

BRITISH SHOWJUMPING AREA 24

MINUTES FOR THE AREA 24 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT
BENTLY HOTEL, LINCOLN, 12TH APRIL 2010

COMMITTEE PRESENT:

Mr E Cox
Mrs H Spencer
Miss J Burns
Mr P Mansfield
Mrs N Togher
Miss J Sheriff
Miss A Rodgerson

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mrs D Cornish
Mr D Cole
Peter Spencer
George Smith
Alyson Hughes
PJ Rowe
John Topliss
Steve Jaques
John Young
Trudy Clark
Jessica Read
Jo Sanderson
Caroline Toombes
Amanda?
Claire Cunningham
Joanne Donnelly
Sarah Whitford

1. APOLOGIES:

Apologies were received from Carol Bishop-Martin

2. INTRODUCTION TO NEW AREA 24 REP:

David Cole opened the meeting by introducing Miss Joanne Burns as the new Area 24 Representative, Joanne Burns commenced with the meeting by introducing all the committee members and their roles and the guest member Di Cornish chief executive of British Showjumping.

3. 2009 AGM MINUTES:

Joanne Burns read the minutes from the 2009 AGM and asked for there to be no questions till the end of the reading.

PJ Rowe questioned why there was no proposed committee members names published on last years minutes from the AGM and how Carol Bishop-Martin chose her committee, Joanne Burns explained that it was at Carol Bishop-Martins discretion who she wanted on her own committee and that she also wrote the minutes for last years AGM so it was out of her power as to what was written on them. It was also Joanne Burns' decision as to who to invite onto her committee, Joanne Burns chose members that she thought would excel at the position they were given and to move the Area forward, so not just one person runs the Area. PJ Rowe then asked Joanne Burns as to why the 2009 Area show was held at Horseworld when there was other venues offering their facilities, Joanne Burns responded to the question explaining that she couldn't talk on Carol Bishop-Matins behalf but could only imagine that it had to be run there as the Area was too late in submitting a winter date and she overrode an already existing Horseworld date meaning it had to be held there.

Phillip Mansfield then approved the minutes of 2009

John Topliss objected to signing off the minutes of 2009

It was then agreed by Di Cornish and John Topliss that if the minutes were objected too it had logged.

4. INCOME & EXPENDITURE

The Area 24 2009 show ran at a loss of £1800 due to the lack of support from the juniors and the lack of sponsorship for the classes also the cost of running expenses had increased.

A break down of 2009 figures was handed out to all that attended the meeting.

The 2009 Area 24 show's venue price was queried by PJ Rowe but John Young from Laughton Manor EC agreed that it was a fair price in the current climate for the venue to make their business profitable.

John Young said that he had rang British Showjumping head office prior to the Area 24 2009 show and explained to them that it would run at a loss and that they should maybe think about the model of shows to make them more profitable. Di Cornish said that show centres have diversified and more sponsorship is needed if they are to run at a profit and models for shows are to be reviewed by British

Showjumping, Joanne Burns decided that the min-max entry and prize money system used for the 2009 show would not be used in the future.

5. AREA 24 WEBSITE

Joanne Burns was very proud to announce the launch of the new Area 24 website which she advised could be found at www.bsarea24.co.uk.

Sarah Whitford queried how this was being funded. Phillip Mansfield replied that it is being very kindly sponsored and maintained at the expense of S.P.E who has done this totally free of charge to Area 24.

David Cole advised everyone that the regional website had been closed down due to lack of use.

Sarah Whitford queried that the new website couldn't be found via google and it was thought it would be a good idea to rectify this, Joanne Burns agreed and is going to look into it with the website designer. Joanne Burns emailed all members whose addresses were available through British Showjumping to make them aware of the new website.

Joanne Burns invited all the venue proprietors to link to the website and asked the judges and course builders if they would like to be listed on it. John Topliss asked if the area would have a facebook page, Joanne Burns said there would be one set up at a later date.

