

**MINUTES OF GENERAL MEETING OF AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA INC HELD AT THE AIRPORT QUALITY INN KINGSFORD SMITH DVE HAMILTON SATURDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> OF APRIL, 2008**

Chairman, Andrew Deacon opened the meeting at 3.50 p.m.

**Attendance**

David Briggs, Richard Bull, Michael Christie, Mary Christie, Lee Deacon, Andrew Deacon, Steven King, Yasmin Lee-Steere, Janine Leichenring, Cathy Marsh, Susan Maxwell, Patrick Maxwell, Ricky Glen, Vicki Nichols, Tony Nichols, Jeanne Poirier, Michelle Steinmann, Andrew Sultmann.

**Apologies and proxies**

Belinda Camarda, Madeleine Cannon, Vicky Franklin, Mark Hornsby, Debbie Keogh, Jillian Lake, Brenda Meinhold, Ian MacLauchlan, Judy Rockemer, Joe Rockemer, John Samain, Andrew Schult, Beverly Smith, Karen Thrun, Karen Timmis, Darcy Tohill, Bob Wing, Jodie Vanstone.

**Outline of objectives of the Association**

Andrew Deacon explained that the AmQHA is structured to work with associations and not private companies, so it was necessary to form an association to better develop these relationships. Members of the AmQHA of Australia needed to be AmQHA members and the new association had been established by teleconferences with a constitution using the model rules for incorporated associations in the State of QLD. Members had been provided with a copy of this constitution.

**Goals and visions:**

The meeting agreed to the following:-

- To promote the AmQHA, Quarter Horses and AmQHA programs
- Develop international business for our horses (with emphasis on the developing market in China)
- Membership drive using demographics to showcase what the AmQHA can offer Australia Quarter Horse enthusiasts
- Be proactive in the promotion of the Quarter Horse in Australia
- Provide additional benefits to members, to give something back to industry
- Communications network allowing for good feedback from all of industry
- Give the industry a choice of how they want to do business with

**AmQHA Rule Book and Stud Book be adopted as AQHA-AUS**

It was moved by Michael Christie and seconded by David Briggs  
"That the American Quarter Horse Association's Rule Book be adopted"

Carried

**Focus of AQHA-AUS for first year**

The meeting agreed to the following:-

- Build Membership
- Promotions – Country/District AmQHA Clinics

- Bring clinicians to Australia to enable shows to happen
- Better relationships with horse business in Australia
- Efficiency
- Factor in Membership to sales of horses
- Lottery of Am Quarter Horse
- 10 Points of why people should join
- Offer sponsorship of trainers
- Possibility of increasing registration fee by \$5 to sponsor respective disciplines
- Approved AmQHA Trail Rides

### 2008 Convention and AGM

It was suggested that the Association ask a club to host an AmQHA Convention with the host club retaining the profits. Future hosting would ideally see clubs vying to host conventions. Convention would consist of AmQHA judges and show management seminars, an AGM and leading industry speakers. Invitations would be extended to several AmQHA directors and key personal to attend and address Australian AmQHA members at this convention.

It was recommended that AmQHA registrations be promoted as an alternative to AusQHA.

It was moved by David Briggs and seconded by Steve King

“that the AmQHA of Australia request the AmQHA to accept a democratically elected delegate from the membership to attend the AmQHA 2009 Convention as a representative of the AmQHA of Australia”

Carried

The meeting discussed the Australian Quarter Horse Association’s affiliation with the AmQHA and it was recorded that the AusQHA has not fulfilled several requirements of the AmQHA Affiliation.

Steven King offered \$5,000 sponsorship to be used for the NCHA in the non pro Futurity in 2009. David Briggs also offered \$5,000 to provide a \$10,000 purse for the highest placing American registered Quarter Horses with the Management Committee to decide the rules of the competition. If successful, this sponsorship will be again offered in 2010. Appreciation of these generous donations was acknowledged by acclamation.

### Discussion of new Constitution

The meeting discussed the key points of the constitution:-

- The Executive Committee consisting of 6 people who would be elected for 3 years with 2 members to retire each year
- Philosophy was that members elected to the EC were elected on merit and not on the discipline with which they were involved

Sue Maxwell highlighted the need for greater clarification of some aspects and Andrew Deacon acknowledged Sue’s input with appreciation.

### Nomination from the floor and election of 3 additional Executive Committee members

The three foundation members, Andrew Deacon, Kathy Marsh and Richard Bull gave the meeting an insight into their involvement.

