



# COLLIE WESTERN RIDING ASSOCIATION

November 2021

Newsletter

## PRESIDENTS REPORT

Dear members

Wow! What a huge success our spring show was. It is safe to say that everyone who participated had a great time, with plenty of spectators and competitors in attendance which makes all the effort that goes into organising these events more worthwhile. So, I would like to again thank Nicky Hutt and Jillian Hunter for organising the show.

Next year we are going to have two more western style shows, the first with yours truly judging and possibly with the second show being judged by a certified AQHA Judge, so between our NRHA shows and our western style shows there will be plenty of opportunity to compete in whatever discipline and competition level you are comfortable with. If you are unsure about something regarding competing in any of our shows, please feel free to come to our club days and ask one of our older club members. We are only too happy to answer any questions that you may have .

We have a busy bee coming up on the 27th of Nov. If you have time to volunteer, please contact our Vice president, Midge to arrange a job. Many hands make like work, and we would like to have our grounds looking as shipshape and Bristol fashion for our upcoming state show, not that it doesn't anyway, largely thanks to the considerable efforts of Midge and Tim.

There is also a practice day on Sunday 5th December. Come and school your horse as these practice days offers a great opportunity to test your horse out in show like conditions before the show. We offer support and encouragement and tuition on the day so if you're competing in the state show why not come down, there is also a sausage sizzle lunch so if you would like to attend and want lunch, please contact Marie for catering requirements.

If you haven't heard, our club is hosting the first ever NRHA state show in December. This is a fantastic opportunity to promote not only our club and the Oceania council but the sport of reining and the western riding disciplines in general. We have both NRHA sanctioned and non-sanctioned classes as well as ranch riding classes so there truly is something for everyone with great prizes for all classes. I would like to personally thank our sister club, the WA Reining Horse Association for their joint sponsorship with our club for the highest scoring NRHA rider. And I would also like to thank Mr Matt Charles of Sliding lodge Performance Horse for joint sponsorship our WA top scoring Green Reiner. Both are perpetual trophies and will look magnificent on your mantle, so why not come and try to win one.

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## Committee Members

- ◆ President - Heath Whiteaker - 0435 376567
- ◆ Vice - Midge Elvin - 0417 975086
- ◆ Secretary - Marie Wetherell - 0428 198323 - colliewesternriding@gmail.com
- ◆ Treasurer - Chrystine Whiteaker - 97343107 or 0429 343107
- ◆ Show Secretary - Liz Tresidder - 0408 933825
- ◆ Canteen Managers - Tim Elliott & Jim Elliott
- ◆ Newsletter Editor - Jill Hunter - 0404 885717 - jillandbery1@optusnet.com.au
- ◆ FB Editor - Nicky Jones-Hutt - 0407 477398 <http://www.facebook.com/colliewesternridingassociation>

A huge thankyou is also owed to all our other sponsors, as well as those members who have donated their time to organise the show approvals and liaise with the NRHA, as well as those members who donated their time in the manufacture of our prizes. You all know who you are.

We are also pleased to announce that we are going to raffle off a spot in our upcoming Matt Charles clinic. Whether you're a Reiner or not I strongly encourage you to purchase a ticket. Matt is an accomplished horse person and will be able to help you improve your horse skills regardless of your chosen discipline.

Finally, in recognition of the 50th anniversary of our club, I would like to invite all members to attend our Saturday night state show dinner and cancer council fundraiser. This will be our Christmas wind-up as well so please come down and help celebrate our inaugural state show, the clubs 50th anniversary and the end of another truly successful year. There is one caveat - if you would like to attend, and we hope you do, please notify our canteen manager, Tim so we can ensure that there is enough food for everyone.

See you all soon

Best regards

Heath



## Secretary Update

Wow! Its November already! Where did that year go!

It's so nice to have some sunshine! The riders are certainly making the most of it with a great turn out to the Spring show! Fantastic to see so many riders out there having fun! Our club days are also being enjoyed by all, having an average of around 20 horses each club day! As secretary of this great club, it makes me so proud to see so many people enjoying what the club has to offer.

