



Southern Zone

Newsletter March 2015

Hello Dressage Tas members and friends;

All too soon summer is over and autumn is upon us; coats are moving and it's time to start thinking about winter layers for ourselves and our four-legged family members! The Southern Zone committee has been hard at work in the background making competitions and other events happen. We hope you will find this newsletter an interesting and informative read, of the goings on around the club and at committee level.

The Summer Competition Season:

The summer competition season had a rather dubious start, with the unfortunate decision to cancel January and save our grounds for future competitions.

However, the February competition had great support from members and also successfully hosted the Interschool's State Championships and Young Dressage Horse qualifier.

Maria Schwennesen FEI 4*, YDH judge, Judge Educator and Mentor was kind enough to visit us in the lead-up to this competition. Her hectic schedule involved helping the Young Riders Squad (organised by Jill Schwartz), speaking to judges and other interested dressage enthusiasts on two nights regarding rule book changes, and holding a D & C level judges' workshop with a practical session hosted by Kingston Agistment (the judge education elements were organised by Suzanne Betts).

Maria's energy, knowledge and enthusiasm combined with her practical approach to judging certainly had us all inspired; we wish her well as she is on the judging panel for the Dressage World Cup in Las Vegas in April of this year.

Judges:

It certainly was encouraging to see some new faces at the judges' seminar. It seems that every re-accréditation period we lose judges from our pool of experienced and dedicated individuals, without whom we could not run a competition day. One such individual is Jill Hart, who has given many days of her time to the sport of Dressage and will be retiring as an EA dressage judge at the end of this month. We wish Jill all the best as she enjoys a few more lazy Sunday mornings with her family.

Judging is a very rewarding way to give back to our sport, if you have ever thought it may be something you would like to try please contact Suzanne Betts (chimo@netspace.net.au), or check out the officials' resources page on the EA website to find out more: <http://www.equestrian.org.au/officials-resources>.

Judging makes you read the rule-book very thoroughly, something many riders don't always manage to pay enough attention to, it also compliments your riding and gives you as a rider a greater understanding of what the judges are looking for.

Just a reminder for all current Judges; Please send back their reaccreditation papers and complete the ORBT. The new accreditation period starts on April 1 and goes for 3 years. Details of Seminars and Workshops will be circulated soon!

February Training day, Masterclass and pre-Champs Working Bee:

Originally the brain-child of Rachel Deal, who came to committee with the hope and idea of improving her test riding. The Committee is always eager for new faces to assist with the running of club activities, and Rachel did a super job of developing her ideas and making them happen. Those who attended the master classes run by Sue McDermott and Lydia Jackson at the Training Day on Saturday 21 February will undoubtedly have gleaned some tips for picking up those crucial extra marks in their test riding, and also have been inspired to read their rule-books and test sheets more closely. Sue was assisted by some very able and compliant riders demonstrating test movements, and Lydia's assistant in showing us the higher movements was her magnificent FEI horse Splendido.

Equestrian Tasmania Peter Horobin State Dressage Championships:

This year's championships were a state-wide effort with people from all zones contributing to its organisation. To run an event like this takes many hours of planning and many many volunteers. Some of the southern members that contributed above and beyond include Jill Schwartz, Jenny Hodder and Trish Stagg; plus a big shout out needs to go to Andrew McDermott, Greg Pregnell and Andrew Calvert for their work with the watering system and the grounds. Dressage Tas also extends many thanks to the TEC committee and other clubs who's members assisted with our working bees and organisation, particularly Erin Hunn and her father Leon. Phil Monty from H&D also came on board with technical expertise to set up our computer scoring boards. We are very thankful for the assistance we received and hope that we can return favours to these clubs. We are a small equestrian community in Tasmania, and it's very rewarding when we all work together as this is where planning for bigger and better events for our riders starts!

Next year's Championships is scheduled for the 5th and 6th of March 2016 at TEC. We will be returning to the requirement of qualification scores. All HORSES competing in the Equestrian Tasmania Official State Championships will require TWO OFFICIAL scores over 55% at the level they wish to compete at. The qualifying period is 18th Jan 2015 to 24th Jan 2016. There will be no dispensations given, so start planning your season now.

