



2017 PLANNING FORUM

MINUTES

Wednesday 12th April
WELLINGTON





DRAFT MINUTES

Dressage NZ Planning Forum
held at the West Plaza Hotel 110 -116 Wakefield St, Wellington
9am – 4pm Wednesday 12th April 2017

Present:

Board

Lynda	Clark	Chair
Sara	Bright	Finance Officer
Gen	Denize	Rules Officer
Judy	Alderdice	Training & Development

In attendance:

Wendy	Hamerton	Dressage Sport Manager & Secretary
Celine	Filbee	Event Manager
Dana	Kirkpatrick	ESNZ General Manager

Committee Area Delegates (D),

Apology		Dressage Northland (D)
Robin	Potter	Dressage Waitemata (D) and nominated substitute for Northland
Betty	Brown	Dressage Akid-Manukau (D)
Debra	Cowen	Dressage Waikato (D)
Sue	Harris	Dressage Gisborne
Sally	Isaac	Dressage Bay of Plenty
Susan	Tomlin	Dressage Central Districts (D)
Dana	Haszard	Dressage Taranaki (D)
Bernice	Frost	Dressage Taihape (D)
Genevieve	Quin	Dressage Nth Hawkes Bay
Anna	Brown	Dressage Sth Hawkes Bay (substitute for Sharon Field)
Wendy	Jeffery	Dressage Wairarapa (D)
Rosanne	Rix	Dressage Wellington (D)
Liza	Herkt	Dressage Marlborough (D)
Wendy	Sowerby	Dressage Nelson (D)
Aubrey	McRae	Dressage Canterbury (D)
Nicola	Sim	Dressage Ashburton (D)
Marty	Pow	Dressage Sth Canterbury / North Otago (D)
Kate	Dodd	Dressage Otago(D)
Jenny	Affleck	Dressage Southland (D)
Jude	Nickolls	SI Riders Rep©
Alicia	Collin	NI Riders Rep©

Members

Christine Latch (Waitemata), Judy Collin(Auckland), Amanda Waddell (Ashburton),Karen Shields (Auckland), Jos Gresham (Central Districts) Michelle Zielazo (Canterbury), Helen Hughes-Keen (Chair of Selectors), Nick Chan

Apologies:

Nick Pyke (ESNZ Chair), Sue Hobson (Judges Officer) Judith Matthews (Dressage Northland), Sharon Field (Dressage SHB),Andrea Raves,

Moved: Susan Tomlin / **Seconded:** Aubrey McRae

1) Minutes of Dressage NZ Committee held 26th June 2016

That the Minutes of the Committee meeting held 26th June 2016 be a true and accurate record

Moved: Sally Isaac

Seconded: Aubrey McRae

CARRIED

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

Reports:

Resolved these be taken as read as per agenda and opened for discussion.

a. **Finance Report YTD 28 February.**

The Chair acknowledged the great work done by Sara Bright in the Finance role, noting the robust and detailed reporting. Considers that Dressage NZ is privileged to have this service.

Betty Brown queried if the increase in the TD levy is indicative of more events or more riders. S Bright responded that it is an increase in rider participation, and that horse registrations are on the increase. Noted also the provision of non- graded classes at TE and RE is a good introduction to the sport for riders and good financially for Dressage NZ. Sara expressed concern re implementation of a compulsory ESNZ training level membership but considers a start levy may be an alternative to improve ESNZ financial viability. LC explained ESNZ consultation procedure

b. **Judges Officer Report**

c. **NI Riders Meeting :** Rosanne Rix expressed disappointment that so few NI riders attended the Riders meeting and queried how it is possible to engage riders in this process

d. **SI Riders Meeting :** The Sport Manager congratulated SI riders on a very productive and well attended meeting which she was pleased to be able to attend

Strategic Planning session with Kevin Wilson

The Chair welcomed Kevin to the meeting

Notes from this session are attached separately

General Business

Succession Planning

Board Rules

The Chair advised the meeting that Gen Denize has tendered her resignation at the end of this administrative year before the completion of her term. She recognised the valuable input from Gen and accepted her resignation.

Board Marketing

Applications have been received for this role and an appointment to replace Kat MacMillan will be announced soon

Strategic Planning Session

Betty Brown (Auckland delegate) questioned the value of strategic session at expense of other sport business which was also important to delegates. Betty queried if Kevin Wilson had been paid to lead the session. The Chair advised he had not been paid.