Although we had a slight bump in the road with the NRHA Oceania WA State Championships being rescheduled until 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> of December, things are looking bright and we still have our fingers and toes crossed to ensure we can get our fantastic NRHA Judge, Rod Osborne over from QLD.

With the State show being rescheduled, it has turned the last event for the year into a huge celebration! The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Feast, Christmas Function, Hi Points Awards and the State Championships all in one weekend! Its going to be huge and I for one am very excited! Remember, even if you aren't riding in the show, please come along to support the competitors during the weekend and come to the Saturday night feast and sit back with everyone to celebrate the great year we have had for our 50<sup>th</sup> year!

The 2022 Calendar is starting to fill up and look bigger than this year so enjoy the Christmas break so your ready to get cracking in the new year.

We have lots ahead for you all!

Wishing you all a fantastic Christmas and Happy New Year. Stay safe

## Oceania Council Update

2022 is building up to be a great year! With the Oceania Council in full swing preparing and planning! What you can look forward to seeing is -

Lots of shows and awards!

- ☀️ 2021 Regional Finals hosted by VRHA 28th February to 5th March
- ☀️ 2022 Regional Finals - Details to be released after tender process is completed
- ☀️ Rookie of the Year - running from 1st January 2022 to 31st December 2022. Details to be released in the new year.
- ☀️ Proposed 2022 Hi Points Awards running from 1st January 2022 to December 2022 details to be released in the new year.
- ☀️ Youth Teams Tournament available at the 2021 Regional Finals
- ☀️ Green Reiner Program continues
- ☀️ International and local Sponsorship
- ☀️ Local NRHA Shows hosted by affiliates. Check out Reiner Suite to find a show near you!
- ☀️ State Championships

Lots of training!

- ☀️ Judges Seminar 18th to 20th March

Further details to be released soon. Register your interest by emailing [oceanianrha@gmail.com](mailto:oceanianrha@gmail.com)

- ☀️ Show Secretary Seminars

Dates to be released in 2022

- ☀️ Affiliate organised clinics! Keep up to date by following the affiliates Facebook pages!

Lots of NRHA Oceania Council Meetings

- 6th January - 3rd March - 5th May - 7th July - 1st September - 3rd November

Lots and lots plus a lot more to come! Heaps going on behind the scenes to bring you a great year!

I look forward to working with the other NRHA Affiliates in the New Year.

Orana Reining Horse Association, The Calliope Sliders, Southern Cross Reining Horse Association, NSW Reining Horse Association, Goulburn Valley Reining Horse Association - GVRHA, Victorian Reining Horse Association (VRHA) and SA Reining Horse Association



**We would like to wish the following members a very Happy Birthday!**

***NOVEMBER*** — Tim, Alicia, Natasha,  
& Brad

***DECEMBER*** — Chrys, Liz, Erica, Jody  
& Tristan

***We would also like to welcome all our  
new members.***

### ***IMPORTANT NEWS AND COMING EVENTS..***

- ◆ What a huge turnout of club members that we had for our November meeting. Thank you everyone for coming and having input into our club.
- ◆ John Wicks clinic will be rescheduled to 2022—date to be advised. But... We will be hosting Matt Charles in April and Rob Lawson in October so that's really exciting.
- ◆ We will be holding our 50th Anniversary feast on Saturday 11th December. This will also be a fundraiser for the Cancer Council so please help us raise funds for this great charity. And please wear yellow in recognition of this occasion.
- ◆ Tim would like us to contribute to the meal on Saturday evening and also for morning/ afternoon tea over the weekend. Please contact Tim if you can help out. Ph 0429016445 Cakes and snacks for the club days are also always gratefully received.
- ◆ We will be holding a raffle over the show weekend so if you have any items that you would like to add please give them to Chrys or Liz.
- ◆ Our coin drive bucket will also be out over the coming weekends so feel free to drop in any loose change that you have. All funds raised go straight back into our club and are used to help upgrade facilities.
- ◆ Marie will be updating our website. We would like to thank Jim Elliott for his many years of dedication to the website and support Marie in continuing this job.
- ◆ After the massive success of our Spring Western Show, we have decided to go all in and hold 2 in 2022. After discussion at the members meeting we have decided to keep these low key and fun to help everyone get out showing in a relaxed manner.
- ◆ Marie brought up the idea of running club awards. These would run August to July and the awards night would be in conjunction with our AGM. Please chat with Marie if you have any suggestions to help this idea along.

