

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT COMMODORE AIRPORT HOTEL, CHRISTCHURCH
ON FRIDAY 4 AUGUST 2017 AT 2.00 PM

BOARD

Ken Spicer (Chairman), Brian Wastney (Vice-Chairman), Colin Hair (Finance Chair), Trevor Beaton, Allan Brown, John Coulam, Bruce Carter, Barry Dent, Rob Lawson, Steve Phillips, Murray Swain

IN ATTENDANCE

Edward Rennell (Chief Executive), Leanne Holdem (Secretary)

REPRESENTATIVE OF CLUBS AND KINDRED BODIES

Akaroa TC	Barry Gowan
Amberley TC	Ross Rennie
Ashburton TC	Craig Harrison
Auckland TC	Dominique Dowding
Banks Peninsula TC	Dean Illingworth
Central Otago HRC	Graham Sinnamon
Cheviot HRC	Grant Beckett
Forbury Park TC	Gerald Cayford
Geraldine TC	Lochie Marshall
Gore HRC	Ken Baynes
Hawera HRC	Brendan Towers
Hororata TC	Jamie Gameson
Invercargill HRC	Mark Shirley
Kaikoura TC	Bob Rochford
Kapiti Coast HRC	Mary Colman
Kurow TC	Tony Wall
Manawatu HRC	Dan Lynch
Marlborough HRC	Michael Rangi
Methven TC	Hamish Molloy
Nelson HRC	Tom Fox
NZ Metropolitan TC	David Rankin
Northern Southland TC	Bill McDonald
Oamaru HRC	Dave Heffernan
Rangiora HRC	Greg Wright
Reefton TC	Tony Thomas
Riverton TC	Bruce Stewart
Roxburgh TC	Bill Bain
Stratford TC	David Jones
Taranaki TC	Carey Hobbs
Timaru HRC	Elizabeth Shand
Tuapeka HRC	Brent Taylor
Waikato Bay of Plenty HR	Graham Bowen
Waikouaiti TC	Barrie Barber

Waimate TC	Lex Williams
Wairarapa HRC	Ray Southey
Wairio TC	Donna Herrick
Wanganui TC	[Proxy to Manawatu HRC]
Westport TC	Dan Moloney
Winton HRC	Alister Kyle
Wyndham HRC	Bathan Muir
NZ Standardbred Breeders Assn	John Mooney
NZ Harness Racing Trainers & Drivers Assn	Gordon Lee
NZ Trotting Owners Assn	Greg Crawford

ROLL CALL OF REPRESENTATIVES

The Chairman reported that the names of representatives had been recorded as entry had been made into the Conference Room. ***Dominique Dowding (Auckland) moved and Lex Williams (Waimate) seconded that the Roll Call of Representatives be taken as read.*** **CARRIED**

UNOFFICIAL OBSERVERS

Mark Shirley (Invercargill) moved and Graham Sinnamon (Central Otago) seconded that the Unofficial Observers and media be allowed to attend the meeting. **CARRIED**

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from:

Glenda Hughes	Chair, NZ Racing Board
John Allen	Chief Executive, NZ Racing Board
Geoff Want	Chair, Harness Racing Australia
Andrew Kelly	Chief Executive, Harness Racing Australia
Alan Jackson	Chair, NZ Thoroughbred Racing
Bernard Saundry	Chief Executive, NZ Thoroughbred Racing
Craig Rendle	Chair, Greyhound Racing NZ
Phil Holden	Chief Executive, Greyhound Racing NZ
Bill Wilson QC	Chair, JCA
Ross Johnson	Incoming HRNZ Board
Ricky Allen	Waikouaiti TC

Ken Spicer (Chairman) moved and Colin Hair (Finance Chair) seconded that the apologies be accepted. **CARRIED**

VALEDICTORY

The delegation stood in silence as a mark of respect to those people involved in the industry who passed away during the season.

