



BRC Area 12 AGM and ALM

Ruishton village hall, Nr Taunton. 4.11.13

Present: Arthur Stevens - National BRC area rep, Andrea Jones – Chairman, Charlotte Warman – Secretary, Tilly Tillbrook – Website and training, Lucy Counsell and Helen Goff – Training officers

Laura Sanger and Rachel Holley from British riding clubs

Clubs present: Blackdown hills, Blackdown Mendip, Exeter, Quantock, Illfracombe, Lamberts Castle, mid Somerset, Shipton, Sid and Otter, SWDG, RN&RMEA, Taunton and district, Witheridge, West Somerset, and Divoky.

Apologies: Helen Pavey - Treasurer

AGM

Agreeing of the previous minutes and signed off by Arthur. Agreed by Laura Sanger.

Election of officers. 2013/14

Area National representative – Arthur Stevens

Chairman – Andrea Jones. Proposed by Taunton, and Mid Somerset

Secretary – Charlotte Warman. Proposed by Sid and Otter and Illfracombe

Treasurer – Helen Pavey. Proposed by Mid Somerset and Lucy Counsell

IT and training – Tilly Tillbrook. Proposed by Witheridge and RN

Training – Helen Goff. Proposed by Lucy Counsell and Sid and Otter

Training – Lucy Counsell. Proposed by Taunton and Witheridge

Matters arising. None

The new CEO of the BHS Lynne Peterson is making and promoting some major changes within the BHS and BRC. Sarah Phillips of BRC is now going to be known as the director of participation and will look after many areas of the BHS as well, including the centres, Trec and Exams. The last NEC meeting was held 10 days ago (from the meeting date) from this New marketing will be rolled out making links stronger between the BHS and BRC, the aims of restructuring is to enable these stronger links. Currently the

membership is under review, in time hopefully producing a joint membership. Amongst the changes at BHS/BRC is the move from BE into the building along with the BEF and endurance.

Divoky Riding centre provided a presentation about themselves and how centre membership fits into BRC.

ALM

Chairman's report ; By Andrea Jones.

Matters arising; Question from the floor. The Website is out of date and items are not updated frequently.

Answer – We are aware of these issues and it will be sorted over the winter. Our Web master who does host the site for free, is very hard to get hold of at the moment however hopefully now Tilly has full access and will revamp the site.

It was suggested by Pauline Greer that if problems continue that Area 12 pay for a new website with the money from the savings account. This will be considered.

Thank you all for a very good year. Area 12 has done very well at championship, especially to Sid and Otter juniors and Taunton and District juniors.

Bury farm was a lovely new show venue for championships. Very well run with a lovely atmosphere.

We are aware we are a northern edge committee; Southern clubs will be more than welcome to join the committee.

Area National rep report

Many thanks to all those who attended area events and championships. Last year Mid Somerset won the overall points cup at championships, this year Sid and Otter came 3rd.

It was brought up that rosettes cost a lot of money and why do we need so many for one class. Some people felt that 1 rosette was ample and others felt that going to a qualifier can be expensive and gaining a rosette(s) special. The conclusion was clubs could count how many rosettes are used, the ones returned can be used for another competition and if a competitor doesn't wish to take a rosette home they can return it to the hosts.

Training

The Lizzy Murray clinics were very well attended and enjoyed, however the 80cm eventers training was poorly attended.

Lucy Counsell is organising an area arena x country and simulated x country training day on the 11th January 2014.

Helen Goff the grass roots officer conducted a pole about style jumping training. There was no interest at all.

The training day at Bicton with Andrew Lovell and Tim Cheffings was excellent; we will try to run this event again.

Gillian Higgins with her "Horses inside out" demo is another possibility.

National

Dope testing. Results are down by 7.7%.

RWHS – Vaccinations must be up to date as this show runs under FEI rules.

Club constitutions need to be up to date. BRC can provide a template if your club does not have one. Clubs need a constitution to apply for lottery grants.

Lincoln – competitions remaining there(on a yearly basis)it may come back date wise.

Horse trials at Swalcliffe - A very successful event and venue.

Bury farm – A very good alternative to Aintree.

BE 80 champs – Brooksby, moving to Broadway.

Question from Exeter RC. Why are invitations to championships sent out when Pony club give theirs out? (A) Eligibility is much tighter in BRC, checks are tight.

One day better online declarations, results and invitations systems will be available. BRC recognise their systems are old fashioned and snail mail.

Various rule changes – most are tweaks

Riddor have relaxed the rules for medical cover around Area Dressage only. As long as risk assessments are in place, a 1st aid technician is adequate however the onus is upon the club to have all correct paperwork in place.

Show jumping and X country must have paramedic cover.

Championship dates

Winter champs – 29th-30th March

Festival - 1st June

Horse trials – 1-3rd August

Lincoln – 6 and 7th September

DTM – 4 and 5th October.

