**Area 7 Committee Meeting**

**Tuesday 5th April 20:00-21:00 (Microsoft Teams)**

**Attendees:** Kelly Belham (KB), Nicki Stapleton (NS), Katherine Short (KS), Jane Denereaz (JD), Catherine Hore (CH), Rachel Stevenson (RS), Helen Mcintosh (HM), Katy Evans) Fiona Ishack (FI), Rebecca Robinson (joined 40 minutes in)

**Apologies:** Emily Streagles, Sharon Hughes,

**Minutes:**

**From Previous Meeting:**

* RS runs through previous minutes and asks about scoring declarations bought up by HM. KS comments that this is now sorted.
* The question of plastic/wooden poles is clarified. According to the rule book the top pole has to be wooden. The grade of wooden pole is not clarified and will be actioned to find out.
* RS asks about inventory of equipment within clubs that can be borrowed. Issue with Arena UK not clarifying that timing equipment was an extra cost. Something to be aware of in future when hiring venues
* Poll of members has been completed and the running of two qualifiers over the same weekend and the general thoughts on qualifiers. Most members happy to travel between an hour and an hour and 30 minutes for a qualifier
* Not enough interest for junior training so was not able to run.
* KS reports that the form for the application for funding has not been completed properly and do not able to secure funding for this year. Need a proper training plan and to re-complete the form for 2023.
* Suggestion of first aid course to run.

**Treasurers Report:**

* £100 compensation from head office for the admin errors over a period of time
* Onley grounds deposit paid. Area 7 website fees paid for. Eventing scores paid for for the use for the rest of the yea.
* RS suggests sending an email to the clubs to let them know eventing scores is paid for and can be used. Only 50 uses per year so question of how to manage this within the clubs. Rs to action this.
* Vote and agreed for eventing scores to be used for Rockingham event by KB.
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* Reminder: Every club to pay their affiliation fee to go towards the online scoring system
* KH asks if David was given any gift or thanks for his time. He was not. £50 amazon voucher to be sent proposed by KS. Agreed by all.

**Area rep report:**

* Not much activity within the area due to time of year. Coffee morning on Thursday for new reps.
* Declaration forms do not have to be used anymore as did not provide any more information. Don’t need them to check eligibility anymore either so have become redundant.
* Official steward training refresher can be offered, a list of names is needed to send to head office so that training can be organised. KH comments that Sue Squirrell from Keysoe riding club offered to become an official steward but this was not followed up.
* HM asks for clarification on how often steward training is needed. RS clarifies it is every 3 years.
* KH asks if KS could take back a suggestion to head office – adding in a 90/95 combined training qualifier, or letting a prelim class do an 85. Re-looking at the classes and heights etc. Suggestions of lower tests for juniors, adding in an elementary, maybe an open class of pick our own test and height.
* HM raises that prelim entries and entries don’t always match. Head office allow changes and then don’t notify the organiser. Could this be raised.

**Past events:**

**Novice Champs:**

* winner in the 70 junior for Bozeat. Lots of other good results all round for the clubs.
* Feedback given by KH for the novice champs. Warm up was manic, limited to 8 people but this was too many people. Also people stood watching in the way from take off and landing. Not allowed to go into the dressage warm up even to do flat work if a jumping rider. Dressage warm up also very large compared to the SJ warm up. But both SJ courses very well built.
* Second point: you were only allowed to jump the fences after fence 6 if you jump clear 1-6. Seems unfair when people have travelled large distances to only be allowed to jump 6 fences.
* RS reports that dressage ran very well but if it was not good weather the parking would not have been good as on wet fields.

**Arena Eventing champs:**

* Some good results again for the area, Huntingdon and Houghton top 3 places in more than one height.
* KB reports that 3 Bozeat riders have qualified for the 100 combined challenge, but one rider has a lame horse, able to turn this into an area team but the two current riders have to stay. KB to email team managers to ask for rider recommendations to create a team.

**Combined training champs:**

* People being rude to stewards.
* KH reports feedback from members.
1. The second course walk was cancelled so not able to happen for the 85 so some people missed out
2. Passports should be provided ahead and not on the day. If not provided before the day then they do not get to compete
3. No electronic scoring on the day. HM simply dd not get round to organising this and question around the access as only just paid for. Electronic scoring training is on the pony club scoring website.
4. The designated walkway not used and ignored by competitors. No signs up and not realised by people.
5. Comments that tests and warm up being on grass not reported to competitors

**Future events:**

Summer dressage:

* Lack of entries with only a week to go at this point. One of the biggest club only has 2 entries.
* Milton show also happening on the same day this can be shared with the club members to maybe make a day of it

Eventing qualifier:

* Still waiting for Lloyd to come back to us re. terms and conditions of event before releasing date etc to the clubs.

Dressage to music:

* Date confirmed as 12th June at Oaklands St Albans.
* Currently finding it hard to find judges as another BD event happening at the same time. Once judges sorted a schedule can be done.
* Intro qualifiers also to be added to this schedule

Combined Challenge

* Suggestion of combining areas with Saffron Walden and running the combined challenge two areas in one day

Show jumping:

* Suggestion to increase entry fees in order to pay volunteers to do jobs like pole picking.
* Lots of conversations around volunteers and best ways to implement this. KS to do a poll on fb and see what members want and what they would pay to not help.

**AOB:**

* Suggestions of what training members want to be suggested for next meeting
* Safeguarding member for juniors needed and DBS checked etc and completed safe guarding course run by BRC
* Meetings to be back in person or to stay online – a mixture of both moving forwards.

**Actions:**

* Rs to seek clarification on grade of wooden poles with BRC head office
* Ks to ask Rebecca raner if she would like to become an official steward
* KS to take suggestion of re-looking at combined training classes back to head office
* RS to speak to clubs re the use of eventing scores. Calculate how many area events there are and then divide the rest of the 50 uses up between the clubs for them to use how they see fit.
* KE to send david £50 amazon Voucher and liase with KS on email address to send to
* KB to organise the 2 riders needed for the 100 combined challenge area team.
* KS to organise FB poll re volunteering and what members what to do/pay for help

Date of Next Meeting:

14th June