



## Minutes for

### Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Friesian Horse Society (NZFHS)

*Held via Zoom at 7pm on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2025*

*(postponed from 2pm on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2025 as quorum wasn't reached)*

#### Present

Gill Chambers, Maria King, Marianne & Louis Weitenberg, Anna Zhigareva, Linda Gowdy, Neil Fremaux, Simone and Philipp du Bernard-Ripa, Rachael Brown, Jacqui Coombes, Sarah Rolston, Bronwyn Yucel, Yvonne Liemburg, Jennifer Monk, Michelle Amery

#### Apologies

Roellie & Jan de Jong, Sandy Nogueira

Passed: Gill Chambers

Seconded: Maria King

#### Agenda

1. Moment's Silence for Baldeep
2. Previous AGM Minutes
3. President & Event Officer's Report
4. Vice President & Secretary's Report
5. Treasurer's Report
6. Registrar's Report
7. Webmaster & Promotion Officer's Report
8. Nominations and Voting for Board Members
9. Proposed Remits
10. General Business
11. Next AGM

#### 1. A Moment of Silence for Baldeep Dhillon

A moment of silence for our cherished and strongly missed member, Baldeep Dhillon.

#### 2. Previous AGM Minutes

The AGM minutes taken on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2024 are a true and accurate record of that Annual General Meeting.

Matter arising to be addressed during reports and General Business.

Passed: Anna Zhigareva

Seconded: Gill Chambers



### 3. President & Event Officer's Report

#### NEW ZEALAND FRIESIAN HORSE SOCIETY

#### CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

AGM | 31<sup>st</sup> MAY 2025

Our last AGM was 3-5 May 2024 with a great gathering at Taupo. A fun weekend for all with a treasure hunt, lessons and wee trek over the road from the NEC centre. A lovely get together for all and a pot luck dinner which I feel was perfect.

Tragedy struck our community in October with the collapse of Baldeep at the Wairarapa Dressage Show of which there was no recovery in sight. I personally won't forget our dinner together on the Saturday evening with Vicky, Marianne and Louis. A great loss to our small Friesian group in NZ.

We confirmed our Keuring dates for April 2025 – a little frustrating with NZ after Australia once again. We did a poll as to the numbers of Friesians in the areas of NZ and with the concern of foals travelling to Taupo we split the venues to Auckland and Palmerston North.

The committee did an amazing amount of organising and fundraising for an extremely successful week. We had a trek at Cape Kidnappers, which raised \$2,000 towards the judges' airfares. Numerous donations and gifts were auctioned and this has made our bank balance better than we expected.

We were very lucky with the weather in Auckland for the first day of the Keuring. A big thank you to Sake (Dutch Ambassador in Auckland) with him informing the Dutch community of our event, and to Simone and Harcourts for advertising broadly. We had an amazing crowd of 50 plus!

Palmerston North was a little damp and we were thankful for the half-covered arena. We all had fun with the thanks of Bronwyn and Marianne organising the event, and delicious lunch food and the BBQ dinner.

Linda and her web updates kept everyone informed and with her travelling to both venues this made life easier for all. Thank you!

Anna – what a legend. Super organising together with Simone – a huge thank you for making everything run very smoothly.

I have corresponded with the KFPS to see if we can have a Keuring in March 2027 before Australia so we will wait for their response.

Taupo NEC has been booked for Jan 2-4<sup>th</sup> 2026 for a Friesian gathering with inclusion of "Friesian plus" – Friesian plus an other breed (Friesian cross) to come and join us for some fun events. I feel we need to increase our membership to include more riders for these fun events, as last year we had a couple of extras and they thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

Gill Chambers

*President*  
*NZFHS*

Passed: Gill Chambers

Seconded: Anna Zhigareva

**Action:**

#### 4. Vice President & Secretary's Report

##### **Vice President & Secretary Report**

*NZFHS AGM | Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2025*

It has been another busy and fabulous year, working alongside a committee that I really cherish and admire. So, firstly, to Gill, Bronwyn, Linda, Marianne and Simone – you ladies have, as always, been brilliant. It's been a joy working together with you on NZFHS projects this year, and I can't wait to continue doing so! Thank you for your support, resilience, kindness and expertise, and for keeping me calm at the height of Keuring stress!

We started this year with two wonderful additions to the team. Simone, your passion and positive spirit have spurred the Board on to try new things and achieve some great fundraising! Your experience with promoting and advertising, as well as your desire to raise awareness about the Friesian Horse breed, are so needed and valued. We have also had Marianne return to the Board, and have benefitted incredibly from her knowledge and experience within the Friesian Horse world and with the KFPS. Thank you for your hard work, Marianne, in dealing with the KFPS during their restructuring – it hasn't been easy getting registrations done but you've been so resilient and well-informed with it all! (And thank you to our members for your patience.)

