

## **NORTH EASTERN DRIVING TRIALS LTD**

### **MINUTES OF THE AGM ON 15/01/2017**

The 20<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting was held on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at The Bridge Inn, Walshford at 10.30am.

Present: Chairman and 39 members.

Apologies: Sheila Hawking, Carol Mansfield, Allan, Louise, and Ian Potter, Pippa Smith, Tracey Squires, Liz Greensmith, Christine Haddock, Heather Clark, Pete and Ginny Ashford, Philippa Thompson, Tony Booth, Mark Joplin, Judy Hilditch, Lynne Longbottom, Sarah Meredith, Wendy Mason.

The Chairman opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the 20<sup>th</sup> AGM. He went on to offer Heather Clark best wishes for a speedy recovery after being taken ill and hospitalised on holiday.

Minutes: The minutes to the 19<sup>th</sup> AGM had been circulated prior to the meeting. They were proposed as a true record by Steve Nichols and seconded by Penny Hartley. They were accepted by the members and signed by the Chairman, Barry Hilditch.

#### **The Chairman's Report 2016:**

2016 proved another busy year with a range of activities which included:

Seven outdoor events. The season started well with a really good entry at Escrick, but unfortunately entries at both Ripley and Nidd were for the second year running well below our expected level. Ripley was contained within the parkland for safety reasons with one section but retaining 6 obstacles. Some of the concerns over the Nidd marathon have been overcome. Allerton was our flagship regional event and was well attended. Witton Castle was a two day event and went well. A new venue at Feedale Farm, thanks to Terry Mason, was organised mainly for novices and was well received.

Indoor events did well and was especially well attended at Askham Bryan, with Croft Top, Benridge, and in the autumn, a new arena at Catterick.

The Area Challenge continued and our thanks go to Ginny and Pete Ashcroft for taking over the organisation.

Congratulations to Jeff Ormerod (pony tandem), and Fred Pendlebury (open horse) on being National Champions in 2016

Drivers Of The Year 2016 included George Wood (novice pony), Sara Bower (pony pairs), Jeff Ormerod (pony tandem) and Judy Hilditch (horse tandem).

We also had two indoor National Champions 2016, Steve Hoyle (open horse) and Tara Wilkinson (open pony) and Supreme Champion of the whole event. This meant that Steve Hoyle had been Novice, Intermediate and Open Champion in successive years.

The Chairman then went on to thank everybody, especially Committee Members, who had made a contribution to the club in 2016.

#### **Financial Statement. Presented by Mary Longbottom.**

The year made a surplus of £841 and ended with cash in hand of £12,925. Thanks were expressed to Jean Wood for organising the Lucky Bucket which made £565 and to a former steward who donated some harness, the sale of which made a substantial amount towards the Stewards lunch.

Membership was slightly down on 2015.

Equipment expenses were down by £2,900 the main purchase being wood for obstacles.

One of our members sponsored the Championship Grooms Rosettes which was much appreciated.

It was recommended that subscriptions remain the same, but entry fees be increased by £5 to £70.

She ended the statement by thanking Jonathan Carter for auditing the accounts.

Rosie Mould proposed , and Glenys Ellis seconded that the statement be approved. Members voted in favour.

**Appointment of Auditor:**

Mary Longbottom proposed that Jonathan Carter be reappointed auditor. Members voted in favour.

The Chair was then taken by the president, Derek Holah who announced that Barry Hilditch, Douglas Strachan, Jane Wilson, and Julian Hartley were due to retire as Directors in accordance with the constitution. B. Hilditch, J. Wilson, and J. Hartley were willing to stand for re-election.

Angela Flannagan was proposed by Mary Lunn and seconded by Elizabeth Greensmith and Alistair Bower was proposed by Sara Bower and seconded by Judy Hilditch to stand for election as Director.

As there were 5 vacancies for position of Director, B. Hilditch, J. Wilson, J. Hartley, A. Flannagan, and A. Bower were elected en bloc by members by a show of hands.

The meeting was closed by the Chairman at 10.43am.

After the meeting, there was a short slide presentation depicting Douglas Strachans' career as competitor, director and steward. The Chairman then went on to thank Douglas for all his invaluable help and advice as committee member and Director over the last 25 years, and hoped that he would continue his association with the club after his retirement from office. He was presented with a pair of bookends in the shape of bronze Welsh Pony heads as a token of our appreciation and affection.