



Minutes of DRASA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 12 November 2022 Zoom meeting 18:00

Present:

Cindy Radomsky, Debbie Boeyens, Petronel Vorster, Maret van Rensburg, Jo-Marie Myburgh, Dirk Potgieter, Anne-Marie Kayne, Amy Partovi, Cara Boyd, Guy Devereux, Inge Rall, Mia Uys, Bernice Mclean, Elsabe Potgieter, Leanne Schlemmer, Louwrens Burger, Michelle George, Nadia Lucouw, Richard, Sheena Pettit.

Presidents report read by Petronel Vorster.

1. OPENING

Due to poor Wi-Fi connection will the meeting be done by Petronell Vorster and not by Cindy Radomsky as planned.

2. WELCOME

Everyone present is welcomed by Petronell.

3. ANNUAL REPORT FROM PROVINCIAL BODIES

WECTRA	done by Jo-Marie Myburgh
ECCTRA	done by Petronell Vorster
GAUCTRA	done by Anne-Marie Kayne
FSCTRA	absent
NWCTRA	Louwrens Burger

4. CLUB STRUCTURE, MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS, ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Every club should host at least one ride and two clinics every season. Clubs should have a structure in place as well as a bank account. Money received will be for the clubs account. Clubs should make sure that their accounts are in place.
- Stone river club was dismantled. Stone river members should change to WCCD on website, if not they won't be activated.

5. FINANCIALS

- The Treasurer, Emma, is absent with excuse. Report done by Petronell. The main source of income for DRASA is membership fees.
- Expenses: Bibs are the most expensive. Every new member gets a bib. Other expenses are insurance and Nationals. The last two months DRASA ran at a loss.
- DRASA do not get money from Club affiliations.
- DRASA cannot support Clubs or provinces financially. Clubs should try and recruit new members.
- Cora will send a quote for bibs through to DRASA.

6. RATIFICATION OF RULES – DAY RIDERS

- Petronell explained the change in the DAY RIDER rule.
- Maret requested, according to the comments made in the mandates, Leisure division be extended to trail and that the distance of 20km be increased to 30km and that it be done in one loop to accommodate Endurance riders that are interested in joining DRASA.
- Cindy is concerned that Endurance riders may use DRASA only for training purposes and not to become members.
- Day riders are not yet members and can not really be under DRASA control and there may be the possibility that they would want to do what they want at a DRASA ride and this may upset the paying DRASA members.
- Day riders will have to adhere to all DRASA rules or move on.
- Distance is capped at 20km and less.
- Votes for the change – ALL in favour.

## 7. PROVINCIAL STRUCTURE AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- CLUBS: Gauteng           1  
          North West       1  
          Eastern Cape     2  
          Free State       1
  
- Provinces should have their structures in place.
- It is also suggested that Provinces/Clubs should introduce levies on membership/ride entry fees- for example R20,00 – to help fund Nationals hosted by their Provinces.
- Provinces/clubs should start thinking of how to finance Nationals, because no more money in DRASA account.
- Extra clinics can be hosted other than normal DRASA clinics.
- Livery Yards can be contacted for information sessions or clinics.
- Having extra money helps keeping fees for club rides down and more riders may enter.

## 8. FEEDBACK ON NATIONALS AND PLANNING NATIONALS 2023

Jo-Marie reported back on their Nationals.