Rosanne Rix (Wellington delegate) supported this view and suggested the strategic session would be better conducted by a smaller group

Karen Shields (Auckland) considered it could be advantageous to use expertise of more experienced committee members and present something to the wider committee
Genevieve Denize noted this meeting is a representative of the individual areas and has a responsibility to the areas they represent as well as the board

The Chair noted the responsibility the board has to consult and also “the danger of diving into valley where the view is not as good as from the mountain top”, and inhibiting creative thinking

Betty Brown responded she was concerned that the last few meetings had lost discussion time “playing games”

Delegates were instructed to ask their area groups if they felt two hours should be set aside for a strategic session for the whole group or if they preferred a smaller group to present a draft for consideration.

Remits:

The Rules Officer (G Denize) asked the meeting to consider allocating 5 minutes discussion to each remit and then come back after the lunch break for more discussion and voting on each remit. **The meeting agreed to this process**

The RO went on to note that a remit is an amendment or variation to rules. Remits are subject to a direct vote at conference. Any remit not getting a majority vote today goes no further.

Other matters submitted as remits to this meeting are topics for discussion eg - nationals venue discussion

For future meetings, an Agenda Item template in addition to Remit will be provided to areas

REMIT 1:

Re: Art 453: Use of Voice: From Dressage Northern Hawke's Bay
REMIT: Amend Art 453

That the voice be able to be used in ungraded and level 1 tests. Not at Regional's, Nationals or HOY.

Rationale: The voice is the kindest aid for the horse and therefore as encouragement in unusual and new environments.

Diverse views were expressed, some delegates strongly supporting, others considering need to keep the rule simple across all levels of competition.

Vote For 6. Vote Against 16. **FAILED**

REMIT 2:

RULE NUMBER 463 PARA 7 Rider Categories: Dressage Taranaki

REMIT:

That the criteria for establishing rider categories be based on the highest grade at which a rider has achieved 15 (fifteen) grading points

Rationale: A rider may have had minimal experience at the highest level at which they have competed and earned grading points.

REMIT 3:

REMIT: AMEND RULE NUMBER 463 para 7 Dressage Rider Categories

That the criteria for establishing rider categories be based on results achieved in the previous ten seasons.

Rationale: The current system suggests a degree of competency which may not be justified or fair to a rider who has not ridden at that level for ten years or more.

It was agreed in principle that no major changes be made until the new database is operational and it can be easily checked by riders and organisers alike which Category they are officially designated

Amateur (CAm) Need to clarify intent. Eg If Am should be more than one level above the level of competition or more than 2 levels above as the wording of the current rule seems contradictory

The Rules Officer agreed to tidy up the rule and present at conference

Question: From Central Districts delegate

Should riders be able to contest both an Open & Amateur National title ?

It was noted that this was an oversight in the 2017 schedule at L7, and in general terms: NO riders should not be able to contest both open and amateur titles

Discussion points:

- Should riders be able to apply for a dispensation to downgrade to a lower category ?
- Newcomers to the sport should not feel discouraged by more experienced riders coming back into sport.
- Current system “1pt” system does not encourage riders to move up during the season
- Rider category should be set for the season at a certain date eg 1 August each year
- Eventers returning to Dressage are not eligible for Amateur competitions depending on level they may have competed at in eventing – perhaps more than 2 decades ago. Is this fair ?
- Taranaki delegate considered that far fairer if rule was clearly MORE than 2 levels above eg Level 3 Amateur could have Level 5 points
- Auckland delegate considered that any rider with Level 5 points should not be deemed to be an Amateur
- Wairarapa delegate noted that areas are setting their own Amateur rules which are not always the same as at the nationals
- Dressage should do a survey and gather information to use evidence based data (N Chan)

REMIT 4:

REMIT: AMEND THE RULES RELATING TO PERMITTED BITS

Dressage NZ follows the recent changes made by the FEI and Equestrian Australia, which allow the use of low and medium ported Myler bit mouth pieces in conjunction with already approved cheek pieces.

RATIONALE: This would bring Dressage NZ in line with the FEI and Equestrian Australia. Low and Medium ported bits are softer and kinder on the horse by allowing the horse relief from constant pressure on the tongue.

The Rules Officer advised that her intent is to appoint an “Equipment Approval / technical sub-committee” and publish an Annexe to the rules in the same way Dressage Australia has. That the bits in question are approved in the DA annexe. Riders and distributors would then contact Dressage NZ and queries would be directed to this sub-committee. The RO considered we do not need to follow FEI, but adopt best practice for the sport in NZ.

tech sub cte - Dressage Board rep 3 people / Steward / tech expert / TOR in consultation with and approved by Board of Dressage NZ

It was agreed in principle that

That Dressage NZ seek approval from EA to adopt the EA Equipment Annex 2017 in respect to Bridles, Bits and Saddlery and
that Dressage NZ establish a Technical Sub-Committee of three members consisting of one Dressage NZ Board member, one Steward and one other person with technical expertise with Terms of Reference developed in consultation with and approved by the Board of Dressage NZ"

