



## Meeting Synopsis

ESNZ Eventing Board Meeting held;  
10.00am 12 February 2020  
ESNZ Offices, Panama Street, Wellington

**Present:** Graham Fox, Marg Evans (chair), Raewyn Eastwood, Maree Burnett, Clive Long, Jane Callaghan, Bundy Philpott (NI Rider rep), Rosie Edwards (OC rep), Leonne Jones (OC rep), Lydia Truesdale (SI Rider rep)

**Attended by:** Eliza Johns (Sport Manager), Hamish Butler-Gallie (TAG Chair)

**Apologies:** Dana Kirkpatrick

The Chair opened the meeting, formally welcoming all board members to the meeting and to Wellington and thanking them for giving their time to the board and the sport.

**1. Minutes:**

- a. Moved minutes of the meeting 31 October 2019 be approved as true and correct record of the meeting.
- b. Moved minutes of the zoom meeting 9 December 2019 be approved as a true and correct record of the meeting.
- c. Moved minutes of the meeting 22 January 2020 be approved as true and correct record of the meeting.
- d. It was agreed that correspondence received and sent is dated.

**2. Reports:**

- a. Chair Report. The chair tabled her report and moved that it be accepted.
- b. Sport Manager Report. The meeting ran short of time so did not address the Sport Manager's report. The report was circulated post meeting by email.
- c. Finance Report. The finance report to 31 December 2019 was presented in the printed board papers. The December P&L was provided in the meeting.
  - Key points to note in the finance report:
  - Expenditure is well within budget. No issues to raise.
  - Income down on budget with both Annual Starts and Start Levies below forecasted budget. There was decreased income due to events not running but partly recovered by others that were in the calendar. NZ3DE 95-L classes will make a contribution to start levies but at this stage it is hard to estimate how many will start in these classes.
  - At this point it is expected that the financial year will finish around 10k down on budgeted income.
  - Other expenditure will not meet budget which will help offset effect on the year end result.
  - Accounts receivable - bad debts sit at 7.5k. These are being actively chased by SM and Finance team.

- Commercial access to athletes post Olympics and what opportunities are available to our sport – to be discussed with HPD – Simon Bennett around what plans can be made to maximise opportunity should NZ medal at Tokyo.
- d. Technical Advisory Group report was circulated prior to the meeting and discussed later in the meeting.
- e. NZ3DE Subcommittee. Event director working hard and getting prepared. Expenditure budget is on track. Finding sponsorship revenue is still a difficult space however the team are working to secure sponsors as soon as practicable.
- f. NEC Rep Reports. NEC Rep Reports were circulated prior to the meeting.
- g. Subcommittee Taupo XC Working group report was tabled.

### **3. General Business**

- a. ESNZ Database Project. The meeting agreed that Diane Gilder, Hamish Butler-Gallie and Pamela Long be selected as eventing representatives to be involved in the ESNZ database workshops to give rider, official and OC perspective.
- b. Eventing Auckland  
Maree Burnett and Eliza attended the Eventing Auckland AGM. The reported financial outcomes from the events were noted.
- c. ESNZ Board Update  
Maree as our rep on the Board reported on the actions and recent outcomes from the ESNZ Board.
  - Discipline Reps to ESNZ Board. The ESNZ Board has recently agreed terms of reference for discipline reps on the ESNZ board.
  - Database – it is recognised that this is a significant issue, large amount of money spent to date, stressful for staff and management.
  - Constitution review – Scott McKenna is chairing the working group.
  - NZPCA relationship. Governance to governance level conversation
  - Board appointments – process for advertising for board appointments – panel of Lynda/Consultant/3<sup>rd</sup> board member.
  - Reviewed board subcommittees but did not make any formal changes.
- d. Arena Eventing Review of Puhinui  
Report prepared by Jane Callaghan was taken as read. Puhinui Three Day Event was used as a demo to illustrate how the arena eventing format can contribute to the bottom line of an event. The outcome was very positive. It is felt that the strongest opportunities for this format is at events where there are only upper level classes or at jumping shows. The board believes this will help bring jumping riders into the sport.
  - Action: The rules need to be Aligned with express guidelines to avoid introduction of a 3<sup>rd</sup> set of rules. Agreed that TAG/ and Jane discuss. Board to communicate with OCs regarding format proposal. Jane to liaise with Rosie and Leonne on this.
- e. YR & JR One Day Championships 2020-2021. It was agreed to award the hosting of the JR & YR OD Champs for 2020/2021 season to Northern Hawkes Bay in October 2020. It was agreed to award the hosting of the JR and YR OD Champs for 2021/2022 season to Central and Southern Hawkes Bay at Arran Station.
- f. NI One Day Championships – Arran Station. It was agreed that Central and Southern Hawkes Bay call their event the North Island one day champs in October 2020. An unofficial title that carries no national trophies.
- g. Board Member Appointments  
Amendment – Raewyn Eastwood appointed for three years which ends at the 2022 AGM. Raewyn was appointed until the 2018 AGM and then reappointed at that meeting.