- ❖ They broke even and the cost for their Nationals was R22 000,00.
- ❖ Having one judge at all Nationals is a good idea for consistency.
- ❖ Riders were upset about changing of dates.
- ❖ Cara – ride manager: 1 incident to report. The route was checked the night before and everything was in order, but the next day a gate was closed that caused riders to take up more time than planned for. It was said that 10 – 15min was wasted at the gate.
- It is suggested that this type of problem be put on the indemnity form, and that DRASA cannot be held responsible.
- It is also suggested that it should be covered during the Ride briefing. There may be obstacles that can cause a delay and riders should plan for it.
- Anne-Marie asked if this is not covered in the Rider's Code of Conduct and Cindy offered to check if it is.
- Riders at their ride loved the way Elsabe explained obstacles to them, but there were some issues.
  - ❖ Decisions were made by Judges, judging at Nationals that were only discussed within the group and with no one else. Decisions were not communicated to the riders.
  - ❖ Changes to Pre-ride tests should not take place.
  - ❖ A decision should be made, who may make changes to horsemanship tests.
  - ❖ If a list of tests is given, judges cannot change it for Nationals.
  - ❖ Changes to Pre-ride tests should be communicated before Nationals.
  - ❖ Anne-Marie explained that the tests did not change and that it weren't new but combinations of existing tests.
  - ❖ There should be consistency between Nationals in the different Provinces.
  - ❖ Standardised tests should not be changed in any form without communication especially when it comes to Nationals.
- Cindy requested that these issues should not be raised at an AGM, but that the necessary steps should be followed to report it to the relevant committee.

Inge report back on the Gauteng/NW/Free state Nationals

- Nationals went well, and we had no major issues.
- No official complaints.
- Judges on one leg were not where they were supposed to be. But it was sorted out and did not really effect the riders.
- A rule had to be enforced on one rider regarding walking speed.
- Rules should be enforced on club level. If riders get away with breaking the rules on normal rides, they will do so at Nationals as well.
- Ride masters and Judges should know the rules and please enforce it.

## 2023 NATIONALS

NW – August

WC – 15 August to 15 September

EC - 15 August to 15 September

### 9. CALENDER DATES

- All dates for 2023 should be send through by the end of November.
- Do not have to be the precise date or venue, only the area and month.
- Send Club name, month and date.

### 10. FEES 2023

Renewal fees:	Annual Fees:	R350.00
	Insurance:	R110.00

Replacement bib:	R180.00
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Replacement timing chip:	R100-00
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Replacement logbook:	R 80.00
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New Full Membership fees:	Annual Fees:	R350.00
	Insurance:	R110.00

Bib:	R180.00
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Chip:	R100.00
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Logbook:	R 80.00
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There is an extra button for new and replacement items.

### 11. RESULTS FROM NATIONALS 2022

#### **TEAMS**

##### **Pleasure**

First place : GAUCTRA

Second place: WECTRA

Third place: EC

##### **Trail**

First place : NW

#### **INDIVIDUAL RESULTS**

##### **Pleasure**

###### **Overall winners**

First place : Bernice McLean

Second place: Petronell Vorster

Third place: Panji Nyirenda

##### **Horsemanship**

First place : Anne-Marie Kayne

Second place: Bernice McLean

Third place: Panji Nyirenda

##### **Vetting**

First place : Adoné Lourens

Second place: Bernice McLean

Third place: Petronell Vorster

**Time**

First place : Adoné Lourens  
Second place: Petronell Vorster  
Third place: Bernice McLean

**Trail****Overall winners**

First place : Debbie Boeyens  
Second place: Cindy Radomsky  
Third place: Larisha Ziehl

**Horsemanship**

First place : Debbie Boeyens  
Second place: Cindy Radomsky  
Third place: Larisha Ziehl

**Vetting**

First place : Cindy Radomsky  
Second place: Debbie Boeyens  
Third place: Larisha Ziehl

**Time**

First place : Cindy Radomsky  
Second place: Louwrens Burger  
Third place: Debbie Boeyens

**12. YEAR END AWARDS 2022****I. Highest KMS combination by Division****Pleasure**

First place: Ian George  
Second place: Michelle George  
Third place: Elrieke Marias De Lange

**Trail**

First place: Debbie Boeyens  
Second place: Cindy Radomsky  
Third place: Dirk Potgieter

**II. Highest Point award by Division****Pleasure**

First place: Arike Juul  
Second place: Christopher Juul  
Third place: Isabelle Menzies

**Trail**

First place: Dirk Potgieter  
Second place: Inge Rall  
Third place: Cindy Radomsky

