



With the big 3 drafts over for another year it would be timely to mention all the volunteers that help these events run. With record nominations coming in to just about every campdraft these days the strain put on all the helpers is enormous. Cattle donors must be mentioned once again for putting together suitable lines of cattle. Judges are also put under great pressure with large amounts of time spent concentrating to give all competitors a fair run.

At Chinchilla and Warwick this year everyone witnessed competitors having to wait till instructed by the judge to look through their cattle in the camp. Possibly with a little tweaking this maybe one of the better things to have happened towards reducing stress on the cattle in the camp. Ultimately it is up to the Judge in consultation with the committee and the cattle donor to decide how this is to be implemented.

A management committee meeting was held and was very well attended in Chinchilla. Some points of interest out of the meeting were that the ACA is introducing a Novice Rider Title to begin on April 1 2015. The title will be open to members who start the year as a Novice Rider e.g. not having won an open draft and not being eligible for the maiden title. Also in general business it was discussed about people properly enclosing there horses. All members are reminded that it your responsibility to make sure your electric fence is switched on and also that your stallion is correctly restrained. The ACA has been contacted by the DPI&F regarding some committees not meeting their NLIS requirements. Committees MUST adhere to the NLIS reporting guidelines for their state and these can be found in the ACA committee handbook which every secretary would have. The next management committee meeting is scheduled for the 14th and 15th of February in Roma. Also in Roma on the Friday the 13th will be an open members forum to discuss how competitors nominate for campdrafts, a sub committee has been set up and is working on this matter at present.

The new sponsorship framework that was adopted recently will come into effect at the first of April 2015. It is an exciting time with some new sponsors joining our very loyal current sponsors to help the ACA through this enormous growth period. There are still some spots available and interested persons should contact sponsors chairman Trader Wilson.

I promised one member that I would not mention the dry weather, so I will keep it brief by just saying I hope it bloody rains soon. On behalf of my family and the ACA I would like to wish everyone a Wet Merry Christmas and Happy and Safe New year.

Ian Atthow.

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