



**Date: Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

**By Zoom: 7pm - 9.25pm**

**Agenda items**

1. Annual Starts & Financial Reports YTD March 2022 - attached
2. Draft Budget 2022/23 - yet to be approved by ESNZ Board
3. Remits & Discussion Items
4. Youth Council Update / Request for Area Youth Reps to Council
5. Bronze Silver Gold Categories Review
6. ESNZ Data Base Report
7. Dressage Conference & Awards Dinner 2022 Information
8. Draft Calendar 2022/23 for information

**Apologies:** Lynda Clark (ESNZ Board Chair) Stuart Bishell (SCNO), Sonja Swale (Southland member)

**Attendees:**

**Board**

Scott	McKenna	DNZ Chair
Judith	Cunningham	DNZ - Judges Officer
Suzanne	Inglis	DNZ Technical Officer
Alicia	Cameron	DNZ Marketing
Sarah	Hazlewood	DNZ Finance & Vice Chair
Christine	Weal	DNZ Performance & Development

**Voting Delegates**

Angela	Valentine	Nelson Area delegate
Bernice	Frost	Taihape Area delegate
Betty	Brown	Auckland -Manukau Area delegate
Diane	Wallace	Marlborough Area delegate
Genevieve	Quin	Nth Hawkes Bay Area delegate
Heather	Hilder	Waitemata Area delegate
Laura	Hayes	Otago Area delegate
Leonie	Coker	Bay of Plenty Area delegate
Linda	Huitson	Taranaki Area delegate
Lois	Andrewes	Northland Area delegate
Lynley	Stockdale	Area delegate (substitute for S Bishell)
Margs	Carline	Waikato Area delegate from 8.15pm
Peri	Scrivenor	Ashburton Area delegate

Rebecca	McKee	Southland Area delegate
Robin	Friend	Wellington Area delegate
Sally	Goldsmith	Canterbury Area delegate
Sue	Harris	Gisborne Area delegate
Susan	Tomlin	Central Districts Area delegate
Wendy	Jeffery	Wairarapa Area delegate
Rachel	McCallum	Steward General
Tania	Simmons	Sth Hawkes Bay Area delegate

#### **Riders Reps**

Jody	Hartstone	NI Riders Rep
Anna	Gale	SI Rider Rep

#### **Sport Manager**

Wendy	Hamerton
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#### **Minutes**

Amanda	Condon	DNZ Partnership Facilitator
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#### **Youth Council Rep**

Lucarne	Dolley	Youth Council Chair (From 7.45pm)
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#### **Observers**

Amy	Sage	ESNZ member Waikato
Belle	Clark	remit proposer Taupo
Cherie	Pearson	ESNZ Member Canterbury
Christine	Latch	President, Dressage Waitemata
Fiora	Au	ESNZ member Auckland
Jos	Gresham	Series Coordinator
Judy	Collin	ESNZ member & Sport Manager AMDG
Kate	Walker	ESNZ member Waitemata
Kristin	Cottam	Southland AJO
Mary	Davis	ESNZ member Southland
Natalie	Love	ESNZ member
Sue	Hobson	ESNZ President
Wendy	Butler	Otago Area President

The Chair Scott McKenna welcomed attendees and noted the meeting procedure to be followed. All attendees have speaking rights, committee members have voting rights (Board members, Area Delegates, Steward General, Riders Reps) The zoom chat bar is only to request to speak not to have a discussion.

The meeting was recorded from herein.

