



**BRANCH COMMITTEE**  
Summary of minutes for the committee meeting held on  
10<sup>th</sup> December 2009  
**At the SEC, 303 Cathedral Ave, Brigadoon WA**

**PROCEDURAL MATTERS**

**Opened:** 6.35pm

**Present:** Hamish Johnston (CEO), Chair - Theresa Marshall (TM), Vice-chair - Mark Warren (MW), SEC Director - Mike Caplehorn (MC), Hayley Lethlean (HL), Alistair Mackinlay (AM), DWA Chair - Don Smailes (DS), ShWA Chair - Sandra Button (SB), JWA Co-chair - Kevin Gianatti (KG), EvWA Chair - PollyAnn Huntington (PAH) arrived 7.15pm.

**In attendance:** Vanessa Fuchsbichler (minute taker)

**Apologies:** Nil

**REPORTS**

CEO Report

As tabled.

TM and CEO attended the recent EA Summit on 4-6 December in Werribee.

TM and CEO attended National Show Horse Championships.

The drafting of the Equestrian WA constitution has been continuing. The CEO has been assisted by Tim Weigall and HL. The Branch Committee asked new member, AM to review and make comment. Other Branch Committee members will be provided with a copy to read through and be prepared for discussion prior to the next Branch Committee meeting.

The CEO requested the Branch Committee decide who will be on the Awards Committee for 2009. It was resolved that HL and SB are to be the members.

Information dissemination was discussed in depth by all Branch Committee Members. It was felt that communication continually if was of the areas within EWA that can be improved. Branch endorsed the need to summarise Board minutes and distribute to all sports to keep all abreast of information and decisions.

EWA recently secured a new sponsor. Nature Vet will be a programme partner for 2010. The return for EWA will include potential for a variety Club Development Projects.

A new staff position will begin in 2010 combining SEC administration support, IT support, and Sport secretarial support. Sport secretarial support will ensure uniformity in agenda formats and formats for Minutes, plus providing much needed support to the Chairs. The role is for a trial 4 month period. To assist in with budgetary obligations, the Branch Committee agreed that the honorariums paid to volunteers for secretarial be cancelled.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

Plan for 2010 & Board Member Portfolios

HL proposed an annual agenda for the Branch Committee. With a large amount of policies of which half are outdated and many could be replaced with one, this is a large workload we should set ourselves. With an annual agenda, as a collective group we have an idea of where we are with policy.

With potential change to the EWA Constitution the CEO reminded the Branch Committee role is policy based, EWA fiscal responsibility, SEC responsibility and overall strategic direction of EWA. The major stakeholders (ie Chairs of Committees) are still required to have input, we must provide

	<p>opportunity to come together and discuss issues and ideas. A bi-annual conference with EWA Chair will be the major forum for the sport.</p> <p><u>Motion</u>  <i>That the Board adopt an annual work agenda and allocate portfolios to board members.</i>  <u>Carried</u></p>
Strategic Plan	<p>The CEO commented that as with previous meetings, the Branch Committee have agreed that EWA mirrors the format of the EA Strategic Plan.</p> <p>The CEO mentioned he thought it would be appropriate for EWA Committees to follow strategic plan format. Theresa Marshall agreed this was wise if we want to strong pathways, and see some uniformity from EA ---- to the States ---- to the Sport Committees. HL mentioned that it will benefit EWA in DSR eyes.</p> <p>MW will provide further feedback to the CEO. Aim to publish the Strategic Plan early 2010.  <u>Resolved</u></p>
Constitution	Refer to CEO Report.
Interschool Membership	<p>The CEO proposes a new membership category; Important strategic goal to strengthen growth of juniors as part of EWA system, instead of obtaining one day licence. Chair of Interschool Committee, Val Mayger has suggested a membership for their Inter-school competition would encourage children to “try before they buy”, attract Pony Clubbers into the EWA family.</p> <p>A number of members inquired if it will affect the EWA levy structure. The CEO said it should not affect current structure. Much discussion ensued on pros and cons of an extra membership category. There was general support for proposal, however with some restrictions. This includes limiting the new membership to two interschool qualifying events and the interschool championships.</p> <p><u>Motion</u>  <i>That a new membership category called Inter-school Membership at \$110 for calendar year to be introduced 2010 on a trial basis to be reviewed in May.</i>  <u>Carried</u></p>
EWA/PCAWA Working Committee	<p>There was general consensus that strengthen relations with PCAWA is important. Both PAH and TM expressed interest in being a part of this working party. The CEO will write to PCAWA Executive Officer to invite two Pony Club Representatives and their EO to meet, and formulate some direction, and objectives from meeting as a Working Committee.  <u>Resolved</u></p>
Summary of Board Minutes	<p>Refer to CEO report.  <u>Motion</u>  <i>That Branch will make available a summary of Branch Committee minutes to all Committees.</i>  <u>Carried</u></p>
WAPA	<p>EWA was issued a writ to pose an injunction on the development of the general purpose field. MC explained the process by which EWA and WAPA went to the Supreme Court. The action was settled out of court. EWA will continue with capital works that has begun on the new 80m x 80m arena. The settlement reached is WAPA hold no claim to the general purpose field. EWA will contribute a total of \$75,000 from our FFA towards capital works only on the SEC to improve fields on lot 43.  <u>Resolved</u></p>
<b><u>FINANCE &amp; ADMINISTRATION</u></b>	
Key Financial Data	<p>As tabled.</p> <p>EWA P &amp; L;  These accounts are in a good position YTD.  Memberships are surprisingly good.</p> <p>SEC P &amp; L;  Not in good shape at this point YTD.  CEO indicates it is imperative we attract community events in the New Year and let new SEC Manager have scope to attempt PR improvements and improve/add to or events calendar to increase our financial return.</p>

	There was much discussion centred on SEC financial matters. All Branch Committee members voiced concerns. Agreed there were historical and inherent issues to resolve.
<b><u>COMMITTEE MINUTES</u></b>	
Dressage Western Australia	As tabled. DS chair returns as Chair of DWA.
Eventing Western Australia	As tabled. PAH returns as Chair of EvWA. Young Riders excelled at Adelaide 3DE; Sophie Warren, Tegan Lush, Elizabeth Moore and a NSW rider won 3-Star.
Jumping Western Australia	As tabled. Peter Cooke & KG return as Co-chair of JWA. Anna McGregor won National Series, Nakita Barber also did well. National Young Rider Squad members include Steph Tucker, Evie Buller and Pascale Young
Show Horse Western Australia	As tabled. SB is the newly elected Chair of ShWA. Small Pony and Show Hunter classes were where WA shone at the National Show Horse Titles
High Performance Panel	As tabled. The last High Performance Panel meeting was held in November. DS confirmed the squad development pathway as well received by the Panel. The CEO mentioned as with 2009, the 2010 athlete agreement will continue, it is imperative that squad members sign contracts so there is some accountability to EWA.  The CEO spoke briefly about the expanded BEATS programme which is to include other regional areas in addition to Geraldton. The first being Peel in 2010.  The CEO made comment on the new JETS (Junior Equestrian Talent Squad) Programme. Aim to begin programme early 2010.  The Branch Committee ratified the HP roles & responsibilities document.
NCAS	Minutes not tabled
Interschool	Minutes not tabled
<b>Meeting closed 9.50pm</b>	