

# COLLIE WESTERN RIDING ASSOCIATION

May 2024  
Newsletter

## PRESIDENTS REPORT

Dear members

Welcome to Autumn, first of all a huge thank you to all of our members who took the time to participate in the last committee meeting, we had a good turn out with lots of robust discussions points on where to take the club. In light of the fact that we had so many good ideas we are going to conduct another membership survey so we can get a consensus on which direction the club is going to be going. Watch this space for your opportunity to put your points across in a completely confidential setting so there is no need to hold back on any great ideas you may have.

We hope that everyone who participated in our recent NRHA show had a great time, after discussing the new format at the meeting we feel it was successful and we are looking to continue it at the next show to confirm our results. A massive thank you for Mel of Get Ya There transportation for the pickup of Anthony Ross who was our judge for the weekend, we truly appreciate the effort Mel went to in picking up the judge as it reduced the amount of effort that the committee members contribute and allowed us to focus solely on the ground. While we are on the topic of the ground a sincere thanks to the wonderful ground crew and canteen staff who once again worked tirelessly to ensure that everything was prepared to perfection, our two wonderful secretaries need to be mentioned as well a very sincere thanks to all of our volunteers on behalf of the membership and competitors.

Moving forward into winter we are looking to run club days with a casual B show and another NRHA show in the spring so we hope to see you there. Our next meeting is our AGM, please take the time to attend and help direct the club for the next year. Hoping to see you all soon.

Best regards

Heath.

---

## Committee Members

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

## ***Secretary Report***

### ***Wow isn't this year flying past!***

We have all ready had multiple club days, lessons with Rod Osborne and a Ranch and Reining Show.

Soon is our AGM please contact any of the current committee if you would be interested in hold a position on the committee. All positions are open and we would love to see some new faces.

With the AGM in mind, we will be issuing a members survey shortly to ensure we are heading the club in the direction the membership would like. Please take the time to fill this survey out. If you do not get the survey please let me know.

Keep your eyes peeled for the up and coming wood raffle which will help fund our new lawn mower. Our club grounds look absolutely amazing and it's important to replace and maintain our equipment over the years. Thank you very much to Nicky's parents for the donation of our mower who has served us well over the years. Retirement for our old mower is now due. So please help with selling tickets, buying tickets and spreading the word of our raffle.

Remember club and or NRHA Oceania merchandise can be ordered from Stitch-Em On directly online or by visiting Promote You in Bunbury.

I hope you are all enjoying the green grass and rain!

Hope to see you all at the AGM

Regards Marie

## **Enjoy the Ride!**

● **MARCH 19, 2024**

□ **LAUREL WALKER DENTON**

The new show year is upon us. The question we should be asking ourselves is, "How can I build on last years' experience and make 2024 even more productive?" You notice I did not say, "How can I win more blue ribbons." Success comes only when you have a specific goal and can map out a plan.

Can you relate to any of these scenarios? Do you get to the show excited and enthusiastic, only to make the same rider errors? Your horse is perfect in the practice pen, only to become a fire-breathing dragon in the arena? Had a perfect pattern except for those darn logs, which caused your horse to fall on his nose? Forgot how to count your spins and went off pattern once again?

None of the aforementioned are a lack of training or practice. It comes from nerves and riding differently at a show than you ride at home. I am going to share with you five things I've learned over the years to help you overcome nerves and lack of focus so you can have a successful year, and enjoy your time in the saddle and in the show pen.

Cont....



Riding the horse you have is the best way to be successful in the show pen. Don't get to the show and try to ride outside of your horse's comfort zone. photo by Jeff Kirkbride, Courtesy of Laurel Walker Denton

**Know your pattern inside and out.** That doesn't mean you have to practice it forty-five times in the saddle. Once you memorize the maneuver sequence, your next step is planning your pattern in the arena. Sit at the in-gate and look for markers, banners, light poles, anything that will help you plan your placement. I find that this also helps a rider remember to look up and out, not down, which is an absolute recipe for disaster during a pattern.

