

HAMMERIN' STEEL

JULY, 2009 ISSUE

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2.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hi once again,

My apologies that there was no Presidents Report last month. I was off work, sick and my typist and report writer was away at a horse show. How dare she!!!

Well this month has had some interesting things go on. NSW had their State Championships in Tamworth, numbers were down in the Novice and Intermediate, but the Open guys held down the fort with their entries. Everything went well and the venue supplied was all things considered not too bad. High Points went to Open: Brad Hinze; Intermediate: Arnold Dobbe; and Novice: Tony Lavrencic.

One thing that can't go unmentioned is the farrier suppliers that keep on supporting the associations in the way of sponsorship. This is greatly appreciated and without them competitions for farriers just wouldn't happen. They absorb costs that small associations just don't have. So a huge thank you to them, who again and again, in each state step up and help.

The AFBA AGM is being held in Brisbane while the Brisbane Farriers Comp is on. Sorry for this inconvenience, but due to other states not being able to make the previous dates, this time was deemed the best.

Beaudesert Farriers comp has been run, Tim Heeb and Bardie were the overall team winners, a huge congratulations to them. It's nice to see a couple of young fellas doing so well in the competitions, I hope it encourages more of the young farriers to jump in and give it a go. It really helps with skills.

Toowoomba Farriers competition is shaping up to be a great comp with 30 nominations so far, looking forward to catching up with all the members up there on the 4th & 5th July.

If I miss you there, I will see you at the Ekka in August.

Bob Sim



VET SURVEY REMINDER: Please complete and send the Laminitis Survey that was in last months Hammerin' Steel. Vet student, Anja Schmidt requires and appreciates experienced farriers expertise. The survey is due on 30.th June, so please post them back in the envelope supplied ASAP.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the “Annual General Meeting” of the Australian Farriers’ & Blacksmiths’ Association Inc. will be held on Wednesday 12th August at the Ekka, in the Industrial Building, commencing at 6pm.

Please note that the following members may attend the Annual General Meeting with full voting rights (no proxies will be allowed). (1) Members of the Executive Committee, (2) two delegates from each Member Association, (3) Life members of the Association.

Other members are encouraged to attend and shall be entitled to speak, but shall not be entitled to propose or second any resolution or nomination or to vote thereon.

AGENDA

1. Opening of meeting by Chairman Bob Sim.
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of 2008 AGM
4. Treasurer’s Report
5. Business Arising from Treasurer’s Report
6. President’s Report
7. Election of Office Bearers
8. General Business”
 - Secretarial Honorarium
 - Affiliation Fees
 - National Pool of Shoes
 - Single Pool of Shoes
 - Judge’s Choice: Blueprint supplied in lieu of shoe
 - Newsletter/Competition Programmes online
 - Website
 - Any Other Business
 - State/Territory Reports

Secretary's Notice:

To all Members

Executive Committee Nomination forms are being sent again to Branch Secretaries as only two states returned the first copy. The forms will need to be returned by 31st July. Please make sure the person being nominated has consented to the nomination beforehand.

If possible, please attend meetings being held in your state. Too many farriers seem to think it is up to *The National Body* to make ‘things happen’. The National Body is actually made up of all AFBA members, represented by the Executive Committee—it is your association. If you don’t like how things are being run, the direction of the association or you have some good ideas, please step forward and have a say.

Brooke Graham, AFBA Secretary.

4.

NSW CHAMPTIONSHIPS

The Professional Farriers Association of NSW held their competition in Tamworth from the 4th - 7th June. It rained again this year, but unlike last year we had our own marquee, so we didn't have to move all our gear.

Dr Judith Mulholland from Victoria judged for us. We thank you very much Judith.

With 10 open competitors competition was fierce with everyone going flat out from the word go - causing some to burn their steel or aluminum and others trying to get everything to look great, then having to rush like mad to finish. Congratulations Brad Hinze on winning the Open High Point.

5 intermediates all doing great work, with Arnold Dobbe and John Oehm fighting it out for the top 2 places in most events. The others can look forward to next year as they both will most likely be in open next year. Congratulations Arnold on winning the Intermediate High Point.

The novice was good with Tony Lavrencic winning all 6 events and taking out the Novice High Point. Congratulations Tony on a great effort and hope to see you at more competitions. A lot of young talent was shown by other competitors, keep up the good work.

Thanks to Steve Riggs for demonstrating how to correctly do the trailer section of the hoof pick for the novice contestants. Also to Matt Smailes who got bored standing around and demonstrated making a roadster and a calk and wedge concave shoe, as well as donating prizes for the 3 forging classes.

