

Minutes of ESNZ Endurance Forum
Held 10.30am on Saturday 11th May 2019
At NEC

Present - Maire Wakeling, Sue Billigheimer, Jess Kennedy, Wendy Farnell, Chris Enstrom, Ursula Keenan, Phillip Graham, Helen Bray, Susie Latta, Carla Barakat, Ian Grey, Rachel Stocks, Penelope Valk, Warren James

The forum is chaired by Marie Wakeling, ESNZ Endurance Chair.

Marie welcomed everyone to the forum and thanked them for their attendance

Membership Support Ideas – Open discussion

Helen B suggested that the winter series and seminars are great for encouraging new members, Sue B asked for ideas in relations to marketing and feeding into social media & the ESNZ pages.

Ursula mentioned that the winter series won't be relevant to all areas of ESNZ, so may not have the impact. However, was discussed that it is good for giving other clubs ideas.

Ursula brought up the idea of more current and up to the minute media, such as the recent Taupo 3-day event live stream.

Marie and Sue both agreed it was not the correct decision to not have a photographer at the Nationals, and updates available on social media. Also, an issue not having best conditioned time on schedule.

Was agreed that posting as it happens is important to gain interest and creates a "buzz" and moving forward having someone like Dave Hadler with his tracking system and a photographer is important to gain new interest in the sport.

Also discussed the possibility of having a photographer for the entire season or having a dedicated person who knows what to post on social media as it happens.

Marie mentioned this would be OK for the larger clubs but maybe not some of the smaller ones, was then suggested to get the locals involved

It was questioned what the board is currently doing to increase membership?

Marie discussed that there are ideas but having the people and resources is problematic. Wanting to do things such as the Development and Mentoring programs.

The idea of having some of the seminar filmed and posted to YouTube was brought, as would help with engagement. Only a teaser and max 10mins. Marie to discuss idea with Development and Mentoring managers.

Wendy has committed to be at all South Island rides, she will write a small write up on each ride to be posted to the ESNZ pages.

Mini Schedules & TMP – Getting them in on time –

There were concerns raised over where responsibility lies with. It was agreed that it was the ultimate responsibility of the TD to ensure everything for the mini schedule & TMP was in place.

It was thought that making this should be made clear with TD's and that they were aware of their responsibilities.

Timeframes for getting mini schedules in is one week, there was some agreement that this timeframe was realistic. Important to have the track sorted a week prior and setting clear expectations. The mini schedule should be sent to the Sports Administrator along with a copy to the TD. If it is not complete it is up to the TD to ensure it is.

Results –

Addressed the matter of results being slow and incorrect what can be done to do this better. Was agreed it would be better if everyone was using the same system as every club seems to be using

Spoke about the option of using an external company such as Equestrian entries to do the whole thing such as entries, payment, results etc. The concern was the cost involved in setting something like this up, could be well in the tens of \$1000's.

Wendy has her system available and she is working on updating this with Alan in work on some bugs. She will look at options with Alan to have interface with internet to take payments etc.

Agreed we should put together a working group of people such as Wendy, Dave Hadler etc, with the expertise to investigate the issue and come up with some options best suited. Agreed having the one system to include Entries, Payment, and results. Making it simple.

Novice Riders at Championships-

It was largely agreed that novice rides should be a part of our championship events, the issue of an unruly horse at recent nationals was addressed and was decided that this is down to the officials on the day.

Helen did bring up that this wouldn't be an issue with the 3-day format, Marie addressed this and brought up the issue of funding and the raffles at the recent Nationals, not all clubs were onboard with selling tickets to support the event. It was then discussed that when the Nationals are put on by the board there is more of a hands-off feel, and clubs are less likely to feel involved.

National Rules; Back to back 40km Rides –

The concern that riders who opt to do back to back 40kms will not be allowed to ride in FEI events in the future, and riders may start out not wanting to ride FEI and change their minds as their horses move through the system and become competitive.

There was differing opinions some thinking that it should be down to the riders and they should be educated and others that it should not be an option as will be an issue down the track.

It was discussed that multiday events would be a better option and that events with the first day's events starting in the afternoon is working well.

Board reduction from 7 to 5 & quorum to 3 –

Marie brought up the idea of reducing the board from 7 to 5, and quorum from 5-3 due to the reducing member numbers and the involvement of all 7 members.

Mostly agreed, however was discussed that only needing 3 peoples support could cause issues like 18 months ago and its easy to sway 3 and not 5.

Marie did mention that zoom meetings is working well, but face to face is better.

