

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES & THE UNAUDITED
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023



October 2023

IHSGB LTD – COMPANY LIMITED BY
GUARANTEE

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Note * Please contact office@ihsgb.co.uk to receive a full and signed copy of the financial accounts or go to www.ihsgb.co.uk





CHAIR'S REPORT

This year saw the election of new Trustees to the Board, and a lot of work in the background to update policies and procedures and develop new initiatives. Much of this work is ongoing, and I am grateful for the enthusiasm and hard work of the Trustees and Management Team, who give a lot of time and thought to the Society. Earlier in the year we began a review of how the Society is managed and governed. We have struggled to find a suitable time that we could all get together to collate and discuss the themes we identified, but will be doing so the day after the AGM, where we will also have the feedback from the members survey that is currently being conducted.

We greatly increased the number of demonstrations we did, where the Icelandic Horse, its gaits and nature, attracted a lot of attention. A number of people sought us out at subsequent events, keen to pursue conversations about Icelandic horses and how and where to buy one! I am convinced that such events, alongside members getting 'out there' with their horses, are an important part of achieving one of our aims - to promote the Icelandic horse, and also increasing awareness of the Society. The results may take time to materialise, but there's no doubt that we create an impression wherever we go. Those that ride in, and support such events put in a lot of time and effort, and I thank all involved. Many of the invitations to ride at these events have come from personal contacts in someone's local area. If you are able to help with an event in your area, please do get in touch.

It was a memorable year for our British Championships and Summer Show, with the attendance of Princess Anne, but also a number of new and youth riders joining our ranks, and the introduction of a virtual element of the show enabling more members to be directly involved.

THE SOCIETY'S OBJECTIVES

To educate the public about the Icelandic horse and its origins, preservation and standards in accordance with the standards of FEIF (The Federation of Icelandic Horse Associations).

To improve general standards in the management, use and treatment of horses with particular reference to the special features of the Icelandic horse by the education of breeders, importers, owners, judges, veterinarians, trainers & members of the public.



Our first Breeding Show in Wales was held at an excellent venue in South Wales, utilising a Trotting Track, which got me thinking (and googling) about other similar venues and the possibility of building stronger relationships with other equine disciplines with facilities that might suit our needs. Perhaps you know of somewhere?

We were delighted to support the Scottish Open once again, both financially and practically, and really appreciate the hard work of the organisers of this event. The Society will continue to support the Scottish Open, and hopes that events will flourish in other areas in the future.

We have now established a Welfare Group, agreed a Terms of Reference and met a few times to discuss areas where we can make an impact and provide more information for members. We have not met as often as I would have liked, and it would be good for us to be able to put some more time into this next year. There is one vacancy on the Welfare Group, so let us know if you are interested in joining.

In previous years Trustees and Management Team members have often had to cover several roles at once. This year we were closer to a full complement, and it really makes a difference the more volunteers we have to get through all the work and bounce ideas around. We advertise vacancies and requests for volunteers on the website. Please get in touch if you think you can help.

I had hoped to complete the third year as Chairperson, but changes in my family circumstances mean I need to stand down at this AGM. I will support the new Chairperson in picking up the Review process we started this year, and plan to continue to be involved in supporting the Society in some capacity as soon as I am able.

Catherine Holland Chair - September 2023

chair@ihsgb.co.uk





STUDBOOK ANNUAL REPORT



At the time of writing, there are 1046 registered Icelandic horses located in the UK.

In terms of country of birth, the population of live horses in the UK is now made up as follows (in the table overleaf):



Great Britain	531	(50.8%)
Iceland	392	(37.5%)
Germany	33	(3.2%)
Denmark	27	(2.6%)
Netherlands	19	(1.8%)
Ireland	11	(1.1%)
Austria	10	(1.0%)
Norway	7	(0.7%)
Sweden	8	(0.8%)
France	5	(0.5%)
Belgium	1	(0.1%)
Italy	1	(0.1%)

A total of 10 foals were born and registered in 2022. The number of foals born in the UK was on an upwards trend over the 2017-2020 period, but the 2020 and 2021 breeding seasons may have been affected by Covid-19, reducing the foal numbers for 2021 and 2022. Judging by the number of reported servings, the numbers may well be going up again in 2023.

Year of birth	No. of foals registered	No. of different stallions used in the corresponding preceding season
2017	9	9
2018	9	11
2019	16	12
2020	19	8
2021	13	8
2022	10	6
2023	17 *	8

** number of servings reported; live births may be less*

The studbook office has completed the following work in the August 2022 – July 2023 period. The 2021-2022 numbers are also included for information.



	2022-2023	(2021-2022)
Registration + passport	10	(13)
Duplicate passports	1	(0)
Transfer of ownership	41	(44)
Death of horses	27	(37)
Export of horses	3	(7)
Registration of imports	22	(27)
Change of name / address	9	(12)
Other updates	19	(17)
Total	132	(157)

Freija Glandsdorp Studbook Registrar - September 2023

studbook@ihsgb.co.uk





BREEDING TEAM REPORT



The last year was a busy one... We invited Elisabeth Jansen, a lecturer at Holar University/Iceland, FEIF Sports and Breeding judge, to be our partner for the activities during the year.

