

2023 Annual General Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday 28 July 2023

Time: 19:00

Venue: Zoom Online Meeting Platform

Notice is hereby given of the Annual General Meeting of Dressage Tasmania Incorporated.

1. **Present** – Judy Atkinson, Alana Fazackerley, Gillian von Bertouch, Alison Hall, Tania Hay, Heather Stewart, Sue Lamont, Suzan McDermott, Bernadette Gibson, Jody Rybarczyk, Penelope Moore, Tammy Cunningham, Sharen White, Teresa Darcy, Suane Lawrence, Jenny Wilson

2. **Apologies**

Suzanne Betts, Megan Whalley, Judy Peel, Alison Lamont

3. **Confirmation of Previous Minutes:**

Moved – Sue Seconded – Tania

4. **Business Arising from 2021-22 Minutes**

Nil

5. **Chairpersons Report for 2022-23**

Dressage Tasmania has had another year of highlights, among them the Hygain Tasmanian Dressage Championships run with great flare and organisation by the NW Zone. A wonderful showcase for our sport.

On behalf of all members past and present I would like to thank Sue Lamont for all her work and dedication on behalf of Dressage over many years. Sue was presented with Life Membership of Dressage Tasmania at the Equestrian Tasmania Ball, a well-deserved recognition of her contributions.

All three Zones have continued to run numerous competitions and training days, we truly appreciate all the time and effort everyone puts in to keep events running.

We've been extremely fortunate to have a dedicated Central Committee over the past year, I thank all of you for the support you've given me as Chair.

Our Treasurer Alison Hall has been very active and successful with grant applications, gaining support for diverse projects including Judge education training days, tablets for the Southern Zone and the Judges' area at Thirlstane.

We've a challenging year ahead with implementing of Stewards at all competitions and much work to be done on increasing club membership and entry numbers, along with ground improvements but I'm confident Dressage Tasmania will continue to thrive.

Judy Atkinson

6. **Treasurer's Report for 2022-23**

2022-23 SDA Treasurer Report presented by Treasurer Alison Hall.

Financials Year on Year Report and General Account graphs reflecting expenditure attached to Minutes.

- General Account: closing funds \$37,027.36
- Championships account: Closing funds \$4,623.09 (Float for next year)
- Judge Education Account: Closing funds \$20,258.26
- Development Squad Account: Closing funds \$4,437.97

- Young Rider Account: Closing funds \$1096.60

Membership numbers: To be compiled for past 2-3 years and sent to Zones.

Moved: Alison Hall Seconded: Alana Fazackerley

7. Dressage Officials Panel Report 2022-23

Firstly, thank you to all our Judges and Stewards who have worked to ensure Dressage Tasmania continues to hold successful competitions.

We've had increasing pressure on our officials to keep up with constant rule changes and added requirements to retain accreditation. Working with Vulnerable People registration is now required for Judges and Stewards. Anyone commencing G Level or Stewarding needs to complete Australian Institute of Sport Officiating Principles online.

Congratulations to Annelise Britt on gaining her G Level. I'm sure this will be the start of a long judging career.

Well done also to two of our F Levels working towards their E, Gill von Bertouch and Wendy Asman, who headed to Sydney and judged for the entire Hawkesbury Festival. This is the second-year Tasmanian Judges have been involved and Hawkesbury would like to continue the association as they've been impressed by the judging and it's a great opportunity for our judges to officiate over large and diverse classes.

After difficulty setting dates, we now have Stewards' workshop dates set for North and South. It is vital Zones support these as we cannot run any competitions going forward without a Steward in attendance.

In September Bernadette Gibson will run a G, F, E seminar at CVEC. I urge all our Judges, and anyone think of taking up judging to attend.

The past year has seen the existing DOP committee unable to meet. Given the large amount of rule updates and issues to be dealt with Sue Lamont and myself have shared the Officials' roll, with stewarding input from Suzanne Betts.

Going forward I would recommend that the new SDA consider what is the best structure to run our Officials Program, we need to be able to act quickly on information and changes.

Judy Atkinson

8. Steward report

Suzanne has advised she is working with Sue Lamont to organise Steward workshops.

9. Declaration of 2023-24 Committee Members

Thank you to the outgoing committee for a productive year and for the sacrifice of time and effort to support dressage in Tasmania.

All positions on the Dressage Tasmania SDA committee were declared open and nominations invited via email 11 May 2023, follow up posted on Facebook and web site 11 June 2023.

As per the constitution, seven (7) nominations make up the SDA committee. Eleven (11) nominations were received via email, those being (alphabetical order):

1. Alana Fazackerley
2. Alison Hall
3. Gillian von Bertouch
4. Heather Stewart
5. Jenny Wilson
6. Judy Atkinson
7. Penelope Moore

8. Sue Lamont
9. Suanne Lawrence
10. Suzan McDermott
11. Tania Hay

Equestrian Tasmania undertook a Dressage Tasmania financial member vote to determine the required seven (7) committee members following close-off for nominations on 30 June 2023.

The results are (in order of votes received):

1. Sue Lamont
2. Penelope Moore
3. Judy Atkinson
4. Tania Hay
5. Alana Fazackerley
6. Alison Hall
7. Heather Stewart

Office bearer positions will be declared at the SDA General Meeting post AGM and will be announced in due course.

A warm welcome to the new committee and good luck for the 2023-24 season.

10. Notices of Motions

None received.

11. Honorariums

\$650 honorariums for four (4) x, being Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Website Coordinator no honorariums for DOP due to lack of workload, having been in recess during the year.

Moved: Alison Hall Seconded: Sue Lamont

Don Willings and Associates has been auditor for 2022-23. Auditing is not required but it was decided at the 2021 AGM that to remain transparent we agreed to auditing. Audited financials are also a requirement for grant funding purposes.

