



EQUESTRIAN SPORTS  
NEW ZEALAND



DRESSAGE

# 61st AGM & CONFERENCE 2018





**DRESSAGE  
CENTRAL DISTRICTS**

Dressage NZ & Dressage Central Districts  
welcome you to the

Dressage NZ 2018  
61st AGM & Conference

*“Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results.”*

**- Andrew Carnegie**



**EQUESTRIAN SPORTS  
NEW ZEALAND**



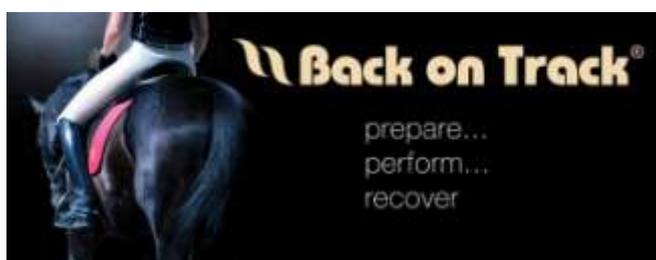
**DRESSAGE**



Dressage NZ recognises with much appreciation the support from our National Sponsors in the 2017/18 year



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Dressage NZ would like to thank the following supporters of the North Island Future Stars Championships



# TIMETABLE

## AGM - Conference - Prize Giving - Awards Dinner Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> June

9.15	Tea & Coffee on Arrival		
9.40		All delegates seated in Conference room	Page
9.45		Conference Commences – Chair Welcome	
	1	Roll Call	
	2	Confirmation 2017 Minutes & Matters Arising	11-28
	3	General Business Not on the Agenda	7
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11.00	11	Remits	62
12.30	Lunch Break		
1.15	12	Nick Pyke: ESNZ Chair presents an ESNZ update	
2.00	13	Vicki Glynn: ESNZ Secretary General presents an FEI Update	
2.20	14	Brooke Dillon: ESNZ Para Equestrian Sport Manager	
2.30	15	Key Note Speaker: Associate Professor Chris Rogers from Massey University An Entertaining & Educational Snapchat of International Developments & Fashions	
3.15	Afternoon tea		
3.30	16	Panel Discussion – Participant Expectations	
4.05	17	2018-19 Squad Rider Announcement	
4.15		Finish & please vacate the conference room immediately taking all items and papers from the room	
<b>Awards Night Dinner &amp; Party - “Backing Black” Theme</b>			
6.00	Award Winners Assemble		
6.30	Awards Prize Giving		
7.00	Table plan on arrival		
7.15	Guests seated for Welcome		
7.30	Dinner - Awards - Backing Black Auction for Dressage NZ WEG Campaign		



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<b>11-28</b>	<b>Minutes Conference 2017</b>
<b>29</b>	<b>Strategic Plan</b>
<b>30-32</b>	<b>Chair Report</b>
<b>33-34</b>	<b>Sport Manager Report</b>
<b>35-36</b>	<b>Accounts YTD April 30 – To 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018 to be tabled</b>
<b>37</b>	<b>Technical Report</b>
<b>37-38</b>	<b>Judges Report</b>
<b>39</b>	<b>Training &amp; Development Report</b>
<b>40-41</b>	<b>Marketing Report</b>
<b>41-42</b>	<b>Selectors Report</b>
<b>43-44</b>	<b>Steward General Report</b>
<b>45-54</b>	<b>Funding &amp; Event Reports</b>
<b>55</b>	<b>Horse of the Year Show Report</b>
<b>57-58</b>	<b>Island Rider Reports</b>
<b>59-60</b>	<b>NEC Reports</b>
<b>61</b>	<b>General Business (Fees &amp; Strategic Plan Update – see Plan page 29)</b>
<b>62-64</b>	<b>Remits</b>
<b>65</b>	<b>Afternoon Session Summary</b>





## DRESSAGE

# 61<sup>st</sup> Annual Dressage NZ AGM & Conference

Hotel Distinction Hotel – Palmerston North  
Saturday 30 June 2017 - Commencing at 9.45am

## 1. WELCOME / ROLL CALL / APOLOGIES

Lynda Clark | Chair

Saskia Brosnan | Dressage Central Districts

Welcome & Conference procedure/standing orders

Housekeeping Matters

**Present:**

**Dressage NZ Board:**

Lynda Clark, Scott McKenna, Sara Bright, Judy Alderdice, Michelle Zielazo

**ESNZ:**

Vicki Glynn (ESNZ Secretary General) Nick Pyke (ESNZ Chair) & Melissa de Souza-Correa (ESNZ Board)

**In attendance:**

Wendy Hamerton (Sport Manager/Secretary) | Celine Filbee (Event Manger / Marketing Asst)

Robin Friend (Minute Secretary)

**Apologies:** Sue Hobson (Judges Officer) Helen Hughes-Keen (Chair of Selectors), Sharon Field, Linda Warren-Davey, Marty Pow, Soo Wells

Voting Delegates		Observers	
Alicia Zeludko	NI Riders Rep	Judith Cunningham (JSC)	Waitemata
Bernice Frost	Taihape	Amanda Waddell	Ashburton
Betty Brown	Auckland-Manukau	Saskia Brosnan	Central Districts
Christine Latch	Waitemata	Robin Friend	Central Districts
Christine Lovelady	Canterbury	Jos Gresham	Central Districts
Cushla Cain	Sth Cant/Nth Otago	Andrea Raves	Wellington
Debra Cowen	Waikato	Amber Disley	Waitemata
Diane Wallace	Marlborough	Jody Hartstone	Waikato
Genevieve Quin	Northern Hawke's Bay	Michelle Middelberg	Nth Hawke's Bay
Helen Bowler	Nelson	Juliet Iremonger	Bay of Plenty
Jane Robertson (Steward General)	Canterbury	Victoria Reid	Bay of Plenty
Janine Van Der Horst	Bay of Plenty	Helen Young	Bay of Plenty
Jenny Affleck	Southland	Robert Kofoed	Canterbury
Jude Nickolls	SI Riders Rep	Sarah Hazlewood	Canterbury
Judith Matthews	Northland	Brooke Dillon	ESNZ Para Eques
Laura Hayes	Otago		
Linda Huitson	Taranaki		
Mary Craine	Southern Hawke's Bay		
Nicola Sim	Ashburton		
Rosanne Rix	Wellington		
Sue Harris	Gisborne		
Susan Tomlin	Central Districts		
Suzanne Halligan	Wairarapa		

## 2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

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of the 60th Annual Dressage Conference, held on Saturday 24 June 2017 at the Scenic Hotel | Blenheim having been circulated, be confirmed as a true and correct record  
*(Copy refer pages 11-28)*

Moved:

Seconded:

**Matters Arising:**

## 3. GENERAL BUSINESS NOT ON THE AGENDA

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To be notified for later discussion

## 4. CORRESPONDENCE

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None

## 5. BOARD 2018/19

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**Chairman** (Until 2019)

Lynda Clark (elected 25 June 2016)

**Technical** (Until 2019)

Scott McKenna (appointed from 24 June 2017)

**Judges Officer** (Until 2021)

Sue Hobson (Re nominated)

**Finance Officer** (Until 2021)

Sarah Hazlewood (appointed from 1 July 2018)

**Marketing** (Until 2020)

Michelle Ziezalo (appointed from 23 May 2017)

**Training & Development** (Until 2020)

Linda Warren-Davey (nominated)

**Appointment Panel Member** (Until 2019)

Debra Cowen (Re nominated)

**Note (1):** By-law 17, Rules for Dressage Administration, provides for all sub-committees to be appointed by the Board

## 6. COMMITTEE 2018/19

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**Area Delegates & Riders Representatives** The following have been submitted by ESNZ Dressage Area Groups & ICH Riders Meetings for confirmation by the Conference.

(N) = New delegate

<b>Northland</b>	TBC	<b>Wellington</b>	TBC
<b>Waitemata</b>	Christine Latch (N)	<b>Wairarapa</b>	Suzanne Halligan
<b>Auckland</b>	Betty Brown	<b>Nelson</b>	Helen Bowler
<b>Waikato</b>	Debra Cowen	<b>Marlborough</b>	Diane Wallace (N)
<b>Bay of Plenty</b>	Janine van der Horst	<b>Canterbury</b>	Christine Lovelady
<b>Gisborne</b>	Sue Harris	<b>Ashburton</b>	Nicola Sim
<b>Nth Hawke's Bay</b>	Genevieve Quin	<b>Sth Cant/Nth Otago</b>	Marty Pow
<b>Sth Hawke's Bay</b>	Sharon Field	<b>Otago</b>	Laura Hayes
<b>Taihape</b>	Bernice Frost	<b>Southland</b>	Jenny Affleck
<b>Central Districts</b>	Susan Tomlin	<b>Nth Is Rider Rep</b>	Alicia Zeludko
<b>Taranaki</b>	Linda Huitson (N)	<b>Sth Is Rider Rep</b>	Jude Nickolls

### Substitutes at the meeting:

Cushla Cain for Marty Pow (SCNO)

Mary Craine for Sharon Field

Judith Matthews for Dressage Northland

**That the Area Delegates and Island Riders Reps be confirmed**

Moved

Seconded

## 6.1 APPOINTMENTS

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### Dressage NZ Finance Officer - Sarah Hazlewood

*Sarah has been involved with horses for over thirty years, mainly eventing and showing in the early days but more recently has been solely concentrating on Dressage, which has become her passion.*

*"Dressage to me is such an individual discipline. Everyone has their own personal goals and you are effectively competing against yourself. I like being able to monitor my progress and look back to see how far I've come. I am incredibly lucky to have a fabulous school master Cruise (Showfields Papanui Crusader) who is teaching me so much while having so much fun competing Level 5 at the same time. I also have a retired Pinto mare at home who safely restored my confidence in riding after various broken bones, and also own a lovely clydie/thoroughbred mare who is in light work"*



*Sarah has a strong background in Finance administration and plus a wide range of experience and knowledge in an accounting environment. She is currently Finance Manager with Cavotec Moormaster Ltd and having held the part time role since 2005. She is also event secretary for Canterbury Dressage, rides and competes.*

### Island Pony & Young Rider Development Convenors

(NI) Leanne Stokes (SI) Julia Thompson (Until 2019)

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

Chair – Judges Officer Elect

2 appointed members (Linda Warren-Davey until 2019, and Judith Cunningham until 2020)

### Dressage Steward General (TBC)

### NI & SI ESNZ Equestrian Centre Representatives (TBC)

### ESNZ AGA Dressage Delegates (TBC at first Dressage Board Meeting following conference)

### Appointment of Patron Recommendation from the Board (TBC)

## 7. ELECTIONS

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### 7.1 Judges Officer

**Nominee:** Sue Hobson

**Nominated by:** Susan Tomlin | Dressage Otago | Dressage Waikato  
Dressage Taranaki | Michelle Paterson

**Seconded by:** John Wall | Kara Lockhart |

Sue Hobson is the sole nominee for the Judges Officer role and is eligible for a further three year term. Sue is passionate about this role but unfortunately will not be at conference this year owing to a long standing invitation to judge at Hartpury CDI in the UK. Her message to members:

#### Personal Statement

*I am standing for Judges Officer again as I am very focused on the training and development of our judges system and training. I am passionate about our sport and working to improve it especially through our judges. I thank all those Areas who nominated me – I am sincerely appreciative of this. I have been in the sport for over 40 years as a competitor and then judge and love the challenges and excitement of the progression we are making on the world stage and to focus on this development with all our judges. Our current judges have much commitment and talent coming through and I really want to be part of this development.*



### 7.2 Training & Development Officer

**Nominee:** Linda Warren-Davey

**Nominated by:** Judith Cunningham | Christine Lovelady

**Seconded by:** Sheena Ross | Nicola Maley

Linda Warren-Davey is the sole nominee for the role. Linda is unable to attend conference as she is travelling to Russia to sit the examination as a FEI Young Horse Judge

#### Personal Statement

*I have been involved in the sport for over 30 years and possess a genuine desire and commitment in further developing and progressing the sport from grass roots through to international performance by developing strategies that will strengthen our position, encourage and allow our sport to reach its potential.*

*I am fortunate in that I not only see and judge some of the best performing competitors in the world, I am also exposed to international coaching and training methodology, including judging and young horse educational programs. These are some of the experiences and knowledge I will bring to the Training and Development role which will further provide structure and meaning across all the components that the role encompasses.*

*Good communication, transparency, providing opportunities and a collaborative, cohesive approach are all meaningful qualities to me. I believe I can bring these to the T & D position on the Dressage New Zealand Board along with experience and knowledge.*

*Looking forward to working with riders, coaches and the many valued stakeholders in our sport.*



## **7.3 Election of Committee Representative to Appointment Panel**

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**Nominee: Debra Cowen**

**Nominated by: Kara Lockhart (Dressage Waikato/ESNZ member )**

Debra is the current committee representative on the appointment panel

## **8 ANNUAL REPORTS**

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## **9. GENERAL BUSINESS**

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## **10. REMITS**

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## **11. PRESENTATIONS & PANEL DISCUSSIONS**

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## 60th Annual Dressage NZ AGM & Conference Scenic Hotel - Blenheim Saturday 24 June 2017 - Commenced at 10.00 am

### 1. WELCOME / ROLL CALL / APOLOGIES

**Lynda Clark | Chair**

Welcomed the delegates to AGM & Conference

**Liza Herkt | Dressage Marlborough**

Noted evacuation procedures and other procedures regarding Conference & Dinner

**Present:**

**Board:**

Lynda Clark, Genevieve Denize, Sue Hobson, Judy Alderdice, Michelle Zielazo

**ESNZ:** Nick Pyke (ESNZ Chair)

**In attendance:**

Wendy Hamerton (Sport Manager/Secretary) | Celine Filbee (Event Manger / Marketing Asst)

Helen Hughes-Keen (Minute Secretary & Chair of Selectors)

**Apologies:** Sara Bright (Finance Officer) Pam Gilmour (Patron), Dana Kirkpatrick (ESNZ GM) Vicki Glynn (ESNZ Sec GEN) Wendy Jeffery, Robert Kofoed, Soo Wells, Ulrike Gerstenberger, Rosanne Rix, *Genevieve Quin & Debbie Barke (flights cancelled)*

Voting Delegates		Observers	
Alicia Collin	NI Riders Rep	Amanda Waddell	Ashburton
Aubrey McRae 3.30pm)	Canterbury	Karen Shields	Auckland-Manukau
Bernice Frost	Taihape	Linda Warren Davey (Judges SC)	Canterbury
Betty Brown	Auckland-Manukau	Christine Lovelady	Canterbury
Dana Haszard	Taranaki	Jane Robertson (Steward General)	Canterbury
Debra Cowen	Waikato	Jos Gresham	Central Districts
Ian Childs	Wairarapa	Leanne Andrews	Marlborough
Janine Van Der Horst	Bay of Plenty	Melissa Galloway	Marlborough
Jenny Affleck	Southland	Tessa van Bruggen	Marlborough
Jude Nickolls	SI Riders Rep	Tracey Johnson	Marlborough
Kate Dodd	Otago	Sharon Inwood	Marlborough
Liza Herkt	Marlborough	Valerie Kear-Colwell	Nelson
Marty Pow	Sth Canterbury/Nth Otago	Jackie Thomas	Otago
Nicola Sim	Ashburton	Barbara Chalmers	Otago
Robin Potter (@1.35pm)	Waitemata	Debbie Barke	Rotorua
Sharon Field	Southern Hawkes Bay	Nancye Jack	SCNO
Sue Harris	Gisborne	Julia Latham	Southland
Susan Tomlin	Central Districts	Mary Davis	Southland
Robin Friend	Wellington	Scott McKenna	Waikato
No delegate	Northern Hawkes Bay	Judith Cunningham	Waitemata
Linzi Jobbitt	Northland	Andrea Raves	Wellington
Wendy Sowerby	Nelson		



## 2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

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of the 59th Annual Dressage Conference, held on Saturday 26 June 2016 at the Quality Hotel Plymouth International @ New Plymouth, having been circulated, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Moved: Susan Tomlin Seconded: Ian Childs

**CARRIED**

### Matters Arising:

1. Betty Brown asked if Tests 8A & 8B had been officially withdrawn. The Sport Manager advised they could still be used until the tests revision was completed, but no further blocks would be printed. If stocks ran out, they could be emailed, printed, or downloaded at the request of the OC wishing to use them
2. Betty Brown asked if the Technical Committee would be implemented. It was advised that it would be and was a work in progress

## 3. GENERAL BUSINESS NOT ON THE AGENDA

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None notified

## 4. CORRESPONDENCE

---

None received

## 5. Introduction of 2017/18 BOARD, CANDIDATES for ELECTION & APPOINTED MEMBERS

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**Noted:** The 2016 By-law provides for all sub-committees to be appointed by the Board

**Chairman (Until 2019)**

Lynda Clark (**Elected 25 June 2016**)

**Judges Officer (Until 2018)**

Sue Hobson (**Elected 25 June 2016**)

**Finance Officer (Until 2018)**

Sara Bright (**appointed from 25 June 2016**)

**Marketing (Until 2020)**

Michelle Ziezalo (**appointed from 23 May 2017**)

**2017 Nominations**

**Training & Development**

Judy Alderdice (only nomination) (**Until 2020**)

**Committee Appointment Panel Member**

Debra Cowen (only nomination) (**Until 2018**)

**Technical Officer**

**TBA (Until 2019)**

The Chair noted that interviews were being held over the weekend for the position of TO



## 2017/2018 AREA DELEGATES & COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

**Area Delegates & Riders Representatives** - The following have been submitted by ESNZ Dressage Area Groups & ICH Riders Meetings for confirmation by the Conference.