6. AREA SHOW 2010/ 2011

Joanne Burns then explained that unfortunately she had missed the deadline to get a 2010 Area show, she had proposed a date to British Showjumping but it had been opposed by The College and Field House. Joanne Burns decided it would be more beneficial to get a 2011 show date sorted and to make it a bigger and better show with good qualifying classes available for both juniors and seniors and to allocate more sponsors for the classes prize money also to start some fund raising of some kind to support the financial outlay for a show.

For the Area 24 show it was agreed that a summer date would be best ideally a one day show with two rings, one running horse classes and the other ring running pony classes. Joanne Burns put the idea to everyone that if we got our date in early enough with the British Showjumping then we could ask for some scope qualifiers to help attract the junior riders to support there area show, it was also discussed as to which venue would best suit the layout of the show and should it be ran on a outdoor surface? There was no final conclusion to these questions but quotations from various venues are to be obtained and will be discussed further to get the best decision for the show. It was agreed that we were more likely to get a one day show date rather than a two day show date because of the probability of clashing with another show which in turn would decrease the entries.

7. TRAINING

Joanne Burns introduced Training co-ordinator Alison Rodgerson.

The aim is to make training more accessible to all the members within the area, Joanne Burns had previously sent an e-mail to members to get a response as to what the members wanted and she has had 12 replies which ranged over various abilities. Ideas for training are to be posted on the new Area 24 website to see what response we get from members, whether they wanted one to one training or group sessions and who with.

It was asked if members from other regions could attend the training sessions, it was agreed that Area 24 members would have first priority and then if there was any remaining places it would be open to other area members. The cost of training was discussed and the idea of a fund raiser to raise enough money to subsidise the first session for Area 24 members as an introductory gift to get it up and running. The running of a junior academy was discussed and it was decided that a one off junior day would be run initially to gauge the response. The availability of a £2000 grant from British Showjumping was noted. The lack of accredited trainers in Area 24 required for the training was discussed.

8. AREA TEAM JUMPING

The rules and regulations were explained to the meeting and information sheets were made available. Joanne Burns would like to send two teams in 2010 and will be advising people on further information and applications for the teams through the area website. Team selection would be made by the committee taken on current results, it was agreed that if any committee members would like to jump on the team they would have to leave the room until the decision had been made. The question was asked as to why the team jumping of 2009 was pulled from Newark Showground venue, this matter was resolved by David Cole he said there was another show that had booked the ground and they didn't want the arena to be cut up. Joanne Burns explained that she would like to be very prepared and go as an Area 24 team instead of individuals jumping for the area, it was thought that maybe people that come forward first to join the teams would get the chance rather than going and asking members to join the team.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

John Young questioned the state of juniors in the area and asked Joanne Burns if she knew how many juniors we had Joanne Burns was unaware of the actual number of juniors but was willing to find out and let Mr Young know. Helen Spencer the Area 24 junior representative thought we needed to present a good front and encourage juniors to join. Joanne Burns thought that the decline of junior members was also due to them moving onto horses. It was discussed that if British Showjumping waived or reduced the registration fee to encourage juniors

as pony club and trailblazers seem to have plenty of members, British Showjumping is failing because of its expense.

A pony parent representative suggested if venues held some starter classes i.e. 70cm that were subsidised it might attract some more beginners as would a junior academy as it would bring them together and create familiar faces.

It was suggested that British Showjumping needs to make its existence known and perhaps going into schools or being linked with riding schools would be a good idea.

Caroline Toombes asked about the correct dress code of the new style jackets and what sort of jackets were acceptable to be worn, Joanne Burns read rule 101.3 from the 2010 rule book.

Sarah Whitford asked if the minutes of the committee meetings could be posted on the website to keep members informed on what decisions were being made, Joanne Burns didn't know the answer to this but said she would find out and make Sarah aware of the outcome she did not want the area to be a closed shop and the website would be a point of information for everyone to access.

Trudy Clark felt the meeting had been inconclusive and wanted to know what was going to happen in 2010 so Joanne Burns went back over the committee's aims and ambitions.

It was brought to the committee's notice that the area mailing list was not accurate as several members did not receive voting forms.