



# ESNZ EVENTING CONFERENCE & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2024



*Charlotte Penny & Festival – winners of the 2024 NZ Three Day Eventing Champs at Taupo*

*Pictured with four generations of the Penny Family*

*Photo thanks to Take the Moment*

ESNZ Eventing wishes to acknowledge the below wonderful sponsors:



SADDLE & CANTER





## ESNZ Eventing Conference & AGM

Saturday, 6<sup>th</sup> July 2024

Rydges, Auckland

### TIMETABLE:

10-10.30am	<i>Registration &amp; morning tea</i>
10.30am-12.15pm	<u>AGM</u>
12.15-1.00pm	<i>Combined Lunch</i>
1.00-2.45pm	<u>EVENTING CONFERENCE:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ESNZ CENTRAL:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Constitution</li><li>○ ESNZ Insurance</li><li>○ Strengthen &amp; Adapt update</li><li>○ High Performance</li></ul></li><li>• Event KPI presentation: Chris Perkins, Rosie Edwards &amp; Kate Rouch</li><li>• Land sustainability: Rosie Edwards</li><li>• 2024 ESNZ Eventing Rules Revision</li><li>• Horse detail verification: Janene Maxwell</li></ul>
2.45-3.00pm	<i>Afternoon tea</i>
3.00-4.00pm	Awards: Area Group Volunteers, Special Awards
4.00pm	<i>Finish</i>

# **AGENDA:**

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of ESNZ Eventing**

To be held: Rydges, 59 Federal Street, Auckland

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2024 at 10.30am

1. Welcome from the Chair of ESNZ Eventing (Raewyn Eastwood)
  - 1.1 apologies
  - 1.2 Obituaries
2. Confirmation of Voting Delegates
3. Confirmation of minutes of the meeting of the Annual General Meeting, 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023
4. Matters Arising
5. Annual Reports:
 

5.1	Report Presented by Chair	Raewyn Eastwood
5.2	Financial Report 2023/2024	John Alexander
5.3	Report of the Eventing Sport Manager	Hayley Daigle
5.4	Report of the High-Performance General Manager	Warrick Allen
5.5	Report of the Technical Chair	Wendy Lansdown
5.6	Reports of the National Equestrian Centre Representatives:	
	5.6.1 Report of the NEC Chch Representative	Nick Pyke
	5.6.2 Report of the NEC Taupo Representative	Jenny Draper
5.7	Report of the Chair of the NZ3DE Subcommittee	Rosie Edwards
5.8	Report of the Organising Committee Representative	Rosie Edwards
5.9	Report of the Media and Communications	Chris Perkins
5.10	Report of the Riders Representative	Amanda Illston
5.11	Eventing Selection Panel (National) Report	-
6. Election of Board Members:
  - 6.1 Ratify Appointed Position: Kate Rouch
  - 6.2 Elected Position: Pip Howells
7. Appointment acknowledgement of Technical Advisory Group (TAG) including chair and National Safety Officer
8. Notices of Motion (remits): no remits for the 2024 AGM
9. Board Member Remuneration
10. Appointment of 9 Voting Delegates to the ESNZ AGA
11. General Business
  - 11.1 Calendar: Don Robertson
  - Appendix A: Kate Rouch CV
  - Appendix B: Annual Area Reports

**CONFIRMATION OF VOTING DELEGATES:**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Delegate</b>
Auckland	Kevin Thompson
Bay of Plenty	Campbell Draper
Canterbury	Don Robertson
Central Districts	Raewyn Eastwood
Central & Southern Hawkes Bay	Wendy Lansdown
Northern Hawkes Bay	-
Northland	Anna Gray
South Canterbury North Otago	-
Southland	Suzanne Black
Taranaki	Susan Grayling
Waikato	Kara Lockhart
Wairarapa	Aiden Viviers
Wellington	Sonya Mason



# EVENTING

## ESNZ Eventing Annual General Meeting

### Draft Minutes

10am 1<sup>st</sup> July 2023

Location: Rydges Latimer Hotel, Christchurch

#### 1. Welcome/Apologies

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming all Eventing board members, voting delegates and Observers to the Annual General Meeting.

#### Present

Raewyn Eastwood	Chairperson
Rosie Edwards	Deputy Chair & Eventing Board Organising Committee Rep
Margaret Evans	Board Member
John Alexander	Board Member
Chris Perkins	Eventing Board Organising Committee Rep
Amanda Illston	Rider Representative
Hayley Daigle	Sport Manager
Hamish Butler-Gallie	TAG representative (National Safety Officer)
Tich Massey	TAG representative (Course Designer Liaison)
Anna Gray	Delegate (Northland)
Kevin Thompson	Delegate (Auckland)
Fiona Thompson	Observer
Sonya Mason	Delegate (Wellington)
Rosie Sullivan	Delegate (Canterbury)
Don Robertson	Observer (Canterbury)
Janet Robertson	Observer (Canterbury)
Nick Pyke	National Selector
Anna Poole	Observer
Stuart Bishell	Delegate (SCNO)
Suzanne Black	Delegate (Southland)
Debra Gibson	Observer (Southland)
Sarah Dalziell-Clout	Delegate (Wairarapa)
Effie Deans	Observer
Helen Christie	Observer
Raewyn Lawrence	Delegate (BOP)
Eveline Roberts	Observer
Matthew Grayling	Observer
Susan Grayling	Delegate (Taranaki)
Brent Cheeseman	Observer

### Apologies read from

Julian Bowden	ESNZ CEO
Jennifer Millar	Observer
Mitty Forsyth	Performance and High-Performance Selector
Anna Clarke	NZ3DE 2023 Event Convenor
Wendy Lansdown	Delegate (C & S HB) & TAG representative (Chair)
Jenny Draper	Delegate (Waikato) & TAG representative (Judges Liaison)
Janene Maxwell	TAG representative (Steward Liaison)
Shannon Galloway	Board Member
Jean Johnstone	Observer
Jane Callaghan	Observer
Margs Carline	Observer

**Moved: apologies be accepted**

**Moved: Raewyn Eastwood  
Seconded: John Alexander**

### 2. Obituaries

Bob Stringer  
Mike Manning  
Mary Herrick

Three members were remembered with one minute silence for their contribution to ESNZ and Eventing over a significant time period.

### 3. Voting Delegates

The Chair confirmed those members present who have the right to vote;

- There were 10 voting delegates present; Anna Gray (Northland), Kevin Thompson (Auckland), Susan Grayling (Taranaki), Raewyn Eastwood (Central Districts), Stuart Bishell (C&SHB), Sonya Mason (Wellington), Sarah Dalziell-Clout, (Wairarapa), Suzanne Black (Southland), Rosie Sullivan (Canterbury), Raewyn Lawrence (BOP)
- There were 6 voting members of the Eventing Board present

**Moved: Raewyn Eastwood  
Seconded: Chris Perkins  
Carried**

### 4. Confirmation of minutes of the AGM, 30 July 2022

**Moved: that the Minutes from the AGM 30 July 2022 were a true and correct record.**

**Moved: Chris Perkins  
Seconded: Hamish Butler-Gallie  
Carried**

### 5. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

## 6. Annual Reports

### 6.1 Chair report

The Chair presented her annual report for 2022/2023.

The Chair presented the Eventing Board Structures and Function:

- Portfolios on the Board: Performance & Development
- Representative on the Board; ESNZ & NEC
- Advisory: TAG
- Subcommittees: NZ3DE, XC Taupo
- Functional Activities: Calendar, HP Liaison, AGM, Series, Oceania, International

The 2023 AGM completes the restructure of the Board to create a streamlined Board ensuring a balance of voices around the Board. OC reps have moved from two half votes to one full vote.

The Chair acknowledged Marg Evans for her three years as the Chair of the Board, particularly with the years of Covid.

The Chair acknowledged Shannon Galloway whose rotation has completed.

The Appointed position for the Sponsorship and Commercialisation role did not receive any applications therefore will be readvertised.

One member, Grant Porter resigned from the Board therefore Chris Perkins will fill this space until the rotation comes to an end.

Disciplines adopted one Strategic Plan as per ESNZ request. Eventing adopted to dissect the challenges in Eventing and how we can work on these specifically as aspirations. What are the quality horse and human experiences in Eventing? This resulted in a Quality Experience Framework.

The Chair acknowledged those affected by the floods and our thoughts remain with them.

The Chair acknowledged the difficulty faced by the Officials at Events being forced to make difficult decisions.

Thank you to Brooky Horse Trial for their fundraising Event for the ESNZ relief fund.

The Chair acknowledged Tich and Diane from Springbush for their quick relocation to Taupo for their February 2023 Event.

The Chair empathised with LRHOY for the disappointment of the Event being cancelled again for the third time.

The Chair acknowledged the success that we have achieved for 2022/2023 season including Tim & Jonelle Price for their World no.1 and 2 rankings as well as Kerryn Edmonds for her achievement of being world no.1 groom. Acknowledgment of those who have had their first 3\* and 4\* start.

The Chair acknowledged Matthew Grayling and Trudeau for their record winning season.

Looking forward to 2023-2024:

- NEC developments
- Development camps
- ESNZ Constitution
- ESNZ Strengthen and Adapt Programme
- Oceania at HOY
- Olympics
- Eventing Quality Experience Framework

**Moved: The adoption of the chair report**

**Moved: Raewyn Eastwood  
Seconded: Amanda Illston  
Carried**

## 6.2 Financial Report

John Alexander presented the financial report for 2023 financial year.

- 2022/2023 provided challenging conditions and the year did run at a deficit
- The goal of running the NZ3DE was to break even – this was not achieved – mostly due to entry numbers & 20% scratchings at the last minute due to the weather forecast and affects of inflation.
- Cost savings of \$19k

Where does our money come from:

- Riders
- Sponsorship
- Sales
- Grants

Where does our money go:

- 44% to NZ3DE – without this, the expenses for Eventing normal operations would generate an income

Conclusion is the impact of NZ3DE is significant on the Eventing finances.

73% of total income goes to (excluding NZ3DE):

- 73% running the sport: FEI, MiMs, ESNZ, staff
- 16% keeping riders safe and at the leading edge of our sport (Technical)
- 7% holding together: Board expenses
- 4% back to the rider support and development

**ADMINISTRATION:**

- Income was down, mostly due to reduced starts and levies.

- The Board has decided not to increase fees/levies for 2023/2024
- Investment of MIM clips

NZ3DE:

- Entries were flat – scratchings at the last minute
- Grants did not reach what were expected

BOARD/AGM:

- Cost control was the focus
- Significant savings

PERFORMANCE:

- No income
- \$7k was spent early in financial year for team to Melbourne
- Oceania cancelled
- Deferred development camps

TECHNICAL:

- \$20k grant for Course Design and build
- Some costs not known when setting budget
- Excluding grant, expenditure was below plan

SERIES:

- Sponsorship secured
- Prize giving at NZ3DE
- Further development in 22/23

Looking forward:

Strengthen & Adapt Roadshow – a sport wide initiative in the post Covid ERA. Encouraged all to attend a session to provide feedback which would shape the future of the Eventing sport.

**Moved: the adoption of the 2022-2023 financial report**

**Moved: Kevin Thompson  
Seconded: Marg Evans  
Carried.**

**6.3 Sport Manager's Report**

The Sport Manager presented the 2022/2023 report.

The Sport Manager acknowledged the dedication, commitment and time from all Volunteers and Officials given to Eventing.

The Sport Manager provided highlights from the 2022/2023 year:

- North Island Secondary Schools & South Island Secondary Schools competition. The Sport Manager was the marshal for the Arena Eventing and was thrilled to witness the young competitors being very nervous heading in to their Arena Eventing competition and then

seeing their delight when they finished their round. The Arena Eventing is a great tool to provide a taster for competitors to the Eventing discipline

- FEI Officials Seminar held at Taupo NEC in November 2022. 42 Officials in total which included Ian Stark (UK), Geoff Sinaclair (AUS), Christian Landolt (SUI), Stuart Buntine (UK), Philine Ganders-Meyer (GER) Helen Christie (NZL) & Susan Ob'Brien (NZL) as Course Directors. This is the largest Officials Seminar hosted worldwide and was a consequence of Covid and the need of Officials to attend a seminar to either maintain their status or transfer up. The Sport Manager acknowledged Helen Christie and Jenny Draper for their guidance in organising the seminar as well as Denise Rushbrook and her team for their support in hosting the seminar at the Taupo Event.
- MIM clip order: \$25k worth of MIM's were delivered to NZ as per OC order requirements as well as ensuring stock on hand in NZ. Thanks to TAG for their guidance in ordering requirements and to John Alexander for arranging cost effective shipping from Sweden
- Neil Mackenzie-Hall: Neil's successful appointment to the FEI Eventing Committee for the four year period
- Rider/support people/OC/Officials/Volunteer resilience: very trying conditions with the extremely wet Spring and Autumn season. Acknowledged those Event's who had to think on their feet to adjust their Event or relocate as well as Officials ability to make difficult decisions but were in the best interest of horse and rider safety.
- Prime minister scholarships: the Sport Manager thanked to High Performance and TAG for their support in applying for Prime Minister Scholarships. We were successful in receiving two prime minister scholarships for 22/23 season – one was to send a group of Officials to the Melbourne Three Day Event as a learning experience and the second successful scholarship was for two judges to head to Bicton Arena & Ballendenisk to Officiate and complete their transfer up assessments. Here they were able to judge the top horses in the world including London 52 and Swallow Springs.
- NZ3DE was a success with the sun shining all Event. The Sport Manager acknowledged Anna Clarke and her team Alex Dempster her ran the Office and secretarial job brilliantly – the office was also a welcoming environment. The Sport Manager acknowledged the Sponsors of the 2023 NZ3DE: NRM, Wade, Penny Homes, Land Rover, Oranoa Sport Horses, Fiber Fresh, Stirling Collection, NZPH, Taupo Vet Services, Treadlite, Eventstars and C4C. Acknowledgment of Lion Foundation and The Grassroots Trust for the grant applications. The Sport Manager also acknowledged Matthew Grayling and Trudeau for their record winning Event and for also being a wonderful person around the truck with his sense of humour.
- The Sport Manager acknowledged Julian Bowden and Katie Deane-Jackson for their role in brining the Land Rover sponsorship on board – each of the disciplines received \$10k each which was utilised for the Series and sponsorship of the 1\* class at the NZ3DE. Early conversations about the 23/24 sponsorship are a desire for the OC's to be connected with local Land Rover dealerships to build long term relationships. The announcement was made that following Puhinui hosting Archibald & Shorter at the 2022 Event, they have partnered up with the dealership for 2023 where Archibald & Shorter have naming rights.

The Sport manager displayed the 22/23 Eventing Starts and Eventing Annual discipline starts trends compared to the previous years. The Eventing Starts had increased slightly whereas the Discipline starts had decreased. The Sport Manager explained that a piece of work was being completed at the ESNZ office where the discipline starts data vs the casual starts data were being investigated to ensure that these options were meeting the needs of the membership.

**Moved: The adoption of the Sport Manager's report**

**Moved: John Alexander  
Seconded: Rosie Edwards  
Carried**

**6.4 Technical Advisory Group Report**

Hamish Butler-Gallie presented the technical report on behalf of the Technical Advisory Group.

**Key Function of TAG:**

- Rules of Eventing
  - o Maintain alignment of ESNZ Rules of Eventing with FEI Rule of Eventing
  - o Ensure ESNZ Rule of Eventing support development and participation in
  
- Support Development of FEI Officials
  - o New FEI Education system -significantly changes with two new level 1 and 4
  - o TAG has maintained ESNZ Eventing's training system status allows ESNZ Officials if they were once a List 1 Official to enter the FEI system at Level 2
  - o TAG have a list of ESNZ List 2 Officials accepted by FEI as Level 1 FEI Officials
  - o TAG has supported groups of officials for addition to FEI or promotion within FEI levels to a major FEI event in Australia as part of an intensive training prior to an FEI seminar
  - o The first FEI seminar in NZ since 2018 due to Covid was held in Taupo in November 2022
    - CD & TD approved for promotion to Level 3
    - CD & TD were promoted from approved for promotion to FEI Level 2
  
- Congratulations to Neil Mackenzie Hall who has been appointed to FEI Eventing Committee as TD representative for 4 years
- Thank you to Judy Haskell and Neil Mosley

**Moved: The adoption of the Technical report**

**Moved: Raewyn Eastwood  
Seconded: Nick Pyke  
Carried**

**6.5 High Performance Report**

The High Performance Report was tabled by Raewyn Eastwood in the absence of HP.

