



EQUESTRIAN SPORTS
NEW ZEALAND

WELCOME TO

Equestrian Sports New Zealand



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Cover image credit: Michelle Clarke

· Welcome ·

Morena and welcome. A wise man once said that a good rider can hear his horse speak to him but a great rider can hear him whisper. The privilege of having a partnership with a horse is a very special part of our sport that others simply cannot offer. You are only one part of the equation – you can't compete without your horse and therefore it is always in your best interest to take special care of them and their welfare.

Equestrian Sports New Zealand is the national sports organisation for recreational and competitive activities of horse and human.

We hope this is the beginning of a great partnership between us, and that we can help you to enjoy your sport, going from strength to strength in your relationship with your horse, in your riding and your competitive pursuits.

Whether you choose to be involved as a rider, volunteer, an official, a parent, an introductory competitor or someone who wants to make a business out of your love for equestrian, there is a lot to find in our membership guide and on our website at www.nzequestrian.org.nz. This website provides resources, news and educational information, and is a living archive of Aotearoa New Zealand's history within equestrian sports. It also

provides a portal to HorseReg, a specialist provider of integrated membership and registration technology to the equestrian sports community at www.horsereg.com/#!/memberships/equestrian-sports-new-zealand.

To enter a competition, online entries are easy to use and store all you and your equine's details online for the next time you want to enter. The entries are automatically sent through to the show secretary where they are verified. Show schedules can also be found. The two online services available for equestrian sports are www.evoevents.co.nz and www.main-events.com/events.

If you need something or want to ask us questions, please do not hesitate to contact us at nzef@nzequestrian.org.nz or phone 04 499 8994. The membership services team is extremely focused on delivering solutions and answers to any queries. If they can't help you, they will know who can.

Meantime, whether you just plan to be having fun or competing at the highest level, enjoy your relationship with your horse, ask lots of questions and be a fair competitor. There will be trials and tribulations – make your come backs stronger than your setbacks – and have a lot of fun!

Julian Bowden

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Equestrian Sports New Zealand



Introduction to Equestrian Sport

Horse riding is a great form of exercise.

Horse riding helps to improve core strength and posture, is great for improving your balance, and provides a good cardio workout too. Horses can also benefit your mental health. The interaction with their intuitive and sensitive nature combined with getting out in the fresh air and being physically active is known to reduce stress and anxiety, and improve our mood. Whatever your chosen path, the benefits and pleasures of sharing your life with a horse will quickly become apparent.

Here is what we do for the sport of equestrian:

Advocacy - As part of a larger network, we regularly speak on behalf of equestrian sports in New Zealand, giving our members a stronger voice than can be achieved individually.

Archives - We have a comprehensive library that has archived our evolution and development from the original New Zealand Horse Society until today, for the sake of generations that follow.

Breeders - We have a working relationship with the main sport horse breeders and breed associations, so our riders have the best chances of success on horses that are fit for purpose.

Coaching - We encourage and support people into coaching programmes and achieving accreditation, and some have made coaching careers that take them all over the world.

Education - We are members of the FEI (Fédération Equestre Internationale) and share their online resources. And we have a very large website featuring helpful and relevant topics.

Excellence - All of ESNZ's staff are horse-lovers, and many of us ride. We have a total commitment to our sport and to making sure members get excellent experiences too.

Facilities - Our National Equestrian Centres in Taupō and Christchurch are busy almost every weekend of the year, where Olympians like Sir Mark Todd and Blyth Tait MBE began their careers.

Game changer - We strive to secure the future of equestrian, and the Sport NZ Strengthen & Adapt initiative enables us to strengthen the capability and capacity of equestrian.

High Performance - Our HP programme managers, selectors and support staff work with HP Sport NZ, the NZ Olympic Committee and the FEI, so kiwis can excel on the world stage.

Income - We have secured and manage sponsorship and funding that offsets the cost of competition for members as much as possible. We also oversee several Trust Funds.

Lifelong associations - We have lifelong associations with many organisations across the sector including an MOU with the [NZ Pony Clubs Association](#), and [NZ Riding For The Disabled](#).

Member benefits - We have partners chosen for their strong focus towards supporting the needs of equestrians. These include supporting key events, and providing service discounts.

Portal - We provide a website portal to HORSEREG that hosts your membership data, and information on riders, coaches, officials and horses who are registered with us.

Rules - We maintain regulations and act as custodians so that fair play exists for all, and we can provide a judicial process if required. We also uphold rules for FEI events.

Social licence - We inform the public with accurate information and maintain the profile of a sport that has huge benefits for kiwis and their equines - both physically and mentally.

Technical delegates - We provide a hub for technical delegates, judges, stewards, technical officials (incl. FEI and Clean Sport testers).

Volunteers and Organising Committees work closely with us to deliver safe and healthy competitions, achieved through the willingness and support of our wonderful volunteers.



Jumping

Jumping is a discipline that encompasses both jumping and show hunter.

Jumping is undoubtedly the most popular equestrian discipline recognised internationally and is an exciting and rewarding sport for all levels and age groups.

