



Riding for the Disabled Association (NSW)

From the Boardroom to the Bridle, we present the

Reins of Change Issue 2, October 2025

From the chair

The above image symbolises the strong connection between humans and horses, which is central to our programs at Riding for the Disabled Association (NSW), representing a bond that helps people with all forms of disability.

It's been nearly 5 months since the AGM in May. Time flies. There has been a lot of things happening at the Board level, mainly just calming things down and trying to focus on the things that are important to our future. There has been a significant drop in the number of emails both to and from the Board. And I do apologise for not sending out (as indicated in the previous newsletter) a newsletter after each Board meeting.

Recently it was agreed that there was so much work for the Board to do that one meeting per month was not going to achieve the changes we need. So we have agreed to holding meeting every two weeks.

Rider Registrations

There has been a mixture of responses to the Admin requirements from Centres to satisfy the Office of Sport. My understanding is that there are an additional four questions that have been asked, and support is being offered in the way of computers or answers being processes by State. Some centres have been very strong in their views about the request for information. This is something the board as a whole would be very keen to hear from ALL Centres.

RDAA – Nicole and I had the pleasure of attending the RDAA National Summit on the weekend of the 20th of September in Adelaide. We met many people, and it was interesting to hear from them about their experiences with the RDAA. One of the biggest issues arising from the visit was the identity of RDAA, is it a sporting organisation or a disability organisation. This is a fascinating question which also must be answered by RDA (NSW). As this newsletter goes to all our Centres, I am keen to get your feedback on this. We need to decide on this ASAP. Please feel free to contact me with your thoughts, I can assure you they will be heard. It is a big decision to make. Ask questions if you do not know enough about RDAA and whether we should or not rejoin.

We started a strategic planning session recently at Board level, (conducted by Tina), after receiving your feedback and we are working tirelessly on this project.

The two items above relate to each other. In some ways, we hear that we need to do more locally at Centre level, yet other feedback we get is that we need to do more as a State based organisation. Again, please let us know.



Board News

What's new?

State Dressage and Mounted Games

Congratulations to all concerned on these very successful and well run events

Ballina is now a fully accredited Centre again, and from the feedback I have received, things are going great again. Thanks to Bruce, Kelli and Sue for helping achieve this.

Tamworth Centre as you know has been successful with becoming incorporated. The next step is to apply to ACNC for registration as a charity. Thanks to Sue Wilson and the Tamworth Centre for acting as a pilot in this process and sharing with all Centres the steps they have taken and documentation along the way.

Information has been circulated by Sue to all Centres relating to the Pros and Cons of Incorporation.

Tall Timbers Centre – The Board met face to face and did a walk through of the house. The Board need to decide on what it is going to do with the house. Any ideas or suggestions from anyone would be welcomed

Good News

There is no longer a requirement for Centres to provide an AUDITED Financial Report

Board approval is no longer required for purchases under \$35,000

Rider Registration Fee for 2026 has been set at \$60 per year or \$35 per term for less than 10 years

Keep in touch with the Board

Visit our website for registration standards, codes, guidelines and FAQs

Comments on the Board newsletter are welcome and should be sent to newsletters@rdansw.org.au