Auckland delegate requested a Redlined version of the rule book be made available for ease of identifying changes

REMIT 5:

From: Dressage Southland and Dressage Nelson

REMIT:

- 1. That an Upgrading Judge Co-ordinator be appointed onto the JSC whose sole responsibility is to manage the process for upgrading judges from a central database.**
- 2. That the National Dressage Champs and Dressage at HOY also be allowed to be used as shows for which judges can shadow judge at for their upgrading tasks from Levels 6 and above.**

It was agreed that this is a policy matter for discussion, not a remit

Part 1:

In agreement: Northland, Marlborough, Nelson, Southland, Otago, SI Rider Rep

Not in agreement: Wellington, Auckland, Waikato, Gisborne, Bay of Plenty, Taihape, Central Districts, Sth Hawke's Bay, Wairarapa, Canterbury, SCNO

Neutral: Taranaki, Waitemata, Ashburton, Northern Hawke's Bay

Southland delegate confirmed the purpose of the proposal was to ensure that every area has a list of judges wanting to upgrade for the season and that a co-ordinated approach to their requirements can be made.

Auckland delegate Betty Brown noted there is a view that takes too long to get on the list initially, and then it is too expensive and too difficult to meet upgrading requirements and that a discussion around the upgrading process to determine what could possibly be done to alleviate concerns should happen.

Part 2:

Waikato delegate Debra Cowen noted that limited shadow judging is already available at NCH

In agreement: Northern Hawke's Bay, Waikato, Gisborne, Canterbury, Ashburton, Northland, Marlborough, Nelson, Southland, Otago, SI Rider Rep

Neutral /Unclear: 8

It was agreed in principle that the upgrading system be re-evaluated by the JSC

REMIT 6:

From Dressage Nelson and Dressage Southland

REMIT:

That a sub-committee be responsible for forward planning of dates and venues for the major events Nationals / HOY / NI champs / SI champs / WDC Young Rider Champs, and create a working plan 3 years in advance.

It was agreed that forward planning on a three year cycle was desirable in order areas can book grounds, but that a sub-committee was not necessary to achieve this.

The Sport Manager referred to the three year Planning table of events in the 2016 agenda, noting it was not always easy to get areas to commit three years in advance.

It was agreed that key dates are made available as soon possible for the next three years

REMIT 7:

From Dressage Canterbury

REMIT:

That the venue of the National Dressage Championships, for 2018/2019 and onwards, is centralised at the National Equestrian Centre in Taupo.

The Sport Manager advised that the Chair, the Event Manager and herself had been shown through the NEC Taupo indoor arena under construction. Good progress is being made with an imported fiber/local sand surface being planned. There remained some questions as to the exact nature of some of the features that would be available in the arena short /medium term eg seating resources, full hospitality services, and therefore it was unclear what resources may need to be additionally hired. The SM distributed and presented a power point outlining the vision for and presentation of the Nationals as a CDI since 2010, and outlining some of the detail not yet available around the Taupo arena.

Canterbury delegate Aubrey McRae noted this submission was about supporting an ESNZ owned venue and also requested the submission be amended to

That when the National Dressage Championships are held in the NI, for 2018/2019 and onwards, is centralised at the National Equestrian Centre in Taupo.

It was agreed that riders preferred different venues for different reasons.

It was agreed that stakeholders and the membership be surveyed to get their views on the venue for NCH

REMIT 8:

Linda Warren-Davey

REMIT: That the planning meeting consider holding the North Island Championships as a CDI 1* or 2* with PSG Level as the international component.

Rationale:

The requirements to run either a CDI 1 and 2* compared to a CDI 3* show is less in some areas of the show

It was agreed that this was a discussion point, not a remit. Areas to discuss further, but the initial reaction was that costs and additional work load to the host area could be considerable and additional cost to the riders for little perceived benefit. To be discussed further at conference

Sport Manager Update

Discussion Deferred to Conference owing to lack of time

Helmet tagging

The Sport Manager advised further stocks of helmet tags will be available at conference

ESNZ General Manager Dana Kirkpatrick

Dana Kirkpatrick gave the meeting an overview of the proposed membership model and current status of national office, noting the necessity for ESNZ Central to increase income and be financially secure

The original discussion document can be found at:

<http://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/esnz/communications/news/2017/february/would-you-like-to-have-some-input-into-membership-fees/>

Discipline Service Fees: Will all be paying a service fee to ESNZ. Dressage share will be audit cost only. Other disciplines will need to pay for services eg photocopying

ESNZ Technical Committee: Will be meeting to discuss H & S, Social Media, Concussion

New website & database: Progress is being made and these will be operational asap.

