

TOKAI DISTRICT RIDING ASSOCIATION (TDRA)
Held at Charnwood Road; Tokai on 28 July 2022 at 18:00

Committee Members present in person:

Caroline Brown (CB)	Chairperson
Grant Chapman (GC)	Vice Chairperson
Michelle Matthews (MM)	Secretary
Philippa Rattue (PR)	Treasurer
Ros Chapman (RC)	
Sarah Hetherington (SH)	

Apologies: Eliana Scheibe (ES)

Agenda Item	Minute	Action
1	Welcome Caroline welcomed all present, declared the meeting open.	CB
2	EMP Update EMP Update The EMP document has been revised following the site meetings and input from SANParks. Numerous international studies have been sourced and included in the documents. These studies conclude that horse-riding on designated tracks and trails is a low-impact activity. Thank you to Les Roos for sourcing the various research pieces. The EMP has also been brought in-line with international best practice. The updated document has been submitted to SANParks and their TMNP Park Manager, Mr Frans van Rooyen, has requested that feedback be prioritised by the relevant team. Following the feedback from SANParks, it is anticipated that a public consultation process will be required and thereafter the document will be available for comment for thirty days before being finalised. The EMP document, together with of the maps, is accessible online at www.tmf.co.za should anybody wish to view them. They were also available for comment and input at a TDRA AGM prior to its submission to SANParks.	SH
3	Track Maintenance The track rehabilitation of the sand track below the Zwaanswyk gate was performed by the track crew and has dramatically improved the track. It was agreed that the huge cost of hiring a grader or other equipment is no longer required. The committee were very appreciative that the track crew had made such an improvement manually. Track rehabilitation is being addressed by SANParks with temporary track closures together with alternative tracks for use during the closure periods being expected intermittently. One track in Upper Tokai was closed without consultation but was re-opened immediately by SANParks following the TDRA querying the closure. The committee notes the swift action taken by SANParks to reopen the track which is appreciated. The run-off water is flowing well now that the three drains under the main track above the new SANParks' offices have been cleared by the TDRA and new water bars put in. No further water erosion has been experienced since clearing the drains. The committee agreed that a drainage channel on the surface of the track is a better solution than a pipe which is very difficult to clear when it becomes blocked.	GC

	<p>The dangerous spike in Lower Tokai Park that was reported by a horse rider was successfully removed.</p> <p>Horse riders are once again asked to please report any damaged tracks needing maintenance that the committee might not be aware of so that these can be attended to.</p>	
4	<p>Financial Update</p> <p>As we have already reached the half-way point in the financial year it is appropriate to review the costs incurred year-to-date and the income received. The committee feels that prudent cash management is necessary so that there are funds available to attend to the new tracks if they are approved during the management framework review process and/or the EMP process. These tracks or bridges may require some capital to improve the going.</p> <p>Membership Fees Received: R26 100 Raffle funds raised: R11 350 Total Income Received: R37 450 Track Maintenance Expenses: R11 087.00 Chrysalis and picnic site expenses: R2940 Fixed expenses for the rest of the year: R5 900,00 Current Net Cashflow: R17 523,00 Estimated other expenses for the year: R10 000,00 Estimated Track Maintenance for the year: R6 000,00 Current expected surplus or deficit: R1 523,00</p>	PR
5	<p>Events</p> <p>The committee is very grateful for the fabulous photos and video that have been shared as part of the Tokai Big Five game drive. It has been decided that no game drive is complete without a sundowner, so to those who participated your winter warmer sundowner will be dropped off imminently. It was decided that the wine for the sundowner will be purchased from Painted Wolf Wines. A portion of all profits is donated to wildlife conservation via supporting the EWT. They are also currently focusing on raising funds for the Wild Dog Range Expansion Project, which aims to reverse the decline of painted wolves by actively increasing their populations and range throughout southern Africa. There are fewer than 6,000 painted wolves, or African wild dogs, left in the world today so it was decided that supporting this cause was appropriate for the Tokai Big Five Game Drive event.</p> <p>The committee would like to host another full-moon ride in spring so please keep an eye out for the details.</p> <p>The biggest event of the year is fast approaching: The annual grooms' soccer party and braai. Chrysalis will be approached with a view to holding the event there this year. Any assistance with sponsored items or joining in on the day to help with the braai and refreshments will be greatly appreciated. The committee hopes to keep the cost per person in-line with the cost last year which will mean asking for donations and sponsorships so that goodie bags can be filled with treats again and lunch can be a generous meal.</p> <p>Sponsored items have been generously provided by two businesses already for which the committee is very grateful.</p>	MM
6	<p>Management Framework Review</p> <p>The second draft of the management framework was scheduled for release at the end of June however due to the overwhelming number of submissions that were made during the feedback period this has been delayed. The TCMF coordinators have communicated that there will be a delay before the publication of the second draft plan. As yet, no timeline has been provided for the release of the document. This will</p>	CB

	<p>be followed by a second round of public comments before the final version of the management framework is published.</p> <p>The committee wishes to thank horse riders, yard owners and all other interested parties for their input into this process and encourages everyone to have their say when the second draft is made available.</p>	
7	<p>Representing Horse Riding</p> <p>It was agreed that in order to protect horse riding within the Tokai /Constantia area, riders need to be represented at multiple levels within the broader community as increasing pressure is being placed on recreational spaces. Therefore, the Committee agreed that it is in the TDRA's interests to be represented on the Zwaanswyk Association of Property Owners as well as at a Ward level. CB has kindly volunteered to take on these representations as part of her role as Chairperson of the TDRA. The committee is very supportive of all efforts that will preserve and even hopefully regain, the equestrian footprint that is so important to the Tokai equestrian community.</p>	
	<p>Next Meeting</p> <p>TBC</p>	

The meeting ended at 19:50

Certified a true record of the proceedings.

Chairperson

Date