



MINUTES

**Minutes of the Dressage NZ Planning Forum
held by Zoom
Commencing at 11am | 17th April 2021**

Present:

Board:

Scott McKenna (Chair), Andra Mobberley, Sarah Hazlewood, Christine Weal, Alicia Cameron

In Attendance:

Wendy Hamerton/Sport Manager
Judy Collin / Minute Secretary

Apologies:

Sue Hobson – Judges Officer, Judith Cunningham - Judges Sub-Committee, Margs Carline - Chair of Selectors, Genevieve Quin (NHB)

Voting Delegates:

Name	Area / Role		
Scott McKenna	Board Member	Rebecca McKee	Southland
Sarah Hazlewood	Board Member	Sue Harris	Gisborne
Andra Mobberley	Board Member	Susan Tomlin	Central Districts
Christine Weal	Board Member	Suzanne Inglis	Nelson
Alicia Cameron	Board Member	Wendy Jeffery	Wairarapa
Bernice Frost	Taihape	Laura Hayes	Otago
Betty Brown	Auckland-Manukau	Linda Huitson	Taranaki
Sarita Kennedy	Waikato	Lois Andrewes	Northland
Diane Wallace	Marlborough	Lynley Stockdale / Stuart Bishell (1of 2)	SCNO
Gill Chambers	Northern Hawke's Bay	Sally Goldsmith	Canterbury
Heather Hilder	Waitemata	Peri Scrivenor	Ashburton
Peter Jenkins	Bay of Plenty	Rachel McCallum	Steward General
Jody Hartstone	NI Riders Rep		
Anna Gale	SI Riders Rep	Absent	Wellington
Sharon Field	Southern Hawke's Bay		

Attendees			
Jos	Gresham	Central Districts	Series Coordinator
Mary	Craine	Southern Hawkes Bay	Area Judges Officer/Judge
Sonja	Swale	Southland	Observer/President Dressage Southland
Stuart	Bishell	SCNO	Area Judges Officer/Judge
Wendy	Butler	Otago	Observer, President Dressage Otago
Linda	Warren- Davey	Canterbury	FEI Judge/Canterbury DG committee
Lesley	Jacobson	Wellington	Judges Sub-Committee
Belle	Clarke	BoP (after lunch break)	

1. Financial Reports YTD March 2021

The FO, Sarah Hazlewood sent her apologies for being late to join the meeting. The Dressage Sport Manager addressed the meeting. The DSM reported that the current financial position is much healthier than the original budget which was approved during Covid Lock down 2020, with an anticipated 30% decrease in income from annual starts and event levies. This had not eventuated as at YTD 31 March with a 34% positive variance demonstrated in the accounts.

In response to a question from Betty Brown, it was confirmed that DNZ is taking responsibility for and therefore underwriting "Dressage by the Lake" at Takapoto, in principle to enable the event to proceed. Cost of hiring the venue is \$2000 per day with similar costs to other events for hireage (eg Marquees), rubbish collection, etc. Some items are able to be hired at from the venue.

The FO joined the meeting.

Sarah advised that as at the 31st May, cheques would no longer be accepted. The draft budget will circulate to Area Delegates once approved. "Dressage by the Lake" event expenses will be received in April and May.

Motion: That financial report be accepted:

MOVED: Peter Jenkins

SECONDED: Gill Chambers

CARRIED

2. Draft Budget 2021/22

It was advised that the Dressage Board is not yet in a position to present the draft budget for the next financial year. Discipline budgets require ESNZ Board approval. The 21/22 budget will be presented at Conference. It was also noted that the Dressage Board will review any 20/21 surplus and consider if this surplus become part of the consolidated position and / or what revenue can be reinvested in the sport.

3. Draft Calendar 2021/22

The SM asked all areas to double check their dates and get back to Jos Gresham with any changes as soon as possible.

A small number of areas have applied for Regional shows outside of the Premier League shows. At this stage there are no amendments to rules applying to number of judges you require. This was introduced this last year because of COVID.

- Marlborough advised that they already have their judges organized for this coming season for their Regional show which attracts extra riders and entries. Nelson and Marlborough will both be running Regional shows. The SM noted these will be approved as long as all conditions for regional shows are met.
- SCNO local show will be held in September and the PL show in November.