**Moved: The adoption of the High Performance report**

**Moved: Raewyn Eastwood  
Seconded: Hamish Butler-Gallie  
Carried**

**6.6 Selectors Report**

The performance selectors report was presented by Nick Pyke.

Oceania cancelled therefore selection for Young Rider was not required.

Moved forward to TI & TID and camps have been run for these – the squads are currently being considered and then squads will be announced shortly,

**Moved: The adoption of the Selectors report**

Moved: Nick Pyke  
Seconded: Chris Perkins  
Carried

#### 6.7 Organising Committee Representative Report

The Organising Committee was presented by Rosie Edwards.

Zoom meetings with Organising Committees:

- Who are TAG
- Local Officials for Local Events
- Templates for inviting Officials
- Timetabling
- Practice Days
- Wellbeing
- Change the Rein
- OC survey results
- ESNZ Website & social media

Rosie Edwards, Chris Perkins and John Alexander have completed a pilot survey for feedback on Events has begun in 2022/2023. The information provided in the survey feedback remains confidential and the key trends from the feedback collected so far will be presented this afternoon at the Eventing conference.

**Moved: The adoption of the OC Rep Report.**

Moved: Amanda Illston  
Seconded: Sarah Dalziell-Clout  
Carried

#### 6.8 NZ3DE Championship Subcommittee Report

The NZ3DE report was not presented at the 2023 AGM but a report completed by the NZ3DE Event Convenor, Anna Clarke was provided to the attendee's within the 2023 AGM Papers.

#### 6.9 Media and Communications:

- ESNZ website revamp was planned but ESNZ advised that they are reviewing the website.
- ESNZ Eventing Facebook page – this is being managed by the Sport Manager. Requested that Events send reports to the Sport Manager to post on social media.
- Improve profile for the 2024 NZ3DE with help from ESNZ contractor Dani Mulrennan
- A comment from the attendees was provided acknowledging the quality of the social media content from the NZ3DE 2023.

Moved: Amanda Illston  
Seconded: John Alexander  
Carried

#### 6.9 National Equestrian Centre Representative Report: Taupo

Raewyn Eastwood on behalf tabled the Taupo NEC Rep Report as read.

Acknowledged Wally Neiderer for his outstanding convenor role over the years – he will be acknowledged formerly at the ESNZ AGA.

**Moved: The adoption of the Taupo NEC Rep Report**

**Moved: John Alexander  
Seconded: Nick Pyke  
Carried**

6.10 National Equestrian Centre Representative Report: Christchurch

The South Island National Equestrian Centre Representative Report was presented by Nick Pyke.

Invitation to attend the NEC Christchurch visit 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2023 at 11am. The centre has had a large amount of work done to remove stones & smooth undulations – 13 hectares has been completed and hope to complete more over the years.

Development of new water jump and ditches as well as new covered yards, improvement to arenas, new large arena and other developments to benefit all disciplines.

A question was raised about the potential of building a covered arena in the future – this is not currently the highest priority. A questionnaire has been released to users to analyse what they consider is the highest priority.

A question was raised if a permanent dressage area could be set up. Explained that there is a dressage arena permanently set up behind the stable complex.

**Moved: The adoption of the Christchurch NEC Rep Report**

**Moved: Helen Christie  
Seconded: Brent Cheeseman  
Carried**

6.10 Riders Rep Report

Amanda Illston presented the Riders Rep report.

The rain and sodden grounds affected the Events significantly. Despite this, there were great Events held.

Introduction of CCN80cm-L at the 2023 NZ3DE – initially this received some negative feedback but overall this was really positive and those who competed was generally well received.

The calendar is a work in progress and there will be an initiative moving forward to make the calendar process more conducive for OC's and Riders.

Premature discussions for all discipline Development Camp approach to be considered for the 2023/2024 season. There is potential for funding from Sports NZ for these Development Camps.

The Rider's Representative acknowledged Monica Spencer's performance at the World Equestrian Games and being able to achieve this based in NZ.

**Moved the adoption of the Riders Rep Report**

**Moved: Amanda Illston  
Seconded: John Alexander  
Carried**

**7. Election of Board Members**

### 7.1 Ratification of Appointments

The new Board structure resulted in a call for nominations for the Appointed position.

The Eventing Board received one application from Raewyn Eastwood which the Appointed Panel agreed to.

**The Chair called the voting delegates to ratify the appointment of Raewyn Eastwood to the Eventing Board for a three year term 2022 – 2025.**

**Unanimous**

The chair recognised the appointment of Wendy Lansdown as the Chair of the Technical Advisory Group for a three year term, 2022-2025 and also the reappointment of Hamish Butler-Gallie as National Safety Officer for a three year term 2022-2025 on the Technical Advisory Group.

### **8. Remits**

There were no remits received.

### **9. Board Member remuneration**

The chair explained to the meeting that currently there is no remuneration for board members and proposed no change for the coming year.

**Moved: That the board remuneration stays at the current level**

**Moved: Raewyn Eastwood  
Seconded: Marg Evans  
Carried**

### **10. Appointment of Nine voting Delegates for attendance at the ESNZ AGA 21 September 2023**

It was announced that the Equestrian Sports New Zealand Annual General Assembly will be held on 21 September in Wellington as well as via Zoom.

The nine Delegates chosen were:

- Raewyn Eastwood
- Sonya Mason
- Marg Evans
- Rosie Edwards
- John Alexander
- Wendy Lansdown
- Amanda Illston or delegate from Riders perspective
- Chris Perkins
- Don Robertson

**The chair moved that the nine members above are accepted as Voting Delegates to attend the ESNZ AGA.**

**Moved: Chris Perkins  
Seconded: John Alexander**

### 11. General Business

Question was raised as to why members have to pay for their membership with their credit card rather than being able to pay via bank transfer – feels as though is unsafe and that bank transfer should be an option. The Chair explained that there is a considerable amount of time required to manage these transactions by paid ESNZ staff and acknowledges that this concern has been raised by other members.

Suggestion that the 5% transaction fee be included and this be used to pay the membership services wage. Acknowledged this feedback and suggestion and advised that this information will be passed on to ESNZ via the ESNZ Eventing representative, Marg Evans.

With no further business the Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 12.20pm.

## **4. MATTERS ARISING:**

## 5. ANNUAL REPORTS



*Kate Taniwha & Freestyle Apache Sunrise, winners of the Rangiora Equestrian Supplies & The Rider Shop XC Style Prize at Springbush Horse Trial, October 2023*

*Photo courtesy of Take The Moment*

# EVENTING CHAIR REPORT:

**To:** ESNZ Eventing Delegates

**From:** Raewyn Eastwood

**Date:** July 2024

It is my pleasure to welcome all delegates and attendees to the ESNZ Eventing AGM in Auckland and to present this Annual Report. It is great that once a year we have this opportunity to gather together as our Eventing community to celebrate our sport and the year in review and look forward to the year ahead.

## Serving our Eventing Community

We are fortunate to have the following people serve in the Board, Sports Manager and Eventing High Performance roles to govern and lead Eventing for New Zealand.

### Eventing Board

**Chair:** Raewyn Eastwood  
**Deputy Chair:** Dr Rosie Edwards      **Sport Manager:** Hayley Daigle

Portfolios	Representatives	Advisory
<div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Performance &amp; Development</div> <p style="text-align: center;">Amanda Illston</p> <div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Media &amp; Communications</div> <p style="text-align: center;">Chris Perkins</p> <div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Organising Committees</div> <p style="text-align: center;">Rosie Edwards</p> <div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Finance &amp; Funding</div> <p style="text-align: center;">John Alexander</p> <div style="background-color: black; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Sponsorship &amp; Commercialisation</div> <p style="text-align: center;">vacant</p> <p>Kate Rouch appointed April 2024 portfolio tbc</p>	<div style="background-color: green; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">ESNZ Board</div> <p style="text-align: center;">Dr Margaret Evans</p> <div style="background-color: green; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">National Equestrian Centres</div> <p style="text-align: center;">Jenny Draper: Taupo NEC Nick Pyke: McLeans Island NEC</p> <div style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Subcommittees</div> <div style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">NZ3DE Championships</div> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Rosie Edwards: Chair</b> Chris Perkins John Alexander Margaret Evans Wendy Lansdown Hayley Daigle Jenny Draper Sandra Pervis Hamish Butler-Gallie</p> <div style="background-color: orange; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">XC Taupo</div> <p style="text-align: center;">Jenny Draper Jock Paget Rowan Armer</p>	<div style="background-color: blue; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Technical Advisory Group</div> <p><b>Wendy Lansdown:</b> Chair and Technical Delegate Liaison Hamish Butler-Gallie: National Safety Officer Jenny Draper: Judges Liaison Tich Massey: Course Designer Liaison Janene Maxwell: Steward Liaison</p>

\*Board members are in bold

### High Performance Eventing (NZ)

**General Manager:** Jock Paget

Funded by High Performance Sport NZ

HP Leadership

Lizzie Green: Eventing HP Manager  
Sam Griffiths: Eventing HP Head Coach

HP Staff

Warrick Allan: Operations Manager  
Yvette Lawson: Administrator NZL  
Jacky Green: Administrator UK  
Libby Law: Photographer  
Diana Dobson: Media Liaison  
Ginny Loisel: Events & Sponsorship Co-Ordinator UK

High Performance Eventing Selectors

Cindy Llewelyn  
Judy Bradwell  
Mitty Forsyth

National Performance Selectors

Mitty Forsyth  
Vicki Glynn  
Nick Pyke  
Karen Niederer

I would like to acknowledge the following people for their service to the Board.

**Chris Perkins** – Chris joined the Board as an OC representative in 2021 and stayed to fill a vacancy which has now come up for rotation. She remains available to be co-opted to assist the Board. Chris has brought a wealth of experience to the Board and the breeder/owner perspective to our discussions as well. Chris’s is greatly appreciated for her dedication to the use and usefulness of the event survey in assistance to our OCs. We can all appreciate how important it

is to have effective feedback loops to enable us to move forward with confidence that we are in touch with our riders and the experiences they have in our sport.

**Jenny Draper** – Jenny has been a long serving Eventing representative on the NEC Taupō Committee and the Taupō NEC XC subcommittee, from which she has resigned as of this AGM. Jenny has combined this with her service as a Board member, TAG Judges Liaison officer, NZ3DE OC member and OC member for Matamata as well as Judging and Stewarding. Truly remarkable. Eventing has and continues to benefit greatly from Jenny’s contributions, and we thank her for phenomenal service to Eventing and specifically the NEC Committee and XC subcommittee.

**Marg Evans** - has concluded three terms on the Eventing Board, Chairing for three years and the ESNZ representative for two years, and now her position had come up for rotation. She remains available to be co-opted to assist the Board. Her leadership through tough times with the impacts of Covid on the sport was exemplary and we have been fortunate to have someone with her depth of knowledgeable and generosity of time on the Board.

**Anna Clarke** – Anna has been the Event Convenor for the NZ3DE Championships for three years 2021-2023. We have been incredibly fortunate to have her volunteer her time, energy and organisational skills and wish her well with her MBA studies. Anna was incredibly hard working, unflappable and always had a smile and a solution to any problem.

**Kate Rouch** – this year we welcomed Kate as an appointed Board member. With a legal background, she brings a great perspective to board discussions. An active grassroots rider who is very involved in her local Adult Riding Club, she represents an important group within our Eventing community.

**Hayley Daigle** – our Sports Manager has an amazing ability to take on any challenge and pull it off with great accomplishment. She is our face of Eventing for everyone in the community and we have heard nothing but high praise for her, not only for what she accomplishes but also to for how she goes about her job. We were extremely impressed with how she quietly ironed out any issue that arose when we hosted Oceania the first time at the LR Horse of the Year Show. Eventing is fortunate to Hayley as our Sports Manager. Hayley is also the lead person on the following board activities:



## The year has been a game of two halves

For the first half of the year I wasn’t around and the second half I was back. Just after being re-elected chair I had a paddock accident (slammed into the ground by a flying electric fence courtesy of a bolting horse). With a serious concussion, my doctor putting me “off everything”. A special thanks to Rosie Edwards (Deputy Chair) for Chairing the board in my absence, and the Board’s and Hayley’s support.

With the threat of ‘permanent cognitive impairment’, I was scared into being a model but with time to reflect, I wondered how well our wider Eventing community understands concussion, as it is a risk in our sport. I’m confident that our rules and regulations cover this off very well with safeguards in place for the wellbeing of our riders. But, do riders take it seriously, or does the pull to get back to normal life and riding put the blinkers on? I encourage everyone to be familiar with

the resources on ESNZ's website ([Concussion | ESNZ \(nzequestrian.org.nz\)](https://www.esnz.org.nz)), as you never know when you may need to support someone with concussion.

### **Many successes to celebrate**

The Eventing year has delighted us with many achievements by our riders and horses, officials and community, giving us plenty to be proud of and inspiration.

### ***Land Rover HOY and Oceania***

There was much anticipation of the return of Horse of the Year Show, last held in 2020, and their hosting of Eventing's Oceania competition for the first time. Hosting at HOY provided an international flavour of laneways and crowds to help prepare our horse and rider combinations for overseas championship events.

It is also a great showcase for our sport, opening up spectating to an audience, who don't or don't often see the spectacular of horse and riders going cross country.

It was a great lead up to the Paris Olympics and as such Australia sent two teams and four additional combinations giving us a real run for our money.

### ***Young Rider Team Wins Oceania***

It was an absolute delight to see our Young Rider team win the Oceania Championships making that back to back wins with NZ having won in Melbourne June 2022. Congratulations to Lizzie Green Chief de Equip and Coach Heelan Thompkins.



© KAMPIC /Kerry Marshall

Congratulations to Bridie Quigley (Oranoa Grayson), Scout Lodder (Overnight Success), Mackenzie Marlo (CHS Diplomat), Mia Gilbert (Schnapps MH).

It's exciting to see these up and coming riders ride for their country on home soil and take the win. Three of these riders spoke at the Series final prizegiving and it tremendous to hear of their experiences and appreciation for the coaching and support received.

**First time 3\*, 4\* & 5\* completions**

We like to recognise achievement in all endeavours and completing your first 3\*, 4\* or 5\* event is a significant achievement and milestone in riders' careers. Congratulations to the following riders;

- 5\* Charlotte Edwards (Just de Manzana)
- 4\* Rebecca Wardle (Dingman Eccles)  
Charlotte Penny (Festival)  
Sofie Boswell (Anastasia)
- 3\* Scout Lodder (Overnight Success, Kingsguard)  
Mia Gilbert (Schnapps MH)  
Sonya Benison (As Good as You Get)  
Brooke Chandler (Im Bruce)  
Claudia Odlin (Rei Huia Arnie)  
Isobel Kimble (On the Rise)  
Jessica Todd (Dash of Paint)  
Codie White (KSNZ Small Talk & Kabo Shadow)  
Dana Hawkins (Gothenburg)  
Josh Adamson (Harry FL)  
Ciara Rayne (LV Royal Jake)



Charlotte Edwards (Just de Manzana)

**Top 10 finishes at 5\* Events**

It was fantastic to see a Kiwi take the top podium at Badminton with Caroline Powel and Greenacres Special Cavalier taking a well-deserved, if somewhat surprise, win.



Congratulations to the following riders and their connections for a top 10 finish at a 5\* event which is a tremendous accomplishment.

