**STRATHMORE & DISTRICT RIDING CLUB**

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD IN LESSER REID HALL, FORFAR**

**ON 22ND OCTOBER 2019**

1. **In Attendance**

Liz Murray, Linda Johnson, Jean Paterson, Donna Webster, Sheena Warburton, Adrienne Milne, India Dorsie, Marie Ramsay, Eve Beveridge, Carol Burdin, Chris Evans, Emma Martin, Meghann James, Ashley McLean, Mary Kidd, Julie Mejka, Dianne Forsyth, Peter Forsyth, Fiona Shepherd, Susan Geddes, Ingrid Dyker, Hazel Mudie, Coreen McGregor, Ali Lothian, Jane Smith, Suzanne Cargill, Bruce George, Susan McGowan, Carol McCubbin, Jude Taylor, Jacqui Nicol, Tracy McIntosh, Colette Main, Carol Thomson, Claire King, Stephanie Stewart, Lynn Clark, Laura Deacon, Dale Warburton, Linda Mitchell

1. **Apologies For Absence**

Susan Smart, Erica Taylor, Susan Smith, Audrey Desouza, Rosie Clark, Susan Thow, Rebecca Greenhorn, Gill Wilson, Gwen Fenton, Catherine Blundell, Kate Clark, Joan Sands, Jenni Hamilton, Marie Graham, Sarah Griffiths, Morag Russell, Jacqui Murdoch, Nicky Flood, Nikki Cant, Caroline Fife, Pat Cummins, Rachel Burdin, Julie Dyker, Annie Jack, Dianne Henderson, Flora MacKinnon-Pryde

1. **Minutes of the Last AGM held on 16.10.18**

These were approved by Suzanne Cargill and seconded by Ali Lothian

1. **Matters Arising**

Donna informed the meeting that the new indoor school at Brechin was going ahead.

1. **Chairman’s Report**

Liz told the meeting that she was standing down as Chair and thanked the Committee for all their work over the last year.

She said that she wasn’t going to go over everything that had happened during the last year as everything was put onto FB and the website anyway.

She said that our entries for Area were very poor this year with no members entered in the Horse Trials . However, other Clubs must have been in the same boat as Area had to hold the Showjumping/Dressage Qualifiers all on one day due to lack of entries. However, we did have lots of entries for the Scottish Riding Club Championships, which were unfortunately cancelled due to the weather.

Liz said she would leave it to the new committee to review our calendar as although some things were well supported, there were some that weren’t. A lot of work goes into organising our busy calendar and Liz reminded the members that we are all volunteers who all have jobs and horses and that we take no expenses for all that we do.

1. **Treasurer’s Report**

Jean had handed out the Accounts for the year to 30th September 2019 and gave an explanation of the figures to the members. We bought quite a bit of new equipment this year. For the first time ever, Jean had to pay accountancy fees. We had to cancel a couple of competitions due to the weather. The entries for last year’s Saddle Up came off this year’s accounts. The entries for this year’s Scottish RC Championships had come off these accounts but the refund won’t show until next years. She asked if anyone had any questions, and there being none, the accounts were approved by Meghann James and seconded by Liz Murray.

Jean then informed the meeting that once the change to the Constitution comes into force, the next accounts will be for 15 months (from 1.10.19-31.12.20) and the accountant was quite happy with this.

1. **Election of Officer Bearers**

Liz Murray stepped down as Chair

Marie Ramsay was proposed by Donna Webster and seconded by Jean Paterson. There being no other nominations, Marie was duly elected Chairman

Linda Johnson stepped down as Vice Chair

India Dorsie was proposed by Liz Murray and seconded by Linda Johnson. There being no other nominations, India was duly elected Vice Chairman

Jean Paterson agreed to carry on as Treasurer. There were no other nominations so Jean was relected Treasurer

Donna Webster agreed to carry on as Secretary. There were no other nominations to Donna was relected as Secretary

1. **Election of Committee Members**

Leona Owen had resigned from the Committee following her move abroad. As Marie and India had now taken up positions of Chairman and Vice Chairman, this left 3 or 4 vacancies on the Committee

Dianne Forsyth was nominated by Suzanne Cargill and seconded by Marie Ramsay

Isla Robertson was nominated by Donna Webster and seconded by Jane Smith

Stephanie Stewart was nominated by Liz Murray and seconded by Jean Paterson

Carol Burdin was nominated by Chris Evans and seconded by Marie Ramsay

There being no further nominations, Dianne, Isla, Stephanie and Carol were therefore elected.

1. **Change to Constitution**

To keep in line with British Horse Society and British Riding Clubs, it was agreed that the Club should change its financial year to run from 1st January to 31st December

1. **Increase in Membership Fees**

BRC have increased our affiliation fees for the coming year and given that we have not increased our membership for many years, Liz proposed that we increase our Riding Membership to £30 and that the Joining/Rejoining Fee remain at £5 and non-riding membership remain at £10. Donna seconded this and there being no objections, the motion was carried.

1. **Any Other Competent Business**
2. Dianne Forsyth asked about arranging the SJ instruction dates over the summer to coincide with the SJ Leagues. Donna said she would do her best but the reason the jumps got cleared away was so that the field could be cut.
3. Ali Lothian asked about the possibility of getting an old 4 x 4 to tow the smaller trailers around the field. Donna said that she would speak to Chris about getting a towbar put onto the Club Ride-on as it should be able to pull the trailer around.
4. Linda reminded members to please pick up any dung in the parking area as her Dad had to clear it up before he could cut the grass
5. Mary Kidd said that she thought Camp was brilliant at Lindores this year. She couldn’t fault the venue, the instructors or the organisation. There were a couple of issues that might be mentioned to Lindores though. They were pressure washing buildings while lessons were going on and, apart from the fact that the instructors were having to shout to be heard above the noise, it upset quite a few of the horses. Also, when one of our groups was up on the cross country course, there was an outside group using it too which would have been fine if they had kept a reasonable distance away from our Prelim/Novice horses but they didn’t and again, upset quite a few horses. The gate was also left open and a loose horse managed to escape back down to the stables.

Liz said that Auchlishie was maybe a possibility again for Camp as they now had smaller xc fences and the bunkhouse.

Donna explained that next year we have only booked Lindores for one camp in the Summer with a Day Cross Country Training in the Spring. This was due to the very poor attendance at the last 2 Camps.

1. Suzanne Cargill asked about the possibility of getting a gate put on the field instead of the bit of rope that is there at the moment. Jean said that she would get something organised before spring.

There being no other competent business, the meeting closed and we held the Prize Giving for the Annual Awards and the Summer Showjumping and Dressage Leagues.

Donna, on behalf of the members, presented Liz with a voucher to have a made to measure bridle made by Sheena Melvin and presented Linda with a bouquet of flowers to thank them for their services to the Club.

Donna was then presented with a bouquet of flowers from Jean on behalf of the Club in recognition of the work she puts in.