

## **Scottish Dressage Group – Spring Newsletter 2016/17**

Hi everyone,

It seems so long since our last winter show at the start of December! Thank you all for your patience during to recent temporary closure of our regular venue Cousland Park. We have rescheduled the cancelled February show – details are included below, as well as news of the upcoming BRC qualifier and a training update.

### **Competition News**

Our remaining winter league dates are as follows:

- Sunday 5 March – Schedule available on website
- Sunday 2 April
- Sunday 7 May – Rescheduled cancelled February date

Due to the rescheduled February date, our summer series will start 2 weeks later. Our summer league dates are:

- Wednesday 24 May
- Wednesday 7 June
- Wednesday 5 July
- Wednesday 2 August
- Wednesday 6 September

### **Training Update**

Thanks to everyone who attended our 20x60m arena familiarisation day at East Lothian Livery, Ballencrieff on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January. This proved popular with members and following positive feedback we will look to organise another session in the near future. Big thank you to committee member Kayreen Jones for organising and to member Joan Lauder for helping supervise on the day.

We were hoping to organise a follow up ‘Pilates for Dressage’ course after the success of the beginners sessions last year. These were run by Angie Blackwell from Equi-Core. Unfortunately the venue we used previously has increased their hire costs substantially, meaning it is no longer a viable option. The good news is Angie has invited SDG members to join in her next block of 6 week classes, starting 1<sup>st</sup> March at Stair Arms in Pathhead. There are 2 sessions – one for beginners and one for those who have done a bit before. For more

information or to book please contact Angie directly on 07786691355 or check out the SDG and Equi-Core facebook pages. We hope to confirm a date for another ridden Equi-Core Clinic with Angie for the Spring.

### **BRC Qualifier**

Entries are now open for the Equi-Thème 2017 BRC Intermediate Dressage Area 1 Qualifier at Rockrose Equestrian Sports Centre on Saturday 25 March 2017. We are hoping to put forward teams and individual riders to represent SDG at this event. This event runs classes from Prelim-Advanced Medium level. Each team is comprised of 1 prelim rider, 2 novice riders and 1 elementary rider. Medium and Advanced Medium classes are for individual riders only. If you do not wish to be part of a team you can ride an individual test at any level. All team riders also count as individuals in each class. We hope that this will be a fun day for everyone involved, you do not need any previous experience of riding on a team or representing a club to take part.

Eligibility Criteria is as follows:

#### **Horse Eligibility (BD points)**

Prelim - Unlimited Prelim Points Up to 35 Novice Points 0 points at Elementary or above;

Novice - Unlimited Novice Points Up to 35 Elementary Points 0 points at Medium or above;

Elementary - Unlimited Elementary Points Up to 35 Medium Points 0 points at Adv. Medium or above;

Medium - Unlimited Medium Points Up to 35 Adv. Medium Points 0 points at PSG or above &

Advanced Medium - Unlimited Adv. Medium Points Up to 35 PSG Points 0 points at Inter 1 or above.

All - Flu vaccinations must be up to date.

**Rider Eligibility** Riders who have competed under FEI Rules in the relevant discipline in the last 5 calendar years. (BD have clarified that International CDI, CPEDI, CDYJP competitions are ran under FEI rules; FEI tests at Premier Leagues, High Profile, BYRDS shows etc are ran under BD rules)

**Protective headwear** for all classes must comply with BRC rules 2017. All competitors in the qualifying classes must ensure their hat is tagged by the Official Steward.

**Accepted hat standards:** British PAS 015: 1998 or 2011 provided they are BSI Kitemarked VG1 01.040: 2014-12 provided they are BSI Kitemarked. European VG1 01.040: 2014-12 provided they are BSI Kitemarked. American ASTM F1163; 2004a or 04a onwards provided they are SEI marked SNELL E2001. Australian & NZ AS/NZS 3838: 2006 onwards provided they are SAI global marked.

This event will run under 2017 BRC Rules.

If you are interested in riding for SDG at this event please email Claire at [Clairewx@hotmail.com](mailto:Clairewx@hotmail.com) by Friday 24th February with details of the class you wish to ride and whether you wish to be part of an SDG team. I will then give further details to participating members. Any other questions, please ask!!

We also need to provide a few helpers on the day to support the hosting club as part of BRC regulations. If you are not riding this time round we would really appreciate your time to help the event run smoothly and to show your support to the participating SDG members. If you are able to take on this role please let me know and I can pass on details to the South East Scotland Dressage Group.

### **Committee and Chairperson's Update**

The club membership need to know their committee is presently only seven in strength. Due to personal circumstances, not everyone is able to do as much as they would like. For this reason, your committee ask you to please consider supporting them by joining the committee, or alternatively, coming forward to help with regular jobs which require doing.

What is involved? The majority of committee communications are done by email with the occasional meeting in person, usually at Cousland Park, our competition venue. Presently these meetings take place around 3 or 4 times in a year at a time convenient for all involved. Although there are specific jobs to be done on the committee, eg Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Chair, etc; they are already attended to. The committee would simply welcome additional support to ease their existing workload for SDG.

In case you may not be aware, all your committee have horses and like to

compete themselves. By sharing a bit more what is required to run a riding club, everyone should benefit and not feel being on the committee interferes with our own equestrian activities.

It should be noted that no previous committee experience is required as full support will be given from existing committee members. By sharing the jobs which need to be done to keep our club in existence, everyone can get even more from this exciting riding club. Our membership has increased steadily over the past two years, as has the interest in our competitions. Your club is definitely on the up.

Thank you for considering this request.

On behalf of the committee  
Hazel Hunter  
Chair