In New Zealand Jumping and Show Hunter offer ample opportunity for all ages of riders to take part in a range of classes from those at the grassroots and entry level, to the exciting hotly contested Series classes and elite World Cup competitions.

The series season runs from August to April and outside of the season, primarily the winter months, there are many opportunities to train or compete at informal events starting at crossbar level upwards.

New Zealand showjumping combinations have enjoyed much success over the years with many representatives attending the pinnacle of the sport, the Olympic Games.

You don't need to be aiming for the Olympics to make your mark in Jumping, there is something for everyone. Jumping is the largest equestrian discipline in New Zealand and consists of combinations jumping a course of fences in set order, within an arena. Depending on the type of competition and which rules the competition is run under, the winner is the horse and rider that incurs the least number of penalties, completes the course in the fastest time or gains the highest number of points. These competitions are run at various heights ensuring there is something for everyone.

Show Hunter is included within the jumping discipline, and is a form of jumping judged on style, balance and rhythm. Combinations jump up to 10 fences in a simple course, making this popular for young horses learning jumping confidence, young riders developing the basics of jumping and experienced riders who enjoy the technical requirements of the sport. In pony show hunter you can compete in different categories depending on the size of your pony.

Anyone can participate in the wide range of events throughout the country, enjoying a level of competition that is fun and satisfying. For those wishing to be a part of jumping or show hunter whilst

not riding, you can join one of our volunteer teams in delivering events and/or officiating.

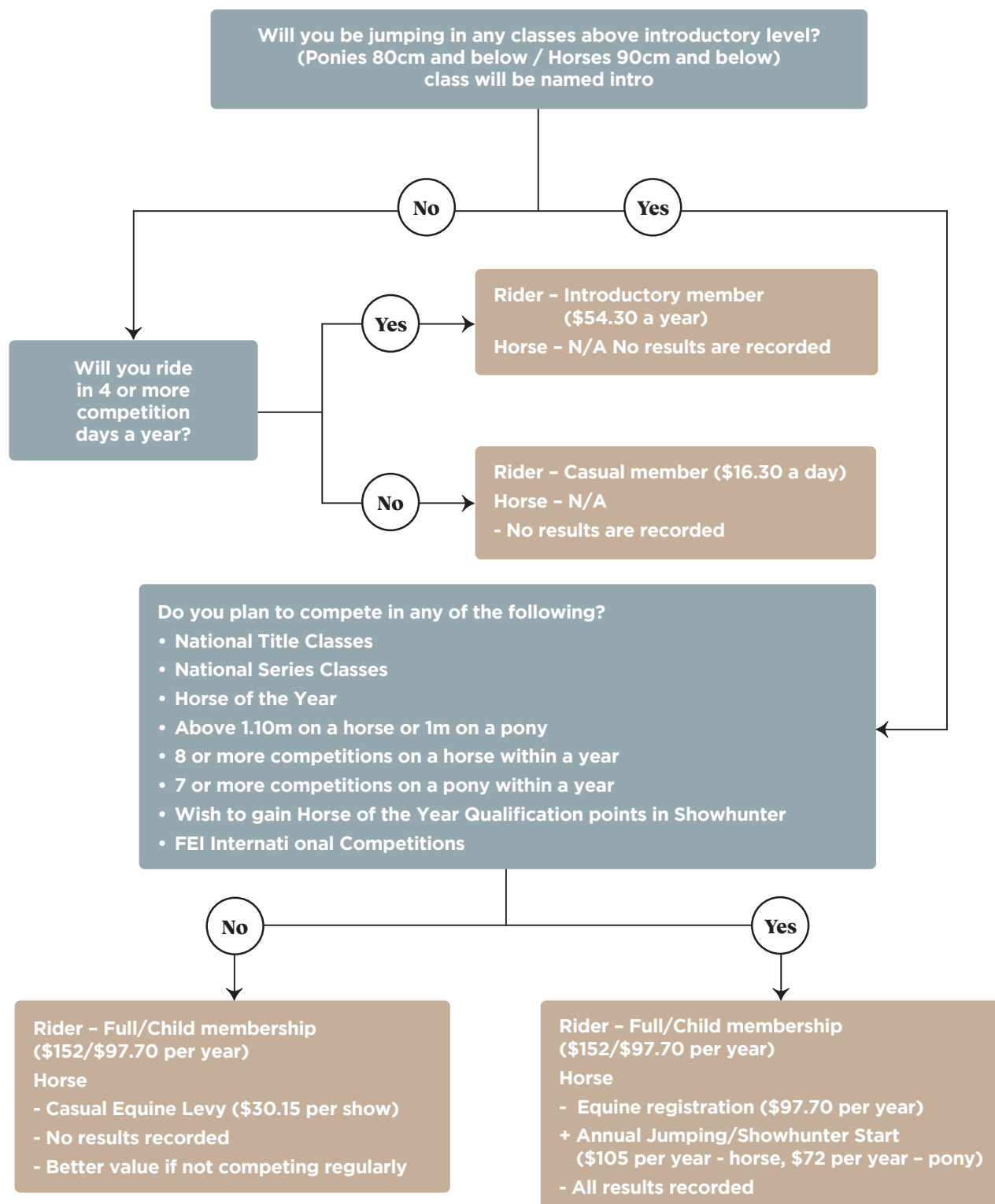
We encourage you to contact your local area or ESNZ to get started in volunteering. Many of our officials have held roles as judges, stewards and course designers for many years and made lifelong friendships along the way.

