

The Distance

September 2017



When South Islanders wake up to this on the morning of a ride they say 'Oh well, crack on' and all have a great day. Endurance riding, Nelson style

Editorial

Firstly, apologies for a couple of errors in the last Distance. One of those errors was listing the next Board meeting as October instead of September. Apologies also to Rebecca and Peter Birkett who actually completed 204km at Fauresmith. Brilliant effort and a fantastic achievement.

No matter how many times you read something through it seems you always miss something. The season has truly started in earnest and clubs have reported back on having great rides with lots of smiles. Behind the scenes lots has been happening as well. Forums are coming up to discuss rule changes prior to the SGM in November. Equidays is coming up in October – stop by and say hello at the ESNZ Endurance stand if you manage to get there.

Our sport belongs to our members. Be involved. If there is something you want discussed call and talk to someone who can bring it up where it matters. If you have something to say about the rules revision, come to a forum. If there is an event happening within reach and you're not riding why not ask if you can help. If you have a great venue, tell your club and make it happen. What makes our sport great is having great places to ride in great company – great weather helps as well. Roll on summer.

Daryl Owen



ESNZ Endurance Board 2017

September's Board meeting was timed to coincide with the ESNZ Annual General Assembly. The AGA began with a presentation from Eddie Kohlase on 'Building a winning culture'. He spoke of success being about attitude, and attitude goes back to values. Values lead to the culture of the organisation, which leads to success. He stressed the importance of the strategy for the organisation matching the vision and the importance of all of us asking ourselves 'am I living up to the values?'.

We also heard from Martin Burns about the work in the racing industry around horse welfare and the development of the Horse Ambulance Trust. Phillip Cornege spoke about the progress of the ESNZ constitutional review and Sarah Dalziell spoke about the development of the facilities in Tryon for WEG. Sarah also explained that the qualification criteria for High Performance are based on the NZ Olympic Committee's requirements of a top 8 finish.

The importance of Clean Sport was also strongly emphasised. It is the rider's responsibility to check that no banned or restricted products are used. Some ingredients are listed in such a way that they sound as if they might be allowed. ESNZ has a clean sport link which is worth working through. Make sure you check the ingredient list when giving supplements.

Vicki Glynn gave us some feedback on the FEI. One of the things she told us is that subsequent to successful testing – the age limit is likely to be removed for FEI officials. This is being called 'The New Zealand Initiative'. New Zealand is respected for having an opinion and sticking by it.

Jennifer Millar was returned as Patron of ESNZ,

Richard Sunderland was returned as President

Nick Pyke was returned as President

ESNZ Board members:

- Lynda Clark – Dressage
- Alison Higgins – Endurance
- Melissa da Souza – Eventing
- Malcolm McKee – Jumping
- Kathryn Roberts – Appointed
- Wallie Niederer - Appointed
- Phillip Cornege – Appointed
- Don Robertson – Co-opted

The Pilmer Plate this year was awarded to Merran Hain from jumping. Merran's accomplishments are enough to make most people feel inadequate. A very deserving recipient.

After the AGA there was a bit of mixing and mingling with others at the AGA (and possibly convincing one or two from other disciplines to come and try Endurance or CTR just quietly) the Board met for a few hours to get a head start on the meeting. The revised rules are now out for members to study before the upcoming forums (Saturday 28 October). There are a couple of different online systems for entries being looked at for affordability, reliability and usability (since we often don't have internet connections at our ride bases).

The planning for Nationals is well underway, and there was discussion on the importance of having a consistent approach to sponsorship and applications for grants. Sue Billigheimer will be the liaison for everyone on this for championship events.

There was discussion about levies on lead rein classes to make it more affordable for those participating.

A number of landowners (specifically Landcorp) now require high vis rider bibs. The Board is investigating options for securing these for use at Championship events or to be available for clubs.

The list of trophies is to be reviewed to rationalise where there are multiple trophies for one class, or classes with no trophy.

Officials' training also came up for discussion.