2023	Burghley	4 <sup>th</sup>	Tim Price	Vitali
2023	Maryland	6 <sup>th</sup>	Caroline Powell	Greenacres Special Cavalier
		7 <sup>th</sup>	Monica Spencer	Artist
2023	Pau	7 <sup>th</sup>	Jonelle Price	Hiarado
		10 <sup>th</sup>	James Avery	MBF Connection
2024	Kentucky	7 <sup>th</sup>	Monica Spencer	Artist
2024	Adelaide	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Donna Edwards Smith	DSE Medoza
		6 <sup>th</sup>	Charlotte Edwards	Just de Manzanna
		7 <sup>th</sup>	Diane Gilder	Your Attorney
2024	Badminton	1 <sup>st</sup>	Caroline Powell	Greenacres Special Cavalier
		8 <sup>th</sup>	Tim Price	Vitali

### ***Nations Cup***

The Kiwis had a fabulous win at Millstreet Nations Cup Event in June 2023, with Tim Price (Falco) taking first place, Clarke Johnstone (Menlo Park) 5<sup>th</sup>, Jonelle Price (McClaren) 7<sup>th</sup>, and Samantha Lessington (Ricker Ridge Sooty GNZ) 44<sup>th</sup>.

Arville saw the team with some relatively fresh faces come 4<sup>th</sup>, with Samantha Lissington (Lord Seekonig) 12<sup>th</sup>, Muzi Pottinger (Good Timing) 17<sup>th</sup>, Daniel Jocelyn (Blackthorn Cruise) 21<sup>st</sup> and Lauren Innes (Global Fision M).

And at Boekelo our team placed 5<sup>th</sup> (out of 12 teams) with Tim Price (Jarillo) 7<sup>th</sup>, James Avery (Dallas 13) 41<sup>st</sup>, Jonelle Price (Senor Crocodillo) 56<sup>th</sup>.



### ***New Zealand Officials achieve FEI Level Four status***

Two officials fulfilled their Transfer-up requirements to Level 4 FEI Eventing, the new level introduced last year with the revision of the FEI Eventing Education System. Congratulations to Susan O'Brien and Helen Christie in becoming FEI Level 4 Stewards. This is tremendous achievement and recognition of their knowledge and service to the national and international Eventing community.

## Recognising our Valuable Volunteers

### *Life memberships*

At the Equestrian Sports New Zealand's Annual General Assembly in September 2023, two of our Eventing community were made honorary Life members for their outstanding service to Equestrian Sports.

**Jane Robertson** - Jane's passion for Stewarding has been a major contributor to the status of Stewarding as an Official's role. She was heavily involved in writing manuals and developing protocols for Stewarding in response to the recognised need for Stewards at events. Her input related to both ESNZ systems and at FEI level. She personified the Stewards motto; help, prevent, intervene. She is always calm, knowledgeable, and fair in her approach.

Jane has served as NZ Steward General for both Dressage and Eventing. These roles encompassed not only officiating at Events, but also as a facilitator at many NZ national and FEI Officials education seminars. Her contributions also extended to the process of revising and updating ESNZ sport rules for both Dressage and Eventing.

Jane has also long been involved with stewarding at Pony Clubs Events and she contributes at grass roots level as willingly as she does at the top FEI level! Jane has been Chief Steward many times at ESNZ national championship events in both Dressage and Eventing.

She has travelled the world in her role. She was a Steward at the 2010 WEG in Kentucky. She has stewarded at major events, Kentucky, Badminton, Burghley, Blenheim and others. Her work is held with respect and high regard by many in the world equestrian community.



*Janet Robertson accepting the Honorary Life Membership Award on behalf of Jane Robertson*

**Ross Coles** - Ross amongst many other things, was team manager when the New Zealand team of Mark Todd, Blyth Tait, Andrew Nicholson and Vaughn Jefferis won gold at the World Championships in Rome. He was also team manager at the Olympics in Sydney in 2000. Ross is a familiar face to all at the LR Horse of the Year show and is a Show Jumping Course Designer and TD.

At each AGM it is great to recognise our marvellous volunteers with the Area Volunteer of the Year awards, and our two top volunteer awards. I await with interest to see who they are this year. Last year's winners were:

***Volunteer of the Year Award 2023 - McCrostie Memorial Trophy - Dianne Gilder (Auckland)***

As voted by the ESNZ Eventing Board



Diane Gilder – she is one busy lady!

In between running her own business and competing four horses to top level (repeat top 10 finishes at the Adelaide 5\*), Diane is a very active member of the Eventing Auckland committee, secretary/event manager for Puhinui, leads the Springbush horse trial organising committee and is also head instructor for Springbush pony club.

Diane is the sort of volunteer every area needs! As well as being incredibly capable, she is always cheerful and positive and has time for everyone. We couldn't manage without her!

***Dedication to the Sport Award 2022 - Helen Christie (Southland)***

Longest standing volunteer nominated by their Area Group

Helen Christie is an integral part of the past and present foundations of eventing in the lower South Island. Helen first rode at and was involved with Eventing Southland events 39 years ago in 1984 after previously competing to 4\* level in the UK. She went on to first run an ESNZ event at her home farm in Waikaia (Northern Southland) in 1989 and began her path to becoming an official. Helen has previously been the Eventing Southland Chair, been on the Eventing NZ Committee, Board and was a selector from 2001 -2012.

On an international level Helen has been a steward at 6 Olympic games (and Paris will be her 7<sup>th</sup>), has judged FEI Eventing Championships on every continent and has been an FEI Course Director for worldwide judge and steward seminars. Helen has been involved in many ways over the years for Eventing Southland and provides a wealth of knowledge and experience for other members of the committee to draw on. Helen's willingness to officiate at their events has, at times, been the deciding factor as to whether the event can run and we thank her for that.

Thank you Helen for your drive and commitment to progressing yourself in your many official roles, Eventing Southland and the equestrian groups around New Zealand appreciate you being part of the sport.



### ***Thanks, in Memoriam***

***Pam Barnett*** – Pam was an enthusiastic supporter of all things equestrian having come through Pony Club in its infancy, ridden in most disciplines and had supported two generations of family eventers.

She was a List 1 Dressage Judge for many years, Patron of Central and Southern HB Eventing, was an expert on arena construction and had spent several years painting fences at the National Equestrian Centre in preparation for the National Three-day Event.

Pam enthusiastically supported NZ Eventing teams, travelling to several World Equestrian Games and Adelaide and took an active interest in the Sport right up to her death.

***Joan Stringer*** – Joan was involved with Eventing Canterbury for over 40 years, bringing her bright and friendly personality with her she helped wherever she was needed. One of the several roles she fulfilled was as organiser of the annual Young Event Horse Competition – an event she organised for so long no one can recall a time when she was not running it. Joan was also a scorer for many years.

Together with her late husband Bob they formed a memorable team and were integral to the establishment of the Canterbury Secondary Schools competition over 30 years ago, which continues as a hotly contested and much enjoyed event today.

Eventing Canterbury formally recognised Bob and Joan’s contributions when their names added to the Honours Board held at the National Equestrian Centre in Christchurch. Similarly, Eventing honoured Bob and Joan in 2019, naming them as “Eventing Volunteers of the Year”.

***Helen Thomson*** - Helen has been a stalwart of the eventing community for a long time. As a member of the small Eventing Taranaki committee, she was a strong contributor to the running of their annual horse trials at Hawera. Usually taking on multiple roles: dressage convenor, dressage judge and xcountry starter.

Many event organisers took pleasure in asking Helen to judge at events, as she always said yes, and often volunteered her good friend Hazel to judge as well. After her arena finished, she was part of the team to take the arena down. Volunteers like Helen are hard to find.

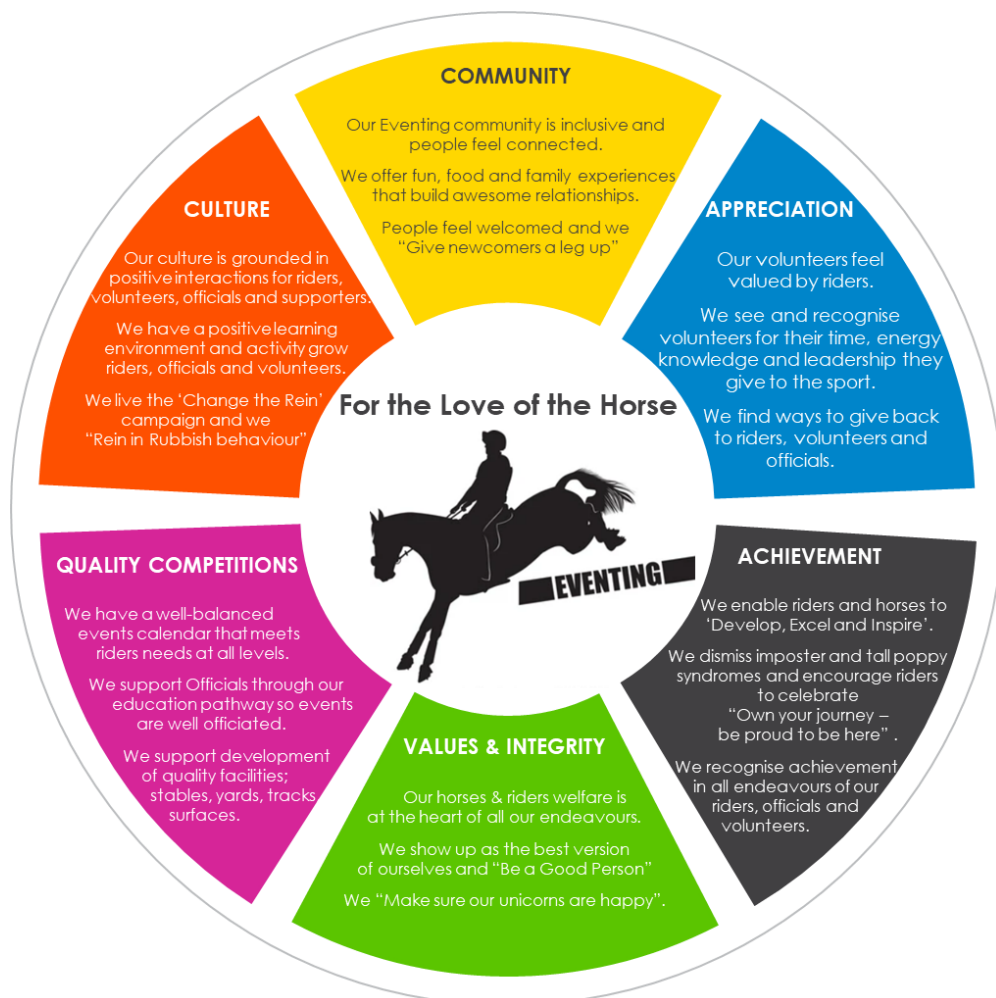
**I'd also like to acknowledge** two deaths from tragic accidents within our wider Eventing community that have been felt heavily by many; Clarke Johnston's partner Codey Jervis and Jesse Campbell's wife Georgie.

## Taking Eventing into the Future

New Zealand produces world class riders, winning 5\* event and medaling at championship events. It's fair to say 'we punch above our weight' as New Zealand is not the epicenter of the Eventing World. The challenge for the future is how to maintain our standing in the world, and how do we continue to be the environment for talent and passionate riders to achieve their aspirations at whatever level. In response to declining numbers at events, the Board has focused on three key initiatives.

### 1. Eventing Quality Experience Framework

Eventing recognised the need to contextualise ESNZ's Statement of Strategic Intent to the specific challenges and opportunities facing us, and thus our strategic plan has been replaced with a Quality Experience Framework, to ensure Eventing's Annual Work Plan maximises outcomes to the sport.



Our quality experience framework is a wheel as many aspects contribute to having a quality experience - no one thing in isolation guarantees success. Like a wheel, our experience spins well when everything contributes, and if one area is not working, the experience is like a 'flat tyre' and doesn't spin quite so well.

## **2. Event Analysis / Feedback Survey**

People join and stay in sport for the relationships and experiences they have. A recent article by NZPC riders remarked that Pony Club Champs is where lifetime friendships made.



As the leaders in our sport we have a responsibility to ask and listen to what is important to our community, and act on it, parking our personal preferences, and looking forward to deliver what will keep our riders, officials and volunteers in the sport and what the new wave of up and coming people are seeking to get from participating in Eventing.

Our demographic has also changed, with our community more urban than rurally raised kids of times gone by, brought up with stockmanship skills from helping on the farm and supplied with school master ponies handed down from older siblings and cousins. We must be cognisant of this in our plans.

The Board facilitated survey sent to all riders, officials, organising committee and volunteers at events provides a event-specific report sent to the organising committee. In addition to 'things for improvement' e.g. scheduling and communication, this provides well earned 'pats on the back' for things done well. The intent of the survey is to uplift and improve everyone's experiences. One unintended consequence is that it has given people a channel to pass on their disgruntlements rather than take to social media and that is a massive positive for the culture of Eventing.

## **3. ESNZ Strengthen and Adapt Programme**

ESNZ has been funded by Sport NZ to conduct the Strengthen & Adapt programme. Originally established as a response to Covid, the programme aims to improve the capacity, capability and resilience of national sporting organisations, so they are best positioned to meet the needs of participants into the future.

Roadshows have now been completed and the key themes from the Roadshows are summarised in the [Summary Report](#) on the ESNZ website. Working groups have been formed in response to the results of our post-roadshow questionnaire, directing focus on the areas that respondents saw as being priority.

- membership co design ( supporting riders to ride )
- delivery of events ( supporting riders to ride )
- volunteer pathways ( strengthening the system )

At present, the three groups are in the discussion phase and will be working on producing some changes and outcomes over the course of the year and the Strengthen & Adapt project span. Eventing Board members are on two of the three groups.

ESNZ GM of Community, Jo Colin, is developing work in the "One Equestrian Voice" space and has brought the ESNZ discipline boards (dressage, jumping, eventing, endurance and para)

together to develop the culture and systems needed for 'One Equestrian Voice'. Alongside this ESNZ are working with Taranaki region to look at a "test & learn" around what a regional "One Voice" can do to drive quality equine experiences and competition.

### **The Challenges that never seem to go away**

Everyone who has been involved with our sport will be familiar with the perpetual challenges of financial sustainability and providing a coherent event calendar.

**Coherent Calendar** – There are many moving parts to every OC setting their event dates and I thank everyone for their flexibility when looking at the calendar from a rider and horse perspective to create the most coherent calendar possible. This is a big-ticket item for retaining riders within Eventing and having larger class entries at our pinnacle events.

Two destination events: Adelaide 5\*, the only one in the Southern Hemisphere and our closest one, and LR Horse of the Year, create pressures on our calendar. Adelaide's move to April has unfortunately made it a difficult choice for our top riders as to which event they ride at with our NZODE and NZ3DE championships resultingly suffering from reduced numbers.

**Financial sustainability** - Eventing as we all know is a resource intensive sport and there is no one 'cookie cutter' solution / no 'silver bullet' to assure financial sustainability for the sport across NZ.

The Board has not raised Event levies since 2018 and with the years of Covid and adverse weather challenges, we have continued to resist the necessity to do so, but this cannot go on indefinitely. Finally, we have had to concede and have made the difficult decision to raise fees and levies by 10% from 1 August 2024.

We will continue to look to ways to make Eventing more affordable / accessible for a wider group of riders. National contracts for medics and the horse ambulances are two initiatives we continue to pursue with the support of ESNZ.

**Rising costs** - sometimes its feels like we're paddling upstream. The Board has worked extremely hard to get the NZ3DE Championships to break even position and one reason we reduced the number of Board members was to be more economical. But just when we find ways to reduce expenditure, costs rise. I appreciate you all have experienced this scenario yourselves.

I'd like to acknowledge Julian Bowden, ESNZ CEO, for looking to create partnerships with sponsors which benefit all disciplines across ESNZ, and we welcomed IRT to the Eventing family of sponsors, sponsoring some of the Vet costs at the NZ3DE Championship Event, along side Land Rovers sponsorship of ESNZ.

**Please thank our Sponsors** - We have a tremendous number of sponsors involved in Eventing across all our Horse Trials; too numerous to mention here. I do ask that you support our sponsors by purchasing their products and services and when you do, please tell them it was because of their sponsorship. By doing this you will demonstrate the value for them being involved in our sport and help them make their decision to sponsor Eventing again in the future.

