

Berkeley and District Riding Club AGM Minutes

Monday January 27th 2020

Jubilee Hall, Alveston

Attending.

Lucy Baggs, Jill McFarland, Sally Thorne, Justine Jackman, Jo Dyer, Sarah Raymond, Holly Winterton, Shanice Walton, Sarah Couzens, Aimee Conlon, Andrea Cox, Anne Brown, Andrew Winterton, Jo Evans, Linda Phelps, Angela Cherrington, Sue Creswick, Alex Richards, Kate Nichols, Vikki Swindell, Sian Barke, Kate Lingwood White, Gill Lawry, Claire Friend, Claire Simpson, Charmaine Rundall, Carola Silvey, Georgie Silvey, Julie Smith, Alison Hawkins, Lisa Wilson, Denise McGurk, Tracy Merritt, Katy Frampton, Amanda Lomax, Helen German, Katie Harris, Helen van de Loo, Helen Studzinski, Kathleen Griffiths, Jean Simmons, Jules Moore, Sue Ravenhill- Handley, Ali Baimbridge.

1. Apologies

Noolie Gregory, Teresa Ventimiglia, Susie Glatt, Laura Nelmes, Max Lawry, Vicki MacDonald, Merran MacLachlan, Ros D'Ath, Claire Ford, Lettie Bellord, Sue Palfry

2. Minutes of Last meeting

Last year's minutes were approved. Proposed by Sue Ravenhill- Handley and seconded by Andrea Cox

3. Chairs Report

It has been an interesting first year as club Chair and I have been tested on a few things but I have also learnt an awful lot. I really couldn't do it without the support of the other committee members. What a year we have had! I was looking back through all of last year's newsletters and we have had lots of success at team competitions and lots of fun along the way

Pontispool camp (20th-23rd March) is as ever, very popular and everyone who goes enjoys themselves and grows in confidence. Shanice kindly agreed to organise a second camp at Stockland Lovell (4th-6th October) which looked amazing and we have had nothing but good feedback, so thank you to everyone.

This year we decided to try a Dressdown Pick and mix Combined Training, which was so much fun and ran extremely well. A massive well done to everyone who helped organise this and an extra thank you to Jill and Sally who worked tirelessly to ensure the event ran smoothly.

We have continued to series of Dressdown dressage competitions. These competitions continue to be a great success. These events help generated much needed income to support our teams at the various championships.

We had continued success with our non-res camp days, so a huge thank you must go to Jill for all your hard work organising these days. It was so nice to hear such positive comments from our members all gaining in confidence throughout their day.

We also ran two flat camps this year which despite the weather were very successful. So a big thank you to Justine for organising these. All we need to do is organise some sunshine for the next one. Date TBC

If anyone has any ideas for events we can run in 2020, please do let us know! We want to ensure that we run events/socials that our members want and will attend.

Please remember to let Shanice know when you have completed your hours, family members or friends can complete these on your behalf.

We must as a committee and club also thank Angela Cherrington for continuing to look after the Area 9 Flu/Vac database – this is a really important job as this ensures that all clubs entering teams have got all their horses flu/tet records up to date.

I am really looking forward to seeing all our members develop and gain in confidence throughout the coming 12 months. Keep up the good work and here is to a fab 2020!

4. Treasurers Report

The Report displayed shows we are down over the year by -£473. However just yesterday the Auditor spotted a mistake (two 2018 cheques, £363, which cleared in 2019 and shouldn't have been included in the carry forward balance). So the actual figure was -£110. When the Auditor has accepted the changes a new Report will be produced and sent out to members.

Other detail of the Report should be accurate. The top section shows total income/expenditure broken down into categories for the whole of 2019. Affiliation fees are up because they are based on 2018 membership (171) and have increased from £12.50 per head to £15.

Bottom section is a breakdown of actual event balances compared with 2018. Rally profit is taken from a separate spreadsheet which I compile when Rally Organisers send me their forms and I pay Instructors and Venues.

Admin expenses were up this year as we have had a website re-design, bought club flag, saddlecloth badges etc.

Several good fund-raising events were held but we do need to keep on top of this in 2020 to cover the increase paid to BRC and to send our teams to Area and National competitions.

Jean Simmons asked whether we pay the same affiliation cost per head for non-riders who pay £15 to join BDRC. This is the case and is something the Committee will have to consider when setting future joining fees.

The Accounts could not be Proposed and Seconded until correct Report is produced and distributed.

5. Team Reports

Horse Trials- Jo Dyer

The competition was in June at West Wilts. The 80 Team was 7th and consisted of Sarah Raymond, Sian Coles and Kathleen Griffiths. Sarah was 3rd, Sian completed well and Kathleen came just out of the top 10. Unfortunately Noolie Gregory who was supposed to be competing in the 90 had vehicle problems and was unable to compete.

