

# DRAFT MINUTES: Dressage NZ Committee Meeting 2023



Date: Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2023 @ 8.30am

Venue: Rydges Latimer Hotel Christchurch - Savoy East Room

## 1. PRESENT

### In Attendance:

Wendy Hamerton/Sport Manager

Cassie Freeman / Minute Secretary

Jos Gresham / Series Points – Calendar

Jo Colin / ESNZ Community Manager From 10.45

Ashra McAvinue / ESNZ Strengthen & Adapt From 10.45

## BOARD

\* **Scott McKenna** Chaired this meeting and vacated the role at the end of the meeting

Sarah Hazlewood (Finance)

Suzanne Inglis (Technical)

Christine Latch (Marketing & Comms)

Judith Cunningham (Judges)

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

## Apologies:

Sue Hobson, Andrea Raves, Sally Goldsmith

## 2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES of the 2023 Planning Forum

held by Zoom on 18/19 April 2023 having been circulated, be confirmed as a true and correct record:

Moved: Christine Latch

Seconded: Suzanne Inglis

**CARRIED**

**Matters Arising: None**

## 3. MATTERS ARISING FROM CONFERENCE

None

## 4. AREA GROUPS – ADMIN & SUPPORT - QA

Dropbox access – the Sport Manager asked delegates to email her with people who need access to the dropbox. (eg secretaries, delegates) the area can decide who they feel needs access. A lot of info will be updated.

It was suggested that in the future hard copies of documents such as the A-V manual will not be produced, they will just be in the dropbox.

Delegates were reminded that date or contact changes are made on the **GOOGLE form** asap after changes are made, please do not send emails. Once the form is submitted the programme will ask if you wish to save a copy. Delegates were advised to say 'yes' and keep a copy of the submitted form.

Date changes are even more important now owing to the information and event code / date links that must match for purposes uploading results on Horse Reg .

Any rally etc must be advised to Jos on a Google Form so it is on the list for insurance purposes. The form currently does not allow for this but Jos will create a new form for rallies Until this is completed please send Jos an email.

With Evo Events please ensure classes are set up correctly as if not it has a detrimental effect on the GSB classifications. Sarah Hazelwood also pointed out that there is a tick box for T&D levies. As levies are different depending on the level of show, it is important to make sure the correct box is ticked. Quite often it isn't.

## 5. HORSE REG UPDATE – SPORT MANAGER

Jos Gresham and the Sport Manager have been updating the results with ESNZ which has been very time consuming but worthwhile. They have found a number of errors.

Sport Manager thanked the delegates for giving her and Jos access to their Evo platforms which has helped to identify issues.

Fiora Au asked if ESNZ was also working with other providers to make sure Horse Reg was the true result, and would be a source of truth for Gold/Silver/Bronze. Wendy said that there was still some work to do on that yet but should be the case in the future.

She said that event secretaries need to monitor people who are not current members as their results won't come through to Horse Reg if their membership or Horse Registration is not current

Judges and Stewards were asked to ensure that their memberships are up to date when accepting invitations. Both Bernice Frost and Genevieve Quinn commented that the ESNZ website is not very easy to renew membership, and asked if this could be looked at.

Sport Manager pointed out that DNZ are very fortunate that EvoEvents do not charge for all the changes. There is a lot of work that people don't realise. The Sport Manager suggested that DNZ doesn't even think about moving GSB details to Horse Reg until it is confirmed that people want Gold/Silver/Bronze to stay as if DNZ moves to Horse Reg it won't be cheap or quick, and each change will come with a cost.

## 7. 2023/24 BUDGET

The Chair stated that he wanted to discuss the budget before the surplus. (See surplus section below budget)

Sarah Hazelwood told the committee that the budget can be amended each quarter.

Becky Corlett questioned the amount shown for High Performance. The Chair explained that the money for High Performance is paid to ESNZ and is part of the \$40,000 discussed by Julian Bowden previously. The Sport Manager added that the balance had already been paid in the previous financial year. .

Becky also pointed out that there was no explanation of what \$16,100 under the Judges is spent on. The Chair advised that the judges sub-committee will decide what that money should be spent on. Judith Cunningham gave examples of what that may include, such as training clinics, travel subsidies etc. Becky said that this should have a label stating it is to be spent by the Judges sub-committee.