## Looking forward to 2025

**July 2024 Olympic games** – With our Olympic qualification secured at the World Eventing Championships, we look forward to supporting the kiwis as they ride for the podium at the historic Palace of Versailles. At the time of writing this report, the team have not been announced but NZ Selectors are in a great position where they are spoilt for choice.

We can all certainly connect with the FEI's recently released campaign to celebrate equestrian ahead of the Olympics: "Equestrian is just one of the sports to be showcased in Paris, but the unique story of humans and horses forming relationships and working together to achieve greatness sets it apart from the rest. ....In a world where the relationships we make shape who we become, one has flourished for thousands of years. More than a partnership, more than a friendship; It's an unbreakable bond: Horse and human... a bond like no other."



**Development camps** – With the highly successful return of the open development camps this year (post Covid), we will be continuing to provide these in the coming year, again in both islands.

**FEI Officials Seminar** – We will be hosting the second post Covid FEI seminar in November at the Taupō NEC, providing our officials a local seminar to maintain or transfer up their qualifications.

**NZ3DE Championships head to the South Island** – Eventing Canterbury have generously offered to host the pinnacle event of the Calendar, the NZ3DE, in April 2025. In preparation they have spent two years improving the Mclean's Island NEC grounds including:

- Stone removal and levelling of the tracks and warm up areas
- Reseeding all the cross-country tracks
- Installing irrigation, and
- Made a large investment in new jumps

For those that haven't been to the South Island NEC, they have superb dressage arena surfaces and the main oval grass show jumping surface, so combining this with the above improvements it will be good going underfoot.

The timing of the NZ3DE of 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> of April will provide our younger riders the opportunity to combine their trip to the South Island with the Pony Club Champs being held at the Marlborough Equestrian Park 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> April.

High Performance will be encouraging the long listed combinations for Oceania (Melbourne June 2025) to travel to the NZ3DE to provide a good opportunity for selectors to assess who travels well and performs within a mock team environment.

As ESNZ members you'll recall member benefits include Interislander and RD Petroleum discounts, so all in all, we encourage everyone to make the journey to the NZ3DE championships in Christchurch.

### **Thanks to our Generous Land Owners**

This season saw an end of an era, with Eventing Bay of Plenty holding their last event at Riverdale in Ngongotahā before the land is repurposed for housing. We are grateful to its Iwi owners for the time events have been held there. Riders have many special memories of events held there over the last 20 or so years, and we wish BOP all the best for establishing their new home grounds at Te Teko, near Whakatāne.



I am aware Area Groups and Organisation Committee face many challenges in securing and retaining grounds to hold events on, and you work hard to partner with landowners to make it work for both parties. I thought it was timely that we acknowledge that Eventing has been generously supported for many years by private landowners and they deserve recognition for this. Thus, I would like to acknowledge and thank the following private landowners for the use of their properties:

The McKelvie Family – Eventing Central Districts HT

John Nicholson – Kihikihi HT

Silver Fern Farms – Central and Southern Hawkes Bay

John & Denise McGiven – Matamata HT

Tich Massey – Springbush HT

Carmichael and Frew families - Ryal Bush HT

### ***Thanks to our Area Groups and Organising Committees***

Eventing is entirely dependent on volunteers giving freely of their time, energy and knowledge and it is hard to express the depth of gratitude the Board has to everyone involved. The time freely given is often at the expense of time with family, your own riding, and sleep! I sincerely hope your

volunteer experiences and the relationships you've developed within the Eventing community provide you with years of enjoyment and a sense of pride and satisfaction for your contribution.

Whilst a simple spoken thank you is always appreciated; I also encourage everyone to make full use of the volunteer awards available to recognise people for their efforts:

1. [ESNZ Volunteer of the Month](#)
2. [ESNZ Game Changers](#)

### ***Thanks to Our Officials***

Having appropriately qualified officials at events enables, the eventing community to maintain its reputation as a sport of integrity with the welfare of the horse and rider at the very heart of our endeavours.

It takes years of volunteering and study to rise through the ranks of officiating and requires an impressive amount of dedication. Like all volunteers in sports, Officials put far more hours into performing their role and the necessary training and qualifications than they receive recompense for.

Again, it is hard to express the depth of gratitude the Board has to everyone who officiates and our Technical Advisory Group who ensure the integrity of our sport and support people to be the amazing officials that they are.

### ***Signing off for another year***

It has been a privilege to serve as your chair this year and I thank you for entrusting me with the role. I extend my gratitude to all the Board, and especially Rosie, for their support whilst I was injured and recovering. I look forward to working with you over the coming year with our shared passion for Eventing and contribution to its future.



ESNZ Eventing Board 2023-2024:  
Marg, Raewyn, John, Chris, Amanda, Hayley (Sport Manager), Chris, and absent Wendy and Kate

## EVENTING FINANCIAL REPORT:

To: ESNZ Eventing Delegates

Date: July 2024

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Copies of the Financial Statement and Report will be available at the AGM

The financial statements for ESNZ Eventing are draft and will remain that way until approved by the auditor.



*Ashleigh McKinstry & Benny MVNZ – 2024 NZ Warmblood Association Young Event Horse winner. Pictured with Jody Hartstone and Keryn Walton of NZ Warmblood Association*

## EVENTING SPORT MANAGER REPORT:

**To:** ESNZ Eventing Delegates

**From:** Hayley Daigle

**Date:** July 2024

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I am thrilled to present the 2023/2024 ESNZ Eventing Sport Manager report. It is great to be hosting the AGM and Conference for a second year running, in conjunction with the Dressage and Jumping disciplines at the Rydges Hotel in Auckland.

Firmly remaining in our thoughts is the tragic loss of Georgie Campbell. This felt close to home, not only being that the tragedy occurred in our wonderful sport but that this has caused immense heart break for our own Jess Campbell. The tragedy has rocked the Eventing family globally and I think it is safe to say that we all have felt desperately heartbroken for Jesse and Georgie's family and friends. RIP Georgie.

It has been an incredible season with minimal Event cancellations. Cancellations were becoming the norm therefore it is great for all that we were able to have a near full season.

The ever-energetic team of Eventing Canterbury were first to kick off the season with their two-day event held at Eyreton PC. This was closely followed by ESNZ's North and South Island Secondary Schools competition where Arena Eventing incredibly tripled their entries from the previous inaugural year. Before we knew it, the Spring season was well underway across the country.

A highlight of the season for me came early in the form of the North Island Development Camp. Thanks to Amanda Illston, Lizzie Green, Heelan Tompkins and Anne-Marie Styles for getting a Development Camp off the ground and ensured that this camp was a huge success. The camp was held in conjunction with the Jumping development camp which in hindsight, created sharing the space at Taupo NEC a little tricky with the huge numbers Jumping attracted. 42 attendees ranged from children competing at 80cm through to adults competing at 2\*. Glen Draper showed his skills in creating a XC track utilising the amphitheatre to avoid use of the XC Course being set up for the Springbush Horse Trial occurring the following weekend.



A second Development Camp was held at the Dunstan Fiber Fresh Christchurch NEC on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> April 2024. Again, Lizzie and Heelan were the coaches of this camp and were joined by local Dressage rider, Janelle Sangster-Ward to assist with coaching of the dressage phase due to numbers. Cam Robertson was integral in the running of this camp helping with the set up of Dressage and Jumping arenas as well as building a super Cross Country course for the participants to utilise. Thanks to Amanda Illston for her organisation of these two wonderful camps. It was fantastic to be able to host these and look forward to making this a staple of the Eventing calendar.

Thanks to Eventing Wairarapa who were super hosts of the 2023/2024 NZ Young & Junior Rider One Day Championships at their November 2023 Event. The course looked incredible under the construction of Blyth Tait as course designer and the grounds were impeccable.

Following the 2022 forecast and logistical nightmare presented to the Puhinui OC, the sun shone and produced a magical weekend for the 2023 Archibald & Shorter International 3DE. They played host to the Young & Junior Rider 3 Day Champs and saw a nail-biting finish between Christen Lane and Charlotte Penny! Kudos to Charlotte for her sportsmanship where she pipped at the post by 0.1 after leading from the start – she was delighted for Christen who took the win. Clearly, we are very lucky in Eventing with the camaraderie between our riders and the unique situation we find within our Sport.

The long list of the Oceania teams was announced following Puhinui and prior to Christmas with the aim of selection being post Springbush, held at Puhinui. Unfortunately, this Event was not able to go ahead and thankfully the High Performance (HP) team stepped in to arrange a training weekend at Abderry for Dressage & SJ followed by a mock Cross Country round at Tich Massey's Springbush. HP opened this practice Event up to all of those entered at Land Rover Horse of the Year (LRHOY) to ensure North Island combinations had a run post Puhinui, pre LRHOY. Following this practice Event, the Oceania teams were announced, and excitement was building for LRHOY and the Australian's reaching NZ shores!

Attracted by the unique atmosphere at LRHOY which is compared to Aachen, the Australians choose to fill the remaining horse spaces on the plane and bring an additional 4 horses to compete at LRHOY. This was certainly a highlight of the 23/24 Eventing season to host combinations vying for a spot on the Australian Olympic Eventing team!

The logistics of hosting 12 Australian horses and the 30 plus humans that came with them was quite the challenge and required a lot of pivoting and redirection. A huge thanks to LRHOY who played great hosts to the team and their horses despite the huge





task they had with just getting the Event off the ground after such a long hiatus. The feedback from the Australians was fantastic, they loved the Event, were very impressed by the accommodation provided at the Hastings Sports Park and were blown away by the Oceania welcome function.

Luck was not on the NZ Senior Rider team with Aussie taking the Senior trophy back across the Tasman but our YR's displayed true professionalism despite their youth in a pressure cooker, nail biting finish to take away the win!

**SENIOR RIDER TEAM:**

- Charlotte Penny & Festival
- Christen Lane & Bellhaven Cumbria
- Donna Edwards-Smith & DSE Henton for Glory
- Maddison Seivwright & Waitangi Pinterest

**YOUNG RIDER TEAM:**

- Bridie Quigley & Oranoa Greyson
- Mackenzie Marlo & CHS Diplomat
- Mia Gilbert & Schnapps MH
- Scout Lodder & Overnight Success



*Winning Young Rider Oceania team 2024*

Quickly following the Oceania & LRHOY Event, we looked towards Matamata and their superb hosting of the NZ One Day Champs. The grounds were impeccable thanks to the hard work of the McGiven's. A real treat and proof from rider's feedback was the use of the marquee by the SJ arena creating championship atmosphere for prizegiving to take place. The area is perfect for spectating with the surrounding bank. The wrap up from the Event can be found in the Eventing News section on the ESNZ website [here](#). We look forward to Matamata once again being hosts to the 2025 One Day Champs.



*Alena Dorotich & Cassiana Xtreme*



*Maddy & Waitangi Pinterest with Randlab sponsors*

Eventing Southland were hosts to the 2023/2024 South Island Champs and Kihikihi the North Island Champs over the weekend of 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> April. Eventing Southland have provided a fantastic wrap of this Event available on the Eventing News section [here](#). Kihikihi had a great weekend of weather and incredible entries in the 2\* & 3\* classes which was fantastic to see given the dwindling numbers in the upper levels.

A special mention to the Bay of Plenty OC who saw their last Event at the beautiful grounds of the Rotorua A & P showgrounds and the Ngati Whakaue Tribal lands. The Event will now move to Racecourse Park, Otakiri – their first Event being in November. I cannot wait to see the new venue and the great Event this OC will host on new grounds, with a new XC course!

### **NZ Three Day Championships:**

The pinnacle Event of the season is the NZ Three Day Championships and this year was the first that an Event convenor was not appointed meaning the Event was run by the Eventing Board. Thank you to the Eventing Board for your role in bringing the Event together.

I have no doubt that the success of the Event relied on the experience and hard work from Jenny Draper. In the weeks leading up to the Event, Jenny made visits to the NEC and then was onsite from Tuesday – late Sunday evening and was the last packing up in the dark. She truly went above and beyond which I am eternally grateful for.

We were very lucky to have Sandra Marsden who took on the secretary role with an unflappable calmness and incredible organisational skills. It was impressive to see how easily Sandra took on the role, attending weekly evening Zoom sessions leading up to the Event and showing impeccable problem-solving abilities. Thank you so very much Sandra – you are the epitome of the fantastic volunteers we have in NZ.

Thank you to Leanne and Liz who re-joined the NZ3DE team to be the scorers for the Event – your smiley faces in the office create a great atmosphere!

A huge thank you must be made to Rowan Amer for his experience in XC convenor role and experience in Eventing as a whole. I rang Rowan in the month leading up to the Event worrying about pulling this Event off and he calmly stated in his Rowan way “not to worry, we’ll get it done”! He is another who committed an uncountable number of hours at the NEC in the lead up and during the Event, mostly of which goes unnoticed.

Thanks to the other convenors for their incredible hard work – Jenny Nelson is a gem whose organisational skills are fantastic. Kirsten Kelly was onsite with her expertise and skills in supporting the Horse Inspections and providing an avenue on tips and tricks for the trot up.

Thanks to John Bellarby and Louise Illston for their roles of our Announcing Team which was completed brilliantly. Thanks to Eliza Johns and Jo Collins of High Performance & ESNZ for their help at prizegiving.

We are very blessed with the quality and dedication of the Officials we have in NZ – thank you to the whole Officiating team for their hard work in ensuring the Event was a success. It was great to hang out with the Stewarding team at arrival inspections – despite the busyness of the Officials roles, they really do have some fun! The foreign Official was Polly-Ann Huntington – Polly commented on the quality of the National Equestrian Centre (NEC) and how much it has improved since her last visit so kudos to the NEC staff and Convenors.

We were extremely lucky and thankful to our sponsors of the Event for 2024 – Wade Coaches, Fiber Fresh, NRM, Land Rover, Canter for Cancer, Oranoa Sport Horses, Penny Homes, For the Love of the Sport -Celebrating Volunteers (mystery sponsor!), NZ Warmblood Association, Equilume, MiEqui, Brandright, Equissage, IRT. Thank you for your unwavering support of the Event, without which we would be unable to host this Event.

We were sad to see NZPH not resign for sponsorship for the 2024 Event after their long-standing support which we are grateful for. We welcomed NZ Warmblood Association to the Event for sponsorship of the Young Event Horse class. There is a focus on improvement of record keeping of the breed and age of horses – currently, you can enter any information into the ESNZ database which has resulted in misinformation being stored and shared against the horse at competitions. This is a disservice to the hard work from the breeders of our competition horses. Jody Hartstone was instrumental in checking the breed information of the 24 horses entered in the Young Event Horse class and provided information on how you can verify this information in the ESNZ database – this was reassuring knowing that the horses were represented correctly. Looking to the future, verifying the horses breed is likely to become a requirement upon registering your horse with ESNZ.

We were fortunate with the grant applications this year. I submitted five applications in total requesting \$61,278 in total. All five were successful in partial funding for a total of \$53,000 (ex GST) which is an improvement on the success rate from the two previous years:

- One Foundation: \$10k
- NZCT: \$15k
- AGT: \$15k
- Lion Foundation: \$8k
- Grassroots Trust: \$5k

Congratulations to the winners and placegetters of the NZ3DE but special mention must go to young Charlotte Penny and Festival. They led the field from the start, finishing on their very respectable dressage score of 30.8.

We are lucky for the generosity of NZ TB Racing with NZTR providing sponsorship for the TB in Equestrian Sports (TiES) again for 2023/2024 season. Congratulations to Stephanie-Kate Vervoort & Zachariah O'Herr who won the Eventing TiES Series and the recipient of \$2000! These combinations were celebrated at the NZ3DE Equissage Riders Function.

NZTR also sponsored prizes for the top 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> TB in each of the class from 1\*-4\* at the NZ3DE. The list of these winners is on the event wrap on the ESNZ website [here](#).



*TiES Eventing Series winners*

### **2023/2024 Eventing Series:**

The 2023/2024 Series Awards winners were again recognised at the Equissage Rider's Function on the Friday night of the NZ3DE at Taupo. Despite the cold Taupo weather and a malfunction of the heaters, we had a great turn out of riders, sponsors and supporters attend the Equissage Riders Function in the mezzanine area of the Indoor Arena.

