



Minutes of Forum - ESNZ Endurance
9.05am Saturday 31st July 2021
At the James Cook Hotel, Wellington

Present:

Deirdre Bartlett, Maylie Bernard, Heidi Bulfin, Trevor Copland, Vicky Copland, Ron Guest, Jorja James, Kevin James, Rena Johnsen, Jess Kennedy, Susan Latta, Marga Marshall, Jacqui Mason, Pip Mutch, Hollie Nicolson, Daryl Owen, Nick Page, Susan Reid, Andrea Rigby, Andrea Smith, Murray Smith, John Stevenson, Rachel Stocks, Ana Whitehead, Scott Whitehead, Vicky Whitehead, Tony Parsons

Apologies

Jenny Champion, Ruth Dawber, Shane Dougan, Kelley Duncan, Tracy Dunford, Wendy Farnell, Jane Ferguson, Sandy Hickman, Rachael Hills, Louise Holmes, Leanne Ireland, Jo Lankow, Heidi Pene, Jenny Weston, Hanna Whitehead, Mike Bragg, Bridgett James, Sylvia Ireland, Georgia Smith

The forum was chaired by Sue Reid, Chair of the ESNZ Endurance Board.

Sue welcomed everyone to the forum and asked for any items members wanted added to the agenda. TMP's were added to the agenda.

1. Championship Events – Financial Arrangements

- Nick Page gave an overview of what the Board is looking at regarding championship events and presented the idea of profit sharing and what the membership would see as a fair ratio for this, possibly 60/40 or 50/50.
- Rachel Stocks - when Waitaki were to host the 2020 Nationals before Covid caused them to be cancelled the Club was happy to sign 50/50 profit share arrangement and they did well as a club because of Covid work. Rachel said that Vicky Copland may want to comment but she didn't wish to.
- Andrea Rigby - clubs also have a lot of expenses outside champs e.g. TMPs etc. TMPs are becoming harder and more expensive.
- Andrea Smith- Ruahine Club try to make a profit at club rides because they expect to make a loss at Champs rides.
- Kevin James - costs are fixed regardless of numbers – lower numbers so money isn't there.
- Nick – we are missing the lower level riders.
- Jacqui Mason - advertising is lacking – nothing online from ESNZ for people to find, need to get it out there anyone can ride.
- Kevin - Ron Guest & Tony Parsons are doing a review of the sport. We have no profile and hard pathway to get to top level, no incentive for adults or kids to get into sport.
- Nick – difficulty working with DRNZ to co-ordinate calendars etc. and keeping civility between ESNZ Endurance & DRNZ.

- Trevor Copland - the ease of using the DRNZ website, the ESNZ website did not come up and difficult to use ESNZ website
- Heidi Bulfin - googled and ESNZ came up first.
- Nick – focus on marketing needs to be improved.
- Deirdre Bartlett - asked Murray & Andrea Smith about the girls time at Nga Tawa College and if any of those girls went to endurance rides? Andrea advised the college only took the truck and girls to the Ruahine Club's beach ride a couple of times.
- Jacqui – Pony Clubs are a good place to start it was then said that there is an endurance badge was available to pony clubs.
- Sue Reid - quite a few pony clubs have issued the badges. The riders enjoy the day but still end up going jumping etc.
- Andrea Smith - thought prizes and rosettes etc. are a draw card as for some a ribbon is everything.
- Heidi – winning means a lot for some people, draw card for lower levels if they can win.
- Kevin - pointed in Waitaki Club having short distance rides, a lack of a social event at their club rides, need to make sure they feel welcomed.
- Andrea Smith– need to help newbies but hard when you have your own competition going on.
- Jacqui – if a club is making large profit 60 – 40 would be a good split.
- Sue asked for show of hands for a 60/40 profit split (60% to the Sport, 40% to the club) up to the amount of the grant that the club receives from ESNZ Endurance. Majority in favour.
- Nick – board discussed underwriting it and thought clubs might not work as hard if they know money is there.
- Nick – NZEVA Foundation is in good financial state and he suggested writing a letter to see if they will earmark money specifically for vets at championship events.
- Nick – be more engaged with local community.
- Andrea Smith– if you hold rides out of your area it is hard when you don't know area/locals well.
- Kevin – big screens, info going out around country, live streaming, GPS tracking,
- Sue – try to find sponsor for technical side.

2. Rules

- Kevin spoke on the rules. Championship Rules are CEN rides but optional to run CEI classes. Kevin feels it should be a level playing field. There are trophies for FEI series so we need to hold FEI events so they can be given out. Never been easier to run FEI as at the moment we can't get overseas officials into the country. Clubs need to consider running CEI rides alongside CEN rides.
- Rachel – since we need extra for qualifying we need them CEI.
- Sue – if Nick could secure funding for vets that would help.
- Heidi – we have always made a small loss when running non-champs 1* and 2* rides. There are a small number of riders doing them so perhaps FEI entries need to be a bit higher to cover this, like they are in many other countries.
- Nick – rides in Australia are a cohesive environment and reliant on non-FEI riders to make rides work. The current direction of the FEI I is driving the world into becoming a European scenario.
- Nick – rules aimed at protecting horses don't protect any at all.
- Sue – need someone to front for us at FEI. We have to keep sponsors for FEI series.
- Andrea Smith - if there's only a few people riding then what does series really mean.
- Sue still people who do have aspirations to represent NZ so need to keep FEI for them.

- Kevin – 25 years ago we voted to follow the FEI rules. In Aussie in September vet rings were not integrated. There are now very few supporting FEI in Aussie. Standards are higher with FEI rules integrated. Will standards of vetting/officials stay high if we lose FEI? Plenty have had lots of opportunity under FEI systems but FEI is disadvantaging us with rules.
- Andrea Smith – can't blindly follow the FEI rules if it's killing sport.
- Murray – rules are based on every ride ridden like you are out to win.
- Trevor – got to get people in sport first.
- Daryl - collective bargaining.
- Sue – get in touch with Aussie to get some power. Rule should stay as it is so clubs get an option.
- Murray – there is a misconception if we get rid of FEI we will lose standards. How much cost will we save if we drop FEI as standards won't drop much. Ham stringing rules are the problem.
- Kevin – Kids want to follow the pathway but looking impossible under FEI for juniors since kms don't transfer over when step up to FEI.
- Sue - asked Ana Whitehead how she felt and Ana said FEI was a pathway she wanted to continue as she was looking to represent at a high level.

3. High Performance - moved to be discussed under general business at AGM.

4. Traffic Management Plans

- Andrea Rigby - new rules Regarding TMPs from this season are harder, special people are required and more expense involved. Suggested having a qualified person to be funded but what if they get ill or could not make date of the ride. It is costly to do and not an ideal situation.
- Vicky has been told there will be checks that TMPs are followed correctly.
- Sue –will ask ESNZ Board if they had heard about anything TMPs and see if they can help. Getting grants was suggested as well.
- Jacqui – Clubs are bullying inexperienced national TDs to not do the job correctly and to turn a blind eye and sign off on courses that have not got TMPs in place.

5. EMT's/Ambulances for competitions

- Heidi – advised First aiders will need to be upgraded over the next year.
- Discussion on EMT's/Ambulances for competitions.

Forum closed at 11am.