

ETSW AGM minutes

**17 November 2023**

Committee present: Claire Vallis, Adele Pitcher, Sara Temple, Louise Lennon, Susan Johns, Bridget Wills, Liz Cochrane, Jo Mines, Abby Woodliffe, Jo Pitman

Apologies Jo Jenkinson

Agenda

* Introduction and update – Club Chair Claire Vallis
* Treasury – Sara Temple
* Membership – Susan Johns
* Area 12 – Bridget Wills and Louise Lennon
* Team Quest – Jo Jenkinson and Jo Pitman
* Voting on the 2023 committee members
* Club awards
* AOB
* Member attendees

Introduction and update

Welcome to all!

Claire gave her thanks to this year’s committee and all the club members.

Over 137 training events were planned during 2023. There were a few cancellations due to the weather and situations beyond our control but that is still a huge amount of sessions! We processed over 1300 bookings, as well as countless messages, texts and emails.

Club Secretary, Adele, organised a successful summer show jumping show at Kings Sedgemoor which raised over £1000 for club funds – we had great sponsors for this event whom provided fabulous rosettes and prizes so thank you to them, and of course to all the other committee members and club members who volunteered their time to help run the show.

We also ran the dressage show back in March for Sue Johns’ charity. Along with the funds raised for the charity, £500 was also made for the club.

Team Captains, Louise, Bridget and Jo excelled themselves this year and many successful teams competed and were placed at various team events through the year. Lots of work goes on behind the scenes to make these events happen, many hours of admin and organising.

We ran 2 successful camps at Pontispool this year and good fun was had by all that attended. This year saw the introduction of demo’s. The first was given by Kis Angel on natural horsemanship, the second by Olympian Eric Smiley, both of which were very well received and enjoyed by those at camp.

2 camps for 2024 have already been secured, again at the ever popular Pontispool. A 3 day camp in April, and a 4 day camp in July.

Initial costs for April of £250 pp for group instructional in a standard cabin, or £300 in the upgraded lodge and £170 for happy hacker in a standard cabin, or £220 in a lodge. For July these costs are £350/£425 for group instructional or £265/£340 for happy hacker.

Claire discussed cancellations – it is hard to chase funds owing to the club. Our cancellation policy is applied to all, and is stated on the club website. Please be assured that these terms are applied to everyone, equally, so please respect this. We processed over 300 in 2023 which is a lot of admin for our club bailiff Sue to chase the fees owing!

The dressage show that was due to take place in November has been rescheduled to March. There is lots of classes for every level and a laid back approach is being applied, so no need to turn out in your Sunday best if you don’t want to.

We have 3 generous sponsors for this day – Kate Lyons has sponsored classes 1 to 5, Steph Parsons the Novice class and the photographer, Ricci is donating a photo shoot to the highest placed % ETSW member on the day so don’t miss out on a chance to win!

ETSW are hosting 2 area qualifiers next year, and these are tough to organise and run. We are looking for volunteers and competitors for 3 February 2024 for the Intermediate Winter Dressage held at Kings Sedgemoor and for the Challenge Qualifier on 5 May 2024 being held at Mendip Plaines. Please get in touch if you can volunteer to help, or if you would like to compete.

The WhatsApp broadcast group was used for the first time this year for club communications and appears to have been well received. If you have any feedback on this, please do let us know.

New for 2024 – at every committee meeting we will be inviting up to 2 spaces for members to come along and partake, give any feedback or ideas. We will publish the dates in advance and anyone wanting to come along, please let us know.

Huge thanks goes to our fabulous trainers, without whom the training could not happen.

* Jo May
* Andrew Lovell
* Erica Oldham
* Claire Loney
* Anna Gallie
* Gemma Hallett
* Helen Marsh
* Jayne Smart
* Alice Hawker
* Becci Hadley
* Alex Bragg
* Eric Smiley
* Alex Harrison-West
* Ellen Bercher-Nolan
* Ashley Edmond

Also to our venues for allowing us to use such super facilities

* Ball Wood Stables – A big thank you to the Knott family (Jan, Tracey and Charles)
* Avon Riding Centre
* Badgworth Arena
* Mendip Plaines
* Pontispool
* Wick House
* Millfield
* Leyland Court
* Hill Farm EC
* Stretcholt EC

We are always on the look out for new venues, so if anyone knows of anywhere, please let us know.

Treasury

Sara confirmed that the club is in a good position, and is financially sound. The company accounts were produced for anyone that would like to see it.

**Key facts** – From January to October the club income was £63,000 and we spent £68,000, a loss of £5000.

The current bank balance is £16,500. A large portion is for BRC fees, the remainder is for events, training subsidies, competition entries at area level. We are approximately £500 down on last year, which was a planned reduction in cash. We have supported team entries with approximately £3000 this year which is more than last year.

In 2022 BRC fees were £4,700, in 2023 £6,200 and in 2024 this will be £7,200.

Going forward into 2024, we plan to continue as we are, and keep the bank balance roughly the same. To sum up, all is good on the financial front.

Membership

Sue confirmed there are currently there are 294 members. 45 juniors and 249 seniors.

