



Dear Members

I want to take this opportunity to explain the structure of the ACA Management Committee and its relevant subcommittees. There are several subcommittees (Rules, Judges, National Finals, Code of Conduct, Committee Liaison, IT, Awards, Starter Clinic/Youth camps, Sponsors and Finance & Admin), whose role is to provide advice and recommendations to both the executive and the entire ACA Management Committee on matters pertaining to their respective portfolios. Each committee has a chairman to organise the business and speak on behalf of the committee. This person also makes decisions on operational matters and rules interpretations.

This structure has been utilised by the ACA for several years. The size of the sport, its membership, administration and area that the ACA affiliates has meant that this is imperative unless we were to drastically increase the size of our staff and the authority they are allowed to operate with.

The members of the subcommittees as well as the chairmen are volunteers. They dedicate huge amounts of time in following up on enquiries, formulating options and securing consensus one way or another on issues. Their advice to myself and other members of the executive is not only welcome but vital to the ongoing daily management of the ACA. I implore members who have to interact with this process to respect the time and effort the members of these subcommittees put into their roles. At times either myself or a Vice President needs to become involved, and our decisions are guided by the information passed on to us. If the matters need further clarification the management committee is involved and the decision made by this body is final and without appeal.

We are aware that the area the ACA affiliates is large and diverse. For this reason the management committee members are broken into zones, which elect half their members each year. Differences between zones are taken into account when decisions are made, however ultimately the underlying principle that has made the ACA successful for decades is the fact that events operate to the same set of rules (both competition and affiliation requirements) no matter their size, location or composition. Events in the Northern Territory are run exactly the same as drafts in Queensland which are identical to events in South West WA and so on. The opportunity for zones to elect their delegates is now open. Please refer to later sections of this magazine or the website for further information pertaining to the election of the Management Committee.

Our office has been receiving program's for approval which contain events that fall outside the guidelines for affiliation. Whilst we wish to promote proactive committees, the ACA needs time to fully appraise new ideas and formats before they can be endorsed as point score events. Can committees please provide plenty of advance warning to either the office or a councillor so that the proposal can be properly considered. This may result in more favourable outcomes for all parties.

Congratulations to the winners of our zone awards for 2012-2013. The Ariat jackets for these champions and ribbons for the place getters will be presented at a draft near you in the near future. The preparations for the national finals at Kilkivan are back in full swing. Please refer to our website for more information regarding nominations and opening dates.



The extended dry as well as the political climate in several parts of Australia is having an extremely detrimental effect on the beef industry. For those who are under the pump, please know that the thoughts of all members are with you at this time. It seems that we seem to roll from flood straight to drought. For those who are still able to donate cattle to events, we salute you and thank you for the dedication and generosity this entails. A massive effort when everything is going well, let alone now when the deck is seemingly stacked against you.

Until next time

Sean Dillon
ACA President