Learnings from this evening are that pizzas are popular amongst Eventers and their support team where 35 pizzas were quickly engulfed! We were lucky to have NRM complete a nutrition presentation and an interview with three team members of the Young Rider Oceania winners.



*L-R: Bridie Quigley, Mia Gilbert, Scout Lodder  
– Oceania Interview at NZ3DE*

We were also fortunate to have sponsorship from Equilume where two masks were given away after drawing names

from a hat for the 3\* and 4\* riders. The lucky rider from the 4\* was Charlotte Penny and Donna Edwards-Smith in the 3\*.



*Charlotte Penny*



*Donna Edwards-Smith*

Congratulations to the winners and placegetters of the Series. It was fantastic that we were able to celebrate your success with the majority of you in person – thanks to Katie Cammock for her participation in collecting rosettes for those who weren't in attendance! For full results please visit Evo Events, under Series results.

## National title winners

### Young & Junior Rider One Day Championships – Wairarapa (November 2023)

- Charisma Trophy: Emma Kitchingman & Foxtonian
- Hoffman Trophy: Not awarded

### Young & Junior Rider Three Day Championships – Puhinui (December 2023)

- Swarbrick Trophy: Mackenzie Marlo & DSE Presley
- Lenamore Trophy: Scout Lodder & Kingsguard

### National One Day Championships – Matamata (March 2024)

- Forest Gate: Maddison Seivwright & Waitangi Pinterst
- Waiteko Trophy: Alena Dorotich & Cassiana Xtreme
- Ferndale Trophy: Charlotte Penny & Carousal
- Tait Trophy: Beth Wilson & Cash Xtreme

### New Zealand Three Day Championships – Taupo (May 2024)

- Wills Trophy: Charlotte Penny & Festival
- Picadilly Trophy: Mia Gilbert & Schnapps MH
- Mamaku Trophy: Ashleigh McKinstry & Pinoeer Tenacity
- Thomson Trophy: Helen McGrath & Woodbine Glide Time
- Mary Bowling Memorial: Ashleigh McKinstry & Benny MSNZ
- Caseley Trophy: Charlotte Penny & Festival
- Atlantic Silver Spurs: North Island (Charlotte Penny & Festival, Mia Gilbert & Schnapps MH, Scout Lodder & Overnight Succes, Bridie Quigley & Oranoa Greyson)



*Beth Wilson & Cash Xtreme at One Day Champs*

### **XC Style Prize:**

The XC Style Prize was in affect for the 2023/2024 season and is a fantastic method of recognising grassroots riders and encouraging safe Cross Country riding. It is heartwarming and one of my favourite aspects of the role when informing the winners!

This year we celebrated 12 combinations selected by Events and acknowledged on social media and the 10 minute box. The Rider Shop and Rangiora Equestrian are incredibly generous with the sponsorship of this initiative.



*Kaya Cruise & Digger*

*Winners of the Rangiora Equestrian Supplies & The Rider Shop XC Style Prize at Rotorua Spring Horse Trial*

### **Technical Advisory Group (TAG)**

There are five people within our sport who fly mostly under the radar with their commitment and dedication over and above that of a volunteer:

- Tich Massey – Course Design
- Jenny Draper – Judges
- Wendy Lansdown – Technical Delegates and Chair
- Hamish Butler-Gallie – National Safety Officer
- Janene Maxwell – Stewards

The above individuals are all incredibly skilled and are a wealth of knowledge in all Technical aspects of Eventing – they continue to be the greatest support to me in the Sport Manger role of which I am eternally grateful for. You will see these five Officials out and about most weekend during the Eventing season Officiating and supporting Events.

They have also arranged and implemented two successful Seminars throughout NZ over the 2023/2024 season to ensure that our Officials statuses remain current – Waikato Equestrian Centre and Wellington. Looking ahead, TAG have made a plan for the Spring 2024 season to host seminars in the areas required for local Officials. Hamish attended the NZPCA run Officials workshop held in May 2024 at Eyreton PC and reported that this was an incredibly worthwhile exercise. If anyone is considering becoming an Official, these Seminars are a fantastic place to start and are free to attend. Any questions on becoming an Official, please do not hesitate to ask myself or one of the TAG members.

TAG continue to be fantastic assessors of the FEI rules and were again instrumental in providing feedback to the FEI for consideration of changes to the current and proposed rules. This included ensuring the difficulties we have with meeting FEI requirements amongst our small numbers of FEI Officials and the cost required to fund foreign Officials to Events remains top of mind for the FEI when implementing rules.

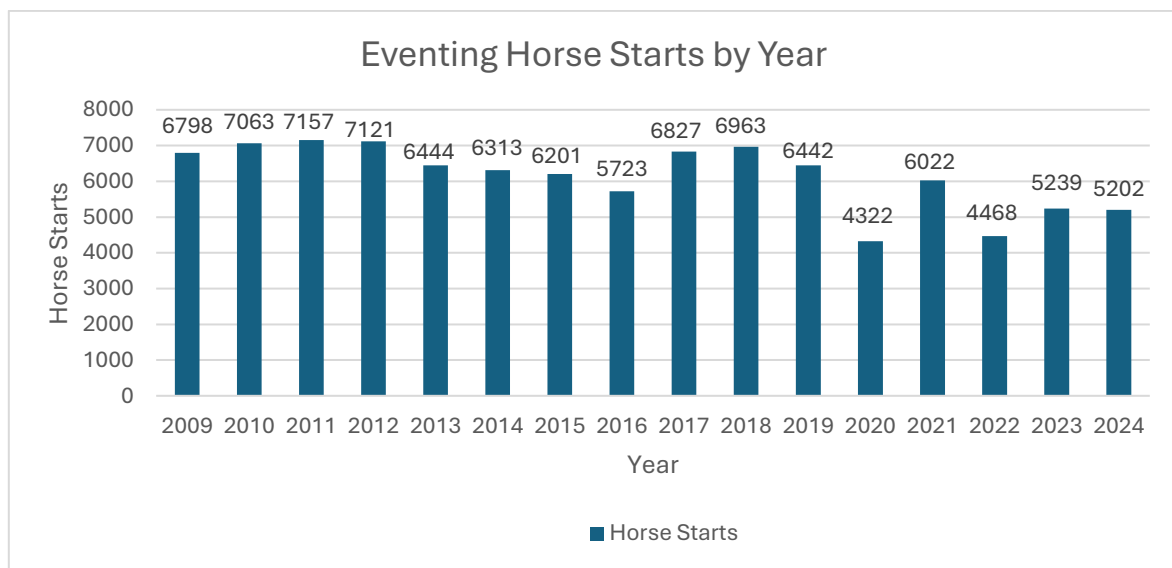
Notably, TAG queried Article 549.41 – jumping an activated frangible fence element not correctly restored results in elimination. What was not considered by the FEI and therefore not included in the FEI rules was the scenario of a horses momentum carrying them through the flags of an activated frangible and that time should be taken whilst the frangible device is restored. Another similar oversight was picked up in the 2024 FEI Dressage Tests where the notes on the 3\* and 4\* tests stated that the rider could sit or rise. These oversights were not picked up by other Federations and were both corrected by the FEI. They are examples of the knowledge and thoroughness of the TAG committee. They are also only two examples of many, of the fantastic work they complete over the season.

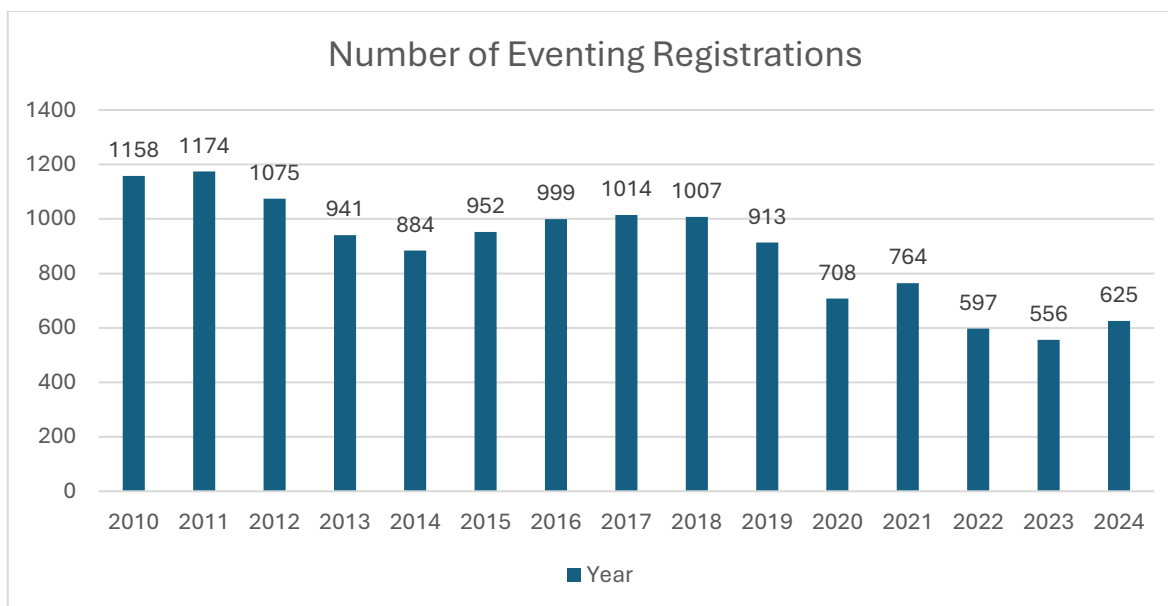
As a part of the Chair role, Wendy also attends the Eventing Board and the ESNZ Technical Committee meetings. She plays a vital role in these meetings and brings a very practical approach to decision making. Thank you for all that you do Wendy.

### Eventing Annual Starts & Eventing Registrations – 2023/2024

The two indicators we utilise as a part of determining growth and participation of Eventing are:

1. Eventing Annual Horse Starts; the levy collected off each horse which starts a competition (recorded by a dressage mark) across all events where ESNZ Eventing levies are collected (CCN, CCI, Express Events and Arena Eventing)
2. Eventing Registrations; horse registrations required to specifically compete in Eventing as purchased via ESNZ. The Annual start is required to compete at CCN1\* and above or if you wish to compete in a National Series. Alternatively, you can purchase Casual Starts for the Event.





Looking forward to the 2024/2025 season, below are the larger ticket items on the agenda:

- We are host to the FEI Officials seminar again in 2024. Thanks to Eventing Taupo OC for their agreement to host at their Event in November once again. I am excited to report that the FEI have also asked NZ to host the FEI Level 1 CD Workshop on the Monday and Tuesday following the seminar. This will attract newly appointed Level 1 CD's from NZ and Australia and is attributed to the skilled Officials we have in the country for the FEI to approach us.
- We have a small amount of 80321 & 80328 MIM clips left in stock at my barn in Karaka. I will therefore be calling for another order of MIM's from OC's and CD's over winter
- I am incredibly excited for the NZ3DE to be hosted by in Canterbury in 2025 and look forward to supporting this well-established team however possible.
- Planning of and implementation in conjunction with High Performance of NZL Oceania teams to travel to Melbourne in June 2025
- Revision of the ESNZ Eventing Series

Thank you to the Eventing Board for the dedication, time and practicality in progressing the sport. You continue to take time away from your busy lives and family to commit to Eventing. Raewyn Eastwood has once again been a wonderful Chair and provided endless hours of support to me despite having an incredible busy life outside of Eventing. Rosie Edwards has been a great Deputy Chair and stepped up to the NZ3DE sub committee chair role brilliantly despite an also busy life outside of Eventing and travelling to Adelaide to watch her clever daughter compete in her first 5\*.

I feel as though the Board are functioning incredibly well together and that is kudos to the great minds around the table. It is great to welcome Kate Rouch to the Board – she is a very accomplished professional and will be a great asset. In between the strategic discussions at the meetings, we certainly enjoy each other's company and are able to have a laugh together!

Thanks to Amanda for her role in creating the Eventing calendar which continues to be the least desired job in Eventing! This year has definitely been a juggle with Australia announcing Oceania to be held in Melbourne in early June and subsequently ensuring adequate time for combinations to travel to Christchurch for the NZ3DE before jetting off to Australia to compete in another long

format event. Thank you to Eventing Canterbury for their flexibility in hosting the NZ3DE mid-April and for the understanding of the other OC's to move their Events away from their normal spot in the calendar.

Lastly, thank you to all Officials and members of Organising Committee's across the country. You continue to amaze me with your unwavering support of time, dedication and often financial commitment to this great sport. One of my favourite aspects of attending Events is witnessing the laughter, camaraderie and fun that is seen between Officials and members of the OC in amongst the madness that ensues with running an Event! We are all there to provide a quality Event for riders and horses – this commitment is clear in the quality volunteers we are lucky to have.



*Brittany Tilson at Norther Hawkes Bay Horse Trial*



## HIGH PERFORMANCE

### ESNZ Eventing High Performance Annual Report 2023-2024

**To:** ESNZ Eventing Delegates

**From:** Jonathan Paget

**Date:** July 2024

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#### **UK Programme**

The Eventing programme has been solely focused on the Paris Olympics over the last 12 months. 2022 and 2023 saw a major focus on team events using the Nations cup circuit, both developing combinations who were lacking team experience and testing the experienced combinations under the team environment with the pressure of riding to win for the team. We made the most of these experiences for horse/rider combinations as well as staff and coaches. At the end of 2023 it was time to shift our focus to Individual preparations, to ensure that every horse was getting what they need, to be at their best for Paris. This is on the basis that we had got as much as we could out of the team experiences, and it was more beneficial to individualise the preparations.

At the time of writing this report, we are in the process of selecting the team and the reserve combinations for Paris. The selectors have a tough job on their hands as there is a really strong group to choose from, all capable of contributing to a team medal. Aachen CHIO 3rd – 6th July will be an opportunity to function as a team on our non Paris horses, here we can test our processes one last time. It isn't a targeted event for us this year, which means it will be used to prepare the team for Paris and give any Aachen 2026 World Champs potential combinations an opportunity to experience the venue.

#### **Coaching:**

Over the last 12 months we have engaged with a number of specialist coaches, to hone in on the finer details of our Paris combinations. Chris Burton worked with us over multiple training days and competitions in both the Cross Country and Jumping phases. Captain Mark Phillips has worked with us on the XC phase with Paris specific lines. We have also engaged Gareth Hughes for the Dressage which has been very popular and effective for all riders, the plan is for Gareth to be in our Pre Paris camp and at Paris itself. Luis Alvarez Cevera has recovered from an injury which he had earlier in the year and was in attendance at Luhmuhlen to work with those Paris combinations for their last targeted run. Luis will also be supporting the team in the Pre Paris camp as well as the Olympics.

#### **Pre Paris Camp**

On the 18th of July, the team will arrive in Haras du pin for our pre-paris camp. This is being held at the venue of the 2023 European Championships. We will have full access to the Cross Country course and all sub-irrigated surfaces which will be the same as the surfaces used in Paris. We are approximately two hours from the Olympic venue and will have six days in camp prior to our arrival. The purpose of the camp is to put the finishing touches on, come together as a team and focus without the distraction of at home businesses and other competitions. Most importantly, we are removing the risk of a horse arriving at the Olympics with any travel related issues. There have been many

disruptions travelling from the UK to Europe with horse trucks and on some occasions, horses are being held up for 10 hours at the boarder to be processed. By arriving a week early, we can deal with any disruptions and ensure the horses are in peak performance for the championship.

### **LA Strategy**

Following the Paris Olympics, we are quickly having to re-focus our attention on the LA cycle with the HPSNZ funding application due in October. Since Tokyo, we have made a number of strategic shifts to the HP system, including a whole of sport approach to include our other Olympic disciplines. We learned a lot from the Tokyo cycle and have implemented these strategic shifts with positive outcomes in many areas. A major focus for the Eventing programme has been to build depth with championship specific horsepower, we are in a much stronger position than we have been for some time in this regard but need to continue building and refining to ensure championship success. There are no significant changes to the LA strategy apart from refinement and simplification. We believe in the strategic pillars and will continue to improve these.