Upcoming rides

www.nzequestrian.org.nz/endurance/competition/ride-calendars

North Island 2017-2018

Upcoming this month:

Ruahine

Forum Taupo

In November:

Waikato TBC

Wairarapa Tinui Forestry

Waikato Thornton Beach

Wairarapa Matahiwi

25th SGM Palmerston North To vote on updated Discipline Rules 26th Board Meeting Palmerston North

December 02/03 Kohuratahi

South Island 2017-2018

Upcoming this month:

Nelson

Marlborough

In November:

Canterbury at Hororata

Mt Nimrod Macraes Flat

Marlborough CTR

25th SGM Palmerston North to vote on updated Discipline Rules, 26th Board Meeting Palmerston North

December 02/03 Marlborough Seaview End & CTR 80/40/20

Officials Panel – Kelly Haywood’s trip to Montana



In June this year I had an amazing opportunity to travel to Montana in the United States of America to be an Official at a 3* FEI event. The ride was based at the Stevens Ranch “Fort Howes”, which is a two hour drive South East of Montana’s largest city, Billings. Those of you who were at the 2017 National Championships might remember Jan Stevens as our foreign judge and Technical delegate.

The event was held over two days. On Saturday the 10th of June the 40km CEN, 80km FEI 1* and CEN, along with the 120km FEI 2* and CEN were held. The 60km CEN, 90km FEI 1* and CEN and 160km FEI 3* and CEN rides were held on Sunday the 11th. The event was run similar to how we run our larger rides, with a mixture of distances and experience levels. Over the weekend the number of entries was similar to those at our Championship events with 98 across all classes. 74 of the combinations completed their rides with an overall success rate of 75%.

While I was there I was very pleased to discover that Endurance in any country is still Endurance. After all that is the point of an FEI event. We should be able to travel anywhere in the world as riders, crew or officials and expect the rules to be the same.



The Americans are exceptionally friendly people. They love meeting new people and a surprisingly large number of them knew where New Zealand is. Quite a few of them had been here, and others knew Kiwis through other rides. Tony Parsons' name came up a surprisingly large amount of times. The best example I have though, is when I met a Vet from Washington State. Something about him looked so familiar. Yes he had been to NZ in the early 2000's, but it wasn't that. Yes he had met and worked with Tony Parsons, nope not that either. I had a closer look at him and realised what it was. He was wearing a Makahiwi Endurance polo shirt!

It is an indescribable feeling to go to half way around the world and meet a group of like-minded people who make you feel like you have known them all your life. The trip to Fort Howes has been of even greater benefit to me than I thought. I have made some fantastic new friends and contacts who I hope will accept future invitations to come to New Zealand themselves. I enjoyed working with a good mixture of people, of different ages, background and nationalities. We worked well as a team, resolving issues and preventing problems.

To enable National Federations to enhance the level of their officials, the FEI has developed an exchange programme. This provides funding to Officials who, like me, seek experience and opportunities that are not always available in their own countries. The FEI exchange programme is an excellent way to encourage the brilliant Officials that the world has to offer to travel to other countries. The Officials Training Panel, which I am a part of, intend to promote it further here in New Zealand and I hope that others will take up the amazing opportunity that FEI offers. Anyone who would like to know more about the programme or who would like to take the first steps to becoming an Official can contact either, Heidi Bulfin, Ron Guest or myself.

Kelly Haywood



Riders and officials from five different countries – Costa Rica, USA, Japan, New Zealand and South Africa

