



**September-December 2019**



*Photo by John Archer - Trans Tasman ride at Waiouru*

# Editorial

My most common editorial in The Distance is on how fast time passes by and how quickly the season whizzes past. This season has been worse than most in that regard for me. My apologies for missing several deadlines. In my defence I was kept busy at the business end of the sport with organising rides for my club. I hope you've all been busy with rides in your own clubs as well. On the admin side of the sport its been pretty busy as well, with an awful lot of work and consultation in the lead up to the FEI General Assembly. With the General Assembly now behind us there will inevitably be a lot of discussion and decision making for all of us around how we progress from here. Make sure you're part of it. The sport belongs to our membership as a whole so its important that the whole membership get involved in the direction the sport takes here in New Zealand. In the meantime we have championship rides coming up and lots more riding for many of our members.



Enjoy and I'll see you out there.

Daryl Owen

## ESNZ Endurance Board

In September Board members went to Wellington for the ESNZ Annual General Assembly. This year the morning session was on Disciplinary processes and dealing with conflict. The take home message was that anything that happens on the day needs to be dealt with on the day, and everything goes back to the rule book.

The proposed rule changes came back from FEI. ESNZ and Board members read through them and feedback was requested from members to send off to the FEI General Assembly. The outcome of the AGA may not have been what we were all hoping for but Vicki Glynn worked hard on our behalf and says she will continue to push on our behalf.

Results processing has been an ongoing issue for some time and the Board has been looking at developing a universal results system for all clubs to use in an attempt to streamline this. This is a work in progress.

Its been a busy few months of overseeing the arrangements for the upcoming FEI rides, sponsorship, TransTasman and budgets.

Board member Sue Billigheimer has been dealing with life from a hospital bed. Most of you will have seen that Sue had a fall which has slowed her down for a little while. We wish Sue a speedy recovery, not least because the hand injury makes communication difficult in our computer driven world, but especially so that she can get back on her horse in time for the rest of the calendar.

# Upcoming Events

## North Island 2019-2020

### January

4/5 - Wairarapa – Daisybank

11/12

18/19 – North Island Champs

25/26

### February

1 / 2

8/9 - Wairarapa

15/16

22/23 - Kohuratahi

### March

29-01 - Wararapa – Tinui

7/8 - King Country

14/15- Wairarapa – Blackrock

21/22 - AWEC

## South Island 2019-2020

### January

4/5 - Marlborough

11/12 MacKenzie

18/19

25/26

### February

1 / 2 - South Island Champs

8/9

15/16

22/23 - Canterbury

### March

29-01

7/8

14/15 - Mackenzie

Marlborough

21/22

[www.nzequestrian.org.nz/disciplines/endurance-ctr/competition/ride-calendars](http://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/disciplines/endurance-ctr/competition/ride-calendars)

## Flyers

Flyers and entry forms are on the ESNZ website for Waitaki, Ruahine at Waiouru, Canterbury at Cust and North Island Champs.

<https://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/disciplines/endurance-ctr/competition/ride-schedules/>

And don't forget to get your team in for the CTR Teams competition if you haven't done it already.

## The season so far

### Ruahine Club at Scotts Ferry 28th September 2019

The final in the series of three beach/training rides was held under slightly blustery conditions but everyone enjoyed themselves. This time we had 100% completion which was pleasing for all involved. Later tides meant a slightly later start with the 40 km riders heading out at noon rather than 10 am. All riders were in by 3.10 pm so it wasn't too late a finish for the vets and officials either.

Amanda McConachy on Makahiwi Geneca led the field home, closely followed by Sandy Marshall on Jamila Two. Most combinations were in novice or intro classes and were just aiming for the qualification. Emma



and Ashlea Watson were back in the 25 km class and we've had a few newcomers turn up to ride that distance – it will be interesting to see if they are keen to travel a bit further afield for more competitions in the season.

There were only a couple of riders in the CTR class this time – they were well over time but came in together so it all came down to heart rates where Anna Graham on AH Sihra had the edge over Suzanne Dorne on Telly. Thanks to our well-travelled Ride Secretary Jo Lankow for coming down again and bringing eclairs from Ohakune and to Sylvia Ireland for being our TD. Jenny was ably

supported in the Vet Ring by students Nicole and Brooke (who was also our first aider for the day – that's a bonus).

