthew Skipper
- Handicapping Review
- Dianne Begg-Training Facilities
- BOTRA Membership recruitment
- Website Updates

Reinspersons.

Representatives- Aldo Cortopassi and Ryan Warwick

- HRCG Meetings on rotation
- Meetings with RWWA Stewards
- Meetings with RWWA Administration
- Drivers Fees
- BOTRA Membership recruitment
- Website Updates

BOTRA Committee Members

Representatives- John Milentis, Harry Johnson and Merv Gray

- **Spider Fund**
- **Spider Room**
- **Hardship Fund**
- **Quiz and Auction Function**
- **BOTRA Membership recruitment**
- **Website Updates**

The possibility of securing the Fraternity stand at Gloucester Park for use as BOTRA Club house was discussed and will be investigated further with the WATA.

The BOTRA Quiz and Auction Function for 2009 will be discussed in due course.

A motion to the effect of-- BOTRA Support for the original motion that was carried at the BOTRA AGM --- To reallocate the 12.5% Bonus Payment portion of the Westbred Bonus Scheme currently paid to Drivers, to now be paid to Owners. Moved G. Bond seconded T. Ferguson. Carried.

The passing of Chris Lewis's Father will be acknowledged by expressing sincere sympathy to Chris and Debra lewis. Flowers will be sent.

The BOTRA support for Gloucester Standardbreds was acknowledged by donating \$650.00 towards their catalogue launch.

Further investigations into a initiative involving clubs for a \$1000 breeding bonus to be shared on a 50-50 basis will be further investigated and reported back to the next BOTRA meeting.

Statistics comparing Fillies to other genders showed on average that Colts and Geldings averaged stakes of \$26,500 compared to Fillies that earned \$16,000.

A table can be arranged for BOTRA at the forthcoming Yearling Sales and more information will be made available at the next BOTRA meeting.

John Hunt has expressed his gratitude for the gift he received from BOTRA for his recent retirement. The BOTRA Committee has intentions of remaining in touch with John Hunt in future.

The problem of securing consistent Membership numbers each year will be discussed at the next BOTRA meeting. Some ideas were ---

Payment of a one off Life Membership

Purchase a raffle ticket for a good prize to become a member.

Minimal charge for Membership

Associate the BOTRA Quiz and Auction Function with Membership payments.

The recent spate of horses being declared non runners at race meetings will be addressed at the next RWWA Stewards meeting.

The Byford track has been presented in good condition to trainers however needs more water during the summer season. To be discussed with RWWA.

BOTRA will support the Pinjarra Trotting Club by donating \$150 per week for the first four weeks towards the cost of running trials on Wednesday evenings. Sunday trials at Byford will continue as normal. An appropriate letter will be sent to the Pinjarra club.

9. MEETING CLOSURE

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting closed at 7.25pm.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.- 5.30pm THURSDAY 5th February 2009 in the Pure Steel Room at Gloucester Park