# 1. FINANCIAL REPORTS

ESNZ DRESSAGE										
Annual Starts for the period ended March 2022										
Categories ->	Level 1			Level 2 and Above			Total			
Year ->	2022	2021	2020	2022	2021	2020	2022	2021	2020	
	Qty	Qty	Qty	Qty	Qty	Qty	Qty	Qty	Qty	
June	28	33	26	35	34	13	63	67	39	↓
July	37	64	39	55	57	47	92	121	86	↓
August	65	100	103	76	104	149	141	204	252	↓
September	98	157	124	154	134	127	252	291	251	↓
October	92	114	105	103	104	89	195	218	194	↓
November	34	69	91	46	82	102	80	151	193	↓
December	37	40	46	63	37	43	100	77	89	↑
January	53	51	50	81	55	49	134	106	99	↑
February	10	25	33	17	19	26	27	44	59	↓
March	30	26	23	18	26	11	48	52	34	↓
April	22	22	2	15	15	6	37	37	8	
May	14	14	11	16	16	6	30	30	17	
<b>YTD</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>715</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>683</b>	<b>668</b>	<b>1,199</b>	<b>1,398</b>	<b>1,321</b>	↓
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
June	1,826	2,152	1,583	3,500	3,400	1,130	5,326	5,552	2,713	↓
July	2,413	4,174	2,530	5,500	5,700	4,622	7,913	9,874	7,152	↓
August	4,239	6,522	6,717	7,600	10,400	14,900	11,839	16,922	21,617	↓
September	6,391	10,239	8,087	15,400	13,400	12,700	21,791	23,639	20,787	↓
October	6,000	7,435	6,852	10,300	10,400	8,900	16,300	17,835	15,752	↓
November	2,217	4,500	5,935	4,600	8,200	10,200	6,817	12,700	16,135	↓
December	2,413	2,609	2,996	6,300	3,700	4,300	8,713	6,309	7,296	↑
January	3,457	3,326	3,261	8,100	5,500	4,900	11,557	8,826	8,161	↑
February	652	1,630	2,152	1,700	1,900	2,600	2,352	3,530	4,752	↓
March	1,957	1,696	1,500	1,800	2,600	1,100	3,757	4,296	2,600	↓
April	1,435	1,435	130	1,500	1,500	600	2,935	2,935	730	
May	913	913	717	1,600	1,600	600	2,513	2,513	1,317	
<b>YTD</b>	<b>33,913</b>	<b>46,630</b>	<b>42,461</b>	<b>67,900</b>	<b>68,300</b>	<b>66,552</b>	<b>101,813</b>	<b>114,930</b>	<b>109,013</b>	↓

The YTD Level 1 starts for March 2022 was 484 with a value of \$31,565. This is a decrease from 2020 of 195 (\$12,717) and is a decrease from 2019 of 156 (\$10,048)

The YTD Level 2 and Above membership for March 2022 was 648 with a value of \$64,800. This is a decrease from 2020 of 4 (\$400) and is a decrease from 2019 of 8 (\$552)

The YTD total annual starts for March 2022 was 1132 with a value of \$96,365. This is a decrease from 2020 of 199 (\$13,117) and is a decrease from 2019 of 164 (\$10,600)

**ESNZ Dressage | Statement of Financial Performance | For the month ended 31 March 2022**

	<b>This Actual</b>	<b>Month Budget</b>	<b>Year Actual</b>	<b>to Budget</b>	<b>Date Variance</b>	<b>Full Year Budget</b>
<b>Income</b>						
Annual Start Levies (Discipline)	3,757	4,000	96,615	95,500	1,115	101,500
Clinic Registrations	0	0	0	27,800	-27,800	27,800
Conference Registrations	0	0	7,261	7,500	-239	7,500
Downgrading Fees	130	85	1,391	1,485	-94	1,655
Entry Fees	6,155	10,000	55,197	123,500	-68,303	123,500
Flexi Starts	457	260	3,404	2,740	664	2,940
Fundraising Income	0	0	0	1,500	-1,500	1,500
Grants Received - Government	0	0	2,000	0	2,000	0
Grants Received - Other	0	0	18,800	0	18,800	0
Interest Received	348	208	1,231	2,084	-853	2,500
Other Event Income	0	1,000	1,341	1,000	341	1,000
Rider Contributions	0	0	1,356	0	1,356	0
Sponsorship	14,358	0	53,457	66,100	-12,643	69,100
Sundry Income	0	0	0	11,300	-11,300	11,300
Training & Development Levy	4,214	6,000	49,314	65,600	-16,286	72,600
Sales - Dressage Test Books	174	800	4,330	8,200	-3,870	9,800
Sales - Merchandise	209	100	2,003	1,000	1,003	1,200
Sales - Rule Books	0	0	273	1,000	-727	1,000
Sales - Stationery	311	200	5,181	5,200	-19	5,500
	30,113	22,653	303,155	421,509	-118,354	440,395

