

HRNZ – NATIONAL FORUM – October 2024

The National Forum Executive meeting was held on 17 October 2024 at the Commodore Hotel, Christchurch. Penny Baynes chaired the meeting in John Hartnell's absence.

Key points discussed included:

1. Regional Round-ups:

- **Northern Region:** Discussions on HRNZ remits, race calendar adjustments, and the delayed introduction of a new handicapping system.
- **Upper South Island Region:** Concerns about the new HRNZ board's industry knowledge and the effectiveness of the winter rewards scheme.
- **Southern Region:** Positive feedback on HRNZ CEO's plans, communication issues, and the need for better news management.

2. Appointments:

- John Hartnell was appointed Chair, and Penny Baynes as Deputy Chair for the coming year.

3. Engagement with HRNZ:

- Plans for improved communication and regular meetings between the NF and HRNZ board.

4. Other Discussions:

- Topics included the need for a spare mobile start vehicle for Group One races, regional consistency in RIB, whip rule monitoring, and the impact of Forbury Park's closure on Southern Region meetings.

Action points were assigned to address these issues, including recommendations for quarterly meetings with the HRNZ board and improved communication strategies.