Debra Cowen asked how these projects would be funded. DK responded this has been allowed for through a grant. Rosanne Rix asked if the ability for members to register and renew memberships on line would see a reduction in staffing levels at ESNZ. DK responded this was not yet determined. DK advised the new database would enable better monitoring of ESNZ financial status, and that ESNZ membership would be a requirement to access selected data on the website. Eg Horse profiles.

Future Annual Conference Venue, Format & Content:

Members were asked what they would like to achieve from conference, especially on the second day

Ideas included:

- panel discussion including judges, riders, coaches etc
 - looking at ways of using local expertise
 - secure interesting speakers specific to the sport
-

Performance Committee Update

Judy Alderdice (Chair of the Performance Committee) updated the meeting on the recent activity of the committee, noting the updated performance pathway is on the website and that squad selections will be announced at conference

Forum Completed at 4pm

DRESSAGE NZ STRATEGIC WORKSHOP GROUPS SUMMARY APRIL 2017

PURPOSE	VISION	VALUES	STRATEGIC PRIORITIES
Group 1			
To promote the development and participation of Dressage at ALL Levels	Growth in participation, achievement and enjoyment in Dressage throughout New Zealand	Inclusive Honesty Passion Transparency Excellence Service Sportsmanship	Financial Stability (effect of external influences) Participation increased Volunteer development (judges & officials) Rider responsibility (giving back to sport)
			Improved facilities Increased number of Participants at higher levels
			Increased number of participants at FEI level (teams, WEG, Olympics)
Group 2			
To provide a positive, inclusive environment that encourages participation and development across all aspects of Dressage	To be unified in the pursuit of enjoyment, growth and excellence in dressage	Development Respect Equine Welfare Sportsmanship Supportive Accessibility Goal orientated Enjoyment (Excellence in all we do)	Volunteer Appreciation Programme (V.A.P.'s) Succession Planning – Board, Area, Officials Financial sustainability
			Development of Young Riders
			Growth of Sport – Riders, Volunteers

PURPOSE	VISION	VALUES	STRATEGIC PRIORITIES
Group 3			
To promote, enable and grow the sport of Dressage for New Zealanders	Recognition of Dressage as an accessible sport in New Zealand	Direction Respect Engagement Social Sharing Achievement Goals Excellence	Maintain and increase participation across all levels of competition, in particular at entry level Improving communication across all channels Grow sponsorship through active management and service
			Increase sponsorship and recognition Promote and support breeders of Dressage Horses in NZ
			Competitive representation internationally International recognition and participation of NZ bred horses
Group 4			
	Enjoyable and accessible participation nationally and success at an International level	Honesty Opportunities Rider/Horse welfare Safety Excellence	Financial sustainability (ESNZ) Judges Team WEG 18 Strategic/Annual plans developed Reputation of DNZ/Horse welfare
			Succession planning board/Staff Support strategies of OC Not have any more time wasting strategic planning meetings
			Growth – participation, knowledge/skills, leadership Organisational/Financial stability/future proof Team to Olympics

PURPOSE	VISION	VALUES	STRATEGIC PRIORITIES
Group 5			
To provide an inspirational environment for participation in all aspects of Dressage	Podium finish at a World pinnacle event <i>To host the first Hobby Horse Championship Event</i>	Dedication Respect Excellence Success Sportsmanship Appreciation Growth Education	Continue to increase participation A team at WEG 2018 Continue to improve quality of training, breeding, officials Financial sustainability
			A team at Tokyo Team at WEG Delivery of top quality International events Develop Trans-Tasman competitions
			Medal/Podium finish – individual or team
Group 6			
To bring all Dressage riders together and support everyone to achieve their goals and aspirations	Transparency in governance		Increase participation and group membership
			Rider Training
			Bridge gap between judges and riders

PURPOSE	VISION	VALUES	STRATEGIC PRIORITIES
Group 7			
	To develop standards for Dressage nationally, internationally and encourage participation at all levels.	Respect Responsibility Appreciation	Establish broad participation criteria Establish means to encourage contribution from all participants
			A funded team at WEG To secure sustainable funding
			To ensure our sport has the respect and confidence of the public at large.
To promote, encourage and administrate the sport of Dressage in NZ	To grow the sport to become strong and progressive and encourage the younger generation and wider community to participate	Honesty Openness Responsibility Support Encouragement	Growth of DNZ community Strengthen administration of the sport Manage growth
			Growth of DNZ community Sustainability Improve and learn from mistakes
			Success Growth of sport as a whole International riders, stewards, judges