

MINUTES



66th Annual Dressage NZ AGM & Conference

Saturday 1 July - 9.00am - 4.30pm

Rydgess Latimer Hotel – Savoy East Room – Christchurch

1. WELCOME / ROLL CALL / APOLOGIES

Scott McKenna | Chair

Scott McKenna welcomed everyone to the conference and explained the voting procedure. He also welcomed Christine Latch as a new Board member.

Present: Dressage NZ Board:

Scott McKenna, Sarah Hazlewood, Suzanne Inglis, Judith Cunningham, Christine Latch

ESNZ: Lynda Clarke, (ESNZ Board Chair), Julian Bowden (CEO) for some agenda items only

In attendance:

Wendy Hamerton (Sport Manager/Secretary) | Jos Gresham (Calendar / Series Points/Conference Asst)

Cassie Freeman (Conference Asst & Minute Secretary)

Voting Delegates Registered				Members / Observers Registered	
1	Rosie Richards	Auckland-Manukau	29	Meg Johnston	Youth Council Member
2	Pip Forsyth	Marlborough	30	Alyssa Harrison	Youth Council Member
3	Genevieve Quin	Northern Hawke's Bay	31	Pip Gibbons	Wellington
4	Andrea Fuehrer	Waitemata	32	Glenda Jones	SI NEC Rep
5	Tracey Cooper	Wairarapa	33	Barbara Clarke	Bay of Plenty
6	Fiora Au	NI Riders Rep	34	Sally Goldsmith	Canterbury
7	Anna Gale	SI Riders Rep	35	Jos Gresham	Calendar / Series Pts
8	Laura Hayes	Otago (for Jackie Thomas)	36	Cassie Freeman	Auckland
9	Leonie Coker	Bay of Plenty	37	Robin Savage	Christchurch
10	Becky Corlett	Taranaki	38	Debra Cowen	Waikato
11	Lois Andrewes	Northland	39	Kate Walker	Waitemata
12	Sally Linton	Waikato	40	Jade Jones	Waitemata
13	Rachel McCallum	Steward General	41	Violet Jones	Waitemata
14	Carolyn Jones	Southland	42	Georgia Mullins	Waitemata
15	Robin Friend	Wellington	43	Barbara Chalmers	Otago
16	Lauren Haig	Canterbury			
17	Nikki Cullen	Southern Hawkes Bay			
18	Stuart Bishell	Sth Cant/Nth Otago			
19	Sue Harris	Gisborne			
20	Susan Tomlin	Central Districts			
21	Angela Valentine	Nelson			
22	Olivia Goggin	Ashburton			
23	Bernice Frost	Taihape			
24	Scott McKenna	Board			
25	Sarah Hazlewood	Board			
26	Suzanne Inglis	Board			
27	Judith Cunningham	Board			
28	Christine Latch	Board / Sponsorship Manager			

Apologies:

Sue Hobson (ESNZ President), Jennifer Millar (ESNZ Patron)

Andrea Raves, Penny Pearce, Meila Picard, Anna Wilson, Piper Crake, Betty Brown, Wendy Jeffrey, Georgia Paul.

That the apologies be accepted

Moved: Scott McKenna

Seconded: Christine Latch

CARRIED

2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES of the 2022 AGM

of the 65th Annual Dressage Conference, held on Saturday 16th July 2022 at the Rydges Latimer Square, Christchurch, having been circulated, be confirmed as a true and correct record

Moved: Genevieve Quinn

Seconded Becky Corlett

CARRIED

Matters Arising: None

3. COMMITTEE 2023/24**Area Delegates, Riders Representatives, Steward General:**

The following have been submitted by ESNZ Dressage Area Groups & Island Riders Rep Nominations, Board Appointment for confirmation by the Conference.