The Chair indicated that their aim is for High Performance to be funded by external sources, due to the rising profile of NZ Dressage, and in the medium term that this \$40,000 will no longer need to be paid to ESNZ and can go on other things.

The Chair stated that the Budget is produced without including forecast grant funds. This results in a loss of up \$25,000 for each events run by DNZ in the Budget. This is an issue as this \$25,000 cannot be allocated to growing the sport until the end of the year when we recognise a surplus due to the grant money. He said this is an issue that needs to be fixed in the future.

The Sport Manager commented that as the grant funding is not guaranteed, and sponsorship is at the maximum achievable in the current climate, the only other way to budget for the events to break even would be to increase rider fees, which would probably prove to be unpopular. She asked if anyone had any other ideas how to improve this.

Anna Gale commented that these are issues at every level, not just national.

Susan Tomlin commented that budgeting for a deficit with the potential of a surplus, works fine. Raising fees would get a strong negative reaction.

Anna Gale suggested that medical costs could be covered centrally to decrease the medical levy on rider fees. The Chair said it is almost impossible to find an organisation to cover this. There was a discussion about the difficulties of finding medical cover at shows around the country.

Fiora Au raised the issue of prize money.

The Chair shared his personal view that prize money is not beneficial. The room seemed to agree that prize money should be removed, although they did acknowledge that not everybody would hold the same views. It was felt that this money would be better spent reducing entry fees for all and training and development. The Chair pointed out that prize money is not a requirement and areas can make their own choice about whether to award it or not.

The Sport Manager commented that some prize money has been removed from classes at the nationals, so there is already gradual move towards not paying prize money. She also added that prize is no longer an FEI requirement.

The area delegates felt that if prize money was stopped at national level shows it would set the expectation.

## **6. SURPLUS 2022/ 2023**

The Chair stated that the surplus from last year is \$68,000, and that the Committee needs to decide what this money should be spent on.

Sally Linton commented that the reason that there is a surplus should be explained.

Leonie Coker suggested that the money could be held by the Board and if areas require assistance to pay for medical cover they could apply for funding from the Board.

Nicky Cullen said that Sth HBay were capping entries at 120 owing to Medical Sts . The Sport Manager was disappointed to hear that, and commented that this went against everything DNZ is trying to achieve. She will feed this back to ESNZ.

The Chair gave the Committee some background to the new regulations.

Rosie Richards asked why areas are capping the entries, is it due to cost or availability of medics. Nicky Cullen replied it was due to availability in her area.

The Sport Manager asked to speak to Nicky more about the situation after the meeting as it is her understanding that ESNZ have a contract with a medical provider, Transit Care, who guarantee cover for ESNZ events, and if its not happening ESNZ need to know. Leonie Coker added that she has never heard of Transit Care.

There was a discussion about different people who are available and provide medical cover, the Sport Manager clarified that someone can be a qualified first responder but must be registered under a medical director to meet the new regulations. and to be able to provide a FR level of care / drugs etc

The Chair commented that as these are new regulations it will take time for medics to register, but this should be a short term issue of availability, however cost is a longer term issue.

The Sport Manager felt that using the money to assist with medical cover was not the best use of the funds. It would be a short term fix for a long term issue.

Rosie Richards said that in reality medical fee increase is just another cost of competing. The Chair concurred.

Andrea Fuehrer suggested that the surplus should be used for training and development in local areas that benefit people on the ground.

The Chair responded that the development committee would like feedback on the best way to support the regions, he gave examples of running national camps or the regions running their own training, or DNZ training the coaches, and that a portion of the surplus could go to the areas to run development projects and provide feedback on what worked and what didn't.

Sally Linton supported the "train the trainer" model.

The Sport Manager asked about the idea of DNZ bridging the gap between area level and high performance. The Chair added that the gap is particularly evident in the adult amateur area.

Becky Corlett liked the idea of the money going to the areas to decide how to distribute, particularly due to the distance from national centres for a lot of riders

Fiora Au made the point that people who feel they can progress have ways to do this but there is a gap for people who do not realise their potential.

The Chair added that the aim should be to help everyone achieve their goals, no matter what level that may be.

