

Central District Trainers Association

Annual General Meeting

4.00pm, 17th July 2016

Awapuni Racecourse, Palmerston North

PRESENT: Matthew EALES, Kevin GRAY, Peter DIDHAM, Tony BAMBRY, Mike BRESLIN, Richard FENCH, Wendy COOPER, Garry VILE & Paul CLARIDGE.

APOLOGISES: R BERGERSON, E & A RENNIE.

Previous Minutes: True & Correct Nom: Kevin Gray
Sec: GV

Matters Arising:

FOXTON RACECOURSE:

Mr. Tony BAMBRY seemed to have the most up to date knowledge surrounding the present situation in regards to the future of the Foxton Racecourse. The Club has a new running rail in place and have received consent to push on with development on course. In theory this would mean once the Club have installed a new Commentator and Judge Box, then the venue can be available to be utilised for race-days again; when that would occur was not that clear.

Members felt that this would be a positive move as clearly tracks within the region cannot cope with the current workload.

PRESIDENT REPORT:

Given by MR. VILE

TREASURERS REPORT:

Read and Tabled by Mr. CLARIDGE

Accepted: GV

Seconded: Kevin

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

President:	G VILE	Nom:	Mike
		Sec:	Kevin
Vice President:	R BERGERSON	Nom:	Matthew
		Sec;	Peter
Secretary / Treasurer	P CLARIDGE	Nom:	Kevin
		Sec:	Mike

PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES:

Mike BRESLIN, Mathew EALES, David HOWARTH & Garry VILE

(B Wall e-mailed 18 July 2018)

TRACK REPRESENTATIVES:

Waverley	Bill THURLOW
Wanganui	Evan RAYNER
Awapuni	Garry VILE
Woodville	Shane BROWN
Foxton	Sandy COOKSON
Levin	Sylvia KAY
Otaki	Johnno BENNER

Opaki	Rodger ALLEN
Tauherenikau	Aaron BIDLAKE
Hastings	Patrick CAMPBELL

CENTRAL DISTRICT TRAINERS ASSOCIATION

Evan RAYNER, Lisa LATTA, Patrick CAMPBELL, Kevin GRAY.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

NATIONAL UPDATE

MESSARA REPORT

Mrs COOPER updated those present in relation to the pending MESSARA report. Indications are that Mr. MESSARA has a very sound understanding of the NZ Racing environment and the situation our member are facing. Further to this it is suggested that the Racing Minister Winston PETERS is prepared to act on the recommendations that are made in the MESSARA report.

RIU INVESTIGATIVE PROCESSES

The NZTA have again approached the Racing Board in an endeavour to establish Trainers Rights when dealing with the RIU and JCA as some of the tactics reported by members continue to cause concerns in regards to these been ethical and / or having due consideration for the individual's rights. Unfortunately the NZRB still evade our request for such information and one must question if in fact there is any Guidelines or Rules associated with how members of the RIU must conduct any investigation.

PROGRAMMING BOOKLET

As members will be aware the Racing Calendar will cease to exist in the upcoming season, instead there will be a 'Programming Booklet' produced. Mrs COOPER had a version available and those present provided feedback that she will deliver to the NZTR.

OUTER RIM SHOES

Mrs COOPER sort CDTA member's feedback on the implementation of 'Outer rimmed' shoes. The consensus of those present was that while there may be some advantage to horses that wear them on wet track the use of them was up to individual Trainers. Some people expressed concerns around the supply of these shoes.

Any member who would like to offer their feedback should contact Mrs COOPER.

NATIONAL BODY FINANCIAL POSITION

Mrs. COOPER reported that given the new funding model the NZTA National Body is no longer insolvent.

GENERAL BUSINESS

PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE

Discussion was held about the advantages of having our members on the Programming Committee as some members have had to retire horses because they could no longer gain starts in certain Rating Bands. Mr. VILE advised that this is a strong forum for Trainers and encouraged those representing the CD to be united in our demands.

We discussed the merits of the new rating bands (R72 & R82) and the difference that this may have on retaining horses. While we agreed it was a positive step some suggested that at certain times through the season there may be a need for even further refinement of those rating band (eg R60) as many have lost horses that they could no longer get starts for. Many felt that R60 type races would work well at mid-week meetings, as it would cater for those horses that may have 'missed a couple of times' and needed to run and also for those horse that could still race but just may not have the potential to compete at the high end of the grades in Saturday class fields.

Along the same line it was suggested that when we do have sufficient nominations for races to split races, that we split the races through the middle

of the ratings rather than mixing them all together so that we have horses with the same type of ratings racing the like. This may encourage some Owners to continue with lesser horses.

While we were aware that certain Racing Managers in our area were against such refinements we emphasised that if the horse population warranted such refinement then those same demand's needed to be meet. Our Programming Committee is strong and our representatives will strongly advocate for such refinement when required.

The matter will be raised at the National AGM.

ATTENDANCE NUMBER

The number of members attending our meetings is concerning. We continue to look at ways to maximise the opportunity for members to come along. If anyone has any suggestion then they are encouraged to consult members of the committee.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Grant SEARLE will be nominated at the AGM for life membership of the NZTA

OUTSOURCING OF FIXED ODDS

Despite the protest of many industry participants the RIB continues to advocate that the 'Outsourcing of fixed Odds betting' are on schedule and under budget. They continue to push on with this proposal despite our protest and appear to have little consideration for the opinion of those involved at the 'coal face' of the industry.

In addition to this we expressed concerns at the RIB's continued claims that they are growing the TAB client basis. While we acknowledge the account holder numbers may have increase we question the cost of 'buying' customers with industry money. Constant free bets and give away promotions have not made any difference to the returns been delivered to our industry.

TONGUE TIES

Many people had seen the recent events in Australia whereby Social Welfare activist had made a number of horse welfare claims via Social Media. One of those welfare issues was the implied inhumane use of 'tongue ties'. While we must be aware of the constant scrutiny we face in today world fortunately New Zealand racing have been more pro-active with our horse welfare policy than our counterparts in Australia.

MEETING CLOSED 5.25pm

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