



EVENTING

ESNZ Eventing Annual General Meeting

Draft Minutes

10.30am 6th July 2024

Location: Rydges Hotel, Auckland

1. Welcome/Apologies

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

Present

Raewyn Eastwood	Chairperson (Delegate for Central Districts)
Rosie Edwards	Deputy Chair, Board Member - Organising Committee Rep & NZ3DE Sub-Committee Chair
Margaret Evans	Board Member
John Alexander	Board Member
Kate Rouch	Board Member
Amanda Illston	Board Member - Rider Representative
Hayley Daigle	Sport Manager
Hamish Butler-Gallie	TAG representative (National Safety Officer)
Tich Massey	TAG representative (Course Designer Liaison)
Wendy Lansdown	TAG representative (Technical Delegate Liaison & Chair) & Delegate (C&SHB)
Jenny Draper	TAG representative (Judges Liaison)
Janene Maxwell	TAG representative (Steward Liaison)
Anna Gray	Delegate (Northland)
Kevin Thompson	Delegate (Auckland)
Sonya Mason	Delegate (Wellington)
Don Robertson	Delegate (Canterbury)
Suzanne Black	Delegate (Southland)
Debra Gibson	Observer (Southland)
Aiden Viviers	Delegate (Wairarapa)
Kara Lockhart	Delegate (Waikato)
Susan Grayling	Delegate (Taranaki)
Campbell Draper	Delegate (Bay of Plenty)
Pip Howells	Observer
Jane Callaghan	Observer
Anna Jones	Observer

Apologies read from

Julian Bowden	ESNZ CEO
Mitty Forsyth	Performance and High-Performance Selector
Nick Pyke	National Performance Selector
Vicki Glynn	National Performance Selector
Karen Neiderer	National Performance Selector
Chris Perkins	ESNZ Eventing Board

Moved: apologies be accepted

**Moved: Kate Rouch
Seconded: Wendy Lansdown**

2. Obituaries

Helen Thomson, Graham Tippet, Mark Chambers-Steward, Colin Finlayson, Pam Barnett, Joan Stringer, Alan Hampton. Seven members were remembered with one minute silence for their contribution to ESNZ and Eventing over a significant time period and also Georgie Campbell (NZ Eventer Jesse Campbell's wife) and Codey Jervis (NZ Eventer Clarke Johnstone partner) who tragically lost their lives within the last 12 months.

3. Voting Delegates

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

- There were 11 voting delegates present; Anna Gray (Northland), Kevin Thompson (Auckland), Susan Grayling (Taranaki), Raewyn Eastwood (Central Districts), Wendy Lansdown (C&SHB), Sonya Mason (Wellington), Aiden Viviers (Wairarapa), Suzanne Black (Southland), Don Robertson (Canterbury), Campbell Draper (BOP), Kara Lockhart (Waikato)
- There were 6 voting members of the Eventing Board present

**Moved: Kate Rouch
Seconded: Wendy Lansdown
Carried**

4. Confirmation of minutes of the AGM, 1 Jul 2023

Moved: that the Minutes from the AGM 1 July 2023 were a true and correct record.

**Moved: Amanda Illston
Seconded: Anna Gray
Carried**

5. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

6. Annual Reports

6.1 Chair report

The Chair presented her annual report for 2023/2024. The Board structure including representatives and advisory groups was presented to the AGM. High Performance were indicated as a separate entity with their own finance for clarity.

There was many successes to celebrate from 2023/2024, including:

- Oceania hosted at HoY for the first time and the YR winning team back to back and for winning the Best Team at the Hall of Fame awards last night
- Celebrating those who completed their first 5*, 4* and 3* (as per report) a significant milestone in a riders career
- FEI Level 4 upgrades: Helen Christie (Steward) & Susan O'Brien (Steward)
- 12 top ten finished at 5* events and Caroline Powell's Badminton win
- Two new life members: Jane Robertson and Ross Coles

Three focuses from the Board for 2023/2024:

- Quality experience framework
- Event analysis survey – an important feedback loop to us from our eventing community to ensure we remain up to date with what is important to them
- ESNZ Strengthen & Adapt project: Eventing involved in the 3 working groups, and all discipline Boards attended the ESNZ culture hui in Wellington in February

Challenges:

- A coherent calendar remains difficult to achieve
- Financial sustainability: the Chair has advised that the levies have not increased since 2018 and that the levies would be increased for the 2024/2025 season by 10%. ESNZ are not increasing their membership fees therefore this avoids a double up of fee increases hopefully lessening the financial burden to riders.

