ABHA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Date: 11th November 2026

Time: 7.30pm

Meeting Type: Zoom online meeting (Link emailed to all financial senior members to attend the meeting.)

Zoom Meeting conducted and moderated by: Chris Mallon

Chairperson ABHA President: Sandra Martin

Item No.

Item 1: WELCOME

President Sandra Martin to open the meeting

Item 2: Moderator

Moderator Chris Mallon run through the meeting procedures and how the voting will work. Once a Notice of Motion has been presented and discussed, Chris will then put up a poll for anonymous voting, once majority rules, poll will be closed.

Chris will then display the results, in percentages, whether the motion was approved or opposed.

If apposed the option will be given to the Mover and Seconder to amend the motion and put to the vote again.

Item 3: Parties Present:

Sandra Martin, Jayne Lilley, Shannon Harrison, Wendy Hill, Teagan Glass, Teal Shorten, Cheyenne Stevens, Suzie Dicks, Suzie Bone, Suzy Patteson, Tui Gordon, Taylah Wye, Tarni Boyce, Stacey Thurston, Stacey Freeman, Sophie Leslie, Shellie Miller, Shona Tribe, Susan Keenan, Sammy Bone, Sam Ferrari, Robyn Ritchie, Raylean Peacock, Rachael Taylor, Rachaell Rivet, Rach Unger, Nicole Donnelly, Molly M, Melissa Simpson, Melissa McGuire, Melanie Goldman, Mel Peel, Marie Crisp, Maree Prow, Maree Fannin, Mahala Doolin, Maddi Edwards, Linda Davies, Leslie Moore, Leonie Southwell, Lacey Miller, Kim Hamilton, Kerrie Holder, Kay Markwort, Katina Matthews, Kasey Bramich, Karen Labuschewski, Jody Batchelor, Jodie White, Jessica Downie, Jill Burch, Jean Batchelor, Janette Glass, Jane Keenan, Jackie D'Bais, Jacki, Chris Hodges, Georgie Perry, Emily-Skye Slater, Emily O'Hare, Ella Prow, Elisabeth May, David Rivvett, Danielle Foster, Cheyanne Stevens, Cathy Raaen, Cathrina Hutton, Brianna Learmonth, Bonnie Douglas, Bobby-Jo Clem, Bec Dines, Amy Eckford, Amy Hodges, Ali McGuire, Julie Campbell, Adele Edwards, Clair Neaves, Hannah Bolam, Helen McVicar, Kate O'Dea, Ryley Menz, G Purcell

Unknown zoom members (everyone was asked to change their idss to full name, these participants did not change their idss)
Ipad (4), Iphone, Iphone, Samsung SM5921BIpad (4), Iphone, Iphone Samsung SM5921B, LF, Amelia's Iphone, Alyce, BonBon, EM, Robbie, Zoom User, MP, +61488098728, Mel, Mel, Chloe, Molly M, Shell.

Item 4: Apologies:

Rahni Ryan

Item 5: Approval of the 2025 Minutes:

Members are asked to review the 2025 Minutes prior to the meeting:

Adoption of 2025 Minutes:

Moved: Sam Ferrari 2nd: Shellie Miller

Approved: Majority

Opposed: Nil

Carried: Yes

Item 6 President's Report:

Sandra Martin to present her President's report.

Good evening everyone. Welcome to the 2026 annual general meeting of the Australian Barrel Horse Association. It's both a pleasure and a privilege to address you tonight as the president of the ABHA. 2026 has been particularly special year for our association, marking 30 years since the ABHA was established,

and were proud to celebrate this milestone at our national finals. The Circle L ABHA National Finals was undoubtedly one of the biggest and best events to date. Congratulations to everyone who competed, and especially to those who took home championships in their respective events.

Our top 50 Open and 25 Juniors put an outstanding display of barrel racing, while our pole bending competitors also delivered an incredible competition, with the top 10 qualifying from a field of 189 open and junior competitors. These achievements demonstrated the strength and depth of talent in our association.

We remain committed to providing opportunities for all members, regardless of their experience or ability to compete, improve, and showcase their skills. Of course, staging an event of this size comes with considerable costs. This year, the total cost of running our national finals was $86607, with rising venue, trophy, and personnel expenses contributing to the overall figure. Id like to extend a very big thankyou to everyone who volunteered their time and energy to help make finals run so smoothly over the 5 days. Events of this scale simply would not be possible without the dedication of our volunteers, and your contribution helped make this years finals truly memorable.

