

BRC Area 1 Liaison Committee
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
held on Sunday 28th January 2018
at 2.30 pm in The Arran Room, Oatridge, Ecclesmachan
MINUTES

Present:

Jennifer Rentoul (Chair), Kilmacolm & Kilallan
Joyce Kent (Treasurer), Edinburgh & District
Jane McDowall (Secretary), Stranraer & District
Joyce Grigor, Ettrick Forest
Sheona McNeill, Polnoon
Ann Affleck, South Lammermuir
Maggie Bunnett (Area Rep), Girvan & District

Linda Penman, Almond
Pamela Mailler, Almond
Eilidh Burrow, Ayr
Isabel Forsyth, Ayr
Julie Hanna, Ayr / BHS Scotland

Virginia Laing, Dunedin CTG
Kerry Nelson, Edinburgh & District
Emma Nicholson, Edinburgh & District
Caroline Pennycook, Edinburgh & District
Evelyn Anderson, Ettrick Forest
Jackie Aglen, Ettrick Forest
Anne Millar, Ettrick Forest
Nikki McKie, Galloway
Shona Morton, Galloway
Nicky Underhill, Kilmacolm & Kilallan
Shona Playfair, North Lammermuir
Annemarie van Heelsum, Peebles & District
Pat Bell, Polnoon

1. Welcome

Jennifer welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending commenting on how lovely it was to see so many present.

2. Apologies

Julia Robinson-Dow (Lothians), Duncan Owen (Lothians) and Claire Leggat (Strathendrick).

3. Minutes of the previous AGM (29th January 2017)

All agreed that the minutes were an accurate record of the business conducted. The minutes were proposed for adoption by Shona Playfair and seconded by Ginny Laing.

4. Matters Arising

None.

5. Chairman's Report

Jennifer said that all the co-operation from many Clubs for what you do for the committee is appreciated. Jennifer thanked the committee members for all that they have done for Area 1.

The qualifiers were very well supported in 2017 and it was great to see new clubs attending. Tannoch Stables Riding Club entered their first ever qualifier but were unable to transport their horses due to road conditions that morning. In spite of this all of those who volunteered to assist went to the qualifier to help- thank you.

The committee don't always hear what is going on unless something goes wrong in your Club. Club representatives should feel that they can contact the Area Rep / Chair / committee members to discuss anything - building relationships is important.

Jennifer said that she hoped everyone enjoyed being part of the Riding Clubs movement and reminded them to check the Rule Book as things do change; eg eligibility rules, etc. Hold on to your 2017 Rule Book as it contains BD judges contacts.

6. Treasurer's Report and Adoption of Accounts

A printed copy of the draft accounts was circulated at the meeting and will also be sent with the minutes. The accounts will be checked by a suitably qualified person but it is not anticipated that there will be any changes. Joyce explained the items of income and expenditure.

Caroline enquired about the non-payment of training grant from BRC HQ. Jennifer confirmed that she would be following this up with HQ tomorrow.

Ann Affleck proposed the adoption of the accounts and this was seconded by Sheona McNeil.

7. Training Report

Two thirds of clubs took up the First Aid training support. The XC training at Houston was well supported although unfortunately the day at Primrosehill had been cancelled as the course has not been quite ready.

Dates for XC training this year are:

- ♦ Houston on 29th April with David Gatherer
- ♦ Primrosehill on 6th May with David Gatherer

Lorna McElhane of Edinburgh and District Riding Club ran Show Jumping training with David Harland for three years very successfully and her assistance is greatly appreciated.

Dressage to Music and Style Jumping Training - Jennifer had explained about the funds from British Riding Clubs in Scotland at the November meeting, which would be matched by Area 1 and the grant from BRC HQ to go towards organising DTM and Style Jumping training in approximately five areas throughout Area 1. Subsidy to be confirmed as venue costs will vary but likely to be in the region of approximately £150 per session.

There will be two sessions each of DTM and Style Jumping offered in each area. Members should sign up for a minimum of two sessions to gain maximum benefit. Shona Morton has agreed to guide the DTM sessions: 2 people for 1 hour, 1 person for 45 minutes. Each date to be for a minimum of 3 hours.

Volunteers will be required to run the sessions - book instructor, venue, set times, bookings via Club Entries, etc. Training to be completed by mid-November at the latest.

Clubs indicated an interest in organising the training as follows:

DTM: Ayr, Girvan, North Lammern, Ettrick Forest.

Style Jumping: Glenbrae, Lothians, Ettrick Forest, Galloway, Kilmacolm.

Jennifer asked Clubs to share photographs to Jane / Area 1 FB page to share with other members.