**Visualize yourself executing the pattern.** You already know the pattern on paper and where you want your placement to be, now visualize riding your horse every step of the way through it. Think about a right lead departure for instance; sit back, look up, left leg pressure, release right leg, etc. Know exactly what your body should do to elicit the correct response from your horse.

**Find a mantra or a group of words that lets you relax and focus.** Rather than thinking negatively about a certain maneuver, talk yourself through it. For example, if your horse struggles with lead changes, don't think about all the times it's gone wrong in the past; instead tell yourself to keep riding and look up. Or count one, two, three, until you're at the correct spot to ask for the change. If you're worried about an upcoming maneuver, your horse will be, as well.

**Breathe.** It sounds easy, but we all forget to utilize the greatest form of relaxation and good brain function. Try breathing in and out 15 times without losing focus. Around breath number seven our minds tend to wander, but don't let that happen. Learn to make it easy and simple all the way to number 15. That way you can call on this skill when nerves start to get the best of you as you walk in the show ring.

Don't watch everyone else warm up and change your plan. We have all been there and let the thoughts of doubt creep in: maybe my horse will be better if I do it that way, or maybe I need to go faster than I have ever practiced at home. Just say no to those thoughts. This journey is between you and your horse. No one else matters, not your barn mate, not your neighbor who just got a new horse, not the world champion. Ride at the show like you practice at home. If you want to change something, or learn a new skill, wait until you get home to start. This is always the case if you want to be fair to your horse.

From Horse & Rider Magazine—with thanks

# **NATIONAL REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION**

## **Oceania Affiliate Council Meeting Minutes**

### **Conference Call March 7, 2024**

Approved May 2, 2024

Members Present: Pam Watson, Ed Smith, Wayne Hinder, Todd McCormick, Lyndon Hale, Glenn Winsor, Heath Whiteaker, Matt Charles

Guests Present:

Members Not Present: Tim Shelley, Elise Reuter

Staff Present: Samantha Oldfield

### **Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm/19:05 AEST/3:05am CST

### **Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes**

A motion is made to approve the previous meeting minutes. The motion is seconded. All are in favor.

### **Cut-Off for Qualifying for the 2024 Oceania Affiliate Championships**

There is discussion on when the cut-off should be for the qualifying for the 2024 NRHA Oceania Affiliate Championship to allow enough time for show management to verify entries.

A motion is made to cut off the 2024 NRHA Oceania Affiliate Championship qualifying on September 1st. The motion is seconded. All are in favor.

### **2024 NRHA Oceania Affiliate Championship Update**

The VRHA representative provides an update on the planning with the 2024 NRHA Oceania Affiliate Championship.

### **2025 NRHA Oceania Affiliate Championship Discussion**

NRHA staff request the Council to review the next years Oceania Affiliate Championship event locations and to solidify them so NRHA can communicate to the Oceania membership.

It is discussed that the 2025 NRHA Oceania Affiliate Championship will be held in Maryborough in 2025 in Queensland per a motion from a previous Council meeting, the event will be held at the end of August.

A motion is made to lock-in the rotation of

2025: Queensland

2026: New South Wales

2027: Victoria

for the Oceania Affiliate Championships with the hesitation on making it public until confirmed by New South Wales affiliates. When communicated with the membership, it will be made clear that the Oceania Affiliate Council is looking for ways to assist the riders from States/Countries that do not have the ability to bring horses in due to distance to make the event a truly obtainable Oceania Affiliate Championships. The motion is seconded. All are in favor and motion passes.

### **Confidentiality Agreement Reminder**

NRHA staff remind the Council to fill out the Confidentiality Agreements.

### **Matters from Affiliates**

**NRHA SA-** Not Present

**Orana-** Previous show was good! Show coming up in April in Dubbo- first show in NSW this year. It will run at the same time as another non-NRHA event, but it should be OK.