After a fantastic get-together and quadrille practice at our last AGM (Friesian weekend), and high hopes to showcase our performance at Horse of the Year 2025, with Baldeep and Jelle in the spotlight, we put plans on hold and truly grieved the sudden and shocking loss of our beloved Baldeep. Baldeep was an integral part of this community, and we will continue to honour him in every possible way. We hope to get back together as a group and choreograph a beautiful Friesian Horse show for Equifest and Horse of the Year as soon as possible.

Our calendar and online auction fundraisers were a success, so thank you to everyone who participated and shared these with your friends and family. We would love for even more members to participate next time, but, on the whole, both fundraisers have been very successful and have contributed to covering Keuring costs.

Thank you to everyone for your help in organising and running the 2025 Keurings. A special thank you to Linda, Simone and Gill, for all your work on the Auckland Keuring. We knew Auckland-based members had desired a Keuring close to home for many years, and it was truly a lot of work, but we delivered. There was a great public turnout (thank you to Simone for all your advertising!), the day ran pretty smoothly, and the venue was fabulous (the judges remarked that the arena surface was the best they'd had all tour). Based on the judges' stated preference, next time, we will aim to present stallions either at owners' homes or in a single separate location, away from mares and foals, as there was some stress felt by the stallions on the day. A special thank you to Marianne and Bronie for all your incredible work organising the Palmerston North Keuring. It went smoothly, felt relaxed and was well-paced, all despite the somewhat horrid weather. The relaxed BBQ catch-up afterwards was also very much needed, and your cooking was exquisite!

We would love our members to submit feedback on the Keurings, so please do send us an e-mail with your thoughts on things that went well, elements that could be improved, and anything else you can think of. We're always keen to improve how things are run, and make not just the Keurings, but also our get-togethers safe, meaningful and fun.

Warm wishes,  
Anna Zhigareva

*Vice President & Secretary  
New Zealand Friesian Horse Society*

Passed: Anna Zhigareva

Seconded: Gill Chambers

Action:

## 5. Treasurer's Report

*Treasurer's Report and financial statement were screen shared and gone through by Anna Zigareva prior to Bronwyn joining the Zoom call. We then moved on to the Registrar's Report and Webmaster's Report, after which Bronwyn was able to join the call. She then did a more thorough walkthrough of the financial statement and Treasurer's Report, as well as answering questions. (Report below. Financial Statement attached to e-mail sent out to all members.)*

### NZFHS Inc. | AGM | Treasurer's Review for 2024

Hello everyone,

Last year we increased our fees to balance out the raising costs from the KFPS. This will be a yearly necessity for future fees with the increasing costs.

In 2024 we still managed to stay under the full amount (\$190/\$215) increasing to only \$170.00/\$190.00, from 2023 - \$120/\$190. But unfortunately for the 2025 fees they were back to our full amount again. We need to stay in front of the kfps fees for 2026 and allow our fee increases to meet theirs.

Our membership is steady at approx 30 members.

With a keuring year in 2025 the Board started early to organise and plan for fund raising. Our 2 biggest costs are the International Airfares (Keuring) and the kfps fees. 2 Judges and 2 runners from Holland and Australia fly to the furthest country away from Holland with great cost to our small Society. To our credit we are successful at achieving this. Our other big cost is to the kfps, our mother ship, this solidifies the 'non profit' in our society.

As a non profit Charity we don't hold the funds for long, as you can see with the financials, the movements were substantial, with little balance. At the end of 2024 it proved to the board we had some serious fund raising to accomplish, and sitting here today I can say we were successful.

I would like to give thanks and appreciation to our Board, ladies you all bring something individual and unique to our meetings, with not only what you know, but who you know! It has been a pleasure working with you all, we do enjoy each others company and genuinely care for our Society. Thank you all! Im sure there are members who could support in some small way as well. Our Board are very generous and we give an incredible amount with their donations and time.

October last year left us all numb with shock with the passing of our incredibly gracious, generous, horseman Baldeep. At shows I always kept times when Baldeep and Jelle were on. Always remembered with so many memories. Thank you Baldeep and Vicki and Jelle for showing NZ the Friesian horse!

KFPS- this year and last year the kfps have gone through so many changes, and these caused so many problems with processing papers etc., answering emails. We are slowly getting on top of things from our side.

One thing we are asking our members to do when selling a foal, is to please register it. So the foal is known by the kfps for breeding/dna purposes, and to us if the new owner later decides to join our Society. This is so very important for the breed here in NZ. Please consider this.

