

AREA 22 LIAISON COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting held on 21 February 2016

at Isle of Skye Hotel, Perth

Present: Marie Graham (Chairman / Strathmore), Cecilia Gladwyn, (Secretary/Training Officer), Gordon Dressage Group (Sam Turpitt), Fife (Callum Glasgow and Liz Glasgow), Findon (Jane Valentine), Stonehaven & District (Leigh McEwan), Strathearn (Andi Bruce), Tayside Dressage Group (Anna Sive)

Apologies: Marjory Norrie, Jacqui McAdam, Badenoch, Black Isle, Buchan, Caithness, Caledonian, Deeside, Forthview, NEFRC, NERC, Moray, Orkney, Strathisla and Sutherland

The Chairman welcomed Laura Sanger and Rachael Hollely from British Riding Clubs office in Stoneleigh.

Laura and Rachael gave the background into the cessation of the National Executive Committee and due to the time lapse since the event had happened most of the information they gave was historic. The first meeting of the Development forum had taken place and one of the issues that arose from that meeting was the need for better communication.

The impact of the cessation of the National Executive Committee had not affected the number of Clubs registering with BRC.

One of the main points that arose from the discussion was the need for all Clubs to ensure that they checked the "credentials" of all trainers they used for their training. All trainers have to have adequate insurance and first aid and if training anyone under the age of 18, had to have a current PVG check and attended a Safeguarding Children workshop. If trainers being used are on the BHS register (and Horsescotland coaches register in Scotland) then they are "fit for purpose" as they have already had all checks in place to get on those registers.

If trainers are not on either of those registers, then clubs must ask for copies of insurance certificates and first aid certificate + PVG details if training under 18's.

If Clubs do not carry out the checking of trainers and there is an incident then the BRC insurance could be invalidated.

A discussion took place about whether there should be a Scottish Representative on the new BRC Advisory Committee but this was dismissed as not being practical as according to Laura "all of the Scottish issues including different legislation etc. will be dealt with by the Advisory Committee's specialist members".

This was followed by the PVG situation and the difference between the systems in England and Scotland. Laura agreed that the information about Scottish differences will be put on the data stick along with all the normal BRC information.

A new XC grass roots competition is going to be set up and will be taken by "known" trainers.

The training grant currently given to Areas of £835 will be increased to £1000.

Minutes of Previous Meeting. The Minutes of Meeting held on 29 November 2015 at The Double Tree by Hilton, Dundee were approved having been proposed for adoption by Anna Sive and seconded by Liz Glasgow.

Matters Arising.

Facebook/web page

The new web page www.brcarea22.co.uk is now live.

Chairman's Report – attached.

Treasurer's Report.

Alice was unable to attend the meeting but she had submitted figures for the period to date.

Bank Balances:	Current a/c	4598.89	
	Investment A/c	3978.96	Total £8577.95

To date, 4 clubs had paid their Area Affiliation fees, totalling £291.75.

It was noted that all Clubs must pay their affiliation fee by 30 April.

Training Report

To date two Clubs had applied for training grants and they had been approved in principle and will be paid subject to the appropriate report being received.

An MOT for horse and rider is being run in conjunction with Bennachie Pony Club on 9 April at Fountain Equestrian, Aberdeen.

A Scottish initiative was being looked at for putting on Riding Test and Style Jump training in various areas throughout Scotland.

Area Representative's Report

Having only recently joined the committee my report will be necessarily short. However I can report that I have recently attended a 2 day official stewards course run by BRC which was very informative (and slightly scary!)

I also went to a development meeting run for area reps which again was very useful. I understand that this will be a bi-annual event where all BRC reps can raise issues, update on information from BRC and catch up with what other areas are doing.

We certainly don't hold the number of qualifiers over the winter that they do down south and that's something we as a committee would like to look into.

As a new rep, I'm excited about the year ahead. I think it will be challenging but I hope it will also be fun.

Area Competitions for 2016 - dates now confirmed.

12 June / Horse Trials / Burgie / organised by Area 22 Committee

24 July / Dressage to Music / Ladyleys, Oldmeldrum / organised by Buchan

30 July / Dressage and Riding Test / Brechin / organised by Stonehaven

31 July / Show Jumping and Style Jumping / Brechin / organised by Stonehaven

Area Camp. Camp confirmed at Brechin on 18/19 June. Price to remain the same as last year - £145.

A discussion took place about the necessity for risk assessments to be carried out at all training venues being used for Clubs/Area. Marie to contact Jacqui to enquire about the necessary risk assessment being carried out for camp.

NB. All venues being used for Club training / competitions should have an appropriate risk assessment carried out. It could be that the venue being used for your training has their own risk assessment and you can always get a copy of their risk assessment and attach relevant notes to update for your Club's use.

Saddle Up International Area 22 Scottish Riding Club Championships

Arrangements are well in place for the 2016 event. There will be more stringent rules this year in that Clubs will have to help support the event. The main rule change will be -

It is a condition of the entry that all Clubs nominate one helper per team on each day. If no helper names are given then the entry will not be accepted. If the nominated helper after being delegated a duty by the Committee does not turn up on the day of the event to carry out the duty allocated to them, then that team will not be allowed to run. This rule will be strictly adhered to.

Celtic Dressage Championships

The Celtic Dressage Championships has been set up to help promote dressage at all levels throughout Scotland and it is hoped that Riding Clubs will run qualifiers for these championships, the first championship being held in Aberdeen on 1 April 2017.

Presentation to Sam Turpitt / Catherine Stott

A presentation of gift voucher, flowers and champagne was given to Sam to thank her for her services to Area 22 Riding Club Liaison Committee over the years. As Catherine was unable to attend this meeting an earlier presentation was made to Catherine at an NERC event on 6 February.

Date of Next Meeting. No date was fixed for meeting and that we would look in to using facilities that had conference call facilities that could be used for future meetings.

There being no further business the meeting was closed.