The following members were nominated to join the Management Committee:-

Steven King was nominated by Richard Bull Declined

Jeanne Poirier was nominated by Kathy Marsh, seconded by Vicki Nichols

David Briggs was nominated by Lee Deacon Declined

Lee Deacon was nominated by David Briggs, seconded by Steven King

Sue Maxwell was nominated by Kathy Marsh, seconded by Jeanne Poirier

Michael Christie was nominated by Steven King, seconded Lee Deacon

As the number of nominations exceed the requirement, it was moved by Michael Christie and seconded by Vicki Nichols

“That all four nominations for the Executive Committee be elected”

Carried

The EC consists of Richard Bull, Cathy Marsh, Andrew Deacon, Jeanne Poirier, Sue Maxwell, Michael Christie and Lee Deacon. All members gave a brief overview of their experience and involvement with Quarter Horses.

### Nomination from the floor and election of an official AmQHA-AUS representative to the AmQHA

In view of a previous motion to request the AmQHA to accept a representative of AmQHA of Australia it was moved by Michael Christie and seconded by Sue Maxwell

“That nominations for a AmQHA of Australia representative to the AmQHA be deferred”

Carried

### Appendix Registry

It was moved by David Briggs and seconded by Patrick Maxwell

“That the Association establish an Appendix Registry”

Discussion: The reason for this motion was to give members a choice and to establish a Registry with money to create a climate of acceptance from the AmQHA.

Motion carried

It was agreed that fees from the Registry would be placed in an account to automatically register the horses in the Appendix Registry at such time the AmQHA adopts the Appendix Registry. It was also acknowledged that AmQHA may not accept the Registry but that members would still retain the choice to register horses with the AQHA-AUS instead of the AusQHA should they choose to do so. If the AmQHA did accept the Registry it would be unlikely that the fee would be increased over current fees and it was therefore recommended that the registration fee be kept to a minimum.

### **General business**

Name of Association:

AmQHA had requested that the name of the Association be amended and it was therefore moved by Michael Christie and seconded by Jeanne Poirier

“That the name of the Association be amended to be compatible with the wishes of the AmQHA”

Carried (1 abstention requested, 1 against requested)

Richard Bull suggested that the Management Committee consider requesting the AmQHA allow us use of the name of the “American Quarter Horse Association of Australia”.

AmQHA Affiliation:

David Briggs moved, seconded by Steven King

“That the Association request affiliation with the AmQHA”

Carried

Newsletter:

It was moved by Patrick Maxwell, seconded by Vicki Nichols

“That the Association set up an email newsletter”

Carried

Vote of No Confidence in AusQHA:

It was moved by Richard Bull, seconded by Vicki Nichols

“That a vote of no confidence be recorded in the AusQHA regarding its representation of the American Quarter Horse members in Australia”

Discussion:

Some delegates believed they could not vote on this motion without instruction from their organizations or without fore warning on the Agenda or because the meeting wasn't entitled to speak on behalf of AmQHA members who were not present.

Richard Bull sought the leave of the meeting to withdraw the motion.

Leave granted

AusQHA President's Report on AmQHA

The meeting discussed the comments made in the President's Report of the AusQHA 2006/07 Annual Report and reported that the AmQHA believed that the comments were inappropriate. Individual AmQHA members expressed they were embarrassed and offended by these comments. Ricky Glen said in hindsight they were inappropriate and discussions had been held with the AmQHA concerning the issue. It was suggest the AusQHA publish an apology to the AmQHA and AmQHA members regarding these comments.

Australian Breeders

Vicki Nichols asked if Australian breeders would be disadvantaged if they registered horses as American Quarter Horse rather than an Australian Quarter Horse. It was believed that in the disciplines of Halter, Western Pleasure would be disadvantaged at this time as AmQHA affiliated shows and classes were minimal, however other disciplines like cutting and reining would not be disadvantage as they compete in non AmQHA/AusQHA shows and classes. As more AmQHA classes and shows are developed in Australia, any disadvantage will rapidly decline.

Discrimination:

Richard Bull asked if the ACCC could address the issues of discrimination by the AusQHA, in that they acknowledge horses born and registered with the AmQHA but will not acknowledge horses born in Australia and registered with the AmQHA. Andrew Deacon advised that it would be an issue he would raise with the ACCC.

**Date of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting was left to be advised. When the solicitors were finished with the constitution it would be voted on by post.

**Close of meeting**

The meeting closed at 6.00 pm

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Chairman of next meeting