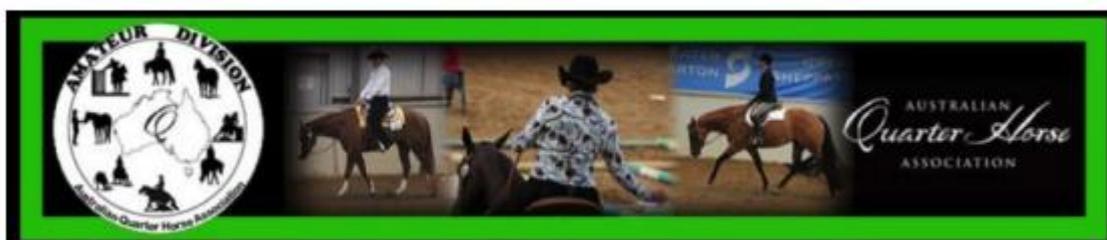


AQHA Amateur Division President Report 2020/2021



Hi Fellow Amateur Team Members

A year that has tested our resilience, fortitude and wellbeing and yet our Amateurs have banded together to look beyond their immediate needs/wants, assisting others that are less fortunate. Our Australian shield is held up by a kangaroo and emu, which were chosen to symbolise a nation moving forward, based on the fact that neither animal can move backwards easily. Amateurs are looking towards the future, only concerned with finding solutions and not dwelling on the problems.

I would like to thank our hard-working Committee: Carol Elliott (Vic), Yasmin Lee-Steere (Vic), Carol Ahern (Vic), Jodi Jakubenko (QLD), Justine Jones (NSW), Krystee Muscat (QLD), Janet Mansley (Vic) and Lynda Cavello (Vic). Committee Members are volunteers (strapped for time and constantly in some form of 'lockdown'), but still manage to organize, assist and communicate with the Amateur Body where possible. On behalf of all Amateurs, thank you Committee for all your dedication and hard work.

A big thank you to our Directors and the AQHA Staff that are always willing to assist/support us at all times. Due to the COVID-19 virus, lockdowns, border closures, facial masks, social distancing and uncertainty have prevailed. Our horses have become a lifeline for mental health and ensured we maintained communication with friends and colleagues, this helped the world seem a better place. Many horses have benefited from the additional training and time spent with them.

The Amateur Division Committee has not been idle, just in limbo, due to our Government restrictions. The Amateur Division Survey will be distributed to every Amateur at a later date, thus allowing every Amateur in Australia to have input into our review of our 2008 Constitution and our rules of operation. Your suggestions will pave the way for our future initiatives and planning. The Survey Monkey ensures all members receive the information at the exact same time and Amateurs response are recorded in a timeframe. Only Members that allowed the AQHA to give out their email address will be sent the link. I suggest Amateur members in all States ensure the AQHA have permission to use their email address and check that your address is '**Correct**'.

The Committee are exploring the options of including the initiative by the AQHA, by offering to facilitate the use of technology and polling of members' votes electronically. Members will be eligible to facilitate electronic voting at and in advance of general meetings.

We are looking forward to the 2021/2022 season, catching up with friends, colleagues and future acquaintances at Shows, Clinics and Meetings. Finally, thank you to the Amateur Division Committee for their hard work and dedication.

Onwards and upwards!!

Cheers Leonie Gorski

2020/2021 Amateur Division President