The three beach rides weren't billed as a series competition but well done to Sandy Marshall and Jamila Two for qualifying 120 km in total as a combination whilst Makahiwi Phoenix & Westhills Pharrah also qualified 120 km but with two different riders. A number of other combinations made it to two out of the three rides.

Totalling up the results across all 3 events, there were 1,793 km qualified in endurance and 194 km qualified in CTR for a grand total of 1,987 km. Not a bad start to the season. The next ride for Ruahine to organise in the calendar is the Trans Tasman event with CEI and CEN classes to be held at Waiohuru over 30th November and 1st December. The planning is coming along nicely and there will be a wide range of endurance classes on offer over both days. We'll be holding potluck dinners on both the Friday and Saturday evenings so come along and socialise with NZ and Aussie competitors.



be

Photos from the last Scotts Ferry ride courtesy of Georgia Smith featuring Glenmore A'complish's ears, Murray riding Glenmore Tay'isha and Andrea on Glenmore Turbo.

Jenny Weston

**Waikato Club** – have had three rides so far. **Thornton Beach** was the venue for the September ride. The weather was ideal and there were plentiful smiles as riders enjoyed the stunning Eastern Bay of Plenty coastline and Thornton Beach Holiday Park. The first ride of the season is often largely a novice affair, and the 40km endurance this time had mostly novice entries, with Ruth Dawber and Miro Dusty Trails winning the Open section and Nadine Barker on Arahi Zinzan in second place. Well done to all 20km and 15km riders as well who all had a great day out. An unexpected challenge to the day was the fishing competition happening on the same beach. Fortunately this was an overnight competition, with the competition beginning after our riders were all done. Thanks to all our riders for sharing the beach politely. CTR was also well contested. Max Ringwood and La Sopresa de Soho took out the 40km Intermediate class, with Anita Gray and Pink Lady taking the 20km Intermediate. Monique Charteris and Kathy Roper fought it out



for the Novice 20km class, with Monique and Delights Radiant taking first place and Kathy taking second on High Bridge Dakota. Finding time away from work for an afternoon Petra Paterson and Taurere Watania took the 15km Intermediate CTR class. Heart rates told the story in the Novice 15km CTR, with Elizabeth Roberts and Rosewood Black Ribbons taking first place ahead of Karrie O'Neil on Scooby and Rachel Jessop on Lochinvar.

Then October saw a new ride being hosted by Murumuru Endurance at **Ruatiti**. A wet lead in to the event resulted in plentiful mud in the parking area, but the track dried out beautifully and the weather was again near ideal. There were a lot of 'firsts' at this ride, one of them being the first ride for Rosanna Kirchner who did the 40km Junior CTR on Makahiwi Titan, completing in fine style for the win. Anna Graham and AH Sihra won the 20km



Intermediate CTR and Ashlea Watson took the Junior 20km CTR win – her first ESNZ CTR ride and first hill I believe. In the Novice 20km CTR it was Antoinette Arnott and Firefly ahead on points to take the win over Stella Hansen on Dreammaker. Saturday's 40km endurance saw Daryl Owen and Miro crossing the line just ahead of Ola Schreurs on Makahiwi Cercie, with Mike Bragg not far behind on Miro Blaze of Glory. Notable firsts

on Saturday included vet Lauren Dombroski completing her first ride and also newcomer Steve Ashcroft completing his first ride as well.

Two days of riding were offered to allow people to qualify multiple horses, and Sunday saw Mike Bragg taking the 40km senior win on Miro Bonique. Emma Watson and Little Victory took the win in the Junior 40km followed Ana Whitehead in her first event on Arahi Zinzan. Another first for the weekend was Andrea Cassanet completing her first ride for the Murumuru team. Nadine Barker also enjoyed the 20km Intro class on the Sunday with Arahi Penny.