MINUTES

Dominique Dowding (Auckland) moved and Dave Heffernan (Oamaru) seconded that the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting held in Christchurch on 30 July 2016, as circulated to Clubs and kindred bodies, be taken as read and confirmed as correct. **CARRIED**

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Brian Wastney (Vice Chair) moved and Brent Taylor (Tuapeka) seconded that the Chairman's Report be received. **CARRIED**

FINANCE CHAIR'S REPORT

Colin Hair (Finance Chair) moved and Dominique Dowding (Auckland) seconded that the Annual Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31 July 2016 be approved. **CARRIED**

Colin Hair (Finance Chair) moved and Dominique Dowding (Auckland) seconded that HRNZ's operational budget for 2017/18 be approved and that directors' remuneration be set at \$160,000 to be allocated by the Board as it sees fit. **CARRIED**

BOARD ELECTION – OFFICIAL RESULTS

The following are the results of the 2017 Harness Racing New Zealand Inc Board election:

North Island – one vacancy

Ross Johnson (Auckland) (elected unopposed)

South Island – two vacancies

Ken Spicer (Christchurch) (re-elected)

Brian Wastney (Blenheim) (re-elected)

Accordingly duly elected to the Board are **Ross Johnson, Ken Spicer and Brian Wastney.**

The Auckland Trotting Club has re-appointed **Bruce Carter** as its representative to the Board.

The NZ Standardbred Breeders' Association has re-appointed **Coin Hair** as their direct appointment to the Board.

They will join the following members on the Board:

Barry Dent (NZ Metropolitan Trotting Club)

Rob Lawson (NZ HR Trainers & Drivers' Association)

Trevor Beaton (Owners' Representative)

Allan Brown (North Island)

John Coulam (North Island)

Murray Swain (South Island)



Edward Rennell
Chief Executive & Returning Officer

2017 CORRESPONDENCE ITEMS

Correspondence items require a 50% majority to be passed (81 votes)

No correspondence items were notified.

2017 RULE AMENDMENTS

Proposed Rule changes require at least a two thirds majority to be passed (108 votes)

The proposed amendments to the New Zealand Rules of Harness Racing and the Constitution of Harness Racing New Zealand Incorporated considered at the 2017 Annual General Meeting of Harness Racing New Zealand Incorporated on 4 August 2017 at Christchurch were:

1. Rule 403(2) and 1001(1) – Prohibited Actions on Horses (*proposed by HRNZ Board*)

Remit

Amend rule 403(2) by adding a new paragraph (n) which states:

- (n) *any horse on which:*
 - (i) *a procedure or action that is banned in the Prohibited Actions on Horses Regulations has been performed; or*
 - (ii) *a procedure or action in the Prohibited Actions on Horses Regulations has been performed within the period prior to racing referred to in those regulations.*

Amend rule 1001(1) by adding a new paragraph (ra) which states:

- (ra) *performs, causes or permits to be performed, attempts to perform, or attempts to cause or permit to be performed, on any horse:*
 - (i) *a procedure or action that is banned in the Prohibited Actions on Horses Regulations; or*
 - (ii) *a procedure or action in the Prohibited Actions on Horses Regulations within the period prior to racing referred to in those regulations.*

WITHDRAWN BY THE HRNZ BOARD

2. Rule 406 Naming of Horses (*proposed by HRNZ Board*)

Remit

Amend rule 406 to state:

- 406 (1) *Before a horse is registered its proposed name must be approved by the Chief Executive.*
- (2) *The Chief Executive may disallow any name.*
- (3) *The Chief Executive in approving or disallowing any name shall have regard to Board's Horse Naming Policy.*
- (4) *The person who applies for a proposed name to be approved and who is dissatisfied with the decision of the Chief Executive may apply in writing for the Board to a review of the decision of the Chief Executive.*

- (5) *On review the Board may confirm the decision or vary the decision in any way it considers appropriate.*

