

Minutes ESNZ Endurance Board meeting 29 Sept Wellington

At VCNZ Offices, Brandon St, Wellington

Start 9 am

Present: Sue Reid, Pip Mutch, Jenny Weston, Nick Page, Trevor Copland

Apologies: Kevin James

Conflicts: Sue and Pip re ride, JW re NI Champs

Previous Minutes: agreed as a true & correct record

Nick / Pip

Action List and Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes:

Representatives on committees: NINEC – John Stevenson, SINEC – Sue Billigheimer, Officials Panel – still finalising all members but Jenny added to this as a vet representative.

None of the Juniors were interested in taking over editing The Distance. Is this still a relevant format? How about putting updates from rides and other info on the ESNZ Endurance FB page – could poll the clubs to see if they would be happy with that. Only problem would be recognition of sponsors as they could have adverts in The Distance. Need to get feedback from the members as to what format they would like. Needs to be relevant to members and sponsors. At the moment – Sue is the default for a whole range of tasks including editing The Distance.

ACTION: Jo to put out a poll to members about what format they would like to receive information e.g. pdf emailed to members and on the website, or short snippets more regularly on Facebook, can't afford to print hard copy to post out.

Hannah Walton, Lynda Clark ESNZ Board members & Emma Gowan from ESNZ joined the meeting at 9.10 am whilst discussing The Distance. They advised that some disciplines use mailchimp to send out newsletters as this will monitor the number of recipients that open the email and/or attachments. This system is easy to use.

Sue brought up difficulties with getting engagement from some Board members with replying to emails. Lynda Clark addressed the different ways of communicating within the Board and trying to agree a set of shared expectations. Email is good with reply all so that others see different points of view. Having to phone people to speak to them individually is time consuming for Sue and the others don't hear the conversation. What is a reasonable expectation for response time? Can also use Zoom for quick catch ups. Also important to be clear when things are a priority and when they're not. Only time that Trevor is available 2 am – 5 am. Nick is on another Board and in charge of a significant building project. If there is an urgent email – send it and then send a text to certain people to try and get them to look at their email. Another possibility is a What's App group. Nick will respond within a week but if it is urgent then will need a phone call to get his opinion. Need all Board members to respond as quite often 1 or 2 will have a conflict of interest and can't vote so need the other 4 to vote. Lynda's opinion was that as long as conflicts were noted that then that board member/s could still vote due to being such a small community finding people with no conflicts was very difficult unless the issue was directly involved with that person then they would need to be removed from vote.

What about co-opting an external member to the Board who could assist with governance – particularly sponsorship and marketing? An advert for a Board Member could go out to the full ESNZ membership (e.g. bring in someone from another discipline). Need to realise that an outsider won't

have an in-depth understanding of the sport – give them a full 12 months to get up to speed. . Emma mentioned that this had been done some years ago and the co opted person had difficulty working with some members of the board and that some of the board at the time found it hard to work with the co-opted member making it difficult for success.

ACTION: Sue to talk to Dana about advertising for a co-opted Board member, develop a position description.

ESNZ visitors reported that the other disciplines are facing similar difficulties but the ESNZ staff and Board are here to help. Often people end up 'wearing multiple hats'. Dana (and potentially others) is available to come to meetings.

Emma – ESNZ have pulled together an ESNZ Endurance Board Manual. Large and bulky – printed off one copy but will make it available electronically via Google docs (save some trees!). New ESNZ policies e.g. Drug & Alcohol policy for riders/officials (could be testing even at CEN events), Behaviour policy etc. This copy was given to Trevor and Emma will provide another copy for Pip to receive at the AGA.

Trevor asked Lynda if there would be any support from ESNZ to help with Immigration NZ to bring in 10 or so international riders that he works with for training etc. Could be benefits for other disciplines. There was also further discussion on how to grow the sport. It was agreed that there have been rule changes and a new membership structure which will hopefully make things easier for people who are new to the sport – we need to give this time to bed in and see how it works. There would be administrative difficulties and the potential for horse welfare concerns to further change the rules and membership structure to allow competition at 80 km on a Day Vet Card.

BACK TO ACTION LIST – Development and Mentoring programme – no feedback from members, no one was keen to run the programme. Had been suggested that NI & SI seminars could continue annually but that clubs support development and mentoring in their own membership. Sue was happy to continue with running just the annual seminars. In the past few years, some members really engaged with the programme but others didn't.

