



Minutes

Federal Council Meeting via Zoom 27 February 2023, Via Zoom, Commencing at 7:00 pm AEDT

1.0 GOVERNANCE

1.1 Welcome

1.2 Attendance – Federal Executive and State Delegates

Apologies – SA Delegate

Special Guest – Venetia Bennett – Barrister

1.3 Conflict of Interest – non declared.

1.4 Minutes of previous meetings (distributed prior to the meeting)

31 January 2023

Resolution

That the Minutes of the meeting conducted on 31 January be accepted as a true and accurate account of that meeting.

Carried

2.0 BUSINESS ARISING

2.1 Mediation Session – WA Supreme Court

Venetia Bennett addressed the meeting regarding the mediation session at the WA Supreme Court and stated categorically that content of the mediation session cannot be divulged but the outcome of the session can be conveyed to members. The following outcomes were established:

- a. The ACDS is restrained from commencing any disciplinary process or other proceeding against Janet Smith or otherwise seek to extend the period of suspension served by Janet Smith between 5 August and 4 November 2022 or give effect to the resolution dated 7 September 2022 (articulated in the letter from Armstrong Legal dated 8 September 2022) as to an intention to expel Janet Smith from the ACDS, based on the complaints relied on in support of resolutions made on 4 August 2022 and 7 September 2022 or any other matter, excluding criminal conduct (or alleged criminal conduct), arising (whether known to the defendant or not) prior to 22 February 2023.
- b. It is necessary that the ACDS place notices on the ACDS Website and their Facebook page as per the Heads of Agreement from the mediation session.
- c. That the ACDS pay costs to Janet Smith to the value of \$34,000.



Australian Carriage Driving Society

ABN: 28 794 114 302 – Incorporation No: A01028

- 2.2 The Vice President spoke regarding the ACDS Constitution and possibility a move to a Public Company Limited by Guarantee. More to follow an investigation and to be placed on the agenda for a face-to-face meeting planned for 14 March 2023.
- 2.3 Reminder of SWOT analysis (for meeting on 14 March).
- 2.4 2023 GDD Championships SA approved.
- 2.5 2024 CDE Championships SA approved.

3.0 NEW BUSINESS

- 3.1 The VP met with a non-member of the ACDS regarding disciplinary action. More to follow on 14 March.
- 3.2 The AGM and Federal Conference earmarked for 2 June to 4 June 2023 should be cancelled. Members are indicating they will not attend, simply because of cost. Calendars on the Vic Branch and NSW Branch Websites are full and members are indicating they would rather go to events/activities that a Federal Conference.

Resolution

That the ACDS AGM and the Federal Conference scheduled for the weekend 2 – 4 June 2023 be cancelled.

Carried

The Federal Secretary is to contact Vero Voting in Western Australia and find out their availability for Sunday 4 June and gain a quote for their services.

A forum is to be organised also for members to speak to the Federal Executive or a full Federal Council during the period between 14 March and 6 April 2023.

- 3.3 Once off change to CDE Rules regarding qualifications for championships.

A recommendation was received by the Federal CDE Convenor and his Committee regarding a **one-off** amendment to the CDE Rule 901.7.3, that is:

*To qualify for a National or State Championship, an Athlete must complete without elimination one Level 3 or higher event ~~within the previous three years~~ **for the qualifying period starting on 01/01/2019** with a single, if entering as a single, with a pair if entering as a pair, or with a team/tandem, if entering a team/tandem. After entry, if an athlete has to withdraw a horse/pony from their multiple's combination due to lameness, ill health or injury, they may choose to compete in another class with the approval of the OC. If this occurs prior to an event, a vet certificate must be provided to the Event Secretary or if vetted out at the First Examination and Inspection, it will be decided by the OC at the event.*

Resolution

That the **one-off** amendment to the CDE Rule 901.7.3, as presented by the Federal CDE Committee, be accepted.

Carried



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The remainder of the rule remains the same.

4.0 CLOSURE

4.1 Next meeting to be advised.

4.2 There being no further business the meeting was closed at 7:55 pm.

Dot Willcoxson
ACDS President

5 March 2023