A big thank you must go to Adam Morris for organizing the horses and coordinating with the National Cutting Horse Association, along with Desarae who worked hard trying to keep everything up to date with her computer playing up. Bob, Shannon and Chris were on hand with lighting fires and keeping things running. Also thank all competitors for their assistance during the 4 days.

Sponsors for the competition were: Clarke Horseshoes; J C Milton; O'Dwyers; NCHA; Horseshoe Express; Stockman Supplies; Matt Smailes and Illawarra Coke and Coal - who we would greatly like to thank, so if you can support these businesses please do so. Without them the costs would be excessive and the comps probably non-existent.

Thank you,
David Cookson.



RESULTS—NSW CHAMPIONSHIPS 4-7 June 2009

Open 1 Man Draught 1st: B. Hinze; 2nd: S. Riggs; 3rd: S. Norley; 4th: D. Cookson; =5th: J. Pagden & B. Sim; 7th: T. Heeb; =8th: M. Smailes & C. Rowlands; 10th: G. Battersby.
Open Speed Forging 1st: B. Hinze; 2nd: G. Battersby; 3rd: J. Pagden; =4th: M. Smailes & T. Heeb; 6th: S. Riggs; 7th: B. Sim; 8th: C. Rowlands; 9th: S. Norley; 10th: D. Cookson.
Open Forging 1st: B. Sim; 2nd: S. Riggs; 3rd: T. Heeb; 4th: C. Rowlands; 5th: M. Smailes; 6th: B. Hinze; =7th: J. Pagden & S. Norley; 9th: G. Battersby; 10th: D. Cookson.
Open Judges Choice 1st: B. Hinze; 2nd: S. Riggs; 3rd: M. Smailes; 4th: C. Rowlands; 5th: T. Heeb; 6th: B. Sim; 7th: D. Cookson; 8th: S. Norley; 9th: G. Battersby.
Open Shoeing 1st: S. Riggs; 2nd: B. Hinze; 3rd: T. Heeb; 4th: J. Pagden; 5th: B. Sim; 6th: M. Smailes; 7th: S. Norley; 8th: C. Rowlands; 9th: D. Cookson; 10th: G. Battersby.
Open Blacksmithing 1st: B. Sim; 2nd: B. Hinze; 3rd: J. Pagden; 4th: S. Riggs; 5th: C. Rowlands; 6th: T. Heeb; 7th: M. Smailes; 8th: D. Cookson; 9th: S. Norley; 10th: G. Battersby.

Intermediate 1 Man Draught 1st: A. Dobbe; 2nd: J. Oehms; 3rd: G. Bowd; 4th: W. Nugent; 5th: Bardie.
Intermediate Speed Forging 1st: J. Oehms; 2nd: A. Dobbe; 3rd: G. Bowd; 4th: W. Nugent; 5th: Bardie.
Intermediate Forging 1st: A. Dobbe; 2nd: J. Oehms; 3rd: W. Nugent; 4th: G. Bowd; 5th: Bardie.
Intermediate Judges Choice 1st: A. Dobbe; 2nd: J. Oehms; 3rd: G. Bowd; 4th: W. Nugent; 5th: Bardie.
Intermediate Shoeing 1st: J. Oehms; 2nd: A. Dobbe; 3rd: Bardie; 4th: G. Bowd; 5th: W. Nugent.
Intermediate Blacksmithing 1st: A. Dobbe; 2nd: W. Nugent; 3rd: G. Bowd; 4th: J. Oehms; 5th: Bardie.

Novice Speed Forging 1st: T. Lavrencic; 2nd: A. Morris; 3rd: M. Tullia; 4th: L. Snitzling; 5th: R. Wighton; 6th: M. Murphy.
Novice Forging 1st: T. Lavrencic; 2nd: M. Tullia; 3rd: L. Snitzling; 4th: R. Wighton; 5th: M. Murphy; 6th: A. Morris.
Novice Judges Choice 1st: T. Lavrencic; 2nd: A. Morris; 3rd: R. Wighton; 4th: L. Snitzling; 5th: M. Murphy; 6th: M. Tullia.
Novice Shoeing 1st: T. Lavrencic; 2nd: A. Morris; 3rd: M. Tullia; 4th: R. Wighton; 5th: L. Snitzling; 6th: M. Murphy.
Novice Factory Fitup 1st: T. Lavrencic; 2nd: M. Tullia; 3rd: M. Murphy; 4th: A. Morris; 5th: R. Wighton; 6th: L. Snitzling.
Novice Blacksmithing 1st: T. Lavrencic; 2nd: L. Snitzling; 3rd: R. Wighton; 4th: M. Tullia; =5th: A. Morris & M. Murphy.

