



ABN 12 001 281 590

BREEDERS' AND MEMBERS'

BULLETIN

BREEDERS BULLETIN 12/2008

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The last Board Meeting for the year was busy as always, and it is with a sense of relief that we received the financial report for the year to date and saw that we will be returning a much better result for the year than the worst case scenario which might well have been the case. This doesn't mean there is no concern for the Society post-EI, mid financial downturn. That would not be realistic. The present situation is a cause for concern for all equine groups, having been hit with the triple whammy of EI, fuel prices and drought, all before the economic downturn was added to the mix.

Some of our Affiliates have done it tough with lower than usual entries in their Shows, and there is a general disappointment with the actual numbers of Purebreds being shown. That said, the show season is in full swing in several of our States, with the NSW National Arabian Stud Show and the National Capital Show both being held in late November/early December.

We are gearing up for a great 2009 Aussie Champs in Victoria. Werribee is a new venue for us, and we have lots of plans for it. We will follow the Victorian Classic onto the site, and some interstaters are planning to compete at both. Because we have provided classes for the age groups which would have competed in 2008, we have had to go to a five-day show. Two rings will be in full flight for 4 of those 5 days. Make that 3 "rings" on the Saturday with the dressage scheduled for that day as well. There will be some "new" innovations, including the use of numerical scoring to produce the finalists in the Purebred Halter. Read the amended Rules carefully this year so you understand the changes.

The AGM will still be held on the Wednesday night of the Show, the 18th, but it will be held a little later than usual in case of a late finish to the day, as all Directors will be working at the Show in some capacity.

Make sure you have any nominations for Distinguished Service Medallions to the Secretary by the February Board Meeting which will be held from the 11th to the 13th February. The forms will be available on the website.

Brother Peter McIntosh will be our delegate to the February WAHO Meeting in Oman. Our Registrar Helen Dohan will also be attending. We don't have the final Agenda as yet but we are keen to see micro-chipping, horse passports, the problems of horses being exported without papers and being ID'd in retrospect, and the management of the Asian Registries, discussed by Registrars. Make sure you check that imported stallions you may wish to

use, are actually transferred and returned for breeding, before sending your mare off to one.

Some of our members have been keen for us to inspect the new equine facility at Tamworth with a view to future Championships and this will happen.

Unfortunately we will not be able to launch Peter Clarke's book, "Quambi", at the 2009 Championships as we had hoped, as we have simply run out of time to complete pre-production but we are still aiming for a 2009 launch.

Since the last Board Meeting we have had the sad and untimely death of our Webmaster Roger Hanlon. Val Males represented us and spoke at Roger's funeral, which was a rich celebration of a multi-faceted personality whose talents stretched far beyond the service he provided for us. His vibrant personality and his unflagging energy will be sadly missed. Apart from the website, Roger also designed our logo and letterhead. We have since appointed Amy Gorman of Impressive Web Design as our new Webmaster. Amy has commenced a re-vamp of our website which will very soon be in evidence.

The Directors are to begin a new initiative to meet with members and possible new members in country areas, on an informal basis, and would welcome invitations from existing Affiliates or informal groups of Arabian breeders/enthusiasts who do not have access to the major shows and events and feel a long way from the hub of the breed. We envisage informal social occasions so our more isolated members can talk about their interests and concerns. Please contact the office or your State Directors if you would like to plan a visit.

We have had our annual review of our insurance policy, and Affiliates Agreements will shortly be going out. Affiliates are reminded that they need to fill out Risk Management reports prior to all their events, and that any incidents that occur ought to be reported immediately after the event, whether or not a claim is expected to be lodged. Claims can be prejudiced by non-disclosure. Provided Affiliates issue numbered membership cards to their financial members, those members can provide details when entering other Affiliates' shows and therefore will not incur day membership costs. Society members of course may list their Society membership numbers. Make sure you keep Volunteer Registers for all events.