**GVRHA-** Hosted a couple of shows as a leadup to the VRHA state show, had some good numbers at the last weekend using the new lope-in patterns. Everything on track for Water Wheel in May.

**CWRA-** Have an upcoming clinic and event and have previously had club days and have picked up new members.

**Calliope-** Had a beginner “Come Try” reining show- 80 runs for the weekend. Went very well.

**NSWRHA-** AGM last weekend and had first show with 80-90 runs over two days. New beginner series started and new members have joined. Will update about the State show at the May OAC meeting.

**JRHA-** Not Present

**IORHA-** First club day coming up, affiliate show coming up in June followed by a clinic, and in August doing a Championships followed by a clinic.

**VRHA-** Had first show at the new facility (3 hours east of Melbourne). Picked up new members, excited for new facility. Have another 3 shows scheduled there and the State show at Tatura, after which will be the judges’ school with several new sitting and re-sitting. OAC in September in Tatura.

**SARHA-** Started off with a “Come and Try” day which was successful with new faces. Next event will be in April.

### **World Reining Championship**

NRHA staff update the Council that they have sent the contact for World Reining if the Council are interested in reaching out.

### **Professional of the Year Award**

NRHA staff update the Council that the NRHA is supportive of the Oceania region doing a “Professional of the Year” award for the region. The nominations and process would be handled by the Council and the award could be ordered using funds from the IAP account.

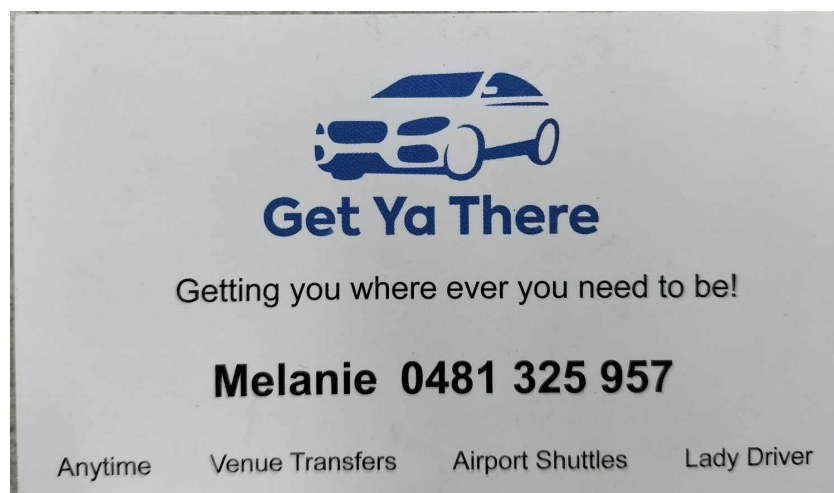
It is requested to take this subject back to the next meeting to discuss after Council members have talked with their committees.

### **South African World Youth Cup Delegate**

The Council review any submitted applications submitted for the 2024 World Youth Reining Cup from the South African Youth.

A motion is made to accept Stella Rugani as the South African representative for the World Youth Reining Cup 2024. The motion is seconded. All are in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm/ 20:15 AEST- 4:15am CST





**EQUIHOOF**  
Biomechanix



**EQUIHOOF**  
Biomechanix

A holistic approach to hoof health

Movement Structure Function

## Collie Western Riding Association



### Merchandise



Collie Western Riding Association merchandise is now available online through Stitch em on!

Merchandise is available for individuals to purchase and receive directly to their doorstep!

<https://stitchemon.com.au/collections/collie-western-riding-association>



10% OF ALL CWRA MERCHANDISE  
PURCHASES IS RETURNED TO CWRA  
AS PRIZES FOR CWRA EVENTS



Embroidery • Clothing • Workwear  
Teamwear • Promotional • Caps  
Custom • Heat Press

P: 0418 427 252  
ABN: 81262507258  
E: [stitchemonembroidery@gmail.com](mailto:stitchemonembroidery@gmail.com)  
A: 27 Main Street, Lithgow 2790



# NRHA OCEANIA



Two donation ways to help our club help you



Donate your Cash4Cans to  
Collie Western Riding Association by  
using this  
C10289834

## HOW TO CASH IN

Return your containers to Cash4Cans  
for your 10c refund.



