RIDING PONY STUD BOOK SOCIETY Ltd
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RPSBS LTD. DIRECTOR REPORT TO QLD STATE ANNUAL MEETING 2021

As in previous years this report commences with a message of thanks from the RPSBS Ltd. Board Directors to all state committee members and volunteers for their efforts on behalf of the members of our Society. State committees, through the events they organise, provide the reason for so many non-breeder competitors retaining their RPSBS memberships.

In my 2020 report, I commented that it had been one of the most challenging years for Australians and for our Riding Pony members. The most severe drought, the most severe bush fires and the most severe pandemic combined to pose enormous challenges for the Society and our members. This year we can add floods to the list.

COVID-19 has transformed our lives and adaptation and innovation is evident everywhere. Regular meetings and workshops are being held online. A RPSBS National Foal show and children's colouring competition were held online and the 2021 Annual General Meeting will again be conducted online due to the ongoing uncertainty of living in a COVID world.

As expected, the Society's income was heavily impacted by COVID-19. With no competitions, membership and registration incomes suffered. This year has demonstrated just how important it is to provide competitions for our members. Data shows very clearly that as shows recommenced memberships and registrations improved. Competitors will not retain their memberships with our Society if there are no events to attend and our Society cannot survive in it's present form without competitors as well as breeders.

With the loss of income, the Board made the decision to suspend membership rebate payments to the states. Show rebates are now only being paid to recompense smaller states for reasonable losses.

Tasmanian Director, Tania Hay has resigned after six years at the Tasmanian Chair. A new honorarium agreement was made with Debra Watson to continue in her dual role as Company Secretary and Treasurer for another year. The existing contract with the Arabian Horse Society to provide registrar and secretarial services to RPSBS Ltd. expired in October 2020. The negotiations for a new contract have resulted in the Arabian Horse Society continuing to provide registry services for the next three years with secretarial services now being provided through an honorarium agreement with Catherine Rae of Victoria. Catherine has been the Victorian Committee's state secretary for the past fourteen years.

Regrettably, the 2021 Leader Board competition was cancelled due to the pandemic. All being well, the Leaderboard Competition will recommence on January 1, 2022. A children's activity book competition is being held during May.

From January 1, 2022, the Newcomer Competition rules will be the same in all states. As from January 1 2022, the newcomer year will be from January 1 to December 31 and the

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registration fee will be set nationally.

On behalf of all RPSBS members, the Directors welcome the new state committee members and thank all retiring members for their efforts.

Mike Smith

Director