You'll find a flow chart that explains the types of registration for entering jumping and show hunter classes on the next page.



Jumping/ Showhunter

Do I/my horse need to be registered?





Dressage

“Dressage - the equestrian sport for every horse and every rider.”

Dressage training makes a horse more athletic, attentive, and pleasurable to ride in all equestrian sports and activities. One of the best things about dressage is you can participate on virtually any size and breed of horse or pony. It's all about the training, with the competitions being a test of your training. You can set our own goals while enjoying a day out with your horse and your friends. There are many different series and competitions for pony riders, young riders, masters, amateurs and international riders. Dressage has captured the imagination of riders from little lead reiners to the timeless masters.

Competitive dressage involves performing predetermined movements, “a test”, in a standard size arena. In all levels of competitions the horse and rider must show a variety of movements from basic walk, trot and canter to international level Grand Prix where the horses seem to dance in the flying changes and the elevated trot movements known as piaffe and passage. Just like dancing or gymnastics, at the pinnacle of the sport, dressage is strenuous, and horses and riders must execute the movements with a level of elegance and beauty that masks

the athleticism required to perform them. Musical Freestyle dressage, the modern day crowd thriller, involves compulsory movements choreographed to individual music arrangements which should enhance the performance.

Horses and riders are graded nationally depending on the number of points earned based on the judges score (%). Come ride with us and/or join one of our volunteer teams for an enjoyable equestrian experience. Anyone can participate in the wide range of 180 year round competitions throughout the country.

If you're new to the sport, we encourage you to join your local ESNZ area dressage group to be kept informed about local activities and get to know other dressage riders in your area. Dressage is a supportive sport - once you begin, you'll be hooked! Even the support teams get hooked.

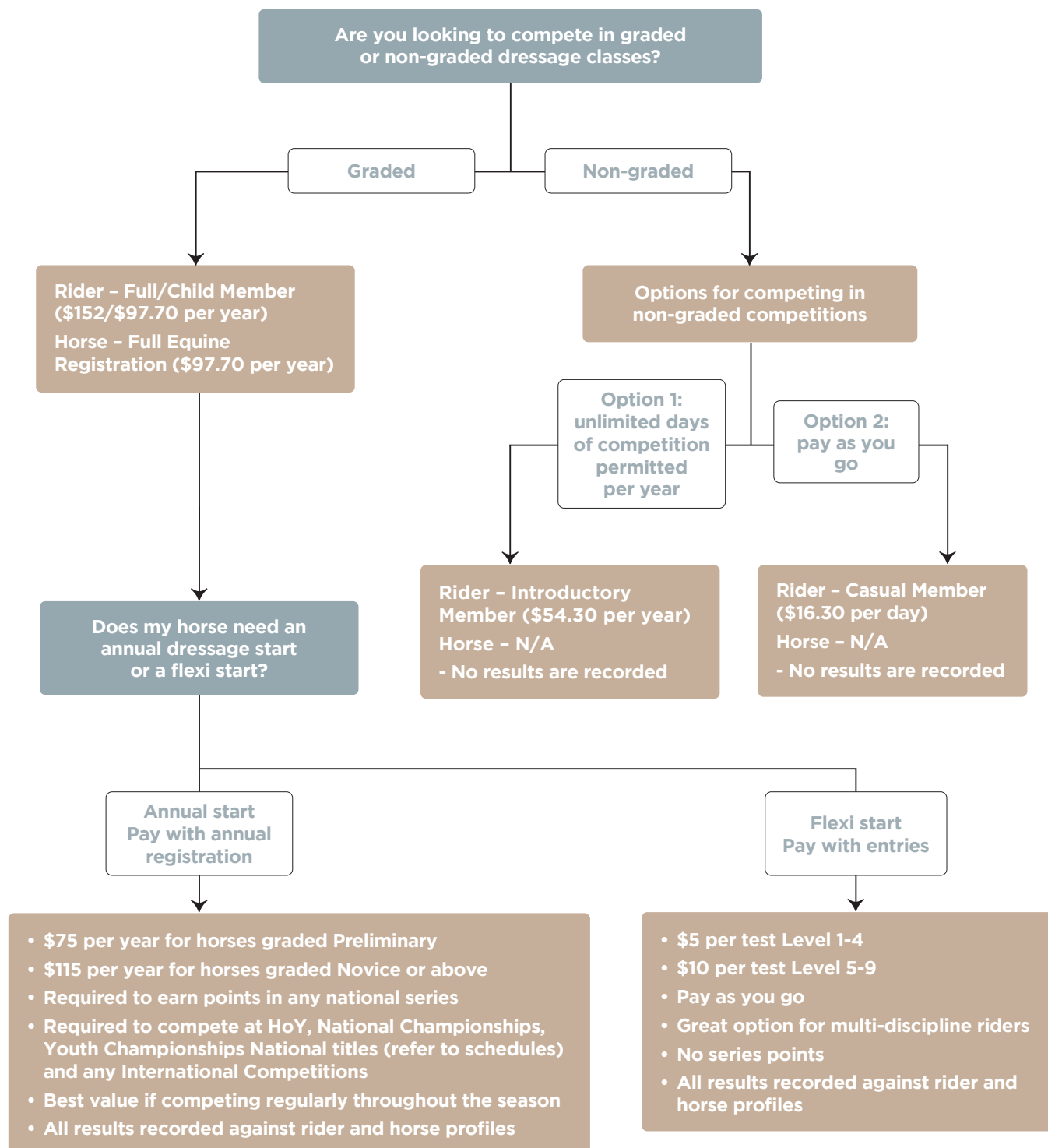
You'll find a flow chart that explains the types of registration for entering dressage classes on the next page.