November saw a return to another stunning Eastern Bay of Plenty venue at Pikowai. As is often the case in endurance the weather is a large part of the story, and Saturday's riders had perfect conditions. The forecast promised rain for Sunday, and that's what was delivered. It wasn't cold however, and despite the wet conditions the track held up well and a great ride was enjoyed by all. The course this year was arguably the best course that has been offered at this venue, with generous landowners opening their gates to us and the instruction to 'go for your life'. The vast majority of gates were open and stock had been moved. Thanks so much to wonderful landowners. Again the club offered two days of riding to maximise the opportunities, with CTR rides also being offered on the Saturday. Anita Gray and Pink Lady were again the winners of the 25km Intermediate CTR. In the Novice 25km CTR it was Stella Hansen's turn to take the win over Antoinette Arnold, with Christine Williams and Solomon taking third place. Richard Egging and Laddy were the winners in the 15km Novice CTR, followed by Briar Mascheretti and Ataahua, and Louise Egging and Dream took third place. In the endurance field, again there were mostly novice entries and goals being achieved towards the rest of the season. Well done to Leonie Templeton who stepped up from 40km to complete the 60km event in a well managed ride. Ruth Dawber and Miro Dusty

Trails took the win in the 60km Open class, with Ola Schreurs on Makahiwi Cercie and Daryl Owen on Miro Lugh following in for second and third. Sunday was the day of the club's 80km ride this season with the field evenly split between novice and Open. Well done to Pip Mutch and Mauku Bella for the win, followed by Sian Reid and Glendaar Splash of Fire. Sue Reid on Kowhai Martini finished out the leading group to take third place. Mike Bragg and Miro Blaze of Glory completed the 60km in fine style as well to take the win. In Sunday's 40km event it was largely novice entries with Isla Mutch heading out as the lone junior to take the Junior win. Well done to all.

**Wairarapa club** have been very busy this season. Rides have been held at Matahiwi, Pirinoa, Daisybank,

Tinui and Matapiro. Pirinoa saw great riding weather and an awesome track, with no vet outs, and just one withdrawal on track with a lost shoe. Daisybank was just two weeks later at Labour weekend.



Daisybank was another great ride - blue skies, gorgeous day on Saturday, with a windy day on Sunday. No vet outs all weekend.



## Wairarapa

Matahiwi endurance and CTR: 16-17 November

Despite less than perfect weather conditions (!) the club enjoyed a successful weekend at Matahiwi, with huge thanks to our generous and hospitable landowners.



We had 46 riders, 14 in CTR (including six juniors which is promising for a good turn out at North Island champs in January), and 32 endurance competitors. It was awesome to see some new juniors out and we look forward to watching them progress in the sport.

Saturday was drier, but windier, whereas Sunday was very wet, pretty much most of the day. I'm still doing loads of washing and my gloves and chaps might never be the same!

The 30km intermediate was won by Sue Smith and Taurere Dyani, on the same score as Anna Graham on Aimee Merrick's AH Sihra (placings coming down to timing count-back). Junior 30km winner was Tayla Morris on Makahiwi Phoenix, and novice 30km was Graham Elphick and Chance. Brendan O'Neill was riding a stunning big bay gelding (Crossfire), who by arriving 29 minutes early looked keen and eager to ride 80km the next day 😊:D. Life goals Janette Rogers?

Five 40km endurance riders also headed out on Saturday, with Cherry Brown and Tararua Diablo winning the intermediate.

Sunday dawned kinda dry (briefly) before rain set in making for rather miserable riding conditions. x14 80km riders were entered, and Shane Dougan and his young Tararua Red shot clear of the field from the get go. Jane Ferguson and her upcoming Trans Tasman partner Daagir also headed out strongly and were eventually caught up by Trudi Thomas-Morton and Shirley Valentine in her mares first open; they paired up to ride together the rest of the day, finishing 1st (Trudi) and 2nd (Jane), 18 minutes clear of 3rd.

Ana Whitehead and the talented Barker horse Arahi Zinzan were 1st 80km junior, and the x7 novice 80km horses all did well with just one unfortunate vet out at the end (all three novice junior 80s getting through).

Maureen Davie and Makahiwi Phoenix and Vicky Whitehead and another kiwi horse Dundevale Nazecca rode together in the 60km class for 1st and 2nd, putting Maureen in a very strong position in the 40-79km intermediate series at this stage of the season.

Sunday was rounded out with x11 40km and 20km riders, who stuck it out in the conditions for 100% qualification apart from one withdrawal on track.

Lucy Allomes and Lily McLeod rode 30km CTR Saturday and backed it up again with 40km endurance on Sunday and were rewarded with completions - well done! Roseanna Kirchner had a very successful last (?) competition before returning to Germany riding 30km CTR on Saturday and then 80km novice on Sunday (on a different horse) meaning she returns home an open graded junior.