Once again you, our members, are finishing a year of ups and downs on all fronts but we remain committed to providing the best



possible service we can. We may be faced in 2009 with demands from Government on issues such as universal micro-chipping and creation of a database, horse passports, levies. There is a lot of talk at present but the jury is still out.

In the meantime on behalf of the Board of Directors and our staff, I wish all our members a safe and happy Christmas, and lots of memorable moments with your Arabians in 2009.

CORALIE GORDON 2008

REMINDERS DIRECTORS ELECTIONS FOR 2009/2010

All the necessary material will be posted with your membership renewal notices. The candidates 500 words and photos are in the December Edition of AHN. Voting closes promptly at 4pm EDST on January 30th 2009. Please read and follow the voting instructions carefully, particularly regarding the envelopes to be used for the ballot paper and sending the ballot paper envelope to the returning officer.

PLEASE NO CHEQUES PAPERWORK ETC IN THE RETURNING OFFICERS ENVELOPE.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

As mentioned above these will be mailed out in December. Your 2008 membership again includes your Personal Liability insurance cover. Any changes to the insurance cover can be viewed on our website: www.ahas.asn.au We will be able to accept payments for membership online this year. Full details will be in the membership renewal notice.

Remember that membership now must be paid by no later than 28th February 2009 or you membership will lapse and all benefits of membership will cease – including insurance cover,

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

March 18th 2009 at Werribee Notice of the AGM and Proxy Form will also be enclosed with the membership renewal notices.

BOARD MEETING DATES for 2009

February 12th & 13th Subcommittees 11th

May 18th & 19th Subcommittees 17th

August 31st & September 1st Subcommittees August 30th

December 7th & 8th Subcommittees 6th

OFFICE HOURS CHRISTMAS 2008

The office will be closed from midday Wednesday December 24th 2008 and reopen Monday 5th 2009

We wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy, prosperous and healthy New Year

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE NOMINATIONS

The Directors are calling for nominations, from Affiliates or individuals, for the Distinguished Service Medallions which will be awarded in 2009

Nomination Forms are available from the office or on the Website http://www.ahsa.asn.au/downloadable_forms.htm
Nominations for 2009 should be received at the Society's Office by January 31st 2008.

News Flash

The AHSA Youth Exchange Nominations
Close 31st January 2009
Application forms on the Website
http://www.ahsa.asn.au/youth_activities.htm
or in the December Edition of the Arabian Horse News

Youth Groups Contact Details

NSW	Contact the office
Queensland	Queensland Arabian Youth Group Secretary Tracy Harm 0403 506 717 Email tracy@qldarabianyouthgroup.com.au www.qldarabianyouthgroup.com.au
Victoria	Victorian Youth Group Kate Luckock 03 5599 5333 or AH 03 5599 5334 Or The Office

NOTES FROM THE BOARD TABLE. . .

CHAMPIONSHIPS:

RULES & CONDITIONS

Please see the separate section on important changes to the Rules & Conditions for the 2009 Aussie's. There have been quite a few adjustments and all exhibitors are required to familiarize themselves with the CURRENT rules.

DRESSAGE

Those members trying to achieve their qualifications from tests conducted under the HRCV please note: only HRCV Level 3, Level 2, Level 1 or Advanced will count towards your qualification criteria.

ENTRY FORMS

The official entry forms for the 2009 Aussie's are now available in the December AHN and on the AHSA website. If you are unsure of anything, please contact Laura for clarification.

STABLES

As usual, stables are in short supply for the Championships! However, we think we've alleviated most of this by securing a good number of portable, secure stables for use at the event. We are extremely happy with the prices we have managed to obtain; being just \$18.50/stable/night! There are also yards at Werribee Park and if you are interested in utilizing these, please contact Laura at the Office to lodge your interest. Please keep an eye on the website for any changes to the bedding prices as we are endeavouring to obtain better prices for this.

