

**Dressage NZ Committee Meeting**  
**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> July 8.45am – 12.30pm**  
**Kingston Room | Rydges Hotel – Federal St - Auckland**



## 1. WELCOME / ROLL CALL / APOLOGIES

**Present:** Dressage NZ Board:

Sue Hobson (Chair) Suzanne Inglis, Christine Latch, Mura Love

**In attendance:**

Wendy Hamerton (Sport Manager/Secretary) | Jos Gresham (Calendar / Series Points/Conference Asst)  
 Judy Collin (Conference Asst & Minute Secretary)

Voting Delegates Registered				Voting Delegates Registered			
1	Andrea Fuehrer	Waitemata	19	Rachel McCallum	Steward General		
2	*Sue Hobson	Southern Hawkes Bay	20	Meg Johnston	Youth Council Member		
3	Barbara Clarke	Bay of Plenty	21	Anna Gale	SI Riders Rep		
4	Bernice Frost	Taihape	22	Fiora Au	NI Riders Rep		
5	Carol Eivers	Northern Hawke's Bay	23	Sue Hobson	Board – Chair		
6	Jackie Thomas	Otago	24	Suzanne Inglis	Board - Technical		
7	Jacqui Thompson	Wellington	25	Mura Love	Board - Judges		
8	Kylie Littleford	Taranaki	26	Christine Latch	Board – Marketing		
9	Lois Andrewes	Northland					
10	Nicola Wills-Essex	Waikato					
11	Nicole Ostermeier	Sth Cant/Nth Otago					
12	Olivia Goggin	Ashburton	<b>Members / Observers Registered</b>				
13	Pip Forsyth	Marlborough	27	Kate Walker	Waitemata		
14	Angela Valentine	Nelson	28	Jane Robertson	Canterbury		
15	Sue Harris	Gisborne	29	Vaughn Cooper	Central Districts		
16	Rosie Richards	Auckland-Manukau	30	Betty Brown	Auckland		
17	Susan Tomlin	Central Districts	31	Ian Childs	Wellington		
18	Suzanne Halligan	Wairarapa	32	Leonie Coker	Bay of Plenty		

**Apologies:**

Andrea Raves & Sarah Hazlewood (Board)

Glenda Jones (SI NEC Rep), Linda Warren-Davey, Julia Latham (Southland), Margaret Grant (Canterbury)

That the apologies be accepted

**Moved:** Carol Eivers

**Seconded:** Rachel McCallum

**CARRIED**

## 2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES of the 2024 Planning Forum

Held by Zoom on 23 & 24 April 2024 having been circulated, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Moved: Suzanne Inglis

Seconded: Bernice Frost

**CARRIED**

**Matters Arising:** Nil

## **MATTERS ARISING FROM CONFERENCE**

Nil

The Chair welcomed Mura Love to DNZ Board as new Judges Officer.

### **Voting Substitutes:**

Christine Latch for Sarah Hazlewood and Suzanne Inglis for Andrea Raves

Moved: Nicole Ostermeier

Seconded: Rosie Richards

**CARRIED**

Scrutineers appointed – Jane Robertson & Jos Gresham

## **3. GENERAL BUSINESS & CORRESPONDENCE**

### **Area Delegate Role & Associated Area Matters**

The Sport Manager presented Jos Gresham with an ESNZ officials badge and distributed to delegates along with arm bands “Ask me” and “Leg up” and explained the Led Up bands were to indicated “Newcomers” or riders feeling a bit overwhelmed. Not restricted to riders with perhaps disabilities or dispensations.

Jos addressed the meeting and emphasized the importance of areas sending information when requested and in the correct format. Google form gives an option to take a copy for your records. The SM will resend the request for area information and photo as no replies received to date.

Jos asked Areas to use Google form for date information. If change of date already advised then edit that date but if it is a new event/ date, then send a new form. Dates advised to Jos to go onto onto EvoEvents. If a particular date is not listed in EvoEvents, then it has not been advised to Jos. Advise Jos of any cancellations and contact her for link to Google docs.

Areas must advise any event under the auspices of DNZ to Jos to include events e.g. Master Class or Rally, in case of any liability claim.

In answer to a query from B Brown, The SM Wendy advised ESNZ is looking into a group plan to cover incorporated societies which are also recognised as part of ESNZ.

Anna asked if a centreline fee needs to be charged for a training day. The SM to advise further

I Childs asked that consideration be given for people who are unfamiliar with the technology. It was noted a phone call to Jos can resolve easily.