(N) = New delegate

Northland	Lois Andrewes	Wellington	Robin Friend
Waitemata	Andrea Fuehrer	Wairarapa	Tracey Cooper (N)
Auckland	Rosie Richards (N)	Nelson	Angela Valentine
Waikato	Sally Linton	Marlborough	Pip Forsyth
Bay of Plenty	Leonie Coker	Canterbury	Lauren Haig (N)
Gisborne	Sue Harris	Ashburton	Olivia Goggin (N)
Nth Hawke's Bay	Genevieve Quin	Sth Cant/Nth Otago	Stuart Bishell
Sth Hawke's Bay	Nikki Cullen (N)	Otago	Jackie Thomas (N)
Taihape	Bernice Frost	Southland	Carolyn Jones (N)
Central Districts	Susan Tomlin	Nth Is Rider Rep	Fiora Au (N)
Sth Is Rider Rep	Anna Gale	Steward General	Rachel McCallum
Taranaki	Becky Corlett		

Substitutes at the meeting:

Laura Hayes for Jackie Thomas (Otago)

That the Dressage Committee 2023/24 be confirmed

Moved: Scott McKenna

Seconded Angela Valentine

CARRIED

From the Sport Manager

The Sport Manager asked that the Committee consider co-opting a member of the Youth Council to the Dressage Committee annually as a voting member. That the Council appoint their own representative. That By law 17 be amended to reflect this with the approval of the ESNZ Board.

The Chair added to this saying that we could co-opt a member at this stage, as the constitution is being reviewed once that is done the Youth Representation could be formalised next year.

Moved: Stuart Bishell

Seconded: Laura Hayes

CARRIED

BOARD 2022/2023 (For information)

Chairman (Until 2025)	Scott McKenna	(elected July 2022) (resigned 2023)
Technical (Until 2025)	Suzanne Inglis	(appointed Dec 2021 – July 2022)
Judges Officer (Until 2024)	Judith Cunningham	(elected July 2021)
Finance Officer (Until 2024)	Sarah Hazlewood	(appointed July 2021)
Marketing (Until 2023)	Alicia Cameron	(appointed June 2020 - resigned 2023)
Performance & Development	Olivia Ballantyne	(elected July 2022 – resigned 2023)

The Chair went through the Board and told conference that both Alicia Cameron and Olivia Ballantyne have stepped down.

4.1 APPOINTMENTS & BOARD SUB-COMMITTEES 2022/23 (For information)

Judges Sub-Committee: (As per the JSC Terms of Reference)

Mura Love appointed 2022- 2025 as the only EOI for the position.

Mary Craine appointed 2021-2024

Performance & Development Committee

Chair to be appointed by the Board following conference 2023. Andrea Raves was appointed Interim Chair of the PD committee by the Board for 22/23 year

Andrea Raves (Coach rep until 2023), Margs Carline (Chair of Selectors- until 31 August 2022), Debbie Barke (Riders Rep Until 2024) Olivia Ballantyne (Board member)

PD Administrator: Georgia Paul has now resigned

Note: Performance Committee has power to co-opt.

NI & SI ESNZ Equestrian Centre Representatives: Jon Williamson & Glenda Jones

ESNZ AGA Dressage Delegates: To be appointed by new Board following Dressage AGM

Island Pony & Young Rider Development Convenors (NI) Georgia Paul (SI) Naomi Murfitt

Appointment of Patron: TBC

The Chair advised conference that High Performance is now managed by ESNZ, and there could be openings on the High Performance Committee.

As a result of this the Performance & Development Committee can now focus on development, and that is a very exciting area.

The NI NEC is looking for a new convenor and there is scope for more members to join the performance & development committee.

There were no questions regarding the roles.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

There is no AGM correspondence

6.ANNUAL REPORTS

6.1: DRESSAGE NZ CHAIR

Scott McKenna

The Chair advised that he was now stepping down from the role. He said that he had enjoyed his time on the Board and will continue to be involved on the technical committee. He is always happy to be contacted and he gave thanks to everyone he has worked with but in particular to Wendy Hamerton, Jos Gresham and Sue Hobson

6.2: DRESSAGE NZ SPORT MANAGER

Wendy Hamerton

The Sport Manager thanked the Chair for all his hard work on the Board and his outstanding contribution to dressage.

She noted that one of the highlights of the year was the World Equestrian Games in Denmark. She said that this was the first time since 1998 that NZ has fielded a team. Jock Paget and the team did a wonderful job.

She drew attention to the trend around level 1 and 2 registrations, that there are more riders competing overall but not at level 1. She noted that there are more people competing at level 1 unregistered and non-graded and that these people are still very important to our sport, but currently we have no way of contacting them.