If you have any ideas that you can assist with planning for the next state championships, please contact Amy Griffiths on amygriffiths101@hotmail.com to discuss.

For full results see the website;

http://www.tas.equestrian.org.au/dressage/sites/default/files/State%20Championships%202015_0.pdf



Automatic watering system installed at the TEC:

The Southern Zone committee has been working over a long time – many years in fact – to provide Southern Zone members with access to the best competition grounds in the state. (In fact, many of the visiting A-level judges comment on the beautiful facilities we are lucky enough to enjoy.)

The completion of Arena 4, and now the installation of an automated watering system to all four arenas means that they can be much more easily maintained, reducing the amount of (expensive) sand lost in windy conditions, and improving the going for all users, thereby saving huge amounts of time and water.

DT South would like to thank Greg Pregnell of Irrigation Tas for his time and expertise designing and installing the system, as well as Andrew McDermott and Andrew Calvert who also gave many hours of time and manpower to install and complete the project in time for the State Championships.

We also thank Paul Brown and the other members who popped in to TEC for a short while – or a long while – to help rake in the 1200m of trench that was opened up.

There have also been many generous donations of materials and equipment that have save the club thousands of dollars, meaning that we have a far better system than we could ever have hoped for, and an extra three taps at the day yards.



A big thank you is extended to the following people for their donations:

Colin Kirkland (Bermad Water Technologies) supplied pressure-reducing valve.

Gavin Jones (Hunter Industries Australia) supplied 4 solenoid valves and all of the pop-up sprinklers for the 4 Arenas

Bob Dunc (Zezt) supplied 3 coils of the big rural poly pipe that takes the water to the Arenas.



The rest of the materials will be purchased by the club from Irrigation Tasmania in Derwent Park. Anyone wanting any of this gear for their club or just for their own arena at home should note that Irrigation Tas operates State-wide, and they have given fantastic service to the Southern Zone.

Fun facts about the job;

- 1200m of trenching was done by Andrew with the Dingo the club hired.
- We will install 32 Hunter pop-up sprinklers around all 4 Arenas
- They will eventually be turned on and off automatically. Previously Alison Watson did this job, taking 32 hours to get around all 4 Arenas.



Advantages:

- Labour-saving – no more moving sprinklers manually
- We can irrigate two arenas at a time, thus reducing the time spent
- More controlled application of the water being delivered, resulting in water-saving into the future.
- Automation and manual override means the arenas can be irrigated in the early hours of the morning before a comp, or if required we can also irrigate at lunch breaks on the day of a competition as we have done leading into the champs.



Amateur Series 2014/15:

The Amateur series for 2014/15 was well supported by riders, despite some trying weather circumstances! Thanks to Millie Ashton and Amy Griffiths for initiating this series to keep us going through the winter months. Congratulations to the eventual winners and placegetters, your perseverance over the five competitions is what training horses is all about! Watch this space for details of the Amateur Series for the 2015 winter season.

Any placegetters in the Amateur series, who haven't received their rosettes, please see Millie Ashton at the next competition or contact Millie at: saltonh@hotmail.com

2014/15 Dressage Tasmania Southern Amateur **Preliminary** Series Results

Place	Rider	Horse	Sept %	Oct %	Nov %	Dec %	Feb %	Points Total	Ave over 5 Comps.
1 st	Rachel Deal	Maddison	67.500 5		67.174	70.577 6	73.269 6	17	55.704%
2 nd	Gertie Nijborg	Campari Soda	65.570 5		65.570 5	68.636 5		15	39.955%
3 rd	Kerry Bridle	Chester	74.030 6			63.846 4		10	27.575%
4 th	Suzanne Betts	Jenty Park Gundagai	68.260 5	62.727 4				9	26.197%
5 th	Meghan Walker	Walden Park Rokocoko	62.727 4	65.652 5				9	25.676%
	Amelia Lawrence	Pandora's Hope						0	0.000%

