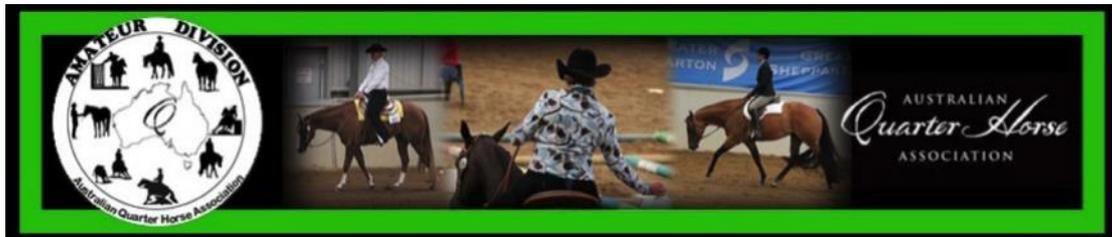


AQHA Amateur Division President Report 2019/2020



Hi Fellow Amateur Team Members

I would like to thank our hard-working Committee:

Carol Elliott (Vic), Yasmin Lee-Steere (Vic), Carol Ahern (TAS), Jodi Jakubenko (QLD) , Justine Jones (NSW) and Krystee Muscat (QLD).

Committee Members are volunteers (strapped for time), but still manage to organize, assist and communicate with the Amateur Body. On behalf of all Amateurs, thank you Committee for all your dedication and hard work.

Thank you Gemma Clarke, Directors and all the AQHA Staff that are always willing to assist us.

This year has tested the resilience and fortitude of all Amateurs throughout Australia and will be remembered as the year that the world was affected by the COVID-19 virus. Lockdowns, border closures, facial masks, social distancing and uncertainty prevailed. Many people felt isolated and alienated, so once again our horses helped the world seem a better place.

Congratulations everybody, we can now see the light at the end of the tunnel. Riders are returning to the Show Pen in some States and the weather is encouraging everyone to begin enjoying their horses once again.

The Amateur Division Committee has not been idle, just in limbo, due to our Government restrictions. The Amateur Division Survey was embraced by our members and all information has been sent to the AQHA, thus allowing every Amateur in Australia to have a direct communication with the AQHA Board of Directors. Your suggestions will pave the way for our future initiatives and planning. The Survey Monkey initiative ensures all members receive the information at the exact same time and Amateurs response are recorded in a timeline. 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 paving the way for Amateurs to benefit from the various initiatives that are being developed

So much has been achieved this year.

1. Amateurs are confidently using the 'Survey Monkey' communication system.
2. Running a successful Amateur Trail Clinics in Victoria.
3. Running Amateur Teams Challenges at the WA, SA, QLD, Tas and Vic State Shows.
4. Completing an Australian wide survey of all Amateurs to give feedback directly to the AQHA Board and assist the Amateur Division Committee plan our future events.
5. Comments from the Survey were sent to the AQHA, allowing every Amateur to give individual feedback to our association.

It is refreshing to receive positive comments from our Amateurs, as your Amateur Division Committee are working extremely hard to organize activities for all Amateurs. Remember all these positions are voluntary.

Looking forward to 2020, 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 2019/2020
 Amateur Division President