



Meeting Minutes

South Island Endurance Forum

20th May 2023, start 10:00am

Venue: Dunstan Fibre Fresh NEC Christchurch

Present: Sue Reid (Chair), Sue Billigheimer, Ron Guest, Nick Page, Kate Honour, Sue Landis, Louise Holmes, Ursula Keenan, Wendy Farnell, Vicky Copland, Kelley Duncan, Jane Ferguson, Jo Foster, Ian Gray, Alistair Holmes, Jorja James, Robbie James, Sophie James, Rena Johnson, Susie Latta, Andrea Rigby, Helen Bray, Phillip Graham, Kevin, James, Sarah Hamer, Marga Marshall, Zoey Marshall, David Marshall.

Welcome

Sue Reid welcomed everyone to the meeting. Great to see such a big turnout.

Championship Rides

The board have put through a suggestion of having a central team of individual members that are prepared to be available to help with the organisation of Championship rides. The individuals, not necessarily board members with particular strengths i.e. officials, funding, Evo etc, can be called upon as required to help. A central pool of money could be made available so that profits could go on to the next Championships. After the North Island Forum, it was thought that this should start with Island Championships (Nationals has made a profit for several years) with each club chipping in to provide the seed money.

Difficulties found by Clubs.

Getting correct and current officials and vets, Funding, sponsorship, Getting Crew/helpers

Some questions were asked about with a shrinking sport why are we doing FEI?

This has been the host club's choice for several years.

The NI had asked around holding one Championship in each Island a year either Islands or Nationals, but it was felt that we don't want to lose rides. A pathway to elevate with opportunity to ride overseas was seen as crucial to success. Some work has been ongoing in this area.

With so many good people with experience around with to help there should be no reason to pull out. We should be celebrating success.

Mackenzie found SI's not much different from running a club ride.

Some clubs felt they may not have money to "chip in". There are ways of doing fundraisers.

Running Championships should not take away from running club rides. Some clubs felt they didn't have enough resources and/or tracks.

Feedback had been given to Canterbury that some tracks were repetitive and road verges were boring. Given early in the season lambing, calving and wetter weather etc it is understood that is the best way to ensure that a track is available and perhaps the correct response with a positive vibe could help alleviate some of this. Riders have networks of farmers that allow access but although often limited to 10km worth asking.

Intro days should be able to be fundraisers.

Calendar

Ursula has put up a calendar based on ideal timing. It is fully understood that landowners/beach tides etc may not suit dates put forward and they are not set in stone at all.

Calendar on the club liaison page and has been e-mailed.

SI suggested as 13/14th Jan to give time in between nationals (extra time for South Island due to travel for Nats) NI suggested as 3/4th Feb.

Rosta was a good idea. Needs updating with different clubs.
Possibly East Coast could host SI's as they have tracks.

Club Structure

It was strongly felt this should stay as is.

Growing the sport.

As tabled could clubs run winter series/low level winter days. Should be any intro days summer or winter but will need to be low level only. The days will need to be scheduled. Call them promotional days. They can be used as fundraisers.

Jackpots are also great fundraisers.

Other ideas include doing rider profiles, investigate inviting pony clubs.

Secondary Schools competition is happening again in August.

FEI Rides

Nick Page reported from the FEI Sports Forum.

The FEI forum was very Eurocentric. UK, Spain and other countries supported and understood our issues. Eventing in NZ have similar issues.

The board will discuss and reply with a letter through the NF to the president and head of Endurance at FEI.

Other options being looked into by HP.

South Africa with lease horses available. At embryonic stage.

Trans-Tasman -Australia have said they want to re-engage. Several attempts have been made over the past year with no reply. Approaches could be made at Quilty.

Need to leave the door open.

Taking horses to Australia is much cheaper than Europe/USA

Advisory Update

FEI rule changes were dominant up to February.

Evo has been used as a means of using technology.

Discussions with DRNZ have prompted a proposal from them. Still to be evaluated as board had not received. Some for some against allowing DRNZ rides as a way of qualifying. Possibly up to 40 km could be trialled in South Island. Questions around how to cross reference and equality of rides, timing, veterinary (equivalence of care) and officials.

Need to find some common ground.

Some cost road blocks in 80km rides. To be looked at.

We can count rides from Australia under different rules.

ESNZ riders can ride DRNZ and get KMs credited (DRNZ members only) Could ESNZ members get DRNZ KMs

Could look at focus groups.

Alternative structure

Need a strategy with action plan and timeframe and accountability.

EVO

Some having problems with entering particularly with poli pay.

General Other issues/Comments

Forum has been positive.

HP. Used to have a great development squad.

Rules

Horse registration should have start fee same for novice (incl 80km)

No 80 Km open before 100km same as FEI -Why do we make it harder? Maybe just have speed restriction for first 12 months.

Separate class for JY CEI and CEN and Championship for both.

Despite speed restrictions we could give placings at Novice. So, one class but speed restrictions for novice horse/riders.

Should be allowed equal placings at club rides.

Close of Meeting: 2.40pm