The SM offered to Zoom meet with South Island representatives to discuss the way forward for SICH

4. Performance Pathway & Squad Selection 2021/22

Christine Weal spoke to this report.

- High Performance targets will be published soon.
- 21/22 performance programmes will be more structured next year.
- Working towards more inclusion of South Island riders in the performance pathways.
- Presently working with judges committee to establish two Protocol days in the South Island.
- Any available spare times will be filled with good combinations who are not squad members.
- Working with judges and coaches so that we are all going in the same direction.

5. Proposed Youth Council Formation & Presentation

Lucarne Dolley spoke to this report, assisted by Rebecca Mobberley . Piper was unable to be present. The group conveyed they want to be Game Changers for Youth and bring youth ideas/ views to the sport administrators. That this age group is techno savvy and can use this to advantage, although parents will need to assist under 13yr olds, especially with Facebook

Lynda Clarke commended Lucarne and the group for their initiative in the Youth Council proposal. Andra Mobberley advised the meeting should focus on the principle not the detail as those can be worked through. Noted the ESNZ Constitution may need to be changed to allow voting members under 18yrs. Gill Chambers and Alicia Cameron congratulated Lucarne on her presentation, which included some great ideas and both were happy to give their support. Scott advised that we need to decide how this committee is made up. It is already possible a representative could speak at Dressage Board

It was decided that that the meeting approve a working group to determine rules with a view to presenting this at the Dressage AGM for sign off and implementation.

The Chair noted if the Dressage By-Law 17 is to amended this will require ESNZ

The Chair recommended that a working group be formed to bring a proposal to the Dressage AGM. The composition of the group to be confirmed by the Dressage Board in conjunction with the group who had presented the paper to the Planning Forum.

MOVED - Alicia Cameron
SECONDED - Gill Chambers

CARRIED

6. ESNZ Data Base Report

The Chair advised he had received a report on 26 March. The developers are creating a new module as an add on to their existing product to provide a results database .

The project is still expected to go live July 14th but the result module may not be fully functional at that date. The Chair undertook to determine the cause of the results module delay and report further at the AGM.

7. Notice of Meeting

The official notice of meeting for the 2021 Dressage AGM and Committee Meeting was included in the agenda and will be held at the James Cook Hotel, Wellington on Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th June. The Dressage 2021 Awards Dinner will also be held at this venue on Saturday 26th June

There will be an election for the Judges Officer to fill the vacancy created by Sue Hobson's retirement having completed six years in the role

ESNZ Showjumping, Eventing & Endurance will also be holding their AGM on this date at this venue and there will be opportunity for a combined session on Saturday 26th

Dressage Annual Awards and Top 10 League Series will be presented. Award Nomination Forms will be distributed the week following this meeting.

Peter Jenkins asked if it was possible to have a Zoom facility for the meetings.
The Chair & SM agreed to check the feasibility

8. Rules Working Party

Scott advised a new rules working party had been established and asked Andra Mobberley to give background information to this to the meeting.

Andra advised a small working group had been formed, split into three groups of three, whose principle is to change the rules around to make them more user friendly. They are looking at a six-stage process (Refer to page 6) and will develop a concept. The group is presently at the brainstorming stage with the three main areas being Horse Welfare, Rider Safety and Fair competition. The current task is to look at international comparison and draw on what might be international best practice. The next phase will be design and development of content and presentation and the tools we can use to future proof the rules. Main objective is to make sure nothing is lost in the process. There may be some overlap of principles which may form a compendium of documents as an attachment to the rules.

9. Strategic Plan

The Chair shared a view of the Strategic Plan with the meeting with a view to reminding all voting participants of the objectives and priorities of this Plan before discussing the remits.

DRESSAGE NEW ZEALAND

RULES REVIEW



AGENDA Item 8 (i) REMITS

Remit 1 Re: DRESS | Colour of Breeches

Submitted by: Betty Brown / AMDG Delegate & **Seconded by:** Karen Shields / AMDG President

CURRENT RULE /ARTICLE NUMBER : 479.2

Amendment

White or light-coloured breeches/jodhpurs-seat may be dark colour

RATIONALE: To make the colours of jodhpurs/breeches the same for all levels so riders to not have to change from one level horse to another.