Barry Dent (HRNZ Board) / Greg Wright (Rangiora)
CARRIED

3. Rule 424(3)(b) and 431(2) Joint Ownership and Syndicates (*proposed by HRNZ Board*)

Remit

Amend rules 424(3)(b) and 431(2) to read:

- 424 (3) (b) *the parties to any joint ownership of a horse (unless members of a Syndicate or Special Partnership registered under these Rules) shall be limited to ~~eight~~ ten in number, provided that where a horse is leased the lessor or lessors shall not be deemed to be included as one of the parties. The first named party shall be deemed to be the nominated representative of the Joint Interest.*
- 431 (2) *For the purposes of these Rules, any combination of two to ~~eight~~ ten persons may form a syndicate, and any combination more than ten and not more than fifty persons owning or leasing a horse shall be deemed to be a Syndicate but no disqualified person shall be a member of a Syndicate. The Board may at its discretion grant an exemption to the maximum number of Syndicate Members allowable.*

Barry Dent (HRNZ Board) / Bruce Stewart (Riverton)
CARRIED

4. Rule 814 – Acceptance Fee on Group Races (*proposed by NZ Harness Racing Trainers & Drivers' Association*)

Remit

Amend rule 814 whereby rule 814 states:

- 814 *No programme for a race meeting or harness racing event in respect of which racing betting takes place, shall provide for combined entrance and acceptance fees in respect of each horse in any race which exceed two (2) per centum of the amount of the Stakes allotted to such race exclusive of the value of any trophy attached to the Stake unless the race is one which has been approved by Harness Racing New Zealand as being one for which sustaining payments are required. Entrance and acceptance fees shall only be eligible to be charged on Group One ~~Group and Listed~~ races.*

Gordon Lee (Trainers & Drivers' Association) / Dominique Dowding (Auckland)
LOST

5. Rule 823(3) and Fourth Schedule– Horse Movement (*proposed by HRNZ Board*)

Remit

Amend rule 823(3) and the references to rule 823(3) in the Fourth Schedule to state:

- (3) *A trainer may:-*

- (a) without notice leave a horse with another licensed trainer for a period of up to that ~~seven consecutive days~~ specified in the Horse Movement ~~Notification~~ Regulations made by the Board;
- (b) leave a horse with another licensed trainer for a period of more than ~~seven consecutive days~~ that specified in the Horse Movement ~~Notification~~ Regulations but no more than 12 consecutive weeks provided prior notice is given to Harness Racing New Zealand of the name of the trainer in whose hands the horse has been left in the form prescribed by the Horse Movement ~~Notification~~ Regulations made by the Board.

Rule 823(3) Horse Movement greater than period specified in Horse Movement Regulations not notified	\$50	
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Barry Dent (HRNZ Board) / Ross Rennie (Amberley)
CARRIED

6. Rule 856 – Persons Present at the Start (proposed by HRNZ Board)

Remit

Amend rule 856 to state:

- 856 (1) *The Starter, Starter's Assistants, the horsemen in the race, the race-day veterinarian, and the race-day farrier are permitted to be at the start of any race.*
- (2) *Any other person may only be present at the start with the express permission of the Stipendiary Steward.*

Barry Dent (HRNZ Board) / Dominique Dowding (Auckland)
CARRIED

7. Rule 857(3)(m) – Mobile Starts, Moving Starts, Standing Starts (proposed by HRNZ Board)

Remit

Delete rule 857(3)(m)

Barry Dent (HRNZ Board) / Michael Rangi (Marlborough)
CARRIED

8. Rule 869(2) – Use of the Whip (proposed by HRNZ Board)

Remit

Amend rule 869(2) to read:

- 869 (2) *No horseman shall during any race use a whip in a manner in contravention of the Use of the Whip Regulations made by the Board.*