We are currently in talks with AELEC staff regarding dates for the next 4 years, and we hope to announce the dates for the 2027 National Finals within the next fortnight. 2026 has also been a year of growth for the ABHA. We have welcomed new affiliates, providing more opportunities for competitors to participate in events and gain their qualifications for the national finals. Looking ahead to 2027 were excited to welcome another affiliate in QLD.

On behalf of the ABHA Board, I'd like to sincerely thank all the volunteers who make up our affiliated clubs and committees. The time, effort, and commitment you put into organizing and running events throughout the year are very much appreciated. You're an integral part of our association, and we recognise the enormous contribution you make. We have recently commenced the transition to ICompete for our committees and members. Like any new system, there have been a few teething problems along the way, but members are gradually becoming more familiar with the new entry process.

We believe that as everyone becomes more confident using the platform, it will provide significant benefits to the administration of our affiliated events and association. Over our 30 years of operation, we have seen remarkable growth in membership, and I believe one of the reasons for this success is the inclusive structure of our association. The ABHA provides and opportunity for every member to compete at their own pace and must be rewarded through our divisional payout system. Not everyone will break an Australian barrel racing record or consistently finish in the first division, but that is not what makes our sport special. It's about setting personal goals and achieving them. It's about bringing young horses along without the pressure of having to win before they're ready. It's about learning from one another, improving our horsemanship, and becoming better competitors in the sport we all love. This is what makes ABHA unique. And it's something we must continue to protect and build upon.

The ABHA Stallion Incentive has also experienced considerable growth in 2026, developing a significant program from the foundations established a few years ago by Justin Gill and the ABHA Board. I would particularly like to acknowledge Jilian Burch and Jane Caner for their hard work and dedication in supporting the program this year, including management of the Stallion Incentive website and facebook page. The many hours spent communicating with stallion owners and members have helped create wonderful opportunities for our competitors to breed to some of the best stallions available both here in Australia and overseas. Their efforts have allowed the current ABHA board to deliver one of the largest standing incentive programs in Australia. The Australian Quarter Horse Association has also recognised the strength of this program and continues to support our association with $10000 in incentives for owners and breeders competing in divisional events. We are extremely grateful for this ongoing support.

As we come together tonight, the decisions we make at this meeting will help shape the future direction of our association and sport. Every decision presents an opportunity to strengthen what we have built over the past 30 years and ensure that the ABHA continues to provide opportunities for our members, regardless of their ability, experience or level of horsemanship. Together, we are building an association that supports its members, encourages participation and continues to elevate our sport. I encourage everyone to carefully consider the motions presented tonight and to contribute positively to the discussions. The future of the ABHA is something we all have a part in shaping.

I would like to now take a moment to sincerely thank my fellow board members. The ABHA board has operated at full capacity through the year, and the workload has certainly been felt by those who have continued to give their time and energy to the association. As president I cannot thank our current board members enough. You are all volunteers yourselves, yet you continue to dedicate countless hours to the ABHA. Your hard work, commitment and unwavering support have been invaluable, and I am incredibly grateful for everything you have contributed. Id also like to acknowledge and thank Clair Neaves, Marie Prowell and Cathrina Hutton, who are standing down from director positions tonight. Thank you, for your contribution and commitment to the association. We certainly hope you consider returning to the board in the future. I would also like to recognise Ronnie Ryan and Casey Ramage, who are elected board members, but stood down earlier this year due to personal reasons. Thankyou both for the time and effort you gave to the ABHA. Special thankyou goes to Maree Fannin who assisted the board with the development and establishment of our National Finals branding earlier this year. Your contribution helped bring our event together, and we appreciate your support. Every one of these contributions, whether behind the scenes or on the ground at events, also played a part in making this year's National Finals such a success. Tonight, I would like to warmly welcome our new directors to the ABHA board. I also encourage anyone who is interested in becoming involved to consider nominating for one of the vacant director positions available. We are always stronger when we have people willing to contribute their ideas, skills and time to help move the association forward. A very special thank you must go to Jayne, our hard-working secretary. Jayne's knowledge, attention to detail, and unwavering commitment to the ABHA are truly invaluable. The hours she dedicates to keeping our association operating efficiently often go unseen, but they certainly do not go unnoticed. We simply could not operate at the level we do without her dedication and support.