Poll:

Proposed Jodhpurs Breeches	All Levels: White, off-white, light canary, banana, light grey or beige jodhpurs or breeches If "full seat" style breeches or jodhpurs are worn, dark colours black, brown or grey are allowed in the "full seat" PASSED
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For: - 18 Against – 6

Remit 2 (i)

Re: DRESS | Wearing of Jackets in Hot Weather

Submitted by: Betty Brown / AMDG Delegate

Seconded by: Karen Shields / AMDG President

ARTICLE NUMBER : 479.2

Amend: Riders may ride without jackets if feeling overheated

Discussion:

The general opinion from the meeting was that this remit needs to be reworded for clarity of the intention. The intention of the remit is that jackets are compulsory but that riders should be able to exercise discretion.

PASSED - Subject to rewording

Poll:

For – 23 Against – 4

Remit 2 (ii)

Re: DRESS | Wearing of Jackets

Submitted by: Marlene Parkinson

Seconded by: Sonja Swale

ARTICLE NUMBER : 479.2 Amend

Discussion: It was felt that jackets should be compulsory at all levels of competition

Scott reported that it was difficult for some people to buy suitable jackets and shouldn't be compulsory at a Training Event. Lynda Clarke was in support of this suggestion.

Poll: That jackets be compulsory at all levels of competition

FAILED

For – 7 Against – 20

Remit 3

Re: HORSE/PONY ID NUMBERS

Submitted by: Peter Jenkins (BOP Area Delegate)

Seconded by: Jenny Pearce (Member)

CURRENT RULE /ARTICLE NUMBER : 477. 6

The proposed amendments to the rule to use 3 digit event number **was failed** but it was agreed to look at solutions to make it easier for riders to identify each other in the warm up and for judges and writers

FAILED

Discussion

The Chair noted that this has been identified as an issue and will investigate options. P Jenkins will have a discussion with Equestrian Entries to look at options for a show number.

The Chair agreed to include this subject on the Board agenda.

Poll:

For – 6 Against – 17

Remit 4(i): Re CAm Classes

Submitted by: Jody Hartstone /NI Riders Rep

Seconded by: Emma Dickons

Art 462: Rider Categories CAm

REMIT:

That all amateur classes be restricted to those riders who have not earned more than 15 grading points (as at the day of competition) at any level above the one they are competing at.

FAILED

Remit 4 (ii) Re CAm Classes

Submitted by: Anna Gale /SI Riders Rep

Art 462: Rider Categories CAm

REMIT:

That the name Amateur be dropped and is renamed **RESTRICTED**.

That classes are termed Open or Restricted

FAILED

Remit 4 (iii) Re CAm Classes

Submitted by: Anna Gale / SI Riders Rep

Seconded by: Inger Sundholm

REMIT:

That all AM classes be restricted to those who have not earned more than 15pts Graded at ANY level above the one they are competing in on the day of competition

FAILED

Discussion Item: Re CAm Classes

Submitted by: Peter Jenkins / Bay of Plenty Delegate for DR Bay of Plenty

Re: Amateur/Open Classes

Current system – split into 2 tiers based on riders Rider Category- if show wish to split Classes.

Large amateur classes and small open classes

Proposed New System which would be fairer and equal out numbers in classes.

3 Tier system at Levels 1 & 2 – Level 1: Bronze? CN to C2
Silver? CN to C5 or C6
Open/Gold? CN to C9
Level 2: Bronze? CN to C3
Silver? CN to C5 or C6
Open/Gold? CN to C9

2 Tier system (as per current system) Levels 3 to Level 6 – Silver and Gold?

1 Tier system - riders at a level all ride in the same class(s) Level 7 to 9 – Gold?

<u>Stats</u>				
Show	Prelim Am	Prelim Open	Novice Am	Novice Open
Waikato	23	12	22	8
BOP	18	10	29	14
Nationals	16	10	23	7
Central Dist	23	3	16	4
Wairarapa	23	4	9	1

Discussion:

Riders have confusion between restricted and amateur classes. Both categories need to be competitive. There is a lot of flexibility around restricted classes which is very adhoc at present.

It was suggested that we could align ourselves with the British system of Bronze, Silver and Gold where a squad member could never be on the lowest level on any horse regardless of the experience of the horse.

