

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Date & Time	7:00pm on 9 December 2014
Location	Sydney International Equestrian Centre Conference Room
Board Attendees	Judy Fasher, Derek Major, Alex Townsend, Linda Beneke and David Lawrence, Bruce Farrar (Secretary)

1. MEETING ADMINISTRATION

1.1 Open Meeting

With a quorum in attendance, the meeting was opened at 7:10pm.

1.2 Apologies

Kelly Paton

1.4 Review of Previous Minutes

The 2013 AGM Meeting Minutes were reviewed.

Motion: to accept the 2013 Meeting Minutes.

Proposed: David Lawrence Seconded: Derek Major Motion carried

2. Financial Statements

The FY14 Financial Statements were presented.

Motion: to accept the 2014 Financial Statements.

Proposed: David Lawrence Seconded: Alex Townsend Motion carried

3. Address by the President

Judy Fasher addressed the meeting and made the following comments:

- In overall terms, equestrian competitions in NSW were bigger and better, especially Jumping.
- Hendra had been a significant challenge for members, the Board and event organising committees.
- Prue Spurrett and Toni Venhaus had done a magnificent job in Dressage.
- Eventing had gone from strength to strength.

3.1 Appointment of Auditor

Motion: to appoint Ross Fowler and Co as the auditor of Equestrian NSW for financial year 2015.

Proposed: Jenny Sheppard Seconded: Franz Venhaus Motion carried

4. General Business

Franz Venhaus commented that:

- Only 187 members in total voted.
- The voting process excluded a large number of members from voting.
- About 10-15% of votes used to be received via post.
- On-line voting would be a good idea.
- There were still problems with the Equestrian NSW Constitution.
- Voting processes were under the control of the Board and should be looked at.

Judy Fasher responded:

- The issue of voting had been raised previously with Lander & Rogers.
- That there was every likelihood that Equestrian NSW would move to on-line voting.
- The current Constitution had been approved by a majority of members at the 2013 AGM.
- Any changes to the Equestrian NSW Constitution would need to be considered in the context of the Equestrian Australia Governance Review.
- The Board would be happy to consider even significant changes to the Constitution if it meant that members could more easily understand and engage in the governance processes.

Jenny Sheppard thanked Equestrian NSW for supporting Jumping, more than in previous years.

There was a general discussion about the Hendra virus, with the following statements made:

- The Equestrian Australia Hendra By-Law should be revoked.
- The Hendra vaccine:
 - was untested and not fully registered;
 - was causing significant numbers of serious reactions, which were not being reported by vets nor investigated by the APVMA; and
 - was being pushed by Zoetis using scaremongering tactics.
- Hendra vaccination should be pro-choice.

Judy Fasher responded that the Hendra By-Law was under review by Equestrian Australia and that Equestrian NSW would continue to monitor the situation. Also, that she was surprised by the lack of any motions to vote on.

5. Board Elections

Following the secret ballot voting process, Judy Fasher announced that Alex Townsend, David Lawrence and Peter Dingwall had been elected to the Equestrian NSW Board.

In closing, Judy Fasher thanked Michael Benson for his long service on the Equestrian NSW Board. Judy said that Michael was a good and faithful servant to all of equestrianism and that the financial strength of Equestrian NSW was due in no small way to his strong stewardship.

Meeting closed at 8:10pm.

RECOMMENDATION

That the 2014 Annual General Meeting Minutes be accepted.

BRUCE FARRAR

Chief Executive Officer

Bruce Tanas