As we move into 2027, we're also pleased to welcome Shannon Harrison to our team. Shannon will work alongside Jayne two days a week, helping ensure that our growing association can continue to provide timely and efficient service to its members. I would also like to acknowledge Chris Mellon for the work at the National Finals and for moderating our zoom meeting tonight. His support behind the scenes helps ensure everything runs smoothly, and we're very grateful for the time and assistance he gives to our association. Finally, I'd like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our major sponsors. Circle L, Katie B, Biolink, Bling & Speed, along with many other businesses, sponsors and individuals who continue to support the ABHA and our National Finals. This year, we were fortunate to have the support of 47 sponsors, which is an incredible contribution to our association. Sponsorship plays such an important role in allowing us to deliver quality events and provide opportunities for our members. We genuinely appreciate the generosity, loyalty and support of every sponsor who gets behind the ABHA. Without their support we simply could not deliver the events and incentives our members have come to enjoy. As we look towards 2027, I am excited about what lies ahead for the ABHA. We have celebrated 30 years of history, achieved significant growth, welcomed new affiliates, and delivered another successful National Finals. While there is always work to be done and improvements to be made, I believe were in a strong position to continue building on what has already been achieved.

Our focus remains on improving our programs, supporting our affiliates, providing opportunities for our members, ensuring that the ABHA continues to grow and prosper for many years to come. Most importantly, we must remember that our association is built on its members, volunteers, affiliates, and the

shared passion we all have for barrel racing. Thank you to everyone who has played a part in making 2026 such a successful year. I am proud of what we've achieved together, and I look forward to what we can accomplish in the year ahead. Thank you for all your support.

Moved: Shellie Miller 2nd: Julie Campbell.

Approved: Majority

Opposed: Nil

Carried: Yes

Item 7: Treasurer's Report:

Jayne Lilley to present the ABHA Audited 2025-2026 Financial Statement.

Reconciled Account Balances as of 30th June 2026

$ 154,553.31	Main Working Account
$ 282.66	Credit/Debit Card Account
$ 62,471.00	Investment Account
$ 217,306.97	TOTAL

Moved: Shellie Miller 2nd Jackie D'Bais

Approved: Majority
Opposed: Nil
Carried: Yes

Item 8: Director Nominations

President: Sandra Martin to declare the President and Director 1, Director 2, Director 5, Director 6, Director 3 & Director 7 positions vacant.

Vice President Julie Campbell to Chair Director Nominations.

President nomination received: Sandra Martin. Nominated by Shellie Miller, seconded by Leslie Moore.

Director Nominations:

Leslie Moore nominated Shellie Miller, seconded by Maree Prow.
Shellie Miller has accepted the nomination. No further nominations.
Shellie Miller nominated Tarni Boyce, seconded by Leslie Moore.
Tarni Boyce has accepted the nomination.
Dean McGuire nominated Melissa McGuire, seconded by Ali McGuire.
Melissa McGuire has accepted the nomination.
Sandra Martin has nominated for president, Sandra Accepted. No nominations from the floor.
Sandra Martin declared president.

Nominations will be called from the floor to fill the remaining 2-year position and the two 1-year positions.

Shellie Miller nominated Tui Gordon, seconded by Sandra Martin. Tui has accepted the nomination. Accepts 2-year position.

Cathrina Hutton nominated Maree Prow, seconded by Shellie Miller. Maree Prow has accepted the nomination for 1-year position.

Sandra Martin nominated Cathrina Hutton, seconded by Shellie Miller. Cathrina has accepted the nomination for 1-year position.

David Rivett nominated by Emily Skye Slater, seconded Jodie Batchelor. David has accepted the nomination.

As the number of nominations exceeds the number of positions available, the nominees were put to the members to vote. The three successful Directors were Tui Gordon, Maree Prow and Cathrina Hutton.

Sandra Martin welcomed incoming Board Directors for a two-year term for Tui Gordon and a one-year term for Maree Prow and Cathrina Hutton and thanked everyone for nominating for a position.

Item 10 Notice of Motions

Motion 1:

Submitted by Rebecca Dines 2nd Katina Matthews

Motion:

NOTICE OF MOTION
Proposed Change to Finals Divisional Format

Motion:
That the current 8 Division (8D) half-second split format used at the Finals be amended to a 7 Division (7D) half-second split format.

Reason for the Proposed Change

The purpose of this motion is to remove the 8th Division from the Finals and instead run seven divisions using 0.500-second splits.