When formatting schedules, Area should check the DNZ Dropbox, draft schedule for Premier League and local shows. Jos needs to approve all PL schedules.

Jos gave information for Secretaries on requirements for completing a new event on EvoEvents. A zoom meeting for secretaries is being organized for Wednesday 17 July at 7pm which will be recorded.

### **Sponsorship update**

C Latch advised that all Super 5 League sponsors with the exception of 1, have confirmed. A sponsor is being sought for the Rising star top 10 league for adults for it to continue in 2024/25. Approximate value of \$3000.

### **Super 5 League point system**

The SM noted Super 5 League has been very successful season. Dressage Investigating possibility to record points online in the same format as Top 10 Leagues except riders would not have to nominate in advance. Every combination in the class (**subject to horse having a DR Annual Start**), Minimum 57%, would earn points, same points allocation as now but for all competitors Top 5 points earners will still be get series placings. More incentive for riders who may not always be in the Top 5 in the class, but consistent. This system would have changed this year's results slightly.

There was agreement that this should be implemented for the coming season.

## **4. BUDGET 2024/2025**

Nicola Wills-Essex gave information to the group on Class 4 Gaming Trusts, and their obligation to contribute 40% to their local areas. This information can be found on Dept of Internal affairs website.

The SM advised that normally the grant funding for DNZ events was considerably down. Therefore we need to budget for events without relying on grants. F Au asked if we can grow the amount budgeted for rider development. The SM advised DNZ working with Development Committee re funding and also coaching education. \$18,000 budgeted but didn't include rider development camps, YR training camps, etc. Local rider development camps are popular. Riders do not want to travel distances to attend camps and so local areas.

## **5. ESNZ Membership – Dressage alignment with other Disciplines**

Graded Level 1 (Preliminary) will require Intro membership and ESNZ horse registration.

Graded Level 2 (Novice) and above need full riding membership and horse registration.

Intro membership \$54.30 is the approx equivalent of 3 days casual memberships at \$16.30 per day.

ESNZ will promote this within a starter pack that will be available soon.

The SM showed an example to the meeting which was in draft form. A suggestion was to add in Lvl 1 to Dressage or "up to". The SM the Strength and Adapt programme is considering running multidiscipline event for riders who would like to learn more about all disciplines. This will require organisers and venues that are suitable. It may be possible to have dressage in the morning and jumping in the afternoon.

ESNZ is looking at possibility of payment options. Eg – monthly

## **6. Correspondence**

### **7.a. Bitless bridles**

ESNZ technical committee has reviewed this. The Chair has spoken to International and Australian judges.

F Au has had approximately 3 enquiries within Auckland/Manukau area. S Inglis (TO) advised there needs to be a more discussion and investigation into this based on best international practice.

Bitless bridles put pressure on other point of the horses' head and can be mild to severe in type. This is an option for inclusiveness and not welfare. Test wording / requirements needs to be considered and we need to wait for a response from FEI & Australia regarding this.

The SM stated that any options to use bitless options will need clear guidelines and parameters for using them. We are obligated to USDF tests for a further 2 years.

The Chair suggested F Au let riders know that DNZ have looked into Bitless bridles, we will investigate it further and have been in touch with Australia.

DNZ will also give F Au a response.

## **7.b. NI Riders Rep from NI Riders Meeting**

### **Sitting Trot**

F Au has had feedback from some riders that sitting trot is a barrier for many Lvl 2 riders progressing to Lvl 3 and asked if it could be optional.

The Chair advised sitting trot is in tests for a reason and is part of the training scale to develop collected work and rider's general way of going/ level of training. The only exception would be a dispensation. Dressage is a progressive sport. The majority of the meeting agreed to the status quo and leave sitting trot in Lvl 3.

### **Downgrading rule**

The SM stated perceived fairness is important. Bonze /S/G can mitigate some of the problems as it is based on combination performance, not previous rider history .

Imported horses are assessed on their performance record from their home NF and a downgrading can be applied for if necessary based on the NZ downgrading rule.

Any further changes will require a remit for next year. The SM noted maybe the options were, no downgrading rules, just compete wherever you like regardless of horse points and performance, delete first year restrictions completely?