**(N) = New delegate**

<b>Northland</b>	Ulrike Gerstenberger (N)	<b>Wellington</b>	Rosanne Rix
<b>Waitemata</b>	Robin Potter	<b>Wairarapa</b>	Wendy Jeffery
<b>Auckland</b>	Betty Brown	<b>Nelson</b>	Wendy Sowerby
<b>Waikato</b>	Debra Cowen	<b>Marlborough</b>	Liza Herkt
<b>Bay of Plenty</b>	Janine van der Horst (N)	<b>Canterbury</b>	Aubrey McRae
<b>Gisborne</b>	Sue Harris	<b>Ashburton</b>	Nicola Sim
<b>Nth Hawkes Bay</b>	TBC	<b>Sth Cant/Nth Otago</b>	Marty Pow
<b>Sth Hawkes Bay</b>	Sharon Field	<b>Otago</b>	Kate Dodd
<b>Taihape</b>	Bernice Frost	<b>Southland</b>	Jenny Affleck
<b>Central Districts</b>	Susan Tomlin	<b>Nth Is Rider Rep</b>	Alicia Zedluko
<b>Taranaki</b>	Dana Haszard	<b>Sth Is Rider Rep</b>	Jude Nickolls

### Substitutes at the meeting:

Ian Childs for Wendy Jeffery (Wairarapa), Robin Friend for Rosanne Rix (Wellington)

Linzi Jobbitt for Ulrike Gerstenberger (Northland)

### That the area delegates and Island Riders Reps be confirmed

**Moved:** Betty Brown

**Seconded:** Susan Tomlin

**CARRIED**

### Board Appointments

#### Dressage Marketing & Communication Manager

Michelle Zielazo

**Moved:** Sharon Field

**Seconded:** Liza Herkt

**CARRIED**

#### Dressage Steward General

Jane Robertson

**Moved:** Jos Gresham

**Seconded:** Jude Nickolls

**CARRIED**

#### Island Pony & Young Rider Development Convenors

NI - Jo Telfer

SI - Julia Thomson

**Moved:** Jude Nickolls

**Seconded:** Jos Gresham

**CARRIED**

#### ESNZ Equestrian Centre Representatives

SI - Soo Wells

NI - Debbie / Peter Barke

**Moved:** Andrea Raves

**Seconded:** Judith Cunningham

**CARRIED**

#### ESNZ AGA Dressage Delegates

TBC at first Dressage Board Meeting following conference

**Judges Sub-Committee** Chair – Sue Hobson plus 2 appointed members TBC following interviews

#### Appointment of Patron

Lynda Clark moved that Pam Gilmour be appointed a Patron for a further year

## 6. BOARD ELECTIONS

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### Training & Development Officer

**Nominee:** Judy Alderdice  
**Nominated by:** Karen Shields (Dressage Auckland-Manukau)  
**Seconded by:** Robert Smith

Moved by Andrea Raves and seconded by Alicia Zeludko (nee Collin) that this nomination be accepted  
**CARRIED**

### 7a Election of Committee Representative to Appointment Panel

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**Nominee:** Debra Cowen  
**Nominated by:** Michelle Paterson (Dressage Waikato/ESNZ member )  
**Seconded by:** Kara Lockhart

Moved by Linda Warren-Davey /Seconded by Betty Brown that this nomination be accepted **CARRIED**

These are summaries of reports presented. The full versions can be found at [www.nzequestrian.org.nz/dressage/whats-new/news/2017/june/dressage-conference-committee-agenda-14-june](http://www.nzequestrian.org.nz/dressage/whats-new/news/2017/june/dressage-conference-committee-agenda-14-june)

## DRESSAGE NZ CHAIR

Lynda Clark

Lynda Clark summarised key points of her report outlining a full year of activity including:

- Reminding members of our strategic vision “Dressage will be a popular sport, unified in the pursuit of excellence and respected domestically and internationally for the quality of its riders, horses and people”
- NZL representation at both the Rio Olympics and FEI Dressage World Cup Final.
- First year of implement of the updated By-Law for Administration
- Increased participation
- Support of volunteers and officials
- Focus for 2016 on appropriate management and business practices including Health & Safety
- Introduction of the Dressage NZ Bulletin and the great job done by Sarah Gray from Snaffle Design

Lynda thanked the Board, the selectors and the Sport Manager & Event Manager for their support and input during the year. In doing so noted the Board had farewelled Kat Macmillan from the Marketing role and welcomed Michelle Zielazo to that role. Thanked Gen Denize for her expertise and contribution to the Rules portfolio during her term and regret that Gen is standing down.

Asked the meeting to remember Tracey Blackmore Sorrell & Ruth McLean and Barbara Thomson from Taupo who contributed so much to ESNZ and Dressage in her role as photographer and who had all been tragically taken accidents during the year

Noted she is excited about the year ahead and look forward to working together to promote, enable and grow the sport of dressage.

***Lynda Clark moved her report be adopted | Seconded by Sharon Field***

**Ian Childs and Debra Cowen** both noted the income derived from non-graded classes and wondered how the new ESNZ membership model may affect the income for dressage in future years

**Susan Tomlin** noted that a number of members are not reading the Bulletin on line, but understands the feasibility and cost of a printed version

**Bernice Frost** asked if the print could be made bigger as it was hard to read

The Sport Manager presented a .ppt portraying the year that was with month by month pictorial. She noted sixty years celebration of Dressage and how privileged she was to feel to be part of it, and paid tribute to all the dedicated and visionary individuals who paved the way for us to be here today. Thanks were offered to all the staff at national office who had faced some real challenges this year but hopefully a new database and website will give them something to smile about

Noted

- the success of the online DressageNZ Bulletin having recently reached 25,763 readers and 236,694 impressions. Noted Dressage is retaining the history of our sport and thanked you to all the contributors who supplied great imagery and stories.
- A huge vote of thanks to all the studs and mare owners who supported the Stable of Stallions
- Represented at both the Olympic Games by Julie Brougham and the FEI World Cup Final by Wendi Williamson in the same year as been a phenomenal achievement.
- Thanked Chair, the board, committee, the event manager and Jos Gresham who has been great support in a volunteer capacity

***Wendy Hamerton moved her report be adopted | Seconded by Andrea Raves***

***CARRIED***

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**FINANCE OFFICER**

**Sara Bright**

Lynda Clark presented the Finance report as Sara Bright could not attend the AGM. The report showed a deficit of \$33,557 for the year end 31 May 2017. Actual operations for the year were positive enabling grants to be made to riders and officials. The bulk of the deficit related to an HR settlement.

***Lynda Clark moved that the Finance report be adopted | Seconded by Marty Pow***

***CARRIED***

**Betty Brown** queried if the Lion Foundation still supported Dressage NZ. The SM responded that a number of applications have been submitted in recent years, but all have been declined.

**Chris Lovelady** queries the purpose of the personal grants. The SM responded that these were riders to OG & the WC Final, and FEI judge training / promotion.

**Karen Shields** noted the large HR expenditure and sought reassurance that systems are now in place to ensure this does not reoccur. The Chair gave this undertaking. It was noted it was unknown if any expenses may be reimbursed by the ESNZ insurer at this time.

**Linda Warren-Davey** queried what gratuities were paid for. The SM advised this was to judges and volunteers at events.

**Karen Shields** requested the Board ensure that Sara Bright is personally thanked on behalf the committee for the fantastic & wonderful job she does in producing such a comprehensive set of accounts and data

Gen expressed her regret at stepping down, a decision she had not made lightly but unfortunately her present work and family commitments now made the regular trips to Wellington for Board meetings and the responsibilities the role requires difficult for her to do justice to the demands of the role.

Her focus in the last year had been further reviewing the rules including working to develop an updated stewards training manual. Noted that stewards are a critical and fundamental part of our sport, stewards should be represented at committee level. In addition to the general Dressage NZ business has also been working with a sub-group of ESNZ looking at the overall structure of ESNZ and the GR's, and attended the ESNZ technical meetings.

The Annual Planning Meeting in April approved a proposal to proposal to set up a technical sub-Committee that will be responsible for approving all bits, bridles and saddles, including adopting the Australian format for the general equipment rule guidelines. The sport should look at competitions permitting for bitless bridles to engage a wider membership

Noted it is through this process of engagement with our members we ensure we have a dynamic and future proofed organisation.

***Gen Denize moved that the Technical Officer report be adopted | Seconded by Jude Nickolls***

**CARRIED**

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**JUDGES OFFICER**

**Sue Hobson**

Sue Hobson noted the JSC have had worked very well together in the previous year, working hard to assist judges with their upgrading requirements and to give them opportunities to travel overseas to gain more experience.

The AUS exchange trips have been very beneficial. These are now also available to list 3 judges. Nicky Hallen and Peri Scrivenor will officiate at the Boneo Youth Championships in Jan 2018

The judges clinic at Equidays in October will be very beneficial. List 3 judges invited to write Nicky Hallen, Peri Scrivenor & Karen Daniel

Noted the project to adopt USEF tests in 2019 is continuing and that she had judged Training, First level and Third level in the US and they all seemed to ride well

Sue thanked the JSC, Linda Warren-Davey and Judith Cunningham and the AJO's for their support during the year, noting everyone is working towards maintaining judging standards and giving our judges the best education we can.

***Sue Hobson moved that the Judges Officer report be adopted | Seconded by Linda Warren-Davey*** **CARRIED**

Betty Brown noted the introduction of the FEI online campus and asked if there was the possibility for Dressage NZ to make it possible for NZ judges to directly input their national judging assignments to an online platform. The SM to follow up this suggestion with ESNZ / new database

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**TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**

**Judy Alderdice**

Judy noted her first year in this role had been a fairly steep learning curve but also it has given her a more complete understanding of the workings of our sport at all levels and how important it is to have a plan!

She made special mention of the U25 team who represented at Boneo in January acknowledging how impressed she was with their ability to work as a team.

Having Julie Brougham competing at the Olympics in Rio and Wendy Williamson competing at the World Cup show just how important these pinnacle events are to the development of the sport. It is vital to have these goalposts to work towards.

Squad activity has been fairly quiet but the majority of individual squad members have shown their ability to maintain their performance goals while moving up the levels. The Performance Pathway update has been completed with some alterations to enable it to flow more clearly into the High-Performance Squads.

Talent ID Clinics were held in both the North and South Islands with positive feedback. Attracting young people into our sport and then providing support and training within our system is a vital part of our growth.

It has been a pleasure to be a DNZ Board member this season and to work with a group of motivated and forward thinking colleagues.

***Judy Alderdice moved the TDO report be adopted | Seconded by Jos Gresham***

**CARRIED**

"I'm happy to tell people that they never have to pronounce my surname. Michelle Z is just fine"

Michelle thanked Kat Macmillan for her enthusiastic and professional approach to the role during her time in the role. Excited to be joining the board as an integral part of managing and growing our sport at such an exciting time, and looking towards NZ representation at WEG 2018 .

Expressed thank to everyone for coming to conference and supporting the sport

***Michelle Zielazo moved the Marketing report be adopted***

**CARRIED**

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**SELECTORS REPORT**

**Helen Hughes-Keen (Chair)**

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Helen noted what an exciting twelve months it had been for Dressage NZ.

With the high quality of performances at the Olympics, the world bar has been lifted and now to be internationally competitive we need to be achieving marks 70% + in the Grand Prix Test. Two very equal combinations met the OG criteria, Julie Brougham and Vom Feinsten going on to representing us very credibly at the 2016 OG.

The FEI World Challenge team event saw NZ narrowly beaten into second place by Chinese Taipei from a total of 37 teams.

Two very successful Young Rider camps were held in Christchurch and Taupo.

Dressage NZ hosted the Pacific League World Cup Final at Manfeild. For NZ to develop and produce internationally competitive horses we must continue to provide competitions to give horses every opportunity to perform and to expose them atmosphere and pressure. Being able to hold a night show created this very important environment. HOY in Hastings in March again provided us with an electric atmosphere.

Immensely exciting for DNZ to have such a strong and increasing number in the ESNZ HP Squads. The bar has certainly been lifted and the Performance Pathway has now been updated showing a clear process through the sport.

Helen thanked sponsors, judges, riders, friends, families and all those volunteers who make our sport possible, the Board and management for their support year and last but not least, fellow selectors, Judy Alderdice and Robin Haberfield

***Helen Hughes-Keen moved the Selectors report be adopted | Seconded by Alicia Zeludko***

**CARRIED**

Jane outlined a full year of activity in the stewards sector and thanked her fellow stewards who have given of their time and expertise at any competition – ‘whatever the weather’. Noted looking forward to a further year as steward general. Six stewards were promoted to FEI Level 1 and five completed an FEI refresher course. Nigel King conducted FEI seminar for FEI Level 1 Stewards and a refresher for other levels at HOY. Marcia Bayley and Jane did a refresher course at West Palm Springs, Miami run by Elisabeth Williams and both were accredited.

Believes that there is a need for stewards to be at all competitions. Work being done on revamping the Stewards Education Pathway and one of the outcomes of this will be that in order to upgrade stewards will have had to stewarded at a required number of other competitions. This should have the required number stewards at many more competitions than we see now. There is little point in training people if there is no work or requirement for them.

***Jane Robertson moved the Steward General report be adopted | Seconded by Jos Gresham***

***CARRIED***

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**EVENT MANAGER & MARKETING ASSISTANT**

**Celine Filbee**

**SPONSORSHIP & FUNDING REPORT 2017**

Sponsorship for the season was well up on previous years but all events received less funding than in previous years as the pool dries up, with the Under 25 Championships being most affected. Funding continues to be important to the financial viability of all the events and therefore the application process remains an important role for Dressage NZ staff. Thank the following Trusts for their support of Dressage NZ: New Zealand Racing Board, Eastern & Central Community Trust, Trust House, Pelorus Trust, Pub Charity, Southern Trust

***Celine Filbee moved her report be adopted | Seconded by Betty Brown***

***CARRIED***

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**BATES NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 2017**

**EVENT MANAGER Celine Filbee**

Sponsors were easier to secure this year with revenue of just over \$30,000. Funding was not so easy to secure. Retained the core organising committee and as always they did an excellent job of running their respective areas of the event. Some succession planning should start to be implemented to train the next generation of volunteers. Over 700 people attended the spectacular. 194 horses entered, the highest number since 2011. Reached of 55,000 people on Facebook in the week prior to the show and had over 2000 page visits in two weeks. Overall this Nationals and Pacific League World Cup Final was very successful both from a participation, and organisational point of view. We are well placed to host the PLWCF in future years.

***Celine Filbee her report be adopted | Seconded by Jos Gresham***

***CARRIED***

**EQUESTRIAN ENTRIES UNDER 25 DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS 2017 (TAUPO NEC)**

The new format included the 22-25 riders being included in all young rider levels rather than offering their own championships. Entries received this year were less than 2016, showing a drop in pony competitors, young rider entries were up. Possibly because event not being held in the school holidays and competition for entrants as Timberlands and Schools Dressage competitions were held over the same period. Sponsorship was better than last year, funding was very difficult to secure, 2 applications were declined and the third only returned \$1000.00. Entry fees were increased. The core national champs organising committee worked on the event with the support of several new faces and a big team from Taranaki

***Celine Filbee her report be adopted | Seconded by Andrea Raves***

***CARRIED***

A huge thanks to Dressage Central Districts for agreeing to partner their annual championships with these two international events. An additional CDIW was scheduled on our calendar to give more NZL based combinations the opportunity to qualify for the Pacific League Final in February 2017. The cost of running international events is formidable. It's a Catch 22 situation – we need to deliver bigger more exciting events (which cost more) and chip away at the potential market, or we accept the fact that our sport is “mid-profile” The WDC event was again extremely valuable in terms of giving all levels of riders an opportunity to ride under FEI rules. Congratulations to the NZL team of Alex Matheson, Vanessa Way, Melissa Galloway & Louisa Ayres who led the competition until the end but were pipped at the post by Chinese Taipei.

Thanks to the major sponsors, Pryde's Easifeed NZ, Heritage Equine, Syncroflex, Equissage, Kieffer/Equiscan, Equitak Excel and Quality Presentations. Thank you also to the riders and coaches who donated goods or services which raised \$3,000 towards the event. Kiernyn Walton (Walton Dressage Stables), Greg Smith (GC Equestrian), Vanessa Way, Jody Hartstone, Penny Castle, Jon & Wendi Williamson, Tracy Smith & Andrea Raves

***Wendy Hamerton moved her report be adopted | Seconded by Andrea Raves***

**CARRIED**

### **HORSE OF THE YEAR SHOW DRESSAGE SECTION**

**Chris Paston (Convenor)**

The Sport Manager presented the HOY report on behalf of Chris Paston. There were a record number of 840 tests ridden. The Polo grounds have become very crowded with other disciplines also using the area. Dressage has by far the greater number of horses and the warm up space has now become restricted to a fairly small area.