### **New Zealand Programme**

The New Zealand Eventing Programme continued its commitment to excellence and development in the 2023-24 season.

The annual multi-discipline High Performance Equestrian off horse camp was held in Hawkes Bay in May 2023 at the Hawkes Bay Sports Park and shared with the Dressage and Jumping disciplines. The riders enjoyed team building activities, workshops from High Performance Sport New Zealand providers in psychology, strength and conditioning as well as an overview of ESNZ and also the High Performance system from Jock Paget and Julian Bowden. The team enjoyed a water session on the Clive river of Waka Ama with the Hawkes Bay Waka Ama group, the camp concluded leaving everyone inspired and energised with a talk from Olympian and Men's Hockey Black Stick, Shea McAleese. After the June selection review, the Eventing programme ran another off-horse camp in Cambridge. This 'Induction Camp' was a new concept designed to induct and immerse new athletes within the existing team. The camp was successful in outlining the expectations of the programme set forth by Jock Paget and Lizzie Green. Providers from the HPSNZ system covering psychology, nutrition, strength and conditioning, team building, yoga and breath work sessions. Maddy Seivwright recently back from Eventing in Europe and Australia spoke to the group and shared some learnings from her experience competing abroad.

As part of our 'Online Learning Series' and as pre season prep we hosted a session on Women's Health relating to Equestrian sport with Emily Cavell and a Pre-season Health and Fitness Equine learning session facilitated by vet Georgie Johnston, both sessions were open to the wider HP group of athletes.

The season commenced with a successful cross-country camp held at Taupo, led by designers Chris Ross and Tich Massey. This camp had a strategic focus on preparing the team for the Oceania Championships at Horse of the Year in 2024, aligning with the programme's long-term goal of developing athletes for targeted championships.

Throughout the year, a series of ongoing camps and coaching sessions were conducted with programme coaches Penny Pearce, Jeff McVean, Blyth Tait and Lizzie Green. Additionally, Te Hapaitanga and Kia Manawanui coach Heelan Tompkins joined the programme as an eventing specialist coach, bringing her valuable expertise and experience to the team.

Open Development camps, sponsored by High Performance Eventing was held in Taupo in the spring and Christchurch in the autumn using HP coaches Lizzie Green and Heelan Tompkins with additional coaching support from Annie Styles in Taupo. The camp utilized a 'jump club' style format for dressage,

showjumping and cross country with courses built by Glen Draper at Taupo and Cam Robertson in Christchurch. This innovative approach proved to be successful for riders to practice their approach to each phase with the guidance of the coach in the ring for instant feedback and re-run throughs. As always these camps are excellent for talent spotting pre HP athletes, testament to the programme's dedication to nurturing emerging athletes.

Yard visits were conducted with Heelan Tompkins, Blyth Tait, and Lizzie Green, providing valuable insights and personalized guidance to the athletes. The programme ran more 'one day' clinics within the regions, to reduce the effect of excess travel on the horses and riders and these were well supported.

As the focus shifted towards the Oceania Championships in 2024, the teams were preparing to compete at Horse of the Year. A pre season XC camp was held this time at Tich Masseys Hunua property with assisted course design from Chris Ross. The riders also had an 'Online Evening' with 2023 Kentucky 5\* winner Tamie Smith, ably interviewed by our psychologist Jason Yuill-Proctor. All Oceania long listed riders were invited.

Challenging weather lead to the cancellation of key lead-in events, the programme adapted by organising its own competition-style event at Abderry for the dressage and showjumping and Hunua for cross-country, in Auckland. This event was open to all Horse of the Year entries, showcasing the programme's flexibility and commitment to the community. Programme coaches were on the ground to offer assistance and guidance to all riders.

The campaign for the young rider team yielded success, providing valuable learning experiences and for the seniors a thorough debriefing process conducted post-event which resulted in many great conversations and learnings.

Notably, Taupo proved to be a successful competition, with Charlotte Penny winning the 4\* long with Festival and Mia Gilbert securing victory in the 3\* long category with Schnapps MH after an ongoing involvement since Horse of the Year.

Talent ID applications were strong this year and the April camp held at Taupo received good support with some exciting up and coming riders gaining selection into the programme as well as some potential wild cards for the future to keep an eye on.

### Summary

Overall it has been a big year as expected, both in regard to building for the Paris Olympics and continuously refining our HP pathway and delivery. We have had a good campaign into Paris with a lot of learning and development, the depth we have to select from is a testament to the HP programme and we are well positioned to hit our target of a team podium result. There is a lot of great work going on in the NZ based program led by Lizzie Green and we are excited for the future as we build into the LA cycle.



Jonathan Paget  
High Performance Central



Warrick Allan



Eliza Johns



Lizzie Green  
Eventing High Performance Manager (NZ)

## EVENTING TECHNICAL REPORT:

To: ESNZ Eventing Delegates  
From: Technical Advisory Group (TAG)  
Date: July 2024

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### **Technical Committee:**

Jenny Draper - Judges  
Janene Maxwell - Stewards  
Tich Massey - Course Designers  
Hamish Butler Gallie - National Safety Officer  
Wendy Lansdown - Technical Delegates and Chair

### **Rules:**

The Rule changes for the 2024-2025 season are fairly minor. The below are the Articles that have some changes in them.

Article 630 – ESNZ Eventing Technical Advisors

Article 631 – Appointment of Officials

Article 633 – Minimum Eligibility Requirements for Horse and Athlete

Article 634 - Athlete Welfare

Article 639 – Dangerous Riding

Article 640 – Abuse of Horse

Article 663 – Rules Governing the Cross Country Test

Article 664 - Courses

Article 667 – Definition of Faults

Annex 2 SJ Speed and obstacle numbers for 95

I encourage all Riders and Officials to read the updated Rules when they are published on the Website to stay current with the minor changes.

### **Education and Development of Officials**

Over the last season we have run three seminars: Waikato and two in Canterbury. One was at McLeans Island and one was mainly for Pony Clubs. These have all been very well attended and thanks must go to the facilitators who ensure that the sessions are relevant and positive.

National Safety Officer Hamish Butler Gallie produced a fabulous new document on pegging and pinning portable fences. These are guidelines, supporting Organising Committees to work towards best practice by applying for funding for the appropriate pinning equipment.

At a National level we have continued to upgrade officials through the assessment process and have been very pleased with the quality of new officials coming onto List 3.

	New List 3				Transfers from List 3 to List 2				Transfers from List 2 to List 1			
	21	22	23	24	21	22	23	24	21	22	23	24
Season ending:	21	22	23	24	21	22	23	24	21	22	23	24
Technical Delegates	0	1	4	4	1	3	1	3	1	0	1	1
Course Designers	8	4	4	2	3	1	0	2	0	1	1	0
Cross Country Judges	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1
Stewards	8	3	4	5	0	1	0	3	NA	NA	NA	NA

### **FEI Education System and Officials**

This year we have moved one Ground Jury member to FEI Level 1. The FEI Education system requires all FEI Officials to complete annual online assessments which support learning and current rules and technology.

We were very pleased to have a CD and TD transfer up to Level 2 at the Sydney FEI seminar in November.

Eventing New Zealand is very fortunate to have Neil McKenzie Hall on the FEI Eventing Committee. Neil is one of New Zealand's most experienced Officials and is a great asset to Eventing worldwide. He is able to give us a huge insight into trends and thinking happening on the world stage and to be our voice around rules and issues that are important to Australasia.

Lastly I would like to thank my colleagues on TAG. This group of people spend many hours on Zoom calls, writing and rewriting rules, composing newsletters, and answering queries to make our Sport enjoyable and safe. A huge thank you to Hayley Daigle who attends our Zoom meetings after hours and does all the leg work for us. Thanks also to the Eventing Board for all the work done behind the scenes to keep this Sport that we all love moving forward.



*TD Debra Gibson at NZ3DE 2024*

## NATIONAL EQUESTRIAN CENTRE – CHRISTCHURCH:

To: ESNZ Eventing Delegates

From: Nick Pyke

Date: July 2024

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The Christchurch NEC celebrated 40 years from its first competition this year. There have been massive changes from those early years when eventing took place on an old riverbed with scattered gorse bushes over it. The reputation for stones has gradually got less and less and the recent levelling, stone burying and new grass on the training ground is a further step to create a venue with ground conditions well suited to eventing.

Although it has been nearly 40 years since the last time the National 3DE (1985) was held at the NEC one of the obstacles the Trust Bank is still regularly used and the original water jump first used in 1985 (see photo) was only removed last year. It is fitting that the National 3DE is returning to the South Island and to a vastly improved NEC next year. We hope it will be supported in the same way by those from the North Island as it was all those years ago. Attached photos from the early events and now highlight the differences in the cross country area.

The Christchurch NEC has had another busy year.

Some key points are:

- The stone burying and re-grass has been very successful. A few small areas will require compost to further improve the surface.
- New covered yards were completed and commissioned.
- A new large robotic mower was purchased to mow the Hampton Oval and surrounding areas further improving the surface and markedly reducing labour requirements.
- The new large all weather arena was completed and commissioned.
- The original water jump was removed and resurfaced to provide further areas for warm up for show jumping and warm-up areas were aerated, had soil and sand applied to create a better surface for jumping warm up.

The NEC hosted 4 Eventing Canterbury events (3 of which were FEI events), a number of twilight training days, derby days, schools Eventing, eventing training camps, venue for pony club events and provides the opportunity for many athletes to train over cross country fences.

The NEC has been supported by a very engaged and effective committee which has a good vision for the future of equestrian sports. A big thank you to all committee members and to Don Robertson the convenor for the enthusiasm and effort they all make in ensuring the NEC is a success.



New covered yards



40 year celebration drive around



40 year celebration



Water jump National 3DE 1985 – removed last year.



Gorse and rough ground 1987



New grass after stone burying – Spring 2023

## NATIONAL EQUESTRIAN CENTRE – TAUPO:

To: ESNZ Eventing Delegates  
From: Jenny Draper  
Date: July 2024

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The NEC's main man Wally Neiderer step down as convenor this year and with all his history and knowledge of the place it was definitely a big ask for anyone to fill that role. Thankfully we had a very enthusiastic and sport knowledgeable person to take this on in the form of Toni McIntosh. Toni has a lot of knowledge of running events and a passion to see the centre moving forward for the future.

The Centre is looking great, with maintenance being done on yards and grounds and presenting a good picture for anyone wanting to hold events there whether that be equestrian or the increasing interest from other activities.

Other work that has been done this year is a major effort on compliance and Health and Safety. We are extremely lucky to have on the committee Kate Honour, who works in this sphere, and who has done many, many hours sorting through what needed doing, or re-doing, appointments with the appropriate people and also sorting a system that will mean that the NEC is kept compliant on all fronts in the future. I don't think a person without specific knowledge in the field could have fought their way through all this legislation. Thank you, thank you for doing this Kate.

Logan and Karen have moved on to their next adventure finishing at the Centre in April but have left the centre looking great. I would like to thank them for all their work and it was a pleasure working with them and I wish them well in the future.

It has been noted across all the disciplines that there have been fewer entries at events and of course that effects the centres finances and therefore there has been some re-structuring around employment roles. Logan and Karen aren't being replaced but the two part-time caretaker roles have become full-time and the administration at present is being done by Cathy Vennel on a voluntry basis until such time as we have a clearer idea how the finances for the coming year will look. Again we should be thanking these people for their efforts.

We have had a few working bees to help clear up the mess from the cyclone, the upside being we have a good supply of logs for jump building. Grounds have been mowed more this year, so looking good. No major projects are underway at present, but we still have a our wish list of extending the water jump, a bank complex and perhaps more smoothing of the ground.

I am standing down from my role on the NEC committee which I have had for several years as I think its time for someone else to bring their talents to the committee. I am sure they will enjoy the role as it's a tremendous as the centre is such a tremendous asset to the equestrian community.

## NZ3DE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT:

To: ESNZ Eventing Delegates  
From: Rosie Edwards  
Date: July 2024

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This event ran from 9 – 12 May 2024. As usual this was made possible by a large team of volunteers, stewards, officials and course designers. Due to the inability to replace the convener who resigned after the 2023 event, this role was picked up by the three-day event subcommittee of the Eventing Board, and the generous assistance of Eventing Board Sport Manager Hayley Daigle who made a significant contribution. The quality of the event was enhanced by the willingness from Board members Marg Evans, John Alexander – event treasurer, Amanda Illston and Chris Perkins. We were quickly joined by Jenny Draper, Wendy Lansdown whose experience, knowledge and can-do attitude was immediately recognised and appreciated. Sandra Pervis was a valuable addition to the zoom meetings that became a weekly occurrence closer to the event.

Liz Plowman and Leanne Larmer returned to the office as official scorers and brought a fun and professional attitude. Acting on feedback from the office last year, additional staff were in the office to interact with queries as needed. Sandra brought her experience to the Event Secretary role, and with Jenny, Hayley, Marg and myself also in the office it was a hub of efficiency. Changes were made to the payment and assigning yards building on last year's experiences and ran more smoothly. Hamish Butler- Gallie stepped into the Chief Technical Delegate and provided steady leadership. A suggestion that a filing system used in the past was readapted to provide "pigeon holes".

The event is run as lean as possible while striving to provide an exciting and challenging event for competitors. This requires significant volunteer input in a number of areas.

Rider communication appeared smoother this year with running sheets in several areas, improved text communication (not Vodaphone), and experience with the PA system which seemed to work better in the truck park. Although the change to the running of the second trot up was not communicated as well as possible. There needs to be further consideration given to individual communication as texts are not available to all. Could a WhatsApp be used?

We elected to have a printed program following feedback from last year. Improved visibility of an available printed program could help with sales of this in the future. There were mixed views on whether a printed program was necessary. We also elected not to charge entry fee to the general public on cross-country day. In the future we could invite various schools or recreation groups to view the cross-country in action.

The riders came from Northland to Southland and were engaged and appeared to enjoy the event. There was a reduction in enquiries to the office and stabling ran smoothly. There was one query early on to the office for a person requesting where they could land their helicopter! Once it was realised this was not a prank they were directed to the airport.

Due to the early signing of the Cross-Country Course Designers contracts we were able to apply for Grants in a timely fashion (approx. 13K up on last year)– thank you Hayley and John. This included Aotearoa Gaming Trust \$1500, Grassroots Trust, Lion Foundation \$8k, and NZ Community Trust \$1500.

The sponsors are valuable contributors and prize winners were encouraged to thank and acknowledge them through social media and spending.



*NRM CCI3\*-L winners: Mia Gilbert & Schnapps MH pictured with sponsors*

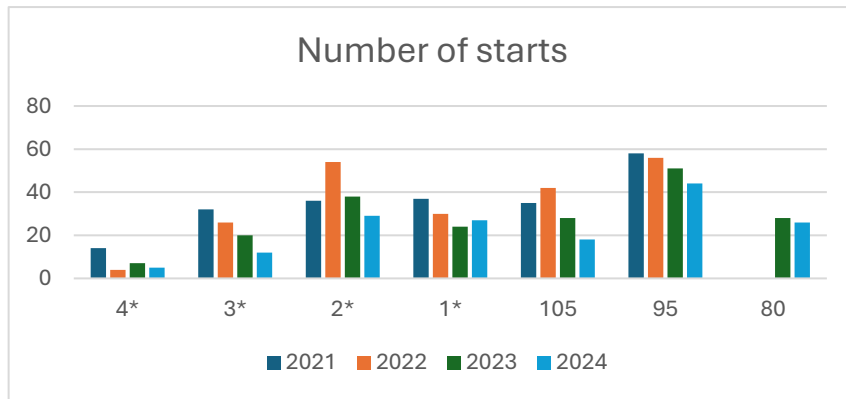
It was decided to run the 80 cm class again this year. This placed additional pressure on the program at the possibility fog has to be considered as this can delay the start of the cross country, which then in turn puts pressure on enough day light at the end of the day. Heavy fog was present on Sunday during the show jumping and young event horse until approximately 10:30 am. If this had been on a cross-country day the start would have been delayed. The cold weather with the fog closed one of the trot up lanes as it was iced over.

