

**WEAVER EQUESTRIAN RIDING CLUB
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 5 JANUARY 2023 AT 7.30 PM
CHILDS ERCALL VILLAGE CLUB**

Minutes of the meeting

Present: Carole Meade Membership Secretary / Area 20 Rep / Competitions Secretary
Annette Coombes Treasurer
Lydia Wood Chairperson
Stella Seed Club Secretary / Points and Website Admin.
Amanda Shenton Fund Raising Officer

Others: Lisa Powell, Isabel Coombes, Laraine Duncan, Amy Maxfield, Anneliese Popovic, Jessica Clarke, Wendy Green, Jackie Moule, Keira Ephraim, Laura O'keeffe, Annabelle Wood, Robert Hess, Claire Garrardkirby

Apologies: Denise Williams, Sarah Weaver

1 Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Lydia thanked everyone for attending the meeting and welcomed all attendees. Apologies as noted above.

2 Approve minutes of previous AGM held on 7th February 2022.

The Minutes of the AGM held on 7th February 2022 had been published on the club Facebook page and were available prior to the AGM on the club website. The minutes were proposed by Anneliese Popovic, seconded by Wendy Green and approved by all.

3 Matters Arising

Denise Williams has resigned as BRC membership secretary. The club would like to thank Denise for performing this role over the past years. Carole Meade has taken on the additional BRC membership duties in addition to her existing local membership duties. This will also help with allocation of points for awards night, by having a single list.

Sarah Weaver has replaced Lisa Powell as child welfare officer as Sarah has renewed her safeguarding accreditation. The club would like to thank Lisa for performing this role over the past years.

4 Chairman's Report

The following report was presented by Lydia:

2022 was another great year for the riding club, it saw us grow with lots of new members both locally and for BRC. We had lots of success across all disciplines, particularly for our junior members.

I'd like to thank Amanda for all her fundraising efforts again during the year, a lot of hard work goes into continually raising funds for the club and this has become more difficult as financial times have become harder for everyone as the year went on. Thank you to all of you that have supported us in doing this, we couldn't do it without you! I'd also like to thank the rest of the committee for all their contributions which enable us to go out and compete for the club, especially Carole who puts countless hours into not only entries but gives up many days to be able to organise and support all our members at each qualifier and championship we attend.

All new dates for 'points shows' which are held at S and G have been released along with lots of clinics and training. These are now available for booking via Annette.

Lastly, I would like to wish all of those who qualified lots of luck for the upcoming championships and hope everybody has a safe and successful 2023!

5 Treasurers Report

The following report was presented by Annette

We have had a very good year this year with all the fundraising that Amanda has done and this year we are hoping to put some of those proceeds together to purchase a timing equipment clock for the show jumping competitions.

BRC have increased their fees this year by £4 per person, however as a committee we have decided to keep our yearly fees the same. Also our clinic fees will be staying the same this year, as we have been lucky enough to keep trainer and arena hire costs the same.

Rosettes this year has been our second most expensive purchase and as you all know everyone likes a pretty ribbon. Costs of rosettes this year has been £729.64.

We also had to order some new trophies and along with engraving this and engraving the old ones came in at a cost of £276.74

We continue to look after our lovely helpers at qualifiers and champs by providing food and drink at a cost & £5 per half day helping towards a WERC clinic or merchandise, this came to a total of £65.00.

This year the club has gifted some prizes, ie membership, calendar, clinic and a clothing to the fantastic raffles we have had.

Website fees this year have been £183.05

We have also had to purchase some clothing this year and have some embroidering done at a total cost of £??

Also, this year we have paid out:

BRC insurance of £175.00

BRC Membership fees £1168.00

Accountancy fee £240.00

Our yearly books will be back from the accountant this week so if you wish to view them and previous years books let me know and I will arrange this.

6 Membership and Area 20 Secretary / Secretary Report

Carole provided an Area 20 update. Both the chairperson and treasurer wanted to step down. Nobody came forward for the roles. Carole has agreed to stay as treasurer for 2023 and Sarah Jackaman has stood up to chairperson (she was previously deputy chair) for 2023. If these positions are not filled next year, then Area 20 will not be allowed to run BRC qualifier competitions.

The WERC juniors had a strong year again, qualifying for several championships and getting placings at the championships.

Carole highlighted that WERC is a positive club which prides itself on supporting anyone who wants to compete at the area qualifiers. The club won't tolerate any negativity towards other members, whether to their face or behind peoples back. If anyone witnesses this type of behaviour then please report it to a committee member.