We started with a **WEBINAR** in October, looking at the upbringing of horses and their development, as well as how conformation affects the riding ability of a horse in a positive and negative way.

This was followed by a **YOUNG HORSE ASSESSMENT** in 2 places, Wales and Somerset. A total of 22 young horses were assessed during a 2 day period.



In April this year, we held a **COMPETITION/ASSESSMENT WEEKEND** on a Welsh trotting track close to Ammanford. The track was a real find, as the surface was perfect for riding all the gaits. Elisabeth judged one mare for conformation,



explaining the judging and measuring process along the way, which was very interesting for people to watch.

We held our competition over two days, with individual lessons on offer as well.

SO WHAT IS IN THE PIPELINE FOR THE 2023/2024 YEAR?

Most probably another one or two webinars, possibly a young horse assessment and a combined competition/breeding show weekend. One big request to you all – after having seen how nice the Amman Valley trotting track was to ride on, I've also started to look for Speedway tracks around the country.

If you are aware of a trotting/Speedway or any track/venue close to you that might be suitable for a competition weekend, please get in touch with me...it would be great to offer activities in other parts of the UK as well. Having a weekend with something on offer to everyone, is great fun and so educational at the same time.





So get your thinking caps on – we need your help in finding possible tracks to plan activities in other regions, too.

Ellen Brimble Breeding Leader - September 2023

breeding@ihsgb.co.uk





YOUTH REPORT



What a fantastic year we have had for Youth!

I put to the trustees that we should come in line with FEIF age brackets so the IHSGB will recognise a Youth member up to the age of 21, so that means that although you will be paying adult prices once you turn 18 you will still be able to take part in IHSGB Youth Activities.

I created the new welcome pack for onboarding new members if however, you are an existing family or youth member and would like a welcome pack please do reach out to me and I will send you one, it even has things to cut out and make!

The Summer Festival & British Championships saw three youth members taking part in a mix of classes from track and trail to V5 and everything in between! You all should be proud of how well you conducted yourselves and how well you managed your horses.

I'd like to give another shout out to our 'Elder Youth', these are the members who have moved out of the youth category and are now adult member, you are all



amazing with the positive attitude you bring to all events and the support you give to all members, you are an inspiration to our young riders.

The IHSGB Safeguarding Policy and Procedures has been updated, as I heavily changed the document this is now Second Edition Version One, any following edition from will have updates if legislation changes. The review for the safeguarding policy



will take place annually or at any point relevant legislation is issued or changed. The policy itself is rather meaty so the first few pages are a break down of what each area of the IHSGB needs to do, this includes:

- Trustees
- Management Board
- Committee Bodies (such as the sport group and welfare group)
- Volunteers
- IHSGB event or competition organiser
- All members

This is to ensure that we keep our youth members safe and equip all others with relevant and up to date information.

The young rider badges are still available to take part in, I did mention in an edition of Sleipnir that I was updating these, I am still in the process of this as the end product will be a workbook for those taking part in the badges. If you have images of your Icelandic that you would like included in this, please send them to me with your name, your horses name, and the year the picture was taken. This is open to all members.

There is also a newly published FEIF Youth Cup Selection Criteria, the 2024 youth cup will be held in Switzerland.

The focus of the Youth Cup is on teamwork, sportsmanship and improving riding skills. Riders are aged between 14 and 17 with the aim of fostering friendship and an awareness of cultural difference. It consists of a week of intense training with respected instructors of international standing. At the end of the week there is a competition held that has of range classes. At all international FEIF events English is spoken. Rental horses are available as the costs and paperwork involved with traveling now the UK has left the EU can be overwhelming.

I am in the process of discussing and designing badges for youth members and the elder youth, this will include the young rider badge levels, hopefully this will go ahead in the new year.

I will be working closely with the leisure trustee to come up with some joint events to include youth members. Some of these maybe online and we are hoping to organise



a face-to-face event. When organising a face-to-face event, it does bring about some challenges, the main ones being distance and venue. If you have any suggestions of venues that you feel would be able to accommodate us, please do reach out.

Many of you would have seen various flyer type posts across our media platforms, I have been involved with the production of these as well as the before mentioned youth welcome pack. I am hoping by the time this has been sent to all members the new membership pack will be available that I have been working on. I am also in the process of updating the current leaflets and literature that is given out to the public to hopefully give a more up to date feel. There may also be a guide to competition sitting in another file on my computer waiting to be finished and brought to the other trustees for approval, that may be ready for Spring 2024!

Harriet Bye 🐾 Youth Trustee - September 2023

youth@ihsgb.co.uk





REPORT OF THE SPORT GROUP

This year the IHSGB was delighted to host HRH Princess Anne and her sizeable entourage at the British Championships and Summer Show. Many thanks must go to all of the volunteers involved, both before and during the event, who helped to make it a success. It's rare to see so many IHSGB members looking so smart all in one place! The addition of extra classes on the Friday evening proved popular, as did the new innovation of the virtual show.