Removing the 8th Division would reduce the cost of providing an additional saddle, buckle, round payouts and average payouts for that division.
The money saved could instead be redistributed across the remaining seven divisions, increasing the value of prizes and/or payouts available to competitors within those divisions.
A seven-division format would still provide a broad spread of divisions and opportunities for competitors while allowing Finals prize money and sponsorship funds to be utilised more effectively.
Comparison of Divisional Formats
For comparison purposes, the following examples use a 17.000-second winning time.
4 DIVISIONS (1 second split)

Division	Time range
1D	17.000 – 17.999
2D	18.000 – 18.999
3D	19.000 – 19.999
4D	20.000+

7 DIVISIONS (1/2 second split)

Division	Time range
1D	17.000 – 17.499
2D	17.500 – 17.999
3D	18.000 – 18.499
4D	18.500 – 18.999
5D	19.000 – 19.499
6D	19.500 – 19.999
7D	20.000+

And the now 8 DIVISIONS (1/2 second split)

Division	Starts at
1D	17.000
2D	17.500
3D	18.000
4D	18.500
5D	19.000
6D	19.500
7D	20.000
8D	20.500

Approved- 46%

Opposed – 54% Majority

Carried - No

Motion 2:

Submitted by Shellie Miller 2nd Leslie Moore

Motion:

Any Maturity with $500 prize money or more will count as a qualifying round for ABHA Finals

Approved- 15%

Opposed 85% Majority

Carried- No

Motion 3:

Submitted by Shellie Miller 2nd Leslie Moore

Motion:

Under Animal Welfare:

Age event horses must be rolled over to Open Divisional, if entered in 3 events in one day Eg: Open Divisional, Junior Divisional and Age events

Approved – 38%

Opposed – 63% Majority

Carried- No

Motion 4:

Motion:

Submitted by Shellie Miller 2nd Leslie Moore

Maturity Incentive

To be Implemented the same as the Futurity Incentive

Approved – 75% Majority

Opposed – 25%

Carried - Yes

Motion 5:

Submitted by Suzanne Dicks 2nd Kerrie Holder

Motion:

We are proposing the ABHA National Finals, Open Divisional Payout structure to be staggard down through the divisions.

Please See Diagram below outlining what this could look like.

Proposed - ABHA Nationa Finals Payout using 2026 Figures							
	Competitor No	541	Posted Prize Money	$10,000.00	Total Prize Pool	$53,280.00	
	Add Back	$80.00	Round Money P/R	$688.20	Total Round Money	$11,011.20	
					Total Divisional Money	**$42,268.80**	
OPEN DIV 1 = 32%	**$13,526.02**	**OPEN DIV 2 = 23%**	**$9,721.82**	**OPEN DIV 3 = 16%**	**$6,763.01**	**OPEN DIV 4 = 10%**	**$4,226.88**
1st	$5,004.63	1st	$3,597.07	1st	$2,502.31	1st	$1,563.95
2nd	$3,652.02	2nd	$2,624.89	2nd	$1,826.01	2nd	$1,141.26
3rd	$2,569.94	3rd	$1,847.15	3rd	$1,284.97	3rd	$803.11
4th	$1,352.60	4th	$972.18	4th	$676.30	4th	$422.69
5th	$946.82	5th	$680.53	5th	$473.41	5th	$295.88
OPEN DIV 5 = 7%	**$2,958.82**	**OPEN DIV 6 = 5%**	**$2,113.44**	**OPEN DIV 7 = 4%**	**$1,690.75**	**OPEN DIV 8 = 3%**	**$1,268.06**
1st	$1,094.76	1st	$781.97	1st	$625.58	1st	$469.18
2nd	$798.88	2nd	$570.63	2nd	$456.50	2nd	$342.38
3rd	$562.18	3rd	$401.55	3rd	$321.24	3rd	$240.93
4th	$295.88	4th	$211.34	4th	$169.08	4th	$126.81
5th	$207.12	5th	$147.94	5th	$118.35	5th	$88.76

Round Money Per Round	
1st	$344.10
2nd	$206.46
3rd	$137.64

ABHA National Finals 2026 Payouts						
OPEN DIV	Competitor No	541	Posted Prize Money		Total Prize Pool	$55,055.92
	Add Back		Round Money P/R	$688.20	Total Round Money	$11,011.20
	Total Money For each Divison		$5,505.59		Total Divisional Money	**$44,044.72**
	ALL Divisions		Round Money Per Round			
1st	$2,037.07		1st	344.1		
2nd	$1,486.51		2nd	206.46		
3rd	$1,046.06		3rd	137.64		
4th	$550.56					
5th	$385.39					