The 80 and 95 cm classes ran a day earlier, starting on Thursday, with all other classes starting on Friday. The 80 and 95 cm classes were all required to trot up prior to the dressage and following cross-country. There is still a level of education that is required for riders at this level to understand expectations of presentation of both themselves and the horse. Overall, it seemed to run well.

There were less starters this year, and also less scratchings, but this is likely to have had an impact on the finances.

Entries were down a little across nearly all classes:

	2021	2022	2023	2024
4*	14	4	7	5
3*	32	26	20	12
2*	36	54	38	29
1*	37	30	24	27
105	35	42	28	18
95	58	56	51	44
80			28	26



Overall % scratchings were 13.1%.

We removed the open classes and ran championship classes only, other than 80 and 95cm.

The young event horse had a large number of entries, 23, and ran well despite the early morning fog. Thank you to Su Jenkins as young event horse convener, and Campbell Draper for course design.

There are likely several reasons for the decreased numbers especially at the higher levels with competing agendas such as Adelaide and Paris. The survey sent out to all riders, officials, volunteers may provide some answers to why there were less entries in the lower classes, especially 95 and 105.

There was a positive return for prize money for all classes other than 4\*. With 2\* followed by 1\*, then 80cm providing the highest return. The financial details are to be provided separately.

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The following feedback re dressage, jumping and cross country includes opinion from Hamish Butler-Gallie.

### Dressage

Running dressage in Landcorp arenas and its excellent surface is best option and should be the norm for FEI classes. The grass arena needs a lot of work to bring it up to an acceptable standard due to significant drainage and surface problems especially for autumn and early spring events.

There was an admin problem with dressage test that took a bit of investigation and sorting out. Dressage admin was excellent and judging of all classes including non FEI classes to the required level.

### Jumping

The grass arena needs to be brought up to standards for autumn events. The Landcorp arena surface should be used for FEI classes. The arena is too small for 4\*, this means 4\* needs to run at 350mpm and not 375mpm. This means that a course change is required between 3 star and 4 star as they cannot run the same course at the same speed.

### Cross Country

#### XC Course

The XC courses were all ready in time and maps available in plenty of time for TDs and for office. The XC courses were all well-presented and up to standard both intensity and difficulty as well as height. The use of different designers means each track has its own flavour and each designer has time to ensure track is ready and to standard. This year the starts for all FEI tracks around a single large warm

up area was achieved thanks primarily to Mike Guilfoyle who co-ordinated with John(3 star) and Chris Ross (4 star) and set up the warm up roping of area. The need for bigger XC warm up areas has been identified through the many event surveys now completed. At the 80 and 95 levels the warm up area was crowded. It had been intended that they first warmed up on the sand and only a certain number went through to the grass area prior to their round. Unfortunately, this did not occur and needs to be better managed in the future.

### **XC roping**

Over the last 3 years this has got better and better. XC roping at Taupo is a health and safety issue helping to keep spectators and horse away from one another. Further consideration needs to be given to the roping to ensure visibility. Loose horses can travel at speed and need to see the roping. A loose horse pulled out a number of pigtales and was grazed from the electric tape, and pulled the roping into the practice area which luckily was not very busy. Painted wooden/plastic stakes and string are the best option. The OCs and CDs need to take XC roping and seriously especially for FEI where it is expected and standard practice overseas.

### **XC Control**

The radios were excellent and worked everywhere on course. They all worked all day with no need to swap out radios due to batteries going dead.

The control team were also excellent and documentation and preparation of the Controller could not be faulted. Jenny Pearce excelled herself and has been titled supreme controller!

### **XC fences**

All tracks were to standard and frangible fences were present especially in 3 Star track. The fences all met the leading-edge requirement.

The level of frangible fences at NEC Taupo is well below what is expected. For the event a lot of 3 Star fences were brought in by the CD. This needs to be part of the NEC Taupo future planning. And to consider frangible fences mobile ideally. The existing stock of boxes (tables / ramps etc) are in need of a tidy up (repair and paint/stain). A review and update of the fence stocktake to identify fences that need tidy up, need repair, need adapting, need retiring and replacing

### **XC Footing**

As always this is excellent and up to the best anywhere. The repair work to the galloping tracks in the trees was needed and was excellent - thank you Rowen. The amphitheatre was used this year by both 3 star and 2 star as well as lower levels. This is excellent piece of terrain but needs work to bring footing up to the same level as rest of the course. The planned work on the upper ground linking the amphitheatre to the rest of the course has begun and planned to be usable when the NZ3DE returns to Taupo in 2026.

### **XC and Landcorp**

Access to Landcorp is essential if 3L and 4L events are to be run at Taupo.

### **XC Schedule**

In the past two tracks at 105/1\* and 2\* levels were needed because of number of entries and there was greater access to Landcorp. Running two XC course simultaneously at 105/1\* and 2\* level places

too much admin and logistic requirements today. However, running 80 and 95 tracks simultaneously can be achieved as logistics are much less - jump numbers / distance etc.

Thank you Hamish (with some minor editing).

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The Series awards was again a popular event and Hayley did a fantastic job as MC. The pizzas were a popular addition!

Thank you to all the stewards under the leadership of Paula Gold. Technical delegates under the leadership of Hamish Butler Gallie. Ground Dury Poly-Ann Huntington, Nicoli Fife, Virginia Tocher, Margs Carline, Su Jenkins, Helen Christie. Treating vets including Waikato vets, Cecelia Grant, and Krystal Grant. Farrier Paul Nelson. Chief medical officer Sean Coleman/transit care. Stable manager Di Russek. Dressage convener Jenny Nelson and announcer Virginia Caro. Show jump designer Philippa Howells and Judge Abby Garland. Dressage judges under the leadership of Sue Smith and Su Jenkins. Thank you to commentators for cross-country Louise Illston, and Showjumping John Bellarby. Thank you for John McGivern for radios along with NEC. Cross-country convener Rowan Armer. Cross-country course designer Chris Ross 4\*, John Holmes 3\*, Mike Guilfoyle 2\*,1\*, 105, Clive Long 95 and 80cm. Control Jenny Pearce. Prize-giving convener Amanda Illston. Press Officer Hayley Daigle. Cross-country jump judges' convener Jenny Draper. Sponsorship convener Hayley Daigle. Catering Adreia's kitchen. Thank you to Marg Evans for overseeing and ensuring suitable accommodation for everyone who needed it. And to Chris Perkins for bookings, communication, and the program.

Raewyn was approached by officials to discuss remuneration. There has been little change to this while their personal costs have increased significantly. This will be worth a discussion once the final financial position is known.

I cannot thank enough the many volunteers who generously give up their time to help before, during, and after the event.

A suggestion has been made to consider running the event a month earlier with the assumption that the weather may be more reliable.

The NZ National event for 2025 moves to Christchurch 18 – 20 April. Best wishes to Eventing Canterbury who are a seasoned FEI Organising Committee. The main risk for this event is the time and distance required for the top of the north island riders to travel and their appetite for this. And of course, the weather to have a safe ferry crossing.



Team Trot up 2024 NZ3DE!

## ORGANISING COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:

**To:** ESNZ Eventing Delegates

**From:** Rosie Edwards

**Date:** July 2024

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Following revision of the Eventing Board structure I was re-elected last year into this position so I have now completed 5 years and in the current structure have a further 2 years. I have missed the support of Chris Perkins in this previously shared role however as she has continued on the Board in a different capacity her skills and knowledge have not been lost.

We have continued to survey events which has provided rich feedback and fed into changes we were able to make at the NZ3DE at Taupo in May 2024. The survey provides anonymous ratings and comments which are sent back to the OC who ran the event. The Eventing Board collects general themes in order to identify any particular areas the Eventing Board could potentially assist an OC with. Chris has provided more detail in her report for the survey since the last AGM when we presented initial observations.

The initial purpose for creating a survey is to then create key performance indicators (KPIs) to evaluate the NZ3DE so NZ can continue to provide a championship event that is well attended and world class.

The Eventing Board has been supporting the NZ3DE in recent years due to lack of an Area Group willing to host the event and the financial challenges associated with it, to ensure that an event is held. The Eventing Board supports Eventing Canterbury to host the NZ3DE 2025. Eventing Canterbury are experienced at holding FEI events and have an established and successful OC. They have developed the grounds at Christchurch NEC to hold the NZ3DE Championship. A difficult risk for Eventing Canterbury to predict is whether the north island equestrians will travel to Christchurch. There are other variables and risks for the Taupo based championship event that may not be an issue for Christchurch. And then there are the ebbs and flows of riders competing at the higher classes which seem impossible to predict.

Kate Rouch has joined the Eventing Board and has shown her skills early on by developing Eventing NZ KPIs. The KPIs were developed from a range of sources to reflect the involvement of different stakeholders with events.

From an organiser's perspective, the ESNZ Rules and Event Organiser's Pack on the ESNZ Eventing website gave a number of procedural requirements for a well-run event. From a technical perspective, the Eventing Officials' resources including the ESNZ Rules, Clean Sport, health and safety guidelines and cross-country design guides gave substantive requirements to be met. Finally, the riders' event satisfaction survey highlighted what makes an event successful from the perspective of riders, spectators, supporters and volunteers at our events.

We will be sharing the work to date on the KPIs at the Eventing Conference and inviting input into them before we finalise them in consultation with Eventing Canterbury.

### Land conversation.

There is increasing pressure on land to be available for the cross-country phase of eventing. I would like to receive information from areas around NZ who are experiencing this – please email me: [rosieedwards9227@gmail.com](mailto:rosieedwards9227@gmail.com) or Hayley at [eventing@nzequestrian.org.nz](mailto:eventing@nzequestrian.org.nz).

In Wellington we have had our Council decide to no longer graze the open areas so substantial mowing is required adding to the cost of an event. The council decided to plant large areas of the Park which encroached on land used to park the truck and floats and required high level input to curtail the planting before the entire area was planted. There has been development of a Parks Network Plan, Toitu Te Whenua indicating that amendments through master planning processes and restoration plans may result in modifications to the size and location of the Licenced Area. There has been general resistance to renewing the lease held by Eventing Wellington, and a lack of understanding of the value to equestrians to an event rather than recreational riding.

Puhinui hold FEI 4\* long events in a very difficult area managed by Council who possible do not see the value of the event. The land has also had trees planted in some XC areas. It is an expensive event to run as there is little to no infrastructure. This event is only one of 3 Long format events in NZ and provides the pinnacle event for the spring season in the north island. It is also crucial to NZ eventing for combinations to gain MERs for 5\*.

I am aware Rotorua has needed to move due to the cross-country land being partially used for subdivision. Also, when Springbush were to host at Puhinui they had to cancel the event at the last minute after the council informed them that no water would be available at the event. The cost of trucking in the water was prohibitive even with ESNZ support.

If there is support, I would like to take the information to ESNZ with the plan of informing SportNZ and developing a plan to protect the council-based land for the future of cross-country.



*Alex de Geest & Attenborough competing at Donovan Park*

## MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS:

**To:** ESNZ Eventing Delegates

**From:** Chris Perkins

**Date:** July 2024

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This year's focus has been on the event satisfaction survey.

After running a pilot survey over a few events last year, the questions were refined primarily to give respondents the opportunity to give more detailed responses to key questions and to indicate the maximum level at which they compete. (Most responses came from 80cm and 95cm riders, which fits with the entry profile for most events.)

The survey was sent to event secretaries to email to riders, volunteers, officials, organising committee members and supporters shortly after each event. Event secretaries and organising committees have been extremely supportive of the initiative and we received responses from all ESNZ horse trials held. (In one instance where an area ran a number of events in a short timeframe it was agreed to issue the survey after the last event to cover all those events.) Respondents also had the opportunity to email me directly with their concerns rather than completing the survey online.

Very pleasingly, we received over 960 responses. Of these, approximately 75% came from riders, 20% from volunteers and 18% from supporters. The balance was from officials, organising committee members and spectators. (The question allowed respondents to choose more than one category.)

As the number of responses shows, the initiative was well received as a welcome opportunity for everyone involved to have their say. The general tone of responses was very positive with the time and energy that goes into running an event acknowledged by many respondents. The approachability of officials and organising committees and the standard of cross country courses scored well over almost all events. One event's initiative in holding classes over one day (and where a class had two divisions, holding the divisions on different days) was very popular.

Key areas for improvement included making volunteers feel valued and appreciated, the adequacy of and safety in warm up areas, as well as scheduling (why is the 95cm cross country almost always last to run) and last minute, poorly communicated time tabling changes.

A few organising committees found the reports a little confronting but it was noticeable sometimes a negative comment from one respondent was outweighed by a positive comment from another on the same topic!

So where to from here?

The survey report presents a great opportunity to work with organising committees and other interested parties to discuss ways of improving the event experience for everyone involved. My suggestion is that over the winter we run a series of Zoom meetings for organising committees and any other interested parties to discuss the overall report and share ideas.

At the same time, we need to let respondents know that their time completing the survey is appreciated and valued by inviting them to join the Zoom meetings if they wish and posting regular Facebook updates.

## RIDER REPRESENTATIVE REPORT:

**To:** ESNZ Eventing Delegates

**From:** Amanda Illston

**Date:** July 2024

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It has now been 1 ½ years since I stepped into the role of the Eventing Riders Rep position and what a ride it has been. The second half of the 2022/23 season was a whirlwind of finding my footing, helping to pull together the 2023/24 calendar, and plotting eventing camps in both the North and South Island for the 2023/24 season.

Last August I approached Jock Paget from High Performance and secured some much-needed funding to help pay for the coaches we needed for our Open Eventing Development Camps. My grand plan was two camps per island, one on either side of Christmas but this soon became apparent that it was not logistically or financially feasible. But we adjusted our goals, and it was full steam ahead with planning.

Our first camp was run at the Taupo NEC in the October school holidays last year. We had roughly 40 combinations attend the camp with Heelan Thompkins, Lizzie Green and Anne-Marie Styles providing excellent coaching in both SJ and XC. Glen Draper designed a versatile XC course for us with jumps of various heights and combinations, allowing riders to pick their own line depending on both rider and horse experience. Jenni Caver also spent a day with the riders imparting turnout tips and techniques while Duntan, Fibre Fresh and Dynavyte provided nutritional talks.

Our South Island Eventing Camp was held at the Christchurch NEC on the second weekend in April, hosting roughly 27 combinations. With a smaller crowd and more organisational know-how, we threw dressage into the mix. Janelle Sangster-Ward and Lizzie Green put riders through their paces in dressage on Saturday, while Heelan kept the SJ arena buzzing all day. On Sunday riders jumped around a short XC track set up by Cam Robinson, similar to Glen Draper's setup in the North Island.

These 2 camps were very successful and saw a range of riders from aged 8 to around 45, with a range of experience. The consensus was that everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves and can't wait for these camps to be run again in the 2024/25 season. We are aiming to hold the North Island Camp in the October School holidays, most likely at the Taupo NEC, this time we will incorporate dressage into the mix. The South Island Camp will be held earlier than last year due to the National 3DAY being held in Christchurch in April.

Like many other sporting disciplines, numbers were down this season. Perhaps financial constraints led riders to be choosier about events and where they ran their horses. We saw several OC choosing to not offer FEI classes, this along with some unfortunate cancellations, led to lower participation at the upper levels, particularly the 3\* level, towards the season's end.

We have worked hard to craft a more balanced calendar for 2024/25 season, ensuring sufficient gaps between FEI shows to maximise support. The National 3DAY which is this coming season being held in Christchurch has been shifted from its traditional May date to mid-April, due to Oceania being held in Melbourne in early June 2025, giving combinations time to do both. Eventing Canterbury have put a huge amount of work into the Christchurch NEC and the grounds and facilities are looking fantastic.

Returning to HOY this year was a breath of fresh air. The Australian teams joining us amped up the excitement and numbers. It was so fantastic that our YR team were able to hang on to the YR trophy

that was won in Melbourne in 2022. Here's hoping that they can keep the trophy in the cabinet after next years running of Oceania. In the meantime, we have the excitement of the Paris Olympics to get us through the remainder of winter before the season kicks off again with our first new season event being held by Eyreton PC in Canterbury.