The warm up arena was unsatisfactory owing to heavy rain and late preparation. Arena grooming gear supplied not adequate but a generous trade stand came to the party. Chris thanked the competent and dedicated team for what they provide for this show.

**Wendy Hamerton (Sport Manager)**

The Sport Manager noted that Dressage NZ is indebted Chris and the team from Dressage Northern Hawke's Bay, plus all the other volunteers who continue to deliver an amazing dressage section at the Horse of the Year Show and noted a huge congratulations to Abbie Deken who won the Grand Prix title for the first time in her career.

***Wendy Hamerton moved these reports be adopted***

**CARRIED**

### **North Island Rider Representative Report**

**Alicia Zeludko (Committee)**

Alicia expressed concern at the low turnout of riders at the North Island Riders meeting, held in October with only twenty people in attendance. This was extremely disappointing given that the event had 160 riders entered. She feels her the role is negatively based with no constructive input and lack of interest from riders

Noted that some social media posts from riders are simply not appropriate. The Rules Officer suggested that screen shots of inappropriate post be forwarded to the Sport Manager for action as per the ESNZ social media policy

Another issue which continues to be raised again and again is arena familiarisation. Some riders want to be able to do more than walk around the outside of the arena. By far the most raised issue to me is the future venue of Nationals. Considers riders need to be informed of the positives and negatives of both venues, as she doesn't think they have all the information to be able to justify why the venue should be at one location over another.

Would however love to see someone else show interest in the Rider Rep role, as she cannot see herself having any more time for the role than she currently does.

***Alicia Zeludko moved her report be adopted | Seconded by Gen Denize***

**CARRIED**

SI Champs we had a record number of 75 attendees at the SI Riders Meeting. Main aim is to increase communication between Dressage NZ and the SI Riders. Has started up a facebook page which has a great following with over 440 members. At SI Riders Meeting the main concern was with the SI dates being quite difficult to work around, a lot of explanation was put forward that this was due to the grounds availability.

*Jude Nickolls moved her report be adopted | Seconded by Chris Lovelady*

**CARRIED**

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**Fiber-Fresh Taupo Equestrian Centre DNZ Representative Report****Debbie & Peter Barke**

Debbie could not attend conference owing to cancelled flights. Lynda Clark (Chair) asked for the report to be taken as read noting an as exciting year with the indoor arena nearing completion. There are still items on the wish list, but fundraising is ongoing. NEC committee wants to ensure charges are the same to all users, and that shows using the facilities need to clearly outline if they are adding a "surcharge" to any centre fees.

The centre has again experienced a very busy year with bookings and usage from a range of activities. Invited members to contact her with fundraising ideas.

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**McLeans Island Centre DNZ Representative****Soo Wells**

Soo Wells was not at the meeting but her report noted another busy year at the NEC with a great deal of new and repaired irrigation put in, to the grass oval and also to water the sand arenas and other grass areas.

The "June Cresswell" new covered yards have been built and are in use. A toilet block and shower facility have also been put in between the old stable block and the new covered yards, septic system for this still to be installed.

It is intended to upgrade all surfaces over time, again as funds allow. A Health and Safety plan has been developed and the website has been updated, Facebook page started. A constant struggle with funding, but a huge amount of progress has been made.

*Lynda Clark moved the NEC Dressage Representatives reports be adopted*

**CARRIED**

## Agenda Item 9: General Business

1. **Dressage Fees:** Board Recommendation that for the 2017 / 18 season remain as for 2016/17
  - TD levy **\$3 per class**
  - Casual start fee **\$5 per class** for ESNZ registered horses with no Dressage Annual Start in graded competitions
  - Annual Start Fees Level 1 **\$70.00**
  - Annual Start Fees Level 2 and above **\$100**

**That the fees recommended by the Board be approved**

**Moved by Gen Denize | Seconded by Judy Alderdice**

**CARRIED**

### 2. **Strategic Plan Update with Lynda Clark**

Lynda referred the meeting to a copy of the plan on page 66, noting that this had been approved by the Board following input from members at the April Planning meeting. Key priorities for short, medium and long term was a were outlined.

**SHORT TERM:** Team WEG 2018, financial sustainability, Volunteer Succession Planning & Development  
Communication to all stakeholders, Development of Equine Athlete

**MEDIUM TERM:** Increased number of participants at all levels, Team at Tokyo, Increased recognition of Dressage

**LONG TERM:** Improved competition facilities, increased numbers of participants at FEI levels, Growth of sport – riders & volunteers

## Agenda Item 10: Remits

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### Remit 1:

#### Proposed by Dressage NZ

1. That Dressage NZ seek approval from EA to adopt the EA Equipment Annex 2017 in respect to Bridles, Bits and Saddlery

**It was agreed that this Annexe be adopted as a start point for Dressage NZ, and be developed further for NZL. The articles in the annexe to be adopted only those relating to tack eg bits, bridles etc**

2. That Dressage NZ establish a Technical Sub-Committee of three members consisting of one Dressage NZ Board member, one Steward and one other person with technical expertise with Terms of Reference developed in consultation with and approved by the Board of Dressage NZ

**It was agreed that the technical sub-committee be established, with the amendment that the Board may select a person to give delegated authority to instead of a Board Member**

### Remit 2:

#### Re Art 477.4: Permitted Bits: From Robert Kofoed

That Dressage NZ follows recent changes made by the FEI and Equestrian Australia, which allow the use of low and medium ported Myler bit mouthpieces in conjunction with already approved cheek pieces

**It was agreed this remit be passed as it is consistent with Remit 1**

## Re Art 463: Rider Categories

The Technical Officer Gen Denize spoke to the meeting about the rider category rules, noting that the sport needs to be as inclusive as possible. Discussion followed:

**Re Categories N – 9:** Agreed in principle that the points restriction should be increased to less than 15pts.

**Re Amateur:** It was agreed in principle that points two more levels above level of competition is considered fair re Cam and any rider C6 or above is not eligible for Am competitions at any level.

**Re Eventing restrictions:** It was also agreed that as there can be no easy verification around the participation in Eventing, and it's relevance to performance, that this restriction be removed.

**Agreed this be discussed further at the committee meeting, noting the Board must sign off the final wording of the rule.**

## 1.00 AFTERNOON SESSION: Presentations & Panel Discussions

### SI Judges Scholarship:

Linda Warren- Davey presented one of two South Island Judges Training Scholarships to Tracey Johnson from Marlborough. The scholarships are presented thanks to an anonymous donor, supporting SI judges who wish to further their knowledge and upgrade. The second recipient was Bella Aynsley from Gore who as not present at the meeting

### Nick Pyke ESNZ Chair                      ESNZ Update

Nick Pyke presented a very informative presentation around not only the work being done by ESNZ to future proof the financial viability and stability of the organization, but also other developments such as the web site and database. Details of ESNZ updates and progress can be found on the website

### Debra Cowen                                      The Club Culture of Dressage Waikato

Waikato Delegate Debra Cowen presented a .ppt outlining how Dressage Waikato had created a club culture by offering activities outside of competitions. Refer to attachment

### WEG Update                                      Helen Hughes – Keen / Michelle Zielazo

An outline of the costs to get to a team to WEG estimated at 90k per horse. Dressage NZ is committed to send a team to WEG (Tryon USA – Sept 2018) and get fundraising underway. Dressage is the only discipline at the moment to be considering fundraising at this level. The meeting was supportive in principle.

### KEY NOTE SPEAKER                      Victoria Underwood                      How the Brits Did It

Victoria (Vikki) Underwood is the Director of Athlete Performance Support based at High Performance Sport NZ in Auckland. Prior to this, she worked for English Institute of Sport, responsible for one of the largest regions of the EIS, supporting 26 Olympic, Paralympic and English sports, 350 World Class athletes, and host of the London 2012 Olympic Preparation Camp. Alongside her work with the EIS, Victoria was Head of Performance Services for Team GB at their Preparation Camp, was part of the Equestrian Sport Information Team for LOCOG at the Olympic and Paralympics Games, and had the honour of being the dressage writer for the Chief Judge at the Paralympic Dressage competition.

Victoria gave a very inspiring and engaging presentation about her work in Britain. One of the key points noted is the difficulty that equestrian sports seem to have in engaging riders as athletes, in programmes to support their own fitness and associated sports sciences and personal development. That most athletes do not have a clear plan for their own personal progression to their goal of international representation. Noted the importance of development of young athletes in the 12-16 year old age bracket, and also the importance of maintaining athlete and horse health at the top end. Noted that Britain had good government support going into London OG and this is ongoing

### Kiwi Pathway to Podium                      Panel Discussion

Four riders including: Pony (Millie Thompson), Amateur (Rebecca Rowlands), U25 (Melissa Galloway) Grand Prix (Diane Wallace) plus Olympic coach Andrea Raves each outlined how they viewed the development of dressage in NZ, and the riders also gave an insight into their own plans (see attachment for summary)

**Announcement of Dressage NZ Squads 2017-18**

The Dressage NZ squads were announced via a ppt presentation (see attachment)

**The meeting concluded at 4pm with Lynda Clark expressing a vote of thanks to all presenters and attendees for a positive day's proceedings**

## Pathway to the Podium Panel Discussion

**Millie Thompson:** 15 yrs, from Canterbury. Currently riding level 4 pony.  
*I have a dream of becoming good enough to qualify and ride at the Olympics.*

### How do I turn this dream into a reality?

I know it's going to take many years of hard work and all the support I can get from my family, coaches and Dressage NZ. There will be many obstacles, including costs for travel and training, so it's important to identify them and discuss options to make it achievable.

In the next few years – I need to:

- Continue to train my pony to higher grades
- Purchase a promising horse
- Continue with top coaching and surround myself with knowledge to reach grand prix.
- Travel to the North Island and Australia to compete
- Continue to gain school and University qualifications

### How can Dressage NZ support my Journey to the Podium?

I have so much to learn:

I will need support and opportunities to learn how to:

- Market myself to attract sponsorship
- Source contacts to top breeders to find my next horse
- Develop an understanding of sports science and psychology
- Learn planning techniques - for long and short term goals and someone to evaluate my progress to get to Grand Prix
- Subsidised support for top coaching
- Compete in more FEI competitions
- And Fitness training planning (I was amazed to find out that dressage riders had one of the highest heart rate out of all the Olympic athletes – how do we prepare for this?)

I think Dressage NZ is already providing events where these opportunities could happen!

My first idea is the Young rider camps:

I think I was only 10 when I went on my first camp. I certainly didn't have all the required percentages but Donny McLean took all applicants. This was a valuable experience because:

- I learnt that it takes years to train a horse to grand prix – so I had better get going and not worry about winning ribbons at level 1
- I also met 2 coaches that have had a big influence on my riding
- Most of all, I met good friends that still make my dressage days so much fun.

So, it's important that all young riders get these camp opportunities:

However, we could improve them by identifying potential South and North Island riders that could have ongoing training for: fitness, goal planning, sports science and psychology

I was also lucky enough for two years to be part of the Canterbury training dressage squad. I loved being of this squad as it gave me new challenges and experiences. Unfortunately, the squad isn't going any more. Maybe dressage NZ could support the regional squads, to encourage more young riders reaching higher training levels. Squads could also include more than just lessons and could be an extension from the young rider camps.

The World challenge 2 years ago– was an amazing experience to be part of and get an introduction to FEI competitions. It would also be cool to have something like this against Australia.

I found the Horse sports top 10 and young rider competitions great because often I was the only pony in my class, so it kept me striving for better percentages and It's always good competing against the North Island riders without the inter-island travel.

Finally - I also like the format of the pony club dressage nationals as they have the same judges for both north island and South Island competitions. - Maybe we could do this in our pony championship class at each Island champs – it's easier to fly 2 judges than have a team of horses catching the ferry. This would also give pony riders in each grade a little more competition to keep striving for, especially for the South Island riders.

**Rebecca Rowlands:** From Canterbury. Currently riding level 3 and level 5 horses

Rebecca is a relatively new convert to dressage. Enjoyed the benefits of the Canterbury training squad which the inspired her further to train to higher levels. Regrets this squad is no longer occurring. Her immediate goal is to ride Prix St Georges. Understands that need to travel to bigger competitions to get more competition experience amongst more competitors

**Melissa Galloway:** From Marlborough. Currently riding Advanced and just beginning Grand Prix  
Melissa's three points were:

**Mentoring:** pairing up young riders aspiring to go overseas with their horse, with people like Wendi Williamson and Julie Brougham that have had that experience before and are able to help guide and give advice to younger riders.

**Opportunities:** helping create as many opportunities as possible for younger riders or aspiring riders to have overseas experience, whether it be with a horse or on borrowed like at the youth championships in Victoria. More Australian experience

**Contacts:** Helping develop and provide contacts for younger/ aspiring riders to potentially travel overseas with horses. For example places to base with. Places to have experience overseas even without a horse.  
Help us to look for the right people to help us get to where we need to be.

**Diane Wallace:** From Marlborough. Previously competed at Grand Prix and now at Level 2 and 4  
"Train, Train, Train"

We need more structured training squads. Riders need to be encouraged to compete overseas. Grand prix riders need to be getting good marks in NZL before they venture overseas. Needs to be more attainable for SI riders to compete at the big shows, more funding for them. Perhaps a reduced stable fee as they generally need to stay longer

Considers Dressage NZ has to do something about the long boring prize givings we currently have

**Andrea Raves:** Wellington based ESNZ Elite Coach and attended Rio OG 2016 as a coach  
What can DNZ do to assist riders on their way to the podium?

1. Dressage NZ has a very good pathway for riders to develop their skills starting with YR Camps up to High Performance Squads.
2. If riders plan to go to pinnacle shows like Olympic Games or WEG they ultimately will have to travel and compete overseas to prepare for these events. Julie Brougham's and now Wendi Williamson's campaigns have shown that it is necessary to gain experience regarding travel with horses and coping with the electric atmosphere of international shows. Also being in front of international judges on a regular base can help to build a profile and get known on the international circuit. Contacts can be established and be useful for other campaigns. Assistance from DNZ re administrative issues is crucial and appreciated so riders can concentrate on their performances.
3. To help riders further while still in NZ I feel that DNZ should bring in international judges / trainers to work with the Squads.
4. Continue with top quality shows and CDI's on good surfaces!
5. Financial assistance is always welcome.

I thank DNZ for the opportunity to speak at the AGM

## **Dressage NZ Squads 207-18**

### **ESNZ High Performance**

John Thompson	JHT Antonello (Waikato)
Julie Brougham	Vom Feinsten (Central Districts)
Wendi Williamson	DejaVu MH (Waitemata)

### **ESNZ High Performance Futures**

Abbie Deken	KH Ambrose (Taranaki)
Vanessa Way	NRM Andreas (Taranaki)
Alex Matheson	PSL Lings II (Waikato)
Lucarne Dolley	Devil's Chocolate (Waikato)

### **Dressage NZ Advanced Squad**

Jody Hartstone	Ali Baba (Waikato)
Bill Millar	Raukura Satori MH (Waikato)
Sheena Ross	Parkridge Disco SW (Auckland)
Susan Tomlin	Dancealong (Central Districts)
Victoria Wall	Letty Lei (Waitemata)

### **Dressage NZ Development Squad**

Carole Christensen	Vollrath Leila (Wellington)
Susan Tomlin	Reflexions (Central Districts)
Vanessa Way	NRM KH Arion & NSC Pronto (Taranaki)

### **Dressage NZ Youth Squad**

Melissa Galloway	Windermere Johanson W & Windermere J Obei W (Marlborough)
Louise Ayres	Playmate & Somerstone Hit (Wellington)
Sarah Wadworth)	Faemoss BW (Marlborough)
Lucarne Dolley	Ardmore (Waikato)
Kate Tobin	Bradgate Riot Act (Wellington)
Julie Flintoff	Belladonna MH (Northland)
Hannah Burden	Decadance MH & Dante MH (Northland)
Chelsea Callaghan	Sisters II Etta J (Wellington)
Willa Aitken	Alpha Beta (Northern Hawkes Bay)
Samantha Fechney	JK Lucazen (Bay of Plenty)

### **Dressage NZ Pony Squad**

L3 Anna Wilson	Pepee (Waikato)
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# DRESSAGE NZ STRATEGIC PLAN 2017 - 2020

## OUR PURPOSE

To promote, enable and grow the sport of Dressage

## OUR VISION

To be unified in the pursuit of enjoyment, growth and excellence in Dressage

## OUR KEY PRIORITIES

### SHORT TERM

- Team WEG 2018
- Financial sustainability
- Volunteer Succession Planning & Development
- Communication to all stakeholders
- Development of Equine Athlete

### MEDIUM TERM

- Increased number of participants at all levels
- Team at Tokyo
- Increased recognition of Dressage

### LONG TERM

- Improved competition facilities
- Increased numbers of participants at FEI levels
- Growth of sport – riders & volunteers

## OUR VALUES

*D*edication  
*R*espect  
*E*ngagement  
*S*portsmanship  
*S*ocial  
*A*chievement  
*G*rowth  
*E*xcellence



## OUR PARTNERS

### Our HORSES

Sponsors, Owners, Breeders, Officials  
Volunteers, Members and their families, Fans,  
Equestrian Sports NZ and its disciplines,  
NZ Pony Club Assn, RAS and A&P Societies

## 8.1: DRESSAGE NZ CHAIR

Lynda Clark

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to this Dressage NZ Annual General Meeting and present my report on the 2017-18 year. It is great to be here in Palmerston North, thank you for hosting us. Once again it has been a year of great activity and the sport of dressage continues to grow.

