



## **Icelandic Horse Society of Great Britain Ltd BoT Meeting + Management**

### **MEETING MINUTES MONDAY 3RD MARCH 2025 19.30 ZOOM ON-LINE**

#### **Trustees & Management.**

Martine Bye-Duke Chair (MBD), Jem Adams (JA), Hilary Ashford ( HA), Ellen Brimble (EB)Debbie Ede (DE), Chrissy Edwards (CE), Linnie Frith ( LF), Freija Glansdorp (FG),Fi Pugh (FP), Mic Rushen (MR)

The Minutes were recorded then written up by Saby Chetcuti (SC)

#### **1. Opening and Apologies**

Chair welcomed all to the meeting. No apologies were received.

#### **2. Minutes of last meetings & Matters Arising**

- 2.1. January Meeting. The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed with one correction being Ellen's presence should be marked as an apology.. The January minutes were approved.

Outstanding action points

The date organisation with Shetland is work in progress. ( WIP)

Meeting to be arranged Action MBD

- 2.2. February Planning Meeting. The minutes were approved and signed off.

Outstanding action points

Ideas on structuring Ellen and Debbie to explore

Marketing to be rebranded to promotion - Website update WIP Action LF/MBD

Debbie Marsden to join Welfare group Action MBD

Awards evening to be discussed later in the minutes

Policies and Procedures review completed with volunteer policy finalised. All comments to be updated and final version to be uploaded to the website before the next meeting. This minute needs revising - there is a programme of work ongoing for those procedures requiring review. Action FG

### **3. Chair's Update – MBD**

3.1. Planning Day review - Following the success of the planning day, two meetings a year were proposed and agreed.

- i. Planning focus held early in the year
- ii. Linked to the AGM

3.2. Feif Conference - A proposal to hold this in the UK( potentially 2028/2029) was discussed. Details were circulated with the meeting agenda.

[Structure FEIF Conference2025.pdf](#)

The opportunity was received positively by the Committee. Early exchanges included suggestions around choice of venue and airport to minimise travel issues. Further discussion postponed to the April meeting once everyone has a chance to digest the details. EB volunteered to scope out potential venues for costs.

#### **FG left the meeting**

3.3. Welfare Group

<https://www.feiffengur.com/documents/LU%20Welfare%20statement.pdf>

Follow up with Debbie Marsden and discussions on how to proceed is planned.Action MDB

3.4. Showing Council - Chair reviewed the letter sent to the Member Body regarding the update on a group personal accident policy to cover all Judges, Stewards and Officials at affiliated shows. Chair led a review regarding the organisational fit with the proposed policy. Since the IHSGB already has a policy fit for purpose, all agreed to stay as we are.

#### **4. Finance-DE**

- 4.1. Endowment policy agreed at the planning meeting for Janices's legacy is ready and so will proceed.
- 4.2. w.r.t. the investment proposals agreed at the Planning day and the intention to add to our CAF investments. Whilst some funds have been released from the 32 Day notice account for onward CAF investment the IHSGB does need to ensure that sufficient funds remain in the 32 day notice account to qualify for the preferential Interest rate. DE will aim to maximise the returns using the best mix of CAF and bank interest accounts. Post meeting note: email exchanges have taken place between this meeting and the next re the state of the markets/stock exchange. It was agreed to keep a watching brief and not to move any funds into stockmarket investments ATM.
- 4.3. AGM 2025- Martine advised that BHS venues do not provide catering. DE volunteered to research potential AGM venues in 'middle' England and bring forward ideas for discussion at the April meeting.

#### **5. Comms – LF**

- 5.1. Unity Lottery - follow up from the meeting on the 19th December. The work on the rebranding exercise is close to completion . The plan will be put on the shared drive for review
- 5.2. Horsemanship Showcase 27th-30th November 2025- The Invitation for IHSGB to participate. In the past , similar events have generated new membership and interest in the Icelandic horse. All considered this a good PR opportunity with support for similar events. Discussion points included
  - Concerns about the potential stress on the horses in a large noisy brightly lit arena.
  - That an educational display rather than participation in a gala show would be less stressful and showcase the breed.
  - Ridden display was not feasible for 2025 but may be considered for the following year ( 40th Anniversary of IHSGB)
  - Management of the promotion stand, organisation of volunteers may be helped by the preparation of an event planner

- Negotiation with organisers to manage costs

LF to go back to the organisers for more information

### 5.3. Sponsors and Promotions

- New Brochure - 1000 copies have been received. All thanked LF and CE for their efforts in producing this.
- Sponsors - LF shared news of several sponsorship negotiations including prizes for the BCs and the scottish open, commission opportunities and discount codes for members use
- Competition -an Icey Gymkhana with a 6 week online competition for youth classes including In Hand, ridden and all ages of horses
- Webinars - 3 in progress including one with an equine dentist and a track system

## 6. Breeding & Studbook – EB

- 6.1. EB and FG are currently working on some compliance matters. All details and in planning mode. No further matters to report

## 7. Education - JA

- 7.1. Seven participants are confirmed for the Sandy Carson course and plans are underway. Locations for course in central England with FP are still being sought- Dates to be confirmed. The final event will be held at Connegar Farm with Baddi in May/June 2025.