BRC are now enforcing a new membership platform which means each member will have to create an account on the BRC platform called Sport80. You need to create a password using your email address which means you can then log in and see all your membership details yourself.

It will be a rolling membership, rather than annual, and it will auto-renew. There is no input required from the club. The cost paid will include a BRC fee of £1.50, it was £3.00 but after consultation, they agreed to the reduction.

Part of what you pay online will go to BRC, then ETSW, and the fee. The memberships taken this evening do not include the fee.

Going forward, the onus will be on you the member to ensure your membership is valid and in force. Old membership numbers are being re-used by BRC, which could go back years and be of a format belonging to a different club!

Sue confirmed that you CAN opt out of auto renewal.

Area 12

Bridget gave her thanks to her co Team Captain Louise Lennon for all her help with the teams this year, it has been a successful one with 3 teams at finals in the 70, 80 and 90cm arena eventing, senior dressage and junior and senior show jumping!

Unfortunately, due to snow the Championship at Aston Le Wells was cancelled but at the Intermediate Dressage championship Jo Pitman came 2nd and Louise came 2nd individually in the show jumping championships!

At the Horse Trails championship the 70cm team were 3rd, Pippa individual 3rd, Jo individual 9th and Louise was individual 1st!!

If you are interested in representing the club in any Area 12 event, please contact Bridget or Louise.

Team Quest

Jo Pitman spoke on behalf of Jo Jenkinson.

Quest is your opportunity to ride as part of a team, and represent your club. Competitions are held regularly at many of our training venues, in particular Badgworth, Mendip Plaines and King Sedgemoor. If you would like to have a go, or find out more, please contact Jo Jenkinson.

There has been feedback that Quest goes not feel very ‘teamy’ so the plan is to make up a team of intro riders, prelim riders etc so that you can all compete together.

This year we had a team qualify for the regional finals.

Voting on the 2024 committee members

Claire Vallis stood for Chair – proposed by Jo Pitman and seconded by Jan Knott

Sara Temple stood for Treasurer – proposed by Jan Knott seconded by Louise Lennon

Adele Pitcher stood for Secretary & Merchandise – proposed by Abby Woodliffe seconded by Sue Johns

Sue Johns stood for Membership Secretary – proposed by Liz Cochrane seconded by Jan Knott

Bridget Wills stood for Area 12 rep & Team Captain – proposed by Corrine Waugh seconded by Ciara Hollamby

Louise Lennon stood for Area 12 rep & Team Captain – proposed by Bridget Wills seconded by Ciara Hollamby

Joanna Pitman stood for Safeguarding Office – proposed by Helen Brophy seconded by Sara Temple

Jo Mines stood for Risk Office – proposed by Claire Vallis seconded by Su Johns

Abby Woodliffe stood for Compliance Office – proposed by Jo Pitman seconded by Corinne Waugh

Jo Pitman stood for Team Quest Captain – proposed by Adele Pitcher seconded by Jan Knott

Jo Jenkinson stood for Team Quest Captain – proposed by Abby Woodliffe seconded by Corinne Waugh

Liz Cochrane Website and Club administration – proposed by Claire Vallis seconded by Jo Mines

Club Awards

New awards were introduced this year to better appreciate our members and show just how special you are. So –

**Junior of the year award** – Sophie Vallis for her unwavering enthusiasm and support at every camp and many training sessions and competitions

**Volunteer of the year award** – Kate Lyons. She is always the first to volunteer whenever we ask for help and has clocked up many hours for ETSW

**Team member of the Year** – Corinne Waugh as she did remarkably well coming 6th out of over 100 competitors at Blenheim and has been a consistent and constant team member

**Most improved member of the year award** – Samantha Boyce for coming back from a serious injury and beating her nerves and getting back in the saddle and attending training and competitions

**Club member of the year award** – Anna Larsen. She is always a happy face at camp and provides much entertainment 😊 She supports many training events and is always a popular person to have around

**Wills Recognition Award, given by Bridget Wills** - goes to Dillon and Jo Pitman and Willow and Louise Lennon for simply having two outstanding horses and being so amazing on them! Well done girls

AOB

Helen Brophy and Jan Knott thanked the committee for all their work for the club – thank you ladies.

Member attendees

Paula Curry

Sophie Vallis

Helen Brophy

Hannah Padgett

James Padgett

Jan Knott

Corinne Waugh

Kathryn Virjee

Kate Lyons

Marnie Shears

Pippa Skelton

Courtenay Daveridge

Jess Daveridge

Ciara Hollamby

Gill Hollamby

Carmen Wyatt

Rachel Butler

Anna Larsen

Sarah Hall

Leah Palmer

Alison Philp

Nicola Glynn

Natalie Heath

Lottie Starkey

Michael Starkey

Devon Eagle

Naomi Eagle

Shirley Rankin

Jessica Hill

Lisa Barnard Hobbs

Mike Hill

Tina Hamilton

Neil Young

Kirsty Young

Ellie-Mae Ames

Katie Durston

Lucy Durston

Carolyn Durston

Aileen Fields

Jane Stephens

Nicki Moore

Glenda Cottrell

Jane Branch

Jess Eyers

Riley Britten

Rhys

Libby Moore

Sally Woodman

Thank you all for coming along. See you in 2024!