There is a lot to celebrate and it gives me pleasure to make mention of some key happenings and milestones. At conference June 2017 Dressage NZ shared its Strategic Plan for 2017-2020.

Dressage NZ purpose is:

***To promote, enable and grow the sport of dressage.***

(Full details are on the web-site)

A Team at WEG 2018 was high on the list of short term priorities. For the best part of 2017-18 season this remained achievable with all high-performance riders, Julie Brougham and Von Feinsten, John Thompson and JHT Antonello and Wendi Williamson and Dejavu MH tracking well for WEG team selection. Sadly, Wendi and team Williamson had to say good bye to Deja Vu in early April this year as he succumbed to colic. As riders you are an inspiration to our dressage community and I applaud the sportsmanship, respect and professionalism that is evident in everything you do. I will leave it to Wendy to report more fully on other WEG related happenings. We congratulate Wendy Hamerton on being appointed to the role of Chef d'Equpe. Wendy's extensive knowledge and experience will be incredibly valuable for our dressage riders competing at WEG.

Once again New Zealand dressage riders continue to raise the bar and the number of riders scoring high percentages continues to increase. It was exciting to see increased interest in the York Inter-island U25 Team challenge. Canterbury hosted the first round and round two and the final was at the U25 Champs, Taupo in April. We also welcomed to this event an invitation team (U25) from Queensland to take part in the Trans-Tasman challenge. North Island won the final of the Inter-island challenge and NZ team won the Trans-Tasman challenge. There was also much to celebrate with the NZ team winning the 2017 FEI World Challenge world team ranking.

Dressage NZ is intrinsically involved in the delivery of national events. Wendy Hamerton, Sport Manager and Celine Filbee, Event Manager, do an exceptional job in leading a great team of officials and volunteers to deliver these prestigious events. We are very accustomed to the high-quality delivery of: The Bates Nationals, FEI World Dressage Challenge, U25 Champs and NI Future Stars plus three CDI competitions in conjunction with other other events, all part of the annual calendar. This does mean that Dressage NZ dedicates a significant number of hours in the 'hands on' delivery of the sport and at times the team are working excessively long hours. Chris Paston and your team, thank you for the fantastic job you do for dressage at Horse of the Year

The venue for Nationals 2019 and beyond caused much conversation during the year. As a Board demonstrating good governance it is important we go back to our membership to ensure we are informed in our decision making. The Dressage NZ Board confirmed to move the NZ National Dressage Championships to FFNEC Taupo. It is anticipated that this move from Manfeild will occur in 2020 once the Taupo site is completed to the standard required for holding international FEI /CDI events. Dressage NZ remains committed to continuing to work closely with and assist the FFNEC committee to complete the facilities at Taupo as quickly as possible and look forward to hosting a truly international event that showcases our riders, horses and sport to the world.

Area group OC's, thank you for your part in the delivery of dressage in your region. I hear many reports of awesome events in the regions. At times it is challenging and I am aware of groups who are constantly asking the question of how we can do this in a way that continues to attract and meet the needs of the riders in the region, plus attract sufficient volunteers for the delivery of these events. Volunteer Succession Planning and development is a key priority for dressage NZ and Ken Allen, Sport Wellington, shared some insights into what motivates volunteers at the recently held planning forum.

Judges and officials, I'm so impressed by your commitment to on-going training and development. This ensures we are at the forefront of our sport regards delivery of quality events. It was a privilege to be part of the workshop held at Equidays in October. I will leave it to Sue Hobson and Jane Robertson to report more fully. I extend my congratulations to Mura Love on achieving 3\*FEI status. To all our officials a very big thank you for your contribution.

The Dressage NZ Bulletin (E-Mag) remains a significant communication channel for the sport. It is a popular read with readership sitting around 2500 monthly. In the survey conducted Aug 2017 there were many positives noted. It is a quality online publication and we are thankful to Wendy Hamerton as editor and Snaffle Design for the very professional job they do as publishers. The challenges with accessibility and readability has been noted. Dressage NZ will this year review the D Bulletins value and future.

Dressage NZ is financially secure and the team work diligently under the guidance of Sara Bright to ensure we maintain a positive bottom line. This was the first year operating under the newly adopted ESNZ membership model and we will have a greater understanding of the impact come year end. Income from T and D levies (centre line rides) appear to be slightly up at the time of writing this report. Graded starts appear to be ahead of last year whilst non-graded starts appear to have been impacted by the new membership model and are down on this time last year. The full financial impact is not available as I write this report, however will be reported on at the AGM. The role of finance officer has been capably filled by Sara for fifteen years. She is not available for re-appointment this year but we recognise that DNZ has been incredibly advantaged to have had Sara in this role for this time. Sara's capability to perform both the administration of the finances whilst also adding real value to Board discussion leaves some real big boots to fill.

## TRIBUTES

It was with sadness we received the news during the year of the passing of three dressage stalwarts.

**Jeanette Trevelyan (Canterbury)** When I started with DNZ Jeanette was South Island selector. A very beautiful, talented, humble woman who was so encouraging to me in my new role.

**Margaret Dickie (Southland)** Margaret was a much respected judge, rider and coach. Horses were a lifelong passion for Margaret and she made a huge contribution to Equestrian Sport in Southland.

**Joy McEwen (Taranaki)** In 1973 Joy was instrumental in introducing Dressage competition to Taranaki but she was a pioneer in many other respects through her support of the NZ Horse Society (now ESNZ) and her vision for riders to train with the best trainers available

**Laurence O'Toole:** It was a shock to hear of the death of our sponsor Laurence O'Toole from Prestige Equestrian soon after Horse of the Year Show. Laurence was a very special sponsor always looking to reward dressage riders coming through the ranks.

We extend our love and sympathy to the friends and family of these special people in our sport

## THANK YOU

It is hard to list all those we need to acknowledge. I want to make special mention of our family of sponsors. Your contribution is valued and we love having you involved, without you we would not be able to deliver at the level we do.

Area Groups and volunteers – you are at the coal face of our sport, you interact on a regular basis with riders, officials and volunteers and are instrumental in the growth we are experiencing. Thank you to the many volunteer hours you put in and the great job you do.

Jane Robertson, Steward General and the team of stewards continue to service dressage well. You are always present and approachable. Thank you for the long hours you put in, especially at DNZ national events.

Board Members, thank you for your hard work over this past year. You are a great team, passionate about dressage and committed to growing the sport in NZ. You each work so hard in your area of speciality. I mentioned earlier in

this report that Sarah Bright is not seeking re-appointment and we will welcome the newly appointed finance officer at the AGM. Judy Alderdice has indicated she is not available after June this year and nominations for this position will be voted on at the AGM. Judy will continue in her role as Selector. Thank you, Judy, for the development of the Training and Development portfolio, you have implemented some great initiatives and tidied up many processes. Thank you to our selectors Helen Hughes-Keen, Judy Alderdice, Robin Haberfield and Jan Mitchell. Robin has recently retired, and we welcomed Jan Mitchell to the role of South Island selector. Thank you, Robin, for the significant contribution you made and for carrying out the role with professionalism and integrity. To our riders' representatives; Alicia Collins and Jude Nicol, National Equestrian Centre Representatives; Debbie and Peter Barke and Soo Wells, Young Rider Convenors; Jo Telfer and Julia Thomson and sub-committee members I also express gratitude for your work and the way you so capably carry out your roles.

To our patron Pam Gilmour we say a very big thank you. Your knowledge of the sport and the grace with which you carry out your role is commendable. Pam is retiring this year and we will certainly miss your presence at DNZ events.

Finally, to the great team we have in managing our sport I say a very big thank you. Wendy as Sport Manager the dressage community benefits hugely from your knowledge, expertise, passion and hard work. Celine, you are an exceptionally skilled event manager, and have grown and led a team of amazing volunteers. Celine has resigned from her role as Nationals event manager and will continue to work with dressage NZ in the areas of sponsorship, funding and sport administration. Jos, our spreadsheet guru, it is great to have you involved.

I am excited about the year ahead and look forward to working together to promote, enable and grow the sport of dressage and for us to be recognised as a sport of choice.

Thank you,  
Lynda Clark,  
Chair



## 8.2: DRESSAGE NZ SPORT MANAGER

Wendy Hamerton

There has been much to be excited about during the year as new standards of performance are set, our national events continue to attract more competitors, new national and international events introduced, sponsorship support of our events and series increases and our plan for FEI World Equestrian Games participation finally crystallises. The support for our riders World Games participation has been unprecedented with dressage groups, sponsors, businesses and individuals all joining our "Backing Black" team. The Monster Raffle is about to get underway and there will also be a number of auctions taking place. Dressage NZ has committed 20k per rider from our international tour fund so including this there is the potential to support WEG participation to the extent of 100k.

Behind the scenes has been proactive with the introduction of a new ESNZ website and database. The website is not yet fully functional as per the original wish list and this has caused many frustrations and additional work hours for staff and volunteers alike. ESNZ are doing all they can to expedite changes to ensure full functionality as soon as possible. We have updated the Dressage By-law for administration, position descriptions and terms of reference for the many roles sub-committees which make up our national network of volunteer administration. Work has commenced also on pathways for officials and the proposal to adopt the USDF tests and Judges training programme in collaboration with Dressage Australia.

From a management perspective however, all this excitement has been tempered with a degree of caution around ever increasing expectations of riders around sport delivery, and the increasing levels of compliance and reporting that are already in place, and will soon have greater requirements around Health & Safety reporting regarding rider falls, injuries and suspected concussion.

Our event managers, paid and unpaid, and our teams of officials and volunteers do an exceptional job but do the majority of our riders really understand the pressures the event managers and volunteers are prepared to put themselves under and the huge responsibilities they undertake in order our members can enjoy competitions at every level?

As the expectations and demands for better facilities and more top level events increases, these will ultimately lead to the requirement for a stronger income base for these events to support the expectations.

Event income comes from three sources. Entry fees, sponsorship and trust funds. Trust funds can no longer be relied on and should not be, as evident in trends over the past ten years. Trusts generally have a charitable deed to distribute back to the local community with a smaller % being allocated to national events. Sponsorship is not a given either for national events. Sponsorship tends to be easier to source locally around the "feel and support of community" without such a strong commercial return requirement. National events have to deliver on a much more professional level to engage and retain sponsors. Sponsorship is not a gift. It is simply a form of advertising and advertisers can rightly expect a return on that investment. That return is delivered both through the event experience and sales and marketing opportunities resulting from that event. That delivery in itself comes at a cost so for every sponsorship \$\$\$ secured, a % must be used to deliver on the promise. A \$100 sponsorship does not equate to \$100 prize money.

NZL has a history of distributing prize money across the disciplines, but one way to improve the bottom line of events and make them more affordable for all participants is dispense with prize money. \$16,000 prize money at our national championships equates to close to \$100 per rider and as I put the entries in for our NZL riders at Saugerties near New York, one of the most expensive places in the world to keep a horse, I note there is no prize money. Something to ponder.

### SPONSORSHIP

A huge milestone was celebrated with the twentieth consecutive year of a Bates Saddles partnership with our national championships. But we must also celebrate more than thirty years with Hobson Horsecaches and two decades with Matthews Hanoverians. Thank you – your brands are synonymous with our sport. We also salute all the other businesses who trust us to deliver and continue to support us.

### NATIONAL OFFICE

Again my thanks to Dana and the team at ESNZ – they have certainly faced some challenges again this year but they are an exceptionally hardworking team. Joining them for Sport Manager's meetings always provides the platform for sharing ideas

## **PUBLICITY & COMMUNICATION**

The monthly publication of Dressage NZ Bulletin continues and it has made its presence felt in the equestrian media community having the advantage of being market specific. We have been able to feature and celebrate riders and events like never before. Sarah Gray from Snaffle Design continues to produce class editions and I have fun seeking out the stories from all over the world. Jess Roberts event articles are ever popular and the imagery made possible by our photographers is second to none, with particular thanks to Libby Law, NZ Equine and the FEI photo gallery who make it possible for us to keep in close contact with our international heroes. A huge huge thank you to all the contributors who supply great imagery and stories.

## **EQUIDAYS**

Dressage at Equidays 2017 was a full on dressage feast, offering a national qualifying opportunity for the World Games, a national judges clinic with FEI 5\* Isobel Wessels and a Masterclass with super star trainer Kyra Kyrklund. Logistics are never easy at this event and it is a little disappointing that there could have not been a little more accepting and understanding of the some of the logistics that are faced by Equidays when they are doing their very best to deliver such a vast conglomeration of opportunities across the entire equestrian sector. Dressage is but one small cog in the wheel. Again it comes down our own people being prepared and available to assist our section and certainly Dressage Waikato were at the forefront. Thank you. Our trade stand was popular, but this also takes a large number of staff and volunteer hours to organise and manage.

## **PARA EQUESTRIAN**

The Para Equestrian National Championships were again integrated with the Bates Nationals and a huge vote of thanks to all the volunteers who assisted with that section.

## **STABLE of STALLIONS**

Again our thanks to all the studs and mare owners who supported this scheme raising funds for national events. We can potentially raise significant funds from this project and I will be undertaking a management review to determine if there is a better system to maximise the generosity of stud owners.

## **WEG 2018**

I was humbled to be invited to act as Chef d'Equipe for the NZL WEG riders. This is a volunteer role outside of my Sport Manager position, but none the less a huge responsibility and I thank the sport for entrusting me with this task.

## **STAFF & VOLUNTEERS**

Celine Filbee – her passion to create an international style event, her engagement with and respect of volunteers will be missed and it's the end of a very successful era in event delivery of the national championships. That is not to say our events will not continue to be successful but Celine I am sure we will all agree has her own unique style. The swimming pool in the carpark, the dinners, the laughter, the rolling up of the sleeves, the problem solving and the friendships cemented. Thank you for leading us to a new level of event delivery in spite of the many limitations you have been faced with.

There will be some restructuring and reallocation of tasks with Celine's resignation as Event Manager but I am sure that these changes can further develop and benefit our sport. Celine will still be on our team.

Jos Gresham – my .xls queen of the numbers and the series. It's been a challenge this year for sure but we made it thanks to Jos. She is also stable manager extraordinaire and how she managed to keep the lid on it all running four events at once in April is quite beyond my comprehension. Jos also had a quick lesson in website functionality early in the season. Her precision and willingness to go the extra mile in all matters has been invaluable

Caitlin Moseley – types much more quickly than I do and has been a valuable casual resource during the year, assisting with the little things that are really big things when they really need doing

To the Board and sub-committees, the three musketeers above, each and every official and volunteer, sponsors and the area groups, I extend very sincere thanks. Without you all, we would simply not have a sport for everyone to enjoy.