Looking Forward

- Olympic Eventing at Paris 2024 - we have a strong team
- Eventing Canterbury hosting 2025 NZ3DE. They have worked hard and invested in the XC tracks

The Chair thanked the private landowners who host Events:

- John Nicholson (Kihikihi)
- John & Denise McGiven (Matamata)
- The McKelvie Family (Central Districts)
- Silver Fern Farms (Arran Station)
- Tich Massey (Springbush)
- Carmichael and Frew family (Southland)

The Chair also sincerely thanked the OC's for their running of Events throughout the season. The Chair sustained an injury during 2023 which resulted in a break from all activities for 5 months where Rosie Edwards as Deputy stepped in as the Chair – thanks was given to Rosie, Hayley and the Board.

Moved: The adoption of the chair report

Moved: Rosie Edwards

6.2 Financial Report

John Alexander presented the draft financial report for 2023/2024 financial year.

- The income is slightly down due to two cancelled Events and decreased Starts
- We achieved an increase in Grant and Sponsorship income
- Overall result is very close to the expected outcome
- \$5800 deficit
- Found inaccuracies in the results and therefore we do not believe we are presenting an accurate reflection of the 2023/2024 financial outcome
- More work will be done prior to the audited accounts being presented in the ESNZ annual report

Income is from:

- 47% from NZ3DE, 53% from normal operations
- Riders entry fees 45%
- Sponsorships/grant: 50%
- Sales: 2%
- Interest 1%
- Other 2%

Where does the money go:

- Normal operations: 40%
- NZ3DE 41%
- Performance 7%
- Development 7%
- Other (Board/AGM/Technical) 5%

Portfolio analysis:

- Administration: \$181 vs plan of \$187k
Expenditure: inflationary impact across Board
- NZ3DE:
Board took oversight of NZ3DE approx. 5 years and has worked towards achieving break even. This was the first time this was achieved and despite lower entries. This is thanks to sponsorship and increased success of grant applications
Expenditure: Below plan which resulted in a cost saving
- Board/AGM:
Reduced expenditure due to forward planning i.e. early booking of travel for reduced cost (Cost containment model working well)
- Performance/Sponsorship/Development:
Expenditure on plan
Oceania well managed
Development camps were a successful initiative
- TAG:
Deliver another solid and safe year for riders
NZ Eventing Structure remains world class
Expenditure below plan

2025/2026 financial plan:

- Deliver Break even or better for the sport
- NZ3DE hosted by Eventing Canterbury
- Increase in Eventing fees – 10%

A question was asked as to the investment into the Taupo NEC XC development – confirmed that this is purely a time investment, not financial. John Alexander will join the NEC Taupo committee as the Eventing representative. He will support the development of the Taupo NEC XC given the opportunity of the NZ3DE being held in Christchurch for 2025.

A question was asked about the Land Rover sponsorship and where this would be allocated for 2024/2025. The Land Rover contract for 2024/2025 is still in discussion – they have indicated that they would like to recommit but not finalised to date.

The whereabouts of the Eventing balance sheet was queried. This was not provided to Eventing prior to the AGM but will be available for the AGA along with the final financials.

Moved: the adoption of the 2023-2024 financial report

**Moved: John Alexander
Seconded: Kevin Thompson
Carried**

6.3 Sport Manager's Report

The Sport Manager, Hayley Daigle, presented the 2023/2024 report.

The Development Camps were a success & great to have these underway again following the interruption caused by Covid. Amanda will talk to these in more detail during her Rider's Rep report.

The Sport Manager acknowledged all Events that are run throughout the year and did not wish to deter from these Events by highlighting the key events only below.

It was great to have HOY underway again and were great hosts to Oceania. Logistically it was challenging to host the Australians with the additional horses, particularly given the status of these horses who were predicted to head to the Olympics. The Welcome Function was a highlight of the Event where the local school kapa hapa group performed the welcome. The Aussies reported that it was a great Event and would love to return. Saddle and Canter were great sponsors of the uniforms and the YR team were fantastic under pressure bringing home the win.

One Day Champs at Matamata was a brilliant Event and feedback from the community was fantastic – quoting a rider "WOW what an Event! My first time at this venue and it was phenomenal, exceptionally well run Event despite the horrendous weather on XC day. The event reminded me of how Eventing used to be – including a fun riders evening with a quiz!