Until next time,

*Jill*

## **From the Judge's Chair: Wall & Marker Penalties**

*While markers are mostly there for guidance, they can play a big part in your score.*

By Megan Arszman; Photos by Kaycie Timm

The placement of the markers in an arena is important for a couple of reasons. First, they're there to help guide in the placement of maneuvers, which is key for pattern placement. Second, they help protect the safety of both horse and rider. In the early days of NRHA, exhibitors negotiated a multitude of arena footings, sizes, and conditions. Not only did riders have to navigate through various sizes of patterns, but some had to steer clear of the tractor and dragging equipment resting along the same wall used for circles and rundowns.

Thankfully, today's arenas are safer, with horse-and-rider teams using the markers mostly for pattern placement, without the concern of safety.

### **Mark Your Patterns**

Typically there are six markers placed in the arena, with pairs placed according to the *2020 NRHA Handbook*, page 99: Markers will be placed on the wall or fence of the arena as follows: at the center of the arena and at least 50 feet (15 meters) from each end wall.

The angle of the judge's view of each marker depends on his chair placement, which was covered in the September 2019 *NRHA Reiner*. Larry Kasten, member of the NRHA Judge's Committee and NRHA-carded judge explained how judges handle the placement of the judge when it comes to evaluating the rider's placement of stops with the marker.

*Getting past markers on the far ends of the arenas can be difficult for a judge on the opposite end to see and judge accurately. "It's very important when a judge goes into the arena that he gets in his vision where that line would be on the markers for rollbacks that have to be beyond the marker," Kasten says. "You have to get your eyes set on that line."*

*If the rider misses the marker, it's a two-point penalty, and it is not reviewable. "That puts a lot of burden on the judges to get that line and make sure they have it right every time," he says.*

NRHA Professional, Judge, and member of the NRHA Judges Committee Brett Walters echoes Kasten. It's important to him, and most judges, to point out that judges will give the benefit of the doubt when it comes to marker penalties.

"As far as a marker penalty goes, my rule of thumb as a judge is the first one gets the benefit of the doubt," Walters explains. "The second time, I'm going to give the marker penalty."

One example Walters cites is when a rider must begin his stop after the center. Walters knows it can be difficult to see if the horse and rider passed the marker.

"The benefit always goes to the rider," he says. "But, if you do that twice in the same pattern and really make me work to think if you went by that marker, I'll probably give you the penalty. Most of our arenas are big enough; there's no excuse for you to miss the center marker."

According to the *NRHA Handbook*: "Where designated in the pattern for stops to be beyond a marker, the horse should begin his stop after he passes the specified marker." That penalty is explained on page 145.

### **2 Point Penalties.**

**Section 4.** *NRHA patterns require a horse to run past a marker placed in the arena prior to stopping. If the horse does not completely pass the specified marker before assuming a stop position, a penalty of 2 points is to be applied. It is important to note that this penalty is to be applied if the horse assumes a stop position (rear legs up underneath, setting up) whether or not this stop is completed. Further, the judge, by applying this penalty, is only reflecting the fact it happened, and should not be concerned with whether it was caused by the horse or by the rider. Judges should note that it is their responsibility to insure that these markers are placed correctly, and in such a fashion that a horse could reasonably be expected to go past them before executing a stop or rollback maneuver. The NRHA has specified that the end markers be no less than 50 feet from the end wall or fence of the arena.*

When you look at how the patterns are drawn in the *NRHA Handbook*, it looks as if circles should not go very far past the end markers. Understanding the need to show a difference in the size of small and large circles, as well as adding speed, Walters says judges have allowed riders to go beyond those markers for the large, fast circles.