Rides around the country

Ruahine club

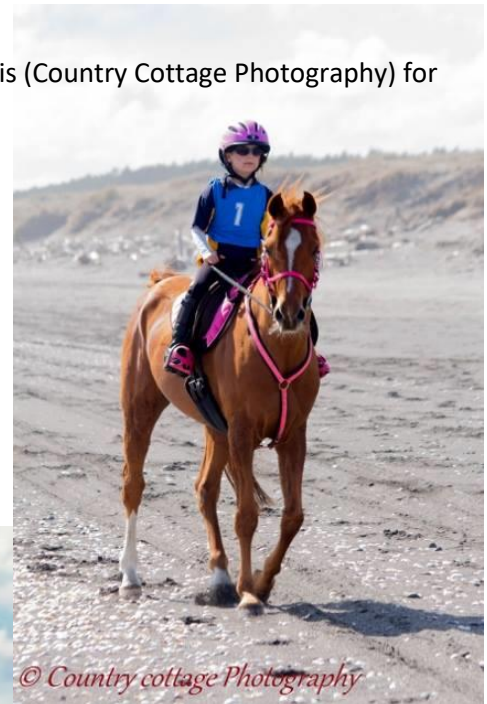
Scotts Ferry - What a difference a month makes! Ruahine held their second beach training ride on the 17th September and were blessed with blue skies and sunshine. There were 26 entries across a range of classes with one lame and one withdrawn pre-ride. All those who started completed.

Ross Hill and Rewa took out the honours in the Senior Open 40 km in 2:43:52 and were closely followed by Amanda McConachy (RNZ Phosphor), Sandy Warren (CR Zarita), Amanda Walton (Sharif Asma) and Jenny Champion (Tararua El Dente). Not sure how El Dente got her name but presumably she's not like pasta and "firm to the bite".

Jayden Loveridge "stole" the ride on his grandma's redhead to take out the Junior Open ride and led in the 40 km novice horses, all within 10 minutes of the 3-hour minimum ride time.

There were some old and new names with beginner and well-campaigned horses in the Intro 25 km ride. Sacha Boyle was perhaps the rider who had more horsepower than most (relative to rider size) on Tokopuhe Zircan. The Hyforce team had 4 horses in the Intro 10 km including Alshar Blue Levi who re-introduced Kara Ireland to endurance.

Thanks to those who made the ride happen and to Debbie Morris (Country Cottage Photography) for some great shots of the day.



Waikato club

Waiuku - Waikato club's second ride of the season saw a return to the consistent footing of the Waiuku forest. Eleven riders turned out for the 40km Intermediate endurance. The lead switched between Jenny Chandler on AC Tigger and Emma Tunstall on Windvale Faridah, with Jenny and Tigger crossing the line first six minutes ahead of Emma. Ruth Dawber and Miro Dusty Trails were next across with Sue Sue Drinnan and Charm II coming in for fourth. It was great to see novice horses and riders out, some having their first experience of endurance and some stepping up distances.

Gemma Acton stepped up the distance with Charlie Brown to do the 40km Intermediate CTR, taking first place in the class. Petra Paterson and Saamen Dance Away won the 25km Intermediate CTR, with Judy Warren and Smokin Joe taking first place in the Intermediate 15km CTR. In the novice 15km CTR it was Phoebe Donovan and Red who took first place, followed by Toni Tanner and Willow. Rachel Hills finished out the field, taking third place on Jackson.

There were a good number of entries in the 25km and 15km endurance Intro events with a very good completion rate for the weekend. This is an awesome track with great footing year round. A short section up over sand dunes, forest tracks and a section of beach give this track a great variety.

Pikowai – This venue has become a 'must-do' on many people's calendar's now, and thanks to very generous landowners this year it was a little earlier in the calendar than usual. Saturday afternoon had a good turnout of riders, with a largely novice contingent heading out in the 40km senior class. Rowan Redmond on Martika Fire and Jayden Loveridge, 'stealing' another horse for this event and riding Miro Bay Plenty rode the course well, taking first and second place respectively. There were four in the 24km event, all completing, and fifteen in the 16km. There were a number of people bringing out novice horses to start the season, and a number of people were doing their first endurance ride ever. Hopefully the smiles across the line mean we'll see them again.

Saturday also saw CTR riders taking to the field. Judy Warren and Smokin Joe took out first place in the 16km Novice, on a score of 122.0. Second was Christine Williams and Soloman (130.0) and third place went to Kirsten Benson on Primero Portia (131.0).

In the 24km Intermediate CTR Sarita-Jo Ryder took first place on Libra All Star with a score of 161, and stepping up the distance for the first time Leonie Templeton took first in the novice 24km CTR on Nice n Easy with a score of 146.