Wendy advised some Amateur riders are getting 60-70% and some are not true Amateurs. We need to ascertain how we can create a fair playing field for like people and like combinations. Younger and new demographics need to be considered.

Betty thought the rule should be removed that allowed riders to drop down two rider categories. A lot of riders felt it is not making a level playing field.

It was suggested to the meeting that some riders in Amateur grades were borrowing horses for competition. Some felt the name Amateur was derogatory.

The SM to put some guidelines in place for restricted in the meantime to address some of the issues mentioned. All members present were in agreement that the current system is not working.

MOVED: Pete Jenkins

SECONDED: Betty Brown

The remit going forward will propose a 3-tier split of Gold, Silver, Bronze with details to be confirmed by the working group. Some ideas could be put forward to the AGA with guidelines for restricted classes and recommendations be put in place in the interim for standardization across the country.

That a working party be appointed to look into the proposal further and bring some ideas back to the AGA as to how we can achieve an equitable way to split the three categories. **CARRIED**

The Chair requested that any member present not in agreement with this proposal should indicate now. There were no dissenting views

MOVED: Scott McKenna

SECONDED: Alicia Cameron

Working group members:

Jody Hartstone, Anna Gale, Peter Jenkins, Lucarne Dolley, Jos Gresham, Wendy Hamerton, (Canterbury to nominate a rep) plus power to co-opt.

** Note That Cherie Pearson has since been confirmed as SI rep.

CARRIED

Remit 5: Re Rider Representatives

Submitted by: Jody Hartstone / NI Riders Rep & Anna Gale / SI Riders Rep

Seconded by: Emma Dickons & Inger Sundholm

CURRENT RULE: Dressage By Law 17 Revision April 2020
Amend

REMIT:

18. Rider Representatives

- a) North and South Island Rider Representatives will be elected annually via an online system prior to the Dressage NZ AGM.
- b) The two Rider Representatives will hold positions on the DNZ Committee
- c) The Rider's rep will organise and Chair the riders meeting at their respective Island Championships (or other PL league show if there is no Island Championships)
- d) Any rider who is a current full or Junior member of the ESNZ may speak and vote at the Rider's meeting
- e) ~~A parent / guardian may speak and vote on behalf of a rider under 18 years of age – they themselves do not need to be a financial member of the ESNZ~~

PASSED

Poll:

For – 25 Against - 0

Remit 6: Unauthorised / Outside Assistance

Submitted by: Jody Hartstone / NI Riders Rep

Seconded by: Emma Dickons

CURRENT RULE/ARTICLE NUMBER : Article 451.18.2 (iv)
Amend

REMIT: If necessary, a horse may be assisted in the area directly around the arena, but once the bell has been sounded any further assistance will be considered unauthorised / outside assistance.

Exception: OC's have the ability to exempt certain arenas such as the main oval at HOY but this must be stated

Poll: - Unauthorised Leading

For – 18 Against – 5

PASSED

Remit 7: Unauthorised / Outside Assistance

Submitted by: Dressage NZ Board
Art 451.1

Reference to examples of Outside Assistance

Need to align Table of Penalties with Art 481

- Penalty for Riding with Earphones **ADD and other communication devices**
- Smart Watches may be worn but must not be used as communication devices

PASSED

PASSED

Poll: Unauthorised Devices

For – 22 Against - 1

Discussion/Actions :

Devices – update table of penalties to include riding with earphones etc, plus smartwatches, consistent with FEI rules. Riders need to be aware of new rules as at 1st August.

Remit 7: RE DOWNGRADED HORSES

Classification of Under 25 National Championships & Downgraded Horses

Submitted by: Jody Hartstone /NI Riders Rep

Seconded by: Emma Dickons

Art 463: Downgrading of Horses & Ponies

Amend

The Under 25 National Championships are currently classified as a “Named Event” under Annex 2 of the Rules. The rules currently state that this event may comprise of more than one event classification.

It was requested at the North Island Rider’s meeting that downgraded horses and ponies should not be allowed to compete at u25 Nationals, HOY or NZ Nationals, within the first year of downgrading.