Horse trials 80cm will have a 80cm Junior =2 day format

90cm = 3 day format

100 (12yrs min) = 3 day format

Dressage may be ridden in rising or sitting trot. Commanders – they can emphasise “a” word to help.

DTM – Juniors and Seniors

Commanders can be used all across the board at all area qualifiers.

Combined training /FOTH - Saturday Junior combined, Sunday junior Challenges

Saturday Senior Challenge, Sunday Senior combined.

Question from Sid and Otter RC. What is the criteria needed for downgrading horses?

(A)The age of horse and rider, level of horse and rider, £50 per year. The decision is made with a conjunction of BRC and a downgrading committee with people of all backgrounds

Area Dates

18th January – Winter Show jumping @ Badgworth Arena

26th January - Winter dressage @Pontispool

15th and 16th February – FOTH @Pontispool

23rd February – Junior Winter dressage @ Kings Sedgemoor

2nd March - Combined training @Pontispool

26th May DTM @Kingston Mauwood

29th June – horse trials @ Bicton

Summer Dressage and show jumping (by the 16th august) SWDG to look for a date to run a combined event and confirm.

The list of questions that have been submitted to BRC:

1. The price of qualifying entries- they do seem too high, can we find out what costs BRC incur to charge the price they do please. The DTM is staying the same. BRC pay all the licence fee for all area qualifiers. Other prelims are going up £1.00 - £2.00, it pays towards the championships, rosettes, postage, venues, score sheets and judges and their expenses.
2. Can we have a timetable either online or emailed to clubs annually of due dates for affiliation fees please. Invoice is split into 2. Insurance part of the fees £ due in January, invoice sent out in December, Membership part of fees £ due in June, invoice sent out in May. Members must send current email addresses, if no email please nominate an email treasurers.
3. Why does BRC not sit in line with the national federations on so many rules?
Speeds on BE Cross Country (the stupidest thing I have ever seen)
Whips being allowed in horse trials dressage being two examples.

It makes it very confusing and seems slightly backwards when BRC is linked to the CIC2* Rural riders event. Speeds – BRC have no say in the rules, competitions committee deal with this. The XC speed was changed to come in line with BE in the summer. Other (whips) felt that grass root riders use a whip at home and it is BRC and not BE.

4. How much does BRC fund the rural riders CIC2*? Most of the people taking part are not typical RC members and the whole competition does not sit anywhere near what most RC typically offer. Why does BRC support this competition when it seems to be of such little appeal to 99% of RC members? BRC are trying to cater for all ends, at the top end the applicant must state what they will give back to BRC, be it training, talks, volunteering etc. From a total of a £40,000 budget, £20,000 is spent on the high end, 20-25 applicants apply. From this 6 are selected. A high proportion of the room did not support this. Taunton RC proposed that BRC take note that Area 12 as a whole do not support this money being spent on 6 people.
5. Why does BRC not run a JAS style competition over the winter? Surely this is the perfect RC competition with style and safety being as vital as jumping well? From a rules meeting 2015 could see a possible launch date.
6. Why is the combined training competition so out of sync with the rest of the competitions? Surely the prelim dressage should be 80-85cm and the Novice 90-95cm? We have no other competitions which start at 75cm so why does the combined training? Surely jumping should be just as important as the dressage and its currently being weighted to horses which barely need to do more than fall over a pole. Opinions differ nationwide, it is very popular and there are no plans for changes.
7. How can a team who does 4 DC but has a few time penalties come below a team who has fences down in the Show jumping within the hunter trials competition? The scoring system is ridiculous and makes absolutely no sense. Why not stick a gate in the timed section and go back to a more traditional format? It is a 2 phase competition not being run on an eventing format.
8. FOTH ties are decided after lowest total penalties on the fastest show jumping times, which is contrary to training riders to go at the correct speed across country and get as close as possible to the optimum time. The XC should have precedence over SJ and in FEI SJ speed is the last factor to determine equality. It is very difficult to get a show jumping speed. BRC are trying to keep it different from an ODE. The format is staying the same.

9. How can BRC justify sticking up membership prices year on year by 50p and yet show nothing new for that money or what their five year plans are with regards to strategy etc. All other national federations consult with their members and this never seems to happen with BRC. Membership runs with inflation, it helps cover BHS, champs and costs. It is not nor changing next year but prelim entries are going out. Memberships vary between £15 per year right up to £200 per year

10. The layout of the BRC rule book needs to be revised in 2014, there is unnecessary repetition, difficult to find certain rules and the index does not help a BRC official to quickly solve a problem.

It is having an overhaul between now and January, not this year but for next year. It also needs doing in several formats as it does not work on MACS

AOB

None.

The meeting was closed at 10.30pm Thank you all for coming.