There were 12 XC Style Prizes awarded over the season sponsored by The Rider Shop and Rangiora Equestrian Supplies. This is a great way of recognising grassroots in our sport and hope that this partnership continues.

The Sport Manager acknowledged the Technical Advisory Group (TAG):

- It is fantastic having Neil Mackenzie-Hall on the FEI Eventing committee
- Valuable feedback has been provided to the FEI from TAG which ensures that rules and policies are kept in check to ensure that it is achievable in NZ/Southern Hemisphere

There has been a decrease in the amount of FEI Horse Health sanctions from riders not entering their horse's temperatures which is a sign that riders are becoming familiar with the routine and communications are reaching riders.

Calendar remains challenging to produce which suits all. Rider Representative and Sport Manager have worked hard this year to ensure that calendar is as suitable as possible given the move of the NZ3DE to mid April. Dates will be called from OC's early August to allow dates to be submitted to the FEI by 1st October. Pointed out that if National Event dates are not flexible, to ensure that dates are submitted prior to the deadline to ensure these are considered with the FEI dates.

NZ3DE recap as per report – Jenny Draper was instrumental in the success of the Event as was Sandra Purvis. Great to have sponsorship from NZWA and the assistance of Jody Hartstone who checked horse details prior to the YEH competition. Sponsor recognition was discussed at the riders meeting and it was requested of the riders to ensure that they thank sponsors as they are a vital part of the success and viability of the sport. Riders asked if secretaries could send email with the sponsors contact details. Grants were more successful this year with \$53k of the \$61k applied for granted. Sport Manager requested any feedback from the attendees with their experience of grant applications over the previous 12 months – there was no further feedback. Sport Manager suggested that the success may have come down to the inclusion of how the Event benefits the community within the application.

The Eventing Starts and levies were presented as per the report which showed that the starts were slightly down which is perhaps a sign of the financial climate. There was also a trend over the season of riders entering events very late also suggesting a sign of the financial climate.

The Sport Manager thanked everyone for their hard work over the season and their contributions to a wonderful Eventing season.

Moved: The adoption of the Sport Manager's report

Moved: Hayley Daigle
Seconded: Jenny Draper
Carried

6.4 Technical Advisory Group Report

The Technical Advisory Group Chair, Wendy Lansdown, presented the TAG report for the 2023/2024 season.

The TAG Chair reported on the National Officials movement as per report.

TAG have reviewed the education system which will be announced in the coming months.

Thanks to Hamish as National Safety Officer who has developed a very comprehensive document on securing Portable XC fences and is available on the ESNZ website.

Rules update for 2024:

- Appointment of technical advisor
- Appointment of Officials: clarification in CCN3*
- MER for horse and athlete clarification
- Athlete welfare – any athlete who leaves the grounds without being cleared by medics will receive either a fine or Eventing Warning Card or an ESNZ Official Warning card
- Dangerous riding – eventing warning card will be triggered
- Abuse of Horse – eventing warning card is triggered
- Updates to Article 633 to read fall is elimination
- Black flags must be included in XC course plans
- Definition of faults
- Activated Frangible device
- Increase speed of jumping and jumps at 95cm – large gap between 80cm and 95cm
- Eventing Warning Card

Moved: The adoption of the Technical report

**Moved: Wendy Lansdown
Seconded: John Alexander
Carried**

6.5 High Performance Report

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

Warrick Allen presented the HP Report as a part of the Eventing conference in the afternoon:

- Prepare to Podium initiative is being developed.
- Eventing programme has been focused on pathways of each rider and the best pathway for that rider to be successful.
- Eventing selection for 2024 Paris Olympics has been the hardest selection – this shows the depth in Eventing. There has been discussion around the opinion of Caroline Powell and Greenacres Special Cavalier – reiterated that this is a strong combination should they need to be called in to the team. Badminton win was a fantastic achievement but the Olympics is no longer a 5* Event but is 4* level and therefore as a result, campaign focus has shifted to 4* and 5* results are no longer as relevant. Reiterated that there is the narrowest of margins between the combinations who have been selected.

Lizzie Green presented the pathways for NZ Eventing:

- Pre development to elite performance – this extends further past other roles in the sport.
- Preparing and developing riders who are future potential athletes.
- Oceania is a key focus of the Eventing High Performance pathway.
- Each athlete has own programme – Oceania 2024 riders were given option to work with their own coaches or the coaches provided by HP.
- Heelan has joined the coaching team for HP.
- Development camps are seen as pre HP space therefore is seen as a great support.