Andrea Fuehrer added that not all training needs to be based around riding but can include grooming plaiting, etc. This led on to a discussion that training in the future needs to include training around the Social License and must also cater for all segments of the sport. It was agreed that this is a good idea. The Sport Manager noted that there are benefits in camps being run at local area level as they may have access to local sponsorship and people that are willing to volunteer that is not available nationally. Smaller areas could combine with other areas.

The Chair stated that coaching was an area where DNZ should step up, especially to ensure a consistent standard and quality. Should be making it easier for areas to source coaches.

The Sport Manager raised the point that if projects are to be run nationally then these need to be sufficiently resourced. The expectation appears to be that there are always resources available, which is not always the case.

The agreement was that;

- \$50K to go to development projects for areas.
- Area delegates to have a zoom call in 5-6 weeks to discuss programmes they want to run.
- Development committee to be asked to run that meeting.
- 5-6 weeks after that areas to put bids into the Board for projects they would like to run.

Moved: Scott McKenna

Seconded: Sue Harris

**CARRIED**

## **Social License**

A Social License sub-committee should be set up with people who will scrutinise DNZ.

This should include; a steward, vet, judge, OC Rep, Rider Rep, Youth Council Rep, Committee Member, Coach, Board Rep, someone who is external to the sport.

The Committee would have the power to co-opt.

Expressions of interest should go out, with appointments by the Appointment Panel.

Moved: Scott McKenna

Seconded: Rosie Richards

**CARRIED**

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## 8. ESNZ Strengthen & Adapt Road Show Update

**Jo Colin & Ashra McAvinue (ESNZ) gave an update on this initiative**

### **STRENGTHEN & ADAPT | Banter, refreshments, spot prizes**

All work and no play? Not likely! The first series of Roadshows are now being rolled out as ESNZ enacts Sport NZ's desire to future-proof the country's sporting codes to meet the new challenges of changing communities. All members of the wider equestrian community across the country are invited to come together and share ideas on how they see the future of the sport, post COVID-19. But it won't be all work and no play. Billed as a social event of good-humoured banter, drinks and nibbles, spot prizes, and a fun workshop that invites you to express what you would love for the future of our sport. Younger riders are welcome to all our events, and especially to four of the Roadshows – the first being in the evening at Waikato. To have a voice in Whangarei (20-21 July), Albany (25 July), Clevedon (26 July) or Taupō (8-9 August) please register here at the bottom of this post. Other dates will include Tauranga/Hawkes Bay in late August, Gisborne mid-September, Wellington/Manawatu Region early September, Taranaki Region mid-September, Nelson/Marlborough Region late September, Christchurch/Canterbury Region mid-October, Otago/Southland Region late October, Greymouth/West Coast Region late October.

The Strengthen and Adapt team will also be at Equifest at the Fibre Fresh National Equestrian Centre in Taupō from 13-15 October.

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## 9. Bulletin/Newsletters

Snaffle Design is no longer in a position to produce the Bulletin after 66 beautiful issues. The committee discussed if the Bulletin in its current format was something that they wanted to continue and an overwhelming majority voted that the Bulletin should continue. Carolyn Jones had some suggestions as to who may be able to take over from Snaffle Design and would speak to the Sport Manager privately.

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## 10. Peter Jenkins Memorial Fund Bulletin

Peter's family have worked alongside Dressage NZ to build a fund for international pinnacle events with the fund managed at the discretion of Dressage NZ.

The Sport Manager told the Committee that it will be an ongoing fund, but currently we do not know how much is in the fund as some of Pete's family have still to make their donations.

Scott McKenna added that the fund would provide scope to do things now with a longer term view.

Decisions on what the fund should be used for were not needed at this time.

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## 11. Conference 2024

The Committee agreed that they were happy for the next Conference be a combined Conference again, subject to the choice of venue.