With the weather forecast threatening to close in for Sunday afternoon Sunday's 80km riders were entered as novice elevator and all took the option to retire at the end of the second loop as the forestry and final downhill descent became more slippery and treacherous. Ross Hill and Rewa came in narrowly ahead of Ruth Dawber and Miro Dusty Trails. Jayden Loveridge, back on Makahiwi Phoenix were right behind them and glad to be not heading back out into the rain.

In the 58km event Emma Tunstall and Windvale Faridah finished in fine form, taking first place. Allan Haigh on Vigar Najah won the 40km Intermediate and Petria Haigh on Lone Star Donatella took the Junior win, surviving the worsening footing. A number of riders took the opportunity to ride both days. Among them was Yamira Webber, completing CTR one day and 40km endurance the next. You will be missed when you head back to Denmark Yamira. Kirsten Benson also took the

opportunity of a second day, this time completing the 24km endurance. Rachel Hills and Judy Warren enjoyed the 16km track on Saturday they headed out to do it again on Sunday as well. They were there among the seven entries in the class, all completing successfully.

Thanks to all riders and workers, and especially to the landowners who let us disturb their routines right in the middle of lambing season. Thanks also to local motorbike dealer Tony Rees who loaned us a Honda side by side. This course marker really appreciated it.



Wairarapa

Claireville - The season kicked off for the Wairarapa Club at Claireville showgrounds, with a CTR event. This is usually a safe start to the season in uncertain weather conditions and when farms are busy with calving and lambing. Claireville gives access to good farm tracks, quiet road verges, and a centrally located, all weather ride base. The event was heavily promoted via the club Facebook page in the lead-up, and a new pre-entry system trialled, with great results; 33 riders came on the day despite a dismal weather forecast in the lead-up.

There was good turnout in all classes, despite sometimes very chilly conditions, with Frank Aldridge and Mystica Bandito taking the open 34km class, Lisa Southon and Tararua El Dente the intermediate 34km, and Tayla Morris on Delights Crystal King the junior. Shorter distances also had excellent representation with winners including Sue Smith and Taurere Dyani (on an exceptional score of 74), Grace Blyth riding Lynda Kessell's KD Miguel, Nicky Ryan and Maddy, Rebecca Kent and Buddy, and Jessica Poeira, also riding Lynda Kessell's Springdale Bonnie Blue.

A special 6km lead-rein class was put on for possibly the first time for the club, with very excited and determined littlies putting smiles on all faces. A couple of other new juniors opted to upgrade to the 10km novice class, deciding to forgo their usual dressage competitions to come distance riding instead. There were some slightly tired looking parents at the end, and we take our hats off to them! We hope this class will continue, and serve as another way to grow the sport in the Wairarapa at the junior level.

Prizegiving was well attended, particularly in the weather, and our thanks to our ground jury and crew, organisers, landowners and to all riders for supporting the day. Special thanks go to our sponsors for this event, Farmlands and Jane Ferguson, ensuring prizes for first in all eight classes, and some extra small treats to welcome our new juniors.



A trifecta of colour co-ordinated Tararua Arabians riders in the 34km classes



A happy pair in the novice 10km class



A focussed Jessica and Bonnie in the 6km lead-rein class

Pirinoa Station Endurance ride

Story: Jane Ferguson

Photos: Shantelle Geurtjens and Jane Ferguson

The Wairarapa Endurance and CTR Club held their first endurance ride for the season at Pirinoa Station in the scenic South Wairarapa on the 8th of October. 42 riders participated in distances ranging from 6km lead-rein, right up to 80km. This was an excellent turnout given the deteriorating forecast as the week went on, and we really appreciated the support from riders.

Pirinoa Station is a historic venue, with the club being hosted by Wendy for over 20 years now. The ride is a stunning one, traversing three properties made accessible by generous landowners, and covers terrain including gravel forestry roads, flat and rolling farmland, an airstrip, pockets of bush, and several river crossings. While there is a good amount of work in the track, particularly the 20km loop, it also offers numerous opportunities to really move along and enjoy a good gallop. However with the wet winter and substantial rain overnight, it was very soggy underfoot at times and riders had to ride carefully to the conditions.