## Walls for Containment

The *NRHA Handbook* also states that riders must stay at least 20 feet off the wall for rundowns. Walters acknowledges that, especially at the more prestigious shows, exhibitors are pushing the limits when it comes to the level of difficulty to gain as much of a point advantage as possible. Because of this, he says when a rider pushes the envelope of the pattern, as long as the horse stays straight on the rundown, it's most likely that a wall penalty won't be given.

"However, if the horse veers toward the wall, that becomes a real problem, or somebody just goes right up against the wall, then that becomes a penalty  $\frac{1}{2}$ ," Walters explains. "Usually that also goes along with a maneuver reduction. It's very hard to have a horse take you to the wall and give it a 0 (correct score) and then give it a penalty  $\frac{1}{2}$  because he took you to the wall. Usually with a wall penalty, you have a maneuver deduction, also. Usually—not always, but usually."

In keeping with A. General, judges are keenly aware of the importance of a horse being willingly guided throughout the pattern. Some outsiders might argue that if a horse and rider push their larger circles as close to the wall as they can that the horse isn't being guided and should receive a penalty. However, Walters points out how judges can tell if the horse is using the wall to guide himself or if it's just the inertia: how the horse reacts as the pair comes to the center.

"Our theory has always been that when the horse and rider come to the center, there's a large open space," Walters explains. "So, if the horse is using the wall to guide his circle, he's going to tell us when he doesn't guide as he crosses center. Therefore, we've never allowed the wall to interfere with the judgement of our circles or anything else."

### Size Matters

Judges also take into account the overall size of the arena itself when it comes to the preferred distance a horse and rider must be between the center line and the wall for their rundowns and stops. One small arena that Walters has experience with is at Gordyville USA in Gifford, Illinois.

"We have that rule that describes running around the ends and down the sides, and if you run too close to center, you receive a  $\frac{1}{2}$ -point penalty," Walters says. "But, Gordyville's arena is only 90 feet wide, and you have to stay 20 feet off the wall and 10 feet from center. There's not much space when you're at 45 feet from the wall at center already. So, there's some leeway in the smaller arenas."

### Benefit of the Doubt

Walters hopes exhibitors understand that judges aren't sitting in the chair looking for ways to penalize or deduct from your overall score. It's actually the opposite.

"We love to mark people well—judges don't sit in the chair to see how many penalties we can give someone," he says. "We're not out hunting to give you a penalty. It has to be obvious that you're too close to center. It has to be obvious that you're too close to the wall before you receive any of those penalties or maneuver deductions."

"We love marking correct runs or higher," he continues. "We don't want to mark them low, but if that's what the penalties or maneuvers dictate, then we have to. I know some exhibitors think the judges are hard on them, and I just say 'Well, we're really not, but we try not to ever change our focus or our maneuver evaluation as to what a maneuver should be. We try to hold that to be true all year round and wherever we go.'"

"We try to be as consistent as we can with our wall and marker penalties," he concludes. "Try not to show to where you make us question, 'Is that a penalty or not?'"

**Brett Walters**, Bourbon, Indiana, has been an NRHA Professional for more than 30 years, as well as a member of the NRHA Judges Committee and is the chairman of the Nominating/Governance Committee. His family's Walters Equestrian Center provided training and coaching for youth and non pros for the breed circuits as well as NRHA competition.

### ❖ IMPORTANT INFORMATION ❖

Grounds/Arena Usage Fee—\$10 per member per usage. Contact Tim 0429 016445 to obtain a key. If the key is not returned on the same day a \$5 late fee will apply. Arena hire and usage is for members only.

Membership Fee—Members joining after 1st March pay a part-year payment. Renewal of full membership is due by August 31st.

Mentoring Programme—Anyone interested in pre club mentoring can contact Bruce or Mike prior to the day to arrange. This is a free service and you can learn about western disciplines or just improve your horsemanship. These are one on one instructions with experienced committee members. An offer to good to pass up!!