Unfavourable conditions on Sunday made for tricky strapping conditions - on the plus side it meant virtually no (additional) water was needed on horses!



Returning to the Hawkes Bay in December the club aimed to encourage and provide opportunity for riders in the area to come and experience the sport. Wonderful to see international riders also being able to add to the New Zealand experience.



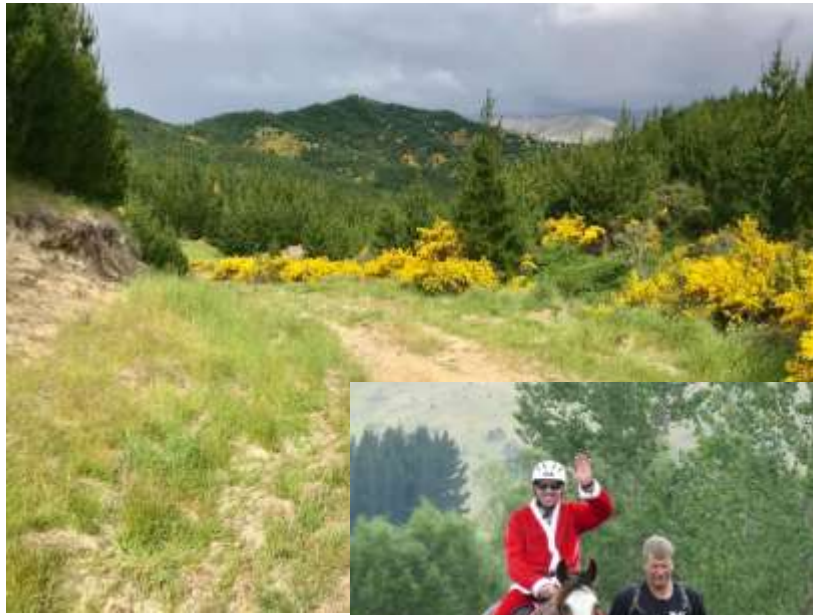


## Marlborough

Marlborough club have been busy with some great CTR rides at Musgrave Downs and Erina Downs, complete with Santa in a lead rein class.







## Canterbury

Cust again attracted great entries, who enjoyed an awesome track planned and marked by Helen and Phillip Graham. Great weather, great track, and a great social atmosphere. Southbridge also proved a popular venue. Keep up the good work Canterbury.







## **Mt Linton**

Welcome back Mt Linton club. The club is putting things in motion with an officials course to things started. Look out for rides on the calendar.



## Waitaki



**Waitaki club's** Palmerston ride was also well attended and was a great dress rehearsal for the National Endurance & CTR Championships to be held at the venue in April (Easter Weekend) 2020.

Sarah Hamer's photos provide a real incentive for those wondering about making the journey south to just do it and experience this wonderful part of the country.

Photos by Sarah Hamer





## \Spotlight on Sponsors

Huge thanks to Dunstan Horsefeeds who have come on board as a major sponsor for our sport this year.




IT IS WITH GREAT PLEASURE THAT ESNZ ENDURANCE WELCOMES THE TEAM AT DUNSTAN NUTRITION LTD. ON BOARD AS MAJOR SPONSORS FOR OUR PRESTIGIOUS FEI SERIES AND END OF YEAR AWARDS FOR THE 2019-2020 SEASON. DUNSTAN NUTRITION LTD IS AN EXCLUSIVE 100% NEW ZEALAND OWNED AND OPERATED COMPANY AND SUPPORTS THE NEW ZEALAND ARABLE SECTOR. THEY HAVE GREAT NUTRITIONAL ADVICE AND THEIR TERRITORY MANAGERS ARE HAPPY TO HELP YOU FORMULATE A DIET TO SUIT YOUR HORSES SPECIFIC NEEDS.

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Also coming back on board for the season is Syncroflex. Many of our members already rely on this product.