<b>Expenses</b>	<b>This Actual</b>	<b>Month Budget</b>	<b>Year Actual</b>	<b>to Budget</b>	<b>Date Variance</b>	<b>Full Year Budget</b>
Accident Compensation Levies						
Accommodation & Meals - General	4,829	6,100	15,815	21,300	-5,485	22,800
Accommodation & Meals - Officials	0	0	2,436	0	2,436	0
Administration	556	5,000	7,089	7,000	89	8,000
Bank Charges	10	45	150	450	-300	540
Catering and Bar Purchases	3,827	7,000	19,088	27,600	-8,512	27,600
Coaching - Specialists	0	0	0	24,800	-24,800	33,700
Cost of Sales	43	0	1,657	0	1,657	0
Depreciation - Plant and Equipment	65	65	650	650	0	780
General Expenses	511	2,260	6,149	13,460	-7,311	18,930
Gifts and Gratuities	5,783	12,000	18,330	18,000	330	18,000
Hireages	5,105	2,500	6,705	2,500	4,205	2,500
IT - Infrastructure	21	80	206	800	-594	960
Judges	0	0	1,281	0	1,281	0
Medical	2,250	4,950	5,048	8,450	-3,403	8,450
Postage	0	130	1,858	1,300	558	1,560
Printing	723	2,840	11,943	16,950	-5,007	17,530
Prize Money	0	10,000	0	10,000	-10,000	14,000
Prizes - Trophies	1,319	5,500	17,757	22,900	-5,143	24,400
Promotion and Publicity	889	900	6,948	5,300	1,648	6,600
Result Processing	720	1,800	2,048	2,800	-752	2,800
Service Fees Paid	2,513	2,513	10,051	10,052	-1	10,052
Sponsor Servicing	468	0	3,173	2,000	1,173	3,500
Staff Salaries and Wages	10,079	7,778	80,092	77,780	2,312	93,336
Stationery	214	50	2,194	700	1,494	800
Stewarding	0	0	0	1,200	-1,200	1,200
Telephone	144	170	1,733	1,700	33	2,040
Travel - General	12,204	4,000	27,715	31,400	-3,685	35,300
Travel - International	0	2,200	0	2,800	-2,800	5,000
Travel - Judges	0	0	72	0	72	0
Travel - Mileage	1,381	1,500	5,186	3,800	1,386	4,400
Travel - Officials	0	2,000	0	2,000	-2,000	2,000
Travel - Subsidies	0	0	5,393	5,500	-107	5,500
Uniforms	0	0	1,363	6,800	-5,437	6,800
Venue & Equipment Hire	5,265	0	23,911	56,500	-32,589	57,100
Veterinary	0	0	252	500	-248	500

	58,917	81,381	286,756	387,442	-100,686	437,128
<b><u>ESNZ Dressage Surplus/(Deficit)</u></b>	<b><u>-28,804</u></b>	<b><u>-58,728</u></b>	<b><u>16,399</u></b>	<b><u>34,067</u></b>	<b><u>-17,668</u></b>	<b><u>3,267</u></b>

## **ANNUAL STARTS**

The Chair noted Annual Starts are down to date this year, month by month break down are noticeably down on level 1, which suggests the reduced number of events for new horses to come in, increase on level 2 above shows horses are progressing through the levels.

### **Discussion:**

*Wendy Jeffery Wairarapa*

Numbers at her area shows have been limited at events which could explain the decrease. Are the increased demand of level 2 and above, is that having an impact on level 1, perhaps think about the training and local shows to ensure catering for lower levels.

*Betty Brown Auckland*

There has been an issue with number of cancellations for 2 years, people chose not to register as not getting anything for their money.

*Laura Hayes Otago*

Otago ran all events through the season, the last two events waned especially level 1 & 2 registered, unregistered were good as well as higher levels

### **Finances**

Sarah Hazlewood (FO) spoke to the finance report. Year to Date variance due to Dressage 4 Denmark show which wasn't in the original budget. Not all costs are in yet for this show, Looking towards end of financial year should be approx break even budget.

**D4D investment** – estimate to be approx \$20,000.

**Action:** The DSM to secure flexi-starts reports for 20/21 and 21/22 year to compare and determine if more Level 1 horses are using flexi starts instead

*Laura Hayes Otago*

Re grassroots: Laura asked what the plans are to support the areas for developing grassroots riders (both current riders and encouraging new riders)?

The Chair advised nothing specific nationally to report at this point; had funds to allocate to areas to do this from previous year, about half was allocated just before lockdown. This approach will be revisited in the near future, need to get the deficit budget approved before we can look at this again. A number of areas had developed ideas around development projects, area squads etc.

ESNZ are currently working on a sponsorship project that may provide good incentive options for grassroots riders.

### **\*\*\* Annual ESNZ & Dressage Fees**

It was confirmed that from 1 July Centre Line fees will increase by 50c

This will represent a will represent a **5.5%** increase; It was considered this is a more equitable way to spread an increase across all participants rather than increasing annual start fees for graded horses to meet the increase in costs that will be faced .

The ESNZ board is discussing ESNZ fees – their decisions will be announced in due course.