**NRHA**  
OCEANIA



COLLIE WESTERN RIDING  
ASSOCIATION INC.



# NRHA OCEANIA WA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

IN MEMORY OF LIFE MEMBERS  
IVAN TRESIDDER  
AND  
IAN SMITH



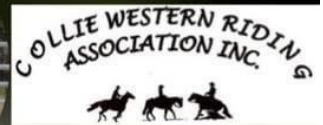
# RESCHEDULED DATE

## 11TH AND 12TH DECEMBER 2021



# NRHA OCEANIA WA STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

RESCHEDULED DATE  
**11TH AND 12TH DECEMBER 2021**



NOT A NRHA MEMBER? NO PROBLEMS!  
RIDE IN THE NON SANCTIONED EVENTS

Non Sanctioned classes do  
not require

- NRHA membership or
- Membership to any club





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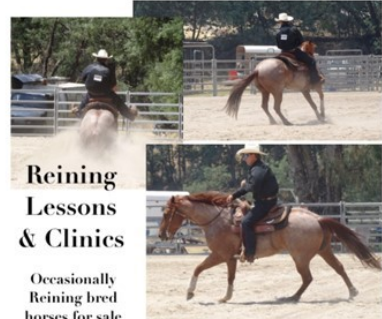
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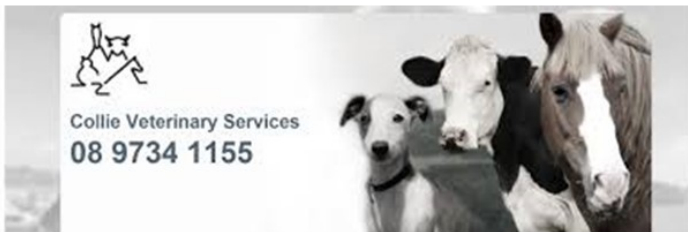
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## SPRING SHOW RESULTS

