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Dear member,

SUBJECT: Show Horse Council of Victoria Inc. Membership 2009-2010

The Show Horse Council of Australasia Inc (SHCA) has successfully negotiated a national insurance package that includes both 24/7 Personal Liability and 24/7 Personal Accident Insurance for all of its Active/Riding members. This is a new initiative by the SHCA and includes all Constituent Affiliates such as the Show Horse Council of Victoria Inc. (SHCV).

The blanket Policy coordinated through AON Risk Services has been tailored to meet the needs of the Show Horse Council of Australasia, our risk management procedures, and our rules and regulations, and is in addition to the public liability coverage already provided at all Show Horse Council official events. *Please note: AON is not an insurance company; it is the company through which our insurance was obtained.*

The SHCV has been required to increase its membership fees for the period 2009-2010 to incorporate the insurance premiums, at the same time ensuring we maintain the ability to cover our administration costs and general overheads. The SHCV derives its income from two avenues; one-off payments by the SHCA for the registration of horses, and through annual membership subscriptions. Our HOTY and Riding Clinics are designed not-for-profit, but to cover operating costs. Any surplus funds are securely invested with the Commonwealth Bank.

To keep costs for our members to a minimum we have chosen to eliminate the requirement to pay a \$10 joining fee for a new membership, and created a Junior Active Riding Membership (Under 17years). The SHCV is committed to providing further opportunities for its members and will be making a submission to the SHCA for an additional Grand National qualifying event to be held in Victoria in 2010.

We have attached a copy of the Members Insurance information as provided to us by AON, and I have provided a response to some questions you may ask:

“I already have 24/7 Personal Accident and Personal Liability insurance with another organisation. Am I required to pay it again?” - The insurance policy obtained by the SHCA is not an individual insurance policy but a blanket policy that covers all members nationally. Your contribution towards this policy is included in your Active Riding Membership fee.

“Do Junior Members pay the same fees as an Adult for Active Riding Membership?” – The SHC has negotiated a reduced fee for Active Riding Members who are under 17 years of age. The reduced fee does not impact upon the level of coverage provided. This is reflected in our membership structure.

“How do I know that I am covered by 24/7 Personal Accident Insurance?” – Your coverage commences from the time the SHCV is in receipt of your renewal (Active Riding Member) for the period 2009-2010. The SHCV is required to provide the SHC with a full membership list (together with payment), along with updates on a regular basis.

“What alternative is there to being an Acting Riding Member?” - The SHCV continues to offer the option of a Non-Rider/Non-Competitor Member. This membership does not include Personal Accident Insurance, though it does continue to provide the benefit of public liability cover at all Show Horse Council official events. This type of membership is designed for a member who does not ride a horse at any time, either for pleasure, exercise of training and does not compete as a rider or handler of a horse at any competition or event.

“Do I need to be an Active Riding Member to compete at the SHCV Horse of the Year?” – The SHCV HOTY is restricted to Victorian competitors/members only. If you intend to ride or handle the horse in any manner, then you will be required to be an Active Riding Member. . If you are the owner or lessee of a horse that is competing, but you do not handle or ride the horse, you have the option of being an Active Riding Member (greater benefits) or a Non-Rider/Non-Competitor member.

“What benefits do I get for being a member with the SHCV?” – The level of benefit will depend upon the category of membership you take you out. All financial members receive newsletters, SMS updates, membership cards, and the support of a voluntary committee who provide representation to the SHCA. We also provide an increasing number of Riding Clinics which are now branching out into regional areas (cheaper rate for members), along with our annual Horse of the Year (members only) that has gained a reputation for being competitor friendly and transparent. In addition, our Active Riding Members now have the benefit of 24/7 Personal Accident and Personal Liability Insurance, the ability to compete at any SHC show (other than State HOTY) and the SHC Grand National (if qualified). The Committee will continue to work hard at increasing benefits to its members.

If you have any questions regarding this issue, or other matters, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Committee. Please continue to check our website (www.shcv.com.au) for information regarding the 2009 SHCV Horse of the Year to be held at Werribee on 28 and 29 November 2009.

On behalf of the Show Horse Council of Victoria, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and we look forward to seeing you somewhere, sometime, soon.

Regards,

Tony Norris
PRESIDENT