

TOKAI DISTRICT RIDING ASSOCIATION (TDRA)

Held via Zoom on 6 August 2020 at 18:00

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| Committee Members present in person | Karena du Plessis (KdP) | Chairperson |
| | Marianne Berry (MB) | Treasurer |
| | Maryse Pennington Collins (MC) | |
| | Hayley Moir (HM) | |
| | Grant Chapman (GC) | Vice Chairperson |
| | Julie Myrtle (JM) | |
| | Michelle Matthews (MM) | Secretary |
| | Leigh de Beyer (LdB) | |

Apologies: None

| Agenda Item | Minute | Action |
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| 1 | Welcome Karena 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 The deadline for EMP feedback was 14 January 2019 but to date no comments have been received. TMEF representatives continue to follow up regularly. | KdP |
| 4 | Track Maintenance Many of the tracks have been badly eroded in the recent winter rains. This has affected multiple areas in Upper Tokai as well as Lower Tokai Park next to the river that runs alongside Flandorps and the area between Chrysalis and Forestry stables. The committee would like to prioritise the track next to the river in Lower Tokai Park; the area between Forestry and Chrysalis and the Upper Tokai Road track which has been named the Chumani Track in memory of Chumani Ningiza who reliably maintained it and most of the other tracks for many years and lost his life at the end of last year in the crossfire of a taxi war near his house in Nyanga. These are all tracks that are widely used by horse riders. Horse riders are encouraged to report damage to any other tracks to the committee so that the required work can be added to the job list. Each of these areas will require significant financial expense and time so the committee is asking members to please support the various projects. Each track has specific challenges in getting the maintenance done and it may ultimately be that some are not able to be repaired. <u>Post meeting update:</u> A meeting with SANParks representatives was attended by Grant and Hayley on 7 August 2020. SANParks alerted the TDRA of the impending installation of the electrical supply to the new offices. In order for this to be done, a cable will be installed in two phases; each of which will result in temporary track closures for horse riders. First, a cable will be run between the Bosdorp and the brick road that runs past the new offices. The track past the Bosdorp will be closed during this phase. It is expected that this will take at least 5 days to complete. Thereafter a cable will be installed along Upper Tokai Road resulting in the temporary closure of the Chumani Track and riders will need to use a detour along the Zwaanswyk fenceline during this phase. This installation is expected to take longer to complete than the first installation so horse riders are asked to be patient during this process. The TDRA is meeting the contractor this week and will engage with the contractor during the cable installation to have them reinstate the Chumani track to make it accessible to riders with additional measure to ensure that future erosion along the track is prevented. | GC |

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| | <p>The repairs to the access area between Chrysalis and Forestry Stables using the contractor's machinery while they are in the area is also being discussed with SANParks currently.</p> <p>Any donations can be made to the TDRA bank account. Please use tracks and your name as a reference so that donations can be ring-fenced for this work.</p> <p>BANK DETAILS: Account: Tokai District Riding Association Standard Bank Branch: Blue Route Branch code: 025609 Account number: 03 808 1458</p> | |
| 5 | <p>Alien Clearing</p> <p>The TDRA has held numerous alien clearing days and undertaken additional work with contractors to manage the alien clearing that is needed between tracks one and two in Middle Tokai. The success of these initiatives has been noticed and has inspired the Zwaanswyk Association of Property Owners (ZAPO) and the Zwaanswyk residents Association (ZRA) to take on a similar project in Upper Tokai.</p> <p>The first alien clearing is scheduled for 22 August and will focus on the blocks along the Zwaanswyk fenceline. The clearing of these areas will reduce the fire risk for residents and improve visibility for horse riders. The committee wishes to extend its appreciation to all involved in this undertaking.</p> <p>Should any horse riders be able to assist, whether by joining in or sending a groom or staff member to help with the clearing, please contact ZAPO and the ZRA's Rob Tiffin: Rob@scentpac.co.za. ZAPO and the ZRA will have the necessary PPE and social distancing measures in place to comply with the SANParks' safety regulations that have been issued to them for the clearing.</p> | GC |
| 6 | <p>Financial Update</p> <p>The cancellation of the AGM has saved some funds as has the temporary closure of the picnic site transit route. The funds will be reallocated towards some of the track maintenance that is needed.</p> <p>Membership is marginally lower than in the 2019/2020 year which is disappointing. All horse riders are reminded that access to Chrysalis is limited to TDRA members only and has a cost associated with it. A number of riders gain access through the Chrysalis gate by riding with friends who are members. Be reminded that our strength lies in our numbers. While you may be saving yourself R300 by not joining TDRA, you undermine the hard work the committee does to foster safe riding in Tokai. If you run a livery yard, please ensure that all riders (including leases) are signed up TDRA members.</p> | MB |
| 7 | <p>Usergroups</p> <p>Tokai Mountain Bike will be approached to request that cyclists slow down when using the Upper Tokai Road bridge. The traffic across the bridge has increased and horse riders are reminded to be considerate of other users and to exercise caution when crossing the bridge.</p> <p>Awareness flyers have been handed out in Lower Tokai Park as the number of users in the Park has increased considerably of late. It is wonderful that people are enjoying the Park but many of the users are new to the area and unaware of the challenges faced by other user groups. SANParks will be working with user groups to try to better educate all park users and to foster a harmonious environment for everyone. Parkscape is finalising an updated flyer with the input of other user groups to distribute in the Park. Horse riders are</p> | MC |

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| | requested to slow down when passing people and dogs in Lower Tokai Park. If possible, alert people that you are coming thereby avoiding startling them and affording them an opportunity to catch their dogs if necessary. Wearing a mask is compulsory in Upper, Middle and Lower Tokai Park and the compliance by horse riders is appreciated. | |
| 8 | Next Meeting TBC | |

The meeting ended at approx 19:00
Certified a true record of the proceedings.

Chairperson

Date