



Newsletter Autumn 2017

Dear Members,

A warm welcome to the Autumn SDG Newsletter. Apologies, as it has been the first since February. As we had mentioned previously, we have been very short of members on the committee for some time. We have recently welcomed Julie Ross and Wendy Renton on board, which has made a huge difference. Thank you and welcome to them! We continually look for members to step onto the committee, the more the merrier! So please have a chat to a committee member about this, if you think it would be something that interests you.

Competition Update

Thank you for everyone who supported our Summer League Series. Every date of the series was well oversubscribed, which is very encouraging. Thanks for your patience, when once again weather played havoc and we needed to reschedule one of the dates due to flooding!

We will now move onto our winter league series, which takes place the first Sunday of every month. Dates for this are as follows:

- Sunday 1st October 2017
- Sunday 5th November 2017
- Sunday 3rd December 2017
- Sunday 4th February 2018
- Sunday 4th March 2018
- Sunday 1st April 2018

We are also very excited to announce that, as of our November winter league show, we will hope to be using Horse Monkey to take entries online for all of our events. This means we will no longer be taking paper entries or accepting payment via cash or cheque – Something that I know has caused a few problems recently for a few of our members who no longer own cheque books!

Membership Update

We currently have a membership of around 80 members, which is super! We do hope that you will all rejoin us for another year. Memberships are due by 30 September for the new year, which begins in October. It is essential you have renewed your membership before entering as a member for the October show.

The membership form is attached to this email and should be sent, as normal, to the membership secretary Sheila Rodgers. Her address is on the form. We hope that by next year we will also be able to do this via horse monkey!

Communication Update

As it stands we have several methods of getting in touch – Email, facebook or some of you have our mobile numbers saved from previous shows. Going forward we would ask that you only contact the committee using the following email address scottishdressagegroup@gmail.com. This will be checked on a monthly basis by the competition organiser, and means that information and queries are not going to the wrong person, or getting lost in transit.

First Aid Training

Recent BRC rules changes mean that we now have to have a first aider present at all of our competitions. To help with this, they have kindly offered a training bursary to help cover some of the costs of First Aid Training for our members. If you wish to take part on this course, please can you let us know by Friday 15th September, we will then discuss suitable dates and venues with those interested.

Please note, if SDG put you through this training you will be expected to volunteer for first aid cover at least once every year at a show. This helps us to keep costs for all members down, as it means we do not have to hire this service externally and charge on top of entries. If you already hold a First Aid at Work or BHS first aid qualification, please do consider offering help at an upcoming competition. You will also need a PVG check, which SDG will process free of charge if you do not already hold this.

Trophy Return

If you were presented with a trophy at last year's AGM, please can you ensure this is returned to a committee member by the show on Sunday 5th November at the very latest. Details of this year's AGM will be confirmed in due course.

Engraving of the trophies is optional, but members are responsible for the cost of this.

SDG Clothing

Remember you can purchase SDG clothing and saddlecloths from Dakota Equestrian. Their site is <http://www.dakotaequestrian.com> and SDG has its own section in their webstore.

The committee look forward to welcoming you to our winter league shows and events over the next few months 😊.