Katherine Drake Treasurer of Championships Committee to be added for access to Championships bank account.

12. Life Member nominations

Sue Lamont made a Life Member, presented at the Equestrian Tasmania Ball on 24 June 2023.

Moved: Judy Atkinson Seconded: Alison Hall

13. HOTY, POTY, YROTY, OTTOTY Awards

19 nominations were received by email with awards going to:

HOTY	Preliminary	1. Penelope Moore, Clearview Rain Dancer	Average 73.835
		2. Jody Rybarczyk, Oscar De Le Renta BA	Average 66.998
	Novice	1. Kerry Swan Bates, Courtlands Cognac	Average 72.872
		2. Penelope Moore, Clearview Rain Dancer	Average 71.757
	Elementary	1. Nye Williams, Neversfelde Rafael	Average 67.193
		2. Stephanie Temple, Clearview Verdict	Average 66.819
	Medium	1. Amy Griffiths, Debussy	Average 69.425
		2. Bernadette Gibson, Macarthur Furst of All	Average 67.006
	Advanced	1. Jordan Gale, Leadburn Don Amour	Average 61.772

	FEI	1. Judy Peel, Regensturm	Average 66.839
		2. Jordan Gale, Leadburn Don Amour	Average 58.044
POTY	Preliminary	1. Ellie Smith, Fernances Creek Notto	Average 68.374
		2. Leanne Moore, Larilla Mastermind	Average 66.257
	Elementary	1. Millicent Ashton, Glenesk Rush Hour	Average 62.110
YROTY		1. Kenya Broad, Wolter Van Gelder	Average 73.128
		2. Lucy Johnston, Clearview Royal Zeva	Average 65.591
OTTOTY	Thoroughbred	1. Penny Higgins, Cool Chap	Average 66.713
		2. Alana Fazackerley, Merlyn	Average 63.898

Congratulations to everyone.

14. Other Business

14.1 Zone Reports

14.1.1 Northern Zone

N/a

14.1.2 Southern Zone Report 2023-24

Between 1 July 2022 and 30 June 2023, Southern Zone organised nine competitions and 11 training days. Fortunately, unlike the 2021-22 year, none had to be postponed or cancelled due to weather. Entries at competitions have been consistent and are mainly in Prep, Preliminary and Novice, with several riders in Elementary and Medium and one in PSG.

Training days continue to be run nearly every month. They are especially successful in encouraging riders to get started in dressage by having a choice of several coaches; group, private and poles lessons; and test-and-tells. A Come and Try Day in August – no plaiting required and relaxed but safe attire – was successful and will be run again this year. Tania Hay continues to drive these activities.

Following three years of extremely wet conditions and flooded grounds, work is under way at the Tasmanian Equestrian Centre to restore the grass warmup area and to undertake planned work on arenas. A request has been made to SDA for reimbursement of these costs from the Infrastructure Fund.

Southern Zone has negotiated with the Tasmanian Equestrian Centre Committee to introduce fees for riders using our arenas to help defray the costs of maintenance and restoration. While we cannot be sure everyone books and pays for their arena use, we trust the honesty of most riders to do the right thing.

In February, a very successful masterclass with Gary Lung was organised at the Coal Valley Equestrian Centre by Karen Allen. Over 60 spectators attended the masterclass and enjoyed the catered food and bar facilities while attentively watching the five riders. It is intended that another masterclass will be held in February next year.

Yoga for riders has been offered weekly for some months and provides an opportunity for members to get together and improve their fitness and flexibility in a non-equestrian setting.

The ETas 60th Anniversary Ball was enjoyed by many; it was great to see how well everyone frocked up! Volunteer of the Year for Southern Zone was Heather Stewart, who has shown herself to be very worthy of this honour.

The Southern Zone looks forward to hosting the 2024 Tasmanian State Dressage Championships, which will be held at the Tasmanian Equestrian Centre on 3-4 March.

The Championships Committee investigated the possibility of hosting the Championships at the top-class Coal Valley Equestrian Centre. Unfortunately, this time we are unable to make the schedule work with only two arenas. We thank everyone who contributed to our Championships survey earlier this year, your feedback was considered when making this decision.

Excitingly, the new TEC Capricorn all-weather arena will be used for some of the classes at the State Championships. Updates relating to Championships will be posted to Facebook and in the Dressage Tasmania Newsletter.

14.1.3 North West Zone Report 2023-23

2022/2023 all in all was a successful year for the North West Zone. With a motivated and enthusiastic committee with a variety of skill sets and a common goal.

North West hosted a friendly and professional championships lead by Linda Smink and Kenya Broad, who had a strong team around them. Rose and Paul Kemp securing the support of many sponsors making the prize pool inviting for the competitors. A large number of Mainland judges sourced by Judy Atkinson and Sue Lamont was a highlight for riders who gained fresh experienced eyes and with some great scores across all levels we can feel proud our Tassie horses and riders are keeping up with our midland friends.

The North and North West Continue a productive relationship working together on a never-ending mission to improve our facilities for our members. With assets in our zone such as Ali Hall whose continued efforts in grant writing has made a massive impact to the facilities available to our members with upgrades such as a round yard, toilets closer to the parking and new picnic tables and recent approval for a dedicated judge's room and space for judges to be able to have their own space to sit and talk or have a break.

The recent survey completed in our zone, gained a large number of responses. The main feedback being positive the general feedback wanting more competitions than training days, a dedicated enclosed warm up arena at Thirlstane, more yards, more mainland judges.

The North West has elected to run fewer comps this year with a hope that a focus on quality not quantity will drive the numbers up.

Looking forward to flicking the winter mud off and heading into a new season!

Penelope Moore

15 Meeting Closed – 7:48pm on 28 July 2023