



## Marlborough Equestrian Park NZ Incorporated

### Marlborough District Council Long Term Plan Submission

#### 1. Introduction

Thank you for providing the opportunity to present this submission to Council's Long Term Plan. Last year during our annual plan submission we presented our vision for our Stage 2 Development of the Marlborough Equestrian Park (MEPNZ).

As we discussed in our presentation MEPNZ has been very successful to date both in hosting large events as well as many small events and clinics for local riders and members. We have been able to fund all of our running costs including repairs and maintenance out of our operating budget.

Since our last submission to the last annual plan we have been working within the equestrian community and we have established a sub committee to execute our Stage 2 development. That subcommittee comprises representatives from all the current user groups within the park and has been given a full mandate to proceed with the development process. More importantly we have been successful in reforming the original team that successfully managed the Stage 1 development. Alongside this team we have some new and enthusiastic members to help with the work load.

It is important to note that our original Stage 1 committee has the expertise and professional experience to make our next stage a success. The existing park management committee will continue in their role of running the parks so that the development committee can be solely focused on Stage 2. As with any large project there will be regular consultation and reporting to the MEPNZ management committee.

Our goal is to start the first stage of our development in the 2021 / 2022 year with completion of the project in 2022/2023. This allows us to break the project into sensible work flows which will assist us with securing outside funding and also eases the time required for the project management and planning. Listed below is the budget that we presented last year to council as part of the annual plan submission.

The extent and estimated cost of Stage 2 of the park's development will clearly be limited by funding availability but will ideally include (in order of priority):

• additional ablutions (3 toilets and 1 shower)	\$42,300
• an all-purpose irrigated all-weather arena similar in size to the current dressage arenas	\$105,700
• covered yarding for 48 horses	\$356,900
• additional pole mounted site lighting and public address system	\$52,900
• power to the overnight camping area for horse trucks and floats	\$29,400
• fenced overnighting paddocks	\$11,700
<b>Total Estimated Stage 2 Cost (Excluding GST)</b>	<b>\$598,900</b>

Our plan for the 2021 / 2022 year (contingent on funding) is to design and build the additional ablutions and create a further all purpose irrigated all weather arena. We see these two priorities as essential for our ability to continue to build our profile nationally and hold large events attracting competitors from both islands. The Park Management committee is regularly in situations where the arenas are over subscribed even for local events. The local events are important for ongoing revenue so we urgently need to be able to cater for this need.

The 2022 / 2023 year plan is to build covered yarding for 48 horses. This last part of the project is important for housing top level horses. All the major equestrian facilities in New Zealand provide covered yarding or stables. With the value of competition horses rapidly increasing horse owners are becoming increasingly fussy about where their horses are housed. Along with good competition surfaces, safe secure covered yards are seen by many as a must. In addition to high level competitors wanting covered yards it is now a requirement by Dressage NZ to have this level of facility available for their elite level events. An example of this is the World Dressage Challenge and the South Island Championships. To date Marlborough Dressage has had to decline hosting these two events due to the lack of suitable horse accommodation.

The smaller items in the budget including the PA system, lighting, power and paddocks will be put in once the covered yards are complete.

We are hopeful that council sees the value in our project and supports us with this next Stage of funding.

Marlborough Equestrian Park NZ would like to sincerely thank Council and their staff for their great assistance so far on this project.

We are pleased to be able to say that the park continues to be a big success and we look forward to seeing it move into the next stage of its development.