High Point Winners

Open High Point – Brad Hinze

Intermediate High Point – Arnold Dobbe

Novice High Point – Tony Lavrencic

6.

QUEENSLAND NEWS

Plans are going smoothly for the coming competitions, with Caboolture and the new competition at Beaudesert over by the time this goes to print, and the new competition at Toowoomba due to be held in the first weekend of July, hopefully there will be results in the next newsletter. In 2010 it is hoped that the World Cup Competition for Heavy Horses will be held at Gatton and it is hoped that most States will be able to participate. Another clinic on "Forging for the Ekka" is planned for 19th July so those who want to participate, get in early as places are limited to 8. Also the AFBA Annual General Meeting will be held this year at the RNA on the 12th August so any member who would like to attend is most welcome. As this meeting is usually held down South it is a good opportunity to go along and see how things are run, though only the Executive Reps and nominated State Delegates are able to vote.

Nationals Presentation Dinner: There will be a Presentation Dinner at the Showgrounds on the Friday night after the competition in the RNA Dining Hall starting at 6.30 pm. The cost will be approx \$37.00 a head. Those wishing to go to the Dinner are asked to advise AFBAQld Secretary Tricia Court on 07 5426 8276 or by email at trishcourt@bigpond.com

Reg Pascoe Award: Members are advised that nominations for this award closed on 30th June, but if you have a late nomination ring the Secretary on 07 5426 8276 as soon as possible.

AFBA Qld A.G.M.: The Annual General Meeting will be held on 7th September, 2009 commencing at 7.30 pm. All members are welcome to attend.

IMPORTANT – Changes to Nationals Programme

Class 7 – Open Forging: Nails for Onion Heeled Shoe – E4 Slim. Nails for Aluminium Straight Bar shoe – E5 Slim

Class 9 – Novice Shoeing: instead of E5 nails, it will be "nails to suit".

Class 10 – Intermediate Forging: nails to be changed from E5 to E6 for both shoes.

“FORGING FOR THE EKKA” CLINIC. The next clinic will be held on Sunday 19th July at Doomben Racecourse. The cost will be \$110.00 plus GST. The clinic is limited to 8 people so if you wish to attend nominate early, as the first 8 will be the only ones accepted. To reserve your place contact Tom Affleck on 0427 934 420.

Caboolture Competition

Thanks to judge Russell Roberts for a job well done at Caboolture Comp. Entries were low this year but those that were there had a good competition. Thanks to Ross Chicken for all the organizing he has to do for this competition. Results are as follows:

Two Man Draught: 1st Delwyn Richardson & Steve Crosbie, 2nd Tom Affleck & Ross Chicken, 3rd Wade Graham and Andy McDonald

Blacksmithing: 1st: Wade Graham, 2nd Delwyn Richardson, =3rd Luke Riding & Tom

HOSS – Horse Owners Signal System

The Queensland Horse Council has recently launched me, HOSS! Horse Owners Signal System.

I am an emergency contact database for Queensland so if there is an emergency situation in the area where your horses live, be it fire, flood or disease outbreak, you can be notified very quickly and kept regularly updated.

This fantastic service is being offered for FREE by the QHC.

The website is www.qldhorsecouncil.com. I am on the front page, just click on my handsome image and you will be directed to the simple registration form. It literally takes seconds to complete.

While you're at the QHC website, check out the other information available in downloadable and printable fact sheets on a vast range of topics from a comprehensive list of notifiable and infectious diseases (including EI and Hendra Virus), movement protocols (including downloadable waybill), biosecurity, risk management plans, road safety, public trails maps and our emergency response plan.

Finally, please don't keep me to yourself, feel free to pass the word on to your horsey friends and family too.

