



The Side Saddle Association Area 14

Minutes of the 2013 Area 14 Annual General Meeting, held on Friday 1st November, at the Whitford Mill, Whitford Road, Bromsgrove, at 8.00pm

Present: Mrs P Roberts, Miss C Brown, Miss J Smith, Mrs J Starkey, Miss E Harford,

Apologies for absence: Janet MacDonald, Jennie Guille, John and Joyce Mace, Sharon Moss, Claire Wills Goldingham, Emma Coates, Carrie Anne Ashbolt.

Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting:

It was proposed by Mrs P Roberts and seconded by Miss J Smith that the minutes were otherwise correct and signed by Chairman.

Matters Arising:

Chairman's Report: from Claire Brown;

Another Year has gone by, & another 4 council meetings. I've tried to do a brief summary of what has been adhered to and things we need to know as an area.

- The National Show plans to move with the times with its own website, which is currently up and running. The National Show is 1-3 August 2014.
- The Postal vote was set up for the National AGM and seems to be working well.
- The IPURA Championships were introduced and need to talk to Lucinda (Mitchell) about these as they are eligible to Hacks Riding Horses and Cobs (of any type)
- The area 14 seminar due to be held at the Unicorn Centre was sadly cancelled due to the Equine Herpes Virus Outbreak. The society wants to run something in March 2014 in conjunction with Area 5.
- Karen Byrd has been appointed as the New Treasurer and is very modern and progressive, should help the assn. manage its money better and has already made us many savings.

- Carolyn Walters has redrafted our promotional leaflet and it should be available shortly.
- The assn. seems to get the most complaints about the Turnout Judging at the National Championships. There is to be a new box added to the bottom of the Equitation Test sheet giving a mark for 'fit of saddle when in motion' Tick boxes are likely to be changed with a mark for overall Impression that takes into account what fads, individual judges can have.
- We must check that our website links to the main website, for the For Sale and Wanted list, as Sue Thorne has expressed her unhappiness that this isn't always the case and she earns some revenue from it, and it is part of an agreement with the association.
- Sally Lane has been appointed as the New Secretary of the Association, and is working 10.30 – 4.00
- The 2014 AGM will be held on Sunday 23rd March at Hogarth's Hotel, and there will be a talk on the History of the Association in the afternoon.
- Those Riding STALLIONS are now required to wear a RED armband.
- 2014 is the 40th Anniversary of the Association and a celebratory day is being held at Aintree on the 18th October. Every area has been asked to select a member for the display horses/ ponies need to be of a suitable temperament. There has been a sum of money put aside for this and areas have been asked to raise funds and to sell Memorabilia where possible (either online or to Yvonne Huber)
- The Original members (e.g. Janet MacDonald and Jennie Guille) are to have a 'special something' arranged for them.
- Very sadly Vanessa Hood will be standing down as the Chairman at the end of 2014, this is a real shame and a huge loss to the Association.

Chairman's Report for Peta Roberts

Area 14 seems to have a very select group of members and very few riders. We have tried to put on some clinics, but due to weather, and other issues they have either not happened or been very poorly supported. The committee would like to know what the Members would like in the way of activities.

We had very few riders who attended the National Show, and those who went did very well. Unfortunately we could not field a team for any of the trophies, but our riders did extremely well, with Jessica Thomas being runner up for the Junior Novice Rider of the Year, and Claire

Brown making the Ride Off, and being the runner up for the Adult Rider of the Year, so well done to you both.

Emma Neil was placed in several classes and Georgie Roberts was also very well placed with her very new Pony. Lucinda Mitchell had a good show and Carrie Anne Ashbolt looked very elegant as usual! Area 14 now seems to have a higher Stallions to Rider ratio than any other area. And both the stallions were exceedingly well behaved and appeared to be among the most settled horses in the stabling area!

Hopefully we can encourage more riders next year, and field some teams.

We owe Talland a big Thank you for hosting our two shows, and we have been approached about running a seminar in the spring.

Financial Report: The treasurer presented the 2012/2013 accounts which has been audited according to SSA regulations and checked to be correct and true by Miss J Smith, and Miss C Brown. Area finances are much improved on last year; the area currently holds a small profit, due to the fundraising activities of the New Committee, though unfortunately the 2 shows run in 2013 only made a small profit.

Secretarys Report: Sadly numbers were down at the 2 shows we ran this year. Those who did attend had a good show, and we were very grateful to Janet MacDonald for judging for us. WE had also planned 2 'Teach Ins' one at Wards Farm, and one at Talland, sadly there was too little interest to make it viable for them to run. Hopefully there will be more interest in the coming year.

There has been a request from an area member to see if we can find a location more centrally in the Area for one of our shows as it is a long way to get to Talland! As I am unfamiliar with the more northern parts of area 14, some assistance would be appreciated. Talland although is further south, is relatively straight forward to get to from most routes.

I am trying to put things together so that we have 3 Newsletters per year. PLEASE could members forward me anything that you would like included, ie – photos, brief reports on how well you have done!! Or anything you would like featured... Also any activities, Ridden, or Social!! That you would like, please let one of the committee know.

Election of Officers: All current Officers showed their willingness to be re-elected. Nominations were received and carried unanimously.

Election of Committee: All current members have indicated their willingness to continue their support.

Any other business:

Jean Smith said that she knew 'Hillview' a centre near Malvern, and would look at costs and potential dates for a Summer Show.

The Area Points Presentations were made, once again, sadly few members sent in their points cards, despite it being known that they had competed and would have been eligible!

Adult Champion

Claire Brown

Reserve Champion

Lucinda Mitchell

Junior Champion

Georgie Roberts

Reserve Champion

None

Adult Equitation Champion

Claire Brown

Reserve

Lucinda Mitchell

Junior Equitation Champion

Georgie Roberts

Reserve

3rd Place

Peta Roberts

The AGM meeting concluded at 9.30pm, and was followed by the new Area Points awards presentations, and a buffet supper, kindly provided by Jean Smith and Mike Bough