The 80km class headed out at the civilised hour of 7am, with four determined riders taking on the track. A shoe pull and vet out saw two riders' day end early, and the open class was won by Deirdre Bartlett and CR Zaria, with a hard earned, worthy qualification by Georgia

Smith on her novice Glenmore A'Complish. At prizegiving, Shane likened the achievement to completing a 100 or 120km in the conditions, so this was no mean feat.



There was a good contingent of 17 riders in the 40km classes - 5 intermediates and 12 novices. There was little time to enjoy the gorgeous views for the intermediates, who had to work hard to make time. Jenny Champion on Tararua El Dente took the win in a 'gentleman's agreement' with Frank Aldridge and Mystica Bandito a close 2nd. Ten minutes back, and finishing at a canter with 59 seconds remaining for 3rd was Jane Ferguson and the seasoned Daagir (their CTR experience standing them in good stead in the race against the clock). Sadly Vicki and Scott Whitehead finished over time. 11 of 12 novice riders qualified with one retirement for a pulled shoe. A large contingent of Hyforce and Fleetfoot stable representatives made the trip south worthwhile with 8 from 8 completions.

The 25km class was also very well supported, with a number of locals coming along to enjoy the day. New club members Sarah and Paula Watson ate the track up, finishing comfortably ahead of the field, boding well for the rest of their season. Five members of the local HRH facebook group (Happy 'Rapa Hackers) had a great day out, though unfortunately finished a little over time.

A further six 15km riders all qualified and finished with smiles on their face. One committed young lead-reiner and her equally keen Mum headed out in the lead-rein class for a successful completion, despite young jockey and steed parting company briefly. Undeterred, she's already planning a return trip at Matahiwi next month, although possibly on a different pony!

The event could not have run without our wonderful volunteers who all pitched in to ensure the ride was a success. A series of raffles were run by Kelly Haywood thanks to generous sponsors, raising funds towards a much needed new club caravan. Our new pre-entry system is proving very successful, and Lucy Newton was the lucky winner of a bottle of wine and chocolates awarded to one randomly picked pre-entry.



Kohuratahi – This year Kohuratahi club found a new venue and added a shorter distance event to their previous calendar. The turnout for this ride was as expected for the first time at a new venue, but all were very enthusiastic and all completed their distances with loads of smiles. There was a lot of work in the course – the Open 40km rider completed the distance in 5 hours!! For three kids it was their first ever endurance ride as well. Great new country for Kohuratahi club.



Nelson

Rabbit Island - Nelsons first ride of the season had a very chilly start to it. The wintery weather meant that fresh snow-covered mountains made up the background for the beautiful beach ride held at Rabbit Island. A few keen riders and ponies even left snow covered paddocks while others battled road closures to make it from as far as Canterbury. The chilly start was made well worth it as Nelson put on a beautiful spring day. Rabbit Island is well known for its beautiful golden beaches and great forestry tracks which made for a very popular ride with a great turnout of riders for our small club with 11 riders taking on the 40k and a further 10 in the 20k. The well-marked track and picturesque venue with great footing accompanied by the gorgeous weather made for a fabulous day out.



Marlborough

Fareham Lane – Marlborough's September event began on Saturday with the 40km Novice and 25km Intro endurance. There were ten entries between the two classes, with all completing successfully. Sunday brought a full programme of CTR with a very good turnout. Heidi Bulfin and Stonelea Sparking Rose won the Open 40km CTR on 86 points, followed by Robyn Hill on Purdark, then Samantha Jarvis and FF Governor in third. Robyn was closest on time, but the final scores reflected heart rate scores.

Three headed out in the Intermediate 25km CTR. A course error however meant that Tessa Wells on Masada Park Maestro were the only ones to complete, taking first place. Another three headed out in the 25km Novice. This was won by Monique Eatherley on Tess. Kym Gough on Lucy took second place, with Anna Eatherley on Win Rock taking third. Again the final score was all about heart rates. The club offered two 5km classes, one lead rein and one first ridden. There were three in the lead rein class and five in first ridden, all completing successfully. Two 15km Novice events were run.

