**AFA Notification No.85 – July 2021**

The AFA Committee, at a special Committee Meeting on 12th July 2021, discussed a number of matters that the Committee now draws to all members attention.

**Rules Sub Committee Report – On Trial Rule 1.3.**

The Rules Sub Committee submitted three alternative wording options for amended Rule 1.3 designed to reflect Committee decision to clarify the circumstances when a two team Division can be approved for a Race meeting. The only reason for the need for a two team Division in future would be where the only alternative was to have a Division with more than a 4 second time gap. The Committee after discussion adopted version iii) as show below:

Replace 1.3 d) i. and ii. with:

1. single team divisions and combined divisions are not permitted.

ii. two team divisions are only permitted if the Regional Representative or Supervisory Judge agrees that the best alternative division split results in a division of three teams with a Division spread of more than four seconds.

The Committee agreed that this would become a On Trial Rule with date of effect being for events with a Close of Entries date on or after 1st August 2021. Members to be Notified of On Trial Rule change.

**Premiership Guidelines - Points Amendments.**

After discussion the Committee agreed that the following amended point score system would be adopted effective from the start of each of the new Premiership seasons. No change would apply to the current seasons. This effectively means that the new points system will commence in Victoria from 1st September 2021, in ACT from 1st May 2022 and in NSW, Qld and S.A. from 1st March 2022.

Effective from those dates replace existing points section with:

Premiership points are awarded to teams placing in each division of regular class at race meetings held during the relevant premiership season in each team’s home State or Territory as follows:

* for divisions with three or more teams:
  + four points for first placing in the division;
  + three points for second placing in the division;
  + two points for third placing in the division;
  + one point for each other placing in the division;
* for divisions with two teams:
  + two points for first placing in the division;
  + one point for second placing in the division.

Teams which do not place in a division, namely non-competitive teams and breakout teams, cannot be awarded premiership points.

If an interstate team places above a home State or Territory team the premiership points will not default to a lower placed team. For example, if an interstate team places second in a division, a home team finishing in third place will be awarded two points only.

**Judge Mentor Positions.**

The AFA recently called for expressions of interest by Level 1 Judges in becoming Judge Mentors to assist in the development and training of Judges. The Committee received six applications from existing Level 1 Judges. The Committee concluded that all applicants were experienced Judges who understood the role of Judge Mentor and were keen to assist in the development of other Judges. The Committee accordingly agreed to the appointment of all 6 for a two-year term commencing from 1st August 2021. The Committee thanks and congratulates Steve Pitt, Karen Shields, Robyn Addie, Josh Ellen, Tim Slade and Jo Slade on their appointments.

Brian Lindsay (AFA Secretary).