**III. Highest Vet points by Division****Pleasure**

First place: Christopher Juul  
Second place: Arike Juul  
Third place: Elrike Marais De Lange

**Trail**

First place: Inge Rall  
Second place: Dirk Potgieter  
Third place: Cindy Radomsky

IV. Highest Time Award**Pleasure**

First Place: Arike Juul  
Second Place: Lizel Sieberhagen  
Third Place: Christopher Juul

**Trail**

First Place: Dirk Potgieter  
Second Place: Inge Rall  
Third Place: Cindy Radomsky

V. Highest Horsemanship**Pleasure**

First Place: Arike Juul  
Second Place: Isabelle Menzies  
Third Place: Liezel Sieberhagen

**Trail**

First place: Dirk Potgieter  
Second place: Inge Rall  
Third place: Cindy Radomsky

**Pleasure Division – Junior**

Lienke Juul = Highest Kilometre  
Highest Points in Division  
Veterinary Award  
Time Award  
Horsemanship Award

**Ethos award**

Amy Partovi

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Another year , lots more kilometers!

Entries to Rides

Province	Division	019-2020	020-2021	021-2022
CCTRA	LEASURE	5	7	5
	RAIL			
	OPPIE			
<b>CCTRA Total</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>00</b>
SCTRA	LEASURE			0
<b>SCTRA Total</b>				<b>0</b>
AUCTRA	LEASURE	50	9	9
	ummit			
	RAIL	5	7	3
	OOTHILLS			
<b>AUCTRA Total</b>		<b>78</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>06</b>
ECTRA	LEASURE	3	2	26
	RAIL	6		7
<b>ECTRA Total</b>		<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>43</b>
WCTRA	LEASURE	1		5
	ummit			
	RAIL			0
	OPPIE			
	OOTHILL			
<b>WCTRA Total</b>		<b>6</b>		<b>7</b>
<b>rand Total</b>		<b>98</b>	<b>08</b>	<b>06</b>

Eastern Cape grew mainly due to Border Club joining and putting on multiple rides! Paula and her helpers are to be congratulated for putting on a fantastic nationals despite many challenges

Wectra outdid themselves this year with many events and a dedicated bunch of riders who made a clean sweep of annual awards this year. It is great to see them growing and consolidating that growth.

Gauctra had a bad year with many stalwarts falling out for various reasons and a very wet season coupled with far too many AHS cases. They are back on track as can be seen by the awards again this year.

NWECTRA showed good growth with Platinum dedicating a year to learning the ropes and finding some nice new venues for us to ride at. For a new club they made a fantastic showing at nationals.

**KMS BY HORSE - JUST FOR INTEREST SAKE**  
**(just any over 100kms this year)**

Year	2021-2022
Horse	Sum of Distance
ANDORAS SECRET (PHOEBE)	29.4
UNA PANDORA	15.8
RIK-EL SOCKS	03.6
AVALOS DE DEUS DAMILA	86.6
ILOAH DARDASHAN	76.6
A VANQUISH	56.8
CHILLE	51.3
LIFFORD ROSE QUARTZ	46.7
EART	46.6
I-HARA MASTER JACK	46.2
UGGENS DIAMANT	46
AN DER WATH ABNER	45.5
RISTON	33.2
E WET	24.2
Iympus Boesman	22.2
YFHOEK ANKER	18.4
EDRO	15.8
WANITA	15.8
ORMAR KADY	15.8
AGIC	15.8
UNTERS COLONEL CUSTARD FLYER	15.29
ELLOOSA TAZANNA	14
Iommetjie	12.5

RIXIE	09.2
ELLISIMA PRINCESS BRONWYN	05.4
EADOWLARK TOBYS DOUBLE O SEVEN	04.6
RGO	01.9
PIRIT	00.49
OEPER KOPER	00.4
EPSI	00.2

Just a fun fact that our members combined have completed over 17 000km competitively in 3 years! Not mentioning how much training kms have been done!

