

TOKAI DISTRICT RIDING ASSOCIATION (TDRA)

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Held at The Range, Orpen Road, Tokai on Wednesday 17 April 2019 at 19h00

2018/2019 Committee Members:

Karena du Plessis (KdP)	Chairperson
Grant Chapman (GC)	Vice-Chairperson
Marianne Berry (MB)	Treasurer
Michelle Matthews (MM)	Secretary
Julie Myrtle (JM)	
Laura Forde (LF)	
Maryse Pennington-Collins (MC)	
Hayley Moir (HM)	
Leigh de Beyer (LdB)	

Apologies:

SANParks
Parkscape
Catherine Moore
Daniel Moore
Julie Myrtle
Laura Forde
Juliet Lubbe

Agenda Item	Minute	Action
1	Welcome Karena (KdP) welcomed all those in attendance and thanked everybody for their continued support of the TDRA.	
2	Minutes The minutes of the 2017 AGM held on the 10 th May 2018 were tabled and approved by members. Proposer: Caroline Brown Seconder: Les Roos	
3	Chairperson's Review KdP indicated that this has been a fairly quiet year compared to the previous few years and was largely filled with behind the scenes work. The focus areas were highlighted as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Environmental Management Plan (EMP) for Table Mountain National Parks was finalised and the TMEF was formed in order to take the EMP forward with SANParks and stakeholder engagement. The TMEF is headed by the formidable team of Les Roos and Sarah Hetherington.2. Track maintenance has been and remains the main priority for the TDRA. The TDRA was able to spend in excess of R50 000 during the course of the last financial year on track maintenance and rehabilitation in Upper Tokai. Thank you to the very generous donors who have made this possible as this cannot be fully funded by membership fees. Landmarks have been identified and named after donors who have contributed R2000 or more, please see the landmarks that have been named already on the map that is included with these minutes. Thank you to Grant (GC) and Chumane both of whom have invested many hours in the maintenance of Upper Tokai.3. Alien clearing was also undertaken between tracks one and two in Middle Tokai. This area had become very dense and the lack of visibility posed a safety risk to horse riders. The area was cleared completely with the assistance of a group of enthusiastic young volunteers from the local Scout troop led by Michael Tiffin of 2nd Bergvliet Scouts along with Chris from SANParks and a team of professionals hired by the TDRA.4. The two damaged planks on the big wooden bridge in Lower Tokai Park were replaced. Thank you to SANParks for supplying the replacement planks that were transported to the site and fitted by Grant and his son Nick Chapman for the TDRA.5. A fun reliability trial was held with horse riders able to enjoy riding in areas that are not usually accessible. Thank you to Laura (LF) for organising the event and to Lynne and Alisson for generously permitting access to their land for the event. The mounted police continue to be in the Tokai area regularly. TDRA members volunteered to join the mounted police to show them around the area on a few occasions which is greatly appreciated.	