This initiated a discussion around how these riders can be better served by our national organisation. Suggestions included having a top 10 league for non-registered competitors, an accumulator league for non-graded competitors, adding an unregistered award to the Land Rover Teams, or having an unregistered team member.

6.3 FINANCE OFFICER

Sarah Hazlewood

Sarah Hazelwood (FO) summarised that DNZ is making money but relies heavily on sponsorship and grants. DNZ is now apportioning admin and sponsorship costs to each individual event to see the true cost of running each event.

\$68,000 profit which is slightly less than the previous year.

The Sport Manager commented that it is policy not to include in the budget potential funding from grants as it is impossible to guarantee that these will be awarded, and that the profit was equivalent to the grant funding. The profit will go back into the sport.

She also thanked the FO for all her hard work and made conference aware that there were 600 transactions alone just for the Nationals.

6.4 TECHNICAL OFFICER

Suzanne Inglis

Suzanne said that copies of the new draft rule book are available to look at.

Judges Officer (JO) acknowledged support of the Board and the Judges sub committee, as well as Lesley Jacobson, Fiora Au, Suzanne Inglis and Debra Cowen, and the regional judges officers.

She highlighted that there had been successful judges clinics and said that there will be more in the future, including training on Black Horse for A & B judges.

The trans tasman exchange has started again.

New tests will start from September 2023.

She thanked the Chair for his support.

6.6 PERFORMANCE & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE Andrea Raves (Interim Chair & Coach Rep)

The Chair drew attention to the mission statement of this committee and encouraged people to get involved.

Taken as read

6.7 ESNZ HIGH PERFORMANCE

Taken as read

6:8 SELECTORS REPORT**Margs Carline (CHAIR)**

Taken as read

6:9 DRESSAGE STEWARD GENERAL REPORT**Rachel McCallum**

Rachel highlighted the success of the stewards course that was run jointly with showjumping. Zoom sessions have continued for national stewards. The riders have been great to work with and that their attitudes towards the stewards has improved. The TD and stewards are all working together as one cohesive team which is a very good thing.

6:10:1 SPONSORSHIP REPORT JUNE 2023**Christine Latch**

Christine said that she was very happy to have joined the DNZ team. Most sponsors are keen to continue. She would ask that all areas encourage their riders to contact sponsors after events as this really makes a difference, especially after premier league shows. Margins are tight for all. Livamol will be back to sponsor the World Challenge in November. Debra Cowen reiterated the importance of contacting sponsors. She said that the feedback she receives is sponsors will only support dressage if we support them. Please think about where you make purchases and if you do use a sponsor please let them know that you have come to them because they are a DNZ sponsor. Becky Corlett commented that the Auckland-Manukau programme should now be a national standard. Having a QR code included was excellent. Fiora Au thanked Becky and said she would be happy to help anyone who wanted to include a QR code in their programmes.

Taken as read

6.11 South Island Rider Representative Report**Anna Gale (Committee)**

Anna said that it had been a very productive season and the that SI Champs was a very good show. They were very proud to have raised \$8000 towards the ESNZ Cyclone relief fund.

6:12 North Island Rider Representative**Ashleigh Kendall**

Taken as read

6:13 Taupo Equestrian Centre DNZ Representative**Jon Williamson**

Taken as read.

6:14 Youth Council Annual Report**Meila Picard**

Alyssa Harrison and Meg Johnston delivered the Youth Council Report. They said that facebook has been the main method of communication and that webinars via facebook have been very informative.

Some of the initiatives planned are having more youth gatherings at premier shows, helping people while they are at University and buddy riders, helping new riders in the sport.

They thanked the areas for supporting youth reps in the areas, and said that this has been invaluable in getting information from youth riders at the shows.

6:15 Bates DNZ National Championships**Cassie Freeman**

Taken as read

6:16 McLeans Island Equestrian Centre DNZ Representative Report**Glenda Jones**

Glenda said that she is very proud of where the SI NEC is going , and commented that all 3 disciplines are working well together.

All reports were ACCEPTED at the end of reading the reports

Moved: Scott McKenna

Seconded: Sarah Hazelwood

CARRIED

Lynda Clarke (ESNZ Board Chair) gave thanks to all office workers and office holders. She acknowledged the contribution from Scott to the sport and said that he has been instrumental in the constitution review.