Libby Law Photography

Dressage

Do I/my horse need to be registered?



All ESNZ registration fees & Dressage Annual Starts are subject to an ESNZ 4.8% transaction processing fee



Eventing

Tim Price move aside, I'm going Eventing!

Eventing sees combinations competing in three different disciplines: Dressage, Jumping and Cross Country. Combinations receive a score from their dressage test and have penalties added for any faults during the cross country and jumping tests; the combination with the lowest penalty score at the completion of the event wins.

New Zealand has a rich history in Eventing with numerous medals at the Olympic Games and World Championships.

Eventing in New Zealand has two seasons: the spring season which runs from late August to December, and the autumn season runs from late January to May. ESNZ Eventing also has a number of series that see combinations at various levels gaining points from placings at

each event, to find overall series winners and placegetters who are awarded at the end of the season awards evening.

The season wraps up with the National Three Day Eventing Championships in May, which is considered one of the most prestigious events of the season.

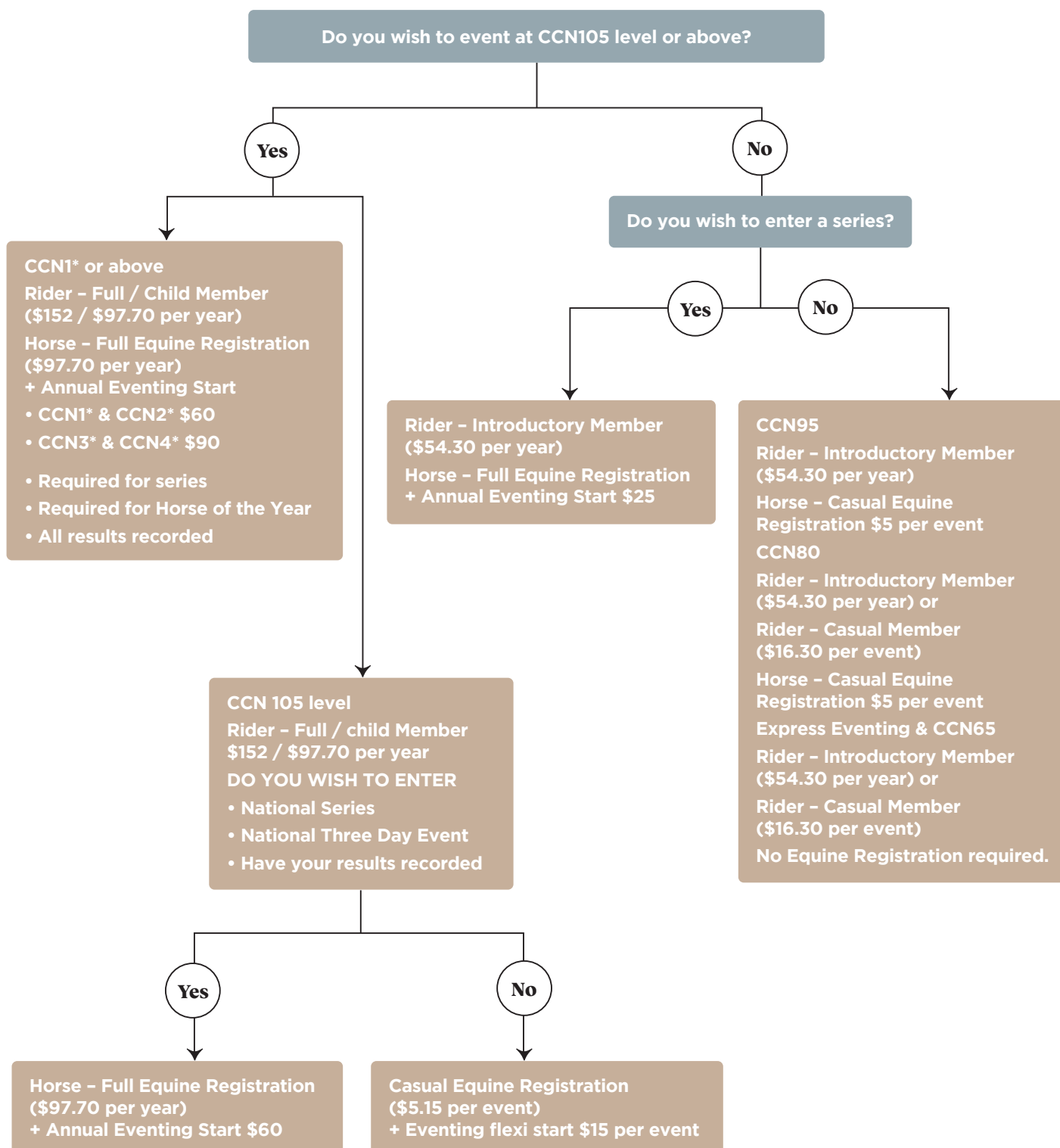
New Zealand runs both national level events (CCN) and FEI level events (CCI) throughout the season. We hold events up to 4* level, which is the second highest level in the world - to date there are now seven 5* level events worldwide: Burghley, Badminton, Kentucky, Pau, Luhmühlen, Adelaide and Maryland.