	<p>Elmonique Pietersen of SANParks has been very supportive of all of the projects undertaken by the TDRA. The TDRA is currently engaging with Elmonique as SANParks have identified the top stretch of Upper Tokai Road running passed the rhinos as needing to be upgraded. The road has become degraded and Elmonique has approached the TDRA to discuss the project.</p>	
4	<p>EMP Update</p> <p>Les Roos provided an update on the EMP to the meeting. This is a regulatory requirement under the Protected Areas Act and is especially important for the Table Mountain National Park as this protected area has the unique challenge of being on an urban edge and not being fenced in as most protected areas are making access control very difficult.</p> <p>The TMEF engaged with various stakeholders and representatives of other areas. This process was hampered by many areas not having representatives so site visits were undertaken. The EMP was submitted to Gavin Bell of SANParks in August 2018 for SANParks' comment. The EMP is currently with Mike Slayern of SANParks who has indicated that they have unfortunately had other priorities to deal with until now but will be getting to this shortly. The TMEF is waiting for the feedback from SANParks in order to proceed with the consultation process.</p> <p>The draft EMP is available on the TMEF website, www.tmef.co.za.</p>	
4	<p>Financial Report</p> <p>Marianne (MB) provided an overview of the financial year highlighting flat membership fees and increased monthly expenses ultimately leading to a small loss for the year.</p> <p>Major sources of income were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership fees totalling +/-R21 000 • Raffle fundraiser R4800 <p>Major Expense were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track maintenance which was largely funded by donations • Ongoing Chrysalis ground levy/electricity charge • Ongoing picnic site cleaning <p>At the end of the year, the TDRA had a positive bank balance in the region of R10 000. However the monthly expenses of R500 payable to Chrysalis Academy and R400 to clean the picnic site transition route twice a week are expected to require a significant portion of the annual membership fees raised. As a result, no maintenance is currently able to be committed to without donor funding. Members are asked to assist in any way possible. Should there be a particular project that is of interest to any member, donations can be ring-fenced for the project. Some of the projects that need to be undertaken are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Upper Tokai Road trail has become rutted and needs water bars to preserve the trail from water damage. 2. Upper Tokai tracks require further rehabilitation and maintenance, especially before the winter rains to prevent the track being eroded away. 3. Alien vegetation along the tracks in Upper Tokai and at the river crossings needs to be cleared back from the tracks. <p>MB indicated that the full financial report would be available on the TDRA website: http://www.tdra.co.za/</p>	
5	<p>Annual Membership Fee</p> <p>As a result of the significant ongoing expenses being incurred an increase to the annual membership fee for the 2020/2021 year was proposed. Members were asked to vote on an increase from R200 to R250 or R300 with an overwhelming majority voting to increase the membership fee to R300. The membership fee for the current year remains R200 with the increase effective in March 2020.</p> <p>It was also agreed that the TDRA members list will be made available to the Pony Club Arena committee as membership of the TDRA has always been a requirement of membership of the arenas since the TDRA helped the Tokai Pony Club raise the funds for the development of the arenas and were instrumental in building them.</p>	
6	<p>Guest Speaker</p> <p>Nicola Hayward spoke about her latest novel called "Master Jack". Nicola started riding in Tokai in 1986 when she first got involved with horses in Cape Town so the area holds fond memories for her. The book was inspired by a thoroughbred horse called Moscow who was bred in 1896 in Bedford which is a town in</p>	

	<p>The Karoo. Moscow had an incredible life and remained a stallion so he also sired many successful progeny. He was used in the Anglo-Boer war before having a successful show jumping career. He died in 1912 after an unfortunate injury to his fetlock.</p> <p>The story draws on Moscow's life with creative licence being used to turn tragedy into a positive story enveloped in a romance.</p>	
7	<p>Committee Members</p> <p>Prior to the meeting nomination forms had been made available. KdP confirmed that most of the committee members are available for the 2019/20 year. The committee was approved by members present at the AGM.</p> <p>Laura Forde has unfortunately stepped down from the committee as she is moving to the UK. KdP thanked LF for her hard work and the successful events that she organised whilst on the committee and wished her all the best in her new adventures.</p> <p>Confirmation of positions is as follows: Karena du Plessis – Chairperson Grant Chapman – Vice Chairperson Marianne Berry – Treasurer Michelle Matthews – Secretary</p>	
8	<p>Raffle and spot prize</p> <p>At the end of the evening a spot prize was given to one lucky member who had the hidden envelope under their seat. The fantastic spot prize was a bag of horse food sponsored by Di Verlaque from Equifeeds.</p> <p>A raffle was also held with tickets being sold at the door for R20 each. Prizes included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edge for Men voucher • Reverie Social Table dinner voucher • Wine from Arendsig • Wine from Julie Myrtle • Stable Bandages from All About Equine • Halter from All About Equine • Clothing from Kim Muller of Soul Clothing • GCS Max Halter from Taryn Peters • Wine tasting voucher from Ken Forrester <p>The TDRA Committee would like to thank the sponsors for their generous donations and the members for their overwhelming support of the raffle.</p>	

The meeting ended at approx. 20:15.

Certified a true record of the proceedings

Chairperson

Date