### Dressage NZ

#### Income & Expenditure Apr:2017/18

	This Actual	Month Budget	Year Actual	To Budget	Date Variance	Full Year Budget	Last YTD Actual
<b>Income</b>							
Registration Fees	16,413	3,500	109,461	112,000	(2,539)	115,500	114,018
Training & Development Levy	8,615	4,000	59,677	56,500	3,177	60,000	59,986
Downgrading Fees	435	90	2,000	1,380	620	1,470	1,478
Annual Conference Income		0	6,058	0	6,058	0	0
Fundraising		500	7,540	15,300	(7,760)	15,300	23,443
Grants	4,000	0	23,130	16,000	7,130	16,000	16,000
Course Fees	339	0	17,996	10,000	7,996	10,000	14,252
Interest Received - TSB	362	100	6,622	5,600	1,022	5,750	7,246
Interest Received - NZEF	117	117	1,334	1,334	0	1,443	0
Sponsorship		0	42,289	46,000	(3,711)	46,000	45,941
Donations	126	0	4,926	3,000	1,926	3,000	5,218
Entry Fees	21,791	2,000	125,059	96,000	29,059	96,000	96,021
Event Sponsorship	(561)	0	43,265	36,000	7,265	36,000	40,491
Other Event Income	(350)	500	9,238	2,300	6,938	2,300	987
Stationery Sales	3,711	1,000	13,398	13,100	298	13,600	14,290
Merchandise Sales	665	0	3,452	5,700	(2,248)	5,700	7,957
Cost of Sales	(137)	0	(2,391)	(2,720)	329	(2,720)	(3,662)
Sundry Income		0	196	0	196	0	1,733
	<b>55,526</b>	<b>11,807</b>	<b>473,250</b>	<b>417,494</b>	<b>55,756</b>	<b>425,343</b>	<b>445,399</b>

#### Expenditure

Accommodation & Meals	4,964	5,100	26,059	27,460	(1,401)	27,960	29,384
Administration	5,540	6,100	23,188	25,100	(1,912)	26,700	23,245
ESNZ Service Fee - Audit		0	2,000	0	2,000	0	0
Bank Charges	21	20	367	540	(173)	590	504
Catering & Bar Purchases	7,134	3,500	30,882	21,300	9,582	21,500	21,135
Coaches/Lecturers		0	10,799	12,700	(1,901)	12,700	8,172
Depreciation	69	69	755	759	(4)	828	499
Computer/Software	99	100	246	800	(554)	800	4,114
FEI Fees	716	1,000	1,983	2,000	(17)	2,000	3,404
Gratuities	7,093	2,400	14,119	10,900	3,219	10,900	12,759
Hospitality		0		500	(500)	500	232
Insurance & ACC Levies		0	470	650	(180)	650	550
Judging Gratuities	6,038	1,200	14,581	8,500	6,081	8,500	11,670
Legal Expenses		0		3,000	(3,000)	3,000	7,379
Loss on Disposal of Asset		0		0	0	0	886
Medals, Rosettes & Rugs	5,876	1,500	23,970	22,800	1,170	24,300	24,131
Personal Grants		10,000		10,000	(10,000)	10,000	37,570
Postage & Courier	(5)	70	1,570	1,260	310	1,310	2,219
Printing	1,801	1,000	12,109	14,900	(2,791)	15,200	13,494
Prize Money		0	17,296	23,600	(6,304)	24,600	23,358
Promotion & Marketing	5,102	500	16,334	14,150	2,184	14,650	15,944
Result Processing	2,008	1,500	3,721	3,400	321	3,400	3,553
Salaries	5,065	5,300	57,272	56,300	972	63,300	54,214

## Dressage NZ

### Income & Expenditure Apr:2017/18

	This	Month	Year	To	Date	Full Year	Last YTD
	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Variance	Budget	Actual
Sound Systems & RT's	2,315	2,000	4,269	7,000	(2,731)	7,000	6,112
Sponsor Servicing	220	250	1,308	2,550	(1,242)	2,550	988
Stationery & Photocopy	713	450	4,350	4,350	0	4,450	3,577
Sundry Expenses	496	3,050	11,295	14,750	(3,455)	14,950	14,682
Telephone & Fax	278	280	2,742	3,080	(338)	3,360	2,815
Television/Video Production		0		1,000	(1,000)	1,000	0
Training Grants		0		0	0	0	1,560
Travel	465	1,650	45,123	38,100	7,023	38,700	40,290
Travel - Mileage	1,571	525	7,945	5,170	2,775	5,370	4,629
Travel Subsidies		500	15,743	17,300	(1,557)	17,300	10,311
Uniforms	2,041	300	4,375	2,300	2,075	2,300	2,272
Venue/Equipment Hire	19,168	9,500	61,485	45,600	15,885	45,800	46,656
Veterinary	350	0	3,008	800	2,208	800	1,050
	<u>79,139</u>	<u>57,864</u>	<u>419,366</u>	<u>402,619</u>	<u>16,747</u>	<u>416,968</u>	<u>433,357</u>
<b>Excess Income over</b>	<u>(23,613)</u>	<u>(46,057)</u>	<u>53,885</u>	<u>14,875</u>	<u>39,010</u>	<u>8,375</u>	<u>12,042</u>

Note: Unaudited Annual accounts will be presented at Conference

## 8:4 TECHNICAL OFFICER

Scott McKenna

As of this year's AGM I have been the technical officer for one year. In my first year I have intentionally not rushed into significant amendments of our rules as this usually results only in creating more problems than it solves. My goal was when appointed, and remains to be, the simplification of our rules and procedures, the remits I have proposed this year are predominantly geared towards this end. I intend over the coming year to continue this process gradually and sensibly. On my agenda is to re-format our rule book to make it more user friendly. Currently it is often hard to find the rule you need quickly because often rules are located in less than intuitive places in the rule book.

ESNZ is continuing to conduct a constitutional review, when this is completed it could change the framework our rules work within and we may have some significant changes to make at that stage to the rules and regulations that govern our administration. I will be keeping an eye on this process with a particular concern for any reduction in our autonomy that might result from this constitutional review.

Another significant change coming at ESNZ level is a new disciplinary process. Though this is still in its infancy I have had significant input into this project and it promises to increase the efficiency of our current disciplinary process significantly. This will increase our ability to enforce our rules effectively.



## 8:5 NATIONAL JUDGES OFFICER

Sue Hobson

This last twelve months has been a very busy period for the JSC with the possible introduction of the new USDF tests when they have been revised and looked at by Equestrian Australia. This is proving to be a long and drawn out process but when we see the new tests it will hopefully move along at a faster pace.

It will mean we will work on exactly the same lines as Australia and use the same tests, level of judges and training programme and this will facilitate more opportunities for all levels of our judges to exchange across the Tasman. It will necessitate administrative changes and also some alterations to the Technical Manual but will be of huge benefit. This upgrading of our system will obviously require some movement of judges regarding the Levels to coincide with Australia but will benefit all.

Our NZ based FEI judges have travelled extensively overseas this year with judging assignments and it was with great pleasure we welcomed Mura Love onto the FEI judges panel after attending the clinic and exam in Moscow. In July last year many of us travelled to Hartpury CDI in UK and then onto the Clinic in Aachen that was organised by Susie Hoevanaars for Oceania FEI judges and also some National high listed judges. This clinic was very well supported and some great performances were judged. Our next IDOC for our part of the world will be held at Hartpury CDI beginning of July 2019.

It is exciting to be able to welcome many new judges to our Officials List with excellent exam results. When going over the exam papers it is very apparent that we have some seriously talented judges coming forward and putting in the hard work to become a judges. Many of whom have put "some" classes aside at their local show and not ridden but worked on becoming a judge instead to meet criteria. It is a huge commitment but it is possible to be a competitive rider and still train and meet requirements to become a judge – I can assure you.

## 8:5 JUDGES OFFICER (page 2)

Interestingly this past year we sent two List 3 judges over to Boneo Park in Victoria to give them more experience instead of inviting the higher listed judges which we had done in the past. It was a huge success and it is hoped we will send more over in the future, obviously of all levels but good we have the chance to open up these Exchange programmes to our less experienced judges as well as the more senior ones. We now have Exchanges with Victoria, NSW and Queensland so able to send six judges and obviously reciprocate on this side of the Tasman.

This year we organised two judges clinics with foreign International Judges, ie Isobel Wessels took a clinic at Equidays in Hamilton and this was well attended with all level judges and also many riders and coaches. Also a clinic was organised for the YDH judging with Eddy deWolff van Westerrode at the Bates Nationals and although not many judges actually attended in the end, we did have quite a few breeders and riders which worked out very well. It would have been good to see more judges actually attend as a lot of work went into organising this event. It was also a good opportunity for our existing YDH judges to maintain their accreditation which they must do every three years.

We have seen many International judges visit NZ this past year with Henning Lehrman, Elke Ebert, (Germany) Isobel Wessels, (UK) Eddy dewolff van Westerrode, (Holland), Sarah Geike, (US), Mary Seefried, Ricky McMillan, Maria Schwennesen, Jane Ventura (Australia) so our riders have had really good feedback from these top judges and not only our Grand Prix riders as all of the above judges have been more than happy to judge our national classes and YDH.

We also organised a Clinic at WDC in Taupo at the World Dressage Challenge. Unfortunately it was a Friday so not good for many to take time off work but we did have quite a few judges take the time and travel. Helen Hughes-Keen and myself took a group each and it proved to be a great day of discussion and a fantastic opportunity to judge actual competition when we were not judging ourselves. Lots of points raised and I thank those judges who attended. Also good to see our senior riders attend and put forward their input which was invaluable.

It is hoped we can run a NI and SI Official Clinic this winter covering more information on judging musical freestyles. Also we have sent out a newsletter to see who would like a YDH clinic also. Obviously we rely on attendance at these clinics as they do take some organising so please advise everyone in your Area when you hear these are taking place as it is not just judges who are welcome, we would love to see anyone who would find them helpful, including pony club and horse trials judges who are not on the official judges list. It is really important that we can attract these judges into our system and make sure we are all reading from the same book. A newsletter will be sent out mid to late winter to all AJO's so hopefully they will all keep in touch with everyone in the Areas to notify them – the more the merrier!!!!!!

In conclusion I would like to thank my team of Linda Warren-Davey and Judith Cunningham who have been a great support over the past twelve months with Linda promoting the YDH judging and competitions and Judith keeping records of all judge activities by collating the AJO Returns for me as well as the decision making process when we need to work through things and many hours on email to keep things ticking over. Thank you both.



This year has gone fairly well to plan. The two Prydes' Easifeed TID camps started off the season in September with again well more applicants than we were able to accommodate. The South Island produced five well qualified combinations. Alongside this we ran a Development camp for five combinations who were just below the qualifying threshold. This proved to be an excellent move with the development camp providing incentive to improve basics. The North Island had twenty combinations who all achieved personal improvements. Coaching for all groups concentrated on establishing good basic training, position coaching, mental preparation and horse nutrition. A huge vote of thanks must go to the two hard working convenors, Julia Thompson (SI) and Jo Telfer (NI) who brought enthusiasm and innovation to the task

**Squad Training:** Following closely on the TID training all National Squad members were offered training in conjunction with Equidays. Working with Eventing HP we had access to Isobel Wessels and Victoria Underwood. A good number of Squad members took up the training initiative and feedback was good. During the season the majority of squad members achieved their personal goals and this found many in the placings at Nationals, HOY and U25Champs. There were some withdrawals during the season due to horse injury and riders departing offshore. In general, the squad make up worked well with better dialogue achieved. The Six-monthly reports were a reminder for all to check their progress toward planned goals and to advise of any problems.

Squads 2018-19 are to be announced at Conference. There have been some changes to the make-up of the Youth Squad with ponies now having to meet the same criteria as horses. To offset this the criteria for the TID has been slightly raised to make a more logical progression to the Youth Squad. This still left us with a great number of younger combinations who we felt would benefit from some structured training. We will trial an Area/Regional initiative this year that we hope will see Areas having input. DNZ has provided a template to help Areas get underway but acknowledge that the needs and numbers will be different across the country so leaving some leeway for Areas to accommodate the differences. The Development Squad is larger than the past two years with some very talented combinations achieving excellent percentages. The Advanced Squad also has some very solid combinations and many from last season have progressed to the HP Futures Squad.

High Performance has been a bit of a rollercoaster with firstly the great excitement of having a possible team qualified for WEG and then the great low for both Wendi Williamson and for DNZ with the loss of the talented Dejavu. We are lucky though to still have two strong contenders for individual representation.

The Performance Pathway document update has been completed with some alterations to ensure that each squad flows more clearly to the next squad and into the High-Performance Squads. It is proposed that for the coming season that the Pathway document is published at the start of the season with little change as far as percentages go but that more emphasis is placed by the Selectors on "additional criteria" such as consistency, soundness and ability to progress up the Performance Pathway. This means that achieving the criteria will not mean automatic entry to the squads.

It has been a pleasure to be a DNZ Board member this season and I am sure I will miss this involvement.





Well what a year! 2017 – 2018 has most certainly highlighted some amazing aspects of being part of the dressage world in New Zealand. Some incredible equestrian performances have been recorded by individuals across all levels and all areas, with a noticeable improvement of our horses, our riders, our judges and our td's. All of these improvements benefit us all in our sport but it takes a large amount of persistence and commitment to continue to strive to be the best we can in our little corner of the world. A huge thank you to everyone that has continued to get out there - be it at their local event or the National Championships. Every one of you is making a difference to our sport and it is appreciated.

### SPONSORS

We all know that the value of sponsorship is boundless! Sponsors are more than just a logo on a program. They are one of the backbones of our sport ensuring that we are kept educated, have events to go to, and are always supported. Dressage NZ are very proud to have a long list of loyal sponsors who are a part of ensuring that we have a healthy sport in New Zealand. Of note, in 2018 we celebrated 20 years of the Bates National Championships partnership. That is a very significant milestone, and stands testament to the respect and value that DNZ and its members place on our sponsor partners.

### VOLUNTEERS

The other staple of any sport is volunteers. There have been some great initiatives this year with Areas working on acknowledging, supporting and thanking the volunteers in our sport. Ultimately we all know that in one way or another...we are a volunteer. So it's great to get some recognition some times and to continue to encourage people to help behind the scenes and share the workload.

### WEG

Though the path towards achieving a goal such as representing your country at an event like the FEI World Equestrian Games is always going to be a challenging one, these last 12 months or so have shown a wonderful side to Dressage in NZ. The support and encouragement offered by not only members but associated businesses that have stepped in to assist and fundraise to get our riders over to Tryon USA is truly heartwarming. We all shed a tear or two at the loss of Wendi Williamson's beautiful Déjà Vu MH but I know that I personally have been inspired not just by Wendi's story and journey, but that of John Thompson and Julie Brougham as well. These three riders have generated a huge amount of interest for dressage in NZ, and we look forward to the learnings from their adventures going forward and using that to shape our future forays into international competition as a dressage nation. Through this WEG journey we have seen Dressage feature in some more public forums, and there is a dedicated core team currently working on a large fundraising effort which will bring even more publicity and awareness to our sport. Every step of this effort goes towards making our sport more mainstream and therefore helps in growing dressage in NZ – so don't forget to get involved when the opportunity arises!

### THE DRESSAGE NZ BULLETIN

The Dressage NZ Bulletin continues to be produced on a monthly basis and maintains the same excellent quality of information and imagery. This publication is truly something to be proud of for our sport, and it is being read nationally and internationally and working consistently to raise the profile of DNZ. The DNZ Board constantly review the performance of the DNZ Bulletin and we are always taking on board feedback and comments from our members as to how to improve the information offer. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful editor Wendy Hamerton for her hard work and dedication to this project, and Sarah Gray of Snaffle Design for her skill at producing such a polished publication.

FEI

Dressage NZ have been working on the big stage with FEI and ensuring that we keep to the forefront of major international developments. It is important to note that though Dressage NZ as a federated nation is only small in population, we have a large voice and use it to ensure the best actions for our sport, our members and our horses. Overall, this year has seen some exciting developments for dressage in NZ, but I personally have been thrilled to see how our equestrian community has come together to support each other in growing our sport. There are some big events coming up on the horizon – WEG 2018, Olympic Games 2020 – but we also have our own personal goals and challenges that we are striving to achieve. When I see Areas running training days, offering mentoring or buddy systems, holding fundraising masterclasses or just donating to other causes, I know that our sport is heading in the right direction for every one of our members.

Keep up the great work and I'm looking forward to seeing how we continue to evolve for the future.



## **8:8 SELECTORS REPORT**

**Helen Hughes-Keen (Chair)**

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### **FEI World Dressage Challenge 2017**

Christchurch hosted the World Dressage Challenge in November 2017 providing us with a great atmosphere, hospitality and perfect weather. This was the second year of the new format now offering a World Individual and Regional classification per level and a World Team classification. Judges were Maria Schwennesen (Australia) and Sue Harris Gisborne NZ. After an anxious wait.....yes Team NZ ruled again. Well done to our riders.

### **National Champs/HOY**

Manfield, Fielding again gave the Bates National Championships a "WOW" factor. Incorporating the Grand Prix Kur in a night show with entertainment, created the very important atmosphere that can only advance our sport to the International scene.

HOY in Hastings again provided an electric and professional atmosphere running as a CDI-W and CDI-Y. Thanks to Chris Paston and her team for making the Dressage a very successful and smoothly run part of the show.

### **Young Rider Camps**

Two very successful Young Rider camps were held in Christchurch and Taupo. It is great to see such enthusiasm and willingness to learn from our young riders. Thanks to the North Island Convenor Jo Telfer and the South Island Convenor Julia Thomson for their coordination and well organised programs.



**Then came a Challenge..... Four shows in one**

**April - Taupo host to a WDC, YDH, CDI and the Under 25 Championship.**

### **FEI World Dressage Challenge 2018**

Again, great atmosphere and weather. Judges were Sarah Gieke USA 4\* and Judith Cunningham Auckland NZ. With the change of date for our 2018 competition this makes us one of the first countries to compete. We now have the long wait until the end of the year to see our final place on the World Classification.

Running at the same time was a very successful Young Dressage Horse competition. We are bringing to NZ some very exciting young stallions and breeding some excellent horses and is great to see the number of these promising young horses creeping up the grades. We need to make sure that the correct basics and way of going are well established on this journey and I can see these YH Competitions a bonus for the sport that will give us a solid base for future years.

### **Another CDI**

Held in the wonderful new Indoor stadium this gave some much needed support for our GP combinations to gain marks on the World ranking and also our WEG contenders an opportunity to consolidate performance. Although some minor glitches this venue is going to be a very valuable asset to the development of the sport into the world stage.

### **Under 25 Championship**

Entries continue to grow at the Young Rider Championships with some very promising combinations in the higher levels. A North / South and Trans-Tasman Challenge again provided some friendly rivalry. This time Australia was represented by a team from Queensland providing us with some serious competition.

A big thank you to those who were willing to loan horses to allow this competition to go ahead.