### **The increase will be as follows**

Training & Local Events : Current fee 3.50 per test From 1st July 2022: \$4.00 per test

Regional & National Events: Current fee 4.00 per test From 1st July 2022: \$4.50 per test

## 2. DRAFT BUDGET 2022/23

2022/23 Budget was discussed.

Board agreed to deficit of \$11,000, to allow for \$20,000 into Performance Program and international tours; the sport also needs to invest in judges (training & travel), stewards training.

Rationale: DNZ has been extremely financially conservative over the Covid years, has a good amount in the accumulated accounts in reserve to support this deficit

Development of Performance Program & international tours to keep momentum of current international success, aiming at Hening is to qualify a team for Paris Olympics. Important to get riders out now to international events to build up experience, great to see riders getting behind and supporting our internationally successful riders as well as those who have young horses coming through. The high-level success brings attention to the sport, helps grow the sport and helps secure more funding especially for the high performance program.

Noted the ESNZ Board has yet to approve the DNZ deficit budget, and update will be provided at the AGM.

## 3. REMITS & DISCUSSION ITEMS

### a) Remit 1

#### Re: Jackets / Tailcoats

**Submitted by:** Anna Gale / SI Riders Rep

**Seconded by:** Sonja Swale / Member

**CURRENT RULE /ARTICLE NUMBER : 479**

**Amendment**

**Training Events (TE) & Local Events (LE) (all levels graded & non-graded)**

**Jackets**

**Riding jackets are optional at Training & Local Events at all levels.**

**Tailcoats are permitted at levels Advanced to Grand Prix.**

**RATIONALE:**

In the current rules, the use of tail coats is only mentioned for Regional Events and National Championships. 'Jackets' is the term referenced for local events and training events. This remit is proposed to ensure that there is no misinterpretation, and to allow for the use of tail coats at all types of competition, at the competitors discretion, without penalties for incorrect dress being awarded.

**Passed/~~Failed~~**

**Vote Against: 0**



## b) Remit 2

### Re: Judges

**Submitted by:** Belle Clark

**Seconded by:** Catriona MacFarlane

**CURRENT RULE/ARTICLE NUMBER :** Article 440 – Eligibility, Duties and Responsibilities of Judges

**Add**

**REMIT:**

4.5 A judge is not required to declare a conflict of interest at local and training (L&T) events.

**RATIONALE:**

Remote regions struggle to get judges who don't also coaches.

Difficult to allocate judges at local and training events with small entries and small judges pool. Cost is prohibitive to get judges from outside of the area for such small events.

Coaches may be reluctant to become judges. This affects the ability to get judges in smaller regions.

Riders will be reluctant to get coaching if trainer is also a judge and this affects their ability to ride in L&T events.

We should be encouraging judges to impart their knowledge as coaches in their locality – not discouraging this.

If Article 440 4.1 & 4.2 is going to apply for L&T events then judges must declare any coaching conducted with competing riders within the previous 3 three weeks only.

**Discussion:**

The Chair would like the judges sub-committee to do a review of the judges – progress and spread of judges across the areas.

It was noted there is no current specific requirement for a conflict specific to training to be declared under the current article for 440.4 Local & Training Events.

**It was agreed that on the basis no rule change is required to achieve the intention of the remit that:**

- the wording in this article be tidied up for conference agenda.
- Consider adding a table in the rule book.
- Review Judges Manual to make these rules clearer.

## Rule Review: For Discussion

### 3b) Review Rule Re Outside Assistance Around Arena

Preamble: It was agreed at the 2021 AGM that the outside assistance rule be reviewed specifically in respect it being permissible for horses to be led around the space outside the arena prior to the judge bell being rung. The review to be based around Health & Safety

The new rule proposed at conference 2021 which was deferred for one year as follows

#### **Art 451.2.5 Unauthorised / Outside Assistance**

***If necessary, a horse may be assisted in the area directly around the arena by a single handler on foot who may not have physical contact with the horse or the equipment, but once the Judge's bell has been sounded any further assistance will be considered unauthorised / outside assistance.***