This year was also a World Championship (WC) year, so the next focus for the Sport Group was WC planning. A team of seven riders (Aidan Carson, Crissie Edwards, Freija Glansdorp, Jemimah Adams, Millie Wogan, Mike Adams and Nadine Kunkel) were sent to represent Great Britain in Oirschot in The Netherlands – we congratulate them all. A number of members made the trip to support them. Thanks



must go to Torben Rees, Baldwin Ari and Kirsty Carson for all their efforts in getting the team to the WCs and for looking after them while they were there.

In August 2022 and again in August 2023, the IHSGB was pleased to support the Scottish Open event, organised by Liz and Shona, with an IHSGB grant.

Our Sport Trustee, Torben Rees stood down in September 2023. He was a positive and hardworking member of the Board and his contribution will be much missed.

Finally, very warm thanks must go to each of the hard-working members of the Sport Group, Fi Pugh, Andrew Nickalls and Crissie Edwards.

Catherine Holland Chair – September 2023

sport@ihsgb.co.uk





COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING REPORT

It's an honour to be writing my first ever annual report for the IHSGB. It's been an exciting and extremely busy year, I've learned an awful lot and I'm very grateful for the huge amount of support from the rest of the team. It's amazing what can be achieved by working together, supporting fellow trustees and members to get the best possible job done. As a member it's often hard to see the work behind the scenes by the trustees and management team to keep the society running and expanding but it's also a privilege to give something back. We have some exciting new ideas to further expand our societies appeal to all its members. Jemimah Adams will reveal this great development at the AGM so watch out for this!

My first plan of action was to get an IHSGB official gazebo made with printed QR codes in the society colours. The company manufacturing the gazebo weren't the easiest to deal with when it finally turned up it still needed some adjustments. Thank you to Peter Heathcote our IHSGB ambassador for immediately correcting this with a local printer. The gazebo has been out and about to displays, shows, the British Championships and training clinics.

The next item on my rather long list was the IHSGB logoed clothing. Tylers Equestrian Embroidery were chosen to be used as our supplier, they are a family run company but supply many large horse societies and groups. The IHSGB clothing has been an enormous success, at the BCs worn





by many it was commented how smart everyone looked (even if rather sweaty, it was so hot) 5% of the profit is given back to the society for every item sold and IHSGB members can get 5% off their clothing by checking out with the code in the members area of our website.

Our Breeding team lead by Ellen Brimble ran a fascinating and fun competition at Amman trotting track. Elizabeth Jensen was brought in from Iceland especially; her wealth of knowledge and fun personality made this a “must do” again future event. We need more attendees to make these training/competitions viable so in the future these could be run annually.

This year our British Championships at Aston le Walls was a triumph for the Sport Team led by Torben Rees, our Ambassador Peter Heathcote and Chair Catherine Holland with HRH Princess Anne in attendance. Its testament to all their hard work (plus all the other trustees, members and other volunteers that pitched in) that not only did the classes run well and smoothly but HRH had such a good time she would like to return. Martine and I worked hard to achieve some great sponsorship this year, one of my contacts Radnor Hills providing a vast amount of liquid refreshments right at the last minute which due to the heat was massively appreciated. Martine brought in some impressive cash donations that paid for prizes, rosettes both online and live. I secured sponsorship for prizes, gifts and goody bag treats for riders and helpers, not an easy task as most companies had their budget set the year before. Martine and I will be on this again soon for 2024. Do you know a company or work with someone that could provide gifts, vouchers, donations? Small or large doesn't need to be horse based if so please get in touch so we can make 2024 bigger than ever!

Just before the British Championships I engaged my very busy daughter (studying for her finals at Exeter University) Millie Wogan to breathe life into our rather unused Instagram with astonishing results, we've had a 500%





increase in interactions and our team GB video receiving 1500 plays an impressive increase with 90% of that reaching non followers. While at the world championships we had a follower increase of at least 2 per day. The account has increased from 196 followers in April to 327 by October. On the private Members Forum FB page we're communicating with our members with 300% increase in the last year. Meanwhile our regular e-bulletins keep those of you not on social media up to date.

IHSGB selected a great team of riders to represent us at the World Championships in the Netherlands. 7 adult and 1 youth rider were selected. 7 chose to represent GB (at great personal expense). Of these 7 horses 4 were owned, trained or ridden by Mike, Elizabeth and Jemimah Adams what an achievement with 3 combinations only been paired with their respective rides for a few months or weeks. A new team kit was chosen by the riders from Tylers at squad training in April and for the first time was on sale for supporters as well as riders. We are all extremely proud of our riders and horses with the lack of competitions and training in the UK and the costs prohibitive to European competitions they had a great team result of 10th and a personal best speed from Mike and Rut in only their 2nd competition.





