

NATIONAL REINING HORSE ASSOCIATION
Oceania Affiliate Council Meeting Minutes
Conference Call
September 7, 2023

Approved November 2, 2023

Members Present: Lyndon Hale (Chair), Tim Shelley, Heath Whiteaker, Glenn Winsor, Pam Watson, Lizelle Garland, Michele Delbridge, Wayne Hinder, Todd McCormick

Guests Present:

Members Not Present: Matt Charles

Staff Present: Samantha Oldfield, Billy Smith, Christa Morris-Stone

Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 7:07PM/19:07 AEST- 4:07AM CST

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

A motion is made to approve the previous meeting minutes. This motion is seconded, and all are in favor. Motion passes.

Review of 2023 NRHA Oceania Affiliate Championship

The Council reviews the 2023 NRHA Oceania Affiliate Championship. Overall, the consensus is that it was a fantastic show all around.

Next year it is confirmed that in 2024 the Oceania Affiliate Championship will be in Tatura, Victoria in September, and in 2025 the Oceania Affiliate Championship is projected to be in Queensland.

2024 Oceania Affiliate Championship Conditions

The Council reviews the 2024 NRHA Oceania Affiliate Championship Conditions. It is discussed that along with the date updates there is a need to update the language on submitted a physical license back to the NRHA office if a horse is deceased for marking. It is noted that as NRHA does not predominantly print licenses anymore, this language could be updated to reflect more modern practices.

Additionally, it is noted that Thailand is not listed on the list of countries with the exception for no qualification, and they will need to be added.

Qualification for international countries who have qualifying events will be required in 2025. In 2024, all international countries outside of Australia will have the qualification waived for 2024- however must be members of an Oceania affiliate.

A motion is made to accept the conditions as presented with the edits of updating the language on a deceased horse's license to reflect more modern practices, and the editing of the language under the qualification to say, "all international countries outside of Australia will not require qualification". Additionally for the 2025 Oceania Affiliate Championship, qualification for these international countries will be required. This motion is seconded. All are in favor.

2024 World Youth Cup Information

NRHA staff update the Council on the location and time of year the next World Youth Cup will be held. It is requested that exact dates be supplied so that other events that are happening in the August/September timeframe have a chance to make sure they are not on top.

The Council discusses how to handle the qualification of the youth individuals from the Oceania region. It is clarified that one youth from each country can go to represent. It is noted that Japan does not need assistance with the process of qualification for their youth as they already have a competition organized that will handle this.

The Council representatives are asked to speak with their members to see what they feel would be a fair process to qualify the youth of Australia, and to bring back that feedback for discussion at the next meeting. Additionally, the other countries who do not have a process outlined as of yet are asked to inform NRHA staff if they will be in need of notification and assistance.

NRHA staff are asked to contact Joao Marcos to confirm the dates for next year so that by the next meeting an official notice can be organized for the youth of the Oceania region who are not already in a country with a qualification process.

2024 NRHA Judges Schools- Oceania Region

The Council discusses the need for a judge's school early next year to prevent any privileges from expiring. Both GVRHA and VRHA would be willing to host a judge's school after one of their events in the beginning of 2024. NRHA staff will coordinate with Patti Carter who is the liaison to the judges' committee to see what the next steps are for organizing a school. The Oceania Council representatives will bring to the next meeting with a plan on hosting one school.

It is additionally requested that NRHA staff inquire on the possibilities of doing a virtual school, and where NRHA is at with that process.

2024 NRHA Oceania Restricted Eligibility Policy

NRHA staff inform the Council that the eligibility policy went before the NRHA Board of Directors for initial approval, however included it on the agenda as there were some concerns after the recent technical error that made several Council members have concerns over the category 2 and 6 ranking caps.

The Council discusses the concerns of having a small pool of aged event competitors, which makes the ranking lists currently feel too deep.

A motion is made to edit the category 2 and 6 ranking numbers to the following:

For the Open and Non Pro, to half the number caps of what they are now to be:

Level 4: Top 5

Level 3: Top 15

Level 2: Top 25

Level 1: to remove the ranking list and keep it off the money cap only, but including the language where if a member is not eligible for the Level 2, they are not eligible for the Level 1.

The motion is seconded. The motion passes.

Application for IAP Fund Support

NRHA staff present a draft application for the fund support from the Council. The Council review and communicate that they are happy to move forward with the draft. Motion made to accept draft and look forward to utilizing it. The motion is seconded. All are in favor.

NRHA staff will remove the "Draft" watermark and redistribute to the Council so that each member has it for submission when necessary.

Request from NRHA South Africa

The Council reviews the request from NRHA South Africa for fund support towards a clinic. NRHA South Africa are given the opportunity to speak to their request. The Council reviews the available funds, what has been used from this year already, what the 10% reserve would be, and what the remaining allocation would be per affiliate if evenly distributed.

It is requested that once NRHA staff redistribute the fund request application, affiliates fill out the application as necessary for submissions and review at the November meeting.

NRHA staff are asked to have prepared for the November meeting how much the account will replenish each year.

Matters from Affiliates

NRHA SA- Held an NRHA event last weekend with newly appointed South African judge. They are looking forward to a bigger show in October, followed by a three-day clinic. Johannesburg is considering hosting a large show in August next year. This year, NRHA SA hosted 4 NRHA shows, next year they are hoping for 6.

Orana- Have their calendar out for the next year. They are getting ready for another big year.

GVRHA- Held a Club Day last weekend, with their final show in November which will also be the Open saddle series. They will host their AGM at that event as well, and they finalized dates for their Water Wheel show.

SARHA- Kicking off season in September, in October they have a jackpot show and an added money show. They are planning a championship show in December.

CWRA- Have a Rod Osborne clinic this weekend, followed by a clinic with Matt Charles later this year. They will round out the year with their State Championships.

Calliope- Have a couple of shows planned, and they locked in their State Championships for next year. It will also be the 10-year anniversary for the Sliders.

NSWRHA- Not Present

JRHA- Affiliate show is Oct 6th-9th with an Australian judge. They have added the intermediate divisions of Open and Non Pro. In addition, they have a Youth World Cup qualifier in place for this show.

IORHA- Holding their first NRHA-approved event with buckles provided for each class offered. In addition, they have a clinic with Chelsea Ragg prior to the State Show. All in all, numbers are growing, and their first AGM is happening

VRHA- Still recovering from Oceania Affiliate Championship. They continue to struggle with finding good ground but are looking at another location which will have a new ground. Starting to gear up for the next State Show in March, and the OACs in September.

Show Secretary Seminar Reminder:

NRHA Staff present the concept of having a special “show secretary style” seminar where all affiliate members are welcome to join and learn more about NRHA events, the language used at NRHA events, approvals, results, and the like. The Council are offered two days, and the consensus is that September 23rd at 7am AEST would work best. NRHA staff will communicate this to the team who will be handling this seminar and will communicate the call-in details.

Show Calendar Reminder:

NRHA staff offer to drop all Oceania event dates onto one calendar and to share that with the Council for review. Staff ask to please send show dates by October 15th so the calendar can be prepared in time for the November meeting.

Next Meeting

A reminder is given to the Council that the next meeting is scheduled for November 2, 2023.

Meeting adjourned at 9:26PM – 21:26 AEST/ 6:26AM CST