

TOKAI DISTRICT RIDING ASSOCIATION (TDRA)
Held at Protea Road, Claremont on 7 March 2019 at 18:30

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| Committee Members present in person | Grant Chapman (GC) Michelle Matthews (MM) Marianne Berry (MB) Julie Myrtle (JM) Hayley Moir (HM) Leigh de Beyer (LdB) | Vice-Chairperson Secretary Treasurer |
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| Apologies: | Karena du Plessis (KdP) Laura Forde (LF) Maryse Pennington Collins (MC) | Chairperson |
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| Agenda Item | Minute | Action |
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| 1 | Welcome Grant welcomed all present, declared the meeting open. | |
| 2 | Approval of previous minutes and follow up items The previous minutes were tabled and approved. | |
| 3 | Environmental Management Plan Following up with SANParks for feedback on the EMP, representatives of the TMEF were advised that it is currently with SANParks' planning department which will provide feedback in due course as other pressing matters have unfortunately caused some delays. | |
| 4 | <p>Ongoing Maintenance</p> <p>The first of the planned quarterly maintenance weekends was held on 9 and 10 February. Alien clearing was done between tracks one and two in Middle Tokai with the assistance of volunteers from a local scout troop, one of whose family are TDRA members in Swaanswyk. The committee wishes to thank these young men for their enthusiastic support and hard work over the course of the weekend. SANParks rangers were present to assist and a professional team was also hired to work on the project. The entire area was cleared of very dense alien vegetation which has greatly improved visibility in the area thereby improving safety for horse riders. The committee also wishes to thank all of the members who generously donated funds to this project.</p> <p>The big bridge in Lower Tokai Park had two badly damaged planks which the TDRA committee replaced for SANParks during the course of the maintenance weekend. The committee wishes to thank SANParks for supplying the necessary planks for the repair work.</p> <p>The committee intends to undertake much needed maintenance on an ongoing basis. There are multiple areas that require attention currently some of which are listed below:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Upper Tokai Road track has become rutted and needs to be raked and water bars need to be added to the track before the winter rains. The stones and debris along the track need to be removed and the outer border needs attention. 2. The water bars and that have been installed on the tracks in Upper Tokai to assist with water runoff and reduce erosion need to be cleared and reinstated to make them effective before the winter rains. 3. There are some very overgrown areas in Upper Tokai, especially in the gorge at the river crossings, which need to be cut back and the alien vegetation growing into the tracks needs to be removed to ensure that these tracks remain accessible to horse riders. 4. Many of the tracks in Upper Tokai need to be raked to remove the stones that have come to the surface. 5. Ongoing alien vegetation management in Middle Tokai. <p>Much of this work needs to be done before the heavy winter rains so these tasks need to be undertaken between now and June. The committee estimates that the minimum funding required for this maintenance is R7200 excluding alien clearing which will be done when necessary and when funds allow. The alien clearing team can be brought in at a cost of R1500 per day. At the time of raking the tracks in Upper Tokai the aliens on the tracks themselves will be removed as well.</p> | |

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| | Any assistance would be greatly appreciated; please contact info@tdra.co.za if you would like to assist with labour or funds for these projects. The cost per person per day is R300 for wages and lunch or if you have an extra groom who could assist even for a few hours it would be greatly appreciated. These efforts will only be successful with the support of members and the committee would like to encourage members to get involved in any way possible. If there is a specific project that is of interest to a member, please let the committee know and any assistance provided can be directed accordingly. | |
| 5 | Event & Fundraising The much-anticipated reliability trial is scheduled for Saturday 23 March. This promises to be a fun event and offers a once-off opportunity to enjoy riding on private land. The committee looks forward to seeing everyone there. | LF |
| 6 | Membership Renewal and Regular Expenses A reminder that membership fees for the new year are due as the financial year ended on 28 February 2019. No increase has been approved at this stage so the membership fee is currently R200 per person. Please send your updated activity permit details and confirmation of payment to info@tdra.co.za or access@tdra.co.za so that access to the picnic site and Chrysalis gates can be extended for the next year. All access to the gates will expire at the end of March unless membership and updated details are provided. An increase in the annual membership fee will be proposed to members for their consideration at the AGM. Should this be approved, the membership fee for the 2020 year will be subject to the new fee. The TDRA is currently incurring increased ongoing expenses and currently has no more funds available for maintenance as a result. The routine expenses account for a total annual expenditure of R10 800 with the breakdown as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The picnic area transit route is cleaned twice a week at a cost of R50 per clean up. This amounts to R400 per month. 2. Electricity costs of R500 per month are being levied by Chrysalis Academy as a result of the gates that have been installed in order to restore access to this area for horse riders. | |
| 7 | AGM The AGM date will be held at The Range on 17 April 2019. | |
| 8 | Tokai Forest Community Event Parkscape is organising a Tokai Forest Community Event on 27 April to coincide with World Parks Weeks. There will be picnics, face painting, scavenger hunts, rock painting and various other family activities. The TDRA committee hopes to have the TDRA gazebo up at the event with committee members present to show other user groups videos and photos of the projects that the TDRA has completed in the area many of which benefit the broader community as well as the horse riders. There will also be a raffle to raise additional funds and a demonstration of horse riding in a neck strap. | |
| 9 | Next Meeting TBC after AGM | |

The meeting ended at approx 19:40
Certified a true record of the proceedings

Chairperson

Date