Well done riders.....you are our future.

And.....A big thank you Celine Filbee and the team of amazing volunteers for having the ability to marry these four important events with success and in such an efficient and economical way. Having to wear several hats myself over these 4 days and knowing the problems that arose this was no easy feat.

### **AND then there is WEG**

With great excitement we had well qualified a team for The WEG: John Thompson and JHT Antonello, Julie Brougham and Vom Fiensten, Wendy Williamson and Dejavu MH.....this was soon to be dashed when Wendy Williamson's lost her amazing horse after some ongoing health issues. I know all our hearts go out to Team Williamson.

But both John and Julie will soon be on their way to Tryon to hold our flag high at The WEG.

To all our sponsors, judges, riders, friends, families and all those volunteers who support our sport and make it possible a "BIG THANK YOU"

Also the Board for their support and special thanks to Wendy Hamerton for her assistance during the year.

Last but not least, a big thank you to my fellow selectors, Judy Aldardice, Robin Haberfield and welcome Jan Mitchell who took the place of Robin when he retired from his role as South Island selector at the end of last year.

Thank you Robin for your many hours of devoted time and hard work. I know Robin will still be giving valuable support to Dressage.

## 8:9 DRESSAGE STEWARD GENERAL REPORT

Jane Robertson

I will start this report with the same opening sentence as I did last time, “this was going to be my final Steward Generals report but I am going to continue in the position for another season.” I have had a very positive, fun and inspiring season working with outstanding Stewards, very supportive Organising Committees, great ground Jurys and fantastic Athletes. I would also like to see my rewritten “Education Pathway” instigated before I hang up my rule books.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Stewards who have worked at any of our competitions this season. Although I will only mention the major competitions I know that Stewards have been at all levels of competition. Your dedication to the job and willingness go the extra mile for our athletes whatever their level is amazing. Your level of knowledge and ability to seek solutions makes you an asset to any team. I have seen a growth in confidence in many of you as you continue on your stewarding journey.

### The Competitions

Starting with the FEI World Challenge held in Christchurch December 1<sup>st</sup> at McLeans Island. I was the chief steward ably assisted by Rachel McCallum and Robin Savage. This competition is always fun and this one was no exception. We found Maria Schwennesen, as the president of the Ground jury very supportive and informative.

The Nationals, including Para Dressage classes, were held again at Manfield February 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> of February and this time the weather was kind to us. Our team consisted of Murray Anderson, Karen Anderson, Robyne Naylor, Jenny Affleck with myself as the Chief steward. We were treated to some great dressage especially with the CDI 3\* being hotly contested by some fabulous combinations. The Ground Jurys we had to work with were great to work with, as was Margs Carline as Technical Delegate. The competition, as always has long days but the support and information that Celine and her team provide for us make our job so much easier.

The Horse of the Year, was as usual held in Hastings from March 13<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup>. Again we had a bigish team; Sue O’Brien, Rachel McCallum, Jos Gresham, Murray Anderson, Karen Anderson, Robin Savage, Robyne Naylor, Karen Shields and Robert Smith but with more FEI Stewards available I found the experience this season the best thus far. I felt that there were more members of the team who could step up when required. As we do, we worked closely with the Para Dressage stewards sharing team members as required. The “Troll” box was mostly manned by Suzanne Inglis, a judge and I thank her for her hard work. I think many judges would benefit from this experience.

The warm-up area at HoY which serves as the final warm-up arena for the FEI classes in my opinion is inadequate. The size of this area coupled with the variable going needs to be addressed. Some of the FEI combinations worked in on the Polo Grounds which was stewarded and were escorted to the competition area. I know Chris Paston does her best but if we are to support our athletes both two and four legged more space of better going is a necessity. The Stewards on the Polo Fields had several rider falls to manage and this was not helped by the fact that the First Aid was not on the grounds until eight o’clock and we started at seven thirty. Also the process to contact them was convoluted, it was quicker to run to their base than try to contact them either by radio or phone. One rider fell off four times and I think we need to address what happens with this situation. Obviously they were cleared to continue but was this the best outcome?

The Young Rider Competition including FEI classes was held in Taupo April 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. The late inclusion of an FEI Competition necessitated getting a FEI Chief Steward from Australia because those of us usually available were not. One of us was in Costa Rica and others had prior commitments with other disciplines. Cathie Durey-Klein who we have worked with before was able to come and she was ably assisted by Murray Anderson, Karen Anderson, Jos Gresham and Ian Childs.

### Stewards Education :

Robyne Naylor travelled to Italy to do her FEI Level 1 Para Dressage Stewards course in which she was successful. This makes her an FEI Stewards for two disciplines. Well done Robyne. She is soon to be stewarding at Hartpury in England.

A Stewards Seminar for new stewards and a refresher was held in conjunction with the Canterbury Dressage Championships December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> which I ran. I am very excited about the calibre of our newest stewards. Dale Allison completed her refresher and we welcome Jenny Affleck, Meredith McEwan, Kate Dodd and Nicola Sim to our list of officials as Level 1 National Dressage stewards. Jenny subsequently added to her training working with Robyne Naylor and she is now a Level 1 Para Steward too.

Several of our FEI Level 1 Stewards are ready for the next step and hopefully there will be a seminar they can attend to become FEI Level 2 Stewards. It is planned to hold seminars for Level 1 National Stewards as requested. If any area would like a seminar please contact, Murray Anderson, Rachel McCallum or myself.

I have completed the education system for National Dressage Stewards. There are changes to the naming of our stewards. We will now have a Level 1 National Steward, was a candidate steward and a Level 2 National Steward which will lead on FEI Level 1 and beyond. There are requirements for each level and in order for some of these to be completed it would be desirable to have some adjustments to our current rules.

Something for Committees to consider. Chris Paston at HoY and Dressage Southland always provide a Stewards booklet which has in it all the information a steward should need, classes, show conditions, important contacts, judges, arenas and the like. It is a most valuable resource and it would be great if the like was provided at all bigger competitions.

As Sharon Ralls Lemon wrote *“The essential joy of being with horses is that it brings us in contact with the rare elements of grace, beauty, spirit and fire “*, maybe this why we do what we do.

Thank you all for your continued support and encouragement.



## VOLUNTEER, SPONSORSHIP & FUNDING REPORT 2018

### **VOLUNTEERS**

I believe that the volunteers in our organisation are second to none. The hours are incalculable but must clock up to many thousands by our board and event volunteers. These people that selflessly donate their time, expertise, resource and goodwill are what makes Dressage NZ enter at A. As an organisation we need to be very mindful of the impact these people have on the sport as it would be impossible to run any competition anywhere in NZ without them. Succession planning is important but ensuring that these people are resourced properly, not over worked and their input acknowledged by all is critical in retaining this outstanding volunteer base. I thank everyone who played a part in our national and international events this season, no matter how small that part was, everyone had a part to play in the overall event presentation. Jos Gresham has become the go to person for many of us and our two volunteers of their respective events Donald Fraser and Jocelyn Clement, what outstanding people you are to have to have on a team. Last of all Sara Bright, I am not sure what it would be like to run a show without the backing of Sara, I have never done so but I suspect sub-optimal would be a fairly accurate term to use, she will leave a large gap in our organisation. An extra thank you must be extended to our sport Manager Wendy Hamerton who goes above and beyond her job description to assist putting these shows together.

### **SPONSORSHIP**

Sponsorship for the season again showed an increase on previous years.

All national Series and Super 5 levels had sponsors and it was a pleasure working with Back on Track as new Premier League sponsors.

The World Dressage Challenge was held twice in the season had a sponsor for every class, Livamol replaced Pryde's Easifeed as the principal sponsor. The Under 25 Championships also saw every class with a sponsor's name against it once again retaining many previous sponsors, many of which stepped up from a product only to a cash and product contribution. Equestrian Entries supported this event for the second year as naming rights sponsor.

Our new show the North Island Future Stars Championships attracted a sponsor in the breeding business and two breed organisations alongside Elite Equine the principal Sponsor, a short presentation by the breed organisations added value to their cash contribution and gained extra exposure for them with the riders, this evening was generously supported by Judith Matthews.

A huge milestone was achieved at the Nationals celebrating the 20 year partnership with Bates Saddles, it has been a pleasure and a privilege working with David Jones-Parry for 12 of these shows I am sure the event managers for the other 8 attest to his helpful, friendly, can do attitude. The Coutts family and their Cartown business are now becoming very familiar name in Dressage, their contribution in many ways at this our flagship event is considerable. A few minor classes did not attract sponsorship but the total dollar figure was up on the previous year, and several sponsors have already registered their interest for 2019.

Kiwi Arena Rakes donated a 3 metre arena groomer to the organisation their sponsorship was spread over three events.

Several of our sponsors now extend their support to more than one event or series gaining traction across a diverse cross section of our sport. I would like to thank all the sponsors associated with Dressage NZ this season, they are just as important to the ongoing viability of our sport as our volunteers are and we trust they enjoy their relationship with Dressage. Many of our sponsors do far more than just write out a cheque, they are invested in our sport in many ways. I would like to make special mention of Kerrin Beatson, Vicki Lawson and Robin Potter who went out of their way to assist at the Taupo event, they were a very valuable part of the organising committee as well as supporting the shows financially.

## **FUNDING**

This year the Bates Nationals was affected by reduced trust funding, Trust House was no longer open to us and our application to NZ Racing Board was declined for unknown reasons. Fortunately the Under 25 Championships and associated events in Taupo did receive good funding. No council funding was available for any of the events this season. This funding continues to be important to the financial viability of all the events and keeping the competitor costs low therefore the application process remains an important role for Dressage NZ staff.

I would like to thank the following Trusts for their support this season

Eastern & Central Community Trust NCH (Restricted region)

Pub Charity (NCH)

Grassroots Trust (U25CH)

Pelorus Trust (U25CH/WDC)

Southern Trust (U25CH and WDC 2017 & 2018)

## **EVENT MANAGER**

**Celine Filbee**

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## **EVENT REPORT - BATES NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP 2018**

### **SPONSORSHIP**

The event had 26 sponsors with a total dollar value slightly up on 2017. The three biggest cash contributors being Bates, Cartown and the NZ Hanoverian Society. The donation of an arena groomer worth almost \$5000 by Kiwi Arena Rakes was also significant. There was still opportunity to sell an additional \$3000 in sponsorship. Feedback from sponsors has been positive particularly from David Jones-Parry and Stephen Coutts of Cartown. Special mention needs to be made of Nigel McCoard of Kiwi Arena Rakes for his volunteer work on the arena team, Kerrin Beatson as announcer and Jo Coutts for her support in many ways providing a base for freight, acting as a courier from Palmerston North and providing accommodation for the OC.

### **FUNDING/BUDGET**

Trust Funding was difficult to secure, with the NZ Racing Board application being declined, this has a major impact on the event budget. This and the ever escalating costs of event production in particular the CDI component of the show make it now almost impossible to break even and I feel that it is time to take a very serious look at the funding model and income streams for the event.

External Funding received.

2018 \$9,000

2017 \$16,000

2016 \$20,500

I ran a very lean budget this year, cutting costs wherever I could, billeting some people, sourcing the cheapest suppliers, borrowing equipment. No event apparel, live stream or arena decorations get and negotiating the best deal with respect to the catering. Accommodation and flights remain the two major expenses especially around the FEI classes, portable stabling can now be added to those two. The Manfeild venue costs were consistent with 2017. An increase in entry fees would seem inevitable, feedback from many riders is that the show is already expensive despite them only paying about 60% of the real cost to compete.

### **OPERATIONS & SERVICE**

The majority of service providers did an excellent job. KR's Catering were user friendly and the food served was well received, they did not appear to cope so well with the pressures of the spectacular but our caterer Emma Sandford stepped in and helped out with the corporate table service. The organising committee dinner was served late and there was a last minute change to the menu, but everyone was more than adequately fed eventually. Post event discussions were positive with the caterer and they acknowledged they were on a bit of a learning curve having only been resident at Manfeild for a couple of months. New sound providers Te Kuiti Sound & Lighting were organised

professional, timely and supplied good equipment. The portable stables took many hours of organising the logistics of hiring and transporting. As usual Pauline Sarjeant of South Street West went above and beyond the call of duty, assisting with the many accommodation problems.

#### **ORGANISING COMMITTEE**

The “A” team as they are now widely known as worked tirelessly again to produce the event. Those people are as follows and are the absolute backbone of the show. Jos Gresham, Christine Hartstone, Lou Knewstubb, Jocelyn Clement, Jeanie Attrill, Jane Robertson, Sue Hobson, Sara Bright, Wendy Hamerton, Andrea Raves, Murray & Karen Anderson and Cynthia Reichenbach. New members such as Margs Carline, Shaun Ireland and notably Donald Fraser recipient of the volunteer of the show award, proved their worth time and time again. Runners were a big problem as the event fell outside the school holidays making the team from Waikanae unavailable. Nga Tawa had two other events on and Kyrewood now no longer have students available. I managed to source runners from Feilding High School on the weekend and members of Dressage Wellington lead by Roseanne Rix and Liz Hutson assisted by Peter Filbee managed to cover the arenas on Thursday and Friday. There were 45 writers and a total of 125 volunteers and staff at the event.

#### **ARENAS**

The Indoor arena had been used as pits for the cars at the Grand Prix the weekend prior. By the time I arrived at the venue Monday morning the Manfeild team were well into the preparation of the surface. Following the groomer problems from 2017 I borrowed a hydraulic groomer from Kerry Sixtus, Felicity Dobell Brown was kind enough to tow it from the Hawke’s Bay and Norwoods sponsored a tractor to tow it. This and some extra application from the watering truck meant the surface was as good as it has ever been. Outside was a little hard in the warm up area but the new Kiwi Arena Rake helped with this and these arenas too seemed to ride well, the new three metre wide groomer also sped up the grooming process from previous years.

#### **SPECTACULAR**

The spectacular ran very smoothly, performances in the international class were outstanding providing excellent entertainment value for the public. The extra entertainment went like clockwork meaning the classes all ran to time. Attendance numbers were almost identical to 2017. The Bates Facebook page received what seemed to be a huge amount of interest in the event but this did not result in increased sales. The event continues to be valuable preparation for competitors heading offshore to international competitions.

#### **VENUE, STABLES & YARDS**

The venue continues provide all the facilities we need to accommodate the competitors, event team, sponsors and guests adequately. With 186 horses entered portable stabling was required. An email was sent to competitors gauging interest in using the new portable stables at an extra cost of \$100 per stable, we received 30 responses within about 48 hours, an indication of the popularity of the stables. If these stables are to be used in the future the issues with supply and erection of these stables will need to be streamlined. Very few other stabling issues were experienced.

#### **TD, JUDGES & WRITERS**

The judging went well, with no issues, protests some classes ran late despite judges being asked to keep to the timetable at the briefing. Debbie Smith was unavailable to co-ordinate the writers, so Chrissy Birch took on the role. Chrissy sold her house in the middle of all this and passed the job back to us, Jos once again stepped up and co-ordinated the time tabling of these writers. Feedback from the international judges was very complimentary and when asked what we could do better the answer was “nothing”. Margs Carline was an engaged, efficient and personable TD, issues were dealt with in a calm and reasonable way, she identified potential problems, sought resolutions and did a remarkable job for her first engagement at this level. Please see report attached with her feedback.

## ENTRIES & PARTICIPATION

At close of entries we had a record 208 horses entered. Class numbers were very consistent across all levels this year including the Amateur, this makes class scheduling much easier. Hanoverian, Rakaunui, Masters and Anamour trophy entries were up. CDI-Y and P entries were very disappointing. At close of entry we had 14 Grand Prix horses entered which was the same as 2017. All FEI registrations, entries and results were handled by the Sport Manager Wendy and John Lawson of Equestrian Entries.

## HEALTH & SAFETY

The DNZ H&S Policy and risk management plan was updated and circulated to the OC prior to the event. The briefing prior to the show was attended by about 40 of the judges and OC. No major problems were experienced and Manfeild staff worked closely with the OC to manage any risks identified.

## MEDICAL

The Event details were communicated to the local ambulance service. Dressage New Zealand provided a team of six people able to respond at first aid level. Equipment was basic first aid kits and an AED. In addition to this equipment paracetamol, nurofen and throat lozenges were held separately and available on request. No incidents requiring ambulance assistance or transfer occurred. The only requests received were plasters for minor wounds or grazes.

## WRAP UP

Overall the event was a success. There were many small problems to be sorted as always but nothing that could be considered a major. The event volunteers logged up an incredible amount of hours especially Jeanie, Sara and Jos who I suspect may have worked over 100 hours each. I am not sure how sustainable this is for an aging team, new younger volunteers need to be sourced and the volunteer package needs to be attractive to them. Funding for volunteers needs to be increased to help attract them.