## 8. Leisure – MBD

- 8.1. IHSGB Spring Camp - Final numbers are dependent on payments received and so numbers are still to be confirmed. Planning for the event is in place. Staff from Formation Riding have accommodation . Rosettes and classes to be confirmed
- 8.2. Monmouthshire Show Sunday 17th August - attendance has been requested with riders. IHSGB were paid last year to attend the show. Will we have enough riders to attend?
- 8.3. The National Equine Show 2025 & 2026 - attendance was low this year but provided MBD with the opportunity to look for opportunities with the exhibitors

- SEIB Insurance may be able to offer some sponsorship at IHSGB events



### Strangles Awareness Week

- Strangles awareness week is held the first week of May. Signing up as an ambassador, provides access to supporting literature for members
- Jenni Winter-leach of Flying Changes Mindset suggested that for a small charge, members would be able to access for 4 videos followed up by a Q&A webinar
- A company that provides Ceilidh packages from £877 to £1599 generated ideas for the awards evening. A working group to look at the venue, location and plan the awards evening for the IHSGB 40th anniversary year will be set up. Discussion included choosing a location attractive to members in Scotland and sourcing local more economic Ceilidh bands
- Exhibiting at the 2026 National Equine show may be possible with some assistance from contacts.

## 9. Sport – FP

- 9.1. Tolt online - entries are a low , though there is hope that the better weather will bring in more entries
- 9.2. Sports Group meeting for Sports A, B and C members will be holding a training day. Information will be circulated soon
- 9.3. Mike will be holding a pace workshop at the April weekend event at Connegar
- 9.4. British Championship planning update
  - Sponsorship to be coordinated by Kirsty who will ensure that last year's prize overlap by sponsors will not be repeated. LF to contact Kirsty regarding emerging non cash sponsorship opportunities
  - Entry forms and guidelines will also be coordinated by Kirsty
  - Changes of fee structures for competitors- IHSGB cannot afford to lose money from the event and on balance is unlikely to change. Renting stables as opposed to using paddocks will be encouraged potentially through pricing structures.

- Judging - Anne Winter expressed her interest in coming to the UK again. FP is planning to approach more FEIF Sports judges at the forthcoming meeting in Denmark later this month
- Webinar to explain new rules and regulations in support of Horse Welfare is planned for early April. Links to join will be provided to Icelandic Societies in USA, Canada and New Zealand.
- Exhibitors Area - still waiting for confirmation that the grass area next to the club house will be available. It is estimated that there will be enough space for 6-8 marquees which will include an IHSGB stand and a members gazebo. Ensuring that someone will be present at the IHSGB stand at all times will need to be planned. Invitations to potential exhibitors to be followed up.

#### 10. Youth – CE

- Claim for financial assistance regarding seminars and educational events on behalf of IHSGB. Following a long discussion the trustees and management re-iterated the established principle that funding agreements or sponsorships need to be applied for and granted before an event. Requests after an event will not be supported.
- Regarding the specific request from a member, there will be a check to ensure that there was no verbal agreement made with last year's Youth leader, before a direct discussion to explain the decision of the committee. Action MBD
- Notification to go out for volunteers to join youth group in progress
- Youth Welcome Pack has been checked and is ready to publish
- Plans for online and in-person youth classes are in progress.

#### 11. Membership Administration - HA

Nothing to report.

LF has just taken delivery of the new IHSGB brochure. Copies to be circulated to trustees and management team

#### 12. Sleipnir Newsletter Editor- MR

A potential new printer has been identified. There is the possibility of a reduction in print costs which could also help with the 40th anniversary celebration print run.

##### Newsletter

##### Schedule

May 10 (publication: late May)

August 17 (publication: late August)

November 10 (publication: early December, Christmas edition)

### **13. AOB**

#### **13.1. Planning Meeting Dates- MBD**

It had been proposed to hold two further meetings this year.

Next planning meeting will be Tuesday May 6th.

August planning meeting was deferred due to a clash with World Championship and the holidays

#### **13.2. International Women's Day March 8th-MBD**

Since there is insufficient time to prepare anything to mark the occasion for 2025, next year 2026, the IHSGB 40th celebration year, would be more appropriate.

#### **13.3. Competitive Events for unregistered or part bred Icelandic Horses-MBD**

Potential to include non members, who own horses in this category, to take part in IHSGB classes. Though this is an attempt to broaden the inclusivity for the society, the committee felt that this proposal did not fit with the main aims of the IHSGB in providing a gaited breed competition in line with FEIF rules & regulations, and promoting the Icelandic breed within the confines of a small society.

Requests may be reviewed on a case by case basis for small local competition

#### **13.4. Gaited Horse Camp @ View Valley Ranch 19th- 21st August - FP** This was being organised via a FB group, where Marie Brittenden had suggested FP as an instructor for the event. FP has been communicating with the organisers to ensure welfare standards and expectations are being taken into consideration

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### **14. Date & Type/Venue of next Trustees meeting –**

Monday April 7th at 19.30.

Meeting concluded at 21.31

AGREED



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