MOTION: to run a NI and a SI Development & Mentoring weekend seminar again at the end of the current season.
Sue / Jenny

Trevor was keen to assist with this – particularly if there were people who didn't meet the criteria for a D & M programme.

Could include some of the older juniors in the D&M programme e.g. perhaps if over 16/18

Items for Decision

Election of Board Vice-Chair – Sue nominated Jenny, seconded by Nick, Jenny was willing to take on the role.

Change to supplementary rule 4.2.1 was voted on and passed Sue/Jenny

Review of the budget: grants for championship events – is there a current signed contract with Waitaki club for the National Champs. Need to communicate with Waitaki about how we need to save some money. Should be cheaper to run all these events with the dispensation to not require foreign vets & officials. The amount for Nationals was discussed at the AGM as it was thought that \$10k was a lot for Nationals and used to be \$7k. Need discussion with the host clubs around

profit/loss share. Need to check with Jo whether the signed agreement with Waitaki has been renewed as mindful that something else might have been agreed.

Happy to continue with support of Juniors in the 20/21 season as \$1,500 budgeted for but weren't able to hold Junior Camp due to COVID – the timing of the financial year means that what is in the budget for the current year was to go to the June 2020 Junior Camp. The Board agreed that the funds would still be made available for other Junior activities as long as a good plan and selection criteria was put forward e.g. inter-island travel to compete. It might be difficult to secure horses for them at a CEI or Champs event. Trevor offered horses for a CEN 80km if the Juniors could get to Queenstown. Could also use vouchers for Interislander as ESNZ are given a small number as we have access to 1 or 2 of these through ESNZ but need to check their expiry date.

Payment of fees for FEI Event Kohuratahi club (28 Nov) and that this be counted as part of the FEI series – voted in favour Jenny, Nick, Trevor (Kevin no response), Pip & Sue (conflict of interest).

Passed

Approval of Junior Plan – very high quality and detailed plan put forward by Jane Ferguson and Leanne Ireland. Congratulations to them for putting so much effort into this. Would be great if one or both of them took part in the ESNZ Coaching Programme (not essential that they do it – but they would find it helpful). Opportunities need to be available to all juniors (not just those from the few bigger clubs in each island) – there will need to be clear criteria for selecting from all juniors for some of the opportunities that may come up.

ACTION: Jo to reply to Jane and Leanne thanking them for the quality of their plan, and that there will still be \$1,500 for funding within this season provided a clear proposal is made.

Venue for 2021 AGM - needs to be face to face if possible under COVID conditions. Date set for 3 / 4 July, venue Wellington, ASB Sports Centre cheaper but doesn't say if it has overhead projector and other equipment. Better option is the Bunker Room at Miramar Golf Club - Jo to book. 9 am start for Forum, 1 pm AGM, CTR AGM and prizegiving also needed. Board meeting from 7 pm on the Friday evening. New Board meeting on the Sunday morning. AGM Dinner required (Pip to organise) – can probably just use the café facility at the Golf Club.

Recommended change to Supplementary Rule 4.2.1 (aligning with new CTR rules) – Board approved.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION – covered under discussions with ESNZ visitors (co-opting a Board member). Suggestion that someone be appointed as a welcoming person to new riders who might turn up to a club ride. Each club has previously been given a “Need Help?” pink vest.

ACTION: Jenny / Pip discuss on the Liaison FB page about having a welcome person – someone who will help them understand the process for vetting, helping them strap, check HR etc. Include the “Change the Rein” information. Point out who the helper person is at the ride briefing.

Inwards Correspondence – nil

REPORTS / Club Liaison

Email from Wairarapa Club re TMP requirements and how difficult this is to achieve when working with 3 different councils. TMPs are a legal requirement for any organised sport event on the roads whether it is equestrian or cycling. How can things be made easier? Dana and Emma at ESNZ might be able to help – put them in touch with Shane.

Financial – Jenny commented on the difficulties with understanding the financial reports but has been in discussion with Murray Ingram about an easier to understand system for financial reporting rather than multiple budget centres. Current financial position reviewed and approved financial statements.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Equine rescue float – great idea but too expensive for our events.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Outwards Correspondence – all noted.

Meeting closed 11.25 am.

NEXT MEETING – by Zoom Mon 16 Nov 8 pm. Tentative next face to face Sat 30 January (or could have a Board meeting in conjunction with SI Champs).