#### **Feedback from Stewards & Judges**

- 1. We feel there is a safety issue with some very unpredictable spooked horses and riders in very small spaces. Feel familiarisation is the time for any help which is easier to control. Once the rider has presented around arena then it is up to judge to control.*
- 2. Isn't this why we have Familiarisation?*
- 3. On a number of occasions I have seen horses reluctant to go around the arena. Generally the rider sorts it and its all good.*
- 4. If there is a rule stating a horse may be accompanied around the arena, then I'm sure nervous riders on nervous horses will take full advantage of it. If you have 3 arenas running side by side and 2 extra helpers in the mix it raises safety concerns. The helpers are leaving while other horses are coming and going!*
- 5. I would suggest the rule be amended to say something like ..... under certain or unusual circumstances permission may be granted by the Judge at C for a helper to accompany the horse until the bell rings. The helper must then leave the area immediately by the safest route.*
- 6. It would be at the Judge's discretion. At the end of the day it's the Judges field of play!*
- 7. I have been in the situation of assisting a rider/horse around the arena and getting out of the area has been of concern. Familiarisation is for getting around prior to see any problems. So agree with what has been stated.*
- 8. I have not any problems with horses going around the arenas that weren't solved at familiarisation*

#### **Other Feedback**

Is consistent with points 5 & 6

*That the judge is in control of the space around the arena once the combination enters that space and in unexpected circumstances which may occur for that combination which cause a resistance that the judge at their discretion permit assistance*

#### **An associated Rule 451 1.17 was noted:**

##### **Resistance:**

*Any resistance which prevents the continuation of the test longer than 20 seconds will result in elimination. However resistance that may endanger the athlete, horse, officials, or the public will result in elimination for safety reasons earlier than within 20 seconds.*

*This also applies to any resistance before entering the dressage arena or when leaving the arena*

## Discussion:

**Genevieve Quin** – Hawkes Bay: suggestion at familiarisation allow horses to do more than walk to help desensitise

**Angela Valentine** – Nelson: Familiarisation is the time to get the horse used to the area, allowing outside assistance adds further H&S and logistical problems

**Jody Hartstone** NI Riders Rep – arena familiarisation: not everyone can arrive the day before or 5hrs before their test; other things can change between the familiarisation and the test; it seems a shame a rider can't get to compete just because the horse is having an issue.

**Dressage SM** – requested the meeting keep in mind the remit is about assisting the rider around the whole arena; The combination is under the judge's jurisdiction therefore the judge could possibly be authorised under the rules to give permission for the rider to have assistance in extenuating circumstances.

**Sue Hobson** – JSC agreed with DSM; when it's a safety issue common should prevail, but does not consider assisting around the whole arena is appropriate

**Laura Hayes** - Otago - Are OC's able to offer more/do more to prepare riders to not have these problems? E.g. local days begin to offer familiarisation the morning of the event, accommodate the warmup space near the competition arena

Noted that Judges don't like to eliminate, often judges are summing up on horse before so not always aware of what's happening with the next horse warming up in the space around the outside of the arena.

**Rachel McCallum** – Steward General - experienced that the ground jury has eliminated riders in Southland in 2020; this was a confusion as to which area was the competition arena

Discussion around term 'area of play' to identify the competition space around the arena

The Chair noted an amendment with the intent to add a judge's discretion clause will still be possible

**Vote for amended article 451.2.5: ~~Passed/Failed~~ For: 14 Against: 13**

**This remit goes forward to conference**

### 3d) Code of Conduct : For Discussion and Actions for Breaches

Nelson Dressage & SCNO Dressage request that this topic/proposal be added to the agenda of the 2022 Dressage NZ Planning forum:

#### TOPIC: Abuse of Officials

##### Preamble

With a strong commitment and focus on the “Change the Rein” campaign, we would like to focus discussion on the pillar of “rein in rubbish behaviour”.

Passive-Aggressive behaviour by people in our sport, especially hiding behind a key-board, threatens to undermine the goodwill of our volunteer officials

We need to find a way to encourage more officials to speak up when they have been verbally abused, spoken to inappropriately or been sent inappropriate messages/emails etc.

**Suzanne Inglis** - Over the last 10 years I have been involved at Nelson Dressage I have personally witnessed at least 6 judges being spoken to aggressively or inappropriately to buy riders/trainers, and in every instance the judge did not want to take the matter further, no action was taken, and I know several of these riders have then gone on to do the same thing to other judges, this needs to stop.

While we have the policies in place to deal with this, it would seem most officials don't want to report it and we need to find a way to encourage more of them to speak up, and not reward bad behaviour by doing nothing.

There are already policies in place to deal with protests/complaints, and rider need to follow correct procedures should they have an issue with an official. Judges are more than happy to talk to riders about any marks or comments on their papers, but it must be done in a respectful manner

We expect high standards of judging, we all strive for that, and every judge is constantly striving to give a fair and honest assessment. Fear of abuse and ridicule will drive judges away, or at very least make them too cautious.

Obviously, this applies to anyone acting inappropriately towards any official, including other officials, spectators, and associated parties to the riders.