- The exception may be that they are allowed to compete in FEI Junior Tests restricted by the rider’s age

Discussion:

- The SM suggested we need to define what is intended by the term **National Championship**
- Very few downgraded winners in the lower grades because riders were not as experienced.
- That the exception proposed is restricted to 14-18 year olds on horses and is possibly not the intent of the proposer.

PASSED

Poll:

For – 12 Against – 11

The Chair recommended that as the vote was very close with no clear mandate, that this remit go forward to conference for further discussion

Remit 8: JUDGES

Submitted by: Carol Eivers Seconded by: Gill Morley

Art 440: Judges

New Rule

That judges are not permitted to judge more than 50 combinations in a day

RATIONALE:

Self-explanatory

Poll:

For – 17 Against – 7

PASSED

Remit 9: Use of Voice

Submitted by: Carol Eivers

Seconded by: Gill Morley

Art 453

Amend

That voice aids permitted in Levels 0 -1 unregistered

Discussion:

We need to decide if we go with international standard. Article 453 which the SM read to the meeting. FEI rule mentions under penalties "if repeated use".

Andra suggested instead of voting on remit, could we look at rule and get that changed.

The meeting agreed to FEI wording that repeated use will incur a penalty.

Voting clarity -

For – is to adopt FEI wording on use of voice – which is using repeatedly is penalty of 2 points

Against - would be to stick to our current wording.

The Chair Scott recommend amend this remit to "repetitive use will get deductions".

PASSED

Poll:

For - 23 Against – 1

Remit 10: Fall of Horse and/or Rider

Submitted by: Dressage NZ Board

Preamble:

Action from Board Meeting 19 January 2021:

Resolved to amend Art 451 to include actions to be taken outside the arena (both after presenting to the judge and at any other location on the venue). Noted Rider education and responsibility is important.

1. Rider Falls Outside of Competition Arena

DR Art 451.13 Deals only with falls in the arena.

Noted there is nothing in the DR rules to indicate what should be taken by a rider/ stewards/OC if a rider falls in the warmup or other location at the event. There is no reference to a fall while rider is presenting around the outside of the arena..

ESNZ Jumping Rules state:

4. Protocol to be followed in case of a fall of an athlete and/or horse.

In case of a fall of an athlete and/or horse at any time in the competition **arena, in the practice arena, or elsewhere within the grounds of the event**, the athlete must be checked by the event's medical service (or by a medical doctor if the medical service is not available) before he/she may be permitted to take part in the round in progress or in the next round or competition at the event

Fall in the practice arena

In case of a fall of an athlete and/or a horse in the practice arena prior to entering the competition arena for the first or second round of a competition, the athlete must be checked by the event's medical service (or by a medical doctor if the medical service is not available),

Dressage Board Proposal

Add a further Para to Art 451.13

In case of a fall of an athlete and/or horse at any time in the competition arena, in the practice arena, or elsewhere within the grounds of the event, the athlete must be checked by the event's medical service (or by a medical doctor if the medical service is not available) before he/she may be permitted to take part in the round in progress or in the next round or competition at the event

It is noted that para would come under the current Heading "Execution of the Tests", however until the rule book review is fully completed in 2022 there currently seems no other logical place for the addition

PASSED

Poll:

For - 25 Against 0

Remit 11: Use of Whips

Submitted by: Dressage NZ Board

478.1 A whip may be carried in any test except the following:

1.1 FEI tests at Level 7 and above (FEI Young Rider, Small Tour, Middle Tour & Grand Prix) at the National Championships and Horse of the Year Show

Rationale: To clarify the FEI level at which whips may not be used under national rules at these events, noting that FEI rules apply if the classes are run under FEI rules as part of a CDI

PASSED

478.1: Delete "unless permitted in FEI Young Horse Classes"

Rationale: Use of whips in YDH classes be included in any review of YDH classes being undertaken and included in the Rule Book as an Annexe considered to be only for the 21/22 year with a view to incorporating as rules at a later date. Current rule is confusing

PASSED

Poll: For - 20 Against - 0

Remit 12: National Championships (NCH) Definition

Submitted by: Dressage NZ Board

Remit

That only classes (individual or a combination of qualifying classes) which result in the winner receiving an ESNZ National title are considered to be ESNZ National Dressage Championships. ESNZ recognised Dressage Titles and Trophies are listed in the ESNZ General Regulations