2014/15 Dressage Tasmania Southern Amateur **Novice** Series Results

Place	Rider	Horse	Sept %	Oct %	Nov %	Dec %	Feb %	Points Total	Ave over 5 Comps.
1 st	Joanna Jones	Princess Magnolia	60.285	62.499 4		66.852 5	64.857 4	13	50.899%
2 nd	Millicent Ashton	Harvest Fortune Teller	56.714	65.277 5	56.286	61.111 4	59.429 3	12	59.763%
3 rd	Kara Berry	The Hypnotist	56.851 3	60.555 4				4	23.481%
4 th	Alana Monty	Aachen Gold	59.074 3		55.431 3			6	22.901%
5 th	Kate Russell	Alissandra			60.603 4			4	12.121%
	Tammy Wilson	Salient Park Dirty Harry (Pony)							
	Winona Davis	Lethal Design							
	Sue Lawrence	Avatar							

Proposed Dressage Tas Southern Zone Competition/Training Day Dates 2015/2016:

Recently the Committee met to discuss our usual range of topics as well as set the calendar for the coming year. The recently published handbook was a real coup, so to support its future publication in time for the coming year the Southern Zone, with thanks to Jill Schwartz, sat down and came up with the following proposed dates. Please note that Dates in Red are still to be approved by SDA, and are subject to change.

Date	Close of Entries	Type	Tests
April 26 th 2015	10 th April	Competition	1 & 2
May 31 st	15 th May	Competition	1 & 2
June 28 th	12 th June	Competition	2 & 3
August 2 nd	17 th July	Training Day	Test of Choice
August 30 th	14 th August	Competition	1 & 2
October 4 th	18 th September	Competition	1 & 3
November 1 st	16 th October	Competition	2 & 3
December 6 th	20 th November	Competition	1 & 2
2016			
January 17 th	1 st January	Competition/ Training Day	Prelim/Novice? 1&2
Feb 7 th	22 nd January	Competition incl. IS Champs YDH qualifier	2 & 3
March 5/6 th	18 th January	DT State Champs	2 & 3
April 3 rd	18 th March	Competition	1 & 2
May 1 st	15 th April	Competition	1 & 2
June 5 th	20 th May	Competition	2 & 3

All entries via www.nominate.com.au

Nominate:

Due to the successful trial of and uptake by competitors of Nominate, the Committee has recently decided to stick with this system for future competition entries. The system has saved organisers large amounts of time (several evenings per competition). You remember how much time it took you to fill out an entry form making sure you had stickers, ticked all the boxes, written down all your info and picked the right test, and then made a payment? Well try checking all that information for 60+ riders!

During the Trial which included the November, December, January and February competitions and the February training day, DT SZ absorbed the 5.5% processing fee charged by Nominate to use their services. The Committee, after some discussion, has decided to pass this fee on to entrants. For the club this will mean an extra \$208 in income (for example the February competition) or an estimated \$1,000 for the club over the course of our ten events for the year, whereas for the individual DT member entering a competition it will add \$3.30 to their average \$60 entry.

We hope you will understand this decision.

Feedback from our members:

The Committee would like to take this opportunity to ask our members for some ideas of what they would like that will improve their dressage experience? What do we need to improve and how we can achieve the best outcome?

Please feel free to contact us with your thoughts, so we can attempt to make our club even better!

Your DressageTas Southern Zone Committee for 2014/2015:

Name	Position	Phone	email
Paul Brown	Chair	03 6266 4232 0419 621 879	paulbrown23@bigpond.com
Andrew McDermott	Vice-Chair TEC Rep	03 6248 8550 0418 512 970	asforesthill@bigpond.com
Samantha Napier	Treasurer	0448 093 348	samanthanapier18@gmail.com
Miriam Coleman	Assistant Treasurer	0439 377 774	miriamcoleman39@gmail.com
Belinda Snooks	Secretary	0409357664	belindasnooks@hotmail.com
Jill Schwartz	YR Co-ord/ Committee	0419 385 374	hemelrijk@bigpond.com
Gillian von Bertouch	Committee	03 6227 9600 03 6210 1137 0448 763 033	gillian@ccamlr.org gillian.vonbertouch@ccamlr.org
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