



ABHA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: 10th December 2025

Time: 7.30pm

Meeting Type: Zoom online meeting (Link emailed to all financial members to attend the meeting. Registration was required to enable voting platform for financial senior members only)

Zoom Meeting conducted and moderated by: Chris Mallon

Chairperson ABHA President: Sandra Martin

Item No.

Item 1: WELCOME

President Sandra Martin opened the meeting at 7:33 pm and welcomed all registered members to the zoom 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, Maree Fannin, Cathrina Hutton, Fallon Mulhall, Alise, Molly Tourish, Lacey Miller, Sam Ferrarri, Susan Keenan, Kristy Ross, Helen McVicar, Sharna Worsfold, Suzie Dicks, Olivia Allen, iPhone (3), Suzy Patteson, Clair Neaves, Julie Campbell, Lynette M, Samsung SM-S711B, Kerrie Holder, Lou Moss, iPhone, Rebecca Dines, Julie Robertson, 61431597821, Kasey Bramich, Rachele Malone, iPhone, Cathy Raaen, Lyn Collins, Adele Edwards, Maree Prow, Cherie O'Donoghue, Marie Crisp, Michelle Teale, Zoom user x 2, Shellie Miller, Shona Tribe, Sonia Roberts, Molly, Jane Keenan, David Rivett, Clair, Karen Labuschewski, Kate O'Dea, Amie Pritchard, Kim Greenwood, Tayla Jackson, Anna, Rahni Ryan, Jill, Bonnie Douglas, Sara Eagle, Ryley Menz, Hannah Ross, Bobbi-Jo Clem, Raylean Peacock, Jacontec4, Jill Burch Tina Fillipi

Item 4: Apologies:

Nil

Item 5: Approval of the 2024 Minutes:

Members were asked to review the 2024 Minutes prior to the meeting:

Adoption of 2024 Minutes:

Moved: Olivia Allen 2nd Shellie Miller

Approved: Majority

Opposed: Nil

Carried: Yes

Item 6 President's Report:

Good evening everyone, and welcome to the 2025 Annual General Meeting of the ABHA. It is a pleasure and a privilege to speak with you tonight.

This past year has brought both challenges and wonderful successes.

But despite those obstacles, our association has continued to grow stronger. Every member, volunteer, affiliate, and partner has played an important role in helping us move forward.

We continue to see remarkable growth. This year alone, more than 400 new members joined our association, along with several new affiliates. This reflects not only the growing popularity of our sport, but also the need for Directors who bring passion, foresight, and a strong commitment to guiding the ABHA into the future.

On the Board, we often say that "the bus is getting bigger."

And it truly is. The decisions we make today will shape the direction of our sport and create opportunities for everyone involved, no matter their ability, experience, or level of horsemanship. Together, we're building a future that supports all members and continues to elevate our sport.

I want to take a moment to sincerely thank my fellow Board Members.

Your hard work, dedication, and countless hours of effort have been invaluable. Your commitment to the ABHA, and your unwavering support, mean more than I can say.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank Maree Fanin, our outgoing Vice President, for her outstanding service and leadership.

This year, Maree was awarded Life Membership—an honour that reflects her long-term dedication and exceptional contribution to our association.

And we're pleased to share that Maree will continue supporting the ABHA in a new capacity. The Board will be employing her as a Finals Coordinator two days a week, helping us grow and promote our Finals. We are incredibly grateful for all she has given, and we look forward to the expertise she brings to this new role.

A special thank you must also go to Jayne, our hardworking Secretary.

Her knowledge, her attention to detail, and her unwavering commitment are truly invaluable. We simply could not operate at the level we do without her.

I would also like to acknowledge Chris Mallon for his work at the Finals, and for hosting and managing this Zoom meeting tonight.

His support behind the scenes ensures everything runs smoothly, and we are very grateful.

I also want to congratulate all the competitors at this year's Finals.

And to those who volunteered their time, thank you. You helped make it a truly memorable event.

The Top 50 and Top 25 Juniors put on an outstanding display of barrel racing, and the Australian Barrel Racing Record was broken twice during the finals. It was a Finals to remember.

We are now looking at adding further incentives and events to ensure the Finals remain something all our members want to be part of.