We've had 4 display teams out this (calendar) year at Machen, Monmouth, All Steps and Usk shows. These have been an amazing success - massive thanks to all the riders and volunteers for all their help. Collectively the footfall is approximately 40-50k people. I've really enjoyed taking part in 3 of these displays even if it means very early mornings and long days. I negotiated polo shirts at cost for the IHSGB display teams from Tylers.

Harriet Bye our youth trustee has put a massive amount of effort into every single event held and is a great source of knowledge before I even know I need it. Thank you Harriet! Much of the behind scenes work has been down to Harriet. We are looking at ways to expand our youth membership, all ideas welcome!

Mic Rushen is now our editor of Sleipnir, the official IHSGB quarterly magazine. She's been doing a fantastic job bringing all the news and updates with amazing photos to everyone. Please keep sending in all your articles as it's your magazine and we love to read all your stories. Mic has recently taken on distribution as well.

A thank you to our Management team members Freija, Debbie and H - all your input, advice and hard work has been much appreciated.



If you haven't given your email to membership we can't send you the e-bulletins so please update 'H' at <mailto:membership@ihsgb.co.uk>

If you are not on the FB Members Forum yet then go to that Facebook page and "request to join" for all the latest news and updates.

Everyone please note that our official Facebook IHSGB page is open to non-members and members.

Whilst all can also access our Societys Website <http://www.ihsgb.co.uk>, the members' area itself requires a password. This is changed at each Sleipnir edition



and is found within your magazine. Big thanks to Ian Pugh and Jemimah Adams for keeping the website up to date and ironing out the kinks!

Instagram @icelandichorsegb

Any issues with communications please contact me (Kathryn) at <mailto:communications@ihsgb.co.uk>

Kathryn Wogan

Communication & Marketing Trustee – September 2023

We are able to claim Gift Aid on your membership subscriptions if you have signed up to the scheme with us. The Society's income increases by £9 and £11.25 on each gift aided single and family membership respectively.

*For information; Gift Aid is a tax relief allowing UK charities to reclaim an extra 25% in tax on every eligible donation made by a UK taxpayer. The IHSGB is a registered charity so we can claim an extra 25p for every £1 you give and it doesn't cost you any extra! **This year we have been able to claim £1.43k from HMRC Thank you.***





Our Ambassador's Report

I was appointed as ambassador to the IHSGB in late 2022 to focus on some key objectives on behalf of the board. Initially my work was ensuring the relationship we had started with the Icelandic embassy in London whilst I was chairperson was nurtured and then engaging with the Palace to establish the possibility of a Royal Visit to the British Championships by HRH The Princess Royal.

Receiving the confirmation in January that HRH The Princess Royal had accepted our invitation was an incredible feeling. The following 5



months involved a huge amount of work, several hours of site visits, many, many telephone calls and zoom meetings. In the end the day was a huge success, thank you to everyone who made it all possible and took part on the day, a special thanks to all those who spent many hours working through draft itineraries and possible options. I would like to thank the board for trusting me to deliver this project on behalf of the Society.

My friend Mubarak Ali invited me to an event at the Mosque in Newport in his role as secretary for the Islamic Society for Wales based in Newport. At this event I met various dignitaries and was asked by HM Lord Lieutenant





of Gwent Brigadier Robert Aitken CBE if I would invite him to meet some Icelandic horses at my home. This in turn resulted in an invitation for the society to carry out displays at the Monmouth and Usk agricultural events. I personally attended the Machen and Monmouth displays and rode Svali from Tockholes. All three of these events were well attended and supported by incredible teams of enthusiastic IHSGB volunteers from ground crew to riders, thank you to them all. I then attended the All Steps event as ground crew on the Friday and had a fantastic time. This event was very popular and the IHSGB riders and support were superb.



After riding Icelandic horses as a guest in Transylvania last October organised by Far & Ride (who Offer IHSGB members a discount) I negotiated a members discount with the owner, we talked about the family of FEIF and how important it is. At the end of the holiday Andras informed me he had written to FEIF regarding the membership process. On returning this September I was delighted to hear that România are scheduled to be voted in as members of FEIF at the delegates' assembly 2024. I felt very proud to have played a small part in this as ambassador. At the IHSGB education event in September I invited HM Lord Lieutenant of Gwent, the Ambassador of Iceland, the mayor of Caerphilly and some distinguished guests to meet the Icelandic horse and rider combinations along with Baldvin Ari Gudlaugsson the trainer. The event went very well and I was delighted to receive a gift from the Prime Minister of Iceland presented by the Ambassador of Iceland.



Peter Heathcote - IHSGB Ambassador

September 2023



FINANCE REPORT

The 2022/23 Financial Year ended with the Society making a small loss, much less than was planned! Remember we were aiming to spend more than we received in income in 2022/23 as we built up reserves during the Covid years and were trying to get these monies back out to our membership. However you seem loath to apply for the Bursary scheme and we can only help facilitate with events and training courses if members step up and forward to host and/or help. Our loss was £1,466 meaning our balance sheet reduces by the same amount - the Society is worth £1,466 less than it was this time last year.