Sue Excel competed as an individual in the 100 and was 2nd

Arena Eventing – Sarah Raymond

The weather was horrendous for this competition. We fielded a 70, 80 and 90 team. The 70 team was Lettie Bellord, Helen German and Kathleen Griffiths. Unfortunately they didn't get placed.

The 80 team was Jill McFarland, Ali Baimbridge, Sarah Ferris and Max Lawry. The team were overall 3rd with Max doing a lovely clear. Jill hit the last fence but would have been the only rider inside the time.

The 90 team was Andrew Winterton, Sian Barke (who had moved up from being in the 70 team due to her horse being over qualified), Laura Nelmes and Sarah Raymond. The team won and had individual 1st and 6th and qualified for the Championships on March 15th at Aston le Walls.

Show Jumping- Jo Dyer

Susie Glatt is the Team Manager and sent in the following report.

"Sorry I couldn't make it to the AGM this evening but Jo has very graciously offered to read out my annual report.

It has been an education for me being sj team manager for the twice yearly qualifiers – As well as learning the rudiments of the competition, I've also learnt that Jo Dyer is excellent at flushing out riders when numbers are down & it would be remiss not to say a special thank-you to her for the tireless energy & help she gave me with the summer competition which was held at Rectory Farm in July. We managed to raise 3 teams, 80, 90 & 100, which at one stage seemed like an impossible dream!

We didn't manage any team glory on the day: it was a very big turn out & competition was high.

Team 80, despite some good rounds weren't quite fast enough to bring home ribbons. Jill McFarland & Basil however, managed an individual 6th so well done Jill!

Team 90 & Team 100 were a rider down (ironically after all her hard work, Jo was too ill to ride on the day!).

Team 90 nevertheless, managed to come 5th despite the handicap.

Team 100 had a disqualification which didn't leave enough riders to continue. Andrew Winterton & Choco, however, did get an impressive individual 2nd!

On to the winter competition... (this has now been split into 2 events, with the 90 – 110 on 22nd March at Leyland Court).

We entered a team in both the 70 & 80, all of whom braved the perishing cold & early start to compete & despite some decent rounds by both, we also had a few mistakes & refusals which resulted in both ultimately, being eliminated.

Despite the lack of rosettes, everyone enjoyed competing within their team taking the opportunity to get to know other members &/or catch up with friends. What's not to like!

So...if anyone would like to sign up for the 90, 100 or 110, I shall be sending out an email in mid February but do feel free to express interest earlier.

Dressage- Justine Jackman

First competition was in February when it was cold and foggy. There were no team placings but individually Sarah Raymond was 6th and Sue Ravenhill- Handley 7th

Next was the Dressage to Music with Claire Simpson representing the club and getting a fabulous 3rd place with over 71%

Then there was the Summer dressage on grass at Rabson where Vicki Stacy won her section and the Team which included Gail Wilson, Sian Barke and Kathleen Griffiths came a creditable 4th.

In November there was the Winter dressage at West Wilts. Unfortunately West Wilts was a very busy venue as there was a separate SJ competition going on that day. However our team of Berkeley Buns did an amazing job and won! The team was Lucy Woolams- 2nd, Gill Lawry, 1st and Gail Wilson. Sarah Raymond also won her section, Georgie Silvey was individual 2nd. Sian Barke was 4th, Sally Thorne- 4th and Jules Moore 8th.

The next competition is approaching soon and we have got lots of interest but entries are going to be limited due to daylight hours.

Combined Training- Jo Dyer

Laura Nelmes is the Team Manager but was unable to attend

This competition was held in January 2019 so over a year ago. All did well with lots of good tests and rounds but unfortunately there was an error with the scoring so the results were never finalized. However Andrew Winterton with Bally was given a wildcard to the Championships for his good performance. He got a 32 dressage and clear Sj for overall 8th.

Arena Eventing – Jo Dyer

The 100 team of Jo Dyer, Toni Young, Andrew Winterton and Claire Moreton won the 2018 Areas and qualified for the finals. Andrew was unable to go so Shanice took his place at Aston- le -walls. It was a v cold wintry day and Claire Moreton's mother Helen kindly took Jo, Toni and Claire up in her lorry. All jumped clear but Claire, Toni and Jo were too fast and incurred time penalties. However Shanice did brilliantly and came 3rd.

6. Election of the Committee

All members are happy to stand again. Sarah has taken over from Holly doing rallies but Holly is happy to stay on the Committee. Jean Simmonds and Sue Cressick proposed and seconded the Committee's re- election.

7. Membership- Shanice Walton

There were 127 members last year and there are already 105 this year.

Shanice reminded people that there are still some members who are not doing their hours. Hours do not necessarily have to be done helping at rallies they also can be done helping with cakes, instructor's lunches etc.