You'll find a flow chart that explains the types of registration for entering eventing classes on the next page.



Eventing

Do I/my horse need to be registered?





Endurance /CTR

Endurance rides vary from 10km to 160km and are usually completed in a single day. At the competitive level the combination with the fastest time is the winner, provided the horse has passed all the vet checks and at the end is deemed to be “fit to continue”.

At intro and novice level it is not a race. The combinations are given a minimum and a maximum time and must complete the distance within that time frame. Plenty of time is allowed at these levels to ensure all horses and riders can complete the distance at a pace that suits both horse and rider. Everyone starts together in an endurance ride although riders can wait and start up to 15 minutes later if they don't want to start with the group.

CTR (Competitive Trail Riding) is a scored event based on riding to an optimum time and your horse having the lowest possible heart rates. Riders are given time to complete a marked

course, and penalty points are given for arriving at the finish early or later than the optimum time.

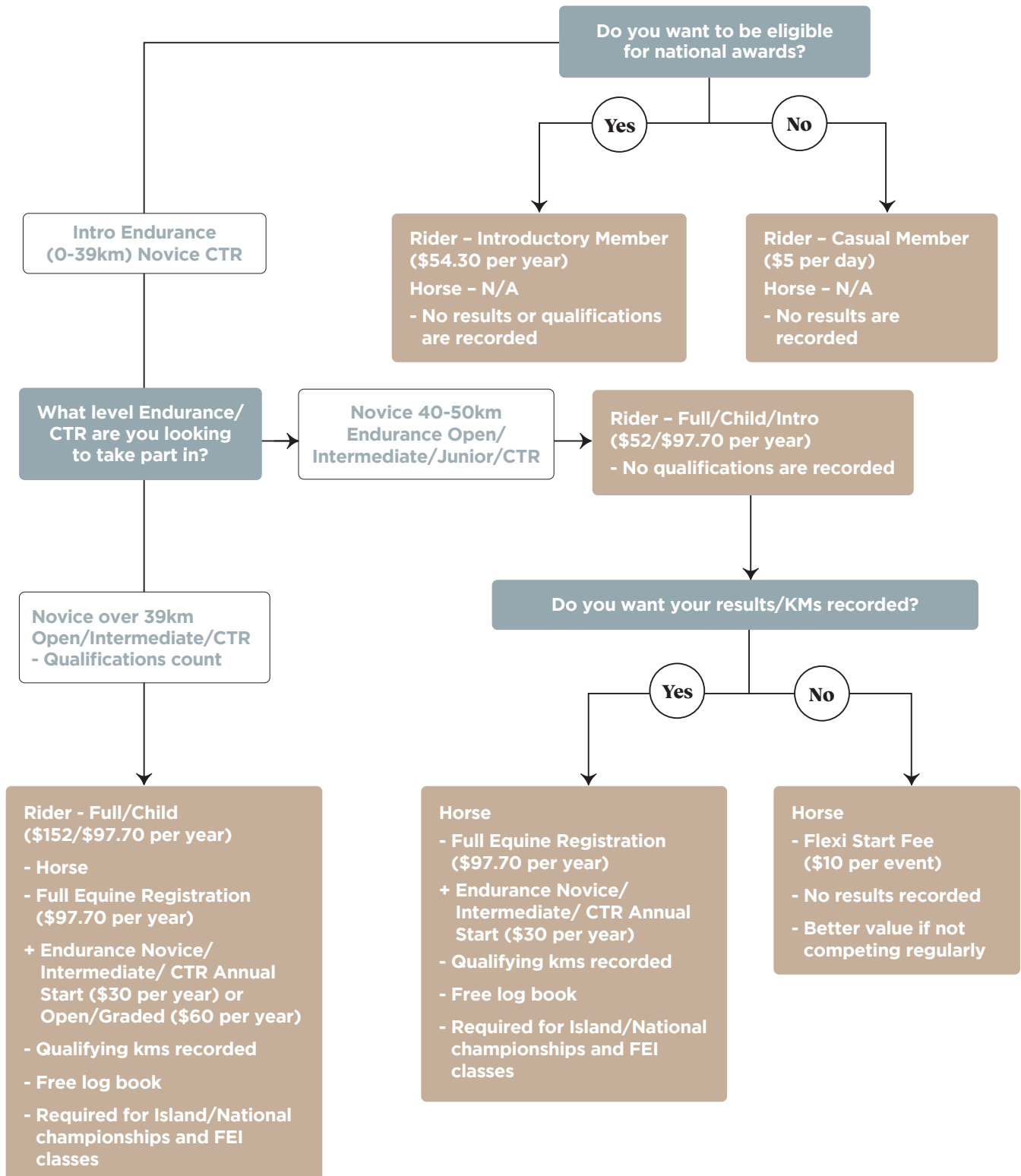
The horse's heart rate is taken upon crossing the finish line and 30 minutes later. These heart rates are added to any time faults from finishing early or late to produce a final score. Lowest score wins. Riders start in small groups, usually 2-3, rather than everyone starting together. The majority of the CTR rides vary in distance from about 5km to 40km so there is always something to suit everyone.