So, once again, how did we get there, what were the key variables and points of note and what does this mean for the future?

As previously discussed we know that activity throughout the Society dipped in the Covid years and, actually, hasn't fully recovered as the cost of living crisis impacts on members' activities. We spent less, plans were cancelled and our reserves built up. Whilst holding investments and reserves gives the Society some year on year flexibility there needs to be a robust argument to support this instead of spending such monies on the charitable cause.

In addition to our drive on Education, with the IHSGB subsidizing the cost of courses using home grown and imported FEIF trainers, the IHSGB Bursary Scheme was born with grants available to all members¹ to help with the costs of training with their Icelandic horses.

Grants are also available to help with the costs of Member hosted events...but things remain quiet, the last event grant applied for was some 2 years ago and even the interest in the Education courses seems low...a few years ago many of us were scrambling to get a place on these courses! Interest earned by The IHSGB Development Fund is used to award these grants - targeted at events and/or training that will further the Society's objectives. There is an application form on the website or <mailto:office@ihsgb.co.uk>

¹ The only requirement is that you need to be a member for three continuous years at time of application



As well as the smaller grants on offer the IHSGB was again delighted to be able to offer support for the 2nd Scottish Open Show with a grant of £500. Help with clothing costs and training costs were offered to those on our World Cup Squad and the Society invested a further £2k in our own British Championships.

We could have made a greater loss (a bizarre position for the Treasurer to be targeting) but for the valiant efforts of our Trustees, well Martine actually, sourcing sponsorship for the Summer Festival/British Championships. She secured £2,750 in a very short space of time!



If we tunnel further down into the accounts we see that, once again, significant donations were made from generous members. Over £1,060 was donated in support of the Festival/British Championships and a further £495 to again defray some of the costs of getting two Trustees to the annual FEIF conference. More of you made smaller donations and, of course, every time you participate in the IHSGB lottery the Society also benefits. The lottery made us £430 this year...with just a handful of players! If you are tempted to gamble for a good cause then please join the IHSGB Lottery! 😊 The payouts aren't huge but there's always the expectation they might be! Thank you.

Our Breeding Leader delivered a new programme this year - a series of webinars offered free of charge to all members, a young horse assessment across sites and a Breeding Show and fun sports show....attendance was again, niche, but those that went had a whale of a time and recommend more to try it! Yes it was south of the great north-south divide but find the venue and the demand and I am sure Ellen would be very keen to chat!

Our income streams from Members' subscriptions remain robust but we continue to lose about the same number of members that we gain each year. Elsewhere in this report and at our AGM we will be exploring further just what you expect of the Society but with a reminder that we are a Breed Society and not a Riding Club! It has to be us, the members, who make things happen over and above delivering our Society's objectives.

Four more Regional judges qualified in October 2022 having completed the Judge Training Course run by Fi Pugh. More judges are therefore available for members to call on to help at their own events!



The Society's commitment to FEIF endures and, as above, our participation on the national stage was again supported by a generous donation. This donation tops up the funds the Society itself invests into FEIF. We would like to send three delegates to conference in 2024 but can probably only justify the cost for two. Hopefully FEIF will also start to look at more use of virtual platforms in the future too.

Of note:

- We received >£2k of donations in year
- We received £2,750 of sponsorship for the British Championships and the World Cup Team Members also received personal sponsorship packages to help with their costs.
- Membership income remained relatively stable. Subscriptions totalled £9,273 (£8,842 in 2021/22)
- Since year end Gift Aid claims have been submitted to HMRC for the 2021/22 and the 2022/23 financial years. These have added £2,860 to the coffers.
- We awarded £1,237 in IHSGB bursaries (total awarded over the 2 years of the scheme is £2,637)
- We donated £500 to the Scottish Open
- Studbook made a surplus of £1,040, supply costs have dropped quite dramatically over and above the lower costs passed onto our members
- The Breeding & Fun Shows made a loss, ie: we invested in them, of c. £1.8k
- Sport – the BC's – made a loss, ie: we invested in them, of £2k
- Our investments are held with CAF – the Charities Aid Foundation. Interest received £876 and a small loss in fund value of £83, net position £793
- Education ran one subsidised course with 10 participants.
- The IHSGB Lottery made a net £430.
- It cost a net £296 to qualify 4 new Regional judges in October 2023.

As always thank you to the members who have paid their 2023/24 subscriptions – subs become due on the 1st August each year. After that our Membership Secretary, 'H', will have sent you a series of reminders until October 31st when all member benefits will be lost and membership will lapse. We don't want to lose you but, if we have to, then please let us know why and how we could have retained your membership. Chat with Catherine, our Chair (chair@ihsgb.co.uk) and provide that feedback loop. Paying your membership gets ever easier as our



website allows you to complete membership forms online or renew and update your details with simple links to Paypal or reminders of alternative ways to pay.