Celebrations:

- Winning YR team – debriefs were completed with performances reviewed
- Charlotte Penny and Mia Gilbert winning 3* & 4* at NZ3DE
- Collaboration with Jumping and Dressage programmes

Looking forward:

- Off horse camp at Takapoto in August for all disciplines
- Online learning content
- Building depth, bigger group
- Oceania 2025

QUESTION: if HP are invested in Oceania, should more funding not go into this?

HP contributed \$30k into the High Performance – this went on the support services – coaches, vet health, equine health. This also covered the camps leading into Oceania. A mock Event was also provided with the cancellation of Puhinui which was opened up to all riders entered for HOY.

ONLINE LEARNING CONTENT: can this be accessed by non HP members?

This is general learning – woman’s health talk, vet, Officials/rules and therefore not anything that cannot already be accessed.

Moved: The adoption of the High Performance report

Moved: Raewyn Eastwood
Seconded: Pip Howells
Carried

6.6 Selectors Report

The Selectors were not available to present the report.

Moved: The adoption of the Selectors report

Moved: Raewyn Eastwood
Seconded: Rosie Edwards
Carried

6.7 Organising Committee Representative Report

An Event toolbox is being developed to identify general themes to help review parts of an event which worked well and highlights where improvements can be made.

These were developed based on resources on the ESNZ website i.e. Eventing rules, OC guide.

The toolbox will be applied to the NZ3DE 2024 for a review. This will then be discussed with Eventing Canterbury for 2025.

Moved: The adoption of the OC Rep Report.

Moved: Rosie Edwards
Seconded: Marg Evans
Carried

6.8 NZ3DE Championship Subcommittee Report

Rosie Edwards presented the NZ3DE Subcommittee report for the 2024 Event.

- The previous Convenor resigned therefore the Eventing Board ran the Event – thank you to the Board for their input. Wendy, Jenny and Sandra Purvis were a huge help to the success of the Event.
- Thanks to Liz Plowman and Leanna Larmer for scoring.
- Hamish Butler-Gallie was a great head TD.
- Squad members helped at the first horse inspection.
- Rider communication appeared to be improved from the 2023 Event.
- Grants and sponsorship contributed to the financial success of the Event.
- Difficulty is the timetabling with the weather conditions including fog risk at that time of day as well as the decreased hours of daylight.
- Entries were down across the board apart from the Young Event Horse which had 23 entries and was run in the main arena.
- Dressage and Jumping were on the sand surfaces of the Landcorp arenas.
- XC courses were well-presented – roping is important from Health and Safety perspective.
- Control team run by Jenny Pearce was completed superbly.
- NZ3DE 2025 will move to Eventing Canterbury 18-20 April 2025.

Moved: Rosie Edwards
Seconded: Wendy Lansdown
Carried

6.9 Media and Communications:

Rosie Edwards presented the media and communications report on behalf of Chris Perkins who was an apology.

- Survey created to assess themes from Events. The report was then be sent to OC and the details were kept confidential.
- Pilot was run during 2022/2023 season with rollout during 2023/2024. Close to 1000 responses have been received during this season.

Typical themes:

HIGHEST RATINGS:

- Overall organisation of the Event
- Approachability of Officials
- XC course design and presentation
- Help during the Event
- Would recommend Event to others

ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT:

- Yarding
- Scheduling
- Last minute changes which are poorly communicated
- Improve warm up areas, SJ in particular.

Moved: Rosie Edward

**Seconded: Kate Rouch
Carried**

6.9 National Equestrian Centre Representative Report: Taupo
Report taken as read – no questions for Jenny Draper at this time.

Moved: The adoption of the Taupo NEC Rep Report

**Moved: Jenny Draper
Seconded: Kate Rouch
Carried**

6.10 National Equestrian Centre Representative Report: Christchurch

Nick is an apology today therefore report is adopted as read.

Don Robertson offered to answer any questions on the report – no questions asked.

Moved: The adoption of the Christchurch NEC Rep Report

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

6.10 Riders Rep Report

Amanda Illston presented the Riders Rep report.

Development Camps were financially helped by High Performance to cover coaches of Lizzie Green, Heelan Tompkins and Anne-Marie Styles at the North Island camp. Glen Draper built XC course in amphitheatre which worked well. Ranged from 8-50 years of age with 80cm to 2* experience – feedback was positive.