## 12. Qualifications for HOY & Nats

It was agreed that HOY remain the same the 2023 proposal

Title Classes Eligibility HOY 2024: (Graded competitions only) All classes up to Advanced from 1 Sept 2023 – 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb 2024 any PL events after that subject to entries received by close date		
**FEI levels ( CDIY, Small, Medium & Big Tour-GP) must qualify as a combination from Jan 1 <sup>st</sup> 2023		
Level	MES	Event Classification (Graded competitions only)
Preliminary Horse	64%	Premier League or Youth Festival Preliminary, Zilco Novice or Youth Festival NOV MFS
Novice Horse	64%	Premier League Zilco Novice or Youth Festival NOV MFS
Elementary Horse	64%	Premier League Zilco Elementary Youth Festival ELE MFS
Medium Horse	64%	Premier League Zilco Medium Youth Festival MED MFS
Adv Medium Horse	60%	Premier League Zilco Advanced Medium OR Youth Festival ADV MED MFS
Advanced Horse	60%	Premier League Zilco Advanced Youth Festival ADV MFS
**FEI Small Tour Horse	60%	Premier League Int1, PSG OR Youth Festival FEI YR Team or IND
**FEI Medium Tour	58%	Premier League Int A, Int B or Int II or Youth Festival U25 GP
**FEI GP CDI 3*	58%	Premier League GP or GPS or Youth Festival U25 GP
**FEI YR CDI/Y	60%	Premier League: FEI YR Test, PSG or Int I OR Youth Festival FEI YR Team or IND
Title & Non-Title Pony Classes Eligibility (Graded competitions only)		
Preliminary Pony	60%	Any graded competition
Novice Pony	60%	Any graded competition
Elementary Pony	60%	Any graded competition
Pony of the Year (Medium level)	60%	Any graded competition at Elementary or above. May not also compete in Elementary Pony
Non-title classes Horses Eligibility: (Graded competitions only)		
Preliminary Horse	64%	Premier League Preliminary OR Youth Festival Preliminary
Novice Horse	64%	Premier League Novice or Zilco Novice OR Youth Festival Novice
Elementary Horse	64%	Premier League Elementary or Zilco Elementary OR Youth Festival Elementary
Young Dressage Horse Classes		
No prior qualification. Proof of age of horse must be supplied with entry.		

## National Championships 2024

A discussion took place about the qualification criteria for Nationals. While high entries are desirable this should not be at the expense of standards as this is a prestigious event, therefore a vote on having to qualify to compete was overwhelmingly in favour.

It was felt that 60% was an appropriate score for all classes.

It was noted that having different % to HOY may be confusing for some riders, this was not insurmountable.

### Qualifying Criteria

- 60% across the board for Nationals. Only scores attained at a Premier League Show to count. (incl freestyle)
- If over subscribed, first in, first served basis.
- Qualifying criteria from 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2023. Must qualify in the grade you wish to compete at Nationals.

## 13. FEI DRESSAGE WORLD CHALLENGE 2023

The Sport Manager confirmed that Livamol would once again be the sponsors of this event, and are sending a rep from Australia. Delegates were given the following for information:

[https://inside.fei.org/sites/default/files/2023\\_WCHA-D\\_Rules\\_Clean\\_Version-Updated\\_23.01.2023.pdf](https://inside.fei.org/sites/default/files/2023_WCHA-D_Rules_Clean_Version-Updated_23.01.2023.pdf)

Judges: Connie Bookless (AUS) FEI 3\*  
Stuart Bishell (NZL – SCNO) List A

1. To be hosted at CHCH NEC in conjunction with a Canterbury Dressage LE 4/5 November
2. Warm up day, horse inspection & team selection on Sat 4<sup>th</sup> alongside LE
3. WDC tests to be offered. Max 3 tests / day. Riders who have not entered WDC can compete in the WDC tests
  - a. Youth Age Rider 12-16yrs age group – horse grade unrestricted  
FEI Children Team Test
  - b. Senior I (approx level 3-4) FEI Children individual Test 16yrs & above
  - c. Senior II (approx Level 5) FEI Junior Team Test 16yrs & above
  - d. FEI PSG 16yrs & above
  - e. FEI Int I 16yrs & above
4. 40 competitors across all tests

## 14. DRESSAGE AREA DELEGATE ROLE

Cassie Freeman drew particular attention to point 3.2

*“Assist with running of National events”* As Event Manager for the Nationals Cassie would be delighted to hear from any delegates to discuss how they can help with the Nationals.

### Next Meeting to be Sept 2023

The SM gave a final thanks to The Chair Scott McKenna for his contribution to DNZ.