##### Discussion/Action:

**Chair:** There can be many issues that fall in this category, including horse welfare issues. If no one complains the behaviour can't be dealt with. ESNZ may consider the \$50 fee may be removed for people to make complaints; new campaign: 'if you see something, say something'. Need a culture shift to it being an expectation to make a complaint. Need to promote the idea if this behaviour happens you need to blow the whistle.

**Suzanne Inglis** – need to come up with a way to handle all types of abuse, even if it happens after that fact; really need a way to make it more supportive for officials to come forward.

**Genevieve Quin** – what are the consequences for the people who are behaving like this? People are scared of them so don't make complaints.

**Sport Manager** – responded noting there are a number of penalties that can be dealt under the current legal system. Riders and officials need to know they've got the support of the event ground jury, and that the complaint will be taken seriously. That less serious complaints should be able to be dealt with by the Ground Jury on the day and that is why it is important to have a pre-determined Event GJ available. The main issues would be rider or official code of conduct or horse welfare

**Anna Gale** – SI Riders Rep - sometimes these incidents are post show; can be on social media

**Rebecca McKee** – is there something that can be shared on Facebook and in schedules?

Noted that the ESNZ website 'code of conduct' and other policies are readily - Also see: Member protection policy; ESNZ general regulations page 31

**Laura Hayes** – people aren't going to go looking, so we do need to put the information in front of area members too

**Angela Valentine** – as an amateur and new rider, it is very scary to speak up.

**Rachel McCallum** – noted that stewards are always there to ask for advice too

**Sport Manager** - Participants can also go to event secretary for advice; and suggested each show should have an experienced riders rep for each event nominated in the schedule if possible and/or notified at the event for fellow riders to talk to and seek advice

**Kristin Cottam** – Noted that Southland does have a riders rep; promote being professional

**Action:**

**It was agreed have a session on the legal process of complaints at conference; guidelines for areas; riders reps for shows**

## 4. Youth Council Update

The Dressage New Zealand Youth Council has been hard at work with the launch of their new Facebook Group, supported by Dynavyte ([www.dynavyte.nz](http://www.dynavyte.nz)) and Grit & Grace ([www.gritandgrace.nz](http://www.gritandgrace.nz)), two amazing companies that are keen to get behind our riders.

The launch of this group is an exciting new development for the Youth of our country, providing them with a private platform of their own to discuss ideas, ask questions, create new friends, and learn from experts through online webinars, which are all elements that the Council are hard at work putting together.

The group is private, limited to riders under 25 (with exceptions). These exceptions allow for one parent or guardian of a child/children that do not have direct Social Media access yet to join the page on behalf. This has been put in place so that our riders feel comfortable having discussions but allows for our younger members to also be included so that we are able to accommodate all. All riders are welcome, including Pony Club and other interested non-ESNZ members, so that we can provide information and training for a broader range of Kiwi kids.

The Council is also planning to do some in-person get-togethers with Youth Riders at events before the end of the season, so if you are going to be at the AMDG YR & Amateur Championships (30 April - 1 May Clevedon) and the North Island Dressage Championships (6-8 May Taupo) please come along!

Plans are in place to start encouraging Youth riders to be encouraging, supportive and helpful at events, working alongside the #GameChanger framework to make the environment of our sport more welcoming. This initiative is being backed by the team at the Hawkes Bay based TackShop NZ, ([www.tackshop.co.nz/](http://www.tackshop.co.nz/)) another business backing Youth participation in our sport, so make sure you support them, and all our sponsors return. The TackShop have

generously sponsored \$500 worth of vouchers which will be awarded to youth riders who are recognised as Game Changers for youth

If you have any queries or Game Changer nominations for the Youth Council, please contact them direct on dnzydc@gmail.com Youth Council Members: Lucarne Dolley & Anna Wilson (Waikato), Piper Crake (Waitemata) . Alyssa Harrison (Auckland) Meg Johnston (Sth Canterbury) Meila Picard (Nelson)

**Discussion:**

**Lucarne Dolley** - YC Chair provided an update on the activity of the Youth Council, Having meetings every second week. Thanked Karen Shields for her mentorship. Had an evening at Auckland YR Champs and having another one Friday night at NICH FB page now has over 150 members.

Areas are being encouraged to invite a youth rep 14-25yrs to their committees and appoint a rep to the YC. This appointment procedure to be at discretion of the areas. Lucarne agreed to distribute information and applications.

Youth Council have been able to resolve some bullying issues with positive outcomes.