South Island camp ran in April with coaches of Lizzie, Heelan and Janelle Sangster-Ward with 27 combinations. Dressage was included in this South Island camp. Cam Robertson built great track for XC on the second day.

Amanda discussed the 2024/2025 calendar – challenges with the calendar this year due to Oceania being in Melbourne in June.

Question who the camps were for – clarified that these were for anyone.

Question if the Development Camps long term are intended for the Board or for the OC to take on – reiterated that this was a pilot year and looking forward to consolidating these camps but there is no firm plan for where these camps sit in the future.

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

Appointed position was available and Kate Rouch was recruited – Kate introduced herself to the AGM attendees.

The Chair called the voting delegates to ratify the appointment of Kate Rouch to the Eventing Board for a three year term 2023 – 2026.

Unanimous

Two Elected positions were available for 2024. Pip Howells application was received and accepted. Pip introduced herself to the AGM attendees.

This left an Elected position vacant. With Marg Evans as an outgoing Board member there would be no South Island representatives on the Eventing Board. The Board agreed to appoint Marg Evans for a further term with the view to recruit a south island board member within the next 12 months.

Chris Perkins offered and the Board co-opted Chris to remain on the Board for the next 12 months with her focus of progressing the Event survey.

The chair recognised the reappointment of Wendy Lansdown as the Chair of the Technical Advisory Group, and of Janene Maxwell as Steward liaison for a three year term 2024-2027 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

All in Favour

10. Appointment of Nine voting Delegates for attendance at the ESNZ AGA 26 September 2024

It was announced that the Equestrian Sports New Zealand Annual General Assembly will be held on 26 September via Zoom.

The nine Delegates chosen were:

1. Wendy Lansdown
2. Marg Evans
3. Chris Perkins
4. Raewyn Eastwood
5. Don Robertson
6. John Alexander
7. Amanda Illston
8. Rosie Edwards
9. Pip Howells

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

Moved: Raewyn Eastwood
Seconded: Kate Rouch
Carried

11. General Business

Don Robertson (Eventing Canterbury Delegate) had prior to the AGM requested for the event calendar to be put on the agenda but believes that this issue has been resolved. Eventing Canterbury disagreed with an FEI Event in May 2025 and prefers this to be a National. It was confirmed that this event is going to be a National Event.

Aiden Viviers (Wairarapa Delegate) advised that 1) Eventing Wairarapa wish to hold an Event on the weekend prior to the NZ3DE 2025 with lower levels and the higher levels being run as Combined Training, and 2) Eventing Wairarapa were disheartened in the 2023/2024 season when they hosted the YR & JR One Day National Championships on the same weekend as Brookby Horse Trial which they believed distracted eligible Young Rider and Junior Rider combinations from attending.

- 1) Eventing Wairarapa would like to hold an Event the weekend prior to the NZ3DE 2025. Historical discussions with Eventing Canterbury were that they would not like to have an Event the weekend prior to the NZ3DE as that would decrease entry numbers. Eventing Canterbury agreed that National classes will likely be filled by Wairarapa's local catchment and not the National riders, therefore an Event with National classes the weekend before would not affect the riders/entries they are targeting. Don will take this request to Eventing Canterbury committee to confirm.
- 2) The Chair advised that as per the Calendar guidelines, they state that a horse trial cannot be run on the same weekend as the NZ One Day Champs. The Chair questioned the attendees of the AGM if they believed this guideline should be extended to include the YR & JR One & Three Day Champs. All in agreement that this should be included in the guidelines.

Attendees agreed that NZPCA and ESNZ horse trials are not seen as a clash despite this being stated so in the ESNZ and NZPCA MOU. Agreed that this feedback needed to be provided back to ESNZ to discuss with NZPCA.

It was pointed out in a magazine that Northland and Northern Hawkes Bay entry levels both suffered from being on the same weekend. The Chair asked attendees whether they believed the calendar guideline of 'National (CCN) Events > 300kms apart can run on the same dates' was still appropriate. The attendees expressed that guideline didn't need to be adjusted as there were other contributing factors to declining numbers at both Events, such as road closures and surrounding Events being well attended.

A question was raised as to why Arena Eventing has to go on the calendar as this is not seen as a conflict with other Events. Thoughts were expressed that this would not be seen as a conflict. Reminder that Arena Eventing and practice days need to be included in the calendar to qualify as a sanctioned Event and be eligible for ESNZ Insurance.

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