



DRAFT
Minutes of the

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Held Sunday 9 OCTOBER 2022 at the Cambridge Raceway and via Zoom

Chairman Bernard Hickey opened the meeting at 10.30 am.

He welcomed everyone and congratulated all Members with winners since the last meeting.

Present:

Executive attending in person:

- Bernard Hickey (President/Chairman) – Hawkes Bay
- Monique Brocx – Waikato/Bay of Plenty
- Brian O’Dea – Wanganui/Taranaki
- Neil Miller – Co-opted
- Jim & Barbara Keyte (Secretary/Treasurer)

Executive attending via Zoom:

- Sally Blyth – Auckland
- Allan Fenwick & Mark Verran – Manawatu

Members In Attendance:

- Jeanette Miller, Mike Gething & Pat Woolaston – Auckland,
- Jenny Cowan, Stephen Lindsay & Ann Browne - Waikato,

Apologies - Received and sustained from:

- Craig Leishman, Raewyn McKenzie, Derick & Judy Stubbs, Susan Dower and
- Andrew Trotter - Auckland,
- Lee Somervell, Tony Lyndon & Neil Kirton – Hawkes Bay.

Condolences. The Chair asked everyone to stand and remember those members who had died in the previous year.

Minutes of 2021 SGM:

Moved that the minutes of the 2021 SGM, as circulated be confirmed as a true and correct record of proceedings.

A. Fenwick/S. Blyth. Carried.

Matters arising. Nil.

President's Report. Bernard Hickey. Attached. Received.

Moved that it be received. B. Hickey/M. Gething. Carried

Bulletin Report. Neil Miller. Attached. Received.

Moved that it be received. N. Miller/B Hickey. Carried.

Secretary's Report. Jim Keyte. Attached. Received.

Moved that it be received. J. Keyte/N. Miller. Carried.

Annual Accounts.

Moved that the Annual Accounts for the year ended 31 July 2022, prepared by Shelley Tweedy & Associates and circulated, be received.

B. Hickey/M. Gething. Carried.

Moved that the Subscriptions remain the same for the 2023/24 year at Single \$65, Dual \$65.

B. Hickey/M. Gething. Carried.

Moved that the Capitation fees be set at 40% of all subscriptions for the 2023/24 year.

B. Hickey/B. O'Dea.

M Brocx, on behalf of Waikato spoke against the motion. She said that Waikato considered that it should be a 60/40 split in favour of the Regions. B. Hickey said that the Regions all had good balance sheets and could not see any reason for that proposal.

The resolution was Carried.

Elections and appointments:

- President: B. Hickey was nominated by Hawkes Bay, seconded by Manawatu. He was duly elected.
- Patron: A R Galbraith KC.
- Accountants: Shelley Tweedy & Associates. Nominated by B. Hickey, seconded by B. O'Dea.

All were duly elected/appointed.

Regional Delegates:

These were confirmed as:

- Auckland – Sally Blyth, reserve Mike Gething.
- Waikato/Bay of Plenty - Monique Brocx, reserve Grant Kingsford.
- Hawkes Bay - Bernard Hickey, reserve Neil Kirton.

- Manawatu - Allan Fenwick, reserve Mark Verran.
- Wanganui/Taranaki - Brian O’Dea, reserve Bret Field.
- Central South Island – Pete Faulkner.
- Bulletin - Neil Miller – Co-opted.

The President said that he intended to visit the South Island with a view to encouraging former members in the Canterbury and Otago regions to re-join.

General Business.

Bernard Hickey reported that the Pattern Committee had huge concerns as NZ had too many Group & Listed races for the number and quality of horses entered. There was a real chance that some of the races would be reclassified.

It was agreed that the Federation should keep in close contact with relevant members of Parliament.

Brian O’Dea said that we need to remember that the Bulletin is the Federation’s future and we must look at succession plans.

Allan Fenwick expressed Manawatu’s confidence in President Hickey and the way that he represented the Federation.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 11.55am.

Signed Date

Presidents Annual Report for 2022 AGM

I am not one to be lost for words but found drafting this report exceedingly difficult! So much has been promised in the last year but nothing comes out and hits me to say, we are moving in the right direction! Stakes have increased slightly but so have costs and inflation. The TAB held its own and the racing codes simply just limped along. The strategies in place have yet to yield the fruits promised and we have an anxious period to see if our industry can sustain the number listed and group races in the future.

Each year we have our stars in racing, but we also had good thoroughbreds go amiss with early retirement and others deciding that the grass is greener across the ditch. Owners always bear the brunt, but we are hardy souls and keep coming back for punishment. That is what makes the industry so proud and interesting when you see the battlers come to the top and see the joy and smiles of our industry participants who helped in the journey of success. To all our members who tasted success, I congratulate you and may there be more to come.

As your President and nominated member on the New Zealand Thoroughbred Members Council, I have been highly active in advocating on your behalf on too many topics and subjects to list but have found the last year challenging to say the least. Some people may say I am too outspoken, but the 'black hat' fits and I am not known to sit on the fence or lay down when it comes to ensuring accountability within our industry.

