## **Icelandic Horse Society of Great Britain Minutes of Sport Group**



**Present:** Mike Adams (MA), Gundula Sharman (GS), Andrew Nickalls (AN) Torben Rees (RS), Kirsty Carson (KC)

## **Agenda**

- 1. Review of BC
- 2. Review of WC processes
- 3. Possibilities for 2020 BC
- 4. Sport group's purpose and composition for 2020
- Review of BC PR about the show: the survey showed a good level of satisfaction amongst participants; the range of classes remains relatively stable from year to year. Keep the range of sport A, B, C classes. Some concerns about the number of forms to fill out (organise the catering a bit earlier).

However – the positive results need to be seen in context. Participants don't have much to compare it with. And levels of involvement (particularly in organising events themselves) remains quite low.

As regional judges are preparing for some sort of examination/ qualification in (early) 2020 → Mike to contact Fi to find out about the timetable for the judges' training. Having a pool of judges might make the prospect of local events a bit more realistic

MA

Volunteers were not always flexible or reliable. It is important to make sure there is a core group of volunteers/organisers who are fully committed over the 3 days. It might help to have a person who is in charge of the volunteers, holds the group together and have a good means of communication with everyone before and during the event, so that volunteers feel they are doing meaningful work.

A lot of the success of the event depend on the facilities (and layout) of the venue. We are concerned that in the future it will be increasingly difficult to find another suitable venue.

Fri evening – allow more time between the arrival of the judges and the beginning of classes. Nights are long in June, and a late start may be better than a delayed start.

Feedback on catering was excellent (but too many forms, see above).

For 2019 the BC made a profit of ca £500. The main factors are free venue, good level of entries and only 3 judges, at no cost for accommodation. Thanks to all who put in a lot of work to make the BCs such a positive event.

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- 2. Review WC Berlin Congratulations to the team. 4 silver medals are a fantastic achievement.
- (a) Selection process: the process was aimed to be transparent and fair. In this way it was successful. However there may be a question as to whether we have the criteria 100% right. All in all the team ended up to be incredibly successful, and "pacing/tölting" well above their weight.
- (b) Preparation: if we had more qualification events, there would be better opportunities to train together as a team before the WC.
- (c) Catering in Berlin was very expensive. In future, GB might consider getting someone (unrelated to any of the riders) to provide the food for the team.

   Depends a bit on the food costs in DK payt time. Organising team.
  - Depends a bit on the food costs in DK next time. Organising team catering might also help strengthen the team spirit.
- (d) Team leader question whether a future team will want to have such a optimistic and positive person (carrot)? Or would the team benefit from a more stick like approach? → agreed to ask Baddi again for 2021.
- 3. **Possible venue for future BC**: (a) there is (will be?) a new oval track in West Wales (Robyn Philpot); (b) it might be possible to rent a "super arena" for show jumping somewhere in the Midlands? (c) since Connegar is such a suitable venue, we could (ask to) go back there.
- 4. Future members of the Sport Committee: Kirsty indicated that she plans to stand down from the Sport Committee after 7 long years of service, not just as a committee member, but more importantly as a hands-on organiser of numerous BCs and World Championships. Thus she has been heavily involved in all aspects of sport within IHSGB. A huge and heartfelt thanks to you, Kirsty, for all you have contributed.
  Gundula has also indicated she would like to stand down. Whereas Kirsty's focus has been one excellence (and this has culminated in great results, particularly in 2019), Gundula's focus is more on inclusion and striving for "ordinary" riders to identify with the aims of IHSGB. This angle has likewise been appreciated by the group, which expressed thanks to Gundula for her contributions.
  KC and GS will continue to serve on the committee until the AGM.

DONM Mon 7<sup>th</sup> October 20:30h via ZOOM

There was a meeting on Thu 4th July 2019, 20:30h via ZOOM – no minutes. GMS, 5/9/2019