**Laura Hayes** – Otago don't have a lot of riders in the youth age range. They do have an area rider, but is currently based in the NI - can she be the Otago rep?

*It was agreed in principle this could happen if the area was in agreement*

Do they have to be ESNZ registered?

*Lucarne agreed to take this question back to the next YC meeting as it is currently not specified*

Areas are encouraged to go out now share this opportunity with their youth members.

**Chair** - asked how much engagement is the group getting from non-ESNZ members?

**Lucarne Dolley** - advised there seems to be a lot of Pony Club members joining the Youth Facebook group; therefore the Council will be doing lots of grassroots posts about how to participate in dressage.

**DSM:** Noted the Karmargen Award is independent of the YC Game Changer Awards

**Lucarne Dolley**

Tack Shop sponsoring GameChanger Awards with vouchers. Re Game Changers – good for youth council to know about the good things happening around the areas

**Judith Cunningham** (Board) – congratulated the Council on their work to date

## 5. Bronze Silver Gold Categories Review

RECOMMENDATIONS & NOTES FROM SURVEY REVIEW					
<b>Eligibility at the evening prior to the event</b>					
<b>Preliminary Gold:</b> All riders that don't meet the criteria of either Preliminary Bronze or Silver below					
To compete <b>Preliminary Bronze</b> you MUST answer NO to BOTH statements			To compete <b>Preliminary Silver</b> you MUST answer NO to BOTH statements		
	Yes	No		Yes	No
As a rider on any horse competed at <b>Medium (Note 1) or above</b> <del>level or above in the last four years</del>			As a rider on any horse competed at Advanced Medium level or above in the last four years		
As a combination have achieved <b>9 or more than 98</b> more scores of <b>63% (Note 3) 65%</b> or above at any level (excluding Freestyle scores)			As a combination have achieved <b>9 or more than 98</b> scores (Note 2) of 68% or above at any level (excluding Freestyle scores)		
<b>Novice Gold</b> All riders that don't meet the criteria of either Novice Bronze or Silver below					
To compete <b>Novice Bronze</b> you MUST answer NO to BOTH statements			To compete <b>Novice Silver</b> you MUST answer NO to BOTH statements		
	Yes	No		Yes	No
As a rider on any horse competed at <b>Advanced Medium level or above</b> <del>ve in the last four years</del>			As a rider on any horse competed at Advanced level or above in the last four years		
As a combination have achieved 9 or more scores of <b>635% or</b> above at any level Novice and above (excluding Freestyle scores)			As a combination have achieved <b>9 or more than 98</b> scores of 68% or above at any level Novice and above (excluding Freestyle scores)		
<b>Elementary Gold</b> All riders that don't meet the criteria of either Elementary Bronze or Silver below					
To compete <b>Elementary Bronze</b> you MUST answer NO to BOTH statements			To compete <b>Elementary Silver</b> you MUST answer NO to BOTH statements		
	Yes	No		Yes	No
As a rider on any horse competed at <b>Advanced level or above</b> <del>in the last four years</del>			As a rider on any horse competed at Small Tour or above in the last four years		
As a combination have achieved <b>9 or more more than 98</b> scores of 63% or above at any level Elementary and above (excluding Freestyle scores)			As a combination have achieved <del>more than 9</del> <b>more 8</b> scores of 65% or above at any level Elementary and above (excluding Freestyle scores)		
<b>Medium Gold</b> All riders that don't meet the criteria of either Medium Bronze or Silver below					
To compete <b>Medium Bronze</b> you MUST answer NO to BOTH statements			To compete <b>Medium Silver</b> you MUST answer NO to BOTH statements		
	Yes	No		Yes	No
As a rider on any horse competed at <b>Small Tour or above</b> <del>in the last four years</del>			As a rider on any horse competed at <b>Small Tour</b> <del>Medium Tour</del> or above in the last four years		
As a combination have achieved <b>9 or more 8</b> scores of 63% or above at any level Medium and above (excluding Freestyle scores)			As a combination have achieved <b>9 or more more than 98</b> scores of 65% or above at any level Medium and above (excluding Freestyle scores)		
<b>Advanced Medium Gold</b> All riders that don't meet the criteria of either Advanced Medium Bronze or Silver below					
To compete <b>Advanced Medium Bronze</b> you MUST answer NO to BOTH statements			To compete <b>Advanced Medium Silver</b> you MUST answer NO to BOTH statements		
	Yes	No		Yes	No
As a rider on any horse competed at <b>Small Tour</b> <del>Medium Tour</del> or above <del>in the last four years</del>			As a rider on any horse competed at <b>Small Tour</b> or above <del>Big Tour</del> in the last four years		
As a combination have achieved 9 or more <b>8</b> scores of 63% or above at any level Advanced medium and above (excluding Freestyle scores)			As a combination have achieved more than <b>98</b> scores of 65% or above at any level Advanced medium and above (excluding Freestyle scores)		