*With Thanks and Kind Regards, Bronie Yucel, Treasurer of the NZFHS Inc.*



Passed: Bronwyn Yucel

Seconded: Maria King

**Action:**

Bronwyn: Put together estimated costs of 2027 Keuring based on 2025 Keuring costs, for members to see, and so that fundraising can begin in advance.

**6. Registrar's Report**

**NZFHS Inc. 2025 AGM REGISTRAR REPORT. (1/01/2024 to 31/12/2024)**

To our members, great to see so much work coming towards me this year.  
Thank you for reporting all your horses' information promptly for processing.  
Why is it so important?

**Reporting Breeding's within the requested timeframe, why?**

- It is a rule from the KFPS.
- KFPS/ NZFHS less likely to charge for extra DNA cost to check parentage.
- Important information to see if there is a **pattern** certain licensed stallions need to serv. several times or more than others.
- It's also a way for the stallion owners of frozen semen to get informed.  
If you use frozen semen from Holland, Life foal guarantees do not apply.  
Breeding your mare requires you to fully pay the stud fee owing when your mare is scanned in foal 45 days.

**Reporting a foaling within the requested timeframe of 14 days, why?**

- It is a rule from the KFPS and relates to most of the above points.
- Your foal will receive a studbook number from the KFPS

**Microchip and hair sample.**

This needs to be completed before your foal is 6 months old, this is a rule from the KFPS.

When the KFPS receive this information only than your foal is fully registered and your Studbook paper will be produced, and send back to the NZFHS.

**Selling and buying a Friesian.**

By being a member, you already acknowledge you respect the importance of off the KFPS studbook.

The general public in NZ is learning and is more aware of the importance of the paperwork being available. There is a lot you can do to promote this.

When you sell a horse, please explain the existence of the NZFHS Inc. and how they work together with the KFPS in Holland. Explain you can only transfer horses by being a member of the NZFHS Inc. Give them contact numbers for the board members. Show or print out the transfer





forms for them and include them in your sales package.

You can fill in your information on the transfer form and hand it to the buyer.

**Do not pass on the studbook paper, but send it to the Registrar.**

**Numbers for the 2024 year:**

4 Transfers completed

3 Breeding's reported

2 birth notifications and hair samples received

1 Mare aborted

13 Horses were upgraded after the keuring

1 Mare received Sport Status

Jelle and Floris retained their Breeding Status.

I would like to say thank you to the whole board for putting in a lot of work for the 2025 Keuring. The board has successfully fundraised a lot of money to help keep the cost down for the keuring fees.

We have a very productive and successful board.

Regards Marianne Weitenberg  
Registrar NZFHS Inc.

Passed: Marianne Weitenberg

Seconded: Anna Zhigareva

**Action:**

7. Webmaster & Promotion Officer's Report



## Webmaster and Promotion Officer Report for 2024/2025

Well it's been a busy year and the year most certainly has seen its ups and downs. I think as a society we have again managed to pull together for each other and for our beloved Friesian horses.

I have tried my best to keep our website and Facebook page up to date with the going ons in our society, but also with interesting bits of Friesian and general horse information I think our members might find interesting or need to know. I also have enjoyed adding the odd bit of Friesian Horse "Eye Candy" for everyone to enjoy 😊

If I'm re-elected for the Web Master position I endeavor to keep working on the new section on our web page that has been added "Interesting Articles" This is where I'm adding articles which members may want to refer back to once they have been added to our Facebook Page. So as not to lose these interesting articles. I will continue keeping members up to date with information related to our society and it's going ons, as well as more interesting articles. I always love to add members' up dates, so look forward to seeing more.

I would also like to try and get a survey underway to see if we can get a clearer indication of how many Friesians are in NZ. Registered or not, because I think this information can be used to appox these people to see if they want to become members or even social members to up our numbers and have more involvement from members.

Sincerely  
**Linda Gowdy**

Passed: Linda Gowdy

Seconded: Anna Zhigareva

### Action:

Linda: Conduct a survey with Friesian horse owners (members and non-members)

## 8. Nominations and Voting for Board Members

The Webmaster/Promotion Officer role will be split into two roles (Webmaster and Promotion Officer) for now.

Votes conducted via Google Forms.

Linda Gowdy for Webmaster -> **Passed**

Simone du Bernard-Ripa for Promotion Officer -> **Passed**

## 9. Proposed Remits

Proposed remits were circulated prior to the AGM. Members had a chance to read through them and were ready to vote on the remits without discussion.

Anna confirmed that all remits were to do with bringing the current Constitution up to date based on the requirements of the 2022 Incorporated Societies Act (the '2022 Act'), which must be complied with and the Constitution submitted by April 2026 in order for our society to remain incorporated.