A heartfelt thankyou to our Major Sponsors, Circle L, Katie B, Bio Link, and Bling and Speed, along with the many other sponsors and individuals who support our Finals each year. Your generosity is vital to the success of our events.

Our Stallion Incentive Program also continues to grow. I'd like to thank Jill Burch and Justin Gill, who work closely with the Board to engage the stallion owners helping strengthen barrel racing incentives for our members.

We also acknowledge the AQHA, which increased its sponsorship to \$10,000 this year. This has given our members even more opportunities to win money through the divisional program.

As we look ahead, we remain committed to building on this momentum, improving our programs, supporting our members, and working together to ensure continued growth and success for the ABHA.

Thank you

Moved: Sandra Martin 2nd Bobbi-Jo Clem

Approved: Majority

Opposed: Nil

Carried: Yes

Item 7: Treasurer's Report:

Jayne Lilley to present the ABHA Audited 2024-2025 Financial Statement.

Reconciled Account Balances as of 30th June 2025

\$184,010.73	Main Working Account
\$ 0	Savings Account
\$ 3,141.87	Credit/Debit Card Account
\$ 61,524.71	Investment Account
\$ 248,677.31	TOTAL

Moved: Jayne Lilley 2nd Sam Ferrari

Approved: Majority

Opposed: Nil

Carried: Yes

Item 8: Director Nominations

President: Sandra Martin to declare the Vice President and Director 2, Director 4, & Director 6 positions vacant.

Vice President nomination received: Julie Campbell. Nominated by Kasey Bramich, seconded by Clair Neaves,

Julie Campbell accepted the nomination of Vice President. As no further nominations were submitted, Sandra Martin declares Julie Campbell as Vice President.

Director Nominations:

Sandra Martin nominated Marie Crisp, seconded by Clair Neaves.

Marie Crisp has accepted the nomination.

Julie Campbell nominated Kasey Bramich, seconded by Clair Neaves

Kasey Bramich has accepted the nomination.

Kasey Bramich nominated Clair Neaves, seconded by Julie Campbell.

Clair Neaves has accepted the nomination.

Lyndell Abela nominated Sara Eagle, seconded by Rachele Malone.

Sara Eagle has accepted the nomination.

As the number of nominations exceeds the number of positions available, the nominees were put to the members to vote.

Sandra Martin welcomed incoming Board Directors for a 2 year term: Kasey Bramich, Clair Neaves & Marie Crisp and thanked Sara for her nomination.

Item 10 Notice of Motions

Motion 1:

Submitted by Maree Prow 2nd Jill Lyons

Motion:

That a 10 & Under Unassisted Competitive Category be formally recognized and made available for inclusion in affiliate programs. This category should use consistent naming across the association for clarity and ease of implantation.

Category summary:

Tiny Tots 7 & Under – Assisted and Unassisted

10 & Unders – Unassisted

Junior Divisional

Approved: 26 Majority
Opposed: 19
Carried: Yes

Motion 2:

Submitted by Sandra Martin 2nd Maree Fannin

Motion:

That all ABHA members who have entered multiple horses in an ABHA-sanctioned event must run their horses in the published draw order. Members changing horses drawn order will be disqualified.

Approved: 41 Majority
Opposed: 3
Carried: Yes

Motion 3:

Submitted by Julie Campbell 2nd Kasey Bramich

Motion:

Complaint Lodgment Policy

That the ABHA adopt the following policy regarding the submission of complaints by Affiliates or Members.

Effective immediately, any ABHA Affiliate, Member or Individual who wishes to submit a formal complaint regarding any matter to be considered by the board of directors shall be required to pay a non-refundable lodgement fee of \$50 per complaint.

This fee must be paid in full to the ABHA Secretary at the time the complaint is lodged. No complaint will be tabled for discussion or action by the board of directors unless the lodgement fee has been received.

Approved: 26 Majority
Opposed: 17
Carried: Yes

Motion 4:

Motion:

Submitted by Sandra Martin 2nd Maree Fannin

Mandatory Use of ABHA online entry system for aged events:

That all ABHA Affiliates conducting an aged event be required to have entries taken exclusively through the ABHA Online entry system.

Approved: 27 Majority

Opposed: 24

Carried: Yes

Motion 5:

Submitted by Shona Tribe 2nd Bianca Miller

Motion:

That Divisional Rule 1 be amended as follows:

Divisional barrel races are not to be restricted and must be open to any rider and any horse.

