

Area 7 Annual General Meeting Minutes
Monday 3rd December 2018



1. Apologies for Absence

- Aspley Guise, Sharon Hughes (Cambridge), Rebecca Robinson (HHRC), Rosemary Lloyd (Keysoe), Linda Pateman and Barbara Ward (North Mymms)

2. Clubs present

- Milton Keynes, Bozeat RC, Stevenage, North Mymms, Keysoe, Rockingham Forest, Wittering, Shillington
- Celia Wisher – area 7 chair
- David Clarke – area 7 rep

3. Minutes of Previous AGM

- Rosemary apologised as she has been unable to print copies of the minutes from the last AGM. They have been emailed to all on the contact list.

4. Matters Arising

- No matters arising.

5. Report from the Chair

- Celia thanked the fire station for the use of the venue. They do not charge use to use the room. Previously we have given a donation to them.
- Thank you for the food and drinks from Mark and Cakes from Becky and Tracey.
- We ran first aid training this year that was well supported. It was discussed if this would be run again. Some members felt a refresher would be useful and also full training for those clubs who have had a change in committee meeting. It was agreed we would look into running the training again next year. Kit Hore (Keysoe) offered to organise the event for the area. Kit to let area secretary know the dates and to support Kit with running the event.
- Celia praised everyone for the competitions run this year and thanked all clubs for running the qualifying events.

6. Report from Treasurer

- Date on documents shared should read for year 2017 to September 2018
- Horse trials expenditure includes two years' worth of Horse trials venue higher
- Horse trials made a profit this year
- No training grant expenditure for this year
- Discussion was held on should we spend some of the money the area holds. We have to hold around £5000 in case of a cancelled event. £2000 is for training grants. The meetings, expenses... for the year is around £1000. It was suggested that an area marquee might be a good idea. Kit Hore (Keysoe) to enquire.

7. Area Rep Report

- David was unable to attend – he sent his report below

2018 was a very good year for the area. We had a lot of well-run qualifiers and overall the numbers held up well despite the weather causing unfavourable ground conditions. At championships we were well represented with a particular highlight being the Horse Trials where an area 7 individual or team was placed in all classes. There are too many other highlights to list them all so I will take this opportunity to congratulate you all on your achievements. Over the last few years we have seen a step change in area 7 with the way events are being run. I think it's good to recognise this we are now at a point where post event feedback is generally more about tweaks here and there to improve rather than wholesale issues. It's down to a very dedicated team within the area that this has been possible. That team is across the range of clubs. I would like to make special mention to Helen McIntosh for her tireless efforts on the flu vacs and her attendance at most events to ensure that checking in is as seamless as possible. To Rachael Stevenson for all the work put into ensuring scoring queries are not the norm anymore. To Kelly Bellham & Becky Rayner for being at so many events as a helping hand that does whatever's needed to make sure the day runs without hitch. That could be dealing with a fall, the occasional flu vac failure or just assisting with a judge's question. There are plenty of others I could mention but don't have time to so thank you to everyone. I think the perfect example of how the area came together was at the Arena Eventing where the time was not on our side and we had a meeting that meant all managers got their say and we were able to postpone the 100 class before the majority of competitors had arrived. It wasn't a decision taken lightly but it was the right one to make.

Going forward we need to carry all this on. We want to increase participation in the DTM and this can be done by some subsidy of the competition and help getting people music and floor plans. We can also look to work on live scoring where possible to give the swiftest possible results. We have also discussed a possible area social so that we can get members together in a non-competitive environment. This would be nice as it embodies the part of the BRC motto.

Final couple of things from me, rules wise there are a few coming up first of which is BRC will follow the BE fall rule for all competitions. This will have implications for us as organisers and we need to be clear we understand them. The other rule updates are in the rule book and as always if you have a query about them please contact me I'll answer them. So all that's left is for me to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy new year. Here's to a great 2019.

- Jo raised a discussion with David regarding allocation of qualifiers to clubs. Currently we allocate the events around 6-12 months before the event. Every time we change the club running there's new learning that has to take place rather than learning and improving from each event. It was suggested running for two or three years at a go. This idea was agreed at the meeting. **Action for all clubs to go back and discuss this idea**

with their committees. Also to think about offering to run an event for Winter 2019/202 and Summer 2020.

- If you are running an event please do ask the committee to see who can best support at different events/roles. Discussions at area meetings to be held to gain offers of support. Rosemary quoted the rule book with regards to the official steward's role and their support when running an event.

Rosemary wanted to say a few words

- Well done to Rebecca Rayner from our area who won BRS volunteer of the year award
- Well done to every club as we have had lots of placing at National Championships including many wins across all the disciplines!

8. Setting of Area Liaison Fees

- It was asked what the area fees pay: area 7 meeting expenses, official stewards expenses, donation to the fire station, postage, printing...
- Fees are staying at £40 this year.

9. Election of Officers

Role	Current	Proposed	First and Seconded
Chair	Celia Whicher	Celia Whicher	Rachael and Rebecca
Vice Chair	Mark Irwing	Mark Irwing	Kelly and Helen
Secretary	Rosemary Batten	Rosemary Batten	Lesley and Mark
Minutes Secretary	Rachael Stevenson	Rachael Stevenson	Rosemary and Roger
Treasurer	Lesley Irwing	Lesley Irwing	Rachael and Celia
Training Officer	Rachael Stevenson	Kit Hore	Rebecca and Jo
Welfare Officer	Rachael Stevenson	Rachael Stevenson	Rebecca and Kelly
Web Master	Kelly Bellham Jo Meningen	Kelly Bellham Jo Meningen	Rachael and Celia

10. AOB

- Thank you to all who provided cakes, drink and food
- Discussion around not being able to use Ely for the horse trials next year. Jo is approaching Horse Heath to see if we can go there next year. LandS (Offchurch Bury) and Osberton were also suggested. Jo and David liaising with venues and will bring options to the next area meeting.
- Dressage to music training for the area has been given to David to request for the training grant expenditure. This is to be discussed at the next meeting and shared early next year with members. At a previous meeting it was agreed the area would pay a percentage and the rider the rest. It was raised that this would be for a limited number of members, how can we arrange a clinic that is open/accessible to more members.
- Celia congratulated Shillington especially as they have grown from such a small club to having a representative at every championship. Shillington offered to do a write up about the area competitions and nationals this year.

- It was discussed that teams across the clubs felt more like a family than rivals and it was lovely to see many more area teams this year.
- Rachael reminded clubs that if they need any area equipment or rosettes for an event at least two weeks notice must be given to try and arrange a handover. Otherwise it is the clubs responsibility to collect the equipment/rosettes.

11. Date of meetings 2018

Monday 4th February 2019