7.Fees 2023/24

7.1 Dressage Fees for 2023/24

There will be no increase in any Dressage fees for 23/34

Julian Bowden (ESNZ CEO) confirmed that there would be no change to the Horse reg processing fee.

Kate Walker asked why it is mandatory to pay with a credit card that charges a 3% fee.

Julian replied that some of the money goes back into the sport and some to the website developer. He agreed that this should be better explained and said it will be in the future.

TD Levies will be as follows:

\$4.00 per start for TE & LE, \$4.50 per start RE (Incl PL), National Events

TD Levies are payable by all competitions Graded & Non-Graded

8.ELECTIONS

8.1 CHAIR

There was one nomination for the position of Chair

Nominee: Sue Hobson

Nominated by: Andrea Raves

Seconded by: Betty Brown

Nominated by: Wendy Butler

Seconded by: Barbara Chalmers

Nominated by: Mary Craine

Seconded by: Rachel Fouhy

Moved by Barbara Chalmers

Seconded by Leonie Coker & Anna Gale

CARRIED

As Sue was absent from conference due to judging commitments in the UK, it had been agreed by ESNZ for Scott McKenna to remain the Chair until Monday 3rd July 2023 to allow business to continue.

Scrutineers were appointed. Jos Gresham and Robin Savage.

Moved: Scott McKenna

Seconded: Christine Latch

CARRIED

8.2 Performance & Development

There were two nominations for the position of Performance & Development Board Member

Nominee: **Andrea Raves (Wellington)**

Nominated by: Susan Tomlin **Seconded by:** Jos Gresham

8.2 Performance & Development

Nominee(2): **Barbara Chalmers (Otago)**

Nominated by: Alice Lloyd Fitt **Seconded by:** Wendy Butler

Before the vote Susan Tomlin read a note on behalf of Andrea Raves as Andrea was in Aachen. It said that she wants to help dressage at all levels.

Barbara Chalmers was in attendance she said that she had a passion to help progress the sport.

The Sport Manager pointed out that this position is not necessarily appointment to the Board. Leonie Coker clarified that if Andrea Raves were to get the position then a new coach representative would be needed.

8.3 Election of Committee Representative to Appointment Panel

There were two nominations for the position of Committee Representative on the Appointment Panel

Nominee (1) **Debra Cowen (Waikato)**

Nominated by: Mary Craine **Seconded by:** Rachel Fouhy

Nominated by: Sue Hobson **Seconded by:** Helen Hughes-Keen

Nominee (2) **Sally Goldsmith (Canterbury)**

Nominated by: Cherie Pearson **Seconded by:** Amanda Condon

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8.4 Election of North Island Rider Rep

There was one nomination for North Island Rider Rep

Nominee: **Fiora Au (Auckland)**

Nominated by: Betty Brown

Seconded by: Maree Lynch

Moved: Christine Latch

Seconded: Sally Linton

8.5 Election of South Island Rider Rep

There was one nomination for South Island Rider Rep

Nominee: **Anna Gale**

Nominated by: Amanda Scott Bates

Seconded by: Inger Straight

Moved: Scott McKenna

Seconded: Laura Hayes

9. GENERAL BUSINESS

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Referred from Planning Forum: Protocol Days - Re Potential Conflict of Interest for Judges

For information: Dressage Australia has recently updated their Conflict Rules as follows:

1.8.2 People may not officiate as a judge of a competition if:

k) “they have ~~judged~~ assessed riders at a protocol session within two weeks of the competition”

This will mean that for some areas like Taranaki, they will have to change the way they run their show. Becky Corlett said that Taranki will remove all training from the shows.

This new wording will be added to the Judges technical manual, and will be added by the Judges sub committee.

Moved: Angela Valentine

Seconded: Barbara Chalmers

CARRIED

Passed by Planning Forum to Conference for Ratification

Remit 1: Breeches

Amend CURRENT RULE/ARTICLE NUMBER: DRESS 479

Jodhpurs Breeches to be allowed being dark colours (black, brown, or grey)

RATIONALE: Allows entry into sport without purchasing specific competition wear, more comfortable for riders. More inclusive and flattering for those not comfortable in white due to body shape; More confidence for riders competing whilst menstruating. Not transparent when wet/riding in the rain.

