

## Area Newsletter 29 April 2016

Dear Chairman

### **AREA AFFILIATION FEES:**

Please remember that Area Affiliation Fees are due to be paid by 30 April. If you have not already done so, could you please get them paid asap. Your Club members are unable to take part in any Area activity including qualifiers if your Club Area Affiliation fee is not paid. Have attached form again for those Clubs who have not already paid.

### **BRC AREA HORSE TRIALS QUALIFIER / BURGIE 12 JUNE: Rules attached**

Preliminary entries to be sent to BRC - no later than 21 days prior to date of competition (20 May)

Entries as per the bdwp web page (Burgley Direct Web page) (notes attached). Please note that the opening date for entries on bdwp is 6 May and the ballot date is 20 May.

Area Entry form only to be sent to Cecilia by 27 May.

Preliminary and Area Entry forms available on: <http://www.bhs.org.uk/enjoy-riding/british-riding-clubs/brc-downloads>

### **BRC AREA QUALIFIERS (DRESSAGE, SJ ETC) / BRECHIN EQUESTRIAN 30 and 31 JULY:**

Preliminary entries to be sent to BRC - no later than 21 days prior to date of competition (8 July)

Area Entry forms will be sent direct from Stonehaven Riding Club and will contain details of entries and closing dates etc.

### **AREA 22 AWARDS:**

The Committee have agreed that we will be making annual awards for the following categories:

Performer of the year

Volunteer of the Year

The 2016 awards winners have already been agreed by the Committee and will be awarded at the AGM but for 2017 and subsequent years, Clubs will be invited to send in their nominations. Guidelines for each category will be sent to all Clubs and official nominations have to come from the Club rather than individual members.

### **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The Annual General Meeting will be held at Thainstone Mart, Inverurie on Sunday 20 November at 2 pm. Further notifications will be sent nearer the time but thought we could let you know date now so that you could get date in the diary. A guest speaker has been booked for the AGM: Gemma Pearson BVMS Cert AVP (EM) MRCVS, Clinical Scholar in Equine Practice at the Dick Vet. She is also Veterinary Liaison Officer for the International Society of Equitation. Gemma will talk about horse handling, welfare and behaviour.

### **NOVICE RIDING TEST**

There was a typing error in the 2014 Novice Riding Test which is the one printed in the 2016 Rule book. It has now been corrected and designated as Novice Riding Test (2016).

Judges have been advised not to penalise people if they ride the 2014 test. It has been put in the rule amendments and sent out on Enews to all members.

### **TRAINING SURVEY**

Attached is a questionnaire about Area organised training and should be obliged if this could be put out to your members. Questionnaire to be returned by 7 May to Cecilia as per details on the form.

### **AREA TRAINING GRANTS:**

All clubs are entitled to apply for a training grant. Updated application form attached. Grants are not paid to Clubs who break even or even make a profit at running training as the grants are not meant as a top up to Club Funds. The idea is that clubs give their members subsidised training and the shortfall for that training can be met by way of Area grant.

### **EQUINE WELFARE CONFERENCE WITH BHS (SCOTLAND), WORLD HORSE WELFARE AND THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT**

An excellent conference was held at Belwade on 20 April and was hosted by Professor Derek Knottenbelt, Chairman of BHS Scotland. This day was so informative and well worth attending. Victoria Gladwyn, Findon and Ladleys member attended the conference and summed it up -

"Just home from an extremely informative and thought provoking day at the British Horse Society, World Horse Welfare and Scottish Government Equine Welfare Conference. Feeling well versed in ID regulations and the central equine database, passports and fraud, biosecurity, the current horse welfare crises, end of life study, horses as happy athletes as well as horse handling, welfare and behaviour. A fantastic panel of speakers."

This type of event is well worth going to.

### **RIDING CLUB QUALIFIERS:**

The Committee would be pleased to have feedback from Clubs to see if they would be interested in additional BRC qualifiers being run in the area:

NOVICE WINTER DRESSAGE: Championship at Keysoe in April

INTERMEDIATE WINTER DRESSAGE: Championship at Bury Farm end of April

NOVICE WINTER SHOW JUMPING: Championship at Keysoe in April

INTERMEDIATE WINTER SHOW JUMPING: Championship at Bury Farm end of April

FESTIVAL OF THE HORSE CHALLENGE and

FESTIVAL OF THE HORSE COMBINED TRAINING: both run at Aston-le-Walls beginning of June

The qualifiers for all of the above are from 1 October.

### **INTER CLUB QUIZ:**

We held a very successful quiz night on 11 March at Newmachar Hotel with the Cabin, one of our Riding Centre Clubs being the ultimate winner. We are looking at the possibility of a Team Quiz competition over the winter months. Buchan Riding Club have said that they would be happy to host a quiz evening. Depending on how many Clubs are willing to take part, we thought that we could have a "final" at end of March 2017 where the top "??" teams from each qualifier would take part. All that you require to do is find a venue and we can

help make up questions for the event. If possible a Committee member will attend the quiz night. Let Cecilia know if you are on board with this venture. Qualifying rounds would have to be run at least 3 weeks prior to the date of the final.

**INTER CLUB TEAM COMPETITIONS / AREA CHALLENGE :**

The Committee have been looking at running inter club team competitions. These inter club team competitions could be included in the competitions you are currently running within your own club. We are hoping to finalise this at our meeting in May. It is hoped that this might increase number competing at your competitions. If you have any suggestions re inter club competitions please let Cecilia know.

Kind Regards

*Cecilia*

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