### Showmanship

#### Open

1<sup>st</sup> – Nicky Hutt – Crown K Commanders Chex

2<sup>nd</sup> – Mike Donavon – Playing With Guns

#### Green Horse

1<sup>st</sup> – Cath McKeown – Callistemon Mystique

#### Youth

Equal 1<sup>st</sup> – Rayne Travers – Tully Bar Leo

Equal 1<sup>st</sup> – Elsie Bowen – Spindle

Equal 2<sup>nd</sup> – Audrey Bowen – Vixen

Equal 2<sup>nd</sup> – William Bowen – Bandit

#### Novice

1<sup>st</sup> – Melanie McKay – Bring On The Tributes

#### Beginner Adult

Equal 1<sup>st</sup> – Chelsea Coffey – Dunkicknupastorm

Equal 1<sup>st</sup> – Cath McKeown – Callistemon Mystique

2<sup>nd</sup> – Melissa Hill – Melody Gun

Equal 3<sup>rd</sup> – Fiona Miller – Millie Dell

Equal 3<sup>rd</sup> – Nicole Mason – Steal

### Western Horsemanship

#### Novice

1<sup>st</sup> – Melanie McKay – Bring On The Tributes

2<sup>nd</sup> – Vetty Bailey – Savannah Whirlwind

#### Beginner Youth

1<sup>st</sup> – Rayne Travers – Tully Bar Leo

2<sup>nd</sup> – Audrey Bowen – Vixen

#### Open

1<sup>st</sup> – Kevin Harrison – Stylish Lil Step

2<sup>nd</sup> – Nicky Hutt – Crown K Commanders Chex

3<sup>rd</sup> – Mike Donavon – Playing With Guns

#### Beginner Adult

Equal 1<sup>st</sup> – Melissa Hill – Melody Gun

Equal 1<sup>st</sup> – Fiona Miller – Millie Dell

2<sup>nd</sup> – Chelsea Coffey – Dunkicknupastorm

3<sup>rd</sup> – Nicole Mason – Steal

#### Youth

1<sup>st</sup> – William Bowen – Bandit

2<sup>nd</sup> – Elsie Bowen – Spindle

### Ranch Riding

#### Green Horse

1<sup>st</sup> – Kristina Travers – Luvash Constance

#### Beginner Youth

1<sup>st</sup> – Rayne Travers – Tully Bar Leo

2<sup>nd</sup> – Audrey Bowen – Vixen

#### Open

1<sup>st</sup> – Mike Donavon – Playing With Guns

2<sup>nd</sup> – Kevin Harrison – Stylish Lil Step

#### Beginner Adult

1<sup>st</sup> – Chelsea Coffey – Dunkicknupastorm

2<sup>nd</sup> – Melissa Hill – Melody Gun

3<sup>rd</sup> – Fiona Miller – Millie Dell

#### Youth

1<sup>st</sup> – Elsie Bowen – Spindle

2<sup>nd</sup> – William Bowen – Bandit

#### Novice

1<sup>st</sup> – Vetty Bailey – Savannah Whirlwind

#### Ranch Rail

#### Beginner Adult

1<sup>st</sup> – Melissa Hill – Melody Gun

#### Youth

1<sup>st</sup> – Elsie Bowen – Spindle

2<sup>nd</sup> – William Bowen – Bandit

#### Novice

1<sup>st</sup> – Vetty Bailey – Savannah Whirlwind

2<sup>nd</sup> – Melanie McKay – Bring On The Tributes

#### Beginner Youth

1<sup>st</sup> – Audrey Bowen – Vixen

2<sup>nd</sup> – Rayne Travers – Tully Bar Leo

#### Open

1<sup>st</sup> – Nicky Hutt – Crown K Commanders Chex

#### Western Riding

#### Open

Equal 1<sup>st</sup> – Jill Hunter – Cat Brules

Equal 1<sup>st</sup> – Nicky Hutt – Crown K Commanders Chex

#### Novice

1<sup>st</sup> – Melanie McKay – Bring On The Tributes

2<sup>nd</sup> – Vetty Bailey – Savannah Whirlwind

#### Reining

#### Novice

1<sup>st</sup> – Kristina Travers – Luvash Constance

2<sup>nd</sup> – Vetty Bailey – Savannah Whirlwind

#### Open

1<sup>st</sup> – Kevin Harrison – Stylish Lil Step

#### Youth

Equal 1<sup>st</sup> – William Bowen – Bandit

Equal 1<sup>st</sup> – Elsie Bowen – Spindle

Equal 1<sup>st</sup> – Audrey Bowen – Vixen

#### Trail

#### Novice

1<sup>st</sup> – Vetty Bailey – Savannah Whirlwind

2<sup>nd</sup> – Melanie McKay – Bring On The Tributes

#### Open

1<sup>st</sup> – Jill Hunter – Cat Brules

#### Beginner Youth

1<sup>st</sup> – Audrey Bowen – Vixen

#### Youth

1<sup>st</sup> – Elsie Bowen – Spindle

2<sup>nd</sup> – William Bowen – Bandit

#### Beginner Adult

1<sup>st</sup> – Chelsea Coffey – Dunkicknupastorm

2<sup>nd</sup> – Melissa Hill – Melody Gun

NEWSLETTER  
CORRESPONDENCE TO:

JILL HUNTER  
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COOKERNUP, WA 6219

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E-MAIL: [jillandberyl@optusnet.com.au](mailto:jillandberyl@optusnet.com.au)  
[www.colliewesternriding.org.au](http://www.colliewesternriding.org.au)

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*Preparation + Attitude + Opportunity + Action  
= Luck.  
John C. Maxwell*



***DATES TO REMEMBER***

**NOVEMBER**

◆ 27th Busy bee & Club day 9am Vetty/Mel

**DECEMBER**

◆ 5th Reining/Ranch training day 9.30am

◆ 11th/12th NRHA Reining show 9am

◆ Saturday evening anniversary feast

**\*\*JANUARY IS BACK TO TWILIGHT TIME\*\***

**JANUARY**

◆ 22nd Club Day & members meeting 5pm Tim/Kerry

**FEBRUARY**

◆ 5th Club day 5.30pm Nicky/Heath