As per the USEF Dressage Rules : 1.4 Breeches and Jodhpurs. White, light, or dark coloured breeches or jodhpurs are permitted in competition. Bright colours or patterns are not permitted. Contrast piping is allowed.

Against: Susan Tomlin, Laura Hayes, Pip Forsyth, Sarah Hazelwood

Passed

Remit 2: Penalty re Boots

ARTICLE NUMBER: 477 5.1

5.1: **Clarify** where it says any kind of boots are, ~~under penalty of elimination~~, strictly forbidden.

Motion: Follow the FEI rule: – re-starting the test after allowing an assistant to remove the boots

National rules: remove “elimination” and give a 2-point penalty

None against

Passed

Remit 3: Fly Masks

5: Remit: Art 477 5.4

Fly masks are forbidden in competition but may be used when training and in warm-up. Elimination if used in competition.

5.4: Add fly masks are permitted when training or warming up.. Masks may not be attached to the bridle in any way.

None against

Passed

Remits 4: Ear Hoods

Amend: CURRENT RULE/ARTICLE NUMBER: Article 477.3.6

REMIT Add to current wording:

Ear hoods may not be attached to the noseband. **RATIONALE:** To bring in line with FEI rules.

None against

Passed

Remit 5: Whips

Addition: CURRENT RULE/ ARTICLE NUMBER : Article 478.1.3 **Add:** New wording -
For use of whips in Young Dressage Horses classes refer to Annex 7 clause 4

RATIONALE: Clarification

None against

Passed

Remit 6: Dressage Rules for Administration ESNZ By Law 17

That there be no time limit for Finance Officer on Board owing to the on hands and very specific skill set required. **Note:** The current by-law permits two x three-year terms only.

None against

Passed

This will need to be passed to ESNZ Board for approval

Remit 7: Neck Straps

Amend CURRENT RULE/ARTICLE NUMBER: 477 – Saddlery 8.1.2

7B: REMIT:

New wording: Neck straps are approved as a safety device for all levels in National classes. A neck strap is a single plain strap fitted in one loop around the horse's neck, can only be used for safety purposes, cannot be used to stabilise the rider.

RATIONALE: Horses of any level can have moments of resistance or spooking, and easier for judges, riders, officials to remember if it's allowed at all levels.

The Sport Manager clarified that this would not be allowed under FEI rules.

Against: Sarah Hazelwood, Judith Cunningham, Susan Tomlin, Nicky Cullen, Laura Hayes, Olivia Goggin, Genevieve Quinn, Laura Haig, Leonie Coker.

Passed

Scott McKenna proposed that 7B wording be adopted.

Moved: Scott McKenna

Seconded: Bernice Frost

CARRIED

11. ESNZ UPDATE

There was an update on ESNZ Projects with CEO Julian Bowden.

He explained the value proposition of ESNZ.

Money that goes to ESNZ goes on license fees, operations, membership, admin, governance, training & development.

The variety of tasks can be seen in more detail on the website.

A new draft constitution has been prepared and will be available til 31st July 2023 for people to comment on.

Then there will be 2 online hui. ESNZ would like to ratify the new constitution in Sept 2023.

ESNZ is trying to give back to its members by having deals with a tyre company for 25% off with ESNZ number and they are also looking to have deal with a fuel company as well.

Jo Colin spoke about the "Strengthen & Adapt" launch. Sport NZ have provided \$450,000 in funding for this project. ESNZ will come to the areas to speak to members to understand how ESNZ can strengthen and adapt.

Warrick Allan spoke about the High Performance programme. There is now a fully funded High Performance programme. This is funded by \$40,000 from ESNZ and \$40,000 from DNZ. High Performance is currently a very exciting area and the scores required to qualify for the Olympics are very achievable.

Included is mental health support that is available to all High Performance members.

12. GOLD/SILVER/BRONZE REVIEW

Anna Gale gave the findings of the Sub-committee appointed at the Planning Forum.

A discussion followed during which it was agreed that riders should be allowed to ride up a level, but it was unmanageable for people to continuously move up and down the levels during a season. If running a merged class at a show riders cannot ride up a level in that class as it is not possible for EvoEvents to record the results accurately.

The Sport Manager said that shows must stipulate if classes will be merged or not in the schedule.