BREED AMBASSADORS

If any owner or breeder has a wonderful Arabian ambassador who you think should receive some recognition at the Australian Championships, we would love to hear from you. All requests will be considered before a final format is decided upon.

SECURITY

From the 2009 Aussies, we will have security and video surveillance in place to ensure the safety of horses, tack & possessions and to hopefully put an end to the kind of treatment some horses receive which results in so many letters of complaint and disgust.

SCORING SYSTEM

At the 2009 show, we will be trialing the European scoring system. Please note that this method is different from a total scored system in that it also has a component for Comparative Judging. This system will be in place for the Purebred section only and will see horses "scored" in the first instance to obtain the top ten horses; these horses will then be judged comparatively to obtain Champion, Reserve Champion and Top Ten exhibits.

EQUITANA:

The AHSA had a large presence at Equitana Asia Pacific in November this year. We occupied a booth in the main hall and had some wonderful members present in the Breeders Village. There will be an article and photo's available for the March edition of the AHN. We can't thank enough, the members who stepped up to help. The time and effort they all put into making the event such a success was absolutely wonderful! Very, very special thanks goes to:

Katherine McMahon
Deanne Azzopardi
Sarah Dyson
Kay Edward
Josie Potts
Eloise Lando
Melissa Grieve
Jan Grieve
Syenna Vasilopoulos
Graham Parker
Saddleworld Ballarat
Horseland Mornington

Tom McMahon
Leanne Thrower
Anja Harley
Carolyn Potts
Michelle Lando
Louise Smallacombe
Ashlee Greive
Lea Vasilopoulos
Margaret Parker
Jo ??? (sorry!)
Petstock Ballarat

And those who supplied DVD's for us to play during the event:

Helen Rutland
Leon Bennett
Rob Day
Karen Hodges
Yvonne Day
Courtney Thompson

And a HUGE thank you to David Thompson who saved our display and went out of his way with his help and kindness!

REGISTRY:

Purebred breeders are advised that from the 1st January 2009, there is NO HAIR STORAGE available for Purebred Fillies or Mares or for Purebred Stallions who are being adult registered irrespective of their date of birth. These horses need the fees & relevant paperwork for DNA of all new foal registration applications. Hair Storage will now only be acceptable for geldings and foal recorded colts. Please also note that if the registration fee is not enclosed with the application, a handling fee will now be enforced. This needs to be done at the time of application as the Office is spending so much time sending back for DNA & Registration money.

We know we have said it before but...If you have a gelding registration and you are applying for Hair Storage, you need to send in the Declarations at the time of registration application.

For foals being fully adult registered as Stallions in the first instance, please remember to send in your Vet Testicle Report with your registration application.

When your vet is completing the Testicle Report, please ensure he includes all brands and markings. If for some reason, your Certificate of Registration does not match the Vet's Report, please return the Certificate attached to the Vet Report, along with photographs supporting any discrepancies.

Please help your Society to be more efficient by getting your paperwork in order before sending it in. Incorrect applications account for most delays. If you're not sure of something, send an email to the relevant staff member or a quick phone call will answer most questions.



IMPORTANT RULE CHANGES FOR THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL ARABIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

There have been significant changes to the Rules & Conditions for the Australian National Arabian Championships. We have endeavoured to make these changes as easily understood as possible and have listed a summary of the changes below.

We would expect all competitors to be familiar with these changes so there are no big surprises for 2009.

The full list of Rules & Conditions can be found on the AHSA website.

