



Board Talk

1st June 2022

The Board are pleased to announce our Board Portfolios for 2022:

Chair/Grants/Communications: Tracy Lucas
Executive Officer/Development Officer /MPIO: Olwen Smith
Treasurer/ Company Secretary: Joe Orland
Liaison (RR and Centres): Diane Burnicle
Rider Representative: Allen Burton
Marketing/ Strategic Planning: Ed Binney
Horse Welfare Liaison: Clarry Quirk
Grants: Ed Binney assisting Tracy Lucas if needed
Fundraising/Volunteer Promotion: All of the Board

Our previous “Advisors” have been renamed as “Consultants” for special projects. This is because there was a misconception that the Board advisors were privy to all facets of Board discussions.

Debit Card policy for centres is to be developed and will soon be placed in the RAM. This card allows for a limited amount of money to be placed on the centre debit card by two persons to act similar to a Petty Cash account so personal accounts are not used and a more accurate record of transactions is kept.

Special General meeting called for 5th March 2022, by two RDA Centres failed to achieve a quorum and was therefore abandoned. Some Centres did not recognise the change of venue by the changing the teleconference link.

The Young and Ryde Centres were placed in Administration for refusing to supply information have now both satisfied the Board’s requirements have been reaccredited.

This refusal to supply this information to the Board, is what led to the placing of both centres in administration. The Board are pleased to announce that Both Centres have now been returned to full status.

The Board developed a Business Plan which is now in the RAM. This business plan is comparable to other organisations, both large and small.

The Board explained at the AGM why they needed to re-instate the need for RDA experience before being nominated for the Board. The Board developed this Policy as prior

to 2018, this requirement was always in place. It is a common requirement of many Boards, especially with Boards handling the day-to-day administration such as ours.

Question presented after the AGM

1. Board Accountability: The Board comply with all facets of the Constitution and the Act in this area. It has been suggested that Board meeting minutes be released for transparency. If the Board discuss censure of a person and or a Centre, this would be a breach of Confidentiality. However, the Board release "Board Talk" which is a synopsis of Board activity for this express purpose.
2. P4P Plan. This was a Strategic Plan developed by the Partners for Purpose volunteers that devised a Strategic Plan for RDA (NSW). It had used incorrect information, which was unable to be corrected due to timeframe before their final delivery. The plan involved person as administrator to be paid around \$180K per year plus other costs for work your current Board do for free.

The Board of RDW (NSW) gave urgent direct donations of money to centres who lost their hay/feed to flood damage. This ensured that horse feed could be purchased quickly. This was also followed by our Grants Officer successfully applying for flood relief grants on behalf of several centres. In a time of crisis, centres volunteers may be occupied with their own personal issues to be able to apply for grants, such as the unfortunate volunteers who devastatingly lost their homes to the floods up Northern NSW. Our sympathies are with them.

Finally, the RDA (NSW) Board have just received confirmation that our 50th Year Celebration for RDA will be held at Government House, Sydney on the 29th of October. Invitations will be sent out soon, however as numbers are limited so a selection process must take place.

For, and on behalf of, the Board of RDA (NSW),

Olwen Smith

Hon. Director/EO/MPIO/DO

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"Riding Develops Abilities"