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**ESNZ ENDURANCE**

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WITH GREAT PLEASURE THAT ESNZ ENDURANCE WELCOMES LOUIS SCHLINDER AND **SYNCROFLEX** ON BOARD AS A MAJOR SPONSOR FOR OUR PRESTIGIOUS FEI SERIES AND END OF YEAR AWARDS FOR THE 2019-2020 SEASON. SYNCROFLEX HAVE DEVELOPED THE MOST ADVANCED AND UNIQUE RANGE OF SUPPLEMENTS TO SUPPORT THE HUMAN BODY AND OUR CANINE AND EQUINE FRIENDS. THE PRODUCTS CAN BE USED DURING HARD & DEMANDING WORK OR SIMPLY TO MAINTAIN AND COMPLIMENT A BALANCED DIET TO SUPPORT OPTIMUM HEALTH. LOUIS IS PASSIONATE ABOUT ENDURANCE AS A SPORT AND BELIEVES OUR HORSES ACTUALLY ENJOY WHAT THEY ARE DOING WHEN LOOKED AFTER PROPERLY. THE PRODUCTS THAT ARE EXTREMELY USEFUL FOR ENDURANCE ARE:

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**SYNCROFLEX HA**

**SYNCROFLEX SYNCRO-EXPRESS**

**SYNCRO-GASTRO**

## ESNZ AGA

The presentation at this year's AGA was all about dealing with conflict. Most of the endurance Board were able to be there and it was good to also see Kevin James, Robyn Mills and Jo Foster in attendance as well, making an awesome representation from ESNZ Endurance. The workshop stressed the importance of dealing with conflict in a timely manner – what happens on the day gets dealt with on the day – and in having a good set of rules to refer back to – if the rules don't say you can't do something then its not against the rules. This gives our (all volunteer) officials and participants a solid base to make rulings on in the case of an issue coming up at an event.

The Drug and Alcohol policy was also talked about.

ESNZ have created and launched our Drug and Alcohol Policy, which can be found on our rules page, along with some frequently asked questions:

<https://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/esnz/rules-regulations/esnz-rules/>

The policy has been created and put in place primarily to protect Athletes' health and safety, as ESNZ recognises that the use of drugs and alcohol can adversely affect an individual's performance and can be a contributing factor towards making the sport unsafe.

The intention of this policy is to provide a tool for taking active steps towards reducing the harms of alcohol and drugs within our organisation.

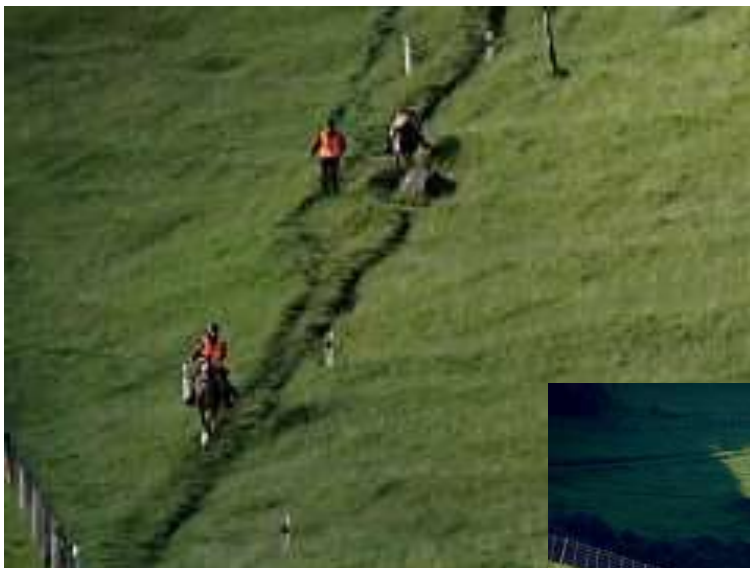




# Trans Tasman

Ruahine Endurance Club recently hosted the Trans Tasman Challenge, with representative teams from Australia and New Zealand. Horses were generously provided for the Australian visitors, namely Craig Royston Zaria, Makahiwi Phoenix, Tararua Diablo and Makahiwi Cercie, with the Australian reserve rider being offered the ride on Mauku Eve in Saturday's 80km ride. Thanks to the owners/trainers of these horses. This competition is held every two years, with the Kiwi team claiming the trophy two years ago when it was last held in Australia. This year the Kiwis again lifted the trophy, with the local team getting all four members across the finish line, while the visitors had one unfortunately pull out lame on course.

While the base was a new one much of the course was familiar to those who have supported Ruahine's rides in recent years. The new country provided long sections of good going and there was plenty of work in the course as a whole to keep riders thinking and concentrating on the job at



hand. Most of the Australians saw more rain in two hours on Saturday than they had seen in 18 months at home, but the rain had largely passed when the events were underway, and riding conditions were near perfect, with amazing views of the mountain.

