



HOOFPRINTS November 2020

AGM REPORT

A big Thank You to all members who managed to join in our first-ever online Annual General Meeting held via Zoom on Thursday 8 October.

We weren't too sure how this would work out but the feedback suggested members thought it was worthwhile – enjoyable, too, if the amount of alcohol being consumed during the meeting is anything to go by! This was, of course, a much shorter meeting than usual. For starters, the pandemic wiped out our summer programme meaning there was a lot less to report on and there were no awards to be made – so we finished about 8.30pm. In his report the Treasurer, Andrew Thomson, advised that we ended up with a deficit this year. Although the deficit was a bit less than expected, Andrew pointed out that if the income from the Howe Dressage days was taken out of the equation, then we would have been looking at a shortfall of nearly £2000. This is important going forward as, due to a change of policy by Howe, the club will no longer be involved in running these days – therefore we will no longer be making any income from these shows.

The committee has contacted British Riding Clubs HQ suggesting they reduce affiliation fees – if so, Committee would hope to pass this on to members. **STOP PRESS – News just in – BRC are proposing to increase affiliation fees for 2020 – your Area Rep has lodged a complaint and the matter has been referred for discussion at board level – so watch this space.**

In her report, Chair, Linda Gove advised that it had been a difficult and frustrating year. We had started off with monthly shows at Howe and a packed summer programme until the lockdown had stopped all activity. The field was re-opened for members use in July, we were only able to offer training in August and could not run any form of show until September; consequently, there had been little income raised over the year.





Committee had developed new skills and we now have trained Covid compliance officers. We have had to learn how to run shows in a safe and Covid-compliant manner. Some of the “new” ways, however, were turning out to be quite popular– so, not all bad news.

Linda thanked members who had volunteered to help at shows in these difficult circumstances and also riders for complying with the new rules. Among other things, members asked if the AGM minutes and accounts could be forwarded ahead of the meeting in future; in fact the minutes and accounts **were** sent out by email ahead of this AGM – committee happy to continue to do so. It was agreed that it would be a good idea to set up another members Zoom meeting over the winter.

With regard to committee, there were two vacancies and we are pleased to welcome **Fiona Soutar** and **Tracy Miller** on board. **Shona Brearley**, sadly, has decided to retire after 20 years on committee. Shona has been one of hardest working committee members, responsible for organising dressage leagues, dressage shows, endurance rides and TREC training, all while competing at local and national level and holding down a busy job. We thank her for all her hard work on behalf of the club over two decades. We will miss her and hope she might be inclined to rejoin committee after a well-earned break. On the plus side, she had promised to help out in future – ***we’ll hold her to that!***

ACTIVITIES AT THE CLUB FIELD

Show Report

Well, in spite of everything, we managed to clock up our second showjumping show on 18 October. The weather was again kind, albeit chilly. Once again members had the benefit of a virtual course walk and course plans in advance (thanks, Kirsty) plus time for a course walk on horseback – so no one took the wrong route this time round (not mentioning any names....Lynn).

Only one unscheduled dismount but a soft landing for Carolyn who jumped the wall at the second attempt (this time with the horse!).





We started with a nice simple cross pole class and introduced some more challenging fences as we went through the day. As usual, the stile fence caused the most trouble in the bigger classes (that's why it's there...). Despite this, riders all seemed to have enjoyed themselves. As we said at the AGM, we will try to keep these meetings going as long as the weather and Covid rules permit.

Once again, huge thanks to members who volunteered to help out with course building and on the day itself – also great to see riders prepared to lend a hand at these shows as well – so, thanks to Linda, Liz, Colleen, Kerry, Caroline and Kirsty.

Results

Class 1 45cm Cross Poles: 1st – Sherrall Wilson & Blue; 2nd – Kirsty Trotter & Dottie (her first ever showjumping round).

Class 2 55cm: 1st -Jillian Harcourt & Ralph; 2nd – Jill Struth & Manny; 3rd – Lynn Rodger & Marco; **Class 3 65cm;** 1st – Kerry Anne Strachan & Kenzie; 2nd – Simonne Adams & Heidi; 3rd – Jillian Harcourt & Ralph; 4th – Laura Bell & Daisy.

Class 4 75cm: 1st – Simonne Adams & Heidi; 2nd – Tracy Miller & Crispy; 3rd Kerry Anne Strachan & Kenzie; 4th Roslyn Davidson & William; 5th – Laura Bell & Daisy; 6th – Charlotte Baillie & Cookie.

Class 5 80cm: 1st – Fiona Sinclair & Chocolate Box; 2nd – Caroline Lees & Harvey; 3rd – Tracy Miller & Crispy; 4th – Caroline Blanc & Flo.

Class 6 85cm: 1st – Donna Deas & Sparky; 2nd – Caroline Lees & Harvey; 3rd - Fiona Sinclair & Chocolate Box.

Class 7 90cm: 1st – Lucy Turner & Tia; 2nd – Donna Deas & Sparky.





LOOKING AHEAD

Showjumping Show Sunday 22 November

We are hoping to run another Showjumping Show on 22 November provided we can get enough helpers. Have you “done your bit” yet? If not, then this is a perfect opportunity to put something back into your club – and it’s a short day, usually finishing about lunchtime.

We will keep up with the current guidelines in order for us to run this safely. Online entries will be available shortly. Each rider will be able to enter 2 consecutive classes (e.g. 45cm and 55cm or 95cm and 105cm).

Each class will be £5 and each rider may have one helper attend with them.

Schedule is attached at the bottom of the newsletter.

