**STRATHMORE & DISTRICT RIDING CLUB**

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday, 17th October 2017 in the Lesser Reid Hall, Forfar at 7.30pm**

**In Attendance: Liz Murray (in the Chair), Linda Johnson, Jean Paterson, Donna Webster, Adrienne Milne, Pamela Harris, Leona Owen, Sheena Melvin, Morag Russell, Bruce George, Susan McGowan, Carol McCubbin, Kayleigh Moran, Emma Martin, Chris Evans, Steph Stewart, Julie Mejka, Jacqui Nicol, Jenni Eno, Eve Beveridge, Pat Cummins, Susan Smart, Meghann Thow, Susan Thow, Gill Wilson, Lynda Potter, Nicki Flood, Louise Jacques, Jenn Robertson, Mary Kidd, Jude Taylor, Hazel Mudie, Ali Lothian, David Grant, Kirsten McGregor, Jonathan Mccreadie, Rebecca Cromar, Audrey De Souza, Gwen Fenton, Anne Shaw, Sheena Warburton**

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Alex Yeaman, Tracy Parker, Leigh Keith, Fiona Shepherd, Kate Clark, Julie Speirs, Susan Smith, Dianne Henderson, Lynn Clark, Erica Taylor, Rosie Clark, Sarah Griffiths, Erica Double-Coutts, Linda Burns, Marjorie Grant, Chloe Robinson, Clare Robinson, Nikki Saunderson, Louise McIntosh, Gayle Culross, Jill Gunn, Megan Guild, Karen Stewart, Catherine Blundell, Judith Triebs, Annie Jack, Lauren Webster, Ashley Wilkie, Marie Graham, Lucy McKendrick, Gillian Fotheringham, Carol Burdin, Ingrid Dyker, Julie Dyker, Susan Geddes, George Whitton, Joanne Graham, Jacqui Murdoch, Susan Don and Shonagh Stark

1. Minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 17th October 2016

These were approved by Susan Thow and seconded by Pat Cummins

1. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the Minutes

1. Chairman’s Report

Liz opened the meeting by thanking everyone for coming.

She then went on to give a short resume of the year telling the meeting that the Club held 28 closed competitions and 2 open competitions over the last Club year. We are a very busy Club and rely heavily on volunteers to help the Committee put on so much in the way of instruction and competition. She was pleased to note that this year we had more members volunteering to help out than in the past and she passed on the thanks of the Committee to all those who gave up their time to help their Club.

Unfortunately this year we had to cancel our Summer Show due to lack of pre-entries and also the Dinner Dance due to lack of ticket sales. This was very unfortunate as we had put out a poll to see what members wanted.

We put a number of teams forward for Area Dressage and Showjumping and the Club did very well. We struggled to get a team together for the Area Horse Trials which was help at Scotsburn but 3 members did go.

The Saddle Up International Competition due to be held at Auchlishie earlier in the month was also cancelled due to the bad weather.

Liz finished her report by thanking her Committee for all their hard work over the last year, especially those who were standing down this time.

1. Treasurer’s Report

Jean presented a report on the Club’s Accounts which had been handed out. Jean pointed out that the Club had made a loss of £331 but this could be put down to the fact that we purchased a Defibrillator for the Club, new jump wings and cups and upgraded the tractor for cutting the grass at the Club Field. The Accounts were approved by Donna Webster and seconded by Linda Johnson

1. Election of Officer Bearers

The office bearers had all agreed to stand for re-election

CHAIRMAN Liz Murray Proposer: Donna Webster

 Seconder: Linda Johnson

VICE CHAIRMAN Linda Johnson Proposer: Donna Webster

 Seconder: Jean Paterson

TREASURER Jean Paterson Proposer: Donna Webster

 Seconder: Liz Murray

SECRETARY Donna Webster Proposer: Jean Paterson

 Seconder: Liz Murray

1. Election of Committee

The following Committee Members were standing down:

Chris Evans, Joanne Graham and George Whitton

Liz thanked them for all their hard work while on the Committee

The following nominations were put forward

Emma Martin Proposer: Jean Paterson

 Seconder: Liz Murray

Eve Beveridge Proposer: Linda Johnson

 Seconder: Susan Thow

David Grant Proposer: Donna Webster

 Seconder: Gill Wilson

Meghann Thow Proposer: Liz Murray

 Seconder: Jean Paterson

There being no other nominations, they were duly elected and Liz welcomed them to the Committee

1. Any Other Competent Business

Dressage – Mary Kidd said that she was concerned about the parking at Bractullo. It was explained that as this was a new venue for our Dressage, the committee were hoping, with the introduction of a one way system, and someone to assist with the parking (at least to begin with) that, provided everybody parked sensibly and tacked up inside their trailers/lorries where possible, that we should manage to get everyone parked.