Barry Dent (HRNZ Board) / Ross Rennie (Amberley)
CARRIED

9. Rule 1107(1)(b) – Protest by Connections (*proposed by HRNZ Board*)

Remit

Amend rule 1107(1)(b) by renumbering sub-paragraphs (v) as (vi) and (vi) as (vii) and inserting a new sub-paragraph (v) which states:

- (v) *rule 869A - which relates to interference;*

Barry Dent (HRNZ Board) / Greg Wright (Rangiora)
CARRIED

10. Fourth Schedule Minor Infringements (*proposed by HRNZ Board*)

Remit

Amend Fourth Schedule by adding the following:

<i>Rule 507B - Driver Leaving the Course Early</i>	<i>\$100</i>	
<i>Rule 857(7)(g) - Out of Position at the Start</i>	<i>\$100</i>	
<i>Rule 857(7)(k) - Candy Pole breaches</i>	<i>\$100</i>	
<i>Rule 867 – Footrest breaches</i>	<i>\$100</i>	

Barry Dent (HRNZ Board) / Gordon Lee (Trainers & Drivers' Association)
CARRIED

**11. Clause 9(5) of the Constitution of Harness Racing New Zealand Incorporated
- Voting at Election of Board Members (*proposed by HRNZ Board*)**

Remit

Amend clause 9(5) of the Constitution of Harness Racing New Zealand Incorporated to state:

(5) *Election of Board Members*

- (a) *If more candidates are nominated for membership of the Board than are required then immediately after the 20th day of May, or such other date as the Board may in special circumstances appoint, the Chief Executive shall have voting papers prepared which shall include:*
- (i) the names of the nominees;*
 - (ii) whether the nominee is a North Island or South Island nominee;*
 - (iii) the number of nominees available for election for each Island for whom votes shall be cast;*
 - (iv) the method(s) by which the voting may be submitted; and*
 - (v) the date and time at which voting closes and if no date is set, voting closes on 20 June at 5:00pm or such other date and time as the Board may in special circumstances appoint.*
- (b) *For the purpose of clause 9(5)(a)(i) the Board shall approve one or more method by which voting may be completed and submitted.*

- (c) *The Chief Executive shall forward one voting paper to each Totalisator Club (except the Auckland Trotting Club and the New Zealand Metropolitan Trotting Club who shall not be entitled to vote in elections relating to South Island and North Island nominees).*
- (d) *Each Club, by its Committee, shall on receipt of the voting paper complete and submit its vote by one of the methods approved by the Board.*
- (e) *The voting paper shall then be signed by two representatives of the club at which its votes were determined and returned to the Chief Executive, so as to reach him on or before the 20th day of June in each year or at such other date as the Board may in special circumstances appoint.*
- (f) *Any vote in respect of which the provisions of the approved method by which voting may be completed and submitted as specified by the Board, has not been complied with shall be informal.*
- (g) *No Club shall omit to vote or return an informal vote.*
- (h) *The Chief Executive shall be the Returning Officer and the Board shall, where necessary, on or before the 20th day of June appoint two Scrutineers for the purpose of the election and fix a day for counting of the votes.*
- (i) *On the day fixed for the counting of votes the Returning Officer, in the presence of the Scrutineers, shall open the votes and after setting aside all informal votes count the number of valid votes in accordance with the Second Schedule.*
- (j) *Those nominees not exceeding in each case the numbers to be elected for each Island who have received the highest number of votes shall be deemed to be duly elected as members of the Board.*
- (k) *Where there is an equality of votes between nominees and the addition of a vote would entitle any of those nominees to be declared elected, the Returning Officer shall determine by lot which nominee shall be elected.*
- (l) *If at any time before the ballot is commenced, the number of nominees is reduced by withdrawal or otherwise to the number required to fill the vacancies, the remaining nominees shall be declared "elected without ballot".*
- (m) *The Returning Officer and the Scrutineers shall report to the Board the result of the election, and the votes properly sealed shall be handed by the Scrutineers to the Returning Officer who must retain them for three months and then destroy them.*
- (n) *The Chief Executive shall publish the result of the election including the number of votes for each nominee.*

Barry Dent (HRNZ Board) / Mark Shirley (Invercargill)
CARRIED

**12. Clause 5(5)(d) of the Constitution of Harness Racing New Zealand Incorporated -
Official Notifications
(proposed by HRNZ Board)**

Remit

Amend clause 5(5)(d) of the Constitution of Harness Racing New Zealand Incorporated by deleting the word “Official Calendar” and substituting the words “Official Notifications”.