8. Area Representative's Report

Jennifer had advised the committee in July that she would stand down as Area Rep at the AGM due to the time commitment required looking after grandchildren. Jennifer had advised HQ and unfortunately this had precipitated the unpleasantness at the November meeting and the issue of votes per member was being discussed by many Area Reps and was to be taken to the Area Reps Forum in June.

Jennifer thanked Maggie Bunnett of Girvan & District and Justine Scott-Gray of South East Scotland Dressage Group for volunteering to take on the role of Area Representative.

Jennifer proposed Maggie Bunnet as Area Representative and this was seconded by Isabel Forsyth. All were in agreement. Jennifer hopes that Maggie enjoys the role.

8. Area Representative's Report (continued)

Jennifer advised that the Area Reps Forum is changing and the one scheduled for October was cancelled due to lack of numbers. The way the Forum is set up now has made it difficult for Area Reps to discuss matters with each other or raise an issue.

A query was raised about Area Horse Trials qualifiers running the weekend after a BE event. The rule had previously been not at the same venue within two weeks but this is now five days.

Jennifer advised that staff at HQ send out an e-mail stating that there is a new rule of something has been changed - there is little or no consultation or opportunity to feed back.

All Clubs are autonomous with their own finances and Club constitution, as is Area 1.

Joyce Kent said that two of the matters she had raised at the November meeting - the way that year is shown and competition year that members may represent a club - had been updated in the new rule book. Joyce said - if you do have a problem or comment - tell HQ.

Caroline asked what the members / area get from the smaller appointed committee of Area Reps that sits above the Forum. Nothing. Jennifer had asked for minutes and been told no.

Julie said that she would raise the issue of minutes with HQ.

9. Election of Office Bearers and Committee

Ann Affleck proposed Jennifer Rentoul as Chairman and this was seconded by Joyce Kent. Isabel said that this was admirable of Jennifer and suggested a Vice Chairman. It was agreed that if anyone wishes to volunteer speak to a committee member. Shona Playfair suggested providing information on what the Area Committee does to let people know what is involved.

Jennifer proposed Joyce Kent as Treasurer and this was seconded by Anne Millar and all present.

Joyce Kent proposed Jane McDowall as Secretary and this was seconded by Anne Millar and all present.

Caroline Pennycook proposed Sheona McNeill, Joyce Grigor and Ann Affleck as committee members and this was seconded by Jane.

There being no other nominations Jennifer was duly elected as Chairman, Joyce Kent as Treasurer, Jane as Secretary and Sheona, Joyce Grigor and Ann as committee members.

Official Stewards - Caroline Pennycook and Julia Robinson-Dow will be attending training weekend in February - Caroline for refresher training and Julia for the first time. Jennifer, Maggie and Pamela will be due to go for refresher training next year (2019).

10. Area Qualifiers

Jennifer thanked Girvan & District and Maggie for agreeing to run the Winter Intermediate Dressage qualifier at Morris on 10th March. The Area is grateful to Lothians RC and Edinburgh & District Riding Club for running the Winter SJ and Novice Dressage qualifiers. The Intermediate Winter Dressage will conclude the winter qualifiers.

Area 22 Horse Trials qualifier is at Burgie on 24th June and Area 2 qualifier is at Alnwick Ford on 1st July.

One member was in favour of going to Burgie whilst all others were in favour of going to Alnwick Ford. Maggie will contact Hilary McKenna, Area 2 Rep.

10. Area Qualifiers (continued)

Summer Dressage and SJ qualifiers at SNEC on 9th & 10th June - A small sub-committee of Maggie, Sheona and Pat with assistance from volunteers will run the summer qualifiers. A request for volunteers to go out to all clubs.

Winter Qualifiers - A suggestion to run the winter Novice SJ qualifiers over one weekend was put forward for consideration. After discussion it was agreed that there was merit in running the Novice and Intermediate Dressage qualifiers over one weekend - either at SNEC or Morris, with the SJ qualifier then being held on the other side of the area.

Arena Eventing - Julie Hanna had enquired if the Area would be running any Arena Eventing qualifiers. A discussion took place around suitable venues and the safety of XC fences.

Possible venues: Highland Showground, Ian Stark EC, Greenlands.

Venues to be investigated and any other suggestions welcome. Qualifier to be run between October 2018 and March 2019 for the championships in March 2019 at Aston-le-Walls.

11. A.O.C.B.

Julie reminded everyone to submit nominations for the National Equestrian Awards - closing date 2nd February.

Nikki enquired about the level of medical cover required for training over fixed fences - Jennifer confirmed paramedic cover.

Jennifer thanked everyone for their input and attendance.

The meeting closed at 4.25 pm.

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Chairman

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Date