

Minutes AQHA UK Council Meeting
conducted by telephone conference 10th June 2015 7pm – 9.30pm

Michael Roberts, Sheila Fitzpatrick, David Deptford, Emma Darwood, Lucy Adams, Julian Howard **Minutes – Ruth O’Reilly**

1 **Apologies for absence.**

None.

2 **Election of Temporary Chair**

Due to the resignation of the Chairperson, Joyce Markham, it was agreed by all that Julian Howard would chair this meeting.

2 **Resignation of Chairperson**

Council has received the resignation of the Chairperson, Joyce Markham. JH proposed a vote of thanks to JM who took over the position at a very difficult time in the Association’s history. She ran it with a high degree of efficiency, strove to be fair and left the Council and organization in a much stronger position than when she took over. Her resignation was accepted and the Council acknowledged that there had been much improvement due to her hard work and a vote of thanks by all members was proposed and agreed.

3 **Administration updates**

JH will notify Companies House and The Charities Commission of the changes; MR will update the accountants and DD will notify AQHA.

4 **Co-opting a new member.**

There is one space on the council. After a full and frank discussion it was agreed that it was felt that the position should be advertised on the website in order to give transparency to the process. This would give the members an opportunity to apply and it would perhaps allow those from a non-showing background to be represented on Council. If there were many applicants Council would select for the one casual vacancy. The closing date will be Friday 19th June.

5 **Appointment of a new Chairperson**

After a brief discussion DD proposed Mike Roberts as the new Chairman. Seconded by SF and agreed by all.

6 **Bank Mandate**

It was agreed that MR, DD and ED would be included on the Bank Mandate. All agreed.

7 **Breed Show – Update**

- a) The demonstration has still not been arranged. Possibility of Lee Pearson, Paralympics' rider. ED to confirm whether a booking has been made.
- b) Trophies. DD to speak to J Markham about the lists of trophies and who has them. MR to speak to J Wallace regarding whereabouts and collection.
- c) Judges booked at Oliver Cromwell Hotel. Staff booked at Causeway.
- d) ED announcing competition for members to win a free stable at the show.
- e) MR and DD sorting out signage, boards and backdrops for advertising and photos.
- f) DD requested meeting for the Breed Show to be held at the next August Fenland Show. All involved will be invited to attend to ensure all arrangements are in place and everyone is clear on their role.
- g) Futurities/Maturities; JH announced that T Rowe has resigned from the position of Futurities co-coordinator. DD said a member had come forward after the advertisement on the website to take the role. The role requires that the Futurities/Maturities are promoted, publicised and the members needed more information about entries and enrolment.
- h) There are currently no sponsors for the Futurities. There is sponsorship of £500 for the Championship which will offer rugs, rosettes and sashes. MR to source further sponsorship.

Mary Larcom joined the telephone conference to report on the Youth World Cup.

9 **Youth World Cup**

- a) ML to send letter to squad confirming clinic dates together with a breakdown of riders and leadership places.
- b) Hardship Fund. A request was made for assistance to those in financial need. However JH stated that it was hoped that by raising funds applicants would be self-funded. If sponsorship monies increased sufficiently all squad members would have their expenses substantially reduced. This was the fairest way to all members.
- c) All squad members require a formal letter from Council which states that they are included in the Youth World Cup Squad and are raising funds on behalf of the association. This ensures a formal introduction to potential sponsors. MR to write letter on Association headed paper.
- d) It was agreed that a regular communication should be sent to the squad members to update them on news about the YWC. This would ensure that they felt part of team, helped maintain enthusiasm and stop rumours or incorrect information being disseminated.

- e) Penny Lochhead has some good ideas for fundraising and SF will ask her to copy what she is doing and send to ML.
- f) ML stated that it is essential that all communications should go through the proper channels to ensure that information, news and queries are dealt with by the right person. ML should be informed at all times and copied into anything related to YWC.
- g) Uniforms. A meeting was held on 6th June
- h) AQHA UK must make a payment to Australia of \$3000 as an initial fee for the YWC
- i) ML and LA will organise an extra clinic at Oakridge in November to ensure the team are prepared for selection in December. More details TBA.
- j) Notes from a member re team selection and should the process begin again. It was agreed that the selection process and organization should remain as it is now as it has progressed and is moving forward successfully. It was agreed that ML and LA are the best people for the job. The 12 candidates were chosen as the squad as it was not possible to discern from a paper application who was suitable or not; it meant an extra 2 persons were included, and it was agreed that as training and selection progresses some may withdraw due to time/funding constraints. It was deemed best practice to allow all to go forward initially. It was agreed to review the process for 2018.
- k) fundraising issues and where monies are being held. Monies raised for the YWC belong to the AQHA UK Youth Fund.
- l) THE AQHA UK is in a terrific place with the YWC and Council thanks DD, ML, and LA for their hard work and dedication.

Mary Larcom left the telephone conference.

10 **AOB**

Logos for AQHA UK and YWC. It was unanimously agreed that the current logo should be changed. ED will design a new logo for Council's approval as soon as possible. The new logo will be announced at the Breed Show.

JH tenders his resignation with regret from the council due to work commitments. Council recognised that it will be a terrible loss of excellent skills for all concerned. DD proposed a vote of thanks for all his help, as JH has been a massive help to the organization and a strong member of the team. All agreed. His resignation will be announced after the 19th June 2015.

Next Meeting

TBA but within the next 14 days to discuss applicants for the casual vacancies on Council.