Calendar of Events

- 6 July, 2009 **General Meeting**, Brookfield Hall, Brookfield Road, Brookfield, commencing at 7.30 pm.
- 15 July, 2009 **Skills Clinic**. Contact Terry Drennan on 0418 209 409 to advise if you are unable to attend. Casual attendees contact Terry to advise of attendance and Tricia regarding payment. Please note: There is no Skills Clinic held in the month of August.
- 4-5 July, 2009 **Competition at Toowoomba**. Judge: Terry Drennan. Enquiries: Wayne Nugent 0419 652 145 or Jeff Pagden 0418 266 465.
- 19 July, 2009 **“Forging for the Ekka” Clinic** at Doomben. Contact Tom Affleck – 0427 934 420
- 24-25 July, 2009 **Shoeing for Performance Seminar**, Twin Waters Resort & Kilcoy Racecourse. Register on line at www.eva.org.au or contact EVA on 02 9431 5080
- 3 August, 2009 **General Meeting**, Brookfield Hall, Brookfield Road, Brookfield, commencing at 7.30 pm.
- 3 August, 2009 **General Meeting**, Brookfield Hall, Brookfield Road, Brookfield, commencing at 7.30 pm.
- 12-14 August, 2009 **National Championships – Brisbane RNA**. Judge: Kim Hughes, N.Z. Enquiries: Tom Affleck 0427 934 420. **Entries close 29th May at 4.30 pm – no late entries accepted.**
- 7 September, 2009 **Annual General Meeting**, Brookfield Hall, Brookfield Road, Brookfield commencing at 7.30 pm. All members welcome.



8.

**FARRIER PROFILE: KIM HUGHES – JUDGE OF 2009 NATIONALS
SPONSORED BY MUSTAD/O'DWYER**

Kim has served a 3 ½ year Farrier apprenticeship with Malcolm Telfar in Matamata and then travelled to England to further his knowledge and experience where he worked for the highly respected Stern family. Brothers Trevor and Paul Stern were top shoeing competitors at the time and became examiners with their father the late Edgar Stern for the English Farrier Diploma – The Diploma of the Worshipful Company of Farriers.

For the next two years Kim worked in England, France and Denmark.

Being a keen competitor himself Kim took the opportunity to compete whilst he was in Europe and entered the first European Competition in Bern Switzerland where he finished 24th out of 48 competitors. Back in England he competed in a total of 5 competitions and was placed in the top five competitors of each class and on one occasion placed first and third.

In 1987 Kim returned to New Zealand via the United States spending time with Mr Rusty Brown. Upon his return he continued his winning streak by winning 4 out of 5 classes in his first competition on home soil.

Kim was only home a short while when he secured his first of three terms in Singapore working with racehorses, polo ponies and sport horses and spent a total of 10 years there. However, on a short term back in New Zealand in 1991 Kim did not waste any time and got straight back into competing and his achievements included, 1991 1st in the NZ National Open Shoeing the same year he was placed 2nd in the Australian National High Points – 2nd to Colin Smith.

1992 saw Kim return to Singapore and he was unable to compete again until his next return to New Zealand in 1998. Once again he was back into winning form winning the NZ National Open Shoeing title, New Zealand High Point.

Since then and until recently Kim has competed many times both in New Zealand and Australia his achievements include winning the NZ National Draught Horse Shoeing 3 times and having had wins and placings in each competition he has attended.

In 2001 Kim became the National Tutor and Assessor for the NZ Apprenticeship scheme run by the NZ Farriers Association.



CABOOLTURE COMPETITION

As a racing farrier, the Queen's Birthday long weekend always meant one thing, the Stradbroke Handicap, but now as a competitive farrier it means the Caboolture Show. The relaxed atmosphere is what makes this competition unique. It gives competitors a chance to team up with others who are more experienced and would normally be in a team with someone else. If anyone wants to ease into competitions then this is your outlet.

With 8 competitors it was decided to make teams of 2 instead of 3. This makes people more involved I think as one usually stands around a bit in a 3 man team. It was great to see Ross Chicken have a run in a competition. A self-confessed non-competitor, Ross quickly stepped up to the plate to make sure we had an even number of competitors thus ensuring everyone got to compete in a team. It was bit unfortunate that the Tamworth competition clashed with this one. It was unavoidable I know as both shoeing competitions are linked to other events, namely the Cutting Horse Futurity and the Show. This spread the number of competitors a bit thin which was disappointing for both.

The crowd seemed to be a bit smaller this year, (I think the thunderstorm we had in the morning may have kept a few people away). Even so you still see people's faces light up at the sight of Clydesdales. I fielded several requests from parents if their children could give the horses a pat.

The judge for this year was Russell Roberts. In his first role as an adjudicator you would have expected some real nerves on his part, but Russell has passion for shoeing these heavier horses and this was shown in the depth of his feedback to us after he had judged our respective jobs. He did tell me that he was pleased that there were only two teams at a time for him to judge but I feel that he has underestimated his own ability here as each item was judged quickly and concisely and he had ample time to judge more had there been more teams. As a competitor I was lucky enough to be teamed up with Delwyn Richardson. What a great learning experience, Delwyn is calm throughout events and quick to give you a pointer along the way when it is your turn to make a shoe or dress a foot. I think the greatest thing I found was I learned from someone how to compete. It is not enough to just grab steel and start bashing it around, you need to make sure your time management skills are honed or you just plain run out of time.