New Jumps – Jean told the Meeting that we planned to purchase some more jump wings and new poles for next season. Mary Kidd asked if we would look at the possibility of getting small fillers and this was agreed. It was also agreed that we should look at purchasing a set of planks and a couple of “ladder” fillers

Showjumping – Mary Kidd asked if it would be possible to have a nominated person on the ground on the day of the Showjumping competitions to oversee the course changes (eg adjusting distances where needed, heights, fillers used, etc). The Committee will endeavour to have someone in place although it was noted that Jean is always there to supervise anyway.

Emails – Gill Wilson asked if we were still going to use email as a media for contacting members. Donna told the meeting that this should be rectified and that in future a couple of Newsletters a year will be sent out by email, although these will also go onto the website and the Club Facebook page too. Any new members should receive a welcome letter via email telling them where all the information can be found and that if they do not have access to the website/Facebook, hard copies of instruction slips, schedules, etc can be posted out.

Balloting – Donna explained that it had been found to be a fairer system than the old “first come first served” one. After the closing date, anyone on the waiting list who doesn’t get a space is given priority at the next lesson they apply for. The Committee have a FB thread where we keep a list of all those who did not get a space so that the organiser of the next lesson they apply for can check the list first.

Last minute cancellation slots are advertised on FB and if we can fill the space, we tear up the cheque. If we cannot fill the space, once the closing date is passed, then the cheque will be cashed. Julie Mejka said this is now it worked at Pony Club too.

Chris Evans also explained that quite often the final list of members having a lesson is quite different to the original list, what with cancellations, etc. It is much easier for the organiser to tear up a cheque than it is to issue refunds through the bank.

Membership Fees – Donna proposed that our Membership fees increase to £25 (from £24) as they have not risen for over 12 years and Area are going to be increasing our affiliation fees by 50p per head for the forthcoming year too. It was agreed by the meeting that the Club offers very good value for money and having been seconded by Jean Paterson, the motion was carried.

THE MAIN MEETING CLOSED AT 8.10 PM WITH A VOTE OF THANKS TO THE CHAIRMAN AND A PRESENTATION TO THE SECRETARY OF A BOUQUET OF FLOWERS.

1. Presentation of Annual Awards & Summer Showjumping and Dressage Leagues Trophies and Rosettes

**OVERALL POINTS RESULTS FOR 2016/2017**

1st Donna Webster & Phoenix (Winner of the Spillers Farm Feeds Trophy)

2nd Jenni Eno & Kali

3rd Anne Shaw & Lottie

4th Pamela Harris & Poosie Nansie

5th Jacqui Murdoch & Murdo

6th Mary Kidd & Al

7th Eve Beveridge & Seville

8th Susan Smart & Crackerjack

9th Megan Guild & Princess Kiara

10th Kayleigh Moran & Gordon

**THE CRAIGBANK CUP -** Phoenix (Owned and ridden by Donna Webster) In memory of Poppy – presented by Julie Speirs and Mandy Hodnett

For the Veteran Horse/Pony with the most points

**BURSARY & WEBSTER TROPHY -** Anne Shaw & Lottie/Hazel Mudie & Lola

**IN MEMORY OF MUNGIE & BUMPTIOUS**

Donated by Mr John Gray for the Most Improved Horse/Rider combination as chosen by the instructors

£50 to be awarded annually

**THE ED JARRETT TROPHY PRESENTED BY MARY FORSYTH TO THE VETERAN RIDER (OVER 50) WITH MOST POINTS OVER THE YEAR –** Donna Webster

**DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**THE GORDIE OF MELFORT TROPHY PRESENTED BY THE SHEPHERD FAMILY IN MEMORY OF GORDIE FOR THE BEST HORSE AT THE DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS –** Jenni Eno’s Kali

**THE SHEPHERD TROPHY FOR THE BEST RIDER AT THE DRESSAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS –** Susan Smart