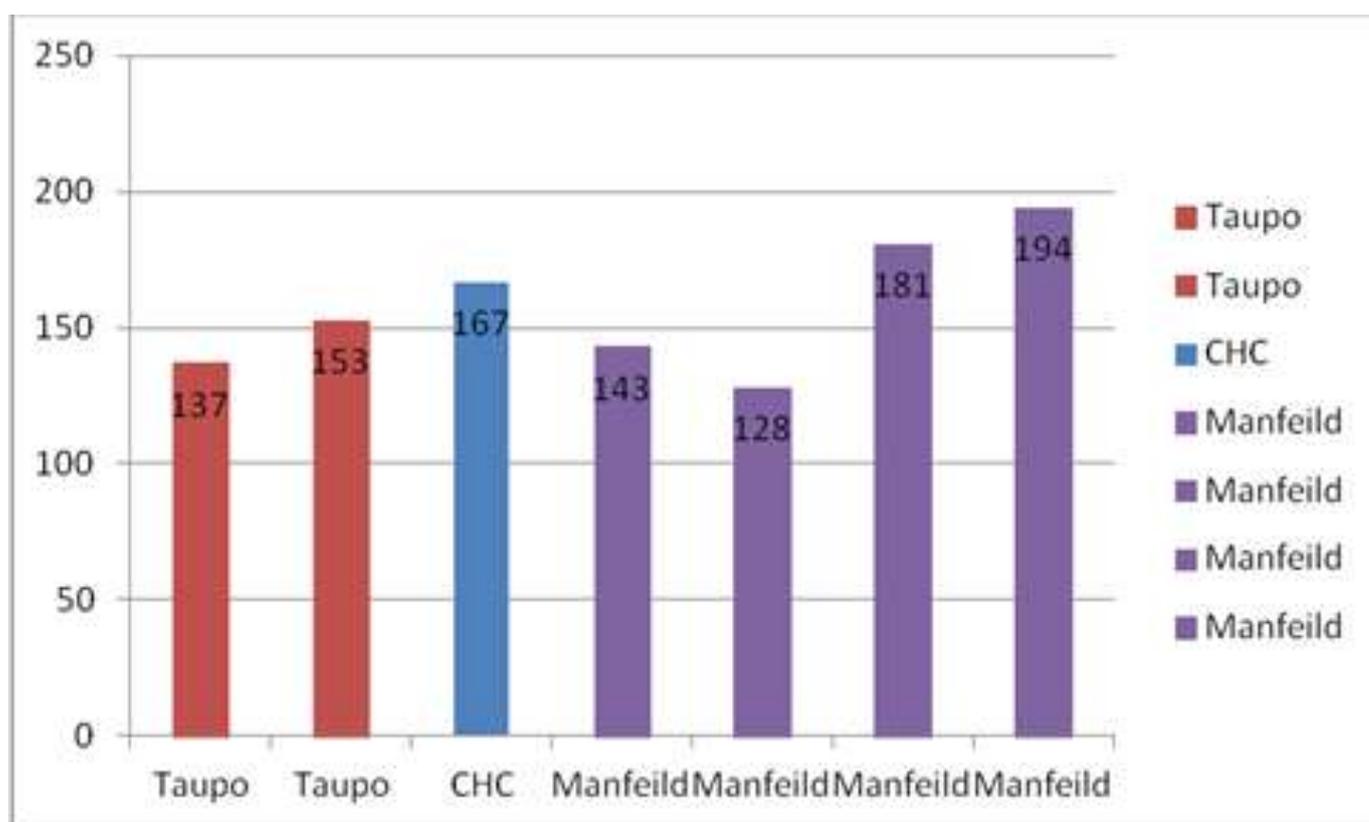
## EVENT STATISTICS

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2107	2018
Total Horses at close of entries	137	153	167	143	128	181	194	208
Championship Horse	92	88	115	118	106	125	131	114
Young Rider	6	5		7	4	8	5	2
Amateur Championships	39	60	52	18	18	48	53	83
FEI Pony Entries							3	0
Sponsors Attending	13	10	17	17	15	17	14	19
Trade Sites	13	8	9	7	10	11	9	14
OC/Officials/Volunteers		123	106	108	124	121	113	125
Spectacular Tickets Sold		362		525	340	720	477	474
Hanoverian							18	31
Anamour							12	17
Rakanui							7	30
Masters							15	27

## Bates National Dressage Championship Statistics

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2107
	Taupo	Taupo	CHC	Manfeild	Manfeild	Manfeild	Manfeild
Sponsorship	32	25	25	27	23	22	28
Sponsors Attending	13	10	17	17	15	17	14
Funders	3	2	1	6	5	6	3
Trade Sites	13	8	9	7	10	11	9
Total Horse Entries	137	153	167	143	128	181	194
Young Horse Entries	14	19	24	21	16	14	15
Young Rider Entries	6	5	n/a	7	4	8	5
Helen Holden Area Team Entries	15	10	11	9	5	18	14
Masters Entries	12	12	12	8	9	30	14
Rider Category/Amateur entries	39	60	52	18	18	48	53
Para Horse Entries			8	10	13	12	10
Hanoverian Entries				25	25	37	18
FEI Pony Entries							5
Anamour Entries						38	12

### Number of horses starting from 2011 – 2107



Dressage NZ would like to thank supporters of the  
Bates NZ Dressage Championships 2018



# EVENT REPORT

## Four Events at Taupo 2018

- Equestrian Entries Under 25 Championships
- Elite Equine Future Stars Championship
- Livamol World Dressage Challenge
- Way to WEG Taupo CDI

### PARTICIPATION

#### Under 25 Championships

The event boasted record entries in recent years, showing a marked increase in the Young Rider section. Considering only one non-graded class was scheduled, entries in this age group were encouraging.

Horses Competing	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Venue	FEI	KHI	HWA	TAU	TAU	TAU
Pony	20	31	33	47	35	45
Ungraded	7	10	21	25	13	12
Young Rider	60	67	68	62	64	83
Para	0	0	2	2	1	1
Total	<b>87</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>141</b>

#### Future Stars Championships

Starters were positive for this inaugural event totalling 28, of which only 2 were ponies.

#### World Dressage Challenge and Way to WEG CDI\*\*\*

The WDC had full entries of 43 and 8 horses started in the CDI\*\*\*.

### BUDGET, SPONSORSHIP & FUNDING

Sponsorship was good this year we managed to retain many of the previous year's sponsors for the U25CH and every level had a business associated with it. Similarly all classes had sponsors in the FSC and WDC these were a mix of existing event, new and other event sponsors taking the opportunity to become involved. Two breed associations supported the FSCH and I anticipate a third becoming involved next year. Funding revenue was improved at \$14,500, this had a positive impact, and was spread over three events not including the CDI. The CDI budget was saved by the generosity of a few people that donated considerable time or resource to the event. Good entries across the other events impacted positively on the budget.

### STABLES & YARDS

Horse accommodation was inadequate for the 206 horses entered in the 4 shows. The outdoor yards are now very rundown and unpopular with competitors; consequently 30 premium stables were booked and all sold. The NEC committee imposed an extra charge of \$20 each on these premium stables 2 days prior to the start of the event, this fee was on-charged to competitors.

### ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Most of last year's organising committee worked on the event with the support of some new faces. The last minute decision to include a CDI\*\*\* in the event added a considerable workload to the event and this caused a fair amount of stress on some of the volunteers, it is not something I recommend we ever do again.

Writers were the biggest issue, very few volunteers assisted from the district so we were reliant on competitors and their support people, there was a communication breakdown between the writer co-ordinator and myself resulting in writers not being sufficient advised of their times on Saturday. This was resolved for Sunday. The brunt of these issues was borne by Jocelyn Clement again adding considerable stress to her volunteer experience.

The office team lead by Judy Collin was incredibly efficient and organised, playing a big role in resolving many of the problems we experienced with writers.

The technical team worked well together in trying circumstances under the guidance of Chris Paston and Cathie Drury-Klein of Australia who was engaged at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour when no NZ based FEI stewards were available to officiate for the CDI. The venue is now very difficult to steward if all arenas are used as the positioning of the indoor school means that there is no point on the grounds where the stewards can view all competition and warm up arenas, the 5 stewards present were insufficient to cover the event comprehensively and meet the FEI requirements around the CDI. No protests were lodged and all matters were dealt with quietly without fuss, feedback was that the technical team was very friendly.

### **TIMETABLING**

Lack of daylight hours had a very negative impact on the show meaning everything had to be squeezed up and rushed, this resulted in errors being made and things not being done properly.

The scheduling was impossible resulting in the U25CH requiring 10 arenas, the time required for the CDI\*\* had a very big impact on this and we were almost forced to run the GPS in the dark on Saturday night. It took a week to format a workable timetable fitting the required trot ups, arena familiarisations, music testing and other requirements for the 2 FEI events, this with a lack of daylight thrown in created a monster jigsaw puzzle to be worked on.

The scorers were under considerable pressure to process all results prior to the U25CH presentation, not allowing enough time for riders to be advised and prepare for the event.

### **VENUE**

With the office and hospitality area of the new indoor arena not yet usable we were resigned to using the old facilities. The Charisma Hall, kitchen and office were barely adequate for this event, more space would be helpful and the facilities are now very rundown. The state of the kitchen is of grave concern and one fridge was broken, Sue and Amy McKenna did a sterling job of feeding everyone from this substandard facility. It was pleasing not to have to spend time cleaning the kitchen and hall on arrival as in previous years.

Ablution blocks were kept reasonably clean but the main block is sub-standard at best.

A new internet connection has been installed in the indoor school and this allowed us to base the scorers there and the service was improved from 2017.

Tiered seating was borrowed from the Taupo Council free of charge for the indoor school, but the transport costs to get them to the venue doubled as the roller doors are too small for the loaded truck to get inside, so installation of the seating was a convoluted process.

Power supply in the indoor school was insufficient to run three trade sites, the scorers and sound required for the event and a generator was hired at the last minute to supplement supply.

The access road to the indoor school has also been previous flooded by storm water run-off, additional metal has been added but was ungraded and is an extremely unlevel surface for vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians.

Lighting around the stable block was upgraded prior to the event and repairs were made to the walled yard lighting as requested post 2017 event so this was fully functional. Two lighting towers were installed to illuminate egress between stables and warm up arena for Saturday night which did an adequate job. The improved stable lighting helped and did illuminate the premium stables to some extent which was the reason for the positioning, but this low lighting may have played a part in an accident happening on Saturday evening.

PA coverage at the venue now needs improvement as there is no speaker on the Cambridge sand arena.

### **WARM UP & COMPETITION ARENAS**

Heavy rain on the Sunday night before the event flooded parts of the competition arenas, warm up and access areas with run off from the indoor school roof which has no storm water drainage. The caretaker was spreading a load of metal around the access to the indoor school from the arenas on arrival, I requested extra grading work be done as the new surface was very un-level.

The Landcorp surface is still one of the best competition surfaces in the country which accommodates three arenas. Two arenas were put on the warm up surface, this was extremely hard. This was partially due to it receiving a large amount of the water from the indoor school roof resulting in a large pool of water forming outside one of the competition arenas which required a trench being dug to clear it prior to competition. It was necessary to use the Cambridge sand as the warm up surface as 10 competition arenas were required, this benefitted from the extra water but it still has an unacceptable sprinkling of large stones through it. The Bell Tea arena also has a good surface and was used for several tests but is very remote and requires extra resource in the way of scorers or runners. Three arenas were used on grass surfaces which were all well prepared.

The new indoor surface posed its own problems after the first day of competition, after discussions and observations from many of the OC the watering was reduced and the arena was groomed in a different format which appeared to resolve these issues. No work has been done on the indoor school warm up surface this also received an unhelpful dosing of storm water and was not used for most of the event.

The caretaker Mark Brunton provided outstanding service in often trying circumstances and was very proactive and helpful around surface preparation with assistance from Paul Dolley, again the team was under resourced and it would have been beneficial to have our NCH operations manager Jeanie Attrill there. I transported the large Kiwi Arena Rake from Manfeild and this reduced preparation times for the arenas.

### **HEALTH & SAFETY**

The policy was updated prior to the event. Hazard forms were filled out by myself. The venue Caretaker was proactive in assisting with removal of and potential hazards prior to the event. The site now boasts many hazards created by the new indoor school, the caretaker Mark Brunton was helpful and creative in mitigating these hazards. Not all requests for requested information/actions were completed by the NEC committee prior to the event.

### **WRAP UP**

Despite all the above issues the competition was for the large part enjoyed by the competitors, I am not sure the same could be said for some of the volunteers. The bottom line is that we bit off more than we could chew, 4 shows was too many. It is fair to say the last minute inclusion of a CDI was almost the

undoing of the event. There was a week of almost panic trying to secure the international officials required, it created stabling issues that could only be resolved by using the premium stabled at added cost to competitors. The venue barely met FEI conditions and the added stress to our hardworking volunteers was hard to take as an event manager and leader of this team of incredible people. What it did do was show up the areas in the venue that will need to be resolved prior to hosting another CDI or a bigger show at the venue.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

Should the FSC & the U25CH be run together in 2019 I recommend one of the following options.

1. A lay day between the two events which will alleviate the pressure on stabling or consider using a venue with more covered horse accommodation.
2. Consider running the U25CH over 3 days with the FSCH the day before and an overlap day or consider moving back to a January date which is problematic in itself.
3. If the U25CH is run over two days drop the Equitation classes to assist with timetabling.
4. Do not include a CDI\*\*\*

### OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

The lack of storm water drainage from the indoor school poses a significant hazard to any event run at the NEC. With the weather on our side as we had several fine days prior to allow drainage to occur we used our get out of jail free card. A significant weather event at the venue I foresee could result in the show having to be abandoned as the storm water would create a multitude of hazards around the venue. This issue needs to be remedied prior to DNZ committing to any further use of the venue as abandoning a show could have significant negative financial impact on the organisation.

A better system is required for securing writers for the show at this venue. We muddled through but again it was stressful for all involved. I have started conversations with Taupo District Council around volunteer assistance for the 2019 event.



### **Volunteers**

The description given by Event Management to a group of highly experienced, motivated people who come to HOY each year to become part of a super coordinated team. All these people have huge experience in their field and always respond positively when asked if they might return the following year. This has happened for many years. This team works for no pay, just the desire to provide the very best they can for the week of competition. I am incredibly grateful to everyone involved but my concern is that there is very little recognition of the importance of these individuals. Without them the show will not go on. There will come a time when some are not willing to give so much for nothing and it will be extremely difficult to replace these team members. Other disciplines may have similar concerns and I think Event Management need to make a much bigger effort to extend their gratitude and recognition to all those who work for them as "volunteers".

### **Communications**

These need addressing as without good communications nothing will work successfully. Before and during the show there was miscommunication and at times none at all. The Equestrian Manager should have access to all information required by disciplines. I found it extremely difficult to organise and inform our team members when I had either no information or incorrect information. It became a little confusing as to who we should listen to and what to believe. This especially applied to access to open security gates at night, XC times on Saturday, medical services and vehicle passes to the Plunket rooms. As the Equestrian Manager is the main point of contact for us it is vital that they have a final and correct answer to any query being made. Whoever makes these decisions needs to be sure that this communication is passed on to all who need it and everyone has the same answer. If we had been given a more accurate timetable for the XC then we would not have had to redraw our 12.30pm class twice which included informing all those riders twice of the changes. It would have been helpful to have direct contact with the operations manager. Our only point of contact was the equestrian manager and it was rather time wasting to have to wait for an answer to our queries as information was forwarded on then back to us.

### **Security**

I realise that there has to be a fairly rigid security plan in place for an event of this size but we have concerns regarding the safety aspect of this security. I have passed on these concerns to board member, Tim Aitken. With approximately 1900 horses on the grounds and a huge number of riders with family, grooms and support people how can it be safe to

have only one outside access gate open on Friday night? This was Gate 1 at the very end of Kenilworth Road. Every other outside access gate around the grounds was padlocked and apparently unmanned by security. It took me 30 minutes to gain access to the grounds on that night. What happens if there is an emergency and horses and people need to be quickly evacuated? Is there a plan and experienced designated horse people available to take control of such an evacuation. On an earlier night I was told Gate C would be open which it was but the following Gate 7 was padlocked preventing my access to the Plunket rooms. It took 15 minutes before a security person with a key arrived to unlock it. Event Management need to reconsider their night security and if the gates are locked there must be a security person on each gate with a key to enable them to open access immediately.

### **Medical Services.**

At no time was I informed that St Johns would not be on the grounds until 8am every day. We had two riders on the Polo grounds on separate days who needed medical attention before 8am. Our competition starts at 7.30am and many riders are on their horses an hour before that time. Having called for St Johns expecting them to be on the grounds, we were told to ring 111. This resulted in a delay in medical attention for both accidents. Later in the week a rider collapsed off their horse on the Polo Grounds. The quick actions of our Oval TD who drove an A & E medic, who was working with the Oval dressage, to the rider reaching them 10 minutes before St Johns arrived. This is most unsatisfactory and there needs to be an improved service for future shows. There should be a qualified First Aid person available with appropriate first aid gear on the grounds at all times. The contact cell phone number given

for St John was of no use. Event Management also need to stipulate the official start time of the show and this along with clear information on St John/First Aid services should be included in the General Conditions.