You'll find a flowchart that explains the types of registration for entering endurance classes on the next page.



Endurance/ CTR

Do I/my horse need to be registered?





Para Equestrian

Para Equestrian in NZ is the sport of dressage and consists of five classes called 'grades' for athletes with physical and visual impairments. Para Equestrian Dressage is the only Equestrian discipline that is included in the Paralympic Games, where it has been a regular fixture since 1996.

The competitor's mobility, strength and coordination are assessed in order to establish their classification profile. People with similar functional ability profiles are grouped into competition grades. The grades range from Grade Ia for the most severely impaired, to Grade V for the least impaired. Riders are permitted to use devices called "compensating aids" such as two whips, connecting rein bars, stirrup bands and other aids. The competition within each grade can therefore be judged on the skill of the individual competitor on their horse, regardless of the competitor's impairment.

Grade I Athlete has severe impairments affecting all limbs and the trunk. The athlete usually requires the use of a wheelchair in daily life.

Grade II Athletes have either a severe impairment of the trunk and minimal impairment of the upper limbs or moderate impairment of the trunk, upper and lower limbs. Most athletes in this class use a wheelchair in daily life.

Grade III Athletes have severe impairments in both lower limbs with minimal or no impairment of the trunk or moderate impairment of the upper and lower limbs and trunk. Some athletes in this class may use a wheelchair in daily life.

Grade IV Athletes have a severe impairment or deficiency of both upper limbs or a moderate impairment of all four limbs or short stature. Athletes in grade IV are able to walk and generally do not require a wheelchair in daily life. Grade IV also includes athletes with a visual impairment equivalent to B1 (very low visual acuity and/ or no light perception).

Grade V Athletes have a mild impairment of range of movement or muscle strength or a deficiency

of one limb or mild deficiency of two limbs. Grade V also includes athletes with visual impairment equivalent to B2 (higher visual acuity than visually impaired athletes) and/ or a visual field of less than five degrees radius.

Grade VI In New Zealand only we have introduced Grade VI. This is for athletes who do not fit the FEI/Paralympic criteria but whose disability may benefit from the use of some compensating aids when riding. Competition for this level is run in New Zealand only at a local level.

You'll find a flowchart that explains the types of registration for entering para equestrian classes on the next page.

