



# HOOFPRIENTS December 2020

## VIEW FROM THE CHAIR

If you are reading this newsletter via the Club Facebook page then many thanks for re-joining.

The club's ability to raise money from show income this year was severely curtailed but there are still bills to be paid and BRC HQ has just confirmed that some of our costs are going up next year. So, by paying your subscriptions on time you have all helped ease the cash flow as we go into 2021. Thank you again.

This year has been exceptional for all the wrong reasons, not least Covid 19. Our programme was virtually wiped out by various lockdown rules and we were only able to start running shows in September. Even so, these shows are limited in size and run under strict rules to meet with the approval of our sports governing bodies and the Scottish Government. I must thank every member who has supported these shows for following the rules when on site. It's a nuisance but it is necessary if we are to keep these meetings going. Hopefully once the promised vaccination programme is rolled out we may see a return to something more "normal", although the experts are suggesting that is unlikely to happen much before the start of summer – **but it is progress.**

Going forward, we are hoping to continue running our members' showjumping shows over the winter although this will depend on the weather. We've been lucky so far but are hearing rumours of another "Beast from the East" heading our way. Let's hope we don't find the field like this again any time soon.





To keep the dressage divas amongst us amused, we are running our first-ever **Virtual Winter Dressage League**. Details are posted on our Facebook page and website. **It's strictly for fun**; each month will have a theme and there are bonus marks for getting into the spirit of the competition. We are especially looking forward to January's competition and the prospect of the world's first sighting of a haggis on horseback. Being online, it means anyone with access to a bit of ground and a mobile phone can take part; or, if you want a proper dressage arena, we have set one out in the all-weather arena at the field – **AND ALL FOR A FIVER!** – so, no excuses! Do, please, support this new venture!

*On behalf of the committee, I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a much better 2021!*

## **SOMETHING ELSE TO DO OVER THE WINTER**

The weather and shorter days can make for a long drawn out few months – so why not put that extra time indoors to good use? Head for the BHS website ([bhs.org.uk](http://bhs.org.uk)) then scroll down to British Riding Clubs, then go to BRC Training where you will find various BRC Training videos covering such things as Grass Roots Cross Country Training, Showjumping Exercises and so on. It's all **FREE**. The BRC Downloads/ BRC Tests page is also a good place to check out; that's where you can download copies of the dressage and other tests which are being used next year. You can also order a copy of the 2021 BRC Handbook from here (£7 for a hard copy – or you can download it for **FREE**).

Alternatively, you can very often get tips on how to ride dressage tests on You Tube. Usually you just need to Google the Test details to find a selection of videos.

## **DO YOUR BIT**

Most of us end up riding on the road from time to time and many will have experienced a “near miss” at some point. Our sister organisation the BHS recorded **1037** road incidents last year, an increase of 80% on the previous year.





These resulted in 80 horses dying and 136 were injured. Sadly, one person was killed and 136 others were injured. 43% of riders were subject of road rage or abuse, 40% of incidents were caused by vehicles passing too fast and 81% occurred because a vehicle passed too close to the horse. Scary statistics – and these are just the ones that were reported. The BHS needs your help to collect information which will be used to lobby government and to liaise with police authorities about the need to educate other road users. They are also looking for info on various other types of “incidents” including encounters with things like dogs, pedestrians, cyclists, wind turbines etc. The more data they get, the better the prospects of having something done. This is where you come in. If you have an “incident” please take a few minutes to report it at [horseincidents.org.uk](http://horseincidents.org.uk).

## LOOKING AHEAD

Covid or no, we have to hope that we will manage to get some of our regular shows and competitions next year. Area 22 is still planning to run Area Qualifiers again. All will be held up north, dates to be finalised. We do have a date for **Scottish Championships** however. Auchlishie by Kirriemuir has been booked for the weekend of **10 – 12 September** (two weeks earlier than usual). Even if you are not a competitor, they are always looking out for volunteers to help at the Championships – so if you are interested, please contact **Liz Glasgow**. Incidentally, it has been confirmed that the **six month rule for flu vaccinations** will apply in 2021. You might recall that this means that any horse competing at Area level must have had a vaccination no more than six months before the competition. In practice, the simplest way to ensure you comply is to have your horse vaccinated in April and that will cover the summer months.

## REMINDER

All horses need to be micro-chipped from **28 March 2021**. If you are not sure, speak to your vet. Now's the time to get it done.





# MEMBERS SHOWJUMPING SHOW

Fife Riding Club Showground,  
Western Avenue, Glenrothes

**Sunday 3 January 2021**  
From 10.00am

**Class 1** – Approx. height 45cm. Cross poles.

**Class 2** – Approx. height 55cm. Simple fences, fillers to side of jump.

**Class 3** – Approx. height 65 cm.

**Class 4** – Approx. height 75cm.

**Class 5** – Approx. height 80 cm.

**Class 6** – Approx. height 85 cm.

**Class 7** – Approx. height 90 cm.

**Class 8** – Approx. height 95cm

**Class 9** – Approx. height 1.00m

## PLEASE NOTE:

All classes will be **single phase**. The course will consist of 10/12 fences with the latter part of the track being **time**. In the event of equality of penalties, the time taken will determine awards. Rosettes to 6<sup>th</sup> place. Riders may enter more than one class or may enter the same class twice but the second round will be HC (non-competitive). **ENTRY FEE: £5 PER CLASS.**

**Entries close THURSDAY 31 DECEMBER at 6.00pm – enter via [clubentries.com](http://clubentries.com)**





## SUNDAY 3 JANUARY 2021 MEMBERS SHOWJUMPING

This event will be open to MEMBERS ONLY.

Each rider may have ONE HELPER attend with them. We will require you to provide us with the name and address of the helper on your entry form.

There will be NO SPECTATORS allowed at this time to keep numbers to a minimum.

Classes will be £5 per round and competitors may enter a maximum of TWO CONSECUTIVE classes.

Entries will close midnight on Wednesday 23 September.

On arrival at the club field please park 5 metres apart from any other vehicle. A Covid-19 Compliance Officer will ask for your name and check that you only have ONE helper with you.

Please follow all Covid-19 guidance and maintain social distancing at all times.

Please bring your own mask and hand sanitiser.

Show Jumping will be pre-entered online and times will be given before the event – the schedule will be posted shortly on the Events page of the club website which can be found at the address below:

<https://www.fife-riding-club.co.uk/events.shtml>

**There will be no toilets/catering available.**

