

Presidents Report

Good afternoon,

Thank you for joining us for the AHAQ AGM 2020.

It has been a difficult year for so many people for so many reasons and the fact that we are still here, still getting on with business and promoting the Arabian horse is a credit to us all.

The 2020 year started as a fizzle with Corona virus despite the enthusiastic committee which saw the cancellation of our Autumn Classic and The Challenge, it also saw AHAQ membership wane to 12 financial members due to the uncertainty of the environment.

Moving on and navigating the waters to try and rebuild the association and its membership saw us be the first Arabian Group to negotiate the Winter Classic on August 1 and 2 2020. Additional classes were added for our yearlings which had missed out on their weanling debut opportunity.

The Winter Classic was a great success with colleagues, horse friends and family, finally able to be in one place together. The atmosphere was filled with fun, laughter and support for one another. In order to run the Winter Classic we introduced compulsory membership to manage numbers, members, provide additional safety for COVID precautions which were required in our safety plan to meet the AHSAs and insurers requirements.

This event through the support of competitors and sponsors saw the AHAQ provide a show in the green.

We slipped in an open AHAQ T-Shirt Hack day on October 11 2020. This was a low key fun day where we got to meet new horse-lovers from other breeds. Some of these competitors had Arabians that were not registered. They also got to see that the purported hot headed Arabian could turn it on in the halter ring and then come out under saddle as beautiful, competitive saddle horses.

Similarly our recent Spring Classic on November 22 was well supported with 68 horses entered and again well supported financially by generous sponsors. We were again in the green with this event.

Whilst the club ended the financial year in a negative position due to cancelled events and outgoings remaining constant. The latter half of 2020 has turned around with increased membership and successful events. The balance predicted in 2021 will be a different picture.

Bright Plans are at foot for 2021 with our Summer Classic, Winter Classic, Challenge and Spring Classic as well as planning for a young stock show, a youth fun day and our new Youth development program which will see Youth and NP ambassadors from Queensland head to NZ to compete at their National Show in a reciprocal arrangement.

There are other ideas on the burner which would see us develop our association not just as a show provider but move toward the strengthening, promoting, developing and nurturing the membership and the Arabian horse.

Finally to each and every one of you thank you for supporting the AHAQ - be you an onlooker, interested party, family, friend, supporter, sponsor, committee member, board member, trainer or competitor, without all of you our future directions would not be achievable.

The AHAQ wishes you a safe and happy Christmas and look forward to seeing everyone of you and more in 2021.