For photos of the weekend check out



<http://archerpix.com/transtasman/album/index.html>

## **Trans Tasman Results**

Australia (total 59 points) Class Time

Jessie Herman with Craig Royston Zaria CEI2\* 120 km 3rd 9:01:32

Tahlia Franke with Makahiwi Phoenix CEIJY2\* 120 km 1st 8:46:33

Sorsha Stuart-Rokvic with Tararua Diablo CEI\* 80 km 4th 7:15:27

Marty Bryson with Makahiwi Cercie CEI\*80 km V/O lame

New Zealand (total 62 points)

Pip Mutch with Mauku Bella CEI2\* 120 km 1st 8:46:22

Ana Whitehead with Dundevale Nazecca CEIJY2\* 120 km 2nd 9:07:58

Deirdre Bartlett with Craig Royston Xmas Star CEI\* 80 km 2nd 6:25:29

Jane Ferguson with Daagir CEI\* 80 km 3rd 6:46:20

## **Respect for time – its always time to be timely**

I started this Distance talking apologising for my lack of respect for time, and I'm just about the worst one to be talking about this. I answer emails when I get to them – and while I know what else I have going on the person who sent the message doesn't, so if I don't answer fairly quickly they have no idea if I've received it or not. This applies in particular to any of us on committees – Board, or club or otherwise. If you're sent an email for response but have nothing to add to it, then respond that you have nothing to add so the other person isn't waiting for an answer.

Respect for other people's time applies to all of us, but in particular as members can we please be respectful of time for our Sports Administrator. Be aware of the time when you call (so not too early or late in the day) and email works best for Jo because of reception in her area. If you have to leave a message then do it by email rather than voicemail.

Respect for time can go a bit further as well. As with most organisations its often a few people who do are substantially busy doing things than others are. If you are asking someone to do something for you maybe you could offer to do some of the legwork yourself to ease the demands on their time.

Its been said before, this sport belongs to all of us and its up to all of us to take ownership of it.

## Last but by no means least

**What's happening with FEI?** By far the biggest topic for all of us is what's happening with FEI, and specifically what's happening with our national rules in the wake of the recent FEI rule changes. The forum before our AGM this year was largely about discussing the upcoming rule changes. With revisions to the upcoming rules since then our membership have been asked for feedback and this was then compiled into a response to be taken to the FEI. There were changes to the rules that we approved of and there were changes that we didn't like but felt we could live with if we had to. There were also changes that we were all vehemently against and said we couldn't live with. The FEI rules were due to be voted on as a blanket yes or no, and although our rep was among those who tried to get them voted in smaller blocks it was eventually a blanket vote which the majority of nations voted in favour of. The vote has happened. It didn't go the way we as a whole membership indicated we wanted, so now we need as a whole membership to work out where to go to from here.

With Island Champs coming up in the very near future it seemed wise for the OCs to carry on as planned with these, but the schedule for Nationals has yet to be submitted, so a short survey was put out to members regarding their intentions for Nationals. Moving on into next season we as members will need to make some decisions so our forums this season will be on what we do from here. There are three obvious options it seems. Option one is to not run FEI events and reinstate a set of national rules for us. Option two is to keep a foot in the FEI and run separate FEI events under FEI rules but run our sport (including Champs events) under a set of rules approved by our membership for NZ Endurance. An issue with this (as I understand it) is that if you are FEI registered then you are expected to adhere to FEI rules whether you are competing in an FEI event or not (this is especially important regarding standdowns). Option three is to do what we have done in the past and completely align our rules with the new FEI rules to keep it simple. Its so very important that all of our members, at all levels, have input on this for the direction of our sport at the end of this season. Read the rules, think about what they all mean for the sport and make sure you are involved in upcoming forums and the vote at AGM. The Technical Committee has been asked to prepare a set of rules for us outside of FEI so that we can have a national set of rules to put in place **if that is what the membership votes for**. This is not the Board's choice. It is yours as members – all members. If you sit back and don't vote because you think your vote won't matter then there is no chance that your vote will count.

In the meantime the new qualification criteria don't take effect until July, and our national rules will still apply as is for all non FEI or combined events until then as well.





And finally ...

