



RIDE CALENDAR POLICY

Policy number	RCAL	Version	V3.2016
Drafted	Original 2008	Approved by SMC on	October 2016
Responsible person	SMC	Scheduled review date	2018

INTRODUCTION

The Victorian Endurance Riders Association (VERA) is committed to supporting the running of Endurance Rides in Victoria. It will do this by encouraging affiliated organisations to run endurance events.

PURPOSE

To provide the State Management Committee (SMC) of VERA with guidelines to assist in the preparation of a ride calendar that supports Ride Organisers, is balanced and provides VERA members with equal opportunity to participate.

The policy aims to support the SMC to approve affiliated endurance rides for Ride Organisers that will attract participants and maximise profitability.

This policy is applicable to all Endurance Events requesting affiliation with VERA Inc. including FEI events.

POLICY

The VERA Ride Calendar Policy for setting the annual ride calendar will support the following:

- Ride Organisers to apply for a ride date on the VERA calendar
- Balance of rides throughout the state
- Protection of major endurance ride events
- Established Ride Organisers to maintain consistent event dates
- Event applications will only be considered at the scheduled application rounds (except in exceptional circumstances).



RIDE CALENDAR PROCEDURES

Procedures number	RCAL	Version	V4-2016
Drafted by	2008	Approved by SMC on	February 2017
Responsible person	Ride Calendar Coord	Scheduled review date	2018

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Ride Calendar Coordinator is responsible for advising the SMC of the Ride Calendar Policy and Procedures.

VERA SMC members are responsible for implementing this policy to create the VERA ride calendar from ride applications.

- Priority to previous ride organisers who have used the date the year before.
- Consider Endurance Ride distances and interactions with other rides (interstate & FEI).
- Priority will be given to the running of the Victorian State Championship event

PROCEDURES

1. Applications will be considered in the order in which they are received (including FEI).
2. Endurance Events will be run 3rd weekly where possible within the designated endurance season. Preferably with January and December ride free.
3. The VERA Ride Calendar will ideally rotate around the state, supporting geographic equalization where possible.
4. There will only be one Endurance Event scheduled for each weekend.
5. Priority will be given to Ride Organisers with an established endurance ride event to maintain that event.
6. High profile premier Endurance Event such as Tom Quilty Gold Cup, VERA State Championship, Shazada, will be given high consideration on the ride calendar.
7. 160km events will not be held within 4 weeks of each other, with consideration where possible of interstate events in SA and NSW (see dual affiliation guidelines in Ride Application policy) and FEI events.
8. The VERA ride calendar will consider neighbouring state calendars (SA and NSW as per dual affiliation guidelines) to coordinate ride dates.
9. The VERA SMC will have the right to approve or refuse a ride application in the overall best interests of the VERA membership.
10. Ride Calendar applications can only be considered when made on the appropriate forms, submitted with the appropriate ride bond and submitted by the applicable dates (see Ride Application policy) to the Ride Calendar Coordinator

- A. The process for ride applications will be
 - a. Round 1 will be considered at the October VERA Inc. SMC meeting,
 - b. Round 2 will be considered at the December SMC meeting.
 - c. Any dates remaining available will be on offer for round 3 at the January SMC meeting.
- B. First time Ride Organisers will be restricted to one ride application in their first year and only to run endurance distances of 80km endurance ride, intermediate ride x 1 and introductory ride x 1.
- C. Ride Organisers will only be able to apply for one event in each application round.
- D. The SMC will consider the ride calendar presented by the Ride Calendar Coordinator
- E. A draft calendar for the following year will be approved at the October SMC meeting.
- F. Ride Organisers will be notified in writing of approval of their ride application and will receive a Ride Organisers Agreement for the running of a VERA Inc. affiliated event.

Dual Affiliation

VERA Inc. will consider dual affiliation requests from SA and NSW Endurance Events if the event is within 100km of the Victorian State border.

- SA and NSW Endurance Events requesting dual affiliation with VERA Inc. must contact the VERA Inc. SMC secretary by email or post.
- Requests for Dual Affiliation must be received at least 8 weeks prior to the event date
- Dual Affiliation requests must meet the calendar procedures as listed above.

VERA Inc. affiliated Endurance Events may apply to neighbouring states for dual affiliation according to that states dual affiliation process.

The Tom Quilty Gold Cup National Championship will be dual affiliated with VERA Inc. This decision made by the VERA Inc. membership in 2017 acknowledges the importance of this event and supports the participation of the VERA Inc. membership to compete at this event and be acknowledged by the state in the Annual Awards.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- VERA Inc. Ride Application Policy
- Application to conduct an endurance ride form
- Application for affiliation with VERA form
- Ride approval notification and RO agreement
- VERA Inc. State Championship Policy
- VERA Inc. Annual Awards Policy