To help riders know what level they are John Lawson (Evo Events) could add a riders grade under their account. Sally Linton said she could ask John if this was possible and advise.

The Sport Manager also said that John Lawson also asked that if any changes are made to the G/S/B percentages that these are not changed again for at least 3 years.

Jos Gresham reminded everyone that only shows that are entered on EvoEvents can be included in series Bronze/Silver/Gold Also to not add any ESNZ numbers to non-graded/unregistered classes.

The following recommendations from the Sub Committee were agreed:

- * Dropping the 'previously ridden levels' down a level in Bronze and Silver -
- * Dropping the total scores to 10 or more
- * Raising the bar four years to eight years in silver .
- * Silver to be 67% over all levels in silver.

Moved: Angela Valentine

Seconded: Pip Forsythe

CARRIED

13. Registration & Annual Start Strategy

Level 1 Annual Starts are declining. While Level 2 and above Dressage is showing the best performance growth across all discipline annual start categories since 2021, Level 1 Dressage shows just the opposite. We had a discussion around why this might be the case and what can be done about it.

Financial constraints in the current climate were considered to play a big part in this trend, but also the perception that you need to be at a higher level in order to become registered, and people don't know what is on offer.

It was felt that a positive message needs to be sent out that encourages people to participate if they want to.

One advantage of being registered at level 1 is that you can enter the series, so perhaps the series needs to be advertised better.

14. Rule Book Review Update

Progress Overview with Suzanne Inglis – Technical Officer
Suzanne explained some of the changes that have taken place.

The Movements and Paces section is becoming an annex.

1. Section 1 - "Getting Started, Grading...."

Dress – the tables on "Dress" have been merged together and anything different made clear.
Saddlery – Moved article 477.5.4 and made it from time arrive on showground can only use allowed tack.
Saddles/bridles all general info is now at the top and then the specifics for levels is further down.

Some items have new headings.

The tables for penalties for contravening saddlery rules have been condensed.

Suzanne pointed out that the intention of the rules hasn't been altered, just changed wording to be clearer and be more logical.

2. Section 2 – "Competition Day"

There are some new headings. Course error has been moved to its own area.

New – Paces and Movements, these pertained to the rider and therefore have been moved to the body of the rules, also holding the reins with both hands.

3. Section 3 – "Officials and OC Information"

There has been some changes to the wording around judge placement and a new table added.
Unnoticed errors has been moved to the Judges section.

It is hoped that judges and riders will look up the rule book.

Suzanne advised people to download the FEI tack app for clarification on tack items.

Suzanne asked if rider categories should be kept and it was agreed that they should be kept for now and discussed next year.

15. PL World Cup Final & Oro DBT Lake

There was an update from Event Director Debra Cowen

Debra and her team are working incredibly on this event. It is almost double the cost of the 2021 show.

It is being run so that riders can gain Olympic ranking points but also so that all riders can compete at this level of show.

There will be 200 horses, 160 riders 9 FEI judges and 4 arenas. All levels will be catered for including Para. 30 entries per class with no prior qualification needed.

Major sponsor is Oro Saddlery. There are many sponsorship opportunities available.

Debra asked that everyone celebrates the event and gets involved;

Engage in social media

Volunteer

Support the sponsors

Join the supporters club.

16. Teams & Squads 22/23/24

ESNZ HP Dressage NZ Squads

HP Futures Squad

Melissa Galloway on Windermere J'Obei W

Wendi Williamson on Don Vito MH

Gaylene Lennard on Jax Johnson

HP Potential Squad

Kallista Field

Vanessa Way

Talent Development Squad

Ben Weir

Madison Schollum

Brina Carpenter

Amy Sage

Lucarne Dolley

Talent ID Squad

Holly Hansen

Gemma Lewis

Samantha Belsham

Rebecca Mobberley

Francesca Masfen

2022 FEI Dressage World Champs – Herning

Melissa Galloway – Windermere J'Obei W

Gayleen Lennard – Jax Johnston

John Thompson - Chemistry

2022 Livamol FEI Dressage World Challenge Team

Susan Tomlin – Dance Hit SW

Lucy Cochrane- - Gymanji

Paige Fitzgerald – Greenmore Europhia

Jody Hartstone - Vincent