In summary, the headline figures are:

	2022/23	2021/22
Income	33,932	21,961
Expenditure	35,375	21,531
Surplus/(Loss)	(1,443)	430
Balance Sheet	48,937	50,380

The full accounts & financial report, satisfying the requirements of our 2 separate Charity Commissions and those of Companies House and signed off by your Trustees and our Independent Examiner, Bevan Buckland, is available on the IHSGB website to download or by email to office@ihsgb.co.uk. Hard copy can also be posted out on request.

Looking to the future, longer term plans are in abeyance until we can discuss with you, the members, where you might see the future. There are budgetary and time pressures on all of us and with a wide geographical dispersion and relatively few Icelandic horses across the country (1046) there are always going to be significant challenges for the Society to deliver on Members' expectations. But for 2023/24 we will ensure that the Education initiative continues and that finances exist to support and underpin both the British Championships and the innovative program put together by the Breeding Team. We will continue to subsidize events for our members and offer grants as well as year three (of 3) of the Bursary programme. Come to, virtually or in person, the AGM, and join in the discussions - hope to 'see' you there!

Debbie Ede Treasurer – September 2023

office@ihsgb.co.uk





EDUCATION REPORT



IHSGB TOLT ONLINE

IHSGB Tolt Online continues to be an excellent but rather underutilised tool for IHSGB members (and non-members). We have had 8 entries in the last membership year. Being online, it means that riders of all abilities can ride a test of their choice and receive feedback and a score from an internationally qualified Icelandic Horse judge and trainer on their gaits. We hope that this platform continues to help riders train themselves and their horses from afar.





IHSGB EDUCATION HUB

Education in 2022-23 has been very much like the previous year; it continues to be difficult to find willing volunteers and therefore venues to organise courses with the IHSGB, so the IHSGB has not been able to organise as many courses as we would have liked.



We held a course with Baldvin Ari Gudlaugsson in Wales by kind invitation of Peter and Katherine Heathcote, in September 2022 which was as successful as always and therefore Baddi has just visited Wales again for another successful course (which falls in the current membership year). Additionally, there was a course with Johan Haggberg at Connegar Farm in October 2023, which proved very successful. Most IHSGB courses in the past have been oversubscribed and waiting lists made, so it is evident that these courses are well received.

I reiterate that it is up to you if you'd like to help organise or host an IHSGB course in your area, I can help make it happen but I need you to help me with new or tried and tested locations, especially if you feel you don't have the opportunities to attend an IHSGB education course or you feel they have always been at the same locations. IHSGB Education intends to produce a document with important information/requirements for volunteers to help run a course.



Don't forget you can also apply for a grant to help towards costs of member-run events. We need active people to make things happen in more areas!



IHSGB TRAINING AND EDUCATION SYSTEMS

We very sadly lost a much-loved Icelandic Horse Owner and member, Jenny Blakey, earlier this year. Jenny had a lot of experience with the Pony Club and she was very kind to help us by being our Young Rider Badge examiner. In the last year, we have had interest from two young riders in the level 2 and 3 badges. The badge systems are currently under review in association with the Youth Trustee.

Jem Adams

Education Trustee – September
2023

education@ihsgb.co.uk





LEISURE REPORT



Last NOVEMBER (22), I knew it was time to 'give back' to the Society that had supported my journey into the world of Icelandic Horses. Being appointed as the Leisure Trustee was an indication that you, the members, had entrusted me with this role. I'm humbled by that decision and feel confident that I can make a difference; thank you.



The first few weeks were a whirlwind, a Sleipnir report straightaway, followed by briefings and meetings regarding the very 'Top Secret' information for a VIP visitor to The British Championships in June. I quickly deduced that this was going to be a year like no other for our Society. I will return to this event later in the report.

Due to many reasons, the role of Leisure Trustee had not been filled for some time, with other Trustees continuing to carry out their own roles and cover this. I have total admiration for all members concerned who tried to carry out/cover this role.

I have also become our link Representative with The Showing Council, we as a Society are a Full Member body of this incredible organisation. I regularly attend the meetings and report back to our board meetings.

During the DARK AND COLD EARLY MONTHS IN THE NEW YEAR, I realised that in order to move forward with the things we all value: enjoyment, engagement and all of us having fun together or afar. I needed to actively listen to members. I needed to talk to people, online and in person when possible. I would attend events when I was able to do so. With my background in education and the support of our Education Trustee, the new Leisure Awards were launched. After many hours we produced an online portfolio for our members to use and submit.



In **FEBRUARY**, I saw an advertisement on social media for the first ever National Equine Show. I quickly asked if any of our members were going and would they like a 'Meet up'?

(Social Media is the perfect medium for disseminating information quickly).

I headed off to the National Exhibition Centre, Birmingham on Saturday 4th **MARCH**. It was lovely to catch up and chat with members. This is to be repeated March 24.