This does not preclude classes / championships being offered for restricted categories at events. Eg Amateur Championships at the NCH event

PASSED

Poll:

For - 21 Against - 2

Remit 13: Test of Choice

Submitted by: Dressage NZ Board

Art 460.13

The levels at which TOC competitions can be run is now obsolete under new tests structure and largely ignored by OC's

13. Recommend Amendment TOC can be run at TE and LE.

PASSED

Poll:

For - 23 Against 0

Remit 14: Prize Money

Submitted by: Jenny Pearce / Dressage Taihape

Seconded by: Dressage Bay of Plenty

Article 465 - Prize Money

REMIT:

Article 465 section 2 be amended to:

2. Regional Events: Prize money is not compulsory at Regional Events. If prize money is to be awarded, the amount/will be at the discretion of the Organizing Committee and must be published in the schedule.

PASSED

Poll: For - 15 Against - 3

Remit	Poll	Vote	Number Votes
1	Colour of Breeches	For	18
		Against	6
	Colour of Breeches Total		24
2	Dress - Jackets (i)	For	23
		Against	4
	Dress - Jackets (i) Total		27
	Dress - Jackets (ii)	For	7
		Against	20
	Dress - Jackets (ii) Total		27
3	Horse /Pony ID Tags	For	6
		Against	17
	Horse /Pony ID Tags Total		23
5	Rider Rep	For	25
	Rider Rep Total		25
6	Unauthorised Devices	For	22
		Against	1
	Unauthorised Devices Total		23
	Unauthorised Leading	For	18
		Against	5
	Unauthorised Leading Total		23
7	Downgraded	For	12
		Against	11
	Downgraded Total		23
8	Judges	For	17
		Against	7
	Judges Total		24
9	Use of Voice	For	23
		Against	1
	Use of Voice Total		24
10	Fall of horse/Rider	For	25
	Fall of horse/Rider Total		25
11	Use of Whips	For	20
	Use of Whips Total		20
12	NCH Definition	For	21
		Against	2
	NCH Definition Total		23
13	Test of Choice	For	23
	Test of Choice Total		23
14	Prize Money at RE	For	15
		Against	3
	Prize Money at RE Total		18

DISCUSSION ITEM 1: YOUNG DRESSAGE HORSE CLASSES

Three submissions have been made on this Topic

MOVED: Betty Brown

SECONDED: Peter Jenkins

That a Committee be formed to consider what these classes are trying to achieve and also consider writing our own NZ tests with consideration. Consider breeders and riders of YDH's. We may seek FEI advice. The SM requested feedback required by beginning of June at the latest.

Subcommittee – Jody Hartstone, Christine Weal, 1 or two Breeders or studbook holders, Linda Warren-Davey, Debbie Barke (Chair TBC).

This Subcommittee will have the power to co-opt.

Linda Warren-Davey offered to be Chair if Debbie not happy to accept

That nominations for Sub Committee be approved

MOVED: Scott McKenna / SECONDED: Peter Jenkins

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEM 2: CHAMPIONSHIPS:

Submitted by: Betty Brown / AMDG Delegate

RE: AREA CHAMPIONSHIPS

Delegates considered that Area Championships format did not need to be standardized but left to OC's to state in the schedule.

DISCUSSION ITEM 3: JUDGES & CONFLICT of INTEREST

Submitted by: Peter Jenkins / Bay of Plenty Delegate for DR Bay of Plenty

Judges Conflict of Interest, (Article 440.4.1 -4),

Discuss consequences for judges who officiate in classes where there is clearly a conflict of interest

The Chair read an email to the meeting from Sue Hobson:

There is no penalty other than a warning. If there is a second time, judge spoken to more formally. Then escalates from there. Often relates to error by OC. Key to avoiding it is communication.

Penalties – only coming into play if there was something where there was some intention to benefit a certain rider. Then it would go through ESNZ disciplinary process. If not that it would be dealt with by the Judges officer. The Chair noted any concerns can be directed to the JO or SM in the first instance

The meeting was advised that a Judges conflict list being compiled.

Noted the ESNZ complaints procedure was updated as at Nov 2020 – clear process for complaints. Flowchart available in general regs.

Meeting concluded at 3.53pm