

Australian Stock Horse Society Board Elections 2020 - 2021

Director New South Wales Select exactly 2 of 4 candidates or choose abstain to vote for none of the candidates. Candidate Sara Grills Information Vicki Mascord Information David Ricketts Information Leslie Walsh Information Abstain

Sara Grills

Thank you for the nomination for a Director of the Australian Stock Horse Society. Below I have included a short snapshot of my relationship and involvement with the society over the years.

My family live in the South West Slopes area of NSW, near Holbrook and have been non-stop members of the Australian Stock Horse society since 1974.

Originally from Hay in the Riverina, and this is where my love of horses, and ultimately the Australian Stock Horse started. My mother started breeding horses in the 60's, and was the original member. We used horses for stock work and Pony Club, and upon leaving school, my passion for Polocrosse was born.

It was in my early years out in the Riverina playing Polocrosse that we met Dick Clarke, who was the manager at Gundaline Station at the time, and he had some wonderful ASH horses, and it was his knowledge and the breeding of his horses that started the pathway of Berragoon.

Gerald O'Brien has been another big influence on our horses and breeding.

Our family's passion is Polocrosse, and although we have campdrafted and shown, Polocrosse is our chosen discipline and the direction our breeding has taken us.

Our children have played since they were 6, and have both represented Australia from Juniors through to the senior ranks, culminating in their victory in the 2019 World Cup, where as a family, we presented and prepared 24 horses for the World Cup, (12 which were ours) and another 10 for the Barastoc.

We have 3 to 6 stallions reside during the Breeding season, and take in outside mares for embryo transfer and AI. Currently we produce around 40 ASH foals of our own per season, from our well performed mares through ET.

I have been involved in running large scale Polocrosse events such as the 2004 and 2016 Polocrosse Nationals with our local club, Albury-Holbrook. I have been co event coordinator of the Junior Classic for 12 years, which sees in excess of 200 children under 16 years of age take part in 3 days of coaching and then 3 days of competition. This has seen the development of young players within our sport rapidly increase, and it is a passion of mine to see the youth develop as players and more importantly people.

We have exported horses to New Zealand and England, as well as semen to the United States, Canada and the UK.

We have been lucky enough through our sport and our horses to travel to the US, NZ, Canada and South Africa, where we have made connections with many like-minded breeders and players.

I believe that the Society's profile, the authenticity of the breed, which has been carefully and meticulously fine-tuned for decades, the promotion of our product (the horses), and providing members from a range of disciplines with opportunities and benefits as the key focus areas to keep the society as a whole moving in the right direction.

Thank you for taking the time to read my history and vision, and appreciate the opportunity to be considered for this position.

Kind Regards, Sara Grills

VICKI MASCORD

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SKILLS & EXPERIENCE

- Current Interim ASH Board Director by invitation, since September 2019
- An ASH competitor, judge & organiser with experience at Branch, Royal, State & National Level
- Business management experience with insight to the importance of future proofing, the understanding of customers, budgeting & reporting for long term success.
- Over 30 years in the Real Estate sector, I am a Senior Strata Manager for Residential, Commercial & Industrial complexes. I deliver day to day management of buildings including maintenance, repairs, financial budgets for each year within a strict compliance framework. I am responsible for the organising & chairing of over 200 meetings each year.

CURRENT ASHS INVOLVEMENT

- 2018 ASH Volunteer of the Year Award
- Current ASH Inspector & Accredited Judge
- ASH National Show Ringmaster & Committee member since 2015
- Over 35 years involvement with the County of Cumberland ASH Branch including roles as Secretary, Treasurer, Vice President & Branch Delegate.
- Over 10 years experience with the NSW State Management Council & NSW Youth Committee.

HORSE INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

- I began riding at an early age, showing at my first Sydney Royal at 9 years of age & have successfully shown Galloways, Hacks, Quarter Horses & Australian Stock Horses across several disciplines. I have been involved with & competed with the ASH since the 1980s
- Judged ASH, Western & Pony Breeds across Australia at Royal, State & National level
- Show Horse Council Royal/National Judge & have judged at Grand National Qualifiers
- Involved in Pony Club movement as a Participant, Senior Instructor & Committee Member.
- Experience managing a prominent Quarter Horse Stud for all training, showing, sale preparation & breeding program with 60 mares & standing 4 stallions in the late 1970s.

ABOUT ME

I was born in Penrith, and was fortunate to be raised with horses, with both parents having ridden and coming from pastoral backgrounds. Since then, I have shown many Stock Horses including our own and for the late Ken Brown. My daughter Jaci started showing Stock Horses at age 7 and we continue to enjoy the competition and comradeship of the ASH community. While I no longer compete or breed horses, I am passionate about the Australian Stock Horse and the Stud Book and understand the importance of preserving bloodlines that are significant to the breed.

Despite only having been on the ASH Board for 9 months or so, the experience has exposed me to a wide range of issues and processes important to the Society. I thank the Board for inviting me and appreciate this opportunity. I strongly believe we are on the right track for the future to ensure the Society remains viable and, in a position to give our members what they require. I believe transparency of the Board and maintaining regular communication ensures our Members are informed of changes across the industry, are paramount to ensuring the ongoing preservation and promotion of the Society well beyond our 50th Anniversary, next year.