I have always maintained that our stakes will only increase when the TAB partners with a recognised offshore betting agency. Likewise, we need to stop foreign betters taking our winnings without clipping the ticket. All these matters have been canvased before but the urgency to act is **now** as time is running out the longer we do nothing. We have a new Minister of Racing in Kieran McNulty who has skin in the game and we all must rally him to take his Racing Minister portfolio seriously, as owners cannot continue to sustain on average a 18% return their investment if anything at all for most.

Its pleasing to learn and communicate to you that the TAB and Racing Codes are working more closely and better together. The days of 'them and us' have gone and may that continue as we are all in the same game and business and only want the best for all involved. Our industry has coped it all in the last two and half years with COVID, but we have managed and survived, and our industry leaders need to be thanked and congratulated in this respect. They have traversed a number of difficult encounters but remained stern to the cause.

Your Board at NZTR is working well as a team and each have different skills to offer and one thing that is evident is that they have their heart in the game. There will always be challenging decisions to be made and not all of us will agree on most decisions, but we must move on for the betterment of the industry. Your Board is committed, and their 'Statement of Intent and Business Plan' will be closely scrutinised over the next year to measure as to whether they have got it right and we see progress.

For our Owners Federation we need to gain full membership of the Code and increase our presence as advocate for registered owners and not just the owners who join our Federation. Our Federation will have a strong voice when all are members, and this is my objective to achieve in 2023. Further members please support your designated local Association and become involved in any activities that they may organise.

Our strong financial performance for the year, despite COVID challenges and a disrupted racing calendar, was built on doing the basics well – sustaining income and tightly controlling operating costs. I would like to thank the executive who worked hard to ensure we could deliver this result, and our members who have stuck with us for your commitment to the Federation.

A special thank you to Sally Blyth and her team who worked hard on updating our Website and Neil Miller as Editor in producing a Bulletin that is the last of its kind published within the Thoroughbred Industry.

To our Secretary Jim Keyte who is standing down after 15 years' service, I pass on my sincere gratitude and thanks to you. You would have witnessed change in your time whether good or bad within the industry. May you and Barbara sit back and enjoy your retirement and I know there are others who would like to extend their 'thanks and appreciation' to you both.

Happy Racing and it is a pleasure to offer this as my fourth annual report.

Bernard Hickey, President

Secretary/Treasurer's Report for 2022 AGM

Farewell

As this is our last AGM we wish to thank all the people from the various Regions that we have dealt with over the last 13 years.

Membership

Unfortunately, during that time the Federation has lost Canterbury/Westland by resignation along with Otago/Southland, Taranaki and Bay of Plenty through lack of personnel. Thanks go to their neighbours for accepting them as joint Regions.

However, in recent years the membership has remained relatively static at around 900.

Due to the letters that were sent to the owners of winning horses, new membership kept up with resignations and deaths.

Communication

As over 90% of the members have email addresses communication with them is much easier and less expensive. It took considerable effort to get them all up to date it was well worth it.

With the use of Mail Chimp information is able to be sent with the press of a computer key. Thanks to Vice President Sally Blythe for making that happen. This is also available to the individual regions to use.

Also, with the use of Zoom, the Federation Board is now having meetings at least once each month.

Subscriptions

These are sent at the beginning of the financial year (1 August) and should be paid within 2 months.

However, a considerable amount of time is wasted chasing them throughout the financial year.

Perhaps it is time for the Board to look at deleting outstanding members as is done in sports clubs.

Finances

We are pleased to be leaving the Federation in a healthy financial position as can be seen by the Annual Accounts showing the annual profit at \$6,407.00 and total equity of \$47,930.00.

Due to that result the Board is recommending that the capping fees paid to the regions is increased to 40% over all subscription.

We wish the Organisation all the best for a successful and profitable future.

Jim & Barbara Keyte

Secretary/Treasurer

4th October 2022

Bulletin Report for 2022 AGM

Another year with the reins and there is a sense of normality returning. The difficulties that Covid presented are no longer - we should be able to perform better now.

It's been notable that some of the regional notes have been sparse lately, due to health or business issues I suppose.

The solution to this is that the regional scribes have a back-up person or even have a joint scribe function. It's not only about adequate copy, it's about representing your area. That clumsy word "optics" seems apposite.

I endeavour to give a month's notice to the troops, so that's enough time to come up with some news. Do you think?

The Regional Notes are the backbone of the Bulletin without which it would lose the "grassroots" appeal. To this end I would like to thank all of the regional writers and their helpers. You are the glue that bind the issues together, time after time.

I'd like to thank Jim Keyte for the assistance given to the Bulletin and myself. Always contactable and always amiable. If he was a horse, I'd call him Mr Reliable.

To the fact checkers Jeanette (Evalovin) and Allan Fenwick, thank you! You paper over most of the cracks of my mild dyslexia. Allan also runs the "sniff test" over what we produce. He has never had to pull me up. That's because I know he is there. Thank you mate!

I would be so much happier if we could get a full-page advert to reduce the amount of copy needed to be found.

Going back to the beginning of this report, I said I had the reins. But I don't have a whip or spurs. Anything the regions wish to share as long as it is factual goes in. You matter bigly - and we receive reports of how the ongoing editions are appreciated.

(P) Neil Miller, Bulletin Editor

30th September 2022