### **Event costs**

Participants discussed what if any fees could be standardized. Costs differ greatly within areas and will take into account Sponsorship, grants, prizemoney or prizes to offset costs. Auckland Manukau have produced a graph of costs involved in running a show. The SM will forward to all areas. (see page 5)

### **National Championships – SI Venue Consideration**

A number of points were discussed including a suggestion as to whether this event could be held in the SI 3 yearly or 5 yearly and does the date need to align with Showjumping calendar. The SM advised there is no year in March that is not a qualification period. After the 2024 Olympics qualifying for 2026 World Games begins 1 Jan 2025. Ideally, 180 starters would be a minimum required to hold the show in SI on current costs / income levels to run nationals

It was decided a working party be formed to analyse dates and venue and to canvass NI riders for support.

### **Working party:**

Mura Love (Chair)  
Riders Reps for SI & NI  
Angela Valentine  
Nicole Ostermeier  
Susanne Inglis  
Sue Hobson

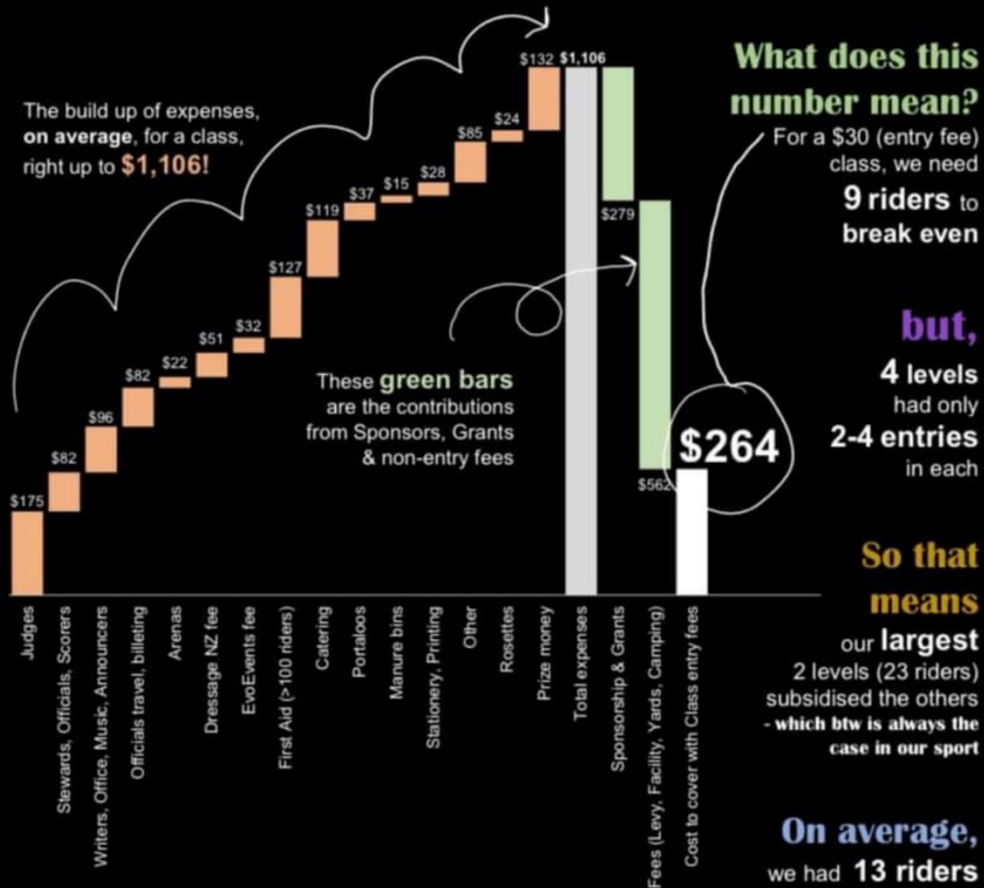
Wendy Hamerton  
Susan Tomlin  
Wendi Williamson  
Rachel McCallum  
Permission to co-opt as needed.

The Chair thanked meeting participants and declared the meeting closed at 12.32pm

We thought we'd show you the numbers...

## "The cost of running a Dressage Class"

Based off the AMDG 2023 Premier League 3 day show



**So, can you see how much we rely on our sponsors & the fees you pay?**

**P.S.** We usually make a small profit, as we wouldn't go to all this trouble to make a loss!

**On average,** we had **13 riders** in **each** level which poses the question of **'leftovers'?**

Remaining funds go towards fixing things damaged & maintenance to keep our grounds in tip top shape for next time