Very interesting read on the natrc American group and something I believe we need to keep in mind when changing rules etc. The natrc numbers have been dropping for a while but a few years ago they introduced basically a division for day riders that allowed them to ride as many rides as they wanted - and since then their numbers have declined a LOT compared to endurance. Why? The consensus is that they thereby lost their seperate competitive discipline status and became a pleasure ride with expensive vets and judges. They lost their cohesive and friendly competition and educational aspect and became something that people entered to get a fun ride out of.

This is a post that really got my attention :

“In my honest opinion. NATRC has lost its way and vision in the last 20 years. The true meaning and the spirit of the competition has seemed to have vanished. Folks pay to pleasure ride not to compete anymore. AERC has not lost its vision of the sport. It is a race. A competitive sport. I remember when your seasoned AERC competitors broke in new or young horses. They used NATRC as part of the development of their inexperienced mount. Why? The discipline and the emphasis on true horsemanship, along with the challenge of the trail. The competitive spirit of the competition. Not just the pleasure riding. It seems you all have been so worried about numbers. Making the rides easier was the wrong directions. Now if you didn't compete during the 60s, 70s, 80s and on into the 90s you won't understand and will argue my view. But until NATRC goes back to its roots it will eventually just ride off into the sunset. And a sad day that will be. My first ride was an AERC Ride with Claude Abercrombie in 1977. I realized at the end of that ride I knew just enough about competing at that level to kill a horse. Then through Abercrombie and the Eastern States Trailing Association (ESTRA) I was introduced to NATRC. Folks call it "knit picky" they were usually the ones that didn't place. I called it an education. There was enough challenge that one had to think and prepare. A lot of those Naysayers didn't want to put in the time and effort to condition. They didn't do well in horsemanship so they griped about that. Obviously they still do. The administration back started worrying about the numbers thus emerged the Competitive Pleasure Class. Some said it was for those who have achieved all they wanted. Horse and rider were getting to old BUT they still wanted to be out on the trail. Actually it's gone down hill from there. You really can't compare Competitive Trail to AERC. However the Education and the ability to prepare and condition is so much more. As a horsemanship judge able to train under and be associated with the likes of these folks one really can't describe. Back then it was special. If you think it is special now you missed out on so much.”

We are desperate to increase our entries for clubs to make some money and cover costs of putting on rides but have to be careful that we keep our identity as a COMPETITIVE SPORT and not just become a fun ride sport. We have introduced a change in the rules this year to allow local riders to take part in more events when we hold rides near them. However, we must not lose sight of the fact that we are a seperate discipline with very specific rules of play and not allow those riders to bend or break rules to have a fun ride. Please make sure that you enter any DQ on your results sheets with all details as riders who take advantage of our sport without following our rules can do irreparable harm to our reputation as well as cause many problems relating to horse welfare and we certainly do not want to have that tag attached to our sport. Many of the newer members may not be aware of the history with not only SAEF and ERASA and the SPCA, however we have had to fight long and hard for our right to be seen as a separate discipline that encourages and fosters horse welfare and education of riders in horsemanship. The only reason we still have a discipline is those agreements that were negotiated and agreed by DRASA and the other bodies.... We cannot break those agreements for not only legal but also ethical reasons.

We have to think out the box to obtain more entries but not to the detriment of the sport. Lets look at marketing (videos, training clinics, getting experts in to train nutrition, saddle fit, horsemanship, training methods etc), adverts, talking to people and getting people to events...often they ONLY need 1 good ride to be hooked!. /Important is to raise money for clubs and provinces to give them a slush fund to draw on. Provincial levies have been suggested before, raffles, tack sales , competitions at rides is another one.... What a lot of clubs don't emphasise is the team aspect at normal events. Ask a small fee for 4 riders to make a team and best team wins...it can be lots of fun dressing up in team colours/ fancy dress etc and has the added benefit of getting riders used to thinking strategically and fostering club spirit.

I say this every year, but all signs this year indicate a GREAT year in 2023 for CTR and lets push hard to use our combined mind power and enthusiasm to make it so!