Vote conducted via Google Forms. **Remits are passed.**

**Action:**

Anna: Update the Constitution and submit to the Registrar of Incorporated Societies

**10. General Business****10.1 Fundraising (point raised by Maria)**

Maria's PitStop Donation

- PitStop Palmerston North
- Donation from every service in a particular month (to be determined which month)

TV Programmes & Advertising

- Country Calendar - programme on Friesians as rare breed (they did for Cleveland Bays)
  - o Could come to gathering in Taupo and 2027 Keuring(s)
  - o Celebrate older horses
- Hoiho – programme on Friesians as rare breed
  - o Gill knows Michelle Lee so will approach her
- Programme overseas about longevity?
  - o Could help them celebrate with ours
  - o Do ours live longer?
  - o Different management and housing style to Holland
- There was a TV programme Yvonne was on 20 years ago (Yvonne will find it)
- Phryso write-up
  - o Anna used to write articles for Phryso every now and again, so can start those up again with news of our Friesians

**10.2 South Island Keurings (point raised by Anna)**

Anna asked for Yvonne's thoughts on having Keurings in the South Island in the near future. Yvonne shared that at present there are probably just not enough members and, with a foal born now and again, it might not be worth it yet. Would need to check with other South Island members.

**10.3 Having 1 vs 2 Keurings (point raised by the Board)**

The Board is happy to have been able to organise two Keurings this year (in Auckland and in Palmerston North), mainly to finally serve those members, who for many years have been asking to have a Keuring closer to home. However, this was a massive undertaking for the Board and may not be sustainable in the long run, unless we have more members helping with the organisation, perhaps.

The judges mentioned not liking to stress out stallions or mares, and therefore are happy to view stallions on a separate day, separate location, and even at owners' own facilities. Louis brought up a great point that if stallions can be viewed at owners' properties, we might end up with lots of venues, which becomes expensive and complicated. Simone





shared that it is hard to find venues that splits stallions and mares well, but the NEC, Taupo, was good for that. The negative of the NEC for those further out is that members will need to travel with foals, which not every member is comfortable doing from a welfare standpoint. Perhaps we could alternate having one central Keuring (in Taupo) and then two separate Keurings.

#### **10.4 Involving Our Part-Breed Owners/Members (point raised by Gill)**

Lots of Friesians in NZ are not pure, but we have people keen to be involved with gatherings, and even help out with organising/fundraising/etc. We have some as members of our society, but lots more could get involved, just need to make it known to them.

Gill suggested 'Friesian Plus' membership for part-breed owners.

Anna asked how this would be different from the existing Social Membership (\$30/year). Discussion about people not knowing about this membership. We need to advertise it and make it more special. Promote this within other societies (eg. via FB groups), too.

Yvonne suggested we should make sure we are still aligned with the goals of the KFPS – we do not want to be seen to be promoting the breeding of crossbreds.

Anna suggested to check the updated KFPS goals as well as our own goals, stated within the Constitution and, if need be, to check with the KFPS regarding their thoughts.

#### **Decision to revamp our Social Membership.**

Rachael shared that part-breed owners are really keen to belong!

- Would like to be involved
- Would like to attend events

#### **10.5 Registering Foals (point raised by Marianne)**

Please make sure to send horse's KFPS papers to our Registrar, Marianne, rather than to the purchaser of your horse. They have to become a KFPS (and NZFHS) member, and pay for the transfer into their name first.

Anna suggested: Can we *incentivise* people to become members and follow the KFPS protocol of ownership change rather than "punishing" them?

Simone suggested that perhaps the breeder/seller could pay for 2 years of KFPS/NZFHS membership as part of the horse's selling price?

Anna shared she would pay for maximum 1 year. It could work, but as a society, surely we can't force this protocol onto breeders and buyers.

#### **10.6 Patron for Society (point raised by Gill)**

Gill suggested that our society could have a Patron – Polly Fisher (owns a part-Friesian). The idea is received well.



Anna suggested that as long as the Patron is like a “silent partner” and is not involved in the Board’s work and in the operation of the society, then she doesn’t see any issues with it.

The Board will receive members’ thoughts on this before bringing in a Patron.

#### **10.7 Delay in Receiving Papers (point raised by Yvonne)**

Papers not received yet for Arlo. Anna shared that she hasn’t received papers from last year either. The KFPS has been restructuring, with a lot of people off work, so that is why there has been a massive delay. Thank you, members, for your patience.

#### **Action:**

Everyone: Send thoughts on Social Membership – new name and how it would work

Anna: Check KFPS/NZFHS goals and ask KFPS regarding our part-Friesian membership

#### **11. Next AGM**

In-person, possibly in Auckland or Taupo (location to be confirmed).

Aiming for the 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> May 2026.

*Meeting closed at 8.35pm.*