### **Dressage Arenas**

Our two sand arenas have never been installed with a correct base. Every year this causes problems with the maintenance of the surfaces and unsatisfactory drainage when wet. The warm up arena requires machinery to harrow then another to groom plus a watering system to irrigate. This was done before the show but needed to be done again after three days of competition as it had become very compacted and hard. This involved a period of time when riders could only warm up their horses on grass. Several top riders had great concerns about riding their horses on this arena. Eventually with the help of Tim Aitken and his tractor followed by the grooming machine the arena had improved enough to the satisfaction of most riders. I have included with this report the report from our FEI foreign judge covering this issue.

The competition arena was put down less than three weeks before competition began. It was test ridden eight days before our first class. With such a short time to settle the sand was uneven with hard and soft areas and not up to the standard required for the level of competition during the week. This temporary arena needs to be installed at least six weeks prior to the show to allow the sand to settle. It is also essential to have adequate equipment to irrigate both arenas.

### **Cost cutting**

I know it is vital that we all watch the budget but the day before competition began we were told that due to cost cutting there would be no presentation area provided in our oval area. If I had been notified of this earlier something could have been arranged to create what is an important part of our discipline. We had difficulty in obtaining permission to hire a water pump to fill the truck irrigator. We were also not provided with sufficient programmes.

### **Overall**

Entries were down on 2017. Surprisingly the biggest drop was the Level 1 horse classes but this was offset with a very large advanced class in the Oval. Monday as setup day is always a nightmare. I am not sure how it could be made easier but when certain equipment required for start of classes the following morning has not been delivered or it is the wrong equipment it makes for a stressful and very tiring day. The Polo grounds under the expertise of Judith Newton and her team ran well from Wednesday through to Friday afternoon. The grass surface is superb and it is a wonderful area and atmosphere for the younger less experienced horses. Apart from the three falls there were no major problems. Thank you to all those involved. I want to thank Toni O’Kane for her endless patience with my frequent phone calls, emails and messaging. On the whole dressage ran without a hitch but only due to some very hard working individuals behind the scenes.



## 8:12 South Island Rider Representative Report

Jude Nickolls (Committee)

I think without our Facebook page my role would be very quiet! I use this page to get discussions happening, to share reports from different areas, let people know when I'm at events for face to face discussions and generally try and get riders involved and aware of what's going on. The great thing this year is that Alicia and I have teamed up and she has started a North Island Riders Facebook page of which I am admin of, so I can help post information there also. It's already sparked a lot of discussions and seems its great for people understanding what is happening, so they do feel like they have a voice.

The South Island Riders meeting was disappointing with many riders leaving or just not wanting to come – until I had to go around and get a bit grumpy at some of them. Its been said to me that a BBQ or nibbles is the way to get people to the meeting, but I guess I need to work out who can organise that as I'm at my limit for time. There were no other nominations or even any interest of anyone wanting to step into this role – hopefully they will come forth this year as I'm unsure if I can carry on due to new work commitments.

On saying the above – I have had immense positive feedback face to face with people. As I've advertised when I'm at events throughout the South Island (sorry not Nelson or Marlborough yet!) I've had many people come up to me and introduce themselves. It's great to hear people's ideas and to talk through different things about our sport. The mentoring idea has been really good and we have area's that have also picked up on this (some already had it in place) which is a great thing for our green riders who are worried about heading out to their first event.

There is a lot of discussion on Arena Familiarisation availability, I'm trying to get riders to understand the work from the committee that is involved in offering this and, also other parts of running competitions. I would hope to see more people stepping up into roles during events. I will continue to put notices on Facebook about this type of thing and how everyone needs to help even if just on the day. I do hear a lot from riders that there are some committees that don't make riders feel welcome – please note I am just a go between here and know there are two sides to every story – but it does come from riders all over the South Island involving a lot of different committees. I would hope that everyone understands why we do this sport and that we really do need to help each other – there are always clashes of personalities as we have to have big ones to ride dressage – but we also need to allow people to step forward and welcome them in to help.

I understand that the SI Champs will be held in Gore in 19/20 season and that it currently means the dates will be very close to the Nationals again – which in turn, will mean riders will need to choose one or the other again. I can see this being quite a big discussion area again for riders and would hope that they are advised quite early about this and why it is happening.

I competed at McLeans Island a couple of times during the season and have to say the grounds and arenas are looking very sharp. Huge thanks to the groundsman there who does a super job and is always so lovely to talk with. We are very fortunate to have this and with the investments constantly growing there its very exciting for the future.

## 8:13 North Island Rider Representative Report

Alicia Zeludko (Committee)

Our North Island Riders Meeting for the 2017/2018 season was well attended with 58 riders in attendance.

We are slowly working through the list of issues brought up in that meeting. Of note a number of riders are very appreciative that Nationals will return to Taupo no later than the 2020 Championships, and I anticipate this will be a well supported event.

The noseband taper gauge has gained momentum since it was discussed at the North Island Riders Meeting. I believe we are on the right path with making a more measurable regulation in regards to how tight a noseband can be. As our sport becomes more public due to technology and social media, anything and everything we can do to be proactive about the welfare of the horse should, in my opinion, be undertaken.

I believe riders are excited about the upcoming World Equestrian Games and our New Zealand participation. We wish them the best of luck to ride well.

On behalf of all the riders I would like to extend thanks all the officials, volunteers, sponsors, and participants who make our sport possible. Looking forward to a positive 2018/2019



## 8:14 Fiber-Fresh Taupo Equestrian Centre DNZ Representative Report

Debbie & Peter Barke

New Zealanders are amazing. There has been a huge amount of mainly volunteer hours gone into the vision and the red tape and paper work has been waded through but many of you I am sure have now seen and even ridden in the new indoor facility at the FFNEC Taupo. At times people said it couldn't be done and some said it shouldn't but it is here. A world class facility to use and from the feedback we are receiving it certainly is a major step forward for NZ in terms of facilities.

Dressage is only one of the disciplines that use the NEC and the stadium. Waikato running an outstanding Premier League show this year, they did an amazing job putting so many horses through in just two days and the timetabling was genius and worked - well done. BOP and Rotorua dressage are huge supporters of the centre and BOP dressage have supported the FFNEC and dressage by arranging and donating the rubber matting that provides safe passage for the horses into and out of the indoor. Taupo Dressage has very generously sponsored the arena for the indoor as well. Rotorua dressage also ran a great 2 day Championship show in April which again saw every grade get the opportunity to ride indoors.



DNZ then pulled off a massive 4 days of competition running 4 shows over four competitive days. The FFNEC and the facilities handled this well and the record entries to all the shows and the Waikato Champs is surely a positive sign that riders love coming. The Young Horse of the Future show, the FEI World Challenge the Way to WEG CDI and the Young Rider National Champs 4 days and four competitions. Like I said New Zealanders are amazing.

These things have all got a major theme running through them, the volunteer hours that go into making them happen. (And the extra hours that employees do ) We have some seriously amazing people in our sport and they always appear to be there helping out putting in huge hours and making things happen. So although most of the focus has been on the stadium the centre continues to offer great facilities for a huge range of riders. The committee is aware that some surfaces need attention and it continues to be on the agenda to do as soon as possible. There certainly is a dream list for surfaces and further stabling but in reality these things take time and MONEY.

Mark Brunton continues to do an outstanding job managing and care taking the facility - another example of going above and beyond for our sport and NEC. We do know how valuable he is - please do your part in cleaning up behind yourselves and helping set up or take down whenever you can, it is a massive help when people volunteer to help with Well ANYTHING

Wishing you all a safe and productive winters training. We often go down to FFNEC and enjoy the hacking over the xc paddocks in the winter as it such a great draining soil. How many dressage riders have taken their horses onto the trails opposite the new covered yards? Yes it can be a bit chilly down here in the winter but there is no mud! See you all soon.

## 8:14 McLeans Island Equestrian Centre DNZ Representative Report

Soo Wells

Another year continuing the refurbishment and development of the Centre. The new covered yards are in use and have been well received, also truck and camping park with power points, toilet and shower block close to the stable areas. All weather arenas beside covered yards have been fenced and are now used for training and competitions. The surface on the training arena behind the old stable block has been repaired and is for dressage training. The area has been tidied up and concrete block manure areas sited around the truck/float, stabling and camping areas. The hall has had the roof repainted and repaired, there is still further work planned in improvements for this building. The new kitchen has improved facilities for those working in it.

There is now a defibrillator on the grounds, and First Aid and defibrillator courses have been held. Health & Safety documents and Hazard Register are developed and updated as necessary.

There has been a great deal of work on irrigation at the Centre, it is now much easier to get water to arenas and other areas. Still some ongoing "wish list" to go as funding is available. Also the original sand arena needs some drainage work and it is planned to be resurfaced with modern type of surface, again when a decision on which surface and funding is made. Even better watering system is likely to wait until that is done. Much of the machinery at the Centre has now been replaced as the existing was mainly past its use by date. Tractor, mower, mule etc. Jumping and other equipment has been maintained.

There is now a link from the grounds to the adjacent ECan hacking track, the track on the cross country has been improved and levelled in places. A large amount has been spent on improving the grass surface in the Hampton Oval, it is now a very good surface.

There are more outside bookings coming in, school camps, courses. Some income is coming in from Motor caravan assn. members using the camping areas. The Oval and no 1 & 2 Dressage Arena have had surround fences renewed or repaired, advertising space is being sold to help in this cost. Yard and stable sales are continuing.



Website, facebook and booking system have all been updated. Memberships are growing from those wishing to use the centre for training on a regular basis, also more casual users. The collection of money for casual use has been made more "robust".

The ground manager no longer lives on site, a suitable tenant is to be found for the house. There is continual maintenance and plans for the future, currently upgrading the all weather surfaces is high on the list, everything is dependent on funding as all areas of ESNZ understand. The grounds are looking good. We have achieved a great deal in the last two years, and now have a way forward with major underground expensive work, electrical, septic systems, drainage and irrigation completed so placement of future projects can be fixed.

**Agenda Item 9: General Business**

1. **Dressage Fees:** The Board recommended at the April Planning meeting the 2018 / 19 fees remains at:

- TD levy **\$3 per class**
- Casual start fee **\$5 per class** for ESNZ registered horses with no Dressage Annual Start in graded competitions
- Annual Start Fees Level 1 **\$70.00**
- Annual Start Fees Level 2 and above **\$100**

2. **Strategic Plan Update** with Lynda Clark (refer to page 66 for a copy)



11.00 am:

## Agenda Item 10: Remits from Dressage NZ Planning Meeting April 2018

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### Remit 1: Arena Familiarisation – Amend Article 473(4)(4.1)

Proposed new wording

- 4 Arena Familiarisation
- 4.1 The OC may permit riders to work, ride in or around the competition arena at such times and on such terms as the OC sees fit. All riders in the same class must be given the same opportunity to work in or around the arena.

**Purpose:** *To remove the presumption that arena familiarisation is limited to working around the outside of the arena.*

**PASSED/FAILED**

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### Remit 2: Identifying problem horses – amend article 477(4)(4.12)

Proposed New Wording

- 4.12 A horse may have its mane and tail plaited for competition but may not be decorated with extravagant decorations. A horse may wear a ribbon in its tail as follows;
- 4.12. 1a. A green ribbon to indicate that the horse is inexperienced at competitions and the rider would appreciate if other competitors and spectators moved quietly around that horse; and
- 1b. A red ribbon to indicate that the horse is prone to kicking and caution should be taken around that horse.
- 4.12.2 False tails may be worn, but must not contain any metal parts.

**Purpose:** *To provide some guidance on the use of tail ribbons for safety purposes. And to clarify that these ribbons do not breach the rule against extravagant decorations. Also separated the false tail rule as a separate clause for ease of reference.*

**PASSED/FAILED**

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### Remit 3: Noseband Tightness – Amend Article 4.77(4.10)

Proposed New Wording

- 4.10 No noseband may ever be so tightly fixed that it will harm the horse. It must be possible to place one finger comfortably between the noseband and the nasal planum (front of the nose).

**Purpose:** *The current rule does not adequately prohibit tightening of the noseband to a point that has been shown to be harmful to the horse. The more common “two-finger” standard was considered but the scientific literature shows that one finger is adequate. The rule has not incorporated the compulsory use of the ISES taper gauge, however the taper gauge can be used to measure the one finger rule and seems a sensible and useful tool for both stewards and riders to use to ensure this rule is being complied with and enforced consistently.*

**Remit 4: Welfare Concerns – Amend Article 454**

Article 454 – Lameness, Blood or Welfare Concerns

1. Any horse that shows lameness while competing will be eliminated. The Judge or Chief Judge will ring the bell to stop the test and explain the reason for the elimination to the rider. There is no appeal from this decision.
2. (as per existing clause 3)
3. The Chief Judge may stop a test at any point and eliminate the rider if for any reason the Judge believes it is contrary to the best interests of the horse and/or rider to continue the test.

**Purpose:** *To provide a catch all type provision to allow a Judge to stop a test if necessary for a reason that is not anticipated elsewhere in the rules.*

PASSED/FAILED

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**Remit 5: Use of Voice – Amendment to Article 453**

Article 453: The use of the voice or clicking of the tongue is prohibited and will be penalised by the loss of two marks from those that would have been awarded for the movement in which this occurred.

**Purpose:** *Remove discretion to deduct less than 2 marks for use of voice.*

PASSED/FAILED

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**Remit 6: Commencement of test – Amendment to Article 451(12)**

Proposed New Wording

12. The rider has 45 seconds from the sounding of the bell to commence the test. The test commences from the point the horse proceeds on the centre line.

If the test is not commenced within 45 seconds of the sounding of the bell the rider will be penalised 2 points per judge.

If the test is not commenced within 60 seconds of the sounding of the bell the rider will be eliminated.

**Purpose:** *Update wording to provide for starting test from inside the arena, which is now increasingly common.*

PASSED/FAILED

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**Remit 6: Horse Leaving the Arena – Amendment to Article 451(15)**

Proposed New Wording

15 A horse leaving the arena with all 4 feet between the time of commencement of the test and the time of exit from the arena will be eliminated. The only exception to this rule is when a horse is required to recommence a test pursuant to article 451(4).

**Purpose:** *Add exception for when horse is required by Judge to leave arena and restart the test due to course error because it entered in the wrong gait.*

PASSED/FAILED

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## Remit 7: Placement of Judges – Amendment to Article 441.2

### Proposed New Wording

- 2 The Judge(s) should sit between 3 and 5 metres from the outside of the arena. If the dimensions of the competition area do not permit the Judge to sit at least 3 metres from the edge of the arena then the Judge should sit as far from the edge of the arena as possible.

**Purpose:** *Provide some flexibility for indoor arenas with limited space*

**PASSED/FAILED**

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## Remit 8: Amendments to Rules for Administration

### Proposed New Wording

#### 11. THE COMMITTEE

- a) iv The President and the CEO/ GM of ESNZ ex officio, as observers only

#### 16. FINANCIAL

All transactions must be authorised by no less than two individuals with the authority to authorise transactions. The individuals with authority to authorise transactions will be;

- a. The Dressage Sport Manager; and  
b. Two further officers appointed by the Board of Dressage NZ

#### 17. SELECTORS

- c. Selectors will be subject to a yearly review. Delete this para.

#### 19. SUB-COMMITTEES

The Board of Dressage NZ may form sub-committees for a specific purpose. The Board must inform the committee of the membership and Terms of Reference annually to the Committee. Delete this para. Duplicated in Board procedures 10(a) below

#### 10. BOARD PROCEDURES

- a) The Dressage NZ Board may regulate its own procedure and may co-opt, appoint or employ individuals or subcommittees for any specific purpose falling within its functions.

**PASSED/FAILED**

## 12.30 LUNCH BREAK – Resume at 1.15

## 1.15 AFTERNOON SESSION

### Presentations & Panel Discussions

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- |      |                           |                      |
|------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| 1.15 | Nick Pyke -ESNZ Chair     | ESNZ Update          |
| 2.00 | Vicki Glynn –ESNZ Sec Gen | FEI Update           |
| 2.15 | Brooke Dillon             | ESNZ Para Equestrian |

### 2.30 **KEY NOTE SPEAKER: Associate Professor Chris Rogers** **Equine Biomechanics – Massey University** **An Educational & Entertaining SnapChat**

Chris is an Assoc Professor at Massey University teaching and conducting research across disciplines into Veterinary science, Equine science, Agriculture production systems and Sport Science. He obtained his PhD from Massey University in Equine Biomechanics and then was a Huygens Post-Doctoral fellow at Utrecht University, the Netherlands. After completion of the Post-Doctoral appointment he returned to take up a position at Massey University.

His current research interests have a similar eclectic mix to his teaching. However, the common theme has been the effect of environmental and training stimuli on tissue development and career length in both racing and sport horses

Chris is also involved in Pony Club, ESNZ as a showjump course builder and volunteer, has presented a number of sessions to dressage squad riders and been involved in the organisation of FEI Regional Dressage Forums alongside Dressage NZ



### 3.15 Break

### 3.30 Panel Discussion – The Wish List

We will hear from five stakeholders in our sport.  
Not only what they consider we do well, but how we can strive to collectively make our sport the sport that everyone wants to be involved in  
Volunteer, Official, Sponsor, Support Team, Rider

### 4.05 Announcement of Dressage NZ Squads 2018 -19

### 4.15 Finish