Divisions are to be determined by the affiliate of either a one second or half second time bracket for the duration of the event.

Amend to:

Divisional Barre races are not to be restricted and must be open to any horse and any rider 18 years of age or older.

Divisions are to be determined by the affiliate of either a one second or half second time bracket for the duration of the event.

Approved: 20

Opposed: 29 Majority

Carried: No

Motion 6:

Submitted by: Maree Fannin 2nd: Sandra Martin

Motion:

Junior eligibility for Open Events:

Any junior wishing to compete in the open divisional or open poles event/s must hold a current senior membership. Junior membership alone will not permit entry into the open events.

Approved: 38 Majority

Opposed: 9

Carried: Yes

President Sandra Martin excused herself from the meeting for 15 minutes and returned. Vice President Julie Campbell chaired the meeting whilst Sandra was absent.

Motion 7:

Submitted by Sandra Martin 2nd Maree Fannin

Motion:

That when an ABHA Affiliate conducts an event – such as an Open Divisional event or Junior Divisional event – the event must be run to completion before commencing any other event. Affiliates are not permitted to pause or interrupt an event to run another, then resume the original event.

Approved: 10

Opposed: 34 Majority

Carried: No

Motion 8:

Submitted by Maree Fannin 2nd Marie Crisp

Motion:

Replace current pole bending rule #6 with the following:

Whipping – Disqualification will occur if more than 2 contacts with equipment from start of run to pole 6.
Disqualification will occur if more than 2 contacts with equipment bending from pole 6 to pole 1
Disqualification will occur if more than 2 contacts with equipment bending from pole 1 to pole 6
Disqualification will occur if more than 2 contacts with equipment bending from pole 6 to finishing timers.
Definition of equipment (object, device) riding crop – over and under whip – quirt, reins. Ruled by the Judge.

Approved: 43 Majority

Opposed: 2

Carried: Yes

Motion 9:

Submitted by Shellie Miller 2nd Maree Prow

Motion:

Affiliates may choose to offer an aged event bonus in Futurity or Maturity barrel racing competitions. This bonus must be fully funded by the affiliate and may NOT be deducted from the posted prize money or add back funds.

Approved: 7
Opposed: 34 Majority
Carried: No

Motion:

Affiliates may choose to offer an aged event bonus in 2D format i.e. 1 or .5 second split in the Futurity or Maturity barrel racing competitions. This bonus must be fully funded by the affiliate and may NOT be deducted from the posted prize money or add back funds. Can be paid places according to entries.

Approved: 29 Majority
Opposed: 9
Carried: Yes

Motion 10:

Submitted by Maree Fannin 2nd Marie Crisp

Motion:

The ABHA Board of Directors have the right to suspend or refuse ABHA membership and or entries to any sanctioned ABHA event to a member who has broken any ABHA rules or bring the Association in disrepute.

Motion 10 withdrawn.

Motion 11:

Submitted by Sara Eagle 2nd Rachele Malone

Motion:

Open Divisional and Junior Divisional Wild Card.

A 'Wild Card' a second-chance entry or qualification that allows a rider to compete in a National Finals, often after initially failing to qualify through standard methods. It can be earned at specific events, won in auctions, or awarded through a draw. (Stipulations may include, rider must have been a financial member for the current season or competed in at least one event).

- *Not applicable for futurity or maturity events.
- *capped at certain number of wild cards per season, which expire at the end of the season.
- *cost of wild card to be \$xxx
- *applications to be submitted with payment before certain date with explanation why they deserve a wild card and board decides who is awarded them. (Examples, a rider was injured and can provide evidence of being unable to attend or rider is international only travelling over for finals)

Examples of wild cards in action:

*in the 2019 Calgary Stampede, two riders earned wild cards, allowing them to compete in the championship round for a large purse.

*The NBHA offers wild cards that grant entry to its world championships,

*At the Rodeo Houston events, the six athletes who don't advance from the semi-finals go to a wild card competition, with the winner moving on to the championship.

Approved: 9

Opposed: 28 Majority

Carried: No

Meeting Closed 10.37pm

2026 ABHA AGM DATE TBA

Signed:



President:

Sandra Martin 11/12/2025

Secretary:

Jayne Lilley 11/12/2025