8. Rallies – Holly Winterton

Sally kindly provided some statistics from 2019

There were 45 rallies in total with just over 300 places available. 78 members did at least one rally and a number of members did between 10 and 20. There were rallies on offer most weekends and some on weekdays. The challenge is always avoiding clashes with other events such as competitions. Also trying to get an even spread across the disciplines Thanks must go to all our fabulous instructors this past year. Through their encouragement and tuition they are an integral part to the motivation of our riders and success of our club. I also want to thank Vicki MacDonald, Dee Hargreaves, Helen German, Jo Evans and Claire Friend for all their support in the rally organizing process.

Finally after 2 years of planning the rallies I am grateful to Sarah Raymond for taking over the reins for 2020. Please be kind it is a challenge and takes a lot of planning to line up dates, venues and instructors. Good luck and Happy Riding

9. Events

Camps- Shanice

We ran 2 camps last year and they were both very successful so we will be repeating it in 2020. Pontispool in March is now full but if anyone wants to go on the waiting list a place may well come up. We will be having the same format as Stockland Lovell last year and rather than having fixed lessons people can choose what they want to do- just flat, hacking etc.

Stockland Lovell is booked for the 1st-4th October, details will follow after Pontispool.

Dressdown Dressage - Lucy

These competitions are still very successful. Two dates at Burrows have been booked for this year- 5th May and 13th September. We may run a Christmas one too.

Dressdown Combined Training – Lucy

We may run it again. It was good fun and made a small profit but was hard work.

Flat Camps – Justine

Were very successful last year despite terrible weather. No dates have been set yet for this year but they will be at Burrows. Fridays work best for Burrows Court and members present seemed happy for a Friday. April is a possibility.

10. Awards

Club All-rounder - I'm not really sure what to say about this combination apart from wow, they excel at all disciplines and are always willing to step in for teams or even sit out if others want to have a go, this is a pleasure to award to - **Sarah Raymond** - Well Done

The Southfield Dressage Glass – This is presented to a combination who not necessarily win everything, but go out and have fun and represent the club to the highest standard. This lady is just fabulous and kind in so many ways and has excelled at the into rallies, which everyone loves. So a massive congratulations to **Gill Lawry** .

The Anne Stevenson Memorial Trophy – She has been a loyal member of the club for many years, has been a Rally Organiser. She used to compete for the club with her own horse Tav and has now started competing for the club with Julie Haywards lovely horse Bud. She's always prepared to help and has been to masses of camps - **Dee Hargreaves** - Well done

The Ann Brown Training Bursary is an amount of money kindly donated by Ann for training and is much appreciated by BDRC. Thank you - Ann - this is going to a lady who I have watched grow in confidence over the last year with her new horse and it is a pleasure to watch. Congratulations **Claire Friend**– well done!!

Best Veteran – this award Started with Sue who wanted to encourage members to basically keep going no matter the age and to keep the older horses in work. We have a few members shortlisted for this award but we have decided with a grand combined age of over 70 years it goes to **Karen Macdonald** a massive congratulations.

Members Member (chosen by you the members) – **Kathleen Griffiths**

Most Rallies Attended – **Kathleen Griffiths** (20 RALLIES ATTENDED)

Team Appearance – **Andrew Winterton**

Helpers Hours – **Andrea Thompson Taylor** – travelling to Aston Le Walls so the team can compete

Most Enthusiastic – **Claire Friend**

Instructor Awards - Decided by the Instructors

Kate Scott – Julie Smith

Rachel Sheldon – Kay Crawford (Determination when not feeling confident)

Jo Dyer – Sara Ayres

Simons Jobbins – Max Lawry (Always takes on board what you are telling him)

Gill Lawry – Julie Smith

Amanda Heimens – Helen Van De Loo

11. AOB

Justine Jackman asked those present if they used WhatsApp as it would be an ideal way for Team Managers and team members to communicate. The vast majority did use it and so we will be using it in future

Shanice Walton told members about the new Club clothing range and that they can order items from her. She will be sending out details shortly.

Gill Lawry thanked the Committee for their work in managing the Riding Club. She suggested that jump rallies could be organised so that the group jumping higher fences went first on occasions just to mix up who has to have the early start especially at weekends.

Ali Baimbridge asked if we could have more evening rallies. Sarah Raymond said that we were trialling the idea and if people booked on them we would have more especially in the summer.

Jules Moore asked if the forthcoming dressage competition had gone out in an email to members. We do try and makes sure that all messages to members go out on FB and email. (PS it seems on this occasion we apologise it was not put in an email)

There was a general discussion about booking on rallies via Equo or via the Rally Manager and the problem of timing and holding a waitlist if the rally is popular. We will look into this and try and make sure that a fair system is in place and that a waiting list is held.

Ali Baimbridge suggested Riders Pilates would be good. Several people seemed to support this. Gill Lawry said she is going to a “Balanced Rider” session and that the instructor may be willing to run a session for us.