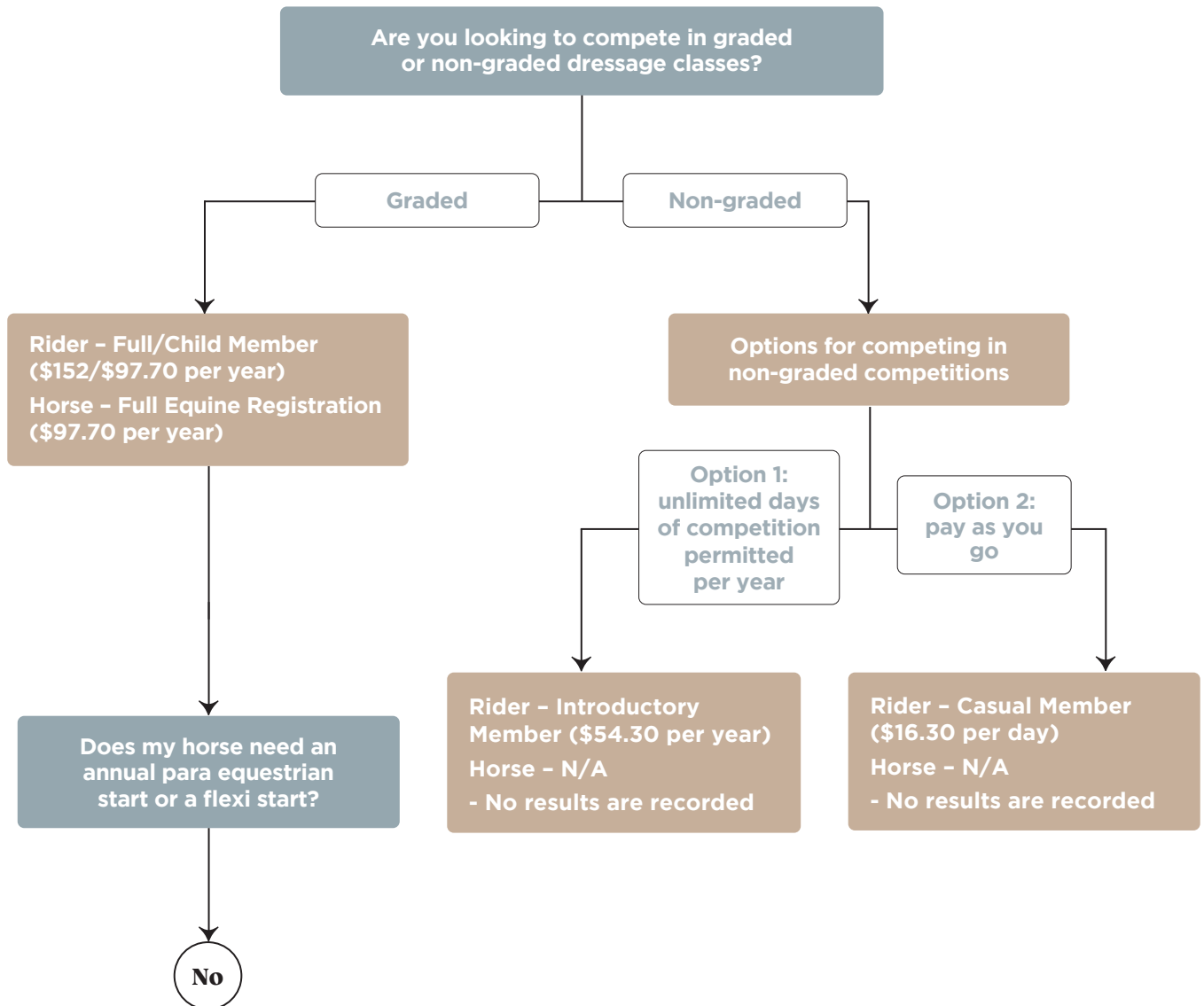


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To become a para rider in NZ, you must first be classified according to your functional ability. This will let you know what grade you will compete in. For information about Para Classification, contact Samantha Jones at samantha@nzequestrian.org.nz.

Para Equestrian

Do I/my horse need to be registered?



All ESNZ registration fees & Dressage Annual Starts are subject to an ESNZ 4.8% transaction processing fee



High Performance

ESNZ High Performance is responsible for the high performance campaigns and development of future high performance athletes.

The High Performance whole of sport strategy covers high performance for each discipline applying the same strategic outcomes while the delivery is tailored to each discipline. The High Performance vision is “Podium Success at Olympic Games, by Developing, Excelling and Inspiring”.

High Performance Managers lead each of the disciplines High Performance programmes. ESNZ High Performance central works closely with the respective high performance managers, selectors, support staff and athletes to support planning, the implementation of programmes and international campaigns and competition attendance.

HP Central also has partnership relationships with the New Zealand Olympic Committee (NZOC), High Performance Sport New

Zealand (HPSNZ) and equestrians' international governing body, the FEI, to support funding, pathway and campaign deliverables.

Every four years the Olympics are a pinnacle event targeted by ESNZ High Performance for the disciplines of Jumping, Dressage, Eventing and Para-Dressage, and every second year in between those Olympics, the FEI World Championships are targeted as a pinnacle event for all disciplines.

Eventing is currently the only HP programme funded by High Performance Sport NZ, meaning that it is tasked with providing medals at the Olympic Games. Private and sport investment support is relied upon for the running of the other disciplines high performance programmes.



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National Equestrian Centres

ESNZ maintains two National Equestrian Centres (NECs) at Taupō and at McLeans Island, Christchurch on land leased from the Department of Conservation and Environment Canterbury. The NECs have been established for the benefit of all members of ESNZ with the purpose of enhancing the equestrian experience.

Both the North and South Island NECs have come through a massive amount of work from very committed volunteers, and endorsed by top local and international riders who have accessed them including Captain Mark Phillips and our own Sir Mark Todd.



Fiber Fresh National Equestrian Centre Taupō

The Centre is located on a 36.4 hectare block just north of Taupō and is bounded by the Waikato River.

It is comprised of light pumice terrain which means it was suitable for year-round riding. In operation since 1975, the centre features the largest indoor arena in the country, a full 4* cross-country course ranging from a height of 65cm to 4*, three grass showjumping arenas, three artificial arenas featuring quality surfacing for dressage, and multiple trail-riding areas. The Centre provides accommodation for up to 450 horses, and there are cabins for people to rent.

www.nectaupo.co.nz

Libby Law Photography



Dunstan Fiber Fresh National Equestrian Centre Christchurch

The Centre is located on McLeans Island near Christchurch Airport on 74 hectares.