A huge thank you to all my fellow board members and especially to our phenomenal Sports Manager, Hayley Daigle. She goes above and beyond for our sport and without her we would be utterly lost.



*Winners of the Penny Homes CCN95cm at the NZ3DE 2024 – Brea Walker & Tia Celeste*

## National Selection Panel Report:

**To:** ESNZ Eventing Delegates  
**From:** Nick Pyke, Vicki Glynn, Mitty Forsyth and Karen Neiderer  
**Date:** July 2024

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The 23-24 season provided good opportunities for our young talent to show through with competition throughout the season, Talent ID selection, and the Oceania Young Rider selection for Land Rover Horse of the Year in March 24.

Following Heelan Tompkins departure as a selector in early 2023 to join the HP Coaching team we were delighted to welcome Karen Neiderer to the Performance Selection Panel in mid 2023. During the winter months in New Zealand we saw several of our young talents venturing offshore to learn from established riders across the world. This is hugely beneficial to them and ensures they come back to New Zealand with broadened horizons and new skills. Their observations sometimes enable them to apply New Thinking to the perennial challenge of finding horse power. And we observed several who had spent time in international yards putting their learnings into practice throughout the season.

Selectors attended a number of events throughout New Zealand during the year which provides an opportunity to observe squad members performing in competition and to watch those who have applied for the Talent ID squad plus look out for any up and coming combinations.

### Spring 2023: Oceania test with Australia

Applications for the Oceania Young Rider team which was to be held at Land Rover Horse of the Year in March 24 were received in December 2023 and selection was undertaken at the end of February 24 with several applicants already sadly withdrawn. The team of 4 selected acquitted themselves very well in the team environment and with all the challenges that Horse of the Year poses. Riders, coaches, and support personnel gelled well, and they defeated Australia to win the Young Rider Trophy by 124.7 points to 130.2. They retained the Young Rider team title which New Zealand won in Melbourne in 2022. As Horse and Pony magazine described after cross country day: "New Zealand's Young Rider team were simply outstanding at Hastings, with all four clear on the cross-country, two of them coming home on their dressage scores and taking the top two places as a result."

### Talent ID Squad

Applications for the Talent ID Squad were received at the end of 2023 and allowed us to observe those applicants through the autumn season with selection for squads in May 2024. A camp was held in April at Taupo which selectors attended, and invitations were extended to applicants and others preparing for the Three Day event. The wild card system was used very effectively to include other riders outside selection criteria. Some applicants were only able to attend on foot as horses were recovering from injuries but it was again a valuable insight into the challenges our up and coming talent face.

As selectors it is always painful for us to observe young talent who are struggling to secure suitable horse power, but who may deserve a place on squads if they had the horse power to benefit from the training. We do encourage attendance on foot at camps wherever possible when horses are out and hope that the sport can find new ways to encourage and facilitate the securing of horses so that our young talent stays in the sport. We also wish to see those in the squads doing their utmost to benefit from the opportunity provided to them at camps, from yard visits and from the input they receive from the coaches throughout the year.

## 6. ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

6.1 Ratify Appointed Position: Kate Rouch

6.2 Elected Position: Pip Howells

## 7. APPOINTMENT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TECHNICAL ADVISORY GROUP (TAG) INCLUDING CHAIR AND NATIONAL SAFETY OFFICER

## 8. NOTICES OF MOTION

There were no remits received for the AGM of 2024.

## 9. BOARD MEMBER REMUNERATION

## 10. APPOINT OF 9 VOTING DELEGATES TO ESNZ AGA

## 11. GENERAL BUSINESS

11.1 Calendar: Don Robertson

Appendix A: Kate Rouch CV

Appendix B: Annual Area Reports

## APPENDIX B: Annual Area Reports



I am pleased to present this Annual Report after yet another very busy year for Eventing Canterbury. I would like to firstly thank all of our dedicated and hardworking committee members for giving up considerable amounts of their valuable time to ensure that we can run these events to the high standards that we do.

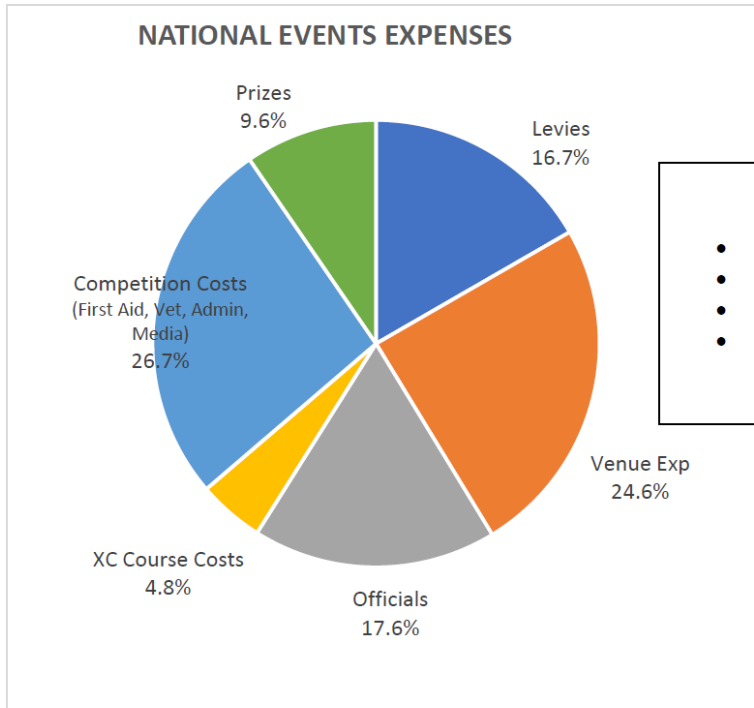
We continue to be the busiest organising committee in the country, running six ESNZ events per season, two of which are FEI short formats and one FEI long format event. On top of that we also offer many training opportunities such as Twilight Training evenings, Derby days and we run the Canterbury Secondary Schools Eventing Championships. Between all of these events, I believe we cater for the full cohort of Eventing in the country - from grassroots, just starting out and wanting to give things a go, right through to the top levels of the sport. And I believe that it is hugely important that we continue to offer opportunities in all forms for our horses and riders. I also acknowledge that FEI events remain a drain on our resources, and our national events and sponsorships and grants allow us to stay afloat and run these.

Part of catering for all has been listening to feedback from those involved with our events, from volunteers to riders via the ESNZ Eventing surveys that were sent out throughout the season. Whilst this is a good initiative, and feedback has been acted on where appropriate, some of it was a little frustrating and sometimes needed to be taken with a grain of salt.

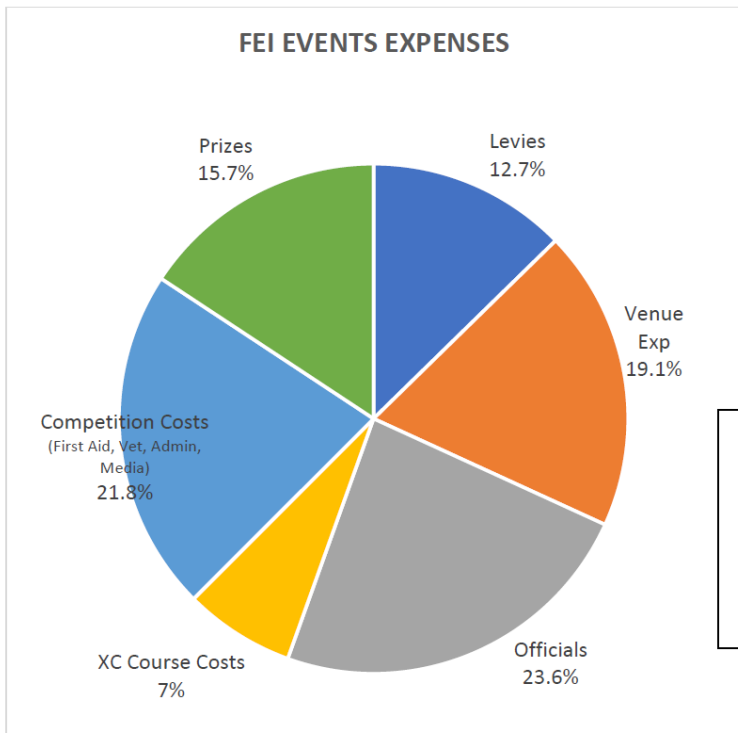
With many changes in organising personnel this year, I would like to thank those that stepped 'into the breach' and pulled together to make sure that each event still ran smoothly. I would also like to personally thank Claudia Faulkner for the simply phenomenal work that she puts into each event as event secretary. She has added many more tasks to her role this year, and picked up the pieces to fill in organisation gaps. Of course Claudia is not the only person to go above and beyond; each convenor and committee member doing their roles effectively and efficiently. The roles themselves are ever evolving and communication between areas, and each other remains the key to cohesive events. As the risk of burnout is ever present, the more people who know what each role is and who can share the load the better. Which means that we need to make the committee an inviting place to be, to welcome new people in and to support them in their roles, especially whilst they are getting up to speed. A happy team generally makes it a much happier place to be spending so much of our 'free time'.

As mentioned earlier, sponsorship and grant funding are essential to our ability to fund new courses, and to run events in general. It has been disappointing that riders are not doing more to acknowledge and thank our sponsors despite many initiatives making it very easy for them to do so.

## SUMMARY OF EXPENSES 2023-24 EVENTS



- National Events**  
(Aug, Feb & April)
- **Total exp \$71,000**
  - **Total profit approx \$1,000**
  - Incl grants for first aid \$8,300
  - Doesn't include season sponsorship



- FEI Events**  
(Sept, Oct & March)
- **Total exp \$114,000**
  - **Total loss -\$35,000**
  - Incl grant for first aid \$12k
  - Doesn't include season sponsorship

Thank you to Sharon for putting together a visual representation of 'where the money goes' that was sent out in our last newsletter. The hard work that Kelly and her crew do regarding sponsorship certainly keeps us afloat. The continuation of Michelle Tuck in the social media role has also enabled us to look professional and provide sponsors with good coverage.

Our next big undertaking is going to be Easter 2025, when we are hosting the National 3 Day Event Championships. Don as head of the Nationals Sub Committee is recruiting a top notch team for this but a considerable amount of work and development is going to need to take place between now and next year to enable us to run the calibre of Championships that will showcase both eventing in the south island and the NEC as a top notch venue.

I would like to acknowledge the efforts of a few people who have stepped back from the committee this year. Peter Jarvis after many years as Show Jump convenor; Leonne Jones as Event Director; Sarah Mullen as co cross country convenor; Tony Roberts as Eventing Rep on the NEC committee. Thank you all for the considerable time and effort you have put into this group.

This is my final meeting as Chairperson, and as a committee member for a while. I have been a part of this committee for around 18 years and it is time for me to step back and focus on other aspects of my life right now. Thank you for all of the support you have given me and I wish the committee and all involved a successful upcoming season.

Kirsty Ogilvie  
June 2024

## EVENTING WAIRARAPA REPORT - 2024

This year Eventing Wairarapa secured the Young Rider and Junior Rider Championships – 60 years since the Wairarapa had first run the National One Day Championships in Masterton in 1963. We were really proud to have finally go to this point having moved venues some years ago, poured thousands into our XC course build and development (over \$60,000 in the last 4 years alone), once again procured Blyth's expert course-design skills, sourced some amazing prizes and rugs and to recognise some of our long-standing sponsors. So we were really disappointed to find that after being granted the Championships, another 2\* and 3\* level event was then allowed to run on the same weekend in direct competition with us, as a national championship-class event. We were fairly realistic given the cost of travel that we weren't necessarily going to attract riders from around the country, but despite all of our efforts, we attracted no Young Riders to our 3\* class and only two Junior Riders to our 2\* class which was hugely disappointing - particularly when multiple eligible Young and Junior Rider levels were competing elsewhere that weekend. This was extremely deflating and as a principle, we would ask that ESNZ Eventing avoid enabling conflicting events on the same weekend as a National Title event, given the effort that goes into hosting such an event.

Despite that our event itself was a great success – we have an outstanding team of committee, officials and volunteers who all really knew their job and ensure we have a well-run, presented and enjoyable competition. Feedback was hugely positive as usual. Huge thank you to Blyth who, despite telling us that last year was his final year, very generously agreed to course-design once again this year. We are also rapt with our \$26,000 worth of new MiMM clip jumps and we love that they are getting used at other events around NZ. Given our years of investment, we have an incredible inventory of new fences and are happy to share those with other OC's if that was of any interest to other groups.

Looking forward, we are looking at our options to get better placement in the calendar and to service the needs of lower North Island riders. We are hoping for the first time in many years to run a Spring date as the Lower North has very little in the mid-late Spring period and we want there to continue to be opportunities for riders in our area of the country. We are fortunate that after a lot of effort over previous years with sponsors and grants we are in a position to be able to fund this, given that it will likely cost the group quite a bit.

## Eventing Southland Presidents Report

Congratulations to everyone on another successful season for Eventing Southland. I would like to thank our small organising committee and wonderful group of sponsors for all you do to keep the sport of eventing alive and thriving in Southland. For a small group, we should be proud of the number of events we manage to run in a season, and for the wealth of knowledge and experience within the group.

Our season began with, yet I say it again, a somewhat wet Donovan Park. The event was run under very challenging circumstances and was in jeopardy of being cancelled due to damage of our central area of ground a month prior to the event. The BetaVet sponsored Donovan event attracted 86 starters and ran smoothly despite significant changes to the layout.

We moved to the Excel Equine Ryal Bush event in December, where we saw 124 starters with the usual large entries in the Pony Club 80 & 65 classes. Betavet Donovan at the end of January had an increase in competitors compared to the October event, this time with 108 combinations. Donovan was again a very challenging event to organise with the sad passing of Jim's (XC Course designer) mother, Alison Hazlett in the lead up to the event. We can't thank the Hazlett Family enough pushing on and assisting with the setup, running and pack up of the event at such a difficult time.

Gore event again, was spear headed by Debra Gibson, and this time was run as an express event up to 105cm with 68 competitors. This was a well-supported, lower key competition and drew in some first timers and combinations new to eventing this season. For the final event of the season at Ryal Bush we hosted South Island Champs, the first time in a number of years. Numbers for this Ryal Bush Event were down with 91 entries across the grades from 3\* to 65cm, however there was some excellent competition within the grades. With sponsorship from Penny Frew at Kakatea Equestrian and Fiber Fresh we also held a young event horse competition the day prior to Ryal Bush. This drew in several entries in each of the 4-, 5- & 6-year-old age groups and is slowly gaining more traction each year we run this event. Thank you to the Carmichael and Frew families for their ongoing efforts and support at our Ryal Bush venue, we are grateful to have use of such wonderful grounds.

Congratulations to all the riders this season, we all do this for you, and we love to see you out there working towards and achieving your goals both big and small. Please, I encourage you all to thank our sponsors, recognise them on social media, share their posts, and most importantly, support their businesses. Finally, thanks again to this very small committee and bunch of hard-working people, I wish everyone a successful 2024-25 season.

Suzanne Black

## **Eventing Northland – Event Report 2023/2024**

Eventing Northland held one event during the season (April 2024), running classes from CCN65 up to CCN3\*. Post event feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with peoples' key highlights being the friendly committee, the well presented courses and being able to ride at the Barge Showgrounds venue. Disappointingly our numbers were down by almost half, with levels CCN105 upwards especially low. Despite this, numbers at the grassroots levels remained strong, and it was nice to have the weather play ball this time around!

Northland continued to be plagued by events outside of our control during the season, with the spring event cancelled as wet weather in the lead up impacted the ground condition, and the Brynderwyn closure forced alternative travel routes which likely deterred some competitors from attending our Autumn event.

As a committee we run practise XC days over the summer which are very well attended, and a great way for horses and riders to get XC experience in a controlled and safe environment. Another positive from the season is the dedicated and loyal sponsors we have on board - we are very grateful for their ongoing support.

Our committee look forward to the 2024/2025 season and seeing all our competitors tackle and achieve their goals, and most of all put on friendly and welcoming events for you all.