## Preamble:

### Notes & Recommendations presented to meeting

1. Deleted in last 4 years from all bronze sections with the aim to make bronze for combinations with less experience
2. Amended to clarify the number of scores required to move up a level - changed for all levels
3. **Consider removing freestyle exclusion** clause and increase score numbers to more than 10 (i.e. 11 or more) to overcome identified issue of riders restricting number of tests they ride at an event (perceived manipulation)
4. Lowered the threshold for Prelim and novice to move to silver
5. **Make Gold an Open Division** – open to any level of rider if run as a separate class. Riders from lower classifications who enter the separate Gold/Open class will not be able to receive bronze/silver awards as a result
6. Where the level is run as one class and awards provided for the separate categories within the class riders do not have the option of riding up a level or Open and will have to ride in their classification. This is due to the difficulties of OC's being able separate riders
7. GSB is not meant to necessarily separate amateur from professionals (if they actually even exist in NZ) but to create competition classifications for a specific combination so that the combination (of horse & Rider) compete with their peers.
8. The system run for the 2021/22 season albeit restricted due to Covid did throw up some anomalies and it is hoped that the amendments above will address those going forward, especially in regard to the Bronze level.
9. The classification system is designed that on the basis that combination improves they will in time move up levels of classification. This should be celebrated and seen as an achievement. It meets a key goal of Dressage NZ of improving the base of dressage in NZ. If there is some way of recognising riders when they achieve their 9 scores would help with this.

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## DISCUSSION:

**Chair:** Agreed that there is a need to adjust the thresholds between the G, S, B.

That last season has not really given us a good opportunity to see how the classifications work, and recommended we extend the trial for a further season.

**DSM** – talked through the 3 key recommended changes in red above.

**Agreed 100% grading be at the close of entries**, rather than the current 'at the night before'

There were no dissenting views in respect of the recommendations, and these will be presented at conference



**Betty Brown** - asked if the Amateur rules could still be used. It was noted that these will still be part of the rule book for a further year

## 6. ESNZ DATABASE UPDATE

**DSM** - Main points

- Migrating results from old to new database is still proving an issue.
- Officials search function seems to be working well.

## 7. Notice of Meeting

### 2022 DRESSAGE NZ AGM | CONFERENCE & COMMITTEE MEETING

The 2022 Dressage AGM, Conference and Committee Meeting will be held at Rydges Hotel, Christchurch on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2022. This is a little later than usual however our first choice and venue availability clashed with the new public holiday Matariki on Friday 24<sup>th</sup>

Registration forms will be available soon. Attendees (other than DNZ officials) will be responsible for booking their own accommodation and flights. All details will be on registration forms

Conference check in from 8.30am. Conference 9.30am - 4pm. Committee meeting Sunday 8.45am - noon (Lunch will not be part of the conference package on Sunday but there will be a good morning tea provided)

There will be an election for Chair this year with Scott McKenna having completed a three-year term, but eligible to stand for a further three-year term. Expressions of Interest will sought for the position of Technical Officer. Nomination / EOI Forms will be available soon.

The Dressage Awards Dinner will be held at this venue on Saturday. The theme will be Dressage for Denmark so red & white will be the theme for the night please.

Dressage Annual Awards, Top 10 League Series, TiES Dressage & Prestige Dressage Futures Prize will be presented.

## 8. Draft Calendar 2022/23

Areas are requested to update the google form if any dates are missing; please make sure all date changes are updated on the google form, please include training days on the google form too. It allows DNZ to support the areas if any issues arise, allows us to prove events are held under DNZ jurisdiction especially in respect of insurance issues

The Sport Manager noted the importance of making sure all dates, under the jurisdiction of groups and branches including cancellations and amendments are noted with Jos Gresham on the Dates google form. This information can form part of our annual income Audit Process and also particularly important for insurance purposes to be able to prove the event or activity was ESNZ sanctioned. In the case of a claim, it will be necessary to show the OC was not negligent. Training Shows with inexperienced horses and riders may be a greater risk

## 9. Other - Area Officers

Jos Gresham noted she sends out the google form when area AGM have been held. Laura Hayes requested a copy of the previous year so only minimal changes may be required to be submitted

The Chair thanked members for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 9.25pm