APRIL arrived and my new role as Leisure Trustee involved a trip to London for lunch at the Icelandic Embassy with the Ambassador, his deputy and other staff. New links were forged and a deeper understanding of our two organisations was made.

At the end of April, I managed to organise a lunch for some of our new Icelandic horse owner's living across East Anglia. It was good to chat and understand everyone's views about joining in with activities.

In **MAY**, I went to show my support for an Icelandic fun competition held at Orchard Farm Stables run by Kerry Miller. Everyone was having so much fun, enjoying their horses and the company of others. This type of event has an important role to play. It can be the start of someone's route into other levels of competition. Building an understanding of the wider Icelandic Horse owner's community, I chatted to people and asked some if they were going to The British Championships. Sadly, the answers were often no, it's not for me or what is that? There is clearly work to be done around this focus.

JUNE arrived and The British Championships loomed. The briefings and meetings increased. This was also a World Championship year so many things to be concerned about.



Leading up to this major event, sponsorship was found to support purchases of rosettes, prizes & more. All of these items had to be ordered, received, checked and delivered to the event. Kathryn and I realised we had made a great team effort on this matter.

Historically the Sport's Trustee & associated team initiated and delivered the B.C's. This task has now developed and evolved for the better. All Trustees 'stepping up' to the tasks. Sharing the load helps to lighten the load. I think we need more people to lighten this very heavy load at our major event. I think most of us needed more than a few days to recover afterwards.

Putting 'goody bags' together, creating educational displays for the IHSGB gazebo, assisting when & where ever needed was manic at times. Trying to look after your horse and make it to your class on time is a little tricky, with all the other tasks. My Royal introduction was straight after one of my classes. I barely had time to compose myself in the club house facilities on a very warm day. It was worth it.

I arrived home with boxes of rosettes and prizes to be sorted and posted out to the successful online participants. Thankfully, Harriet, our Youth Trustee joined in the fun of sorting out this task.

JULY, looked quieter on the calendar originally. A few months earlier, I added another role to the Leisure Trustee post by becoming the Link to the All Steps



Formation Riding Organisation. We were invited to put forward a team for the formation gala at the beginning of August. With the British Championships over it was time to refocus now onto this event. Thankfully Barry and Rowena were



able to join us to introduce me to the All Steps organisers (an official handover). Luan Crawford was kind enough to join us, we had a quadrille team. We had the help of an experienced trainer offering to support us with a routine. Once again working with other members of the society, I feel humbled by people's generosity with their time. We had Peter, Mary Sroka and Elena helping with our demonstration during the day and manning the gazebo. In the evening they helped calm our nerves before entering the International arena with a large audience, music and lights. We were performing alongside a number of professional equestrians. This was true teamwork from our Society Members. Amazing!

AUGUST (and into our new Financial year)

The All Steps Formation Gala over, I drove home on Sunday morning with a quick turnaround to catch the Monday ferry to Holland. We were off to The World Championships, supporting our GB Team. Meeting up with other members at this event, attending lectures and shopping (of course).

Upon our return a week later, I had to prepare for my next event. Supporting the Scottish open event, it is a pleasure. People having fun and learning about track competitions. I'm looking forward to seeing our Scottish riders at the British Championships 2024.

To find something for everyone,

- The new online Showing Show has been launched and entries are arriving.
- The Distance Award/s will be undergoing a change after the AGM, it would not have been fair to change this during the year as some members may have already started to record their distances.
- The Challenge Cup will also undergo some changes after the AGM.
- The Leisure Awards were introduced this year. We currently have a number of members in receipt of the working portfolio. If you would like to have a go, drop me an email for more information.
- The opportunities to join in FEIF International Activities, the photo competitions and the virtual rides.
- If you prefer an active holiday, we still have a member's discount with Far & Ride. I had an opportunity to speak with the ladies at the BC's, they are so helpful.



My accountability is to you, our Members.

Opportunities are available to 'join in' virtually and in reality.

If you want me to talk through ideas please let me know.

Martine Bye-Duke Leisure Trustee - September 2023

leisure@ihsgb.co.uk



IHSGB 
LEISURE





FINANCIAL POSITION (abridged)

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF IHSGB LIMITED COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 July 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Alun Evans

Bevan Buckland LLP
Chartered Accountants
45 High Street
Haverfordwest
Pembrokeshire
SA61 2BP

Date: 26.10.2023



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 JULY 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Endowment fund £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM						
Donations and legacies		12,858	-	-	12,858	12,357
Charitable activities						
Promotion, welfare and care		20,177	-	-	20,177	9,663
Investment income	2	<u>989</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(92)</u>	<u>897</u>	<u>(59)</u>
Total		<u>34,024</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(92)</u>	<u>33,932</u>	<u>21,961</u>
EXPENDITURE ON						
Charitable activities						
Promotion, welfare and care		<u>35,375</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,375</u>	<u>21,531</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(1,351)	-	(92)	(1,443)	430
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		<u>43,687</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,693</u>	<u>50,380</u>	<u>49,950</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u>42,336</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,601</u>	<u>48,937</u>	<u>50,380</u>