Weekend Polework and Gridwork Lessons with Sarah-Jayne Bowers

Sarah-Jayne had been holding lessons at the club field on a Friday night and these have proved popular with members. She is now hoping the weather permits lessons to go ahead with polework and gridwork sessions. We have unfortunately already had to cancel the October date but now looking forward to the next on Saturday 28 November. These lessons are open for online entries, open to members only and cost £15 per rider.

Committee Meeting 2 November

Committee held its first meeting on 2 November. It was a very productive night and committee have come up with some exciting suggestions for the winter and beyond. Things are in the early stages but we hope to be able to announce details of what is planned very soon!!





OTHER MATTERS

Is Your Horse Microchipped?

The law is changing. Many of you will have received a glossy brochure from the Scottish Government warning you that with effect from **28 March 2021** new legislation will come into effect in Scotland which requires all horses to be microchipped for identification purposes.

Currently, only horses born from 2009 onwards were required to be fitted with a microchip, which was usually carried out at the time of the passport application. However, this new legislation will cover **all** horses currently owned in Scotland. The microchip details should be on your horse's passport. If you are not sure if your horse has one, you can ask your vet to check it out on a visit. For further information, visit the BHS Website FAQs/Horse Passports.

Macmillan Charity Rides

Although not strictly a club event, you might be interested to learn that FRC members and friends between them raised £300 for Macmillan Cancer Research through taking part in sponsored rides held in September – well done everyone – a terrific result! Thanks to Gill Harkin, Margaret Wyse, Jenni Dixon, Edna Moffat, Lucy Turner, Jane McCrone, Lorraine Napier, Heather Jones, Hilary Moore, Shona Brearley, Frances Bizzarri, Sherrall Wilson, Kerry Anne Strachan & Linda Gove.

Update on Covid – News Just In

Following the introduction of the tier system in Scotland there have been some restrictions on non-essential travel for sport. The good news is that – at the time of writing – riders in Fife are not directly affected **except** in so far as you are not permitted to travel more than 5 miles outside the county boundary; so as it stands, if you live in Fife, you cannot travel to say, SNEC or Inchcoonans as these are more than 5 miles outside Fife. **If you are based In Fife** you are still ok to attend our shows for the time being.





However, **if you are a member based outside Fife**, you are **NOT** allowed to come into the county. Obviously, we are seeing a total lock down in England and hearing rumours of Scotland following that route but unless and until the Scottish Government brings out further rule changes, we are not affected – BUT this is a very fluid situation and we will have to wait and see how things progress over the next few weeks.

Membership Subscriptions

Finally, a polite reminder! Members are reminded that the annual subscriptions are due to be paid no later than **30 NOVEMBER**. The fees are unchanged. Full Riding Membership - £50; Associates (under 18) - £40 and Non-Riding - £20. **If you joined after 1 August 2020** you can ignore this notice as you don't need to renew your sub until the 2021 AGM. There are various ways you can pay – you can pay **online** by visiting **clubentries.com** and follow the link to Fife RC, or you can pay **over the phone** by contacting Andrew Thomson on 07967 655691 (between 7.00pm and 9.00pm ONLY, please). Alternatively you can **post** a cheque/PO made out to “Fife Riding Club” to Secretary, Liz Glasgow, 296 Muirfield Drive, Glenrothes, KY6 2PZ. Many thanks.
NEW MEMBERS – We welcome **James Moffat** and **Maisie Adams** on board!





MEMBERS SHOWJUMPING SHOW

Fife Riding Club Showground,
Western Avenue, Glenrothes

Sunday 22 November 2020

From 9.30 am

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 6th 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 19 November at 6.00pm – enter via clubentries.com





IMPORTANT NOTE
DUE TO COVID RESTRICTIONS:
ALL ENTRIES MUST BE MADE ONLINE
NO ENTRIES WILL BE PERMITTED ON THE DAY
NO AWARDS WILL BE MADE
ALL RIDERS MUST COMPLY WITH THE CLUBS COVID POLICY

Participants are responsible for their own Health & Safety and for the safety of other field users, including volunteers. Members should bring their own hand sanitiser and use it regularly. Masks or face coverings must be worn although riders may remove when on horseback.

Everyone must adhere to social distancing rules and keep at least 2m apart at all times. Spot checks will be made. RIDERS WILL BE GIVEN AN ALLOCATED TIME and are limited to ONE class ONLY (each class will however be run over two rounds). Riders' paper numbers will not be issued. We are required to operate rider "bubbles" and will not be able to accommodate anyone arriving late. Lorries/trailers to be parked at least 5m apart. The layout of the field will be modified to incorporate a one way system. Numbers of horses in the collecting ring will be restricted and riders must follow stewards' directions. No members of the public allowed in collecting ring. Riders are required to leave the showground within 15 minutes of finishing their class. No spectators allowed. There will be no catering or toilet on the showground.

These changes have been brought in to comply with Scottish Government requirements and to demonstrate that horse riding meetings can operate safely, as promised by the sport's governing bodies.

Failure or refusal to comply with these new protocols will cause the meeting to be abandoned as the safety of members and volunteers is paramount.

**PLEASE COMPLY WITH THESE CHANGES TO
ENSURE THE FUTURE OF OUR SPORT!**

Save for death or personal injury caused by the negligence of the organisers or anyone for whom they are in law responsible, neither the organisers of any event to which these rules apply, nor the British Horse Society, nor any agent, employee, representative of these bodies accepts liability for any accident, loss, damage, injury or illness to horses, owners, riders, spectators, land or any other person or property what so ever, whether caused by their negligence, breach of contract or in any other way what so ever.





MEMBERS SHOWJUMPING SHOW SUNDAY 22 NOVEMBER

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 Thursday 19 November at 6.00pm.

On arrival at the club field please park 5 metres apart from other vehicles. 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. <https://www.fife-riding-club.co.uk/events.shtml>

There will be no toilets/catering available.

