

Scottish Dressage Group

Summer Newsletter August 2018

Dates for your diary:

Winter 2018/2019 **Sunday** competitions at Cousland Park, Near Dalkeith

October 7, November 4, December 2, February 3, March 3, & April 7.

Competitions: Winter tests to be selected using 20x60 arena where possible. Intro will be 20x40. Check training opportunity before winter competitions commence detailed in this newsletter.

Summer competitions continue to have been very well supported, sometimes fully by members, and every month has had a waiting list. Your support is much appreciated as an incredible amount of work goes on behind the scenes both prior to, and during, each competition. Thank you to everyone involved....both committee members, and volunteers...you know who you are!

We continue to hire the services of a qualified first aider during our competitions. Some of you will recognise Jim who has been on duty at many of our competitions in the past and is regularly seen helping as steward or seen changing the arena sizes.

We will also continue to have tea, coffee and cake available in the secretary's hut and the "honesty box" is there for you to pay a donation for what you take. The money raised helps cover costs for this facility the following month. Once again, your feedback is important and there is a blue book left beside the hot water urn for you to write your feedback down. Feedback is welcomed.

Your committee are also ordering a new style of rosettes which will be available for use for the winter points competitions. We think you will like them. There will also once again be specially printed rosettes for presentation at the AGM. This time, however, rosettes will be awarded not just for the trophy winners but to everyone who has earned points up to sixth place.

Should you be a member who is sharing a trophy which was presented at the last AGM, you should now have either handed over the trophy having held it since January or you should have received the trophy to enjoy having it for the second half of the year. Should you have difficulty in either handing over the trophy or getting your hands on it, please contact a committee member at

your earliest convenience so the situation can be rectified immediately. Don't forget to get your trophy engraved!

Your committee are also in the process of redesigning the SDG logo. A new design has been presented and presently being considered. Dakota, the suppliers of our clothing with the SDG logo embroidered on it, are also being consulted regarding this change. If you would like to be involved in this decision, come and join the committee!

Your committee are presently in discussions with a web-designer and looking at what options are available to SDG for taking our website forward for the future. Again, we welcome your involvement. Join your committee to get involved.

Your committee are also investigating the feasibility of arranging pilates and/or physiotherapy sessions in the future. Some names that have been mentioned are Maeve Sheridan, Sue Gould and Angie Blackwell. Once again; watch this space!

Training:

Biomechanics has been investigated and put on hold for the time being due to there not being any weekend dates available for 2018. Also, it should be noted costs are presently in the region of £50 per session plus hire of arena which is around £30. As with everything your committee does on your behalf, your feedback is important so please let us know if you think this should be pursued for 2019. Better still, come on the committee, get involved, and help us even more.

We are in the process of booking Jill Grant for a weekend training day at Cousland Park when we will have a 20x60 arena set up and members can have the opportunity to practice in the larger arena with expert guidance/tuition on hand from Jill. A provisional date is in the diary for Sunday 23 September. Put it in your diary! Confirmation of this will follow soon. As already mentioned in this newsletter, it is our intention to use 20x60 arenas as much as possible during our winter competitions.

Teams:

Due to no one coming forward offering to help with Teams, it is with regret that for the time being, there will be no one representing SDG at Area competitions. Should anyone's circumstances change at any time and they

feel they could get involved with Teams, please contact a committee member for more information about what is involved.

Committee Members urgently required:

In an effort to reduce the workload for your existing committee members we continue to seek new members to join the committee. By increasing our numbers it will reduce the workload for all involved and hopefully will encourage people to remain on the committee for longer! Being on the committee not only gives members the opportunity to give something back to their club, but it is a great way to meet fellow members and committee meetings can be fun too. The committee usually meet once every few months, usually mid-week at The Stair Arms, Pathhead on the A68. Contact a committee member to find out more or attend a meeting just to see what takes place and meet your committee. We usually have some food too.

The following Committee positions are presently vacant:

Chairperson,

Club Secretary,

Team Events Co-ordinator,

Person responsible for Social Media, Facebook, newsletter production-(Sheila Rodgers has kindly agreed to cover Social Media/Facebook on a very temporary basis. NB:Sheila is presently also responsible for our membership and liaises with BRC in this connection).

Our thanks go to Martha Green and Kayreen Jones who have both resigned from the committee. Their contribution has been invaluable and very much appreciated. We are pleased to advise both will still be around and involved with SDG as members.

HH (31.7.18)