Phillip suggested that the **ESNZ Board Member does not need** to be on the board

Marie also brought up AGM Quorum reduction from 30 to 20

FEI Forum-

Was discussed how submissions were working and Marie clarified this would be done as a whole, we say yes or no to all changes and won't be individual changes, the differences between Vicky's role and Jenny's involvement.

Date for submissions is needing to be clarified but was thought that was Aug cut-off for a Nov vote. Was thought it would be online submissions.

There was the concern raised that the survey sent out and completed prior to Jenny going to forum had leading questions and was aimed for a specific an answer. Also, that this was open to everyone and not just people who were currently involved in the sport. Marie confirmed it was open to all ESNZ members, however responses were filtered for relevance.

Philip brought up the issue that in future there may be a World Championships on this side of world, and we may not be prepared. Was agreed that this ties into mentoring and development programs and HP

Combined CEI/CEN Trial is over –

Was agreed that this should be left as it is, good for people to have choice and people are still wanting to do both and the divide between CEI/CEN has gone

Issue raised of the trophies; Sue confirmed that now the trial is over they can contact the people who donated the trophies to confirm where they should go.

Helen then brought up that as an official it is sometimes hard to distinguish between the 2, if anyone has had a fall and the correct process to follow. There was then discussion around the process for a head knock and who the responsibility lies with.

High Performance -

Marie brought up that in the past that HP has been held at arm's length and this has contributed to a disconnect. Warren thought that due to conflicts of interest on the board, and this was the reason for the arm's length approach. Also agreed there needed to be more depth to HP

Philip discussed his experience and the real issue with communication.

Marie confirmed the board were hoping to meet with the new HP manager Simon, Marie wanted to ensure that this discussion had a clear plan on how he was supporting endurance moving forward.

Philip brought up that there had been no report on what happened in Tyron. Philip, Helen and everyone involved had been asked for feedback and had spent considerable time in completing it and never received the outcomes. He also said there was no debrief and the survey was generic 1-10 rated questions rather than specific feedback, Helen felt they had just been lumped in with everyone. It was felt that it was a perfect display of what was happening and the disconnect between the board, HP and the riders.

It was generally felt that a report on the events in Tryon should have been published so we can learn from our mistakes and move forward from it. Marie confirmed that the events at Tyron had been addressed on an individual basis and were complete.

It was also discussed that people feel when they travel as part of ESNZ and HP that they lose their ability to make decisions involving themselves and their horse. Marie agreed that this was something to address with Simon because this may impact on people wanting to be a part of HP and travel overseas. It was also thought that HP needs to concentrate on more local events e.g. Australia as well to give athletes and horses more experience. Marie confirmed that this had been part of the last board meeting and would be looked at moving forward.

ESNZ Constitution review– Warren here to discuss

Warren discussed the ESNZ changes are currently just a consultation period and not currently a proposal at this point. Warren felt that endurance has a good structure and that it's important for endurance to keep its current structure rather than areas groups and stressed the need to submit on keeping alternative structures available.

The consultation is currently hitting roadblocks, and will take time, there is also no urgency around this as government changes have not yet been made and are still in the process.

Marie suggested that as we were talking about the constitution and bylaws were we better to wait to review our bylaws.

Was agreed it was great to have a representative in Warren on the panel as currently on 4.

Warren discussed the principle issue is the current structure and moving forward need to be more vertical and not horizontal.

Warren also felt it was better to be INC club, costing approx. \$105, offers more protection to clubs in scenarios where there is theft, and fraud of club funds and equipment.

Sue explained the current issues with funding, that when we ask as part of ESNZ it can stop other disciplines receiving funding, so we need to be mindful of this moving forward.

Wendy brought up that our biggest funding is our membership which we don't get back. What benefits are we currently getting for ESNZ? It was largely agreed that in the current environment it was important to be affiliated, and that the benefits such as insurance, accountability etc.

Other –

It was brought up at last forum it was agreed that the Championship events being run on a roster system. We have commitment from both Island hosting clubs for 2020 as well as Nationals. There was concern that some clubs would not take on responsibility when it was their turn. As we have presently got buy-in and acceptance from clubs for this coming season it was decided there is nothing to "fix" at this stage. The clubs and Board need to have flexibility to ensure this roster will work.

The issue was raised that entries into the North Island Championships had not been accepted and that this sets a precedence for the future. Marie confirmed that the OC has the final say and can refuse any entry. It was agreed that this is important as we have had incidents in the past, and every club has the right to protect themselves.

Meeting end 2pm