The notes from part of these financial statements*



STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 JULY 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Endowment fund £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
FIXED ASSETS						
Tangible assets	6	24	-	-	24	30
CURRENT ASSETS						
Debtors	7	8,838	-	-	8,838	1,500
Investments	8	20,440	-	6,601	27,041	27,124
Cash at bank		<u>23,982</u>	-	-	<u>23,982</u>	<u>27,329</u>
		53,260	-	6,601	59,861	55,953
CREDITORS						
Amounts falling due within one year	9	(10,948)	-	-	(10,948)	(5,603)
		<u>42,312</u>	-	<u>6,601</u>	<u>48,913</u>	<u>50,350</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS						
		<u>42,312</u>	-	<u>6,601</u>	<u>48,913</u>	<u>50,350</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES						
		<u>42,336</u>	-	<u>6,601</u>	<u>48,937</u>	<u>50,380</u>
NET ASSETS						
		<u>42,336</u>	-	<u>6,601</u>	<u>48,937</u>	<u>50,380</u>
FUNDS	10					
Unrestricted funds					42,336	43,687
Endowment funds					<u>6,601</u>	<u>6,693</u>
TOTAL FUNDS					<u>48,937</u>	<u>50,380</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 July 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The notes from part of these financial statements: continued...*

*... The full financial report signed off by your Trustees and our Independent Examiner, Bevan Buckland, is available on the IHSGB website to download or by email to office@ihsgb.co.uk



WHAT'S ON OFFER FOR MEMBERS IN 2024?

IHSGB initiatives you can join today or look out for in the future:



SHARE your knowledge, experience or ask questions in the Sleipnir Newsletter or on the private Facebook Members Forum – search for “Icelandic Horse Society GB – Members Forum”

IMPROVE YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND/OR RIDING SKILLS WITH:

- IHSGB Education Hubs (fee applied)
- Tölt Online - £12 for educational feedback on all gaits that can be video'd at home
- IHSGB Webinars
- Training on the Trail – On Demand, <mailto:education@ihsgb.co.uk>
- Sport Judge Training Program - (fee applied)
- Education Badges, Cups and Leadership courses for Youth
- Breeding Assessments
- Member Bursaries

FOR THOSE WITH A COMPETITIVE NATURE:

- Long Distance Award
- Icelandic Horse Challenge Cup



- *Both the Distance Award and the Challenge Cup will be undergoing some changes after the AGM!*
- FEIF International Activities, the photo competitions and the virtual rides - free to join
- IHSGB Photo competitions
- Selection for Team GB for MEM 2024 (fees applied if selected)
- The new online Showing Show (Hopefully 3 shows in 2023/24 with points for entering & being placed.) Accumulation of points for overall winner at the end of the year (AGM presentation)

All the Leisure Awards are FREE to enter



**PLUS:**

- As a Member you also contribute to the present and future welfare of the Icelandic Horse
- Support and advice from the IHSGB Passport Issuing Office
- Updates from the IHSGB e-Bulletin (have you sent your Membership forms to give GDPR permission to email you?)

- There is also the IHSGB AGM which is an annual group get together which is fun, sociable and educational
- IHSGB Lottery – the chance to win £25,000 whilst supporting the Members Development pot
- More new initiatives coming – but we do need your help to organise them.
- If you prefer an active holiday, we still have a member's discount with Far & Ride. (Martine writes "I had an opportunity to speak with the ladies at the BCs, they are so helpful.)

AND THEN THE OVERALL BENEFITS OF JOINING THE ICELANDIC HORSE BREED SOCIETY:

- Belonging to a Worldwide group of people who share your passion
- Years of combined knowledge and experience of the breed
- Welcome Pack including information on Local contacts and events in your area
- Access to Trainers and information on websites exclusive to the Icelandic Horse.
- Discounts and offers on merchandise from our Supporters
- Issues of Sleipnir Magazine exclusive to IHSGB members with discounted rates for advertising
- Access to FEIF News and member country magazines
- Members page on the website and private IHSGB Facebook forum
- Members rates for studbook services including passport and registration of your horse in Worldfengur database
- IHSGB funding available for members towards running and attending events
- FREE access to the Worldfengur database for IHSGB members



- Annual festival and show which includes sport classes with member's entry rates
- Annual awards for Pleasure riders
- Vet certificates for endurance riders
- Opportunities for youth riders to attend International events and make friends across the world
- Email Support for concerned GB members on the welfare of Icelandic Horses
- FREE advertising of horses and items for sale on the IHSGB website
- FREE link to your own website (if Icelandic Horse relevant) from the IHSGB website
- FREE advertising of your events on the IHSGB events calendar (Published on the website and in the magazine)
- Access to posters and leaflets about the Icelandic Horse
- A surprise gift for your equine friend for new members

Any questions? Please get in touch with communications@ihsgb.co.uk



Thank you to all the intrepid photographers: © on all – please contact IHSGB.