It was agreed to activate our appointment process for vacant positions on the board to go through process in time for eventing AGM in July where positions could be ratified. Two positions – skill set as advertised during 2018 and the second of commercialisation. Positions to be advertised.

- h. Technical Advisory Group Update, Hamish Butler-Gallie spoke to his report of TAG.
- The process for seminars and follow-up paperwork and communication was verbally communicated to the board. It was noted that List 2 officials looking to transfer are given the performance assessment/evaluation sheet so they can benchmark themselves, assess where they are at before they are actually assessed during a role at an event. This was introduced when it was identified that seminars themselves do not allow enough time to evaluate people appropriately.
  - TAG meetings – the group has experienced some difficulties in getting face to face meetings. However, the group have now committed to two further meetings in 2020.
  - Discussion took place over the purpose/value of having a board member sit on TAG vs TAG rep on the Board. It was agreed that no change to current structure be made and that the TAG chair would continue to attend Eventing Board meetings. Meeting dates to be sent to TAG chair as soon as possible to provide best opportunity for attendance to happen.
  - Visibility of TAG to the membership was questioned and it was agreed that better promotion of this is needed. Sport Manager to action via 10min box and social channels.
  - Communication with OCs – tends to be on new items eg rules, helmets, missed fences.
  - Communication with Officials – could be more regular.
  - Course Design Guidelines almost complete – will be available within next 4-6 weeks.
  - Coronial Findings from Equestrian Australia incidents.  
ESNZ Eventing systems and rules already meet the standards recommended by the coroner with the exception of a guided course walk for riders with the course designer at events.  
It was discussed and agreed that this would be a positive introduction to the sport, particularly at the lower levels for riders who do not have experience walking courses.  
Action: OC reps to work with TAG to trial at some events.
  - Honorarium fees for officials. Discussion over how officials are remunerated or rewarded for their workload. Suggestion that the roles and responsibilities of officials has changed and grown over recent years and there is concern over the shrinking volunteer base if it is limited to only those who can afford it. Sustainability is very important and the board does not wish to place a heavier burden on organisers should standard fees/minimum honorarium be introduced. There is also concern that should 'payment' be introduced then the volunteer nature 'doing it for the love of the sport' is lost.  
A broad discussion took place and the board were unanimous in their thinking that OCs must ensure they are upfront and clear with officials as to what they are offering in exchange for official service at the event. – need a communication on this.
  - Outcome from the FEI Aintree Seminar for the Board is coming from RAG within the next week.
- i. Communications with Takapoto  
Eliza to meet with Jonathan Paget and Mitch Plaw with a view to discussing Takapoto as a future eventing competition venue.
- j. 2020 AGM and Conference. 4-5 July combined event in Wellington at the James Cook Hotel with, Jumping, Endurance and Eventing and possibly Dressage.
- k. Taupo February Event. Letter tabled from Technical Team of the event regarding riders wishing to ride on the indoor surface for jumping test of higher level classes. As a consequence the following was discussed:
- If there is an issue with the outside sand surfaces at NEC Taupo making them not suitable for jumping? Write to Eventing Rep on NEC Taupo asking for action.
  - The indoor surface is seen as the best surface at the centre, but it is only just within the Eventing rules in regards to arena size. Lighting isn't suitable as there is inconsistency throughout the day, unless the lights are turned on.
  - It was suggested that all Jumping at future Taupo events needs to be on the grass if the sand indoor surface can't be used. This needs to be communicated to the organisers.
- j. Financial Sustainability – supporting FEI Organising Committees  
A letter to be sent to FEI OCs as drafted was discussed. The purpose is an information gathering exercise to

ensure Eventing Board on the right track with the information being sought and to ensure OCs have the chance to input on areas needing focus. A similar letter to be sent to OCs running national competitions as well.

It was suggested that all OCs be asked to complete the questionnaire to get a full picture of the sport in NZ.

**Meeting closed at 4.30pm**