It was officially opened in 1984, and features four all-weather competition arenas, one all-weather training and warm-up arena, and our grass arenas include the Hampton Oval. All arenas can be watered, and 80% of the cross country can be irrigated.

The cross country course has a dedicated training ground, and fixed and mobile fences ranging from 65cm to 4* height. There are three water jumps, including one with a splash. There are over 6km of developed tracks, and while the contour is relatively flat, there are a number of contoured mounds and banks. The Centre has 29 stables, 130 covered yards, open yards, and powered and non-powered camping sites.

www.nec-chch.co.nz



Partnerships



Land Rover vehicles are synonymous with equestrian sports at a global level, and Equestrian Sports New Zealand is very grateful to Land Rover New Zealand for its commitment to equestrian sports in New Zealand.

Their state-of-the-art vehicles take centre stage at premier events in both North and South Islands, as Land Rover New Zealand continues to be a valued intergenerational member of our equestrian family.

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**Official
horse
welfare
partners**

IRT is the exclusive international horse transport provider for official ESNZ teams in all disciplines and the recommended transporter for members. They are also our Official Horse Welfare Partner.



**NEW ZEALAND
THOROUGHBRED RACING**



PUREI HŌIHO NĀTI O AOTEAROA

Thoroughbreds in Equestrian Sport (TiES) is a partnership with New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing that provides and encourages second career opportunities for Thoroughbred horses retiring from racing. TiES holds annual national competitions in the following equestrian sports categories: Dressage, Endurance/CTR, Eventing, Jumping and Show Hunter.



Membership Benefits

<https://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/esnz/member-benefits/>



Petcover offers an exclusive 10% discount for ESNZ members' domestic pets and horses with some unique features, including flexible benefit options that can be mixed and matched to your requirements.



Majestic Horse Floats, who have been providing trusted, quality horse transport services in New Zealand for over 80 years are the preferred supplier of horse transport services to ESNZ. Discounts vary depending on date booked and locations of travel journey.



Book discounted Interislander ferry transportation rates online, visit www.interislander.co.nz/groups and follow the link. Quote the discount code provided for your discipline. Discounts are approximately 15% and vary depending on date and type of travel booked.



Take advantage of the exclusive RD Petroleum fuel card offer for all ESNZ members. The Discounted fuel rates are posted weekly on the ESNZ Facebook page, so you can see for yourselves the awesome savings on offer. Sign up today for the fuel card deal at www.apply.rdp.co.nz.



Carters Tyres service offer a 25% discount off all passenger vehicle tyres including 4x4s and 5% off all truck tyres.

If you have a product or service of interest to our members and wish to partner with us, contact us on nzef@nzequestrian.org.nz.

Useful Links

<http://www.nzequestrian.org.nz>

Equestrian Sports New Zealand website. There are links to each Discipline, Rule books, Show Results, Season Calendars, Horse and rider profiles, venues, areas and more

<http://www.ras.org.nz/equestrian/measuring/>

The Royal Agricultural Society Equestrian Measuring page. Helpful link to pony measuring day details and contact information

<http://www.nzpca.org/>

New Zealand Pony Club website

<https://rda.org.nz/>

New Zealand Riding for the Disabled website

<https://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/esnz/membershipregistration/esnz-membership-forms-and-policies/>

All forms you may need to register yourself or your horse with ESNZ

<https://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/esnz/membershipregistration/esnz-membership-forms-and-policies/>

Important ESNZ Policies

<https://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/community/horse-rider/>

How to access the Horse and Rider profiles and results history

<https://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/esnz/ties/>

Thoroughbreds in Equestrian Sport (TiES) is a partnership with New Zealand Thoroughbred Racing that provides and encourages second career opportunities for Thoroughbred horses retiring from racing

<https://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/esnz/programmes/coach/>

Information on ESNZ coaching program

<https://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/safety/helmet-tagging/>

Information about Helmet Tagging including a calendar of upcoming shows that taggers will be at and planned helmet tagging days in your area

<https://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/safety/concussion/>

Information about concussion and serious injury

<https://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/safety/irt-horse-welfare/>

ESNZ's Official Horse Welfare Partner for information on the welfare of the horse

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Online entries to events:

Evoevents

<https://www.evoevents.co.nz/>

Main-Events

<http://www.main-events.com/>

ESNZ Location & Contact Information

If you need any more help understanding ESNZ or any of the Disciplines please visit our website or contact ESNZ national office, we have a friendly team ready to answer any queries you may have.

Website: www.nzequestrian.org.nz

Phone: 04 499 8994

Email: nzef@nzequestrian.org.nz

Postal Address: PO Box 6146, Marion Square, Wellington 6141

Physical Address: Level 1, Panama House, 22 Panama Street, Wellington 6011

Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9am to 4pm



Newsletters:

You can subscribe to our newsletters at www.nzequestrian.org.nz/subscribe/



Social Media

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Para Equestrian

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EQUESTRIAN SPORTS
NEW ZEALAND