Caroline Tornqvist and Alamode Ablaze took out the earlier class with a score of 89. Sindy Kirkwood and Trademark SP finished in second place, with Carl Kirkwood and Mints Meat in third. Carol Jones and Jack the Lad took out the other 15km class, followed by Traci Ellis and Flirt in second and Lilly Stainton and Maisey in third.



Mt Nimrod

Mayfield - The weekend was a great success with 47 entries over the two days. The weather was kind although Sunday morning saw the fog roll in at about 8am which dampened everything.

Being the busy spring season it was difficult getting a vet for the weekend but a new vet, Thurza Andrew from Geraldine very kindly stepped up and did a brilliant job for someone new to the role. Just hope we haven't frightened her off as she will be an asset for the sport if she will come back. Thank you Thurza for two big days, hope you enjoyed it.

Saturday programme saw six riders start in the 40km Intermediate class. Craig Middleton on Sunny Brae Red Lace took first place followed closely by his wife Adena on Aurora Kool Kat in second and Susan Latta on Tkiwa in third. They were followed by Emma Burden on Rufina Rain fourth, Kathy Mouatt on Rocket II fifth and Vanessa Tiffen on Dundevale Last Chance in sixth. Thirteen Seniors and two Juniors started in the Novice division, all qualifying, and three in the Intro 20km with all qualifying.

The 20km Intermediate CTR class had seven starters with Jo Forrester on Quasim taking first place with 80 points closely followed by Penny Valk on Euralea Isabella with 82 points. Third place was Miranda Caird on Razz with 86. Shaun Prangley on Just A Dream II was the only Junior 20km CTR entry and he successfully qualified to take first place. Both starters in the 12km CTR Novice completed successfully as well.



"The West Coast Team" Anna Hynes on Mahakipawa Azeeza and Sue Rapley on Dublin Dancer

It was great to see everyone safely and successfully complete the 40km distance classes as there were some stressful moments with the support crews for the “Spring Women’s Multisport” event (600+ cars) turning up in the middle of our course which was all on public roads. When questioned about this on Monday morning the Ashburton District Council was unaware that this event was going to be on their area of jurisdiction so are investigating further.

Sunday started with two entries in the 84km Elevator event. Susan Latta on B/B Boy Named Sue and Chris Enstrom on Shaheen Al Saba. Fortunately the sun was shining when they started at 7am but the fog rolled in shortly after and took several hours to burn off. They both successfully qualified. The 40km open had one entry, Vanessa Tiffen on Stoneleigh Summer Fire, who finished with first place. The Marshall team of David, Trent and Steve Williams lined up in the novice 40km and all qualified.



Craig Middleton on Sunny Brae Red Lace and Adena Middleton on Aurora Kool Kat 1st and 2nd Intermediate 40km

Sunday CTR competitions had Jenna Underwood the only starter in the 40km Open and she finished with a score of 95, taking the win. The 20km Intermediate had four starters with Jo Forrester and Quasim taking first place, Penny Valk on Euralea Isabella in second, Miranda Caird on Razz in third and Paula Kerr on Badgers Honey Bar in fourth. Shaun Prangle and Just A Dream II was the only one in the 20km CTR Junior class making him the winner.

A big thank you to our property owners, Fraser McKenzie and

Danielle Green. Also to all the helpers who chipped in over the weekend especially with setting up the vet gate & cleaning up afterwards. It proved that many hands make light work!



Ride briefing at start of 40km Ride

Ride Brief at the start of the 40km

Equidays

Equidays is this coming weekend 13-15 October. We will be there so pop by the stand and say hello at site number P10 in the indoor pavilion.

October Distance

If you have anything to contribute to the Distance please send it in by Wednesday 26 October.

Similarly if you have anything you would like added to the agenda for the next Board meeting please send it to Jo Lankow with any supporting documents by 11th November.

Have a good month everyone.

Last but not least

**Kate only buys bay horses so
her husband doesn't notice when she
buys a new one.
Be smart.
Be like Kate**