Barry Dent (HRNZ Board) / Dave Heffernan (Oamaru)
CARRIED

**13. Clause 11(3)(a) of the Constitution of Harness Racing New Zealand Incorporated -
Official Notifications
(proposed by HRNZ Board)**

Remit

Amend 11(3)(a) of the Constitution of Harness Racing New Zealand Incorporated to state:

- (3) *The Board shall have the following specific powers and duties:*
(a) *to enter arrangements for the publication and dissemination of official notifications and publication of periodical publications as it considers appropriate;*

Barry Dent (HRNZ Board) / Ross Rennie (Amberley)
CARRIED

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

Dominique Dowding (Auckland) moved and Dean Illingworth (Banks Peninsula) seconded that the appointment of Committees be left in the hands of the incoming Board.
CARRIED

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

Donna Herrick (Wairio) moved and Greg Wright (Rangiora) seconded that Ernst Young be appointed Auditors to Harness Racing New Zealand for the forthcoming year, and the Board be authorised to negotiate remuneration thereon.
CARRIED

GENERAL BUSINESS

No items of general business were raised.

PLACE AND DATE OF NEXT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Tony Thomas (Reefton) moved and Bob Rochford (Kaikoura) seconded that the 2018 Annual Conference be held in Auckland. It was agreed that the dates would be decided on by the Board at a future meeting.
CARRIED

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT COMMODORE AIRPORT HOTEL, CHRISTCHURCH
ON FRIDAY 4 AUGUST 2017

The Chairman declared the Special General Meeting open.

In order to comply with Health and Safety Standards and the Building Regulations, HRNZ needs to pursue options to upgrade HRNZ's current property at 135 Lincoln Road.

HRNZ has had structural drawings compiled that would enable the current building to comply with these Standards/Regulations. Currently, these are with a Quantity Surveyor being costed. The building requires strengthening/compliance and, given the nature of the work required, HRNZ would need to vacate the building and lease alternative premises while this work is being completed.

The Board wished to stress that no final decision has been made, they are seeking the flexibility to be able to progress this project in a timely manner. Options currently being considered for this project were presented to delegates during the Annual Conference.

The following resolutions presented by the Board, which are required under HRNZ's Constitution given the significance of the items, were supported by the Conference:

-)] **That the Board be authorised to enter a commercial lease in 2017/2018 for alternative premises for HRNZ for a period of up to 12 months for a maximum rental cost of \$225,000 (if required)**
-)] **That the Board be authorised to borrow up to \$600,000 in 2017/2018 for upgrading the premises at 135 Lincoln Road secured by mortgage security over 135 Lincoln Road (if required)**

Dominique Dowding (Auckland) / Michael Rangi (Marlborough)
CARRIED

The Chairman declared the Special General Meeting closed.

PRESENTATIONS / VOTE OF THANKS

As Steve Phillips was retiring from the Board after 12 years' service, Ken Spicer (Chairman) expressed his thanks to Mr Phillips for his commitment and dedication to the Board and wished him well for the future.

David Rankin (NZ Metropolitan Trotting Club) proposed a vote of thanks to Ken Spicer (Chairman) for presiding over the Annual General Meeting.

CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 3.15 pm

THE ABOVE MATTERS WERE TAKEN
AS READ AND THE SAME WERE
CONFIRMED ON 29 SEPTEMBER 2018

KEN SPICER (CHAIRMAN)