Please contact me if you have any questions or would like to discuss any current topics.

David Ricketts

Dear Members,

My name is David Ricketts and I have accepted the nomination to stand for one of the two available positions of Board Director for NSW at the upcoming Australian Stock Horse Society elections.

The decision to stand is not one I have taken lightly; however, I see it as a commitment to our members to work together with the existing Board Members to represent the member's interests and oversee the Society's activities. Over the past 20 years I have operated my own business. I believe both my attributes and the competencies I have gained whilst operating the business would complement the role of a Board member. It has equipped me with strong interpersonal skills, the ability to adapt to changing environments and the capability of making sometimes difficult decisions with integrity - I have learnt whilst operating my business the importance of strong decision making; enabling the business to take the opportunities to evolve and remain competitive. My interest in horses started as a teenager, when my family moved to a small farm on the North Coast of NSW. I followed a similar route to many other young country people and pursued a career in the Northern Territory including appointments in various leadership roles. After which I worked at Glenrock Station NSW- home to many a great horseman! It was Glenrock that sparked my interest in further developing the training of my horses.

It was during this time I became a member of the Australian Stock Horse Society. Initially inspired after attending a Far North Coast (NSW) Branch Show. I was impressed by atmosphere with a genuinely friendly and encouraging group of people, passionate about their horses. I see this attitude persist today within the Society members. We have enjoyed competing on our ASH horses, meeting new people and going to new places.

I am a firm believer in 'putting back' into aspects of your life you enjoy, whether it is participating in a working bee or becoming more involved at a committee level. Within my own area at the grassroots level, I have been a President of local campdraft committee and the current President of the Far North Coast (NSW) ASH Branch as well as a delegate to the NSW State Management Committee. Working with volunteers offers great rewards - as you 'pool' together people from diverse backgrounds with a common interest. I enjoy functioning in a team environment, as an effective contributor; one who interacts with key stakeholders, most notably our members and our sponsors.

I am very conscious of the importance of remaining financially viable as organisation for the future.

A strong financial position offers the Society resilience and flexibility to adapt to changes and challenges. I see the challenges faced by the Australian Stock Horse Society akin to other Breed Societies; the alignment of the Society's Mission Statement.

Thus, Core Values with a strategic direction.

Paramount to me is remaining relevant to current and future members; by striking a balance of timely delivery of services and support to the members as well as remaining in a strong ongoing financial position into the future.; enabling the business to take the opportunities to evolve and remain competitive. I hope the NSW Australian Stock Horse Society Members seriously consider my

nomination, as it is a commitment to serve them into the future.

David Ricketts

Yours Sincerely,

Leslie Walsh

As a passionate and long-term ASH Society member (40+ years), breeder, Committee member & Volunteer, I am privileged to be presenting myself as a candidate to represent N.S.W. in the upcoming Board Elections.

Along with my wife Louise, and son Lucas, we run a small hobby farm "Werombi Pines Stud" 60 klms south of Sydney, where we breed and show ASH's and run a few sheep and cattle. I also am an owner/operator of a successful inter & intrastate container transport business.

On overview of my active volunteer involvement includes;

- Member and chairman of Moss Vale Branch, where we have conducted many successful Branch shows and two highly successful Youth Nationals in 2015 & 2018
- 20 years as member of N.S.W. State Management Committee; previous Chairman of State Management and most currently for 4 consecutive years.
- National Show Committee member since its inception approximately 5 years ago
- Instigator and organiser of the extremely well received A.S.H. "Members Night" at Sydney Royal Show, where I am proud and privileged to have been working with a very proactive committee to assist me with its success.

I strongly support the **A.S.H.S.'s Aim** "To preserve the heritage and identity of the Australian Stock Horse" and believe in protecting our heritage bloodlines and want to ensure that our Heritage horses are clearly defined and foremost in our Stud Book. To abide by our Society's "Aim" I believe the preservation of the Stud Book needs to be adapted into the Society's Constitution, which would require Member involvement and majority approval before any changes to the Stud Book can be made in future, rather than the onus falling on the Board.

Whilst preserving our heritage bloodlines is paramount, I also believe the introduction of new bloodlines into the new Base Register is needed to enable our breed to flourish; however, this action MUST be closely monitored to ensure any horses accepted are without any genetic or hereditary conditions or faults.

I also believe it is imperative for Members to be able to have input into any radical changes being implemented by the Board, but to do this they must also be protected by the Constitution, which currently is not in place.

Our Society offers a fantastic opportunity for the whole family involvement, where the Youth are encouraged to not only participate but are actively supported by training programs and events conducted by local Branches, State Management Committees and the Society. Our Youth are the future of our Society and we must not only continue this support, but to increase it! I believe our horses are the 'best' in the world for their versatility and adaptability to any equine discipline; we must showcase and capitalise on their capabilities to the equine world *much more actively from a marketing perspective.*

I believe I have the unbiased passion and approachability to be a 'voice' for the Members on the Board in an *open, honest* and *transparent* manner. As I am self-employed, I am in a position where I can devote the time required to effectively fulfil this critical role.

My mobile number is 0418 600053 and I would welcome the opportunity to be contacted by any members wishing to discuss both my and your views on the Society.

Please use your votes as members and have your say in your Society! Warmest regards

Les Walsh