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
4 Ways	40%	30%	20%	10%				
5 Ways	37%	27%	19%	10%	7%			
6 Ways	35%	25%	18%	10%	7%	5%		
7 Ways	33%	24%	17%	10%	7%	5%	4%	
8 Ways	32%	23%	16%	10%	7%	5%	4%	3%

Approved – 16%

Opposed – 84% Majority

Carried - No

Motion 6:

Submitted by: Sandra Martin 2nd: Cathrina Hutton

Motion:

To be added to the current rulebook

Horses must be saddled and bridled to compete. Move that halters are not permitted to be used on a horse for barrel racing and pole bending competition, and a saddle must be worn on a horse when competing at an affiliated ABHA event.

Approved – 91% Majority

Opposed - 9%

Carried - Yes

Motion 7:

Submitted by Sandra Martin 2nd Cathrina Hutton

Aged event rollovers must be on the same day

Motion:

Aged events rollover will only be allowed on the same day of competition and same sized course. Rollovers are not permitted if the event runs over two day, i.e., the competitor runs in an aged event on the one day of competition and wishes to roll over their aged event time to another event the next day.

Approved – 99% Majority

Opposed – 1%

Carried - Yes

Motion 8:

Submitted by Sandra Martin 2nd Shellie Miller

Motion:

The maximum course allowed for Big Course events is the full course size in the rulebook.

Reason for this motion is for animal welfare the number of horses that are entering these events are pulling up bleeding due to not enough conditioning and owner awareness of how to get horse fit enough for the extra exertion to the horse system.

Approved – 24%

Opposed – 76% Majority

Carried - No

Motion 9:

Submitted by Sandra Martin 2nd Shellie Miller

Motion:

Reword rule no/. 12 – Move that the rule be changed to as follows:

When a competitor turns down a run they will be disqualified on that horse for the remainder of the event. Any money won prior to the turned down run will be awarded. The competitor will only be disqualified from the entered event in which the competitor has chosen to forfeit their second run, and not all other events the competitor may be participating in.

Accordingly, a competitor who elects not to take a second run in on the entered event in which the competitor has chosen to forfeit their second run, and not to all other events the competitor may be participating in the event should only be should only be disqualified from further participation in that specific event for that horse. Their eligibility to compete in other events remains unaffected.

Approved – 67% Majority

Opposed – 33%

Carried – Yes

Motion 10:

Submitted by Katina Matthews 2nd Shellie Miller

Motion:

ABHA age horse registry amend rule 11

(Original Rule)

11. Any ABHA member that intentionally provides false or misleading information on the ABHAID and/or Age Inspection form is subject to the horse's disqualification from aged events and/or disciplinary action which could

New Rule

Rule 11-False or misleading information

Any ABHA member who is found to have intentionally provided false or misleading information on the ABHAID application and/or Age Inspection Form shall be subject to the horse's disqualification from the relevant aged events.

The offending member shall receive a mandatory lifetime ban from entering or competing in all ABHA aged events, including Futurity and Maturity classes.

This lifetime ban shall apply to the individual member, regardless of the horse being entered, owned or ridden, and shall remain in effect for the lifetime of that member.

The lifetime ban shall not extend to ABHA divisional events, in which the member may continue to compete, subject to all other applicable ABHA rules.

The ABHA Board may impose additional disciplinary action, including fines, as its discretion, following the applicable disciplinary process

Approved – 42%

Opposed – 58% Majority

Carried – No

General Business

Kerrie Holder enquired about holding the next AGM in person at Tamworth.

Cathrina enquired about members thoughts on collecting points throughout the year. Poll results for 58% and against 42%. General discussion about members and business but also the point of animal welfare. Points about getting competitors to travel and support more clubs and affiliate events for the year.

David posed a question about taking more competitors into finals to give them more motivation to attend affiliate events and boost income for the association. Considerations about costs to travel to events and costs and being fair to all members.

David enquired about state delegates to report back to the boards. Sandra pointed out the affiliates should be jumping onto the affiliate meetings to get different points of view.

Adele asked about locals entering affiliate events and entering on the day as day members. Can cash entries be accepted? Something that can be taken to the board. Board members to be trained in ICompete. Suzy asked about the potential to train in ICompete for affiliates as well.

Robyn asked about cheat sheets for Icompete for affiliates. Jayne and Corey have been working on it and these will be distributed in a week or two.

Meeting Closed: 10:17pm

2027 ABHA AGM DATE TBA

President: **Secretary:**