Finally I need to point out the most impressive performance of the competition and he never even picked up a hammer. I seem to have a sense of noticing things that many other don't and this one was right under all our noses. I speak of young William Pitstock. This young fellow who would only be 12 or 13 spent the whole day there with his father's horses, holding them during the events and staying with them during the breaks between events and during lunch. He truly must love these animals more than anything in the world. It made me think of why we become farriers in the first place. I know we would all say that we love horses, but do we still? Ask yourself when was the last time you really gave a horse a pat. I don't mean a rub on the head but truly showed some affection to an animal which is the whole reason we get up in the morning and go to work. Till next time.

Steve Crosbie



10.



TOOWOOMBA COMPETITION—Steel sizes

Tom Affleck Farrier Service—Intermediate shoeing—Specimen shoe: 20mm x 10mm.

J C Milton—Intermediate Forging— Front shoe: 20mm x 10mm; Front Straight-bar shoe: 20mm x 10mm.

Masters Farriers Association— Open Shoeing— Specimen Shoe Front wedge Aluminium: 25mm x 10mm.

Canning Downs— Open Forging— Hind Onion Heels shoe: 25mm x 8mm, Front straight-bar shoe: 20mm x 10mm.

HIGHFIELDS TRAVEL CENTRE MOTEL

The Highfields Travel Centre Motel has kindly agreed to reduce their room rate for anyone wishing to stay there during the Toowoomba Farriers & Blacksmiths Competition. When booking a room please advise that they are with the Competition and the room will be discounted by \$40.

Highfields Travel Centre Motel

10552 New England H'wy

Highfields Qld 4352

Ph: 07 46996 996

Fax: 07 46996 997



WA NEWS

Letter to WA Division

Due to a lack of events there was no meeting in June. This made me think about our division and I believe we are becoming a bit stagnant and complacent. We had a wonderful golf day with 16 members and friends showing up and really enjoying ourselves. However it is of concern that we senior representatives are not fulfilling our duty to guide the younger lads and provide opportunity to them as we had provided by farriers of experience and influence previously.

While I may have at times sounded like a critic of competitions I would rather have that style of education than none at all because mixing with other farriers is your best form of learning. I feel that a lot of the stronger competitors have more to offer the industry and should be sharing skills.

Our drive from the 80's and 90's when we gained from the influence of many overseas farriers and veterinarians has waned to a point of extinction.

I believe it is time to spend more energy with the new-comers to the industry and look at all aspects of farriery. July is upon us and we have not had one training day...so our challenge is to have at least one get together a month at a forge and share skills. This must happen if our industry is to go forward.

It disappoints me that there appears to be no connection with the National body and I wonder what their role is in this regard.

Tuesday July 14th is our next meeting. Come along and help plan a calendar of events.

Cheers

Drew Brierty

PS. Just my opinion and would love to hear yours!

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E5 SL x 250p	\$14.00 (Inc GST)	Combo5 x 1250p	\$70 (Inc GST)

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ARTICLE FROM THE PAST: MAY 2000 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This article was first printed in the May 2000 Edition of Hammerin' Steel, when Andy Donaldson was the president of the AFBA. It has been resubmitted for printing as many of the points are still relevant today.

- It's time to group together – we need all Australian farriers under one “Farriers Advisory Council of Australia”.
- All AFBA and MFA State Associations should affiliate and provide one representative each to this National Council.
- Negotiations and information to governments would be directed through the Council for all farriery and blacksmithing matters.
- Individual Associations would maintain their autonomy and service their members as now, with additional communications between all affiliates.
- An agreed farrier Code of Conduct could be developed.
- A co-ordinated approach to Horse Industry Bodies and Government Departments would be possible.
- Farrier needs continuity of involved leadership to protect members interests.
- Any peak body in the Horse Industry needs direction and information from our section of the equine industry.
- Qualification not registration is the preferred future for our tradesmen.
- Statutory bodies of government need a controlling influence from this Council on matters affecting our trade.
- An alternative source of research and development funds need to be organised across the total horse industry.
- The Council could approach all State Governments for an allocation of GST revenue to RIRDC for funding of equine disease control and research for the horse industry.
- The above personal thoughts are offered for discussion by all farriers and their associates.

Kind Regards, Andy Donaldson.



THE POSITIVE SIDE OF LIFE

- Living on Earth is expensive, but it does include a free trip around the sun every year.
- How long a minute is depends on what side of the bathroom door you're on.
- Birthdays are good for you; the more you have, the longer you live.
- Happiness comes through doors you didn't even know you left open.