Collect your  
eligible containers



Visit your local  
Cash4Cans depot



Get instant cash for  
your containers



# THE COIN BUCKET



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



MAY— Wei, Sharlene, Heath & Mike

JUNE — Robin, Bruce, Kerry & Zoe

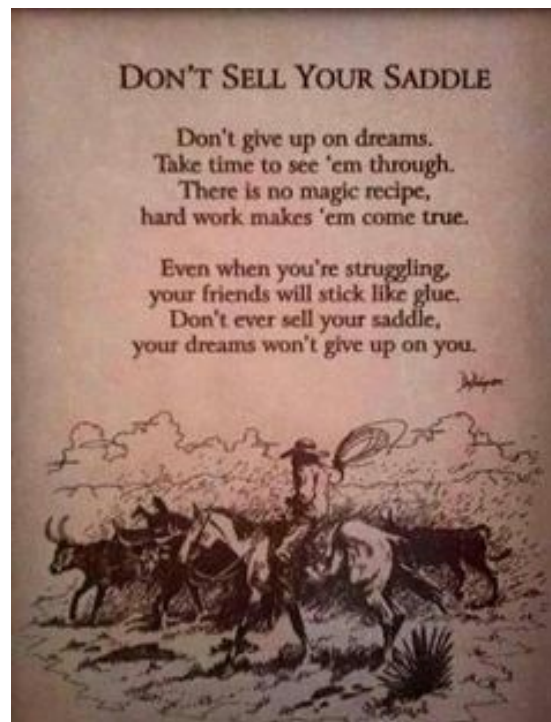
### *IMPORTANT NEWS AND COMING EVENTS..*

- \* Our AGM is on the 6th July starting at 12 noon. This is a great opportunity to have your say in our club moving forward into the next 12 months. Please contact our secretary Marie if you would like anything added to the agenda or if you have any questions.
- \* Matt Charles from Sliding Lodge Performance Horses will be returning to Collie for a Clinic in October. Matt has a fantastic show record and is very easy to understand when coaching. This clinic will be ideal for anyone who would like to expand their horsemanship knowledge. An email has been sent out regarding the dates and format for the clinic so please contact Marie for more details.
- \* I've been going to Perth to compete in Western Dressage and broaden my skills. I am in the process of arranging a clinic/show in conjunction with our club. If you are interested in this please feel free to come and have a chat with me as I think that it fits in really nicely with our club and would give our members another opportunity to enjoy our horses.
- \* Are you interested in the WA Horse Health and Welfare Act updates? This is the link to the survey results. It is quite interesting as we all have different ideas regarding horse welfare.  
<https://yoursay.dpird.wa.gov.au/wa-horse-standards-and-guidelines>
- \* Are you looking for forms or information regarding CWRA? Follow this link to our website:  
<https://colliewesternriding.org.au/club-documentation>

Until next time,

*Jill*

DON'T SELL YOUR SADDLE—A POEM BY THE AMAZING  
BAXTER BLACK





NEWSLETTER  
CORRESPONDENCE TO:

JILL HUNTER  
CMB COOKERNUP  
COOKERNUP, WA 6219

PHONE: 0404 885717  
E-MAIL: jillhunter6219@gmail.com  
[www.colliewesternriding.org.au](http://www.colliewesternriding.org.au)

*Success is a series of small wins*

***DATES TO REMEMBER***

**MAY**

♦ 25th Club day 1pm Tim

**JUNE**

♦ 8th Club day 1am Jill

♦ 22nd Club day 1pm Midge

**JULY**

♦ 6th AGM 12noon

♦ 20th Club day 1pm Glenn & Kerry