- * All Amateur Owner competitors must hold a current AHSA Amateur Card and, for the purpose of this show, must be 18 years & over.
- * Height Certificates must be lodged with your Entry Forms for Show Hunter, Bridle Path Hack & Youth ridden horses. Failure to comply may result in a Measuring Fee being enforced.
- * From the 2009 Championships ~ Exhibitors must have a veterinary certificate to certify that all stallions and colts two (2) years and over have both testicles visibly descended into the scrotum, except where a stallion has had one normally descended testicle surgically removed and has an appropriate certificate, which has been submitted to the Society prior to the Championships. Please Note: if the AHSA already holds a Vet Certificate for your horse, you do not need to re-submit one.
- * All previous Dressage Champions may NOT compete again at a lower level but may compete ONCE more at Elementary and Medium level (classes 902, 904 and 905).
- * For In-Hand classes, length of whip is not to exceed 110cm (3.6 feet) including handle and tail.
- * From the 2009 Championships ~ Exhibitors should obtain at least one qualification at an Agricultural Show.
- * Any horse which becomes loose and escapes from the handler or rider due to any form of gear failure will be dismissed from the event; eg a halter breaking or falling off as has happened at recent shows.
- * **CODE OF BEHAVIOUR CARD SYSTEM:** A card system will be used to deter types of behaviour (Reportable Conduct) wherever occurring on the grounds and at any times during the Championships including events.
“Reportable Conduct” includes types of behaviour which are cruel or abusive to horses including but not limited to inappropriate use of whips, handlers/riders witnessed striking a horse with a whip or other implement whether or not it leaves a mark, chasing horses with plastic or rattles outside the ring, intimidating horses by threatening them with a whip or body language that causes them to run backwards, crouch, buckle at the knees, roll their eyes in fear, etcetera, yanking, chain abuse and mistreatment of horses, and also other behaviour by competitors and handlers and including but not limited to physical or verbal abuse of any Official, refusal to comply with the direction of any Official and any behaviour which may bring the Championships or good horsemanship into disrepute. Show Officials, Senior Stewards and Judges will be empowered to show either a Yellow Card or a Red Card to any person on the grounds for any act of Reportable Conduct observed by them or upon evidence given to them. The decision as to whether any act is Reportable Conduct shall be in the absolute discretion of the Official showing the card.
A Yellow Card is a first and only warning. Any person who infringes after having already received a Yellow Card at any time during the Championships shall be shown a Red Card whereupon they and their horse shall immediately be disqualified from the Championships and for all events for which they may have entered and shall forthwith be ejected from the grounds. The penalties applicable for the showing of a Red Card shall be in addition to any action the AHSA may take subsequently in respect of Reportable Conduct.
Any Official who shows either a Yellow Card or a Red Card shall, as soon as is practicable, thereafter report the issue of such Card to the Committee giving particulars of the Reportable Conduct and the person to whom the Card was shown.
- * Where the horse is concerned, Cardable Offences will be specifically but not limited to:
 - (1) Any horse who mouths to his handler like a foal does to an older horse; that handler shall have a Red Card and instant dismissal. This is not a normal horse reaction to a human and clearly denotes abuse.
 - (2) Any handler who strikes his horse, especially on the front legs, shall have a Yellow Card.
 - (3) If a horse buckles over or retracts their legs in fear, the handler will get a Yellow Card.
 - (4) Any handler who delivers a full strength shank or excessively shanks a horse who is already standing still and has been standing still for the last few moments shall receive a Yellow Card. This is to be differentiated from reprimanding a horse who has just clearly misbehaved, i.e. won't stand still at all, is striking out etc.
 - (5) If a horse makes a half rear at his handler with ears back and front legs extended forwards towards his handler, that handler will receive a Yellow Card. No horse does this without provocation. It is clearly differentiated from a vertical rear where the horse has his knees tucked; his ears forward and is just standing up in natural exuberance.
 - (6) If a horse takes more than three (3) steps back from his handler at speed when the handler attempts to “pose” the horse, that handler will receive a Yellow Card.
- * Changes have been made to **MULTIPLE JUDGING RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR PUREBRED HALTER CLASSES**. Basically, this means that each horse in any Purebred halter class will be scored via the European scoring system and the highest ten exhibit scores will come back for comparative judging. Please see the Rules & Conditions for the Championships for a full explanation.