

TOKAI DISTRICT RIDING ASSOCIATION (TDRA)
 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
 Held via Zoom on Wednesday 22 April 2021 at 18h00

2020/2021 Committee Members:

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

Apologies:

Melissa Finkelstein
Debbie Cusens
Les Roos

Agenda Item	Minute	Action
1	<p>Welcome</p> <p>Karena (KdP) welcomed all those in attendance and thanked everybody for their continued support of the TDRA. Special mention was made of SANParks, Chrysalis and the City of Cape Town all of whom are the custodians of the various areas that horse riders enjoy access to.</p>	
2	<p>Minutes</p> <p>No AGM was held the previous year due to the Covid 19 pandemic and the associated lock down.</p>	
3	<p>Chairperson's Review</p> <p>KdP acknowledged that the last year has presented some unprecedented challenges primarily as a result of the pandemic. Horse riders and horses took strain particularly through the initial hard lock down period.</p> <p>As a result of the periodic restrictions, Lower Tokai Park has seen a substantial increase in users across various user groups. This has resulted in increased conflicts between the user groups as everyone tries to navigate the overcrowded space. KdP thanked horse riders for being considerate of other user groups and noted that this is not unique to Lower Tokai Park with similar situations being experienced on the greenbelts. The proactive approach that was co-ordinated by various user groups in designing flyers and distributing those to users in Lower Tokai Park has allowed Tokai to have fewer conflicts than other areas which is fantastic. The ongoing co-operation between user groups in Tokai is encouraging and should continue to enhance the experience of users.</p> <p>KdP thanked GC and his team for the track maintenance that has been done particularly in Upper Tokai. A lot of the planned maintenance was unfortunately cancelled due to the lockdown however the team has been very active subsequently with the most recent work being done to clear the gutters and reinstate water bars in preparation for winter.</p>	

	<p>Thanks to an incredible donation received from an anonymous donor, the TDRA was able to undertake a substantial alien clearing project in middle Tokai. The entire block closest to the stone Church was cleared and will be cleared again to remove seedlings that may spring up. This would not have been possible without this member's generosity and has greatly improved visibility and thereby safety for horse riders in that section which had become very overgrown.</p> <p>KdP reminded members that the majority of the annual membership fees received goes towards maintaining the Chrysalis and picnic site gates; the monthly electricity cost to secure access to the Chrysalis Academy land and the weekly cleaning of the picnic site transit route which is a requirement for access to that area. KdP also thanked Sarah Hetherington and Les Roos for their ongoing efforts to drive the EMP forward.</p>	
4	<p>EMP Update</p> <p>Sarah Hetherington (SH) 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 EMP was submitted to SANParks in 2018 with feedback received at the end of February 2021 after SH raised the lack of feedback with the Minister at an open meeting to discuss the management of various parks by SANParks. SH thanked everyone involved in putting the EMP together particularly Carol Poole and Leigh de Beyer. There are some updates that are being made to the EMP following the feedback from Mike Slayan on behalf of SANParks. Site visits will be undertaken with SANParks to consider all proposed new trails and a detailed, enforceable code of conduct will be incorporated into the EMP before it is made available once again for comment. It is hoped that this will be completed and in place by the end of 2021.</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 an increase in membership fees which is probably attributed to the controlled access to Chrysalis Academy's land. MB also noted that expenses were lower than in previous year as less maintenance was done due to lockdown and the picnic site cleaning was suspended during lock down. A combination of reduced expenses and increased income resulted in a small surplus at the end of the year much of which has already been used towards track maintenance in the new year.</p> <p>Thank you to Catherine Moore for reviewing the financial statements for the TDRA.</p> <p>The full financial report will be available on the TDRA website: http://www.tdra.co.za</p>	
5	<p>Annual Membership Fee</p> <p>No increase in the annual membership was proposed for the new year.</p>	
6	<p>Committee Members</p> <p>Unfortunately, most of the current committee members have stood for many years and several have elected to step down and have a well-deserved sabbatical.</p>	

	<p>The outgoing committee will be sorely missed and wishes the incoming committee all the best. KdP thanked the committee for their ongoing dedication and hard work. Prior to the meeting, nomination forms for new committee members had been made available with submissions made by the following new applicants: Caroline Brown, Sarah Hetherington, Eliana Scheibe, Ros Chapman and Philippa Rattue; in addition to those by the existing committee members Michelle Mathews and Grant Chapman who have agreed to stay on.</p> <p>The new committee was approved by members present at the AGM.</p>	
7	<p>Raffle and sponsored items</p> <p>GSR Outdoor Equipment sponsored a voucher for a service of any equipment which was handed to GC towards the maintenance of the equipment that he so generously allows the TDRA to use at no charge. GSR Outdoor also kindly donated an Oleo Mac Sparta 250TR Trimmer to the TDRA so that the TDRA no longer has to hire equipment to cut the grass around the jumps below the soccer field and along the picnic site transit route.</p> <p>Raffle tickets were sold for R50 per ticket or R200 for five. The raffle raised over R9000</p> <p>Prizes included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edge for Men voucher • Ingrid Alice Photography photoshoot • A print of George Stubbs' painting "Whistlejacket" • Wine from Arendsig • Segway tours at Spier • A physio session from Southern Edge Animal Physiotherapy • Saddle fitting by Belinda Thom • A session at the Pony Club Arenas • Immuno Hoof • GSC Max Product • Personal training session with Coach Cords • Mad Batter voucher • Massage at Sacred Spa • Massage by Carola Schoonheim • Soul Clothing items • Africa Extracts hampers • Royal Treatment shampoo and conditioner sets • Hello Quality boot cleaning kits • Hair Café voucher <p>The TDRA Committee would like to thank the sponsors for their generous donations and the members for their overwhelming support of the raffle. Thank you to LdB for her effort in putting together the most successful raffle the TDRA has held to date.</p>	

The meeting ended at approx. 18:50

Certified a true record of the proceedings

Chairperson

Date