Carole shared the dates for Area 20 qualifiers and BRC championships. These can be found on the Area 20 and BRC websites respectively.

7 Fund Raising Report

The following report was presented by Amanda.

2022 back to normality, or as near as.

We had a slow start to the year running five online raffles until the summer raising £288.73. As we were able to actually socialize this year our bingo night made a return. Sarah ran both nights for the club with huge support from the locals (not sure they realised what the money raised was going towards) but they had a great time. The club made a whopping £1,287 from these two nights alone.

Our popular Team Dressage returned again in October kindly sponsored by GWG Equine, BYSAM, Luceillin, Lostford Equine rehabilitation, Bladerunners and S & J Property services, raising £514.87 Then in December we ran our 12 days of Xmas raffle again raising £644.

We must acknowledge here the generosity of those who gave us prizes, all 28 prizes for this raffle were donated and as such all profits went to the riding club. This wasn't an easy task last year as the purse strings started to tighten for everyone, so we are extremely grateful for all the support we were given.

Finally, we ended the year with our annual calendar celebrating our members journeys and milestones throughout the year. A profit of £99.83 was raised from these.

Another fabulous fundraising year again, our club members have been extremely supportive and generous helping keep the club viable raising a total of £2,834.43 throughout 2022. Our biggest fundraising year to date.

Plans for this year are in the early stages, we hope to run Bingo again, maybe a Race night, Team Dressage and of course our Xmas Raffle. Dates for your diary will be released soon.

We are always open to new ideas so please give us your feedback and help is always welcome.

The fundraising team would like to thank you all for your support and we look forward to a bright, happy and exciting 2023.

8 Election of Officers.

The AGM was advertised on the club Facebook page and asked if anyone would like to stand for any of the existing positions, no applications have been received. The meeting was asked if anyone would like to stand for existing posts or any of the vacant posts. Nobody wanted to apply for any posts.

The meeting agreed they were happy to perform a block vote for the remaining committee members to continue in their posts, this was proposed by Lorraine Duncan and seconded by Jessica Clarke. The vote was passed.

Post	Person
Chairperson	Lydia Wood
Child Welfare Officer	Sarah Weaver
Membership Secretary / Competitions Secretary / Area 20 Rep	Carole Meade
Treasurer	Annette Coombes
Club Secretary / Points and Website Admin	Stella Seed
Fund Raising Officer	Amanda Shenton

9 Any Other Business

Awards Night

Following the slightly disappointing attendance at the club awards night in November, the meeting discussed what format this year's awards night should take. For example, shorter format with awards presentation only at a free/cheap venue, same format as 2022 with food and disco at a higher cost, or somewhere in between. Opinions were mixed. The meeting agreed to survey the club members to find out what the majority would support. Stella will create a survey on the club Facebook page.

Clinic attendance reward

To assist members supporting WERC clinics, it was proposed that anyone attending 9 WERC clinics in a membership year, would then receive a 10th WERC clinic free. The meeting voted and passed this proposal.

BRC Qualifier Helpers

As in prior years, it has been difficult to recruit enough helpers to cover the required number. It is a condition of entry for the club to provide helpers at these competitions. Everyone was reminded that if we didn't provide the required number of helpers the club wouldn't be allowed to compete. The club does recognise that on a day when someone is competing, it is not always possible to perform a helper duty, for example to minimise the time horses / ponies are on the trailer / lorry. The club will continue to pay helpers £5 per half day plus provide refreshments while helping. It was also discussed that helping at a qualifier is a great way to find out what its like to be at a qualifier and hopefully lead to people competing there themselves one day, when they are ready. No experience is required and the club will explain what is required to perform the help duty.

For those who want to compete, but are unable to perform the required helper duty throughout a year, the club proposed a new, completely voluntary scheme. If a member would like to opt out of their helper duty at the start of the year, they can contact the club via the email address saying they would like to opt out. They would then pay £5 to the club, this would be used to pay someone else to do a helper duty. The meeting voted and agreed to try this in 2023. To reiterate, this is completely voluntary.

WERC subcommittee

Several members have offered to help support the committee, which is greatly appreciated by the members of the committee. This includes creating a WERC quarterly newsletter, which will be published on the club Facebook page, the club website and emailed to all members. It was recognised that not all members see everything on the Facebook page, so publishing through different channels should reach more members. Sam Hooper has offered to help